

World War II  
in the  
PHILIPPINES  
The Legacy of Two Nations  
and the  
Role of San Francisco  
during World War II

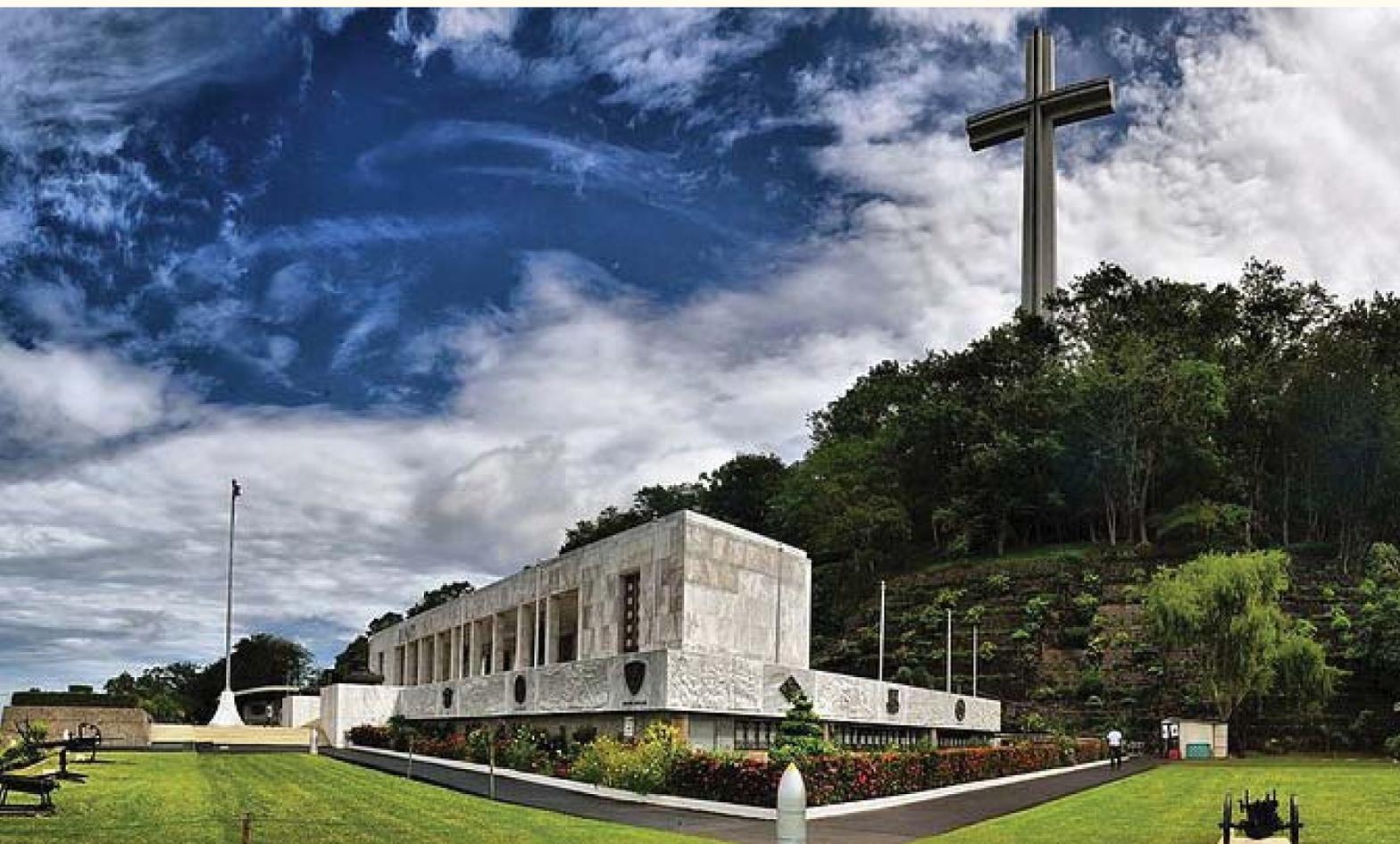
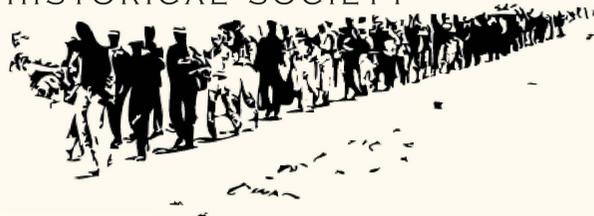
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# World War II

in the

# PHILIPPINES

## The Legacy of Two Nations

Several hours after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the Philippines, a colony of the United States from 1898 to 1946, was also bombed by the Empire of Japan. During the next four years, thousands of Filipino and American soldiers died. The entire Philippine nation was ravaged and its capital Manila, once called the Pearl of the Orient, became the second most devastated city during World War II, only after Warsaw, Poland. Approximately one million civilians perished.

Today, Pearl Harbor is remembered, but the war in the Philippines is mostly forgotten. The Filipino soldiers consisted of seven-eighths of the main line of resistance for the U.S. Army Forces in the Far East (USAFEF). These soldiers did most of the fighting and dying in the Bataan Peninsula.

Despite so much sacrifice and devastation, on February 20, 1946, just five months after the war ended, the First Supplemental Surplus Appropriation Rescission Act was passed by U.S. Congress which deemed the service of the Filipino soldiers as inactive, making them ineligible for benefits under the G.I. Bill of Rights. To this day, these rights have not been fully-restored and a majority have died without seeing justice.

