

Philippine Scouts Heritage Society



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



Winter/Spring 2004

Brigadier General Royal Reynolds, Jr. (1910-2003)

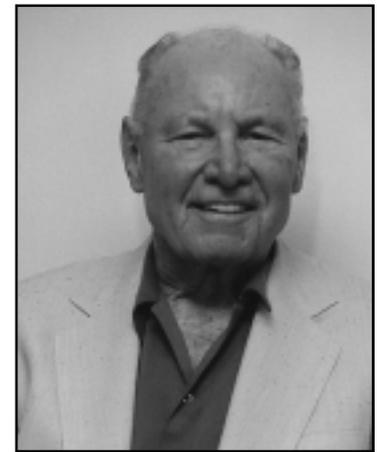
A giant of a man and a cornerstone of our Society was taken from us when Brigadier General Royal Reynolds, Jr. passed away in his sleep on November 24, five weeks after his 93rd birthday.

A graduate of the West Point Class of 1933, Roy Reynolds was the second generation of his family to have a distinguished military career. His late father and namesake was a Brigadier General in the U.S. Army Medical Corps and his uncles also were Medical Corps officers. All served in the Philippines. General Reynolds lived in the Philippines

twice as a dependent, first beginning in 1911 and second in the early 1920s. Two of his sisters were born there.

During the Japanese invasion of the Philippines, 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. General Reynolds was awarded the Bronze Star for his combat bravery. A niece remembers asking him if he ever feared a Filipino would betray him

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President Emeritus of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society General Royal Reynolds, Jr. (Photo: Olive Rosen, 2001)

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Dad Was In The Scouts

by First Sgt. Felix Saguing, USMC (Ret.)

Dad has always said that he was not a hero, although I considered him one. I can remember how he would stare into the distance as he narrated to me and a younger brother his youthful experiences and how he came to be in the Philippine Scouts, and I can remember all too well how his eyes would moisten and his shoulders sag as he spoke of friends and comrades lost on Bataan and during the infamous Death March. But, in the end, his shoulders would always straighten and you could detect the glint in his

eyes as he proudly relates the heroic stand of the Scouts on Bataan and Corregidor. He passed away on October 12, 1972, but not before he instilled in me pride in being the son of a Scout.

I was just two years old when the bombs fell on Pearl Harbor and Clark Field on December 7, 1941. Any knowledge that I have of the events that followed were as told by my parents. Dad related that soldiers from his unit barely had the time to pack a few essentials for their families before taking them to an assembly area for evacuation. With the birth of another

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Editor's Comments

As I was drafting this piece, the sad news of Brigadier General Royal Reynolds death reached me. General Reynolds was one of the pillars upon which the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society was erected. He was among the small group of former Scouts who met together in 1989 to found the Society and he served as our first President. Upon his leaving office, he was awarded the title President Emeritus and lived up to the title by continuing to offer his full support and sage advice. No words can adequately express his value to our organization or the loss we all feel. Our deepest condolences go out to Mrs. Gloria Planté and the rest of his family.

There have been several developments in the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society since our last newsletter.

The election of Cion Rael as President of our Golden Gate-Bay Area Chapter signaled a generational change in the leadership of our largest chapter. Cion brought with her a new slate of officers, primarily drawn from the successor generation of Scout families. This leadership change has resulted in an increased emphasis on accountability, tighter management and promotion of the educational goals of our Society. National President

Larry Pangan has been supportive of this, and has appointed a Special Committee to undertake "an informal review of finances and administrative practices related to the National and all the Chapters." The Chair of the committee is First Vice President, Senator John Patterson and his Vice Chair is Second Vice President Menandro Parazo. Other members are Tacoma Chapter President Joe Calugas, Jr.; Colonel Mel Rosen, Aniceto Bagley and Cynthia Warren. I will act as Committee Secretary. The committee has begun its work and will submit findings and recommendations to the Board of Officers at the next annual meeting on April 30, 2004.

With the election of Jose Calugas, Jr. as President dynamic second-generation leadership has taken over our second most active chapter, the Jose Calugas, Sr. Chapter in Tacoma.

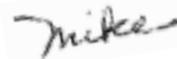
Further progress towards raising funds and finding a home for the Philippine Scouts Library continues to be made under Project Chair Cion Rael's leadership. The library will contribute to the important educational goals of the Society. (See her report elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Our website at www.philippine-scouts.org continues to raise the

Philippine Scouts Heritage Society profile and further its educational goals. In its first year, it attracted over 1800 visitors. In just under six months since then, approximately 1800 more have viewed our site. This success is primarily due to the efforts of Webmaster Christa Houlahan.

Our most important event since the annual business meeting and reunion was the plaque presentation weekend in San Antonio and Fredericksburg, Texas in September. Almost thirty members, augmented by others interested in the events, took part in the commemoration and celebration of the Philippine Scouts and the three Scout Medal of Honor recipients from World War II. (Details of this weekend and photos of the dedications may be found elsewhere in this issue and on our website.)

I hope to see many of you at the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society's twentieth annual meeting and reunion at the Radisson Villa Hotel in San Mateo on April 30-May 1. The registration form for this important annual event is towards the back of this newsletter.



Mike Houlahan
Public Relations Officer

Website News

It's been about 18 months since our Philippine Scouts Heritage Society website was launched and the response has been gratifying, with the number of visitors growing every month and now totaling nearly 4000, an increase of over 2000 in six months.

Our message board where visitors can view and post their opinions on various discussions relating to the Scouts, is now well launched with more than 100 entries. You are invited

to visit the PSHS website <www.philippine-scouts.org> and share your own thoughts.

We have expanded our photo holdings considerably. Acquisitions include a collection of pre-WWII Philippine Scout images kindly furnished by curator Waldette Cueto of the American Historical Collection at the Rizal Library, Ateneo de Manila University in the Philippines and photos from the plaque dedication

ceremonies in Fredericksburg and San Antonio, Texas.

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

Thank you for your support!
Christa Houlahan
Webmaster

Reynolds: from Front Page

while he was a guerrilla. He emphatically replied, "Never!"

He also commanded an infantry regiment in the Korean War, where he was awarded the Silver Star, The Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star with "V" for combat valor. Later he would command the U.S. Army's escape and evasion school.

General Reynolds received a second Legion of Merit in his last assignment as Assistant Commander of the Fort Benning Infantry School. He retired from the U.S. Army in 1963.

