

Philippine Scouts Heritage Society



Preserving the history, heritage, and legacy of the Philippine Scouts for present and future generations



Fall 2006

An Incident in Bataan

Lt. Col. Frank O. Anders, the S-2 (intelligence) officer, for the 57th Infantry is now deceased. He distinguished himself during the defense of Bataan by frequently infiltrating behind Japanese lines collecting intelligence. For his courage, he received a Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster. Surviving combat and POW incarceration, he wrote "Bataan: An Incident" in 1946 while recovering from injuries that would lead to his retirement shortly thereafter. His family connection to the Philippines stretched over two generations, as Anders' father served in Manila during the Spanish American War, receiving a Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award for valor in combat. In 1961 father and son visited the Philippines together to retrace the paths each had taken in his own war. Because of its length, the Anders article will be serialized over two issues. It also is being published in the current issue of the Bulletin of the American Historical Collection, Ateneo de Manila University in the Philippines. Editor

by Lt. Col. Frank O. Anders

For 250 years or more the solid adobe stone church had withstood the ravages of nature and man. Earthquake, fire, tidal wave and typhoon had battered and marred the structure, but still it stood, lofty and secure, with its stone terraces and latticed, stone-walled courtyard. To the west the land rose gradually—rice

land—terraced paddies yellow with ripened grain. Beyond were the solid walled fields of cane, higher and more rolling. And above, looking out over cane and rice and church, with its town, its fringe of fish ponds, and then the bay—looking down on this and the teeming life of the tropics stretched the high jungle-clothed mountains—the Zambales, that great range that extends from Mariveles Mountain and Manila Bay on the south almost to the Thousand Islands on the north, that group of islets that demark Lingayen Gulf from

the China Sea northwest of the Island of Luzon in the Philippines.

The Zambales looked down, as they had looked down for centuries, while first Moro pirates, then Chinese adventurers, then Spanish Conquistadores and the padres, the Chinese again, the English, and finally the Americans struggled for control of these fertile lands that lay below. And now in 1941 came a new invader.

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Keynote Speech, Panels Energize Reunion

Reliving old memories of combat and sacrifice were very much center stage during the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society reunion held May 27-28 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Burlingame near the San Francisco airport. Around 180 members and guests, including fourteen former Philippine Scouts, attended the gala dinner which ended the reunion. The dinner audience listened raptly as internationally-known Japanese journalist and human rights activist Kinue Tokudome



Kinue Tokudome, Keynote Speaker

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Editor's Comments

For the second consecutive year, a major highlight of our reunion was the eyewitness testimony of Philippine Scouts who participated in the gallant defense of the Philippines, both as fighting men prior to the surrender and, in several cases, as guerrillas following the collapse of organized resistance. This first-person testimony was augmented by the comments of three panelists who have written books on the wartime guerrilla activities.

Clearly another highlight was the inspiring keynote address delivered by Japanese journalist and human rights activist Kinue Tokudome.

These substantive contributions to our gathering played an important role

in making the event one of our most successful. Another important role was played by the Golden Gate-Bay Area Chapter which has a long and successful history of hosting memorable reunions.

This issue of the newsletter benefits from an embarrassment of riches when it comes to material submitted for publication. For the second edition in a row, we are featuring three interesting articles in The General's Corner. A fourth piece is written by Filipino American Memorial Endowment (F.A.M.E) supporter Leslie Ann Murray reporting on her organization's mission to preserve and maintain monuments to Fil-Am heroism and sacrifice during WWII. We also have ob-

tained other quality submissions which must be delayed to future editions due to lack of space. These include a two-part series by Dr. Isabelo Torio and excerpts from longer works by other Philippine Scouts.

When Major Fred Foz stepped down from the National Presidency at our annual meeting and First Vice President John Patterson succeeded him, it marked a passing of the baton to the post-WWII generation. Fred, thank you for your leadership over the past year! John, all our best wishes for a productive term as National President!

Mike Houlahan, Editor

Advertising Rates

Our newsletter advertising rates are as follows:

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Our current circulation is slightly over 500 copies per issue. For advertising placement or additional information, please contact newsletter editor Mike Houlahan through our website or at:

J. M. Houlahan
 Editor, PSHS Newsletter
 6774 Lakeside Circle West
 Worthington, OH 43085

Newsletter and Library

Our Philippine Scouts Heritage Society newsletter fund donations have risen to just over \$3,200. Since the last newsletter another \$100 has been received from Nininger Chapter representative **Dr. Isabelo S. Torio**, \$50 from **Past President Major Fred Foz** and \$13 from subscriber **MSG Michael Woods**, bringing his total to \$30 over several years. The library fund donations total around \$1,500. Thanks to the efforts of **National President John Patterson**, the **PSHS now has 501(c)(3) status, which qualifies donations as tax free.**

A two year newsletter subscription may be obtained by non-members for \$10.00 and overseas subscribers for \$14.00. Three year subscriptions offer a slight savings at \$14 domestic and \$18 overseas. Email subscriptions are available for \$4 or \$6 for two and three years respectively. Newsletter donation and subscription checks should be made out to the "PSHS" and mailed to the address listed below:

J. M. Houlahan
 Editor, PSHS Newsletter
 6774 Lakeside Circle West
 Worthington, OH 43085

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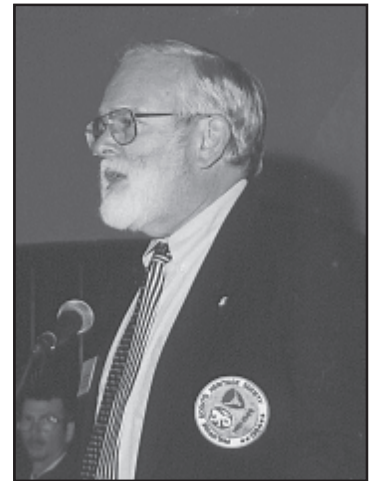
National President's Letter

The 2006 Philippine Scouts Heritage Society reunion at the Embassy Suites near the San Francisco Airport was a huge success. Seeing old friends is always a great pleasure. The panels continue to be a hallmark of our gatherings. I hope they will continue in the future. We have been blessed with terrific keynote speakers over the years. This year we were fortunate to have Kinue Tokudome with us. Not only did she give a wonderful speech at dinner concerning Japanese accountability with regard to World War II, but she attended our panels and was an invaluable resource.

Fred Foz was kind enough to take on the task of serving as Society's President this past year, a willingness that I greatly appreciate. As the new President of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society, I will do my best to carry on effectively over the next two years.

I welcome comments and recommendations for change in the Society or affirmation that we are on the right track in preserving the history, heritage and legacy of these extraordinary soldiers. As many of you know, my uncle, Alexander R. Nininger, Jr., was serving with the 57th Infantry Regiment (Philippine Scouts) at the time of his death on Bataan. He, Jose Calugas and Willibald Bianchi were recipients of the Medal of Honor for their gallantry above and beyond the call of duty during this difficult time in our history.

My views on the future of the Society are contained in the last newsletter. In sum, we have the potential to carry on in the name of the Scouts. When you think about the strengths of our Society, we can count on the following: our membership, the chapters, the U.S. Army Museum at Ft. Sam Houston, our



John A. Patterson, President
Photo: David Rosen

ability to communicate and educate via the Society website (www.philippine-scouts.org) and newsletter and our efforts to recruit succeeding generations in the Society's ranks.

See *President* Page 4

First Vice-President's Letter

Thank you for electing me as your new Vice President. I will do my best to support our new elected President, Mr. John Patterson. I will continue to serve the interests of the Society. We also elected a new Secretary, Public Relation Officer and Assistant Historian who are all highly qualified for the positions. Their contributions will be essential in improving the Society's services for the veterans and the public.

As you have noticed, most of our officers are not Philippine Scout veterans, but they held positions in our organization before they were elected to their new jobs. We voted for them, because of their experience and qualifications, knowing that the Society is on a secure course forward.

Our former President Major Fred Foz said, "Let us continue to reach out to our younger generation for their support to maintain the rich heritage of the Philippine Scouts." So, I am inviting the Phil-

ippine Scouts veterans and their widows to recruit their sons, daughters, grandchildren and friends into the Society.

In the last issue of this newsletter, our new President, Mr. John Patterson, wrote about the future of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society. He mentioned the past, present and future. He said, "whatever the future holds for the Society, interested members should be able to sustain the level of activity that befits the Society's objectives."

There are none more special than the Philippine Scouts veterans, whose service and sacrifice gives us our mission to preserve the history, heritage and legacy of the Scouts.

Lastly, I would like to thank the members of GGBAC, especially the energetic President Cion Rael for organizing the 22nd Annual Reunion at the Embassy Suites in Burlingame, California.



Jose "Joe" Calugas, Jr., 1st Vice President

Again, my congratulations to Mr. John Patterson the Society's new President and to newly elected officers. Let's give them our warm applause and support!

Jose "Joe" Calugas, Jr.
First Vice President
President of Tacoma Chapter

President From Page 3

Thanks are due the National Officers and Chapter Presidents for their continued activism and support. I want to acknowledge our new National Officers and thank them for their willingness to serve: Joe Calugas, First Vice President; Mike Houlahan, Secretary; Chris Schaefer, Public Relations Officer; and Bob Capistrano as Assistant Historian. I look forward to working with the entire Board in the months ahead.

The Audit team, lead by Aniceto Bagley, did a very thorough and professional job in auditing our financial records this year. Handling finances is more difficult and more important than ever. We're fortunate in that our finances are suitably kept by Nora Warren, our National Treasurer.

Last, but by no means least, we all need to express our sincerest apprecia-

tion to Cion Rael, President of the host Golden Gate/Bay Area Chapter and her team. We had grown comfortable over the years at the Villa Hotel but when that became unavailable at a very late date, Cion was able to find us an excellent replacement. The Embassy Suites did a find job and met all our needs. Putting together a reunion/business meeting like ours is very difficult at best. In recent years, Cion has pulled a rabbit out of the hat time and time again so that we would have memorable events.

Whenever names are mentioned, there is always the danger of leaving someone out. I hope I haven't done so. The point is that there are many people who make the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society tick. Thanks to all of you.

Now, we move on to Tacoma where our next reunion/business meeting will

be hosted by the Jose Calugas, Sr. Chapter. Joe Calugas has informed us that we will be meeting on May 18th & 19th of next year, so please mark your calendars now and plan to attend. There will be more details in the next newsletter and on the website.

We are embarked on a noble cause. We cannot let history pass us by without acknowledging the heroism of the Philippine Scouts. With the help of all concerned, the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society will assure just that.



John Alexander Patterson, President
Philippine Scout Heritage Society

Reunion Welcoming Speech

by National President Fred Foz

I welcome you with the spirit of Aloha and thank you for coming to our 22nd annual reunion of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society.

Once again we are here to honor and remember those who passed on especially those who paid the ultimate sacrifices.

This year we lost a few of our comrades. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved members of the families of Col. Mariano Villarín, former PRO; Col. James Levie, 12th Signal Battalion (PS); Col. William E. Chandler, 26th Cavalry (PS); S/Sgt Feliciano Figuración, 45th Infantry (PS) and to the families of any other Scouts who may have passed away. We pray for the Lord's perpetual light to shine upon them.

Some say the Philippine Scouts excelled in Bataan. We performed well because we were trained and led to battle by the best of the best leaders of our time. Many were graduates of United States Military Academy like the late Brigadier General Royal Reynolds, Col. John Olson, Col. Melvin Rosen, Col. Ed Ramsey and many others whose blood soaked the soil of Abucay, the Points and Caves in Bataan.

