



THE BATTLE OF LEYTE GULF

80TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION

FORGING AN ENDURING ALLIANCE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 @ 5:00PM
CRYSTAL BALLROOM
MARINES' MEMORIAL CLUB + HOTEL, 609 SUTTER ST.. SAN FRANCISCO

5:00PM Welcoming Remarks

Lewis Loeven

Executive Director, San Francisco Fleet Week Association

5:05PM The Battle of Leyte Gulf

RADM Samuel Cox, USN (Ret)

Director, Naval History & Heritage Command

Introduction by RADM Jonathan Yuen, USN (Ret), 47th Chief of Naval Supply

5:35PM USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55)

CDR Brian Harrington, USN

Commanding Officer, USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55)

5:45PM Video Message from The Honorable Jose Manuel Romualdez

Philippine Ambassador to the U.S.

5:50PM Philippines and U.S. Relations

The Honorable Neil Frank Ferrer

Philippine Consul General in San Francisco

6:05PM Keynote Speaker

Keynote Speaker, Vice Admiral Toribio Adaci, Jr., PN

Flag Officer-in-Command, Philippine Navy

Representing the Honorable Gilberto Teodoro, Jr.

Philippine Secretary of National Defense

6:35PM Q & A

Rapporteurs Prof. (Ret) James Holmes Armstead, Jr., Naval War College, Surinder Rana, Ph.D., Assoc. Dean, Defense Language Institute & Prof. (Emeritus) Larry Martinez, California State

University, Long Beach

6:55PM Thank You

Lewis Loeven, Executive Director, San Francisco Fleet Week

Cecilia Gaerlan, Executive Director, Bataan Legacy Historical Society

7:00PM Reception

Supported By



CONSUELO HALL MCHUGH & FAMILY

THE JOSEPH & MERCEDES McMICKING

IN MEMORY OF LT. ALFRED MCMICKING 51ST INFANTRY DIV., SURVIVOR OF BATAAN DEATH MARCH EXECUTED WITH HIS FAMILY BY THE KEMPEI TAI IN 1945











Rear Admiral Samuel J. Cox, USN (Ret) (Speaker) was appointed to the Senior Executive Service on 29 December 2014 and since then has served as the 14th Director of Naval History and Curator for the Navy. As the Director of the Naval History and Heritage Command, he is responsible for the Navy's official history programs, operational archives, Navy Department Library, and the Navy's collection of historic artifacts, photographs, art, weapons, and display aircraft, and for the underwater archaeology program. He is also responsible for ten official U.S. Navy museums, including the historic submarine *Nautilus*, and for maintenance of the USS *Constitution*, the old-

est commissioned warship afloat. As the Federal Executive Agent for the U.S. Sunken Military Craft Act, he is also responsible for more than 3,000 U.S. Navy shipwrecks and more than 14,000 aircraft wrecks.

Cox graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy, where he was awarded the Trident Scholar Prize for independent research and the History Department Prize, with distinction in 1980. He subsequently earned a master's degree and U.S. Army designation as a Military Historian from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College in 1993.

Cox retired from active duty in November 2013 as a two-star rear admiral. His last tour was dual-hatted as the Commander of the Office of Naval Intelligence and Director of the National Maritime Intelligence Integration Office, reporting to the Director of National Intelligence.

Cox's awards include the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal; the Defense Superior Service Medal (three awards); the Legion of Merit (five awards); Bronze Star; Defense Meritorious Service Medal (two awards); Meritorious Service Medal (three awards); and other personal awards. Among numerous unit and campaign awards are four Navy Unit Commendations and three Meritorious Unit Commendations. Other awards include the National Intelligence Exceptional Achievement Award for leading the multinational intelligence investigation of the sinking of ROKS Cheonan; the 2021 Naval Intelligence Professionals "Red Tie" Award; and the 2001 Navy League of the U.S. Naval Intelligence Foundation Award for excellence in operational intelligence support to the Fleet. In 2018, he was named an "Honorary Survivor" by the survivors of the World War II cruiser USS Indianapolis (CA-35).

Vice-Admiral Toribio D. Adaci, Jr., PN (Keynote Speaker) is the 40th Flag Officer-In-Command (FOIC) of the Philippine Navy. He took the helm on 24 November 2022 after serving as the Commander of the Naval Forces Western Mindanao for two years. He is the first FOIC to serve a three-year term as set by Republic Act No. 11709 which prescribes fixed terms for officers in key positions of the Armed Forces of Philippines (AFP). He is lawyer and a proud member of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1989. He hails from the province of Ifugao. Before ascending to his current post, VADM ADACI served as the Commander of Naval Forces Western Mindanao (NFWM) where he ex-



ercised command and control over Fleet and Marine units in Western Mindanao. He also occupied the following key positions: Commander of Naval Installation Command; Commander of Fleet-Marine Ready Force; Deputy Commander of Western Mindanao Command; and Fleet Inspector General.

