



OFFICIAL  
CALENDAR  
OF THE  
REPUBLIC

*An Almanac of  
Philippine Commemorations*

ENLIVENED WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND INFORMATION



# THE OFFICIAL CALENDAR of the Republic of the Philippines

*An Almanac of Philippine Commemorations*

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ENLIVENED WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND INFORMATION

*Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office*

2014

# The Official Calendar of the Republic of the Philippines

Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office

<http://www.gov.ph>

<http://www.malacanang.gov.ph>

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# The Official Calendar of the Republic of the Philippines

## *An Almanac of Philippine Commemorations*

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	7
<hr/>	
<b>MONTHS</b>	
<hr/>	
January	9
February	31
March	53
April	73
May	95
June	115
July	135
August	163
September	187
October	209
November	229
December	253
<hr/>	
<b>ESSAYS</b>	
<hr/>	
The Vin d'Honneur	28-30
Evolution of the Philippine Constitution	49-52
The Tejeros Convention	70-72
World War II in the Philippines	90-94
History of the Philippine Flag	112-114
History and Symbolism of the Possession of Malacañan Palace	133-134
Historical Evolution of the State of the Nation Address	153-156
Mabini Sesquicentennial	157-162
Defend it at the Plaza Miranda: A History of the Country's Foremost Public Square	183-185
Declaration of Martial Law	205-207
Presidential Yachts	226-228
The Bonifacio Monument	247-251
The Rizal Monument	271-276
<hr/>	
<b>APPENDICES</b>	
<hr/>	
Perpetual Calendar	278-281
Foundation Dates: Provinces and Chartered Cities	282-291
Photo Sources	292-294
Bibliography	295-298
<hr/>	





# Introduction

For the past four years, the Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office (PCDSPO) has, as part of its mandate, led the preservation and curatorship of the institutional memory of the Philippine presidency; it has also stood at the forefront of sustaining interest and curiosity about the story of the Filipino people. The PCDSPO has achieved all this in so short a time by taking advantage of and continually improving upon the marriage of new technologies and standby resources—historical papers, photo collections, monographs and articles and textbooks.

The Official Gazette web team—led by the PCDSPO’s Publications Division—has produced projects from straightforward timelines of defining moments in Philippine history, to visually elaborate microsites that focus on personalities that have helped define the Filipino nation. These have been published as online commemorations—primarily on the Official Gazette and the Presidential Museum and Library website, and also through its social media channels. And yet, throughout these technical evolutions in form and in delivery, with every innovation in presenting our history to new and a possibly wider audience, the PCDSPO strived to keep certain standards as constant: To revisit and reexamine the stories behind our nation’s greatest achievements and most noble moments—the junctures in our collective narrative where we stood, most starkly, as one people—with meticulous research, fresh material, and good writing.

It is those same standards that seek to define the *Official Calendar of the Republic: An Almanac of Philippine Commemorations*. This is the story of the Philippine Republic, collated and detailed. For every day of the calendar year, we have birth and death anniversaries of significant Filipinos, legislative milestones, pivotal moments in revolutions both bloody and peaceful, key dates in the whole of the Philippine presidency. There are likewise longform essays that go into greater detail over traditions of the highest office of the land, essays that meld architectural study and the biographies of select Filipino figures, essays that examine the signs symbols of our nationhood. We have included salient points of every administration since the First Republic, and the men and women who have led them. At the start of every month is a list of observances, as decreed by Presidents past and present.

We aim for the *Official Calendar of the Republic*, as with all of our publications, to invite discussion, reinterpretation, and reappreciation. And in this, the Calendar too, in many ways, is a return to roots—we encounter once again our history within a physical publication that anyone can hold in their hands and pore over. With a book of commemorations at the ready in a bookshelf, or displayed on a coffee table, or having joined references and scholarly detritus that crowd a desk, one can return, as often as one sees fit and as often as one desires, to certain details of our nation’s narrative—eventually, inevitably, creating a clearer picture of our history, who we are as a people, and how we have grown as a Republic.

---

#### HOLIDAYS LEGEND:

- Regular holiday
- ★ Special (non-working) day
- ▲ Special working holiday
- Special holiday for all schools





# JANUARY

As it ushers in the new year, the month of January allows us to celebrate new things, new friends, new goals, and new beginnings.

Historically under the 1935 Constitution, the State of the Nation Address was delivered in January. In 1942, this month bore witness to the establishment of a new (military) administration under Japan. In 1899, the First Republic was established, in Malolos.