And now sixty years had passed. Let us fulfill the dreams of our founder the late Brigadier General Royal Reynolds and Larry Pangan to pass on the torch to the younger generation. We thank our First Vice President Sen. John A. Patterson who worked tirelessly in obtaining our IRS tax exemption and a special thank you to our GGBA Chapter president Cion Rael in hosting again our 22nd annual reunion.

To sum it up, because of you members who worked so hard, the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation has chosen the Philippine Scouts to receive the NJAMF Award for 2006. Col. Melvin Rosen and Capt. Menandro Parazzo attended the Gala Dinner in Washington, D. C. on 6 April 2006. We are grateful to be recognized by this prestigious group of Heroes the 100th Battalion and 442nd Infantry Regiment.

To the sons and daughters of Philippine Scouts, I say: Reap the fruits of our toil and keep burning the torch we pass on to you.

Again, thank you and have a wonderful evening. God bless you and God bless America.

Major Fred Foz
National President (outgoing)

Website News

In July our Philippine Scouts Heritage Society website passed the 20,000 mark, increasing at the rate of 8,000 visits per year.

Even heavier usage can be observed on our message board, which is visited by seventy or eighty viewers daily. You are invited to visit the PSHS website (www.philippine-scouts.org) and the message board (note the linkage in the margin of our homepage) to share your own thoughts or questions.

Since the last newsletter, a write-up

and photos of our reunion have been added, a list of new officers posted and both 2005 newsletters placed on line.

We continue to welcome queries concerning former Scouts or answers to questions posted on the Message Board. We also will consider appropriate and original short articles or vignettes for posting on our website or including in our newsletter.

The website also is useful for research purposes. Our site is the first entry that appears when someone researches the

Philippine Scouts using either the *Google* or *Yahoo* search engines. Our “Exchanges” page lists research projects and requests. The “Resources” page has linkages to more than twenty other websites containing useful information and to U.S. government sources of information on former Scouts and on benefits available to them.

Thank you for your support!

Christa Houlahan
Webmaster

Reunion Keynote Speech

by **Kinue Tokudome**

Ms. Tokudome, an American-educated Japanese journalist, has devoted her life to encouraging Japanese acceptance of responsibility for the horrific treatment of POWs during WWII.
Editor

Major Frederic Foz, Senator John Patterson, Ms. Concepcion Rael, officers and chapter presidents of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society, and ladies and gentlemen, Good evening. I must start my speech by expressing my deepest gratitude to all of you for giving me this opportunity to speak to you tonight. I understand that I am the very first Japanese person you invited to be your keynote speaker. I am so honored to be given that privilege. Thank you so very much.

Col. Melvin Rosen has been a very special friend of mine for many years. When he first asked me to be a keynote speaker for this occasion, I was totally at a loss.

I have heard many times from my former POW friends how brave and heroic the Philippine Scouts were in the

defense of the Philippines. They have nothing but praise for your comrades. For example, my good friend Mr. Lester Tenney of 192nd Tank Battalion wrote in his book, *My Hitch in Hell*, about his fight in Lingayen Gulf.

“Our counterparts that day, the 26th Cavalry, Philippine Scouts, joined our platoon as we headed in to battle. The Philippine Scouts were strong well-disciplined, highly professorial, and courageous groups of dedicated fighters. They were rough and tough cavalry men; we were proud to be in battle with them.”

I asked myself, “What could I possibly say that would be worthy of sharing with such a proud group of people?”

On the other hand, how could I say no to my dear friend Col. Rosen, who was a survivor of the Bataan Death March, notorious POW camps, forced labor and the unspeakable suffering on Hellships, all at the hands of my own country?

Soon I reached my conclusion—I can speak about my personal experience that eventually led to my standing before you tonight.

So let me start...In the fall of 1997, a professor from my alma mater, Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo, came to Los Angeles and a small group of alumni held a welcome reception for this professor—Professor Tsuyoshi Amemiya.

I was fortunate to sit next to him and was fascinated to hear about the project he had been doing for almost ten years by then. Professor Amemiya had been bringing his students to the Philippines every year so that they could learn first hand what their grandfather’s generation did in the Philippines during World War II.

He told me that his students traced the route of the Bataan Death March, visited former POW campsites, and met Filipino veterans. They read their “Statement of Peace and Reconciliation” as they traveled throughout the Philippines.

Since that first meeting, Professor Amemiya and I stayed in touch. He continued sending me his reports on the Philippine tour as he brought his students to the Philippines each year.

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Bataan

Cedars on a hillside
 In sunny Tennessee,
 Mark the spot where soldiers fell
 In eighteen sixty three.

Far from home and loved ones,
 They rest in peaceful sleep.
 The cedars stand as sentinels,
 And faithful vigil keep.

No cedars mark the spot,
 In faraway Bataan,
 Where soldiers brave and fair and true,
 Fell before Japan.

No cedars mark the spot!
 No chiseled stone their name!
 They fought, they bled, they starved.—And hoped
 For help which never came!

The green growth of the jungle
 Is creeping o'er the spot
 Where they fought, and bled, and starved, and died—
 The men whom men forgot.

Oh God of hosts, almighty—
 God who created man—
 Remember them—whose graves are hid
 On faraway Bataan.

—**Mallie Wilson Farrell**

Mrs. Farrell [1885-1971], poet and wife of a US Army Colonel, penned this shortly after the fall of Bataan. One of her sons, Capt. William E. "Willie" Wilson, West Point Class of 1937, was a 31st Infantry officer on Bataan. He died on the Hellship Brazil Maru. She also was the mother of Col (ret) Norman Farrell, Class of 1939, a close friend and comrade-in-arms of Col. Mel Rosen. Col. Rosen provided this poem to the newsletter. Editor

PFC Jovenal Lomapas Hatamosa



Jovenal Lomapas Hatamosa was born in Cebu on January 17, 1917 and enlisted in the Philippine Scouts in February, 1941, serving with the 12th Signal Company (PS). PFC Hatamosa served on Bataan, then survived the infamous Bataan Death March and POW incarceration. Paroled under a general amnesty for Filipinos, he returned to Cebu and joined the guerrilla resistance under Lt. Piano Zabala. Upon the liberation of the Philippines and after receiving medical treatment, he was honorably discharged on August 27, 1945 at Fort McKinley. Among his service medals were the Philippine Defense Ribbon with 1 Bronze Service Star, American Defense Service Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with 1 Bronze Service Star, Distinguished Unit Emblem with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with 1 Bronze Service Star.

Following the war, Jovenal graduated in engineering from the Cebu Institute of Technology and taught at a technical school in Mindanao. Married in 1948, he fathered nine children before passing away on November 24, 1964.

*Placed in loving memory by his widow,
 Andrea Hatamosa.*

Keynote From Page 5

In the report on the trip in 2000, he wrote about their visit to the town of Tipas in Taguig city. Before their visit, he received a letter from the former Mayor of Taguig, Mr. Downolt Estacio. Mr. Estacio wrote to Professor Amemiya the following:

“You mentioned in your letter that ‘you want to learn what atrocities were committed by the Japanese Imperial Army in the Philippines during the war, directly from those living witness who still remember.’ I am 67 years old and I do vividly remember what happened in Tipas, particularly to my family on December 1, 1944.

“I was 11 years old...At 2:30 in the morning the stillness of the night was broken by the rambling of (Japanese) tanks. It wasn’t hard to realize the gravity of their intentions in rounding up the “guerillas” in Tipas. Almost all men of Tipas and even some women suspected of giving aid to the guerillas were all herded in the plaza and everyone was made to face their ‘magic eyes’ [*masked informers: editor*].

“By afternoon, they had separated about half of the men, including the Mayor of Taguig and almost all the professional leaders of government and business.

More than 500 of the good citizens of Tipas plus three women were dumped in their trucks, because many of the men were no longer able to walk due to punishments and brutalities suffered the whole day— (water torture), whipping while hanged. I know because my eldest brother, then 22 years old and just married 9 months before the day, was whipped and lashed while hanging upside down from a tree.

They were brought to Fort Santiago— at a dungeon down below water level— and left to die at high tide...”

Mr. Estacio also wrote the following in his letter to Professor Amemiya.

“But I and many in Tipas can now sincerely say that forgiveness and understanding are now deep in our hearts because of people like you and all your efforts towards peace and reconciliation. Thank God for people like you and your students.”

And when Professor Amemiya and his students finally arrived one month later, they were warmly welcomed by the people of Taguig. I would like to share some excerpts from the statement that the students read to the people of Taguig.

“We are here today in your presence with a sincere desire to establish a true, lasting friendship with you. Before we left home, we spent much time trying to know what had happened between the Philippines and Japan, which we thought would be very important before we become friends. Our findings were shocking to us indeed. We were heart-broken when we thought of all the hardship that you had to go through during the war...

“Up until today, the Japanese government has failed to make an official apology to Asian neighbors for our wartime crimes. As a result, the young generation is quite ignorant of Japan’s aggression...”

“We do not have such a big power as to change the world overnight, but there must be at least something each of us can do. While we are with you here, we would like to learn from you as much as possible, whereby we hope to find an answer to the question: how we should live together as friends and neighbors. When we go home, we will share with our friends all that we have learned from you.

“It is our great privilege to visit the Philippines... We humbly admit our mis-

takes of yesterday and today, and at the same time we vow to you that the same mistakes will not be repeated. It is our sincere hope that this humble statement will contribute in its own small way to peace and reconciliation between the Philippines and Japan.”

I should also mention that this statement and the news of the Japanese students being welcomed by the people in Taguig appeared in Sunday Inquirer Magazine of the Philippines a few weeks following their visit.

So this is how Professor Amemiya taught me that one person can make a difference. Under his program, hundreds of young Japanese students visited the Philippines and tried to reach out, in a humble manner, to the people who were once victimized by their grandfather’s generation.

Some of these students even decided to work on this issue after their graduation. Naoko Jin, a determined young lady, is now working on a project of delivering messages from former Imperial Japanese soldiers to Filipino veterans in the hopes that such message would ease some of the pains that many Filipino people still feel. Recently, she wrote to me the following:

“I was born in 1978, but do not think that my life can be separated from the past. I cannot be blind to what the Japanese military did. I returned to the Philippines last October with the video tape of my interviews with former Japanese soldiers, and showed them at more than 20 towns and villages in the Philippines.

“There are many Japanese young people around me who support my project. Although Japan, as a nation, has not been forthcoming in its dealing with the wartime history, I see more young Japanese people wanting to establish trusting re-

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Keynote From Page 7

relationships with other countries based on the true understanding of history.”

Naoko followed Professor Amemiya’s advice: Act! Try to make a difference.

Therefore, 18 months ago I acted. I took action by starting a bilingual website, **US-Japan Dialogue on POWs**, to promote understanding and dialogue on the history of American POWs of the Japanese. It can be read in both English and Japanese.

I tried to inform my fellow Japanese people what American POWs went through at the hands of our military by presenting their personal stories. I wanted to give their stories human faces and human voices so that today’s Japanese people can see clearly that the POW abuse by the Japanese military happened to real human beings just like themselves.

I have been extremely blessed to have the opportunity to interview many former POWs. Every time I met one of them, I learned anew. One interview is worth reading a dozen books because I can see their faces, hear their voices, and yes feel their pain. I want visitors to my website to have the same experience that I had when I met each individual former

POW—Their sharing with me their memories, their struggle to come to terms with the past, their sadness, anger, frustration, their pride and hope, and many times their willingness to forgive.

Among your members, Col. Rosen and Col. John Olson are on my website. I hope you will find the time to read their pages.