During his tour as Commander of FMRF, he spearheaded the planning and execution of eleven (11) International Defense and Security Engagements (IDSE), including the Philippine Navy's first participation in the biennial Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) Exercise in Hawaii in 2018, the first-ever port visit of a Philippine Navy vessel in Vladivostok, Russia in 2018, and the first-ever participation of the Philippine Navy in a naval exercise with China, also in 2018. In 2020, he also supervised the planning and deployment of the Naval Task Force (NTF) 82 to the Middle East for the repatriation of stranded overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) who were displaced by the US-Iran crisis. On the same year, he led the NTF 82 for another humanitarian mission that assisted the safe return to the Philippines of OFWs who were affected by the COVID-19 lockdowns in Sri Lanka and India.

He holds a Master's Degree in Public Management, Major in Development and Security from the Development Academy of the Philippines. His foreign courses include the Junior Officer Strategic Studies Course at the Royal Australian Naval College in Jervis Bay, Australia and the Information Systems Management Course at the US Army Signal School, Georgia, USA. He holds a Master's Degree in National Resource Strategy from NDU, Washington D.C, USA where he graduated in 2015. An attorney-at-law, he finished his Law Degree in 2000 and passed the Bar Examinations given during the same year.

VADM ADACI is a recipient of numerous awards, decorations, and commendations which include the following: Distinguished Service Star, Silver Cross Medal, Meritorious Achievement Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Gawad sa Kaunlaran, Bronze Cross Medal, Military Merit Medal with Spearhead Device, Military Merit Medal with Anahaw Leaf, Sagisag ng Ulirang Kawal, Military Civic Action Medal, Military Commendation Medal, among other recognitions.



Commander Brian Harrington (Speaker) assumed command of the USS LEYTE GULF (CG 55) in June of 2024. He served as the Executive Officer onboard USS LEYTE GULF (CG 55) throughout her sustainment phase and deployment to 4th Fleet. As a department head he was the Weapons Officer and Combat Systems Officer onboard USS MITSCHER (DDG 57) and was the Gunnery and Force Protection Officer onboard USS HOWARD (DDG 83) as a division officer. He also served as an Assistant Officer in Charge at Riverine Squadron 1, deploying to Iraq and leading Patrols along the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.

Ashore, Commander Harrington served as the Operations Officer at CTF 64, the Sixth Fleet Integrated Air and Missile Defense cell in Naples, Italy. Previously he attended the Naval Postgraduate School where he received a Master of Arts in Strategic Studies with a focus on Europe and Eurasia with Outstanding Thesis recognition. Most recently he was a National Security Affairs Fellow at the Hoover Institute at Stanford University.

His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and Army Commendation Medal, as well as multiple unit and service awards.

Commander Brian Harrington is a native of Alexandria, Virginia and graduated from the University of Virginia before being commissioned through Officer Candidate School.

Mr. Neil Frank R. Ferrer (Speaker) is the Consul General of the Republic of the Philippines in San Francisco, which has consular jurisdiction over Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Northern California, Northern Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington State, and Wyoming. His tour of duty as Consul General began on 20 January 2021. Consul General Ferrer is a career diplomat with extensive experience in the foreign service, including consular work, bilateral and multilateral diplomacy. He has served in various capacities at the Philippine Embassy in Beijing, China (2001-2003); Philippine Embassy in London, United Kingdom (2003-2009); and Philippine



Embassy in Ottawa, Canada (2011-2013). He was Consul General of the Philippines in Vancouver, Canada from 2013 to 2018.

Prior to his assignment to the U.S., Mr. Ferrer served as Assistant Secretary for Consular Affairs of the Department of Foreign Affairs in the Philippines from August 2018 to January 2021. Consul General Ferrer served as Chairman of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London, United Kingdom from 2007 to 2011. The MSC is the senior technical body of the IMO and Mr. Ferrer is the only Filipino diplomat thus far who has been elected as MSC Chairman. Mr. Ferrer presided over numerous international meetings of the IMO and led global efforts to improve maritime safety and security.

Mr. Ferrer finished his Master of Arts in International Boundaries, with Distinction, at the University of Durham in the United Kingdom. He completed the course work for the Master of Science in Economics at De La Salle University and has a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of the Philippines.