General Royal Reynolds played a major role in organizing the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society and was its first President. He was elected President Emeritus by acclamation when he relinquished the presidency and remained a loyal supporter throughout the rest of his life.

In May 2003 General Reynolds gave us this final bit of advice: "The Philippine Scout Heritage Society was formed to preserve their distinguished history. Unless the sons, daughters, grandchildren, friends and associates take a positive and active role as members of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society, the heroic legacy of



Royal Reynolds, Jr. as a Cadet at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point graduating class of 1933.

these elite Filipinos will die. As an old soldier waiting for final roll call, I urge you to remember this."

His commanding presence and wise counsel will be greatly missed by the entire membership of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society.

General Reynolds is survived by Gloria Planté, his companion of several decades, and by a daughter, Louise Banscom and a granddaughter. Condolence letters may be sent to Mrs. Gloria Planté at 1521 23rd Road South, Arlington, VA 22202.

Memorial to General Reynolds

Choosing a memorial for Brigadier General Royal Reynolds, Jr. is being added to the agenda of our spring meeting. Possibilities already suggested include naming the Philippine Scout library collection after him; and soliciting contributions in his memory either to the library fund or to a fund used to purchase Scout memorabilia for donation to museums willing to commemorate the Philippine Scouts. Any comments or additional suggestions are welcome.

National President's Message



Royal Reynolds, our first president, and stalwart supporter and advisor

The good news during the past few month, which I will report on below, is overshadowed by the very sad news of the passing away of Brigadier General

throughout the almost twenty years we have existed as a Society. His loss is irreplaceable. Both our website and the In Memoriam page of this newsletter contain tributes to this great man.

New Members: Our continuing efforts in recruiting new members targeting the sons and daughters of the Philippine Scouts are producing results. I commend Cion Rael, President of Golden Gate Bay Area Chapter and her Officers for their aggressive campaign. I also want to commend Joe Calugas, Jr. for his being elected President of Capt. Jose

Calugas, Sr. Chapter of Tacoma, and his effort in recruiting new annual and life members. Let's continue the good work. I encourage other Chapters to follow these two Chapters' example.

Plaque Dedications: On September 26 and 27 I represented the Society as one of the speakers in unveiling of the memorial plaques dedicated to the Philippine Scout Units and the three Scouts medal of honor recipients at the Admiral Nimitz Museum of the Pacific War in Fredricksburg, Texas and at the Fort Sam Houston Museum

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Saguing: from Front Page

son on July, 1941, and dad having to report to his unit, mom has become solely responsible for our survival.

From December, 1941 to an undetermined date in 1943, mom and other Scouts' families moved about, always ahead of the Japanese occupation forces. The three of us finally ended up in Cardona, a small town on the shores of Laguna Bay. It was at this time that I began to have my own recollections of events, which remain vivid to this day.

I can remember when mom left us with another family and returned after two weeks with a strange looking, emaciated man that I would later learn was my father. It will be months before he would regain weight, and it would be years before I would learn of the circumstances that led to his release by the Japanese.

At an age when boys of my age (5 years old) would just be learning the alphabet, I became witness to the brutalities of war. Japanese soldiers would cordon off a village or town for a "sona" and line up all males 12 years and older for a head count. An officer or NCO, and sometimes a civilian would call off names from a roster and dad would sound off when his name was called. Sometimes a man with a bag over his head would walk down the ranks and point to an individual who then was beaten up and taken away by the Japanese.



The photo shows dad holding me with mother on his right. It was taken October, 1940 in front of the family quarters on Winter Avenue, 12th Medical Battalion Enlisted Barrio at Fort William McKinley, Philippines. The photo was taken following my baptism at the Post Chapel. The white arrow at the top of the picture points to a sign that says "SAGUING", the family last name. The article below was written for a granddaughter's school project.

It was also in Cardona that I witnessed Japanese soldiers brutally beat a man with rifle butts. This is after he was pointed out by the man with a bag over his head. After the beating, he was taken away and shot.

One sunny morning in late 1944,

my brother and I were playing in the street with the other children when we heard the sound of planes flying overhead. They were at very high altitude and we could not see them. We would have known if they were Japanese. A few minutes later, a group of Japanese soldiers came excitedly running down the street and ordered everyone into their houses. That night, we saw flames lighting the sky in the distance. Dad whispered to us that the Americans are back and he may have to leave soon.

The Japanese, which up to this time have been "easy" became more edgy and would beat or kick a person for the most minor of infraction- like not bowing to them. The day before the Japanese abandoned their garrison, Dad joined a group of other men and disappeared into the night. It was not until August, 1945 that we will see him again. When he came back, he was with American troops and wearing the field uniform of a US Army soldier. The Philippines is finally liberated and we are again a family.

It wasn't until 1946 that we returned to Fort McKinley, but not to the old quarters. Dad retired at Clark Field in 1948 after 30 years of service as a Scout and would keep his family near "Fort Mac" where it all started. He would later take his family to California, but would return to this place dear to his heart to spend his last days.

Advertising Rates

Our newsletter advertising rates are as follows:

Full page:	\$100
Half page:	\$50
Quarter page:	\$30
Business card:	\$15

Circulation figures available upon request. For advertising placement or additional information, please contact newsletter editor Mike Houlahan through our website or at the address listed on the final page of this newsletter.

President's Message: from Page 3

in San Antonio, Texas. Many members of the Society attended the two ceremonies, including John A. Patterson, First Vice President and Mike Houlahan, Public Relations Officer, who was the MC for both of the dedication ceremonies.

Representing the Golden Gate Bay Area Chapter were Chapter President Cion Rael, Treasurer Evangeline S. Stafford, National Assistant Treasurer Nita Guiang, and members Nilda Malvar, Angie Pangan-Gasq, and Lourdes Escala. From Tacoma, Washington was Joe Calugas, Jr., President of Capt. Jose Calugas, Sr. Chapter, and his lovely niece residing in San Antonio. Other members attending were San Antonio residents, Col. John E. and Terry Olson, National Historian; Major General Ralph Haines (formerly 26th Cavalry, PS); Ben Austria; and Alfredo Quihano. From Modesto, California were Col. Nicoll and Edie Galbraith. Other Scout families included Sue Marti and her husband Ed Portner, Linda Carney, Chris and Colleen Schaefer, as well as Steve and Mary Wood.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to John Manguso, Fort Sam Houston Museum Director, Martin Callahan, Deputy Museum Director and our National Assistant Historian, and the museum staff, as well as the Society for the Preservation of Historic Fort Sam Houston, for providing a complimentary luncheon at the Stillwell House after the ceremony. Finally, I would like to thank Sergeant First Class Gerald Dove and his NCO Academy color guard, which performed at the Fort Sam Houston Museum ceremony.