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**MONTHLY OBSERVANCES**

**General Orientation on Safety and Prevention Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 115-A, s. 1966)*

**National Microinsurance Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1212, s. 2007)*

**Zero Waste Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 760, s. 2014)*

**Liver Cancer and Viral Hepatitis Awareness and Prevention Month**  
*(Republic Act No. 10526 of 2012)*

---

**1<sup>ST</sup> WEEK** **National Time Consciousness Week**  
*(Republic Act No. 10535 of 2013)*

**2<sup>ND</sup> WEEK** **Clean-Up Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 187, s. 1963)*

**Best Dives Philippines Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 758, s. 2005)*

**3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK** **National Mental Health Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 432, s. 1957)*

**National Cancer Consciousness Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1348, s. 1974)*

**Autism Consciousness Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 711, s. 1996)*

**4<sup>TH</sup> WEEK** **Children's Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 190, s. 1964)*

**Courtesy Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 449, s. 1965)*

**Goiter Awareness Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1188, s. 2006)*

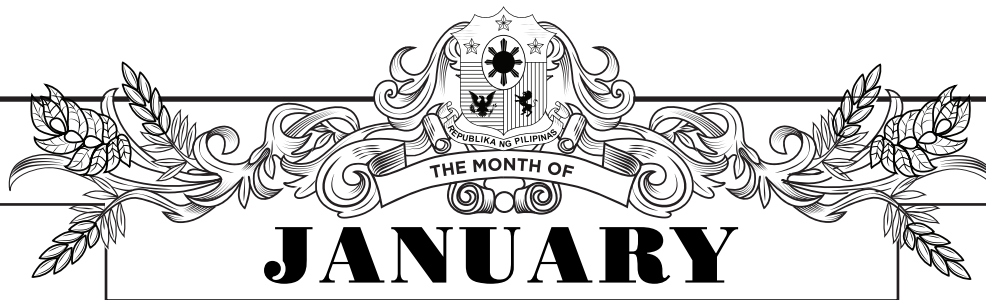
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**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY** **Unknown Citizens Day**  
*(Commonwealth Act No. 152 of 1936)*

**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY** **Children's Day**  
*(Proclamation No. 552, s. 1959)*

**Day of Sanctity and Protection of Human Life**  
*(Proclamation No. 490, s. 2003)*





JANUARY 1

## Birth anniversary of President Manuel Roxas

In 1892, Manuel Roxas, the fifth President of the Philippines, the third President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, and the first President of the Third Republic, was born in Capiz (now Roxas City), Capiz. Roxas started his political career in 1917 as a member of the municipal council of Capiz. He then served as governor from 1919 to 1921, after which he was elected to the House of Representatives and to the post of Speaker. Roxas worked closely with Manuel L. Quezon and Sergio Osmeña in leading the campaign for national independence. In 1934, Roxas became a member of the Constitutional Convention that produced the 1935 Constitution. He served as Secretary of Finance during the Quezon administration. During World War II, he served as liaison with the United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFPE), and after his capture, served under the Japanese-sponsored government. After the war, he became Senate President. Defeating Osmeña in the 1946 elections, Roxas became the last Commonwealth President and, with the formal recognition of Philippine independence by the United States on July 4, 1946, the first President of the Third Republic.

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### TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1954, President Ramon Magsaysay opened the Malacañan Palace to the public, and people came in the Malacañan Palace droves.

As the *Philippines Free Press* noted on January 1, 1954: "Men, women, and children, many of them barefooted, many others in slippers or in *bakya* [clogs], streamed through the palace gates, milled around the President and shook hands with him, and then walked in and out of the rooms."