Consul General Ferrer is recipient of a distinguished award for Filipino diplomats, the Gawad Mabini, with the rank of Dakilang Kamanong (Grand Cross), conferred by the President of the Republic of the Philippines on 29 June 2010.



Rear Admiral Jonathan A. Yuen, USN (Ret) (Presenter) served as Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command and 47th Chief of Supply Corps from 2013 until his retirement in 2018. Previously, he served as commander, NAVSUP Global Logistics Support, headquartered in San Diego, California. His joint assignments include serving as deputy commander/chief of staff of the Joint Contracting Command - Iraq/Afghanistan, headquartered in the International Zone of Baghdad with 18 regional offices throughout both theaters. He also completed a Navy individual augmentee (IA) assignment as director, U.S. Central

Command Deployment and Distribution Operations Center (CDDOC), Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. A member of the Acquisition Professional Community, Yuen has earned supply warfare qualifications in submarine, aviation and surface warfare.

Rear Adm. Jonathan A. Yuen, a San Francisco native, graduated with distinction from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1983. While a midshipman, he attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point as an exchange student in the fall of 1981. He holds a Master of Business Administration from The Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania. He attended Executive Education Programs at the Stanford Graduate School of Business and the University of Virginia, Darden School of Business. He also attended the Navy Executive Business Course at the University of North Carolina's Kenan-Flagler Business School.

He received the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, Legions of Merit (four awards), Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (three awards), and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards), and other unit and campaign awards. On Oct. 2, 2015, he was officially designated by the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy as an honorary chief petty officer.



Dr. James Holmes Armstead (Rapporteur) is a retired professor of Strategy and International law from the US Naval War College. He has taught international law, strategy and national security policy for nearly 50 years. Professor Armstead has served on faculties at Stanford University, Pepperdine University, the University of California, the University of Nevada, Southern University the US Naval Postgraduate School, Lewis University, the Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University. He has also lectured at the British Joint Services Staff College and taught as a visiting professor at the Université d'Pau in France and as an exchange professor at

Richmond College at the University of London. He has lectured at senior staff colleges in Poland, Austria, Germany, Slovenia, Estonia and Malawi. as well as the US Army War College, and at military academies in the United States, Poland, Ukraine and South Africa.

Jim has served as a research associate at the RAND Corp which sponsored his dissertation "Lightweight Power Projection" and has been Chief of Staff to a Member of Congress. Working for the Department of Defense he served on negotiation teams enlarging NATO with the accession of Poland, Hungary, Montenegro, Slovenia, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Albania, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. Jim has assisted in drafting constitutional reforms in Montenegro, South Africa, Poland, the Congo, and Estonia and has served Of Counsel to the American Bar Association Office of Human Rights and served legal adviser to the US-Canadian Acid Rain Treaty negotiations.

Dr. Surinder Rana (Rapporteur) is a former Indian Army veteran. He is currently working in an educational leadership position in a US government institution. He has a doctorate degree in Instructional Leadership from Argosy University in the United States. In addition, he received his MA in International Policy Studies from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies (MIIS), Monterey, CA. He also holds an MBA degree from Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, and an MS in Defense Studies from Madras University, Chennai, India.



As a founding member of the Center for Contemporary Conflict (CCC.nps.edu), at Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California, he also worked in this institution for five years as a research fellow, and an adjunct Professor. He has participated in national and international conferences and workshops related to international security, ethnic conflict, counterterrorism, and asymmetric warfare. He is widely published and made presentations on these subjects in diverse national and international forums.

As part of a Los Angeles-based consultancy organization, Dr. Rana worked on the advisory panel of an UN-sponsored agency Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in 2005-06. He is an active member of the international advisory board at Global Majority, a research and policy forum on conflict resolution, affiliated to Monterey Institute of International Studies at Monterey, California.



Larry F. Martinez (Rapporteur) is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the California State University at Long Beach. After completing his Ph.D. in Political Science at the University of California, Santa Barbara in 1984, he joined the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce where he participated in developing the "rules of the road" for the first private international satellite networks. During his 1987-88 stint at the U.S. Department of Transportation, he directly participated in the issuance of the first licenses for what became the com-

mercial launch industry. In 1988, he was appointed to the Department of Political Science at the California State University, Long Beach, where he taught international relations and law, with a research focus on cyber and outer space governance. From 1992 to 2021, he served as the Faculty Director of the Model United Nations program. In 1998-99, Martinez was a Fulbright Senior Research fellow at the Center of Technology Assessment in Stuttgart, Germany.