Library Project: The San Francisco Philippine Scout Library Committee held a very successful fund raising dinner-dance on October 17 in South San Francisco. The theme of this colorful event was "Hawaiian Festival" and it attracted over 100 guests. It was an evening of great fun with good food and dancing. The raffle grand prize was a round trip airline ticket to Hawaii. I'm truly gratified to witness these Scouts sons and daughters doing amazing things in accomplishing their respective jobs. To be

commended for their accomplishments are all the Officers of Golden Gate Bay Area Chapter headed by President Cion Rael, as chairperson, Secretary Remy Wilson, Treasurer Evelyn Guiang, Chapter Second Vice President Nora Warren, Chapter Treasurer Evangeline S. Stafford, PRO Ed Basa, Assistant Treasurer Ofelia Capuyan, committee members Nita Guiang, Nilda Malvar, Cindi Warren, Arnold Guiang, Bernard Saysin, George Cawley, Carol W. May, Jess Okialda, and David Tejada; and the versatile MC of the evening Ben Capuyan, Jr.

Reunion/Business Meeting: Our 20th annual reunion and membership meeting is scheduled for April 30 - May 1, 2004 at the Radisson Villa Hotel in San Mateo. Again the Golden Gate Bay Area Chapter is hosting this event. A registration form may be found elsewhere in this newsletter. Please mark your calendars!

My best to all,



Larry L. Pangan
National President

A Love Letter to the Philippine Scouts

by Lillian Patterson

Once upon a time, not very long ago, I met and fell in love with John Patterson. One of the first places we went as a couple was San Antonio, Texas in 1989 for a gathering of what is now known as the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society. There I met heroes for the first time in my life; heroes of battles in a war about which I knew nothing.

This group of men never appeared in my high school or college textbooks, yet listening to their conversations, I was awed by their accomplishments. How tragic so little

is known about this remarkable group.

Since John's uncle, Alexander R. Nininger, Jr., was a Philippine Scout who was killed on Bataan, he had a very personal interest in the Scouts and in preserving their history. His first attempts in this endeavor included writing to Colonels Anders, Olson and General Reynolds; each of whom played a role in John's search for more information about his Uncle Sandy.

Through letters and conversations regarding the importance of this mission to preserve the Philippine Scout history, including a comment made in 1988 by Colonel Olson that

something should be done quickly since the Scouts were "rapidly aging," the groundwork was laid for the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society.

In 1989 in San Antonio, the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society was officially created. I was there meeting so many people, some still with us, some not. Names come back to me: Mabunga, Aquino, Pangan, Olson, Rosen, Villarin (especially his singing), Yeager, Wickham, Charlie Mills (who thought I was John's daughter!). I recall the richness of the conversations, the pride when each

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Scout stood to be recognized as his unit's name was called. I remember the women sharing their experiences during the war as we feasted on pancit and lumpia. Most of all, I was touched by the reading of the names of deceased soldiers and the flags placed on a memorial wreath, a practice which continues at each reunion.

Years have passed and many beloved Scouts and their wives are no

longer with us, but the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society continues. Artifacts of its history are collected and preserved at Fort Sam Houston and soon also in the Golden Gate Bay Chapter Library. More importantly, the families and friends of these heroes have taken up the gauntlet of respecting, preserving and maintaining the history of the Philippine Scouts into the future so the bravery of

these heroes will not be forgotten.

Lillian Patterson is the wife of PSHS First Vice President John Patterson. The Pattersons lived in the Philippines from 1989 to 1993 where John serve with USAID and Lillian pursued a PhD at De La Salle University in Manila. While in the Philippines, their travels included Bataan, Cabanatuan, Camp O'Donnell and Corregidor.

Col. Shoss Remembers

The following are excerpts from a letter by Col. Morris L. Shoss, a PSHS member and former Scout, now retired in San Antonio:

"My first military assignment on graduating from West Point in 1940 was to the harbor defenses of Manila and Subic Bays on Corregidor...I took my bride, who with all the other dependents was fortunately evacuated to the US during May and June 1941.

"I was the Executive Officer of Battery C (Cebu) of the 91st Coast Artillery, (PS). There were three American officers (Captain Gulick, I and Lt. Howard Irish, range officer for our T83 AAA firing director).

"After the dependents were evacuated, all the personnel of the 91st and 93rd CA (PS) worked around the clock planting the largest controlled mine field in history in Manila Bay. Then Battery C, augmented by two more American officers, was surreptitiously sent in covered barges to Fort Wint in Subic Bay with our anti-aircraft artillery weapons. This secrecy paid off in our shooting down the first Japanese bombers shortly after [the] Pearl Harbor attack. When the Japanese landed on Luzon, we were ordered to move from Subic Bay to Bataan Peninsula, changing positions frequently and suffering losses of

American officers and Scouts due to air attacks, which got me my first Purple Heart. When Bataan fell, our unit managed to move by barge to Corregidor, after destroying our anti-aircraft weapons. I was assigned Battery Morrison, twin 6-inch rifles, which were destroyed in one day of counter batter firing. I moved to Battery Grubbs, twin 8-inch rifles, which lasted on day. We were assigned two 155 mm. guns, GPG, WWI vintage. We fired directly into Japanese landing on Corregidor from our position along the outside of Malinta Hill. One gun was put out of action by fragment damage to the muzzle. My unit destroyed the remaining gun, placing the training round in the chamber, loading excessive bags of propellant and using a very long firing cord. The gun was blown up. I had my Scouts disperse from the weapons and that was the last I saw of them. I joined an American



POW survivors of the "Hell Ship" Shinyo Maru sinking at their 1998 reunion. Front row, l to r: John Playter, Ted Pflueger, Col. Morris Shoss, Bert Swartz; Back row, l to r: Rev. John Morrett, Ralph Johnson. Playter and Morrett were officers in the 88th Field Artillery (PS) and Shoss in the 91st Coastal Artillery (PS).

engineering unit in its underground shelter and was captured by the Japanese as they overran the position.

"As a POW, I was moved to Manila by ship, by train to Cabanatuan, then back to Manila and [by] ship to Davao penal colony for about two years, then by prison ship, Eri Maru (?) and then at Zamboanga, Shinyo Maru, which was sunk by the U.S. Submarine "Paddle" on September 7, 1944. Of the 750 allied POW's, 82 survived.