When I interviewed Col. Olson a few months ago, he gave me the opportunity to learn about the Philippine Scouts. Soon, I realized that at many of the battles that I had been hearing about, you were there, too.

You were at Lingayen, Battle of Abu-cay, Battle of the Points, and of course you walked the Bataan Death March and were interned at what Col. Olson called the “Andersonville of the Pacific”—Camp O’Donnell.

I am still learning about your stories. I found out that the same atrocities that happened to the people in Tipas also happened to some of the members of the Philippine Scouts.

Please tell me more. Send your stories so that I can introduce them on my website. Your stories will broaden the

understanding of people like Naoko. That way, you can make a difference. Knowledge is power. I used to be very unhappy that not many people in my country knew about the history of POWs. But I now know that instead of being just unhappy, I should act to make a difference. And you are the ones who can help me and many more Japanese people make a difference.

The history, heritage and legacy of the Philippine Scouts should be known to Japanese people also.

I will do my best to tell them your stories so that I will not be the first and the last Japanese person to attend your reunion.

Thank you very much.

** Excerpts of Mayor Downolt Estacio’s letter and “Statement of Peace and Reconciliation” by students of the Aoyama Gakuin University were quoted from Philippine ni Manabu (Learning from the Philippines) Vol.12. Edited by Tsuyoshi Amemiya (Tokyo: 2001).*

The Guerrilla and the Hostage by John E. Olson

This is the fourth printing of this popular account of WWII in the Philippines. The novel describes the initial Japanese air war, the Battle of Bataan, the Death March, the subsequent devastating incarceration of the survivors in Camps O’Donnell and Cabanatuan, the guerrilla operations against the Japanese and the ultimate liberation of the small group from Cabanatuan who had been too emaciated to be shipped to Japan. The accounts are based on Col. Olson’s own experiences and the reports of other surviving military personnel.

Reduced price for the next three months is \$12.00 including postage. Send check or money order to:

JOHN E. OLSON
The Towers, #510
San Antonio, TX 78209

Reunion From Page 1

delivered a highly personal speech detailing how she became committed to campaign for Japan to take responsibility for the war crimes committed by its armed forces during WWII. The text of her speech is reprinted elsewhere in this newsletter. Her website devoted to reconciliation is at www.us-japandialogueonpows.org/.

Entertainment at the dinner featured the outstanding vocals of Christine Adiaz and Ben Capuyan performed with distinction as Master-of-Ceremonies.

Our 22nd annual reunion also included panel discussions on the defense of Corregidor and Bataan and the guerrilla warfare against the Japanese, as well as information sessions on veterans' issues and on attempts to obtain Japanese compensation for POW slave labor.

Col. Mel Rosen chaired the Corregidor/Bataan panel with Capt. Menandro Parazo, Capt. Felipe Fernandez and Dr. Isabelo Torio participating. The guerrilla panel was led by Lt. Col. Ed Ramsey, with Maj. Fred Foz, CWO4 Aniceto Bagley, Malcolm Decker and Chris Schaefer as panelists. These participants were mostly drawn from Philippine Scout infantry, cavalry and field artillery units, as well as three guerrilla organizations. Panelists Rosen, Ramsey, Decker and Schaefer have also written books on WWII in the Philippines. Dennis Uldricks, representing the Department of Veterans Affairs, conducted a session on veterans' issues and Col. Rosen and Kinue Tokudome delivered the slave labor reparations update.

CWO4 Bagley's remarks as a guerrilla panel participant are reprinted in "The General's Corner" section of this newsletter. Dr. Torio's remarks will be serialized in two parts beginning in our next issue.



From left to right: Former Philippine Scouts Col. Mel Rosen, Capt. Menandro Parazo, Major Frederic Foz, Ricardo Maraveles, Rommy Entac, Dr. Isabelo Torio, David Tejada, Zosimo Guiang, Delfin Pahed, Pablo Mesina, Lt. Col. Ed Ramsey, Dan Figuracion, Capt. Felipe Fernandez and CWO4 Aniceto Bagley

The business meeting installed Sen. John Patterson as our new President, Joe Calugas as First Vice President, Chris Schaefer as Public Relations Officer, Bob Capistrano as Assistant Historian and Mike Houlahan as Secretary.

The Society's Bylaws were amended to establish three new Board of Officers positions—Immediate Past President, Counselor Emeritus and Museum Liaison Officer. In the future, the Historian, Assistant Historian, Museum Liaison Officer and Consular Emeritus will be appointed by the Board of Officers. Immediate Past President Fred Foz automatically becomes a member and shall serve until the current President ends his term in office. The Counselor Emeritus and Museum Liaison Officer positions will be filled at next year's reunion in Tacoma.

An audit of the Society's accounts, presided over by a committee chaired



New Officer Induction
Photo: David Rosen

by Aniceto Bagley, revealed no serious discrepancies and showed the organization to be fiscally stable. The newsletter has again managed to cover its costs and those of the website through advertising, donations and new subscriptions.

Next year the PSHS 23rd Annual National Reunion will be hosted by the Capt. Jose Calugas, Sr. Chapter on Friday and Saturday, May 18-19 at La Quinta Inn, Tacoma, Washington.

An Incident in Bataan From Page 1

The long-anticipated and much-feared attack by the Japanese invader had struck in December with lightning speed and overwhelming force against the shores of the Emerald Isles. The defenders—few in number, widely dispersed, almost totally untrained and poorly equipped—were rolled back from the beaches at Lingayen and Tayabas. Fighting and withdrawing, fighting again to withdraw again, these forces, weary and heartsore, came to Bataan to stand or fall. But standing or falling, it was the fight that was the thing. And the age-old Zambales looked down, seeing all that took place.

They saw the feverish preparations for defense: the lines dug in from Manila Bay, along the dikes of the fish ponds, through the sleepy little barrio of Mabatang in the municipality of Abucay, westward across rice paddies, through cane fields, up through the jungles onto the mountain slopes, over the heights and down to the China Sea at Morong. Foxholes, wire, craters, traps, and mine fields—that was the line. And behind it the big guns, 75's and 155's, worn and obsolete. The Abucay defense position.

The Japanese invaders advanced close to the bay, down the main highway, through Hermosa to Orani. On January 10, 1942, they struck the Abucay position, throwing the full weight of their force southward through Samal, through Kaliguiman, on then against the little barrio of Mabatang. For five days they hammered that line, throwing regiment after regiment—almost countless thousands of men—against it.

Here was a new experience for the Japanese hordes. A new lesson. The lines did not collapse and withdraw in confusion. The Japanese Imperial Army was receiving its first blood bath. It had found a fighting force it could not break. The lines at Mabatang—to the east and Manila Bay, and to the west through the

rice paddies—were manned by a force the Japanese had not counted upon: the Philippine Scouts. Not an American, not just a Filipino, the Scout was a professional soldier with Filipino blood and with American ideas and ideals, led entirely by American officers, trained and hardened through the years, intense loyal to the United States and all that it stands for, regular army troops—the only truly American Colonial Soldier.

The fight at Mabatang is the story of the 57th Infantry Combat Team and the hopeless attempt of the Japanese to breach this sector of the Abucay line. The fighting spread along the entire line until finally a soft spot was found on the western slopes of the Zambales Mountains. After fearful punishment and after the failure of counter-attacks, the fateful withdrawal along the footpaths that skirt the rocky beach of Subic Bay began on January 24. The fighting and withdrawing on the previously selected and partially prepared position generally along the Pilar-Bagac highway was commenced. The denouement of this crisis was the falling apart of all resistance on April 9.

But this is not a history of the fighting in Bataan. All that is now but another chapter in the ageless story known to the Zambales. Nor are the mountains themselves of any significance to this tale; nor is the church of Abucay. But an incident took place in the church at Abucay—took place on January 22 during the height of the fight on the Abucay position before the withdrawal along the Pilar-Bagac highway—an incident that moved and stirred all who were present and saw it.

On January 12 a particularly severe shelling and incendiary bomb attack took place on the town. The 57th Regimental combat Team command post was burned out of the western end of the town. The church being the only stone

building left undemolished, and thinking that its massive construction would withstand the shelling were the enemy to turn their destructive wrath upon it, the command post was moved into the church. Thus the Regimental staff and the command echelon of Scouts of headquarters company were in the church when the incident occurred.

In the open area where the wide aisle running the length of the nave of the church was intersected by the central cross aisle leading from the great side door, stood a slender pedestal; and on that pedestal, in the very center of the church, stood a statuette, "Christ the Shepherd." It was a beautiful thing, not more than 18 inches tall, skillfully and gracefully carved of some Filipino hardwood—probably nara or camagong—painted and tinted so that figure seemed to live. The head and hands were of exquisitely carved ivory. A gorgeous purple velvet and gold robe draped above His shoulders; a shepherd's crook was in His hand. The church floor was laid with stone and marble tile, each tile about a foot-and-a-half square. Hundreds of these tiles were carved to commemorate the death of someone in the community. There were tiles with Chinese characters, Moro Arabic characters and Spanish. Some dated back to the 1600s. Time and earthquakes had bulged the once even surface of the floor, leaving large cracks and crevices between the tiles.

We had noticed the pedestal in the center of the church during the periods of bombing and shelling. Each detonation would set it and its delicate burden quivering and rocking. Sometimes, if the barrage lasted a long time, the pedestal would move as much as three or four feet due to the vibration and the gentle slope of the floor. And on top of the pedestal the statuette would move about and sway when shells exploded. When a

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barrage ceased, some Scout soldier, in passing, would notice and move the pedestal back to its accustomed place and adjust the statuette back to the center of its base. I thought several times that it should be removed and placed where it would not be in danger of falling. It was only a thought, a consciousness of a need, but not acted upon in the full press of battle. Later I was to remember this impulse.

The church itself had suffered little during the early days of the fighting. Though the town of Abucay was under almost constant shelling and bombing during the siege of the Abucay line—it had been thoroughly burned and demolished—the church had not been hit. The great L-shaped *convento* that adjoined the church, forming a lovely garden court between the main body of the church and that of the living quarters of the priests, had been hit and partially demolished. Although the Japs must have realized that the tall church belfry afforded our artillery observers an excellent observation post from which to spot their artillery, they allowed it to stand almost to the end. They were using the church and its tower as a base point for registering their fire on the highway through the town and the junctions of roads leading to the west that were lines of communication and supply, feeding rations and ammunition to all units in the main line.

Many little things happened during those difficult days, the usual things incident to battle, too many to be told. But a few must be told to explain the reason there is any story at all to be told—and to give a bit of atmosphere to the scene.

The regimental aid station was located in the first floor of the *convento*. A steady stream of ambulances and weapons carriers laden with the wounded and the dead from Mabatang—the dead, whose bodies could be recovered, were

brought back for burial in the churchyard. The wounded, attended to, were placed in other ambulances and sent to the field hospitals in the rear. Day and night, struggling against overwhelming fatigue, the surgeons and corpsmen carried on. And with them the chaplains of the regiment, Capt. Henry Stober and Capt. Tom Seccina. Their devotion to duty, their unceasing labor with the wounded and the dying, seldom eating and never sleeping—it was almost otherworldly. Great men imbued with the Great Idea: love for their brother men.

Almost as many men were carried out the back of the church for burial in the churchyard and gardens as were taken to the hospitals. The walls inside the *convento* were lined with bloody stretchers. In the rear of the church near the well, little Filipino boys and Scout soldiers scrubbed those gruesome stretchers to be sent back to the front. Other details were digging—digging day and night—digging graves to bury the seemingly endless chain of the dead—digging up the soil where for centuries the padres had labored and contemplated over their labors; where the padres had dug the soil and planted their gardens—*camotes, cassava, pechay*—strange vegetables of the tropic islands.