His 2024 book chapter for the Oxford Handbook on Space Security, examines what happens to outer space governance as space communications becomes a cyberwar battlefield for global power in the 21st Century. He has lectured on Internet policy and governance in Britain, Germany, Kazakhstan, Morocco, and Ecuador. In 2007, he was a Cuesta College Honored Alumnus of the Year. In 2018, Martinez taught on the Spring 2018 Semester at Sea Voyage. From 2016-2024 he has attended meetings of the UN Outer Space Committee as an official observer representing the International Institute of Space Law.

Atty. Gilberto C. Teodoro, Jr. is the Secretary of the Department of National Defense (DND). He is the principal assistant and advisor of the President on defense matters and exercises overall authority, direction, and control over the DND Offices and its Bureaus.

Atty. Teodoro first served as the Secretary of National Defense from 2007 to 2009 where he pushed for key initiatives in security sector reform. Noteworthy is the implementation of the Defence System of Management, which provided decision-makers with relevant and accurate information increasing efficiency and transparency. Sec. Teodoro also assist-



ed in the resolution of several internal security threats while assisting on structural and procedural changes to ensure observance of human rights. The honorable Secretary also pursued the strengthening of bilateral and multilateral security and defense cooperation with both regional and extra-regional States to further peace and combat non-traditional security threats. Furthermore, he actively pursued the integration of various international protocols on disaster risk management, assisted in capacity building of sectors, and coordination of response and rehabilitation efforts.

Prior to joining the DND, Sec Teodoro served as a Member of the Philippine House of Representatives from 1998 to 2007. As a congressman, he principally authored the Securities Code of 2000 shifting the Philippine securities regulation system from a merit regulation system to a full disclosure system. He was a member of the Legislative Executive Development Advisory Council and was the head of a sizable bloc of the Nationalist People's Coalition Representatives and had stints as the Assistant Majority Leader and Deputy Minority Leader.

Atty. Teodoro has an impressive educational background, graduating from prestigious local and foreign academic institutions. He attended De La Salle University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in commerce majoring in Management of Financial Institutions. He attended the University of the Philippines – College of Law, graduating third in his class with a bachelor's degree in law and the Dean's Medal for Academic Excellence award. He placed first in the 1989 Philippine Bar Examinations. He has a master's degree in law from Harvard Law School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. He was admitted to the State Bar of New York. He completed the Command and Staff Course of the Philippine Air Force and the AFP Joint and Combined Staff Officer Course and won the Leadership Award in both courses.

Atty. Teodoro is also a recipient of numerous awards, honors, and decorations from civilian, military, and educational institutions. He was awarded the Philippine Legion of Honor with the rank of Grand Commander, the first to be awarded such a rank.



Jose Manuel "Babe" del Gallego Romualdez was appointed Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines to the United States of America in July 2017 by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, and was reappointed in July 2022 by President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos, Jr. On 29 November 2017, he presented his credentials to US President Donald J. Trump and formally assumed office as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. Additionally, as the head of the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C., Ambassador Romualdez is concurrently the Philippines' emissary to the Commonwealth of Jamaica, Republic of Haiti; Republic of

Trinidad and Tobago; Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Barbados; Dominica; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; and Saint Lucia.

Prior to his appointment, Ambassador Romualdez was designated as a special envoy of the Philippine President to the United States. He also served as a member of several Philippine business delegations visiting the United States, China, Japan and New Zealand from 1989 to 2012.

Ambassador Romualdez has extensive experience as a media practitioner and business executive. He used to be the Chief Executive Officer of Stargate Media Corporation and Publisher of People Asia Magazine (The Philippine Star affiliate). He was president of the Manila Overseas Press Club and vice-president of Rotary Club of Manila.

Ambassador Romualdez writes columns for The Philippine Star. All his columns have a wide following of readers both in the Philippines and abroad.

On 29 November 2021, President Rodrigo Duterte conferred the Order of Sikatuna, with the rank of Datu (Grand Cross), Gold Distinction on Ambassador Romualdez. The Order of Sikatuna is one of the three highest honors of the Republic and is conferred upon individuals who have rendered exceptional and meritorious service to the Republic of the Philippines. He received the Order of Sikatuna in recognition of his meritorious contributions to the strengthening of the longstanding comprehensive ties between the Philippines and the US, for his steadfast efforts to further deepen Philippines-US alliance, for promoting trade and investment, and for his laudable initiative in the procurement of 20 million doses of Moderna COVID-19 vaccines.

Born and raised in Manila, Ambassador Romualdez received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from De La Salle College in 1970.