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### ANNIVERSARY

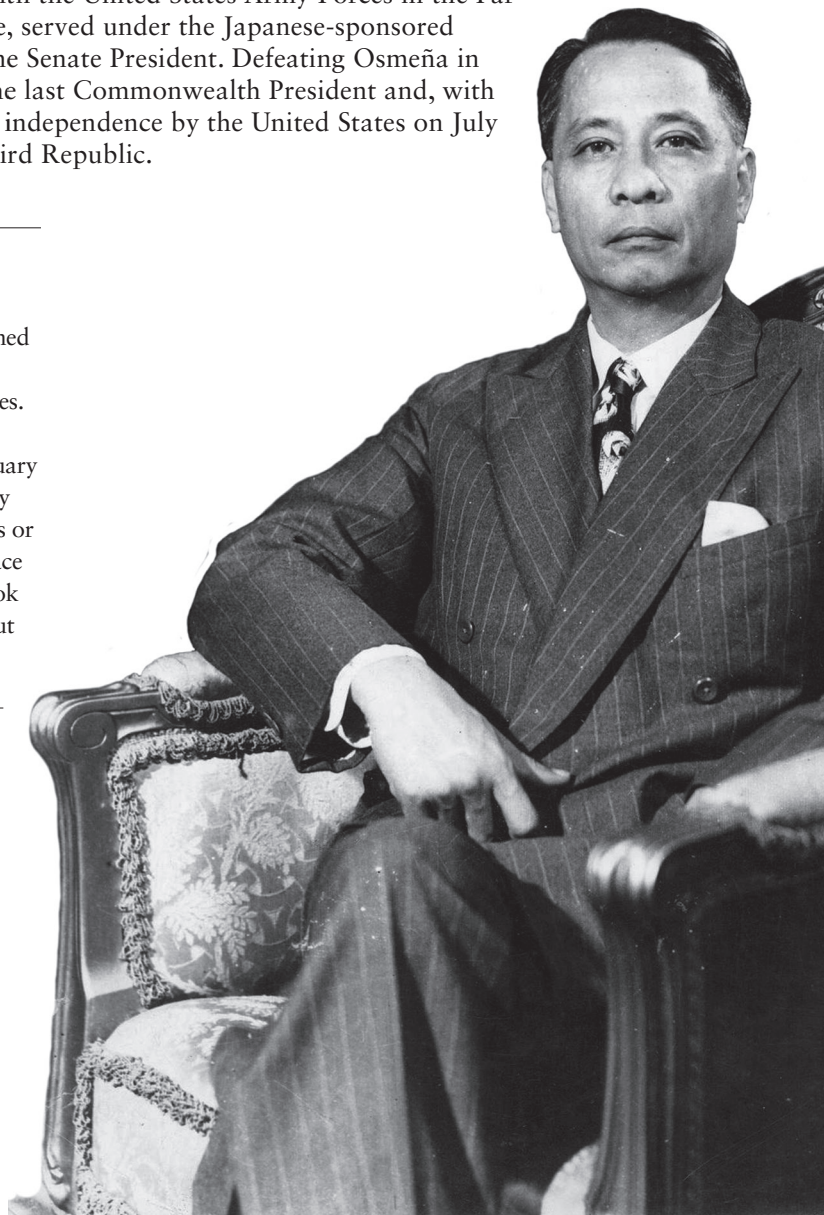
Birth anniversary of Chief Justice  
Manuel Araullo (1853)

### PROCLAMATION

• New Year's Day  
(Republic Act No. 9492 of 2007)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Games and Amusement Board  
(Executive Order No. 392, s. 1951)



**JANUARY 2**

In 1942, the Imperial Japanese Forces entered and occupied the city of Manila.



Children are waving their paper Japanese flags upon the arrival of the Japanese in Manila.

**JANUARY 3**

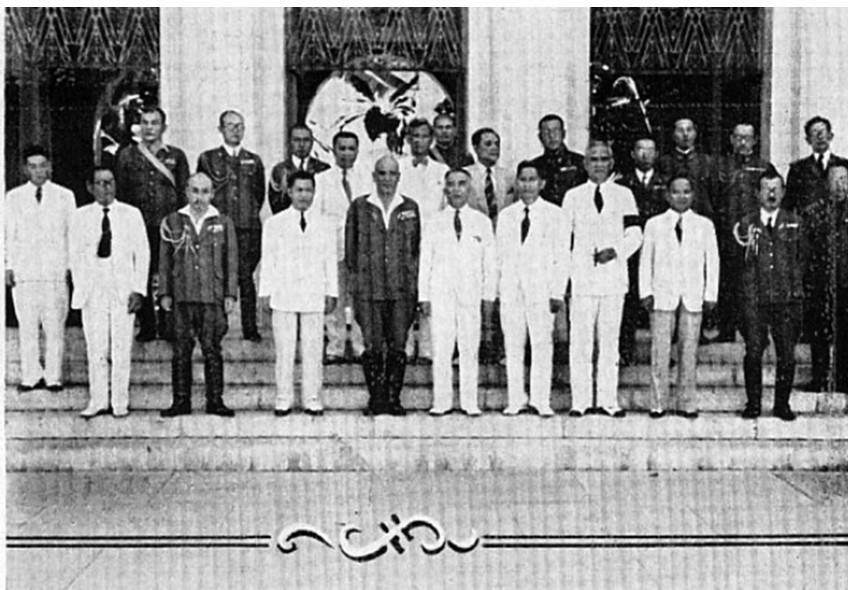
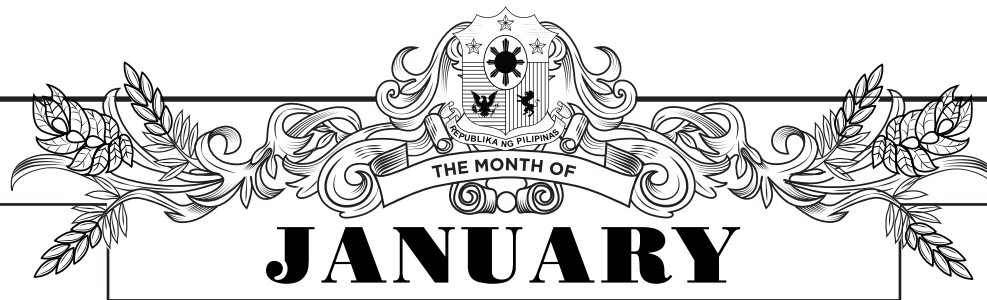