On July 14, 2016, this mostly forgotten part of U.S. history was brought back to life when the California State Board of Education approved the inclusion of World War II in the Philippines in the revised history curriculum framework for the state. This seminal part of WWII history is now included in the Grade 11 U.S. history (Chapter 16) curriculum framework. The approval is the culmination of many years of hard work from the Filipino community with the support of different organizations across the country. In 2011, AB199 (sponsored by Ma and Yee) was passed by the California legislature which "encourages for the inclusion of the role of the Filipinos during WWII in the history/social sciences curriculum for Grades 7-12."

In 2014, the Bataan Legacy Historical Society (BLHS) started working with the Instructional Quality Commission of the California Department of Education to implement AB199. With the support of State Superintendent Tom Torlakson, BLHS was able to expand the scope of the proposed curriculum framework to include World War II in the Philippines.

Chapter 16 of the Grade 11 U.S. History will include the following: The Philippine Commonwealth; the creation of the United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFEF) comprised of Americans and a majority of Filipinos; the Battle of Bataan and the disruption of the timetable of the Imperial Japanese Army by the USAFEF Forces despite suffering from massive disease and starvation and fighting without any air support; the Bataan Death March and the thousands of casualties; the role of the Filipino and American guerrillas during the liberation; the American soldiers who were transported in hell ships to labor camps in Asia; the Battles of Leyte Gulf and the destruction of Manila.

This will be the first time that WWII in the Philippines will be taught to high school students, not only in California but in the entire United States.



On the day after the attack in Pearl Harbor, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's speech asking Congress to declare war on Japan.

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# TIMELINE

Events leading up to the war till the end.

- 1897:** Japan and the United States vie for the Hawaiian Islands.
- 1898:** The U.S. annexes the Hawaiian Islands. After the Spanish-American War the Philippines becomes a colony of the United States. It was ceded by Spain to the U.S. for \$20M along with Puerto Rico and Guam
- 1914:** Japan occupies the German territories of the Carolinas, Marianas and Marshall Islands.
- 1924:** Adoption of War Plan Orange, the defense strategy against Japan.
- 1931:** Japan occupies Manchuria.
- 1934:** Tydings-McDuffie Act. U.S. Congress provides for Philippine independence in 1946. It limits immigration of Filipinos into the U.S. to 50 per year and reclassifies Filipinos living in the U.S. as aliens.
- 1935:** General Douglas MacArthur becomes U.S. Military Advisor of the Philippine Commonwealth Government.
- 1937:** Second Sino-Japanese War. Japan occupies Nanking, Shanghai. Sinking of US Gunboat Panay in Yangtze River.
- 1939:** Germany invades Poland. Beginning of World War II in Europe. Development of Rainbow Plans.

## 1940

- August:** Japan establishes military bases in French IndoChina.
- September:** Tri Partite Pact between Germany, Italy and Japan.
- November:** Plan Dog Memo, basis for Europe First Policy created by Admiral Harold Stark, Chief of Naval Operations.

## 1941

- July 22:** Japan occupies the rest of French Indochina. US declares total embargo of scrap iron and oil and freezes Japanese assets in the U.S. and the Philippines.
- July 26:** President Franklin Roosevelt signs a military order federalizing all organized military units in the Philippines into the service of the U.S. Army Forces in the Far East (USAFPE).
- July 30:** American gunboat Tutuila is bombed by Japanese in Chungking, China
- September:** Initial mobilization of Filipino troops
- November 27:** Heightened State of Alert in the Philippines after breakdown of negotiations between Japan and the United States
- December 7 in Hawaii/December 8 in Philippines:** Bombing of Pearl Harbor and the Philippines. Clark and Iba Air Bases are bombed destroying majority of the planes of the Far East Air Force.
- December 10:** Sangley Point Naval Base is bombed destroying majority of naval facilities. First landing of Japanese troops in northern Luzon
- December 13:** No air support except for a few fighters for reconnaissance. Withdrawal of Naval Force except for submarines.
- December 22:** Landing of General Homma's 14th Army troops in Lingayen. First encounter with the Imperial Japanese Army by the 26th Cavalry and 71st Division.
- December 24:** USAFFE troops retreat to Bataan (Reverted to War Plan Orange 3).
- December 26:** Philippine capital of Manila is declared an Open City; Commander in Chief of the U.S. Asiatic Fleet, Thomas Hart, leaves Manila in accordance with Rainbow Plan 5.

## 1942

- January:** USAFFE troops are placed on half rations. USAFFE troops hold the main line of resistance. Allied civilians interned in Manila, Baguio and Los Baños.
- February:** Singapore falls. Quinine is no longer distributed to the soldiers of Bataan. Japan's General Homma requests for troop reinforcements.
- March 12:** General Douglas MacArthur leaves the Philippines. The troops are placed on quarter rations.
- April 3 to 8:** There are no longer any reserve troops. Japan launches massive air and artillery bombardment. Newly arrived troops of the Imperial Japanese Forces decimate the sick and emaciated USAFFE troops on Mt. Samat in the Bataan Peninsula.
- April 9:** General Edward King, Jr. surrenders the 75,000 troops of Bataan.
- April 9 to end of April:** Bataan Death March. Approximately 10,000 Filipinos & 650 Americans perish during the march of approximately 60 miles. Another 20,000 troops, mostly Filipinos, die inside the prison camp at Camp O'Donnell.
- May 6:** General Jonathan Wainwright surrenders Corregidor and the rest of the Philippines
- Mid 1942:** Growth of Guerrilla Groups (beginning last week of 1941)

## 1943

- October 14:** Inauguration of the Second Philippine Republic under Japanese control.