Then from across the seas from Spain, through Mexico, a long, laborious journey in Spanish galleons, came the grapevine. Transported and transplanted in a new land, the vines flourished and red wine was served at the refectory table to remind those padres, struggling to plant the Cross of Christ among new peoples, of their homelands—of cathedrals, monasteries, of castles and courts, of the glory that was Spain. And now their soil, their garden, so long tended with loving hands, ran red but not with the juice of the red grape.

Each morning, an hour or two before dawn, the enemy launched strong

ground attacks accompanied by heavy artillery concentrations against the defenders of Mabatang. Each morning as the roar of battle increased, the chaplains knelt before the great high altar of the church to say their mass for the living, hurrying a little perhaps in the thought that very soon they would be needed again in the aid station, where each fresh assault sent quickening streams of mutilated men. But for the moment, there was peace within the church. Shells might burst without in the city square, on the river banks, along the streets and roads bringing death and mutilation to little brown soldiers crouching in fox-holes or in ditches—to those truly Fil-Americans, those Scout soldiers.

But within was quiet. The mass was celebrated. Here and there about the church, singly or in groups of two or three, the Scouts listened. A motorcycle roars up to the side door. Dropping his machine, the weary, dust-covered messenger dives for the doorway and sanctuary within. The switchboard operator, his headset in place, kneels for a moment and crosses himself, and then moves back to his wire jacks, so that Lt. Col. Phillip Fry or Major Pete Wood, up to the left of Mabatang, may call for the artillery concentrations on the enemy, deluging their lines from out in the cane fields. A runner takes a message from the operations sergeant of the S-3 section, young Master Sergeant Versola; the tinkling of a bell is heard through the church; they kneel a brief moment; then the runner is gone and the order is being ground out on an SCR 131 radio out in the garden court. The mass goes on; and so does the battle. But once each day, if only for a second, the war does not exist while the men thank God for life, asking His tender mercies on themselves and on their loved ones, asking for the forgiveness of their sins. Those of us who were not of their belief stood for a moment with bowed heads and in our

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own way thanked God for the goodness of life.

Perhaps the Japanese would have lowered their wrath upon the church regardless, but there is a sequence of events, culminating in a celebration and banquet that I think were at least partially responsible for the catastrophe. On the morning of January 12, our 3rd Battalion was slugged back, bloody and exhausted, the few survivors digging in on a new line, preparing to be overrun. Then reinforcements, two battalions of the 21st Infantry, were thrown into the decimated lines on the morning of January 13. They lasted 36 hours where the Scouts had held for 96 hours. On the morning of January 15, the entire 22nd Infantry (PA) was attached to the 57th Combat Team, counterattacked three battalions abreast into the gap, and secured the line once again. But the strain had been terrific.

Col. George S. Clarke, commander of the combat team, was sick and exhausted. That morning, Col. Arnold Funk arrived to assume command and Col. Clarke was summoned to Corregidor to convey to General MacArthur a first-hand report of actual fighting on Bataan. Col. Funk further stabilized the Mabatang position and on January 20 was promoted to the rank of brigadier general and assigned to the 2nd Philippine Corps under the command of Maj. General Parker. Col. Phillip Fry, who had commanded the 3rd Battalion, 57th Infantry (PS) through its torturous stand at Mabatang, assumed command of the combat team. Hence the celebration, the banquet, and the consequences.

In those days we were still on a good ration—not an American ration, but that of the Philippine Army, with additions. There was still a little flour and sugar and our outfits still had a little jam, coffee and canned fruit, carried with them

into the hills on December 7. Two meals were served a day, one in the early morning before the enemy’s new assault was launched, and one after dark at night: cold pancakes, cold coffee, cold corned beef and bread. One or two officers and men could eat at the same time, for congregating had to be avoided, and we ate in the dark.

Then Col. Fry assumed command, fresh from a foxhole in Mabatang; he was tired of dirt and darkness, confusion and death. Capt. Homer Coleman, C.O. Headquarters Company, was directed to set the table and lay out the food. A long table was found and placed in the left aisle in the rear of the nave of the church, just at the foot of the spiral stairway to the organ and choir gallery. Covered with white sheets that appeared from nowhere, it was set with dishes borrowed from the priests’ quarters in the *convento*. And candles—tall tallow altar tapers—were placed one at each plate and three groups of three at either end and in the center of the table.

At nine o’clock p.m. January 20, the candles were lighted and we gathered around the table—16 American officers of the 57th Infantry Combat Team. Glasses were passed and Col. Fry proposed a toast to the President of the United States. Next was a toast to the 57th Infantry (PS) followed by one to Col. Fry as its new commanding officer. Toasts over, we sat down to eat—to eat like civilized human beings for the first time since the news of Pearl Harbor. The food was the same as ever, but somehow they had managed to serve it hot. There was peanut butter and jam for the hotcakes—and a twinkle in every eye. Sgt. Sherman, official Signal Corps staff photographer, arrived on his way to the front and took pictures of the festive table.

The enemy was quite forgotten for an hour. We were still sitting at the table when the artillery opened up and the shells began to fall. They had spotted the candlelight streaming from the tall open-grilled windows of the church, or perhaps the flash gun of the photographer. No matter. The party was over, the candles extinguished. It was war again—and the enemy was convinced there was something worth shelling in that church in Abucay.

(To be completed in our next issue. Editor)

BATAAN FALLS!

Bataan...Bataan.

Bataan Falls! Bataan.

Like the tramp of feet on the road to doom,
Like the bomber’s roar...like the cannon’s boom.

Like the drums of death the word command
Men and women of every land

To stop! To listen! To understand!

To pulse our hearts to the weary beat...

Advance...retreat...advance...retreat.

There is glory in such defeat

For each man gave of the best he had,

Bearded veteran . . . beardless lad

Gave of his strength, his hope, his life

For mother, brother, friend and wife.

Unknown heroes whose fame is sung
When “Bataan” is uttered by any tongue.

Take those banners from wounded hands

And carry the battle to stricken lands.

Work and sacrifice, hope and give.

That glorious word must forever live,

Symbol of courage. That splendid name

Should be stamped with blood and seared with
flame

On the heart of every woman and man.

Dare to forget it . . . if you can!

BATAAN.

Written By Don Blanding, April 9, 1942

Don Blanding, noted lecturer, poet and artist, expresses the spirit of the Bataan defenders in his poem “BATAAN FALLS!” This poem was used by the U.S. Treasury in its war bond advertising campaign. Editor

THE GENERAL'S CORNER

The General's Corner is dedicated to the memory of **Brigadier General Royal Reynolds, Jr.** During the early days of World War II, General Reynolds commanded the First Battalion of the 57th Infantry Regiment (PS). He led his unit in the defense of Bataan and then, instead of surrendering, spent the remainder of the war as a guerrilla. As the first President of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society, he was one of the Society's founders and a longtime staunch supporter.



Brigadier General Royal Reynolds, Jr.

The Generals Corner publishes historical accounts of World War II in the Philippines. This issue contains three such articles: the lead piece is the first of a two-part series by **Lt. Col. Frank Anders**, 57th Infantry (PS), Philippine Scout concerning an incident at the Abucay Church, as Fil-Am forces fought desperately to repulse the Japanese at the Abucay line, the main line of defense on Bataan. The second article recounts **CWO4 Aniceto Bagley's** experience as a teenage guerrilla during WWII and the third is the story as told by **Aurora Soriano Cudal** of a Filipino family's successful attempt to save a young American soldier and the reconnection with that soldier years after the war ended.

Guerrilla Warfare against the Japanese in the Philippines

by CW4 Aniceto I. Bagley, AUS-Ret.

You have heard the words "Philippine Scouts" repeated all day long. I promise not to say them until the end of my presentation.

I want to preface my remarks by saying that when WWII broke out, I was 15 years old. My observations are from the bottom of the chain of command. Since I did not keep any kind of journal, please excuse any inaccuracies in my story.

My name is Aniceto Ilanga Bagley and I come from Carles, Iloilo on the island of Panay. During the Japanese occupation of the Philippines in WWII I was a Philippine Army guerrilla. Since then, everyone I have met who was a former guerrilla claims to have been a sergeant or of higher rank. I have a feeling that I may have the dubious distinction of being the only one to emerge from the guerrillas as a private.

My first connection with the guerrillas was as a civilian employee with duties that can only be described as "coast watcher" - because that is what we did. A

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Love Across Boundaries

By Aurora Soriano Cudal

When the Japanese invaded the Philippines, there were American soldiers who found their way into Filipino homes by force of circumstances. One of them was Bob Merchant who entered the lives of the Cudal family, residents of the town of Malaybalay, province of Bukidnon, a scenic plateau in Central Mindanao.

One morning, my husband, Winlove and his brother, Mineheart, both teenagers at that time, were swimming in the Pulangi River when they saw a raft floating down the river. They came near the raft and they saw a thin and haggard white man tied on the raft. Winlove held the raft while Mineheart run home to tell her mother, "Mama, there is an American tied on a raft down by the river. Winlove is holding on to the raft". Their mother, Marcela, a godly woman immediately instructed him to bring the American to the house.

The stranger was very weak. The two boys untied him from the raft and propped him up, so he could walk with his two arms slung around the two strong shoulders of the farm boys. They brought him to their own village evacuation house where he introduced himself as Bob Merchant.

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group of us took turns manning an outpost watching for shipping or planes to go by. Upon making a sighting, one of us would go to a telephone station 13 kilometers away. Since such reporting was inherently untimely and there was no prospect of improvement, it was decided to switch to daily consolidated reports to save energy and manpower. This continued for several months until a Japanese penetration disrupted our phone line and scattered our people.

Being an intelligence unit, we remained in contact with each other and continued to report significant happenings in our area such as Japanese coming to town to hold meetings, which were infrequent.

During this period, the prewar mayor of Carles reorganized the municipal government under Japanese control. This was actually to the advantage of the citizens because the occupiers could now go to the municipal administration to make demands or give instructions instead of terrorizing the countryside. Unfortunately, the guerrilla hierarchy viewed the Mayor as too enthusiastic in his efforts to get guerrillas to surrender. One night a group of armed men came and took him away. That is the last anyone saw of him.

Before the Mayor disappeared, the Municipal Secretary, who was my cousin, gave our little group of former coast watchers amnesty papers. We thought this was a great idea. If we were ever picked up, we could say we had already surrendered and had received amnesty. Then came the bad news. We heard a rumor that the guerrilla headquarters learned that we had surrendered and we were on the blacklist. We all got together and ceremoniously burned our amnesty papers. Fortunately, that was all we ever heard of that.

In the fall of 1943, we learned that a

Lieutenant Frederick "Fred" P. Stangl was establishing a signal unit on the off-shore island of Calagna-an. It happened that Fred's father had been a family friend before the war. Fred had convinced one of my uncles, Alfredo B. Enojas (Tatay Pedong) to join him. Tatay Pedong was a radio technician who had trained in the States. Also in the group was Fred's brother-in-law Bob Ford, his nephew Louis Stangl and a young man named Genaro who had been Fred's assistant in a radio repair shop in Bacolod City. There were also two former postal telegraph operators, two Philippine Army radio operators, a mechanic named Tom Murphy and a Chinese cook called "Charlie Chan". I never learned his real name. Two other lieutenants were in the group. They had been engineers on inter island ferries. We also had an expert sailboat helmsman and several sailors. I joined the group as a code clerk. (Note: All the men with American surnames were *Mestizos*. Their fathers were Americans and their mothers Filipinas.)