Photo taken after the official call on Lieutenant General Masaharu Homma (*FIFTH FROM LEFT*), Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Forces in the Philippines, by members of the Philippine Executive Commission at the former official residence of the U.S. High Commissioner.

In 1942, the Japanese High Command established the Japanese Military Administration in the Philippines.

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
 Birth anniversary of National Artist Severino Montano (1915)  
 Birth anniversary of Manlilikha ng Bayan Ginaw Bilog (1953)

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
 Department of Social Welfare and Development (Executive Order No. 396, s.1951)



JANUARY 4

## Execution of the Fifteen Bicolano Martyrs

In 1897, fifteen Bicolanos unjustly charged with conspiring against Spanish authorities were sentenced, either to death or exile. Every fourth of January, the people of Bicol commemorate the death of the Los Quince Martires, the fifteen martyrs of Bicol during the Philippine Revolution: Manuel Abella, Domingo Abella, Ramon Abella, Mariano Arana, Leon Hernandez, Camilo Jacob, Florencio Lerma, Mariano Melgarejo, Cornelio Mercado, Mariano Ordenanza, Tomas Prieto, Macario Valentin, Fr. Gabriel Prieto, Fr. Inocencio Herrera, and Fr. Severino Diaz.

In the years leading up to 1896, the ideas of the Propaganda Movement had spread to the Bicol region—primarily around the city of Nueva Caceres (now Naga City). On August 19, 1896, the Spanish government discovered the existence of the secret revolutionary organization known as the Katipunan. Alarmed by this, Governor-General Ramon Blanco orchestrated mass arrests not only in Manila and its environs but in regions all over the country.

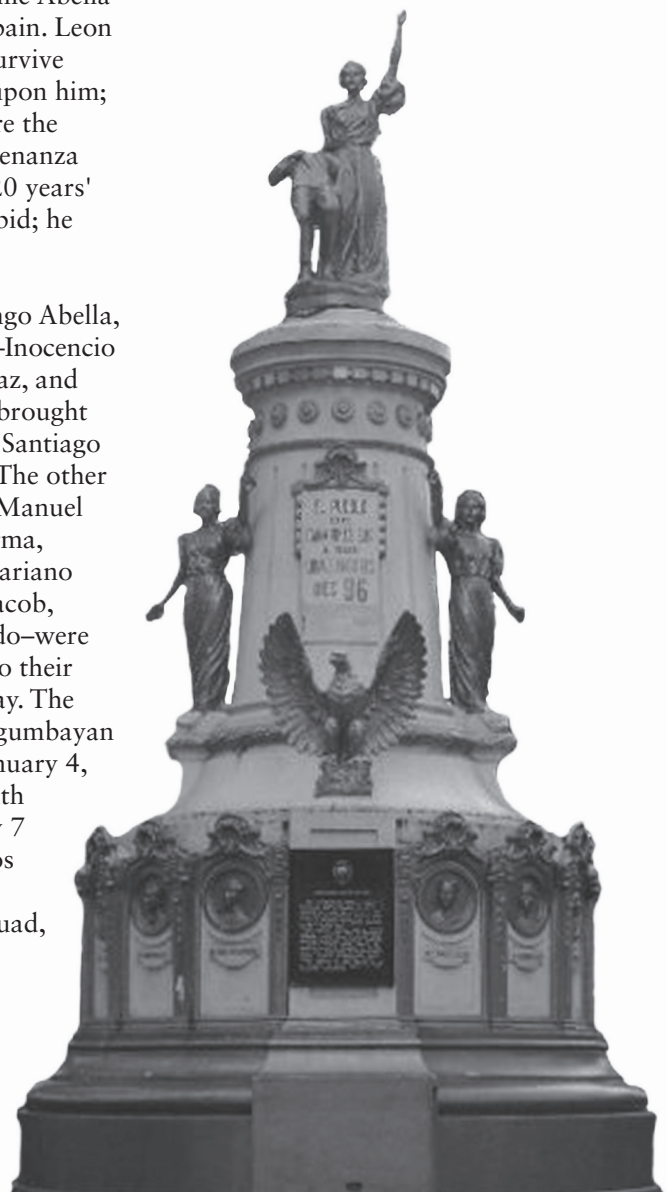
After a one-day trial by a military court on December 29,