## 1944

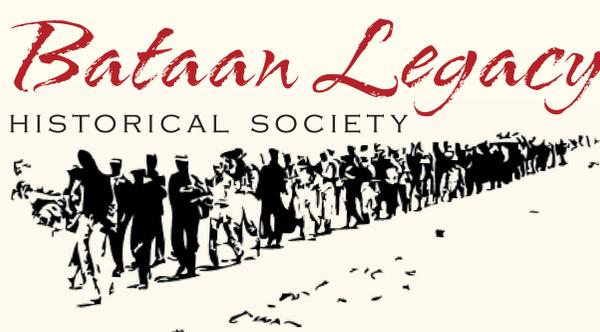
- April:** Operational & Logistical plans for penetration of Philippines by American Intelligence Bureau
- June:** Guerrillas raid Muntinglupa POW camp
- October:** Leyte Landing (Arrival of Allied Troops led by the U.S.) Battle of Leyte Gulf, largest naval battle in history.
- December:** Beginning of "Zonas". Filipino men suspected of collaborating with the Americans are rounded up and executed.  
Massacre of American Military Prisoners of War in Palawan

## 1945

- February to March:** Battle of Manila; Massacre of Manila Civilians by the Imperial Japanese Army & Navy; 100,000 Civilians Perish in Manila.
- September 2:** Terms of Japan's Surrender signed aboard the USS Missouri.

## By The End of the War

Approximately 1 Million Civilians Perish in the Philippines.





Manila Cathedral

# 1898 to 1935 Colonization & Governance



Plaza Santa Cruz, Manila, Philippines

The Philippines became a colony of the United States in 1898, after the Spanish-American War. It was ceded with Guam and Puerto Rico for \$20 million under the terms of the Treaty of Paris.



University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines

The capital, Manila, was already a bustling city enriched by the Manila-Acapulco galleon trade. Grand churches and prestigious educational institutions, such as the University of Santo Tomas established in 1611, were already built.

After the departure of the Spanish, the Filipinos continued their fight for independence. A large segment of the U.S. troops were volunteers, so the U.S. Congress authorized the enlistment of approximately 6,000 Filipinos. They became known as the Philippine Scouts and was officially established on October 8, 1901, by the U.S. Army (Philippine Department General Order 310). Their objective were to overcome the Filipino resistance and restore peace in the archipelago. The Scouts consisted of trained Filipino soldiers under the command of American officers. They were inducted into the Regular U.S. Army's Philippine Division between 1920 – 1923. Eventually, Filipino officers who graduated from U.S. Military Schools were given some command.

Initially, the Philippines was governed by a military governor until 1901, when a Civil Governor ruled concurrently. In 1902, William Howard Taft governed solely as Civil Governor. From 1907 to 1935, a Philippine legislature was established under an American Civil Governor. On March 24, 1934, the U.S. Congress passed the Tydings-McDuffie Act which provided for the Philippines' eventual independence after a ten-year transition period. It also limited the immigration of Filipinos to the U.S. Only 50 Filipinos were allowed to immigrate per year, and Filipino nationals already living in the U.S. were reclassified as aliens.

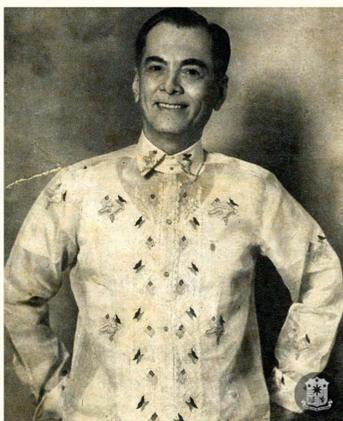


Philippine National Assembly



Manila

On November 15, 1935, the Philippine Commonwealth was inaugurated with its first President Manuel L. Quezon, who initiated the creation of the Office of the Military Advisor to the Commonwealth Government under General Douglas MacArthur, assisted by Major Dwight Eisenhower and Major James Ord. Their recommendations to create an army by the time of Philippines' independence in 1946, were adopted by the Philippine National Assembly as the National Defense Act of 1935.



President Manuel L. Quezon



1935 November 15: Inauguration of President Manuel L. Quezon



General Douglas MacArthur

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Imperial Japanese Army Troops of Manchuria

# 1931 to 1941

## Winds of War



1931: Flag over Chinese Brig Headquarters

In 1931, Japan invaded Manchuria, later renamed Manchukuo. When the League of Nations protested the occupation, Japan resigned and incorporated Jehol into Manchukuo in 1933.



Germany invading Poland

In 1936, Japan signed an anti-Comintern pact with Germany.

In 1937, the second Sino-Japanese war began. It ended with the occupation of Shanghai and the rape of Nanking, where approximately 300,000 civilians perished.

On December 12, 1937, a Japanese aircraft sank a U.S. gunboat "Panay" stationed in the Yangtze River.

World War II in Europe started on September 1, 1939, when Germany invaded Poland.

A series of war scenarios in the Atlantic and the Pacific, called the Rainbow Plans, was developed by the U.S. Joint Army and Navy Board. War Plan Orange, was first adopted in 1924 and incorporated into the plan, which was the defense strategy against Japan. Phase I called for a sacrificial delaying action on the mouth of Manila Bay.



Prime Minister Hideki Tojo meeting Great East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere



Tripartite Pact ratification

In January 1940, the U.S. extended the lend lease program to China. That same year in August, Japan established military bases in French Indochina and announced the formation of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. The U.S. instituted a series of economic sanctions.

In September, the Tripartite Pact between Germany, Italy and Japan was ratified.

By November, Plan Dog Memorandum was drafted by U.S. Naval Operations and became the basis for the Europe First Strategy.