"About 8 of the survivors [held] our last annual reunion September 5-7, 2003, joined by 30 family members."

Library Fundraiser

We, the GGBAC officers and committee members for the Philippine Scout Library Project fundraising benefit held October 17, would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to all who supported our event. It was a huge success!

Ninety-six attended our benefit, 71 of whom were friends, relatives and guests. Regardless of the sparse attendance of members, we the sons and daughters turned the event into a surprisingly successful evening, with over \$1900 being raised. Most importance of all, we gained new friends for the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society. Comments from our guests were very positive about both the project and the party. Several indicated they would support such events in the future.

In addition to our fundraising benefit, we dedicated the evening's celebration to President Emeritus, Brigadier General, U.S. Army (Ret.) Royal Reynolds, Jr. who celebrated his 93rd Birthday on October 17th. A birthday card was signed by all the guests and members of GGBAC, and mailed to the General. (We were all saddened by his death 5 weeks later.)

The outstanding performance of

singer/entertainer, Christine Adiaz was one of the highlights of the event. To our surprise, Christine's great grandfather was a Philippine Scout! Pictures and photos of October 17th can be seen at: <http://christine.rocks.it>.

Our V.I.P. guest was Eduardo Datangel, T'Boli Publishing and Distribution who is very interested in learning more about our society and Philippine Scout Library project. He has distribution offices in San Francisco and Manila.

An extra special warm expression of gratitude goes to our PS Library Treasurer and Chapter Historian Evelyn Guiang, who worked late nights with me finalizing the event. Also thank you to her father, Zosimo Guiang, Philippine Scout and former POW, for his encouragement. Thanks to the outstanding accomplishments of Nora Warren, National Treasurer, for selling \$700 worth of raffle tickets, Cindy Warren, GGBAC Auditor, for organizing the raffle, including arranging for the donated prizes. A special thanks to Ofelia Capuyan, Larry Pangan's daughter and GGBAC Assistant Treasurer, for inviting 15 guests; Remy Wilson GGBAC Secre-

tary for inviting 12; Conchita Guerrero, GGBAC member, for providing hotel accommodations at the Holiday Inn and attending to our out-of-town guests. Most importantly, extra thanks to my Aunt, Nilda Malvar, GGBAC member, for her support throughout the planning and to ALL the GGBAC officers who believed in and supported our PS Library Project: Bernard Sayson, George Cawley, Ed Basa, Nora Warren, Evangeline Stafford, Ofelia Capuyan, Evelyn Guiang, Aquilina Reyes, David Tejada, Arnold Guiang, Remy Wilson, Jess Okialda, Carroll May, and Cindy Warren.

SPECIAL thanks to our National President Larry Pangan, for supporting the PS Library Project fundraising.

We will continue to keep our hearts and mind focused "to preserve the history and legacy of the Philippine Scouts" and strive to recruit and educate sons, daughters and friends!

Again, many thanks to ALL,

Cion Rael
President, GGBAC
email: ciontvl@aol.com

In Memoriam

It is with a great deal of sadness that we report the passing of the following members:

Alex C. Andres, Sr.: A long time PSHS stalwart and President of the LTC Lloyd E. Mills Chapter, Mr. Andres passed away recently in Rancho Palos Verdes, California at the age of 83.

Alex was transferred from the 57th Infantry (PS) to the Headquarters Company of the Philippine Division just before the Japanese invaded the

Philippines. He survived combat, the Bataan Death March and Camp O'Donnell and continued in the U.S. Army following WWII, retiring as a Captain.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret, three sons, Alex Jr., Danilo and Constantino; and three daughters, Annie, Marlene and Nenita; as well as seven grandchildren.

His family may be contacted at: 1205 Bloomwood Rd., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90732 Tel: (310) 833-0779 Fax: (310) 831-9698.

Major Eriberto Caranto: Former Philippine Scout and survivor of the Bataan Death March Eriberto Caranto, 86, of Huntsville, Alabama died on December 7. Major Caranto served 32 years in the U.S. Army and worked for the civil service until 1989. Survivors include his wife, Socorro Niverba Caranto; daughters, Milagros Rey of Southbend, Ind., Gertrudes Euler of Knoxville, Tenn., Frances Gumienny of Smyrna, Ga., Digna Caranto-Werber of Huntsville; sons, Romy Caranto of

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Scout Information Exchange

The Scout Information Exchange is intended to improve communication within the Society and between our members and others interested in the historical heritage of the Philippine Scouts. It functions as an information exchange, reporting on new articles, books and films on the Scouts, aiding historical researchers and soliciting additional information on individual Scouts and Scout units. Please contact us at info@philippine-scouts.org if you can supply information about any of the questions posted or if you have queries of your own.

We also are interested in photos and information on the military experiences of former Philippine Scouts, which will be added to our library archives. Short articles on the exploits of individual Scouts or Scout units may be printed in our newsletter or on our website. Material may be submitted by e-mail or through the postal service to Mike Houlahan, our Public Relations Officer and Newsletter Editor whose address appears on the final page of this newsletter.

Bienvenido A. Acilla: Can anyone confirm that Bienvenido A. Arcilla (SSN 551-23-9177) was a Philippine Scout from December 11, 1941 to February 10, 1945? He may have served with the 26th Cavalry, Signal BN, U.S. Army under Col. Joshua Stansell.

Ruperto Balbarin: Eric Gutierrez requests information about his grandfather, who apparently joined the Scouts before WWII, around the late 1930's. He fought on Bataan, probably with a Scout artillery unit. When Bataan fell, he was captured by the Japanese and survived the death march and imprisonment, prior to escaping a year or so later. He later served with the US Army in Korea.

James Rowan "Doc" Billings: My grandfather served 13 years as a private. He could not read or write. I'm sure his records are all under Doc Billings. When he married my grandmother around 1915, he did not know what his real name was. He had joined the Army at 14 around 1892 to 1895, and had been called Doc for many years. My grandmother located his family in North Wilkesboro, NC about 1926 and they wrote to tell her his full name was James Rowan Billings. I have a faint recollection of my father saying something about the Philippine Scouts. Doc was certainly in the 43rd U.S. Infantry, Company D, when he was discharged around 1908 - 10. He was discharged from the Army TB sanatorium in Fort Bayard, NM.