1896, a verdict was handed down: the 15 Bicolanos were charged with plotting to assassinate all the Spaniards in Nueva Caceres. Two of them, Mariano Arana and Ramon Abella, were exiled to the Spanish penal colony of Fernando Po in the west coast of Africa. Arana died there in captivity in 1898, while Abella died in Cartagena, Spain. Leon Hernandez did not survive the torture inflicted upon him; he died months before the others. Mariano Ordenanza was sentenced with 20 years' imprisonment in Bilibid; he died in jail.

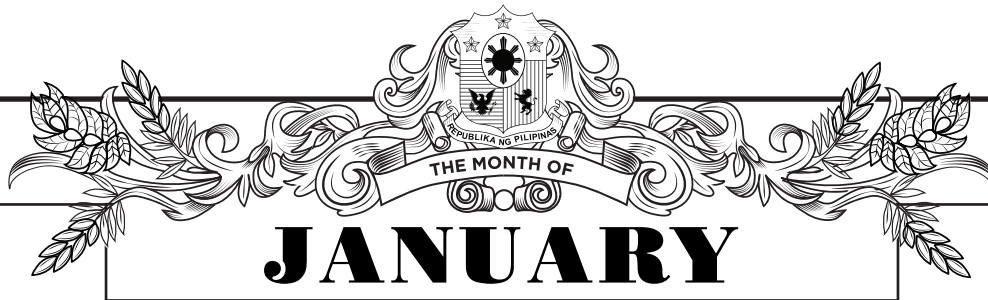
Tomas Prieto, Domingo Abella, and the three priests—Inocencio Herrera, Severino Diaz, and Gabriel Prieto—were brought to the chapel of Fort Santiago on January 3, 1897. The other group—composed of Manuel Abella, Florencio Lerma, Macario Valentin, Mariano Melgarejo, Camilo Jacob, and Cornelio Mercado—were thrown in jail prior to their execution the next day. The execution field of Bagumbayan in the morning of January 4, 1897, was packed with onlookers. At exactly 7 a.m., the 11 Bicolanos were lined up and executed by firing squad,

on the same ground where Rizal was executed five days before.

A monument in their honor was unveiled on November 29, 1926, at the Plaza Quince Martires in Naga.



Plaza Quince Martires  
in Naga City



## JANUARY 5

In 1899, President Emilio Aguinaldo issued a Proclamation protesting the encroachment of the American Government on the sovereignty of the Philippines. To show their indignation, the Filipinos tore copies of William McKinley's Benevolent Assimilation proclamation of December 21, 1898, which had been posted around Manila.



## JANUARY 6

In 1812, Melchora Aquino de Ramos—also known as Tandang Sora, the “Mother of the Philippine Revolution”—was born in Banilad, Caloocan. She became famous for offering her home to the Katipuneros in her old age. She opened her granary and provided food and refuge for them. Advised by Andres Bonifacio to hide from the Guardia Civil, Tandang Sora and her family fled to Novaliches where she was arrested on August 29, 1896, and detained at Bilibid Prison. She was then exiled to Guam on September 2, 1896, and was only able to return eight years later. She was then 91 years old. Tandang Sora died on February 20, 1919, at the age of 107, at the home of her daughter, Saturnina.