1941 American British Dutch Conversations

In January 1941, the American British Dutch Conversations took place resulting in Rainbow Plan 5, which stated that the Navy was to defend the coastal frontier of the Philippines so long as that defense continues.

In May, Army dependents in the Philippines were sent back to the U.S. (Navy dependents had gone back in 1940).

On July 22, Japan occupied the rest of Indochina. The U.S. declared total embargo of scrap iron and oil, and froze Japanese assets in the U.S. and the Philippines.

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USAFFE 41st Regiment 3rd Battalion, HqSvCo

# 1941

## U.S. Army Forces in the Far East

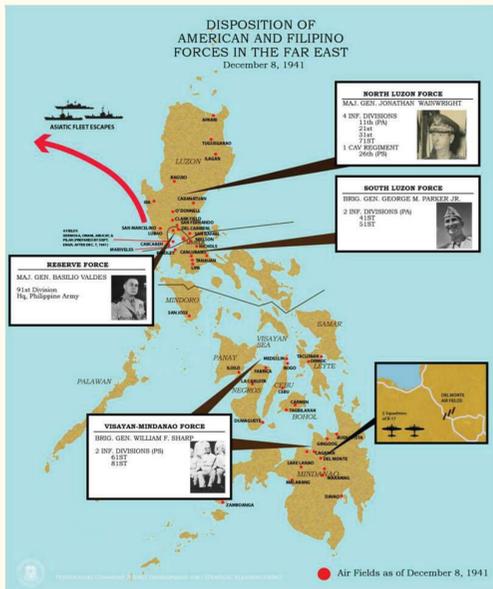


Lt. Gen. Douglas MacArthur conducts a ceremony formally inducting the Philippine Army Air Corps into United States Army Forces in the Far East at Camp Murphy, Rizal on 15 August 1941



United States Army Forces in the Far East

On July 26, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a military order from the war department federalizing all organized units in the Philippines into the service of the U.S. Army Forces in the Far East (USAFFE), headed by General MacArthur who believed that Japan will not attack until April 1942. He revised War Plan Orange 3 so that the USAFFE troops would meet the enemy on the beaches of Luzon instead of defending Manila Bay from the Bataan Peninsula. Resources bound for Bataan were redistributed accordingly



Disposition of American and Filipino Forces in the Far East

USAFFE also included the Far East Air Force, the Provisional Tank Group, some U.S. Navy Units and the 4th Marine Regiment were attached to it. The USAFFE forces eventually consisted of 119,000 Filipinos, 19,000 Americans and 12,000 Philippine Scouts. The newly-recruited Filipino troops of USAFFE, however, were not mobilized until September 1941. There were few officers available. Many of the recruits never fired a shot before the war. They were given khaki shorts, canvas shoes and World War I guns and artillery, including ammunitions, half of which were duds.

During mid-November, while negotiations were taking place in Washington, D.C., between Secretary of State Cordell Hull and the Japanese ambassador, the Commanders of the IJA's 11th Air Fleet, 14th Army and 5th Air Group met at Iwakuni Naval Air Base in Japan to prepare plans for coordination of Army and Navy Air units in the field operations.

On November 24, the U.S. Asiatic Fleet started moving to the Netherland Dutch Indies (Malay barrier).

On November 25, IJA's 16th Division left Osaka and a convoy of Japanese ships south of Formosa departed. Japanese air fleet heading for Pearl Harbor departed Hotokappu Bay in the Kurile Chain.

A heightened state of alert existed on November 27.

On December 6, a telegram from Tokyo to the Japanese Consulate in Washington, DC was encrypted stating that the Japanese government would not accept U.S. demands.

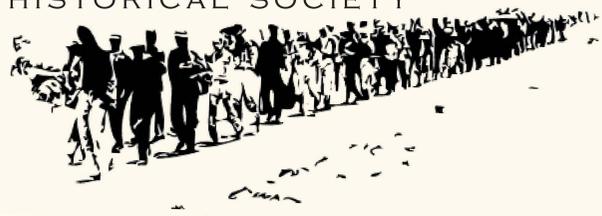


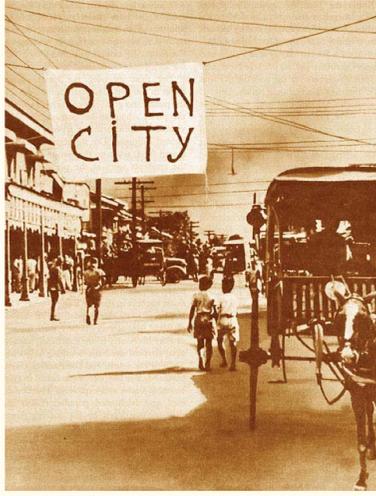
Japanese planes before Pearl Harbor attack



Imperial Japan Navy before Pearl Harbor attack

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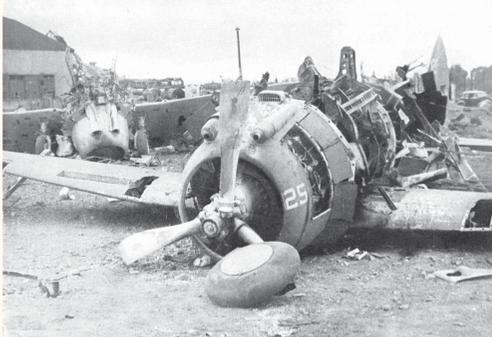




Manila

# 1941 to 1942

## Invasion of the Philippines



P35 Planes at Nichols Air Field



1941 December 10: Sangley Naval Base in Cavite

Hours after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Japan attacked the Philippines on December 8, 1941. More than half of the planes of the Far East Air Force (FEAF) were destroyed on the first day. On December 10, the first Japanese infantries landed in northern Luzon, and Sangley Naval Base in Cavite was destroyed.