Fred, Tatay Pedong and Genaro practically built by hand our transmitter and receiver. Through contacts in Bacolod City and Iloilo City they were able to accumulate enough equipment to build a set that could contact the US forces in Australia. We later learned this for a fact after meeting some American Signal Corps troops who had come up from Australia and told us they had been in contact with guerrilla units in the Philippines. After exchanging call signs, we knew that they had been our contacts.

Our station relayed messages to and from higher headquarters and reported ship and aircraft sightings.

An interesting note is that our radio equipment was powered by alcohol fueled generators. To my knowledge, the generators were originally gasoline generators and had been modified to burn

alcohol. There was no gasoline to be had except in Japanese controlled cities and alcohol was readily available from sugar cane and other sources.

Occasionally I would be taken away from my code clerking to beef up crews for trips to other islands. Once we went to Masbate to establish a new radio station. This effort failed for lack of a suitable location. We would also go to Gigantes Islands when a large merchant vessel would stop there for supplies. The presence of armed guerrillas seemed to prompt the generosity of the merchants and we would come away with new clothes for our troops.

There were about twelve of us who had not been inducted into the guerrillas. We were paid as civilians at the same rate as privates - 20 pesos per month in guerrilla money. Finally, on 1 April 1944 we were inducted into the guerrilla forces.

The island of Panay was under the 6th Military District, Philippine Army at the outbreak of the war. After the surrender, a guerrilla organization was formed under Macario Peralta. The word got around, whether true or not, that Peralta was a Captain who had assumed the rank of Colonel to gain respect and recognition. Whatever the case, he did a good job of keeping his subordinates mindful of the task at hand and free from internal squabbles and rivalry. Panay was divided into areas assigned to Regimental Combat Teams (RCT) in command of a Lieutenant Colonel. Our sector was the 64th RCT initially under Lt. Col. Pedro Serran and later under a Lt. Col. Relunia.

Some sectors were told to harass the enemy but in our case, we were told to lie low and gather intelligence. There was a sugar refinery between Balasan

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and Pilar with a handful of Japanese soldiers who, for the most part, minded their own business. Things were relatively calm in our area.

Speaking of the sugar refinery, there was an American engineer or technician known as Mr. White who helped maintain the equipment. Once a week on Market Day, a few Japanese soldiers and Mr. White would come into Balasan to shop and mingle with the populace. One day I was told to go to Balasan and contact Mr. White to tell him we needed a V belt. At the time I had no idea what a V belt was or how anyone knew Mr. White would be cooperative. Anyway, I did as I was told and was fortunate to meet Mr. White and ask him for a V belt. He told me to come back the next week. I did and he handed me a paper sack that I took and left as inconspicuously as

possible. I took it back to camp and gave it to Fred. Everyone seemed to be satisfied and I felt an immense sense of accomplishment.

Fred's signal detachment was part of the 64th Composite Signal Company under the command of a Col. Francia who was also Col. Peralta's Signal Officer.

The guerrilla organization on Panay had all the branches found in a regular army organization. I have mentioned intelligence and signal. For transportation there were sailboat pools. MPs guarded stockades holding prisoners. Finance printed guerrilla money. Quartermaster collected and distributed food supplies, mainly rice. Doctors and nurses served in the Medical Cops and manned hospitals and aid stations. Dentists did the best

they could with the equipment and materials available.

In early 1945 the guerrillas on Panay were disbanded. I elected to stay in the Philippine Army and was assigned to the Signal Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 52nd Infantry Regiment, Philippine Army under a Col. Datur. In February 1946, I was demobilized from the Philippine Army and joined the PHILIPPINE SCOUTS.

When the Philippine Scouts were demobilized a few years later, Aniceto transferred to a non-Scout unit and completed his U.S. Army career. He now enjoys an active retirement in Huntsville, Alabama. This article is adapted from his reunion remarks on the panel discussing guerrilla activities against the Japanese. Editor

WHERE DO WE GET SUCH MEN?

Odyssey of a Philippine Scout

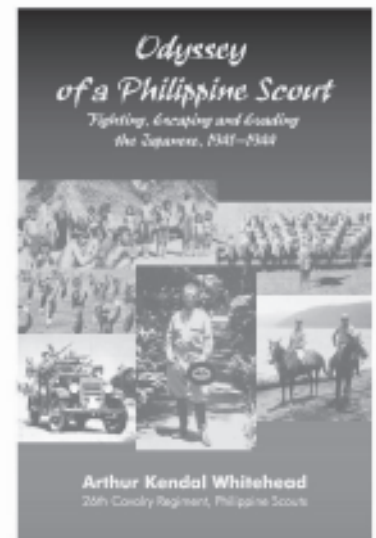
by Arthur Kendal Whitehead

Odyssey of a Philippine Scout is the true, verified story of a young American lieutenant's stubborn refusal to give in to overwhelming odds.

Arthur Kendal Whitehead was an officer in the 26th Cavalry Regiment, Philippine Scouts, and was knocked out of action in one of the Regiment's first engagements against the Japanese. Separated from his unit, Lieutenant Whitehead spent over two years in his attempts to regain contact with American forces in an odyssey that took him to islands throughout the Philippine Archipelago and eventually by small boat to Australia. In the process, he not only evaded myriad determined Japanese Imperial Army units and patrols, but was captured, escaped, and hunted by a tenacious and cruel enemy. Along his tortuous and perilous path, he encountered the full spectrum of factions in the Philippines, from his fellow desperate American and Filipino soldiers and sailors, to peace-loving and kind Filipino farmers, fishermen and merchants, to merciless renegades and bandits . . . and many others with agendas and outlooks somewhere in between. *Odyssey of a Philippine Scout* is a thrilling and inspirational example of the legendary resourcefulness, resilience, and resolution of the American soldier in World War II.

The book is a lively and interesting read. It contains more than just a chronicle of his adventures, as he does explain differences between various ethnic groups in the Philippines and sometimes borders on the lyrical in describing the countryside. . . . One can't help but marvel at Whitehead's persistence, courage, and luck in successfully completing a journey that cost many others their lives. —J. Michael Houlihan, PSHS

304 pages. Maps. Photos. Paperbound. ISBN 0-9717650-4-9. \$19.95 retail + \$4.00 US shipping. Mention this ad and get *Odyssey of a Philippine Scout* for \$17.50 plus shipping.



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When he was strong enough to talk, Bob narrated to his new family that he was one of several American soldiers who escaped from the Bataan Death March. They took a boat to Mindanao and sailed from one islands to another until they reached Cagayan de Oro. The group dispersed and was supposed to regroup in Agusan. Bob and his companion walked through forested ravines to hide from the Japanese soldiers, until he got sick with malaria, dysentery and malnutrition. When they reached the Pulangi River, the two American soldiers decided to make a raft out of five 10-foot bamboo poles. Bob could no longer walk and he asked his companion to tie him on the raft and let him drift down the river. Their parting words, spoke of their faith in a power greater than them, "God will take care of us."

For eight months, Bob stayed in a makeshift hut built by the Cudal boys near a cave to hide him from the Japanese with Papa Santos Cudal as his constant companion. He was nursed back to health with loving care provided by Mama and the whole family of eight girls and three boys, who at that time were also missing Esmeraldo, the eldest boy, a fourth year law student in the University of the Philippines, who was drafted by the Philippine Army to fight in Bataan, (Esmeraldo Cudal now an aging veteran has his own story on how he survived the war.)

There were rumors that the Japanese *kempetai* discovered the presence of an American soldier in the Cudal farm and that they will soon raid the farm to get him. But before that happened, Bob suddenly disappeared in the middle of the night without saying goodbye.

The Cudals lost track of him until after the liberation of Manila. In 1949, a letter from Bob Merchant from the Unit-

ed States was received by the Cudal family thanking them for the loving care he received. He said, he plans to come to Manila on his way to Japan to renew his ties with the family. He informed his friends that he remained in the military and will be assigned to Japan as an aircraft mechanic.

True enough, he came to the Philippines and was reunited with Winlove who was then in Manila pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in the University of the Philippines.

In 1989, Winlove and I decided to come to San Diego to attend the wedding of our daughter. We were informed that Uncle Bob is living in the vicinity of March Airfields in San Bernardino, Southern California. We reconnected with him and his wife, Ethel. It was during our visit to Uncle Bob's home that we were able to connect the whole story of Uncle Bob from that fateful night in 1943 when he left the Cudal farm.

Uncle Bob, an ebullient, rotund and hearty man who loves baseball told his story. The tailor who sewed his trousers told some people around that there is an American living with the Cudals. The Japanese soldiers will raid the farm anytime. He did not want to endanger the lives of the Cudal family so he left without telling anyone about his plans. He said that he trod through deep forests, ravines and mountain trails for several weeks (from Bukidnon), eating wild fruits along the way, until he reached the shoreline of Agusan where he and other Americans were rescued by a submarine. They were brought to Australia and were flown to the United States.

We visited Uncle Bob and Aunt Ethel every now and then where we enjoyed their warm hospitality and home-cooked meals. Aunt Ethel related how she sur-

vived the ordeal of being alone waiting for her husband who was listed as missing in action. She just hoped, waited and prayed that someday he will come home. It was therefore a tearful reunion of two faithful hearts when he finally returned after almost three years of absence.

Aunt Ethel never associated with Filipinos before and she expressed fear of meeting them. But Uncle Bob reassured her that they are a loving and caring people. He said, "Better love them, honey. I owe my life to them, especially the Cudals. They are my family now and you have to learn to love everyone one of them."

When my mother-in-law who was then 91 years old came to Chicago in 1986 for a much needed eye operation, as a gift from her daughter who was an anesthesiologist in a Chicago hospital, Uncle Bob came to take care of her as he would take care of his own mother.

Our memories of an ugly war were made beautiful and sacred by the relationship we had with Uncle Bob. He passed away two years ago and we were at his Memorial Service and Military Interment Ceremony, mourning with Aunt Ethel and their two sons. His passing and Aunt Ethel's subsequent passing three months later closed an era of love built by wartime experiences and relationships; love that crossed boundaries of race and culture.

Dr. Aurora Soriano Cudal is Associate Editor of The Filipino Press, a weekly newspaper published in San Diego. She attended our last PSHS reunion as a guest of Lt. Col. Ed Ramsey, 26th Cavalry (PS). Through this article she is hoping to establish contact with friends and relatives of Bob Merchant. Editor

The Philippine Scouts Receive the NJAMF Patriotism Award

In a Washington D.C. ceremony on April 6 the Philippine Scouts were awarded the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF) Patriotism Award for the heroic defense of the Philippines during the first five months of World War II. The award was introduced by Sen. Daniel Inouye, himself a recipient of the Medal of Honor, the highest military award for courage in combat.

Accepting the Patriotism Award on behalf of the Philippine Scouts was Lieut. Gen. Edward Soriano, US Army (ret.), who is the son of a Philippine Scout, and Capt. Menandro Parazo

(ret.), 26th Cavalry (PS). Also present at the ceremony was Col. Mel Rosen (ret.), 88th Field Artillery (PS). All three are members of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society.