Capt. Joseph Rhett Barker: The son of a former Scout is looking for anyone who knew the late Capt. Joseph Rhett Barker, class of 1938 at West Point, and an officer in the 26th Cavalry, PS. Capt. Barker, one of the

initial leaders of guerrilla movements on Luzon vs. the Japanese. He was captured in 1943 and was incarcerated and tortured at the infamous Fort Santiago before being executed by the Japanese. The late Capt. Barker was a native of Birmingham, Alabama.

Capt. Edgar Hayden Dale, Jr.: Information has been requested on Captain Edgar Hayden Dale, Jr., who was born in Kansas, graduated from the United States Military Academy (Class of 1938), then joined the 57th Infantry (PS). He was captured on Bataan and died in a POW camp in Osaka, Japan in February 1943.

Sgt. William Kilgore: Mitchell R. Sharp is looking for information concerning his Great Grandfather who may have been a member of the Philippine Scouts after the Spanish American War. His Name: William Kilgore of Co G, 33 Regular U.S. Volunteer Infantry later to muster out

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While the PSHS is pleased to assist where possible in obtaining information on former and deceased Philippine Scouts, our archives are not extensive. More complete information often can be acquired through the Department of Veterans Affairs.

To obtain a request form, please call your County Veterans Service Office or the national VA at (800) 827-1000 and ask for VA Form 180 (Request Pertaining to Military Records). This form is also available on the VA website www.va.gov.

You also may be able to get a copy of your relative's military records by writing to:

**National Personnel Records Center
9700 Page Road
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100**

Other information of possible interest includes:

Fact sheet for VA Benefits for Filipino Soldiers

<http://www.va.gov/pressrel/filipvet.htm>

Veterans Benefits and Services for New Philippine Scouts

<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/foreign/scouts.htm>

Exchange: from Page 8

and become a member of the Philippine Scouts of 2nd Co Lepunte Scouts. Timeframe: 1899 through 1901.

Location: A lot of correspondence is from the Santa Maria area. (Editors note: probably served with a group of Filipinos contracted with by the U.S. Army as civilian scouts.)

Jack Labog: Jeff Consolacion is looking for information about the men who served with the 26th Cavalry (i.e. list of officers, enlisted personnel, known survivors, etc.):

“I knew my grandfather was a Philippine Scout but I was unaware of what unit he belonged to until recently. He managed to escape to his province, Nueva Vizcaya after the unit was wiped out while traveling over the Cordillera or Sierra Madre mountains. He was eventually caught by the Japanese when a distant family member turned him in. I believe he traveled with two or three other members of the 26th whose provinces were also on that part of Luzon. (I would also be interested in finding out who these men were.) My grandfather’s name is Jack Labog if anyone knows any information about him or would like any questions asked from him please let me know, as he will be returning to the Philippines from California sometime in the next couple of months.”

Major Oliver Mayhew Ladd: The granddaughter of Major Ladd, 1885-1964, is searching for information on his military service. According to family oral history, he served mostly in the Philippines, from about 1910 until his retirement in 1931. He joined the US Army after attending the Colorado School of Mines in Golden Colorado.

He went to the Philippines as a Captain in the US Army after the Spanish American War and was Provost Marshal when Dewey came to Philippines. He was the first com-

mander of the Philippine Scout Battalion, part of the US Army. He retired as a Major in 1931 after serving as aide to General McArthur in the Philippines.

The granddaughter would appreciate information from anyone who knew his sons (her father and his brothers), who were children when they lived in the Philippines. They are Chester Reed Ladd, Oliver Ladd, Jr. and Dick Ladd.

Brig. Gen. Jose B. Lingad: His granddaughter, Joselito Lingad De Guzman, wishes to learn more about his wartime service, including his rank and position during the guerrilla war, and with who’s outfit he served. She believes that he was a Major in artillery and later fought as a guerrilla leader in central Luzon. She believes he was captured and tortured by the Japanese, but escaped and was a Brigadier General at the wars end. (Judging from this biodata, he probably was not a Philippine Scout.)

Gabino M. Sopena: I am interested in finding out any info on the service of my late father-in-law Gabino M. Sopena, who served as a Sgt. in the Philippine Scouts. His home of record was Iloilo City, and he had previously served in the Regular US Army in 1918 with a Coastal Artillery unit. He returned to active duty with a unit of the Scouts in 1941 and was posted to Guimaras Island near Iloilo. According to my wife, his unit was later sent north to participate in the defense of Bataan but we have no accurate info on that. Any info on Gabino or the Philippine Scouts units from the Iloilo/Visayans area would be greatly appreciated! Jerry Nolan

Capt. Robert S. Walker: A grandchild of Capt. Robert S. Walker, USA, would appreciate any information from Philippine Scouts who might

have fought with or knew his grandfather, Capt. Robert S. Walker, USA, who was assigned to a PS field artillery unit shortly after arriving in the Philippines in November 1941. Capt. Walker was in the Bataan death march and died at Camp O’Donnell on 20 May 1942.

Arthur W. Wermuth: I am interested in obtaining any information relating to Arthur W. Wermuth, 57th Infantry (PS), the legendary “One Man Army of Bataan.” Informed parties may contact me directly at jfredriksen@sisna.com or write me at John C. Fredriksen, Ph. D., 154 Carpenter St., South Kingston, RI 02879, 401-788-9016.

Lt. Wills: Information is sought on a “Lt. Wills”, who served with the 26th Cavalry (PS). The last record the writer has is from his late uncle’s diary, kept during captivity, which notes on June 15, 1944, 7:30 p.m. that a “Lt. Wills” went overboard near Misamis, Mindanao, in an escape attempt while being transported aboard the Benjo (!) Maru to Cebu. “It was thought that Lt. Wills made good his escape. Does anyone know what happened to him. Did he survive his escape and the war? Did anyone know him? What is his full name? Jack Brundrett

Lt. Col. Eddie Wright: In January, 1945, Lt. Col. Eddie Wright, 45th Infantry (PS) came out of hiding in the Bataan jungle and put out a notice for Philippine Scouts in Bataan and Zambales to come join him at his camp near Bamban, Bataan. He was organizing a “Provisional Regiment of Philippine Scouts,” (PRPS) to attack the Japanese from the rear as soon as MacArthur landed. As I understand it, about 150 Scouts responded.

Does anyone know anything about

See Exchange: Page 10

Exchange: from Page 9

this organization? Did you, or anyone you know of, answer the call? I am looking for any information about what happened to Col. Wright and this group in January and February, 1944. Chris Schaefer

To view additional information on Lt. Col. Wright contributed by Col.