On December 22, General Masaharu Homma landed with the Imperial Japanese (IJA) 14th Army in Lingayen. It was the first encounter with the IJA by USAFFE's 26th cavalry and the 71st Division.

By December 24, IJA's 16th division reached Lamon Bay, 138 kilometers from Manila. General MacArthur reverted to War Plan Orange 3 and the USAFFE troops were immediately ordered to retreat to Bataan. General MacArthur, President Quezon and U.S. Resident Commissioner Francis Sayre were evacuated to the island of Corregidor off the coast of Bataan.



General Masaharu Homma landing in Lingayen

On December 26, Manila was declared an open city and Admiral Hart, Commander in Chief of the Asiatic Fleet, left the Philippines for the Malay Reef in accordance with Rainbow Plan 5.

On January 2, the Imperial Japanese Army entered Manila. American and Allied civilians were ordered to assemble at certain locations for internment.

On January 5, USAFFE troops were put on half rations. But this did not deter them from holding the line and inflicting heavy losses on the IJA's troops. General MacArthur sent a message to the troops in Bataan that "Thousands of troops and hundreds of planes are being dispatched." But no help ever came.



Japanese entering Manila

By March, the USAFFE troops were placed on quarter rations. General MacArthur left the Philippines on March 12.

By the beginning of April, fresh Japanese reinforcements arrived from Formosa and Korea. The combat efficiency of the USAFFE troops was close to zero.

On April 3, a massive Japanese air and artillery bombardment began on Mount Samat.

By April 7, only two days' worth of quarter rations remained. The lines were breached. Little did the men know that their fate had already been sealed when Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt met in Washington, DC (Arcadia Conference) between December 22, 1941, and January 14, 1942, and agreed to save Europe first.



1941 Roosevelt and Churchill

### Angels of Bataan and Corregidor

They were called the Angels of Bataan and Corregidor - American and Filipino nurses who fought just as hard as the soldiers in battle. Despite the lack of supplies and medicine and working under the direst conditions including constant bombings, the American and Filipino nurses brought comfort to the sick, the wounded and the dying in the jungles of Bataan. After the fall of Corregidor, they were interned in Santo Tomas University, Los Baños and Bilbid.



Angels of Bataan and Corregidor

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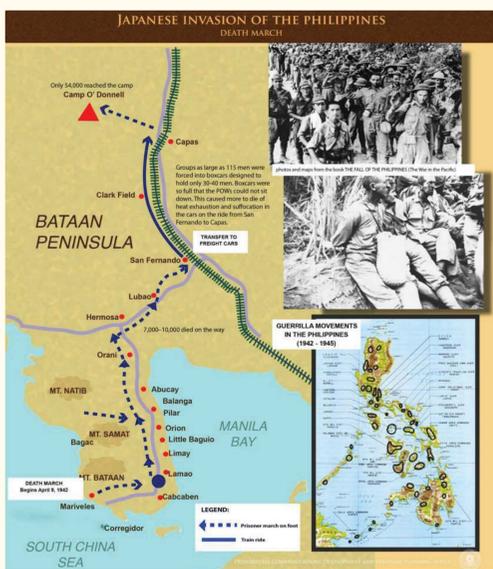




Bataan Death March

# 1942 April 9

## Bataan Death March and Prisoners of War



Bataan Death March



Tribune Headlines

On April 8, there were no longer any reserve troops. The last counterattack led by General Clifford Bluemel to hold the line in Alangan River had failed. Hospital Number 2 was bombed. 73 American and 26 Filipino nurses, as well as other medical personnel, were forced to evacuate to Corregidor.



General Edward King surrenders to Colonel Motoo Nakayama

On April 9, 1942, General Edward King, commanding officer of the troops in Bataan (Luzon Force), was forced to surrender 75,000 troops consisting of 63,000 Filipinos and 12,000 Americans to avoid further bloodshed. By the time of the surrender most of the men were suffering from massive disease and starvation.

Soldiers were forced to march some 60 miles in searing tropical heat with no provisions for food, water, shelter or medicine. In Pantangan River an estimated 300 soldiers of the 1st, 11th, 71st and 91st Divisions were massacred after their surrender.

Those who could no longer go on were beaten, bayoneted or left to die. Some were beheaded. And civilians who tried to help, were dealt with in the same manner. This became known as the Bataan Death March.

Approximately 10,000 Filipino and 650 American troops died during the march. Once inside their prison camp at Camp O'Donnell, another 20,000 died, mostly Filipinos.

Lt. General Jonathan Wainwright, Commanding Officer of the United States Forces in the Philippines (USFIP), surrendered on the island of Corregidor on May 6, 1942 to the Imperial Japanese Army.

Most, but not all, of the Filipino troops were released conditionally starting in June 1942. Some of them were used as slave laborers in mines in the Philippines. Many of those released joined the guerrilla groups.

The American prisoners were transferred to other camps in the Philippines around the same time. Many of them were eventually shipped to Formosa, Japan, Korea or China to do hard labor. They were transported in the holds of unmarked merchant ships which carried supplies and weapons. Conditions were so dismal that they were called "Hell Ships". Thousands died when their ships were bombed by friendly fire. Upon reaching their destination, many more died doing hard labor.