Speaking for his government, Ambassador Albert del Rosario, the Philippine envoy to the United States, remarked that participating in the award ceremony was an honor "...for my country, and for the Filipino-American Community in America." The ambassador then extolled the valor and heroism of the Philippine Scouts in defending both the Philippines and the United States during World War II. He

pointed out that the legacy of the Philippine Scouts lives on in the service of Filipinos in the US Armed Forces. He also stressed the historical links between the Philippines and the United States, saying, "Although this evening is a tribute to the past, it is also a reminder that our countries are allied democracies. Our people share the same democratic values. Our free societies today were protected by the Philippine Scouts, and by so many others of the greatest generation who fought and won World War II. For their dedicated service for freedom and democracy... the Philippine Scouts truly deserve this Patriotism Award. "

Book Review: *Odyssey of a Philippine Scout: Fighting, Escaping, and Evading the Japanese, 1941-1944*, by Arthur Kendal Whitehead

Reviewed by J. Michael Houlahan

Arthur Kendal Whitehead. *Odyssey of a Philippine Scout: Fighting, Escaping and Evading the Japanese, 1941-1944*. The Aberjona Press, Bedford, PA, 2006. Pp. 288, incl. 10 pp. photos and 6 maps. Price to PSHS members is \$21.50 including shipping, a \$2.45 discount. To order by phone: (866) 265-9063; by mail: The Aberjona Press, P.O. Box 629, Bedford, PA 15522.

Arthur Kendal Whitehead, then a young lieutenant in the 26th Cavalry, Philippine Scouts, tells an interesting, sometimes riveting story of escape and evasion, as he dodges the Japanese following the surrender of Filipino-American (Fil-Am) forces and eventually sails to Australia in a small boat. His odyssey lasted slightly more than two years, from the time he was separated from his unit in the chaos of his first day in combat just before Christmas 1941 until his arrival in Australia in early January

1944. During most of the intervening two years, he was on the run.

And what a run it was! Initially determined to link up with a Fil-Am military unit, he worked his way south accompanied by an ever-changing collection of Americans and Filipinos intent on evading the Japanese. It took two harrowing months for him to island hop to Panay, one of the larger Philippine islands in the central (Visayan) part of the archipelago.

There he joined the American-led 61st Division of the Philippine Army. Six weeks later the Japanese invaded Panay, encountering rather sporadic and ineffective resistance from under trained and inadequately armed Filipino soldiers.

Five weeks after these landing, the American officers leading the 61st were ordered to surrender or risk massacre of the Fil-Am personnel captured on Bataan and Corregidor. Whitehead

obeyed this order, but then escaped and devoted the next nineteen months to reaching Australia.

During this period he lost several companions to the Japanese and to guerrilla groups more interested in banditry than resisting the invaders. He also spent many months being hosted by various locally-prominent Filipinos at considerable risk to them and their families.

Somewhat discordant notes in the book are Whitehead's general disdain for the fighting ability and trustworthiness of Filipinos, as well as his particular contempt for Col. Macario Peralta, Jr. who was the senior officer among the Fil-Am forces on Panay who opted not to surrender. Most of the literature on this period acknowledges that lack of training and poor equipment led initially to poor combat performance by the Philippine Army, but then affirms that experience under fire improved this per-

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formance with some units fighting very effectively. It also is widely acknowledged that Filipinos in the Philippine Scouts fought well, often outperforming the “Sunshiners” from the entirely American 31st Infantry Regiment, which included large numbers of expatriates recruited in the Philippines.

Peralta rallied several thousand Filipino officers and men from his 61st Philippine Army Division and formed a large guerrilla force that eventually dominated the interior of Panay and spread its influence to several other islands in the central Philippines. Whitehead dismisses him as a rogue and a bandit, a characterization that was not shared by General Douglas MacArthur, Major General Charles Willoughby (MacArthur’s intelligence chief), Brigadier General Bradford Chynoweth (one of Peralta’s commanding officers prior to the surrender) or Commonwealth President Manuel Quezon. Indeed, Willoughby described Peralta as being a strong, well-organized leader, who ran a model operation and provided valuable intelligence that was “vastly detailed and exceptionally voluminous.” (1)

John M. Fitzgerald’s book on guerrilla resistance (2) credits Peralta with

initially bottling up the Japanese on Panay in a few coastal cities in 1944 and then destroying most of these garrisons before the arrival of U.S. forces in March of 1945. After the war, Peralta would become a very successful politician, culminating in his serving as the Philippines’ Secretary of Defense for four years after independence.

The last part of the book details Whitefield’s hair-raising escape to Australia, consisting of an island-hopping voyage through hostile waters on a captured Moro sailing vessel. On this trip, which lasted over four months, he was accompanied by four local volunteers with varying degrees of expertise in handling small boats in the open ocean.

Whitefield’s controversial opinion of Peralta notwithstanding, the book is a lively and interesting read. It contains more than just a chronicle of his adventures, as he does explain differences between various ethnic groups in the Philippines and sometimes borders on the lyrical in describing the countryside.

Some of the more exotic passages in the book deal with various Filipino customs he describes in detail, such as how to cook a dog, how to distill tuba (an

alcoholic drink made from the fermented sap of coconut palm flowers) and the intricacies of cock fighting. Although Whitehead had several confrontations with Filipino guerrillas during this period, he was not involved in any actual combat.

Also helpful in following his adventures are six full page maps.

One can’t help but marvel at Whitehead’s persistence, courage and luck in successfully completing a journey that cost many others their lives.

(1) WILLOUGHBY, Compiled by Maj. Gen. Charles A., (Ret), *The Guerrilla Resistance Movement in the Philippines: 1941-1945*. (New York: Vantage Press, 1972, page 493, pp. 433-585) quoting a memo by Mueller, Paul, J., Major General, GSC, Chief of Staff; C. A. Willoughby, Major General, GSC, AC of S, G-2, “The Guerrilla Resistance Movement in the Philippines,” (Tokyo, Japan: General Headquarters, Far East Command, 1 March 1948).

(2) Fitzgerald, John M., *Family in Crisis: The United States, the Philippines and the Second World War*. (1st Books, Bloomington, IN, 2002, pp. 124-142).

Book Review: ***The Guerrilla and the Hostage***, by John E. Olson

Reviewed by J. Michael Houlahan

John E. Olson. *The Guerrilla and the Hostage*. Burk Publishing Company, San Antonio, Texas. Pp. 246, incl. 2 maps and 2 prison camp diagrams. (Fourth printing.) For next three months price is reduced to \$12, including postage. Send a check or money order to John E. Olson, The Towers, #510, San Antonio, TX 78209.

Col. Olson is at his best in describing combat, the Bataan Death March and prison camp in this fourth printing of his

novel set in the Philippines during World War II. Much of his book, which begins just before Pearl Harbor and ends with the liberation of POWs from Cabanatuan, is based on Col. Olson’s own combat and POW experience as a 57th Infantry (PS) captain, not long out of West Point. Although the two main characters in the novel, US Army lieutenants Gordon and Jim Cox, Gordon a 57th Infantry (PS) officer and his younger brother an Army Air Corps pilot, are fictional, many of the others in the narrative were actual U.S. military personnel. Olson uses the two fictional broth-

ers as eyewitnesses to ground combat and the air war. Following the surrender on Bataan, the author has the younger brother taken prisoner, so we view the Death March and the POW experience through his eyes. The older brother escapes capture and joins the guerrillas to provide the readers with that perspective.

Of particular interest to our PSHS members will be the various Philippine Scouts who play a role in the narrative. In addition to his own personal experi-

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ences, Col. Olson also relied on interviews with many combat veterans, some of whom were POWs and others who fought with the guerrillas.

Olson's first hand knowledge enables him to include a number of details from the war that are missing from books written by those not actually present as the events unfolded. For instance, it is not widely known that in early March, 1942, about a month before the USAFFE surrender on Bataan, some 200 Philippine Army soldiers were inducted into the Philippine Scouts as replacements for Scout casualties [95]. His description of the Zero Ward at Cabanatuan where soldiers were placed to die because there was inadequate food and medicine to stem the dysentery, beriberi, malaria and diphtheria killing them is chilling. At one point, the prison hospital consisted of 31 barracks housing

3,100 patients. This proved inadequate, and dying men were placed on the ground under the barracks [p. 189]. Also it is not generally known how close the Japanese were to a military collapse in mid-February, 1942. General Homma, the Japanese commander, testified after the war that combat casualties and disease had reduced his force to about 3,000 infantrymen still able to fight [p.96]. Unfortunately, USAFFE forces were so reduced by disease, malnutrition and combat casualties, that they were unable to mount a counteroffensive. During a lull in the combat lasting several weeks, Homma was reinforced with fresh troops and USAFFE defenses collapsed in the face of a new Japanese offensive in early April.

Particularly poignant are Olson's descriptions of the Death March and the awful conditions of imprisonment, first

at Camp O'Donnell and later at Cabanatuan. Life as a POW is described in great detail. Somewhat less detailed is the author's depiction of guerrilla warfare, which he took from information garnered from others who survived the Japanese occupation as guerrillas.

The novel ends with the Cox brothers reunited during the rescue of 500 mostly-American POWs from Cabanatuan.

Although The Guerrilla and the Hostage is a novel, its attention to detail and the sure hand achieved through personal experience that Col. Olson brings to his narrative lends a credibility and immediacy to the book which often is missing in fiction. It is a good and satisfying read.

BOOKS WANTED

I would like to purchase the following books.

Roderick Hall

9A Rutland Gate, London SW7 1BH

Tel: 44-22-7581-1273; Fax: 44-20-7589-3200

Email: remhall@aol.com

Bataan Company Commander

by Edgardo T Gumbar

A Brief History of the 41st division, Philippine Army

by Exequiel D Jubal

Bataan's Own

by Lt.Col. Ambrosio P. Pena

The Story of the first Regular Division

by Lt. Col. Ambrosio P. Pena

A brief History of the 31st division, Philippine Army

by Rolando S. Pestano

26th Cavalry Regiment

by George A. Rummel

History of the Philippine Scouts Field Artillery

by Melvin Rosen

Handuraw: Tales of War

by Teogenes Borja

In Memoriam

As we lose these heroes, we encourage friends and family of these extraordinary soldiers to join the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society. You will learn what took place during an extremely difficult time in our history. You will also learn just how special these men were in service to their country.

MSG Monico Almachar

Retired 57th Infantry (PS) MSG Monico Almachar passed away of natural causes July 6, 2005 in Manteca, CA.

Born on May 2, 1910 in Vigan, Ilocos Sur, Luzon, Philippine Islands he is survived by five children and two grandchildren. His wife predeceased him by ten years. Monico Almachar, a seminary student in the Philippines, enlisted in the US Army in 1933 as a Philippine Scout. He escaped from the Bataan Death March and returned home in Northern Luzon, where he was recaptured. He escaped once more and joined Volkmann's Guerillas and continued to fight the Japanese until liberation in 1945.

Monico received the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, the WWII Victory Medal, the American Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Distinguished Unit Badge with two Oak Leaf Clusters, The Philippine Liberation Ribbon with Bronze Star, the Bronze Star for Valor, and the Prisoner of War Medal.

He retired with 30 years in the military in 1963 and started a second career as a Security Officer at Sharpe Army Depot, in Lathrop, CA for 17 more years. He was a member of the American Legion, the American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor, The Philippine Scouts Heritage Society, and the American Ex-Prisoners of War.

Feliseo Cabaddu

Golden Gate-Bay Area Chapter member and former Philippine Scout Feliseo Cabaddu passed away on May 5, 2006. Mr. Cabaddu was a "New" Scout, who enlisted in 1946 and was discharged in 1949, having served in a PS medical support unit. He joined the PSHS in 1997 and was National Treasurer of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society for four years, stepping down in 2002. His

widow, Virginia L. Cabaddu, lives in Pittsburg, California.