John Olson, Major Fred Foz and Malcolm Decker, go to our website message board at www.philippine-scouts.org/wwwboard.

Further information on the Philippine Scouts is available at the Fort Sam Houston Museum website

www.cs.amedd.army.mil/rlbc. The portion of this site devoted to the Scouts is available by clicking on "Did You Know?" The Museum, located on a U.S. Army base in San Antonio, TX, is the official government repository for Philippine Scout memorabilia.

In Memoriam: from Page 7

Amarillo, Texas, Rusty Caranto of Birmingham, and Daniel Caranto of San Antonio, Texas; 11 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Major Richard M. Gordon:

Veterans' affairs activist Major Gordon passed away on 7/26/03. At the outbreak of WWII, Dick Gordon was an enlisted man in the 12th MPs. Gordon survived combat, the Bataan Death March, incarceration at O'Donnell and Cabanatuan, a Japanese "Hell Ship" and slave labor in Japan. He wrote a book "Horyo" on his experiences and founded the Battling Bastards of Bataan, a veter-

ans' organization which erected a series of monuments to the veterans of combat in the Philippines and lobbied for various veterans' causes. He is survived by his wife, Lyn, of Schenectady, New York. (A more detailed obituary is available on our website www.philippine-scouts.org.)

Brigadier General Royal

Reynolds, Jr.: An article devoted to General Reynolds life begins on the first page of this newsletter and on the Home Page of our website.

Constante R. Villalobos: Former Philippine Scout and long-time PSHS member, Constante R. Villalobos, who

was born January 6, 1918 passed away on October 4, 2003.

Constante was a member of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society, Tacoma chapter and served with the 14th Engineers (PS). An ex-POW who survived the Bataan Death March, he proudly served 24 years in the US Army.

He is survived by his two children, Clemente Villalobos, and Sheree Clark and four grandchildren. He was preceded by the death wife of 54 years Rosa B. Villalobos.

Contact Ms. Sheree Clark at 3616 N. 25th St. Tacoma, WA. 98406.



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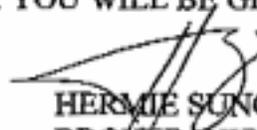
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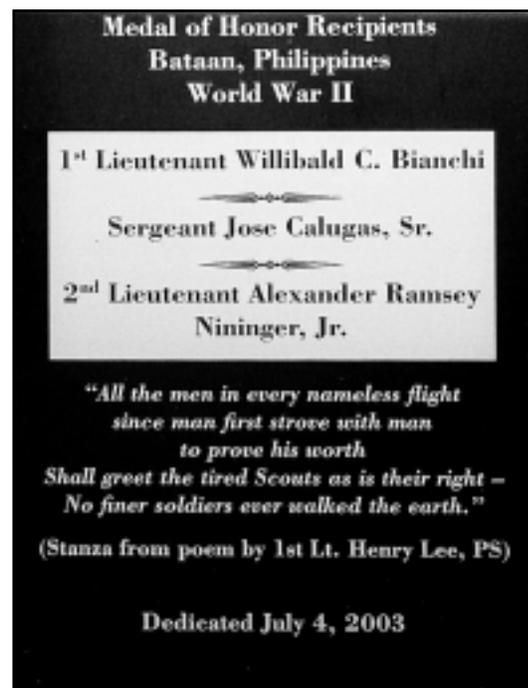
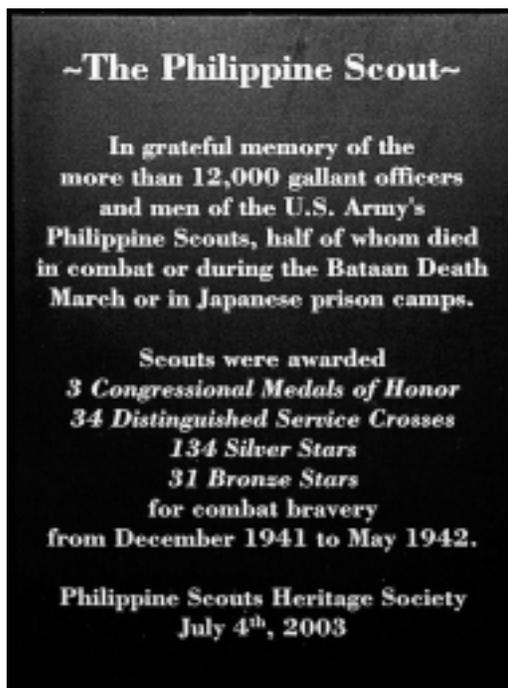
Member Activities

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. Recent examples of member's efforts to accomplish this follow:

National President **Larry Pangan** led a PSHS contingent of nearly 30 to the plaque presentation ceremonies at the **Fort Sam Houston Museum** in San Antonio and the **National Museum of the Pacific War (Admiral Nimitz Museum)** in Fredericksburg. One plaque honors the three Philippine Scout Medal of Honor recipients and the second honors the more than 12,000 Philippine Scouts, who distinguished themselves defending the Philippines during the early months of World War II, were presented to both museums (see above right: photos courtesy of Aniceto Bagley).

The **Admiral Nimitz Museum** mounted the two plaques side by side on their Wall of Remembrance. The ceremony included a bugler blowing taps and several short speeches. The **Fort Sam Houston Museum** presentation included a color guard provided by the NCO academy and a luncheon at the historic **General Stillwell House** following the ceremony. Our generous host for the luncheon was the **Society for the Preservation of Historic Fort Sam Houston**. Tours of both museums also were part of the weekend activities.

Speakers included President **Larry Pangan** for the PSHS, **Sue Marti** and Tacoma Chapter President **Joe Calugas** as Medal of Honor recipient family representatives, Admiral



Nimitz Museum Executive Director **Admiral C. D. Grojean**, Fort Sam Houston Museum Director **John Manguso**, and National 1st Vice President **Sen. John Patterson** gave the benediction.

Other participants included **Mar Arradaza, Ben Austria, Martin Callahan, Linda Carney, Col. Nichol and Edie Galbraith, Nita Guiang, Lourdes Escala, Nilda Malvar**, National Historian **Col. John Olson** and **Mrs. Terry Olson, Angie Pangan-Gasq, Ed Portner, Alfredo Quijano**, GGBA Chapter President **Cion Rael, Chris and Colleen Schaefer, Evangeline Stafford**, and **Steve and Mary Wood**. Also attending the Fort Sam Houston ceremony was **Major General Ralph Haines**, the most senior surviving Philippine Scout. Public Relations Officer **Mike Houlahan** was master of ceremonies.