Bataan Death March: Prisoners of War



1942 May 6: Lt. General Jonathan Wainwright surrenders the island of Corregidor



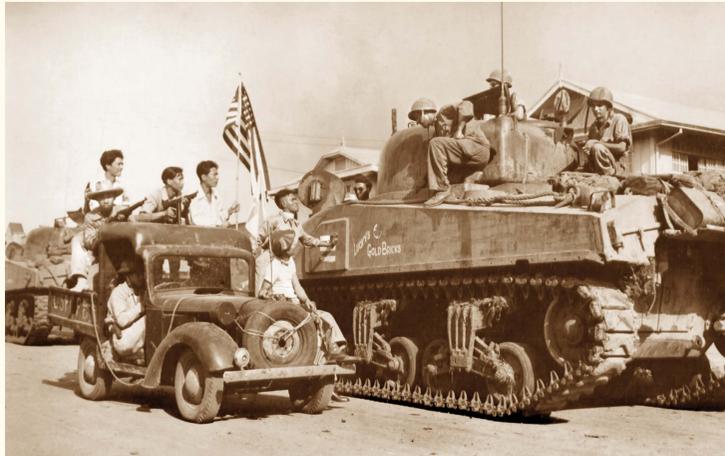
Bataan Death March: Fallen Soldiers



A burial detail of Filipino and Prisoners of War uses improvised litters to carry fallen comrades at Camp O'Donnell, Capas, Tarlac, 1942, following the Bataan Death March.

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Philippine Guerrillas

# 1942 to 1945

## The Long Road to Liberation



Guerrilla Groups in the Philippines



Philippine Guerrillas

### Guerrilla Movements

Guerrilla groups, led by Filipinos and Americans, were initially formed even before the fall of Bataan. They organized massive and detailed reconnaissance information which were transmitted to General Headquarters in Australia. As early as April 1943, an operational and logistical plan for the penetration of the Philippines by the American Intelligence Bureau Parties was issued based on these reconnaissance reports. They sabotaged Japanese installations, laying the groundwork for the eventual liberation of the Philippines and participated in rescues of prisoners including the Raid in Cabanatuan and Los Baños.



1944 October 20: General MacArthur returns to the Philippines with Philippine President Sergio Osmena to his right, Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Carlos P. Romulo at his rear, and Sutherland on his left.

### Leyte Landing

The Leyte Landing actually began not in Leyte but on the islands of Suluan (Eastern Samar) and Sinagat (formerly part of Surigao del Norte) when troops from the 6th Rangers landed on October 17, 1944. It was not until October 20, 1944, that General MacArthur landed on the shores of Sogod Bay in Leyte. Approximately 202,500 ground troops of the U.S. 6th Army (2 Corps of 2 Divisions Each) led by Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger were transported by the U.S. Navy's 7th Fleet commanded by Vice-Admiral Thomas C. Kinkaid.

### Battles of Leyte Gulf

The Battles of Leyte Gulf, a series of four battles in Sibuyan Sea, Surigao Strait, Samar and Cape Engaño, between October 23 and 26, 1945, was the biggest naval battle in U.S. history. The giant strength of the Allied Forces' 800 ships dwarfed the IJN's 67 ships. The Allied Forces' 3rd Fleet was commanded by Admiral William Halsey who reported to Admiral Chester Nimitz while the Vice-Admiral Kinkaid of the 7th Fleet reported to General Douglas MacArthur. On October 25 the Japanese aircraft carrier Zuikaku, which took part in the bombing of Pearl Harbor sank at 14:14 taking the lives of Rear Admiral Kaizuka Takeo and 842 of the ship's crew. This decisive battles destroyed the Imperial Japanese Navy enabling the Allied Forces to continue the liberation of the Philippines and eventually win the war.



Battle of Leyte Gulf

### Other Allied Forces during the Liberation

The Australian Navy (under the U.S. 7th Fleet) took part in the Battles of Leyte Gulf and the Lingayen Landing. Mexico's 201st Fighter Squadron (Escuadrón Aéreo de Pelea 201) was part of the 58th Fighter Group of the United States Army Air Forces.



Mexican pilots Aguilas Aztecas

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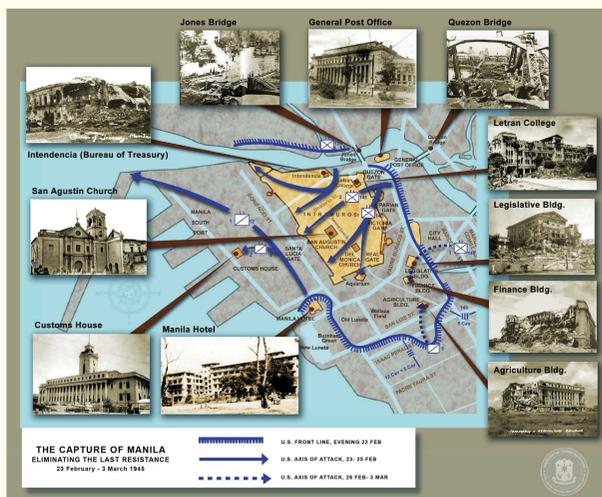
World War II Casualties: Homeless children

# 1944-1945

## Price of Freedom



Quiapo Church



The Capture of Manila



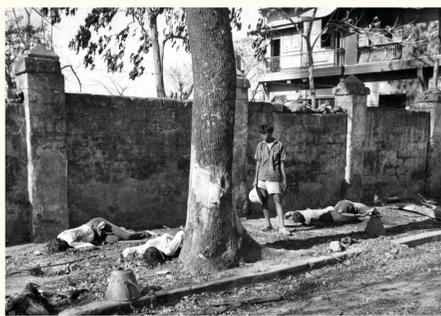
Legislative Building



Aerial view of destroyed Manila



Lipa Massacre



Filipinos killed by the Japanese Army

### Zonas

After the Allied Forces started bombing airfields in the Philippines around September 1944, the Imperial Japanese Army started a systematic extermination of prisoners and civilians.