SFC Feliciano A. (Tony) Figuracion

SFC Feliciano A. (Tony) Figuracion, former member of the 45th Infantry (PS) and long-time supporter of our Capt. Jose Calugas, Sr. chapter, passed away at home in Tacoma on March 14, 2005. Tony was born May 2, 1919 in Alcala, Pangasinan, Philippines. During WWII, he survived combat, the Bataan Death March, a Japanese POW camp and the Korean War. He retired from the U.S. Army in 1961. From his retirement until 1994, Tony and his family cared for developmentally disabled foster children. He also served as Maintenance Director at a series of nursing homes in Tacoma.

Tony is survived by his wife of 45 years, Althea; seven sons, Karangalan "Alan", Magtanggol "Tango", Ralph, Bumpaous, Grant, David, and Dale; daughters Liuanag "Lily" Gallardo, Ada Elliott, as well as 13 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and numerous foster children. *(This obituary supplements a less detailed version published in our last issue. Editor)*

Lt. Col. James Kellum "Jake" Levie, Jr.

Lt. Col. James Kellum "Jake" Levie, Jr., who served as a lieutenant in the 12th Signal Company (PS) during WWII, passed away from pneumonia at the age of 90 on March 3, 2006 in LaFayette, Georgia.

Originally from Atlanta, his later childhood was spent in Korea where his parents served as dental missionaries. In 1939, after studying electrical engineering at Georgia Institute of Technology, he entered active duty in the U.S. Army Signal Corps, volunteering for duty in the Philippines.

In the early days of WWII, as the Jap-

anese forces approached the Bataan Peninsula, Lt. Levie's unit covered the withdrawal of the Division. Upon the withdrawal, Lt. Levie remained behind to salvage valuable signals equipment. For his "conspicuous bravery and inspiring leadership," he was awarded the Silver Star.

After the surrender of the American forces in April 1942, Lt. Levie survived the Bataan Death March. He was transported to the P.O.W. camp in Mukden, Manchuria, where he was appointed Protestant chaplain and performed burial services for more than 500 men. When the P.O.W. camp was liberated by Soviet troops in 1945, the Soviet commander put Lt. Levie in charge, and the Japanese commandant surrendered his sword and his command to Lt. Levie.

After the war, he transferred to Army Counterintelligence. In 1959, he retired from the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel and joined the National Aeronautics and Space Administration at Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. He worked there until 1986, rising to the position of Chief of Security.

Lt. Col. Levie was predeceased in 2005 by Avis, his wife of 64 years. He is survived by three children, five grandchildren, two brothers and a sister. He was buried in Chattanooga National Cemetery with full military honors and with the Silver Star that he won in the Bataan Campaign.

Paulino Respicio

Paulino S. Respicio, who served from 1942-1946 in the Philippine Scouts, passed away after a lengthy illness at home in Tujunga California on 15 July 2006 at the age of 86. A veteran of WWII, he survived the infamous Bataan Death March and Japanese POW camp. He enlisted on 15 March, 1942 and was

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honorably discharged 15 August 1946. Paulino served in the Co. E, 57th Infantry Regiment (Philippine Scout). Following the surrender of Fil-Am forces, he joined the guerrillas and became a POW. Discharged shortly following the war, he immigrated to the United States. Among his many military honors were the Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star (2wd) and the POW medal. He is survived by his wife, two sons and three daughters.

Lt. Col. Mariano Villarín

Retired Philippine Scout Mariano Villarín passed away from natural causes at 92 on February 3, 2006 in Long

Beach, California. Born in Manila, he graduated from Far Eastern University there with a degree in business administration. A veteran of WWII, he survived the Bataan Death March and POW camp, finally retiring from the U.S. Army Reserve in 1975 as a lieutenant colonel. Among his many military honors were the Bronze Star and the POW medal.

After his retirement, Lt. Col. Villarín, by then a U.S. citizen, became a federal auditor. In 1980 he moved from Minnesota to California and began working on his memoirs. Lt. Col. Villarín was perhaps best known as author of the book We Remember Bataan and

Corregidor. He belonged to many veterans' organizations, including the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society and the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor. He also was a witness for the prosecution in the post-WWII trial of one of several women broadcasting Japanese wartime propaganda and known to U.S. servicemen in the Pacific as "Tokyo Rose".

Lt. Col. Villarín is survived by three children, Corinne, Larry and Jeanette and two grandchildren, Aaron and Rachel. His wife Margaret predeseased him in 2003.

Member Activities

An important objective of this newsletter is the encouragement of our members to raise public awareness of the proud patriotic legacy of the Philippine Scouts. Examples of member's efforts to accomplish this over the last six months follow:

Immediate Past National President Fred Foz and **Gil Gutierrez** represented the Philippine Scouts during ceremonies aboard the USS Missouri at Pearl Harbor on the 61st anniversary of the surrender of Japan on 2 September 2006. As his final act as our National President, **Major Foz** presided over our May reunion.

Tacoma Chapter President Joe Calugas and **GGBAC Chapter President Cion Rael**'s activities are detailed in their chapter reports. **Cion**'s excellent organizational skills were demonstrated again in the smooth running of our May 27-28 reunion at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Burlingame.

In April, **National Second Vice President Menandro Parazo** was invited to Washington, D.C. to join retired U.S. Army **Lt. General Edward Soriano** in accepting the *Patriotism Award* from the **National Japanese-American Memorial Foundation** on behalf of the more than 12,000 WWII Philippine Scouts. During the same trip, **Capt. Parazo** was awarded five WWII Philippine Medals

from the Philippine Government. These honors were presented by **Major General Delfin Lorenzana**, Philippine Army, during a ceremony at the Philippine Embassy. **Menandro** also attended the Bataan Day wreath-laying ceremony sponsored by the Philippine American Veterans at the WWII National Memorial on the Mall in Washington.

In March, **Menandro Parazo and Mrs. Parazo** attended a special dinner honoring local Bataan survivors hosted by the Commander of White Sands Army Missile Range in New Mexico. The Bataan ROTC Battalion of New Mexico State University, the New Mexico National Guard and the Army White Sands Missile Test Range jointly sponsor the annual Bataan Memorial Death March. There were 3900 registered marchers representing all 50 states, as well as the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, Korea, Virgin Islands and the Philippines. **Menandro** and a few other Death March survivors addressed the marchers prior to the start of the event.

Capt. Parazo spoke to the Junior

ROTC of Mountain View High School and presented the unit the "*Menandro B. Parazo Leadership Trophy*" as the best battalion in the Clint Independent School District, Texas.

Finally, **Capt. Parazo** was a speaker at a national symposium hosted by the Nimitz National Museum in mid-September.

Malcolm Decker, promoting his book On a Mountainside: The 155th Provisional Guerrilla Battalion Against the Japanese on Luzon, attended a book fair in Springfield, Missouri and took part in a radio show and a book signing in Palm Springs, California. He currently is working on his second book, Not Authorized to Save American Lives; The Story of Fassoth's Camps.

Chris Schaefer is working on an article about the Philippine Scouts for the *South Bay Times* (a community magazine in San Diego, Calif.), which should be published in their October issue. He also has a series of book signings and

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speaking engagements at Barnes & Noble in Sugarland; the Louisiana Book Festival in Baton Rouge; and the American Association of University Women in Houston for his book Bataan Diary: An American Family in World War II, 1941-1945. **Chris's** website at <www.bataandiary.com> is interesting and worth a visit.

John Manguso is adding two poster panels displaying the medal and insignia collection of **Bob Capistrano** to the Fort Sam Houston Museum Philippine Scouts history display. Previously a large poster of a Philippine Scout and the two memorial plaques the PSHS donated in 2003 have been added to the display.

Lt. Col. Ed Ramsey and wife **Raqui** will be in Fort Knox, KY for the U.S. Cavalry Association's Bivouac, **Ed's** book, Lieutenant Ramsey's War: From Horse Soldier to Guerrilla Commander, co-written with **Stephen J. Rivele** continues to sell well in paperback. Listed for \$9.95, it can be obtained through

Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble.com or ordered through their book stores.

Col. John Olson continues to devote extensive time to organizing the Philippine Scout archives at the Fort Sam Houston Museum and supplying information on Scout-related questions coming to our website. He also was cited for his contributions to the just-published book Odyssey of a Philippine Scout by **Arthur Kendal Whitehead**, a former 26th Cavalry (PS) officer.

Col. Olson's book, The Guerrilla and the Hostage is in a second printing and available to our members for the reduced rate of \$12 (includes postage) for PSHS members and newsletter subscribers. (For details, see ad elsewhere in this issue.)

Col. Mel Rosen also attended the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation's Annual Awards dinner where the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society was presented with that organi-

zation's 2006 **Patriotism Award**.

Sgt. Gary Hurd reports that his Troop A, 26th US Cav(PS) Memorial "Regiment" had a fine Bataan Day Ceremony in Capas and Camp O'Donnell. He has sworn-in two more troopers and bring his membership to 14 men between the Philippines and Texas.

Mike Houlahan had his review of **Malcolm Decker's** On a Mountainside: The 155th Provisional Guerrilla Battalion Against the Japanese on Luzon published in *On Point Magazine*. His reviews of **Arthur Kendal Whitehead's** Odyssey of a Philippine Scout: Fighting, Escaping, and Evading the Japanese, 1941-1944 and Bataan: A Survivor's Story by **Lt. Gene Boyt** with **David L. Burch** were published in the *Bulletin of the American Historical Collection*. (Unfortunately, **Whitehead**, a retired 26th Cavalry (PS) officer, passed away in 2000, so his book was published posthumously.)

Chapter News

Capt. Jose Calugas, Sr. Chapter (Tacoma) In April, the **Calugas family** attended the dedication ceremony of the **Sgt. Jose Calugas, Sr.** Apartments at High Point in West Seattle, Washington. The building's naming was due to the leadership of **Norberto Caoili**, President of the Filipino Community of Seattle, and was intended as a gesture honoring veterans who participated in the Bataan-Corregidor campaign during World War II.

In May, **Joe and Goody Calugas** and **Dan and Ely Figuracion** attended the 22nd National Annual Reunion at Embassy Suites Hotel in San Francisco Airport- Burlingame.

In September, the Chapter held its 16th Anniversary Dinner and Dance at the

Elks Lodge #174 in Tacoma. The guest speaker was **LTC. AUS Ret. Albert Cosio**, son of a Philippine Scout.

The Chapter now has 52 members, 47 of whom are life members. The six newest recruits are life members **Lt. Col. Al and Elena Costo**, and **Susan Barbon**, and annual members **Donald Plata**, **Allen Sandico**, and **Daniel Zepeda, Jr.**

The 23rd National Annual Reunion will be hosted by the **Tacoma Chapter** on **May 18-19, 2007** at the **La Quinta Inn & Suites in Tacoma**.

Golden Gate-Bay Area Chapter: Led by **President Cion Rael**, the chapter hosted another extremely successful reunion (see front page story), this time at the *Embassy Suites Hotel in Burlin-*

game. Chapter members involved in preparing for and carrying out the reunion includes **Benito Capuyan, Nita, Evelyn, Rhoda, Run Run and Derrick Guiang, Nilda Malvar, Jess Okialda, David Tejada, Nora Warren and Cindy Warren**.

In August, the chapter participated in the 13th Anniversary of the Pistahan Parade in San Francisco, which celebrates the centennial of the first Filipino immigrants to the U.S. GGBAC **Vice-President David Tejada** and **Secretary/Judge Advocate Jess Okialda**, decorated David's truck with PSHS and POW/MIA motif and bouquets of flowers provided by former Philippine Scout **Pablo Mesina**, daughter **Lina Susbilla** and children. **Lina** drove the truck during the parade.