National First Vice President **John Patterson** continues to be active, representing the Society at service

clubs and as liaison with the **West Point Museum** housing a book and memorabilia collection honoring his uncle, Philippine Scout Medal of Honor recipient **Lt. Alexander Ramsey Nininger, Jr.**

Patterson, a former Rhode Island State Senator, succeeded in having a bill reintroduced in the Rhode Island Senate and House modeled after successful California legislation allowing legal action seeking compensation for unpaid wages and injuries caused by Japanese firms using POWs as slave labor. This bill is scheduled for consideration when the Senate comes back into session next year.

National Second Vice President **Menandro Parazo** appeared at several military events and awards ceremonies as detailed in the El Paso chapter report.

Besides organizing the **Fort Sam Houston Museum** plaque ceremony,

See Activities: Page 13

Activities: from Page 12

John Manguso is making available to our chapters additional copies of the excellent Philippine Scout exhibit his museum developed. Five of these are already in circulation.

Lt. Col. Ed Ramsey was Military Marshall for La Jolla's annual parade and was graduation speaker for Wake Forest University ROTC class. The Philippine-American Exposition, held in the Los Angeles Convention Center, honored him with the "Heroism Award" for his World War II guerrilla activities. His book, *Lieutenant Ramsey's War: From Horse Soldier to Guerrilla Commander*, co-written with Stephen J. Rivele, is to be republished in pocketbook size as part of Brassey's new Memories of War series.

One of our more active members has been **Col. Mel Rosen**, who continues to speak on his Bataan Death March, POW camp and Hell Ship experiences at a wide variety of venues, including universities, service clubs and civic associations. He also was the featured speaker at the Fort Lee, Virginia POW/MIA ceremonies this fall, which included a Philippine Scout exhibit provided by the **Fort Sam Houston Museum**.

National Historian **Col. John Olson** continues his speaking activities on behalf of the PSHS and participated in the San Antonio plaque presentations. His most recent talk on the Philippine Scouts was in November to the Texas Institute of Arts and Culture. In addition, he devotes much time to organizing the **Fort Sam Houston Museum archives** on the Philippine Scouts and answering Scout-related questions coming to our website.

Malcolm Decker's book *On a Mountainside: The 155th Provisional Guerrilla Battalion Against the*



DECEMBER 9, 1977

CAPT. CALUGAS CALLS ON AMBASSADOR NEWSOM

CAPT. JOSE CALUGAS, THE ONLY FILIPINO VETERAN OF THE BATTLE OF BATAAN TO WIN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR RECENTLY RETURNED TO THE PHILIPPINES AS A GUEST UNDER THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT'S "REUNION FOR PEACE PROGRAM." THE 70-YEAR OLD WAR VETERAN, WHO IS HERE AFTER AN ABSENCE OF 25 YEARS, RECEIVED THE UNITED STATES' HIGHEST MILITARY AWARD IN 1945 IN PAMPANGA "FOR GALLANTRY AND INTREPIDITY ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY IN ACTION WITH THE ENEMY." NOW A U.S. CITIZEN, THE FORMER SERGEANT WHO WAS 33 YEARS OLD AT THE TIME OF HIS DECORATION, WAS WITH BATTERY B, 88TH FIELD ARTILLERY, PHILIPPINE SCOUTS, UNITED STATES ARMY. ABOVE CAPT. CALUGAS BEING WELCOMED BY U.S. AMBASSADOR DAVID NEWSOM AT THE U.S. EMBASSY. BRIG. GEN. JAMES H. MAPP (EXTREME LEFT), JUSMAG PHILIPPINES CHIEF, ACCOMPANIED CAPT. AND MRS. CALUGAS.

Photo courtesy of American Historical Collection archives, Rizal Library, Ateneo de Manila University, supplied by Waldette Cueto, curator.

Japanese on Luzon is at Barbed Wire Publishing and should be released soon. The book recounts the exploits of **Doyle Decker**, Malcolm's father, who fought in the guerrilla campaign against the Japanese following the surrender of Fil-Am forces in the Philippines. The book will be re-

viewed in a future edition of the newsletter.

Chris Schaefer also is well along on a book about guerrilla groups in the Philippines during World War II. It, too, will be reviewed upon its release.

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Activities: from Page 13

Major Fred Foz and fellow Scout **Gil Gutierrez** participated in the Veterans Day parade in Wahiawa, Hawaii. Riding in 1942 vintage jeeps, the Philippine Scouts were acknowledged over the loudspeaker system as they approached the grandstand. As the two Scouts ascended the grandstand, they were met by **Lt. Gen. James Campbell**, CG of Pacific Forces. Fred presented him with a copy of *The Philippine Scouts*, a history edited by **Col. John Olson**. In his speech, **Gen. Campbell** introduced the two Bataan Death March survivors, who then were given a standing ovation. Footage of this was shown on Hawaiian television and photos were carried in at least one newspaper. **Major Foz** considers this recognition,

60 long years after they were captured, as a highlight of his military career.

The **Fort DeRussy Army Museum** in Waikiki has proposed honoring **Major Foz** and two other survivors, **Gil Gutierrez**, 12th Medical Regiment (PS), and **John Moyer**, Philippine Division Headquarters, by purchasing a marker along the 65 mile route of the Bataan Death March. This project is a result of a speech Fred Foz delivered.

Newsletter Editor **Mike Houlahan** organized and moderated a panel presentation on the U.S.-Philippine Military Partnership hosted by a Midwest regional meeting of the **Pilipino Student Association** held at Ohio State University. Other speakers were **Professor Paul Rodell**, Depart-

ment of History, Georgia Southern University; **Dr. Frank Jenista**, Professor of International Studies, Cedarville University; **Jose Victor Chan-Gonzaga**, a Philippine Foreign Service officer. **Houlahan** also spoke on the American colonial experience in the Philippines as part of the Great Issues lecture series he coordinates in Columbus, Ohio and interviewed **Col. Morris Shoss** for an article. **Col. Shoss**, whose letter appears elsewhere in this issue, was Executive Officer of Battery C, 91st Coast Artillery (PS) at the outbreak of World War II. He survived POW camps and the sinking of the "hell ship" **Shinyo Maru**, which claimed 687 American servicemen's lives.