On December 14, 1944, as warning sirens sounded off in the Allied POW camp in Palawan, the American prisoners were ordered into the bomb shelters. The Japanese guards doused off the entrances with gasoline and proceeded to burn the prisoners. Out of 159 prisoners, only 11 survived.

In every small town, a "Zona" took place. Men or women were rounded off and taken to a gathering place often times a church. A local person wearing a "bayong" (woven basket) to cover his or her face, except for the eyes, would point at a suspected ex-USAFVE soldiers, or anyone suspected of having any sympathy for the United States. The Japanese soldiers would then proceed to execute them.

In some towns the selection was more complete. In February, 1945, 2,298 civilians were executed in Lipa, Batangas by bayonets, gunfire, burial in wells or burning. Following the successful rescue of 2,147 Allied civilian prisoners in Los Baños on February 23, 1945, the Imperial Japanese Army retaliated by slaughtering 1,500 civilians.

### Battle of Manila

In the Battle of Manila between February 3 and March 3, 1945, many civilians took refuge in convents and churches. This did not deter the Japanese soldiers from raping, killing and burning them. Allied civilian prisoners who were incarcerated since the Fall of Manila in Santo Tomas, Baguio, Bilibid, Los Baños or other outlying areas, were liberated starting on February 3, 1945. But an estimated 100,000 civilians perished in Manila from the systematic extermination and shelling.

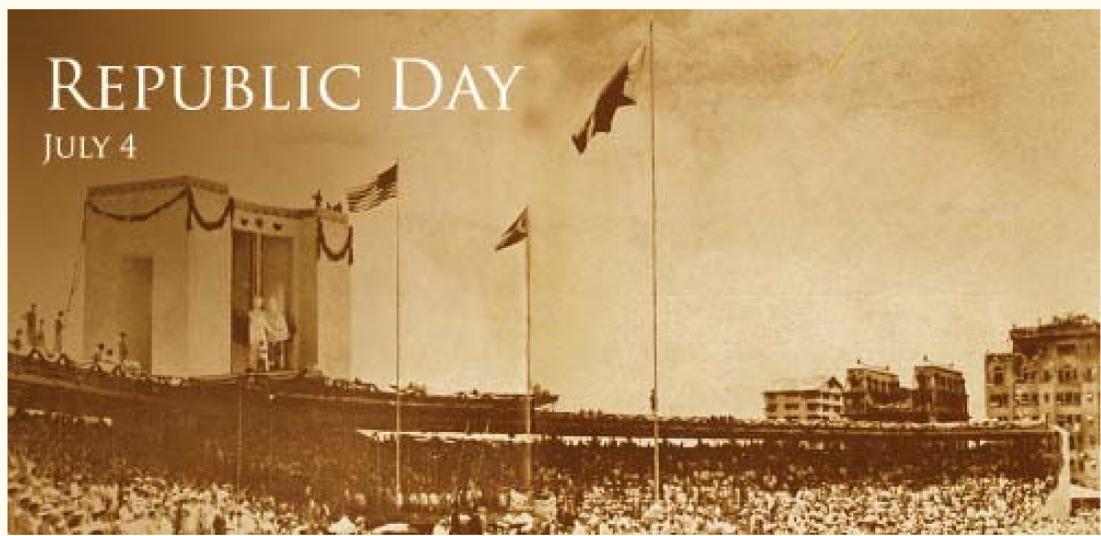
By the end of the war, an estimated 1 million civilians had perished in the Philippines. Manila became the second most devastated city during the war, after Warsaw, Poland.



Palawan Massacre Prisoners of War Burial Site

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Republic Day

# 1946 July 4

## Legacy of World War II in the Philippines



Republic Day



Life International "New Republic is Born in Philippines"

The Philippines gained its independence from the United States on July 4, 1946. But to this day, it still remains intertwined with the United States. There are an estimated 3.4 million (2010 census) Filipino Americans living in the United States today, the second largest population of Asian Americans. On the other hand, there is a lack of information about the accomplishments of the Filipinos in the history curriculum of educational textbooks.

All that is about to change. With the recent adoption by the California State Board of Education, WWII in the Philippines will be added in the U.S. history curriculum framework for Grade 11 students in California and across the United States. Students will learn of the great sacrifices that were made by the Filipinos and Americans to bring the freedom that they are enjoying today. Future generations of Filipino Americans can instill the values and pride of their ancestors' legacy.

California's new history curriculum framework can become the model for teaching this seminal point of WWII history in the U.S., and eventually, in the Philippines and Japan.

We have a moral and sacred obligation to tell these stories of immense sacrifice so that the world can learn the steep price of freedom. Only in learning the unvarnished facts can we break the vicious cycle of war.



Manila Cemetery



The independence of the Philippines was marked by Manuel Roxas re-taking his oath as President of the Philippines, eliminating the pledge of allegiance to the United States of America, which was required prior to independence.[Photo via LIFE.]

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The USS San Francisco steams under the Golden Gate Bridge

## Role of San Francisco during World War II



Troops boarding ship

After the Spanish-American war (1898), the United States became an international power with troops and permanent overseas garrisons in the Philippines, China, Guam and the Hawaiian Islands.

After the 1906 earthquake, the War Department authorized the construction of an army general depot in San Francisco's Fort Mason to deliver the goods needed to service the American troops in these far-flung places.