Chapter News From Page 21

In an August luncheon, **David Tejada and Jess Okialda** were awarded the National Memorial medallion given by **Cdr Don Thompson** of the Bay Area Civilian Ex-POW group. The inscription reads: “*State of California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, with Appreciation and Respect for your honored service and sacrifice.*”

In September, the GGBAC held its annual picnic, a joint undertaking with the American Legion, Post #1 at Gellert Park, Daly City.

The chapter also took part in the mid-September POW/MIA celebration at the

Fort Miley VA Medical Center in San Francisco.

GGBAC officers and members wish a speedy recovery to **Nita Guiang**, PSHS Asst.Treasurer who recently underwent surgery and extend get-well wishes to **Jose and Sol Aquino**.

Gen. John J. Pershing Chapter (El Paso) No chapter activities involving any members other than **Chapter President Menandro Parazo** were reported, although a list of chapter members exists. **Menandro** himself has been very active as reported on the Member Activities page.

Monterey County Chapter: No activities reported although several members attended the annual reunion, a membership list has been received by National and the chapter continues to pay share of dues to National.

Lt. Alexander R. Nininger Chapter: No activities reported and no list of dues-paying members received.

LTC Lloyd E. Mills Chapter: No activities reported and no list of dues-paying members received. The chapter has been placed in an inactive category.

FILIPINO AMERICAN MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT, INC.

By Leslie Ann Murray

F.A.M.E. is under the auspices of the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, Inc. Editor

There are a many monuments dotted around the Philippines dedicated to the bravery and sacrifice of Filipino and American military and civilian forces that fought the battles of WWII. Many of these were erected shortly after the war. Some came later. Two grateful nations saluted their heroes in stone and metal. However, forty years later, time and weather had taken their toll and there is need for maintenance of these memorials.

Thus, on May 21, 1985, a meeting was held to formulate plans for the support of these WWII memorials. The initiative was spearheaded by Mr. Alex Keller, the President and General Manager of Proctor & Gamble at that time, spurred by a previous donation of display cases to the Pacific War Memorial Museum at Topside, Corregidor, by his colleague, Mr. Louis Pritchett. Other

concerned individuals joined the cause and the *World War II Memorial Committee* was established, under the auspices of the American Chamber of Commerce; members were: Mr. Alex Keller, Mr. Matt Holiday (now deceased), Mr. J. Marsh Thompson, **Col. Edward Ramsey**, Col. Lee Telesco (now deceased), and Madame Helena Benitez.

In May 1986, the Committee registered with the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission as the **Filipino-American Memorial Endowment, (FAME), Inc.** - “**a non-stock, non-profit foundation established in the Philippines and the United States by business executives and veterans.**” Its mission: “**to help preserve and maintain tangible reminders of the shared values for which Americans, Filipinos and their allies fought side-by-side in World War II.**” Its objective is “**NOT to build new memorials, but to raise funds in order to maintain existing monuments dedicated to the memory of Filipino-American co-operation during World War II.**”

Projects: Today, FAME continues to work with like-minded individuals, companies and veterans organizations, as a catalyst to affect any repairs or refurbishment necessary to keep these Filipino-American Monuments as fitting memorials. Such support is essential, since the work of FAME is solely supported by donations.

Bataan Death March Marker Project: In 2001, F.A.M.E. initiated a project to repair and replace the numerous kilometer markers along the route of the Bataan Death March -from Kilometer 0 at Mariveles, Bataan to Capas, Tarlac. The initial project was rehabilitation of the Kilometer 0 Mariveles Shrine with re-landscaping, installation of new lights, refurbishment of the bronze plaques and installation of two flagpoles. To date over 50% of the markers along the route have been replaced. It is hoped to finish the entire route by the 65th anniversary of the march in April of 2007. Several have been sponsored by Filipino families, in honor of their men who perished – or survived - the

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March; others are sponsored by companies, individuals and veterans organizations to honor the sacrifices of that tragic event.

Due to the effects of time and tropical weather, and (regrettably) vandalism, some of the markers are now in need of refurbishment. We are appealing to those who may wish to support our work in this to please contribute to a separate BDM (Bataan Death March) Marker Maintenance Fund, through the usual channels.

Corregidor: A complete refurbishment of the Pacific War Memorial Museum on Corregidor was carried out a few years ago, in cooperation with the Corregidor Foundation, Inc. (CFI). Currently we have just completed the installation of solar-powered floodlighting of the "Eternal Flame" sculpture at Topside, through the generosity of *SunPower Manufacturing Philippines*, an American company manufacturing solar panels here in the Philippines. Thus the memorial will be lit from dusk to dawn, acting as a beacon and reminder of the role of the island in the history of WWII for all ships and planes entering Manila.

In addition, we are assisting the CFI in sourcing funds through grants or outright donations for the preservation of the remaining building ruins on the island – all that remains of US Army Fort Mills. The buildings are deteriorating through the effects of the tropical climate and sea air. There is urgent need to preserve this former battleground for future generations. It is also a major tourist attraction for international visitors as well as Filipinos.

We appeal to anyone who can assist us in obtaining substantial grants for this

work. UNESCO has been approached but has not responded; we are exploring other corporate sources such as American Express, Ford, etc. Any assist in this matter would be gratefully received.

Hellships Memorial Project: FAME is monitoring donations for the Hellships Memorial Project – a memorial sited in Subic Bay, Olongopo – in memory of the hundreds who died on these ships while being transferred to slave labor facilities in Taiwan and Japan; sunk by American forces who were unaware Americans were on board. Donations are coming in from veterans and families of those who perished on these ships.

Phase One of the memorial is now completed and was dedicated in ceremonies at Subic Freeport on January 22,

2006, with the attendance of four BDM survivors as well as many contributors and families of those who perished who traveled from the US to witness the event. Phase two continues so donations are still welcome.

Clark Cemetery: FAME also contributes funds to assist the VFW Post 2485 in Angeles City in the upkeep of Clark Cemetery, buried in the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in June, 1991 and abandoned later that year when the US military closed down Clark Air Base.

Conclusion: FAME has the responsibility of coordinating the maintenance of many other monuments throughout the Philippines and depends on the direct and continued patronage of corporations and individuals to sustain its activities.

F.A.M.E. is registered as tax-exempt in the Philippines (as a certified donee institution) and in the U.S.A. (as publicly supported foundation) under IRS Sec. as a 501 (c) (3), Federal ID No. 31-1216785

Donations and contributions can be sent to:

Filipino-American Memorial Endowment, Inc.
c/o American Chamber of Commerce, Philippines
2/F Corinthian Plaza Bldg., Paseo de Roxas
Legaspi Village, Makati City, 1229, Philippines

OR

Filipino-American Memorial Endowment, Inc.
C/O Alex Keller
535 Rolling Rock Lane
Cincinnati, Ohio, 45255.

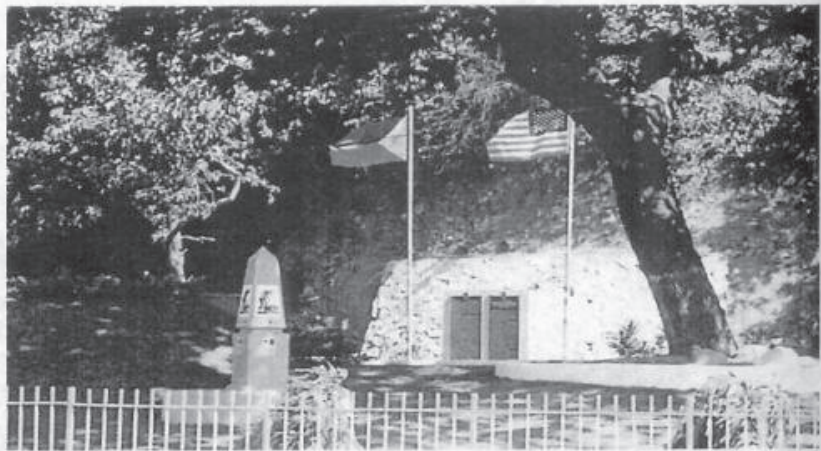
Fame is looking for sponsors for the 35 remaining Death March kilometers markers at \$600 for a concrete obelisk and \$300 for the sign-post.



WE REMEMBER...!

Established in 1986 in Manila, under the auspices of the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, Inc., the Filipino-American Memorial Endowment, Inc. continues to uphold its mission to help preserve and maintain World War II memorials in the Philippines.

Help FAME. Help preserve the heroic memory of our brothers and sisters who braved the rigors of World War II.



Mile Long Barracks, Corregidor; Clark Cemetery, Pampanga; and Bataan Death March KM 0 Shrine, Mariveles, Bataan.

FAME, Inc. depends on the direct and continued patronage of corporations and individuals to sustain its activities. It is registered as tax-exempt in the Philippines (as a certified donee institution) and in the USA under IRC Sec. (501)(c)(3), Federal ID No. 31-1216785.

Tax credits may be claimed in the donor's country of choice.

For more details on how you can help contact:

FAME, INC. (United States)
Email: aljokeller@fuse.net

or

FAME, INC. (Philippines)
Email: fame@amchamphilippines.com

www.amchamphilippines.com

Philippine Scouts Heritage Society



J. Michael Houlahan
Secretary & Newsletter Editor
6774 Lakeside Circle West
Worthington, OH 43085



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Meet Our National Officers and Chapter Presidents

Major Fred Foz
President Emeritus
1658 Hoolana Street
Pearl City, HI 96782
(808) 454-0629

Sen. John A. Patterson
President
721 N. Quidnessett Rd.
North Kingstown, RI 02852
(401) 885-7776

Jose Calugas Jr.,
1st Vice President & President
Capt. Jose Calugas Sr. Chapter
2907 Narrows Place
Tacoma, WA 98407
(253) 752-2573

Menandro Parazo
2nd Vice President & President
Gen. John J. Pershing Chapter
6705 Morningside Cir.
El Paso, TX 79904
(915) 565-7607

Nora G. Warren
Treasurer
92 Russell Drive
Antioch, CA 94509
(925) 757-3267

Col. (Ret.) John E. Olson
Historian
1 Towers Park Lane #510
San Antonio, TX 78209
(210) 821-6017

Rob Capistrano
Assistant Historian
5725 Santa Cruz Ave.
Richmond, CA 94804

Col. (Ret.) Melvin H. Rosen
Counselor
3415 Arnold Lane
Falls Church, VA 22042
(703) 560-5557

J. Michael Houlahan
Secretary and
Newsletter Editor
6774 Lakeside Circle West
Worthington, OH 43085
(614) 847-1016

Chris Schaefer
Public Relations Officer
11930 River View
Houston, TX 77077
(281) 493-0761

Concepcion M. Rael, President
Golden Gate-Bay Area Chapter
Veterans History Project Coord.
P.O. Box 179
Daly City, CA. 94016-0179
(650) 756-9057

Isabelo S. Torio, M.D., Contact
Lt. Alexander R. Nininger Ch.
11374 Grassy Trail Drive
San Diego, CA 92127
(858) 485-5696

LTC Lloyd E. Mills Chapter
Currently inactive

Greg Ramos, President
Monterey County Chapter
708 John Street
Salinas, CA 93905
(831) 424-9084

John Manguso
Director, Fort Sam Houston Museum
MCCS-GPTMS-M
2250 Stanley Road, Suite 36
Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6111
(210) 221-1886
*The Museum is the official repository
for Philippine Scout memorabilia*

Christa M. Houlahan
Website Designer and Manager
Newsletter Design and Layout
webmaster@philippine-scouts.org

*If you would like to contact us
via email, visit our website:
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***Please contact us if you have questions or would like to become
involved with the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society!***