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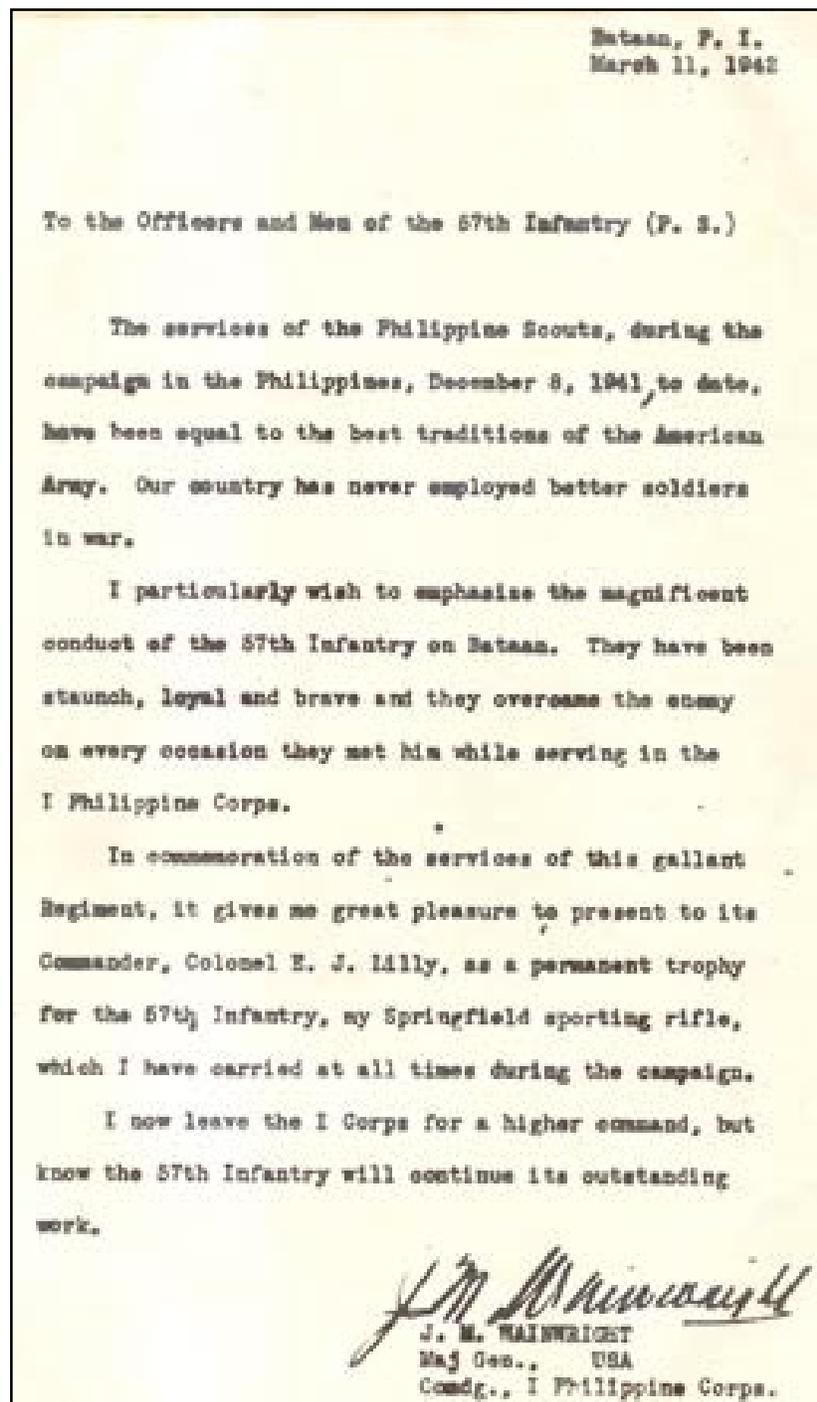
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Major General Wainwright's Letter to the Officers and Men of the 57th Infantry (P.S.)

The following letter was supplied by Waldette Cueto, curator of the American Historical Collection, Rizal Library, Ateneo de Manila University in Loyola Heights, Quezon City, Philippines:



Sgt. Agapito Gayanilo and Company E, 45th Infantry (PS)



This photo of Sgt. Agapito Gayanilo and the other bachelors of Company E, 45th Infantry (PS) was taken sometime prior to the outbreak of WWII. (The Sgt. is marked with an X.) Also included are excerpts from his posthumous citation. (Provided by his grandson, Rey Archide, who would welcome further information on his grandfather and Company E.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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By direction of the President, under the provisions of Act of Congress, 9 July 1918 and Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944, the Silver Star and the posthumous award of the Bronze Star Medal are awarded to Agapito Gayanilo, service number 6 865 825. The Citations are as follows:

SILVER STAR

"For gallantry in action in Bataan, P.I, on February 2, 1942, lead a machine gun squad in displacing to a position where it could deliver effective fire for the friendly attack. Before reaching its new position the squad was subjected to heavy enemy machine gun fire at close range from a gun to the front, and another to the left. This intrepid Sergeant placed the squad under cover, crept forward and destroyed the gun to the front with hand grenades, returned and emplaced his gun, crawled to the left and accurately designated the enemy machine gun nest by throwing a hand grenade in it to draw fire, thereby causing its immediate destruction by the fire from its machine gun." (Auth: GO 20, Hq. I Phil Corps, dtd 20 Mar 42)

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

"For exemplary conduct in ground combat against the armed enemy during the Philippine Islands Campaign, in the Pacific Theater of Operations." (Auth: DA LO, dtd 7 Nov 52)

National Reunion – April 30-May 1/ 2004 Registration Form

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Phone: _____ Number of people in party: _____

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2233 Fox Glen Dr.
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14 Clara Avenue
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92 Russell Drive
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Nita Guiang
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614 Brunswick Street
San Francisco, CA 94112
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Col. (Ret.) John E. Olson
Historian
1 Towers Park Lane #510
San Antonio, TX 78209
(210) 821-6017

Martin Callahan
Asst. Historian
Fort Sam Houston Museum
Fort Sam Houston, TX 78209
(210) 221-0019

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

J. Michael Houlahan
Public Relations Officer
6774 Lakeside Circle West
Worthington, OH 43085
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Manuel Mabunga, President
Lt. Alexander R. Nining Ch.
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Christa M. Houlahan
Website Designer and Manager
webmaster@philippine-scouts.org

*You can access past issues of
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David Rosen
Newsletter Design and Layout
737 Crystal Springs Drive
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(530) 668-1443

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