World War II Embarkations

In 1932, the Fort Mason General Depot was renamed the San Francisco Port of Embarkation (SFPE). With the winds of war blowing in the Pacific, the army quickly constructed additional port installations around the Bay area in Richmond, Benicia, Eureka, Stockton and the Alameda Estuary. It also constructed new troop staging areas at Camp Stoneman in Pittsburg and Fort McDowell on Angel Island. The sprawling port at the Oakland Army Base, one of the army's largest new facility, accommodated 16 ships at a time and was incorporated as a sub-port under SFPE's command.



Return of World War II Prisoners of War

After the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, SFPE became the staging area where soldiers were outfitted just before their overseas journey. Equipment needs were identified and remedied, immunizations and dental exams were provided, military lawyers finalized the soldiers' wills and the port's chaplain provided spiritual guidance.

During the 45 months of WWII, over 1.6 million military men and women, and more than 23.5 million ship tons of material, left the SFPE and sailed through the Golden Gate on their way to the islands in the Pacific.

After the end of the war, returning men and women from the Pacific were greeted by the CAVANAUGH, the SFPE's "Welcome Home" boat with a marching band, salutes from officers and San Franciscans waving enthusiastically to the returning soldiers as they sailed slowly past.



San Franciscans welcoming the ships returning from the Pacific

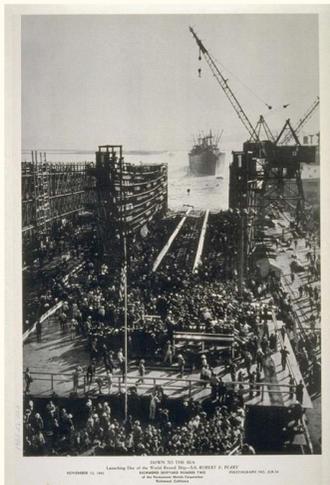
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Shipyard workers at Shipyard #3, Richmond, California

## Role of San Francisco Bay Area during World War II



Launching Day of the World Record Ship, S.S. Robert E. Peary



Asa Philip Randolph



Women working in shipyards

The San Francisco Bay Area became the epicenter of two executive orders signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt before and after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the Philippines on December 7(8), 1941.

While Executive Order 8802 shattered the racial and gender barriers and paved the way for the civil rights movement, Executive Order 9066 resulted in one of the most gross injustices in American history.

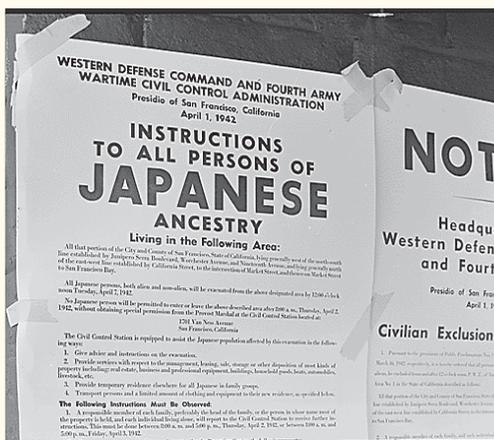
Executive Order 8802 was conceived during a convention of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in New York City in September 1940 under the leadership of Asa Philip Randolph. World War II in Europe fueled the boom in the U.S. defense industry. However, despite the demand for skilled positions, government-instituted training programs excluded blacks. In the aircraft industry, only 240 of 107,000 workers were blacks. Moreover, despite the Selective Service Act of 1940 which instituted peacetime drafts, blacks did not find it easy to secure their "right to fight". In an army of one-half million, there were only 4,700 blacks (4 black Units).

Randolph, with the help of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, led a delegation in September 1940 with Walter White (NAACP) and T. Arnold Hill (Urban League) to speak to President Franklin D. Roosevelt of the need to open up the defense industry to minorities and for equal integration in the U.S. Army. Talks dragged on for months until Randolph threatened to bring 100,000 marchers to Washington, DC.

On June 25, 1941, Executive Order 8802 was signed which states that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of workers in defense industries or government because of race, creed, color or national origin. Although discrimination continued, this executive order paved the way for the rise of the defense industry in the Bay Area most notably the shipyards which recruited blacks, women and other minorities in their factories. Thousands of workers from the South and other parts of the country came to the Bay area to work in these factories.

Executive Order 9066 is one of the greatest travesties of justice in America. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the Philippines on December 7(8), 1941, President Roosevelt issued Proclamations declaring all national and subjects of nations with which the U.S. were at war to be declared enemy aliens. During the initial stages, some 2,000 persons were apprehended including Japanese aliens. Lt. General J.L. DeWitt, Commanding General of Western Theater of Operations, requested that the War Department induce the Department of Justice to take vigorous actions along the Pacific Coast to protect "vital installations" along the coast.

Conferences between the War and Justice Department representatives took place resulting in the creation of prohibited zones surrounding these installations and the exclusion from these zones of enemy aliens. In California, 99 prohibited zones and 2 restricted zones were created and similar recommendations were applied in Arizona, Oregon and Washington.



On February 19, 1942, Executive Order 9066 was signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt which authorized the exclusion and removal of Japanese Americans on the grounds of "Military Necessity". Two camps were created: Justice Department internment camps and War Relocation Authority camps. Approximately 120,000 individuals of Japanese ancestry were imprisoned in 10 permanent detention camps, 70% of whom were Americans. This also included 2,000 from Hawaii and 2,300 from Latin America. These camps were located in states west of Utah and also in Arkansas. In the Bay Area, Tanforan Race Track was used as a temporary detention camp (Assembly Center) for some 8,033 detainees who were eventually sent to Topaz, Utah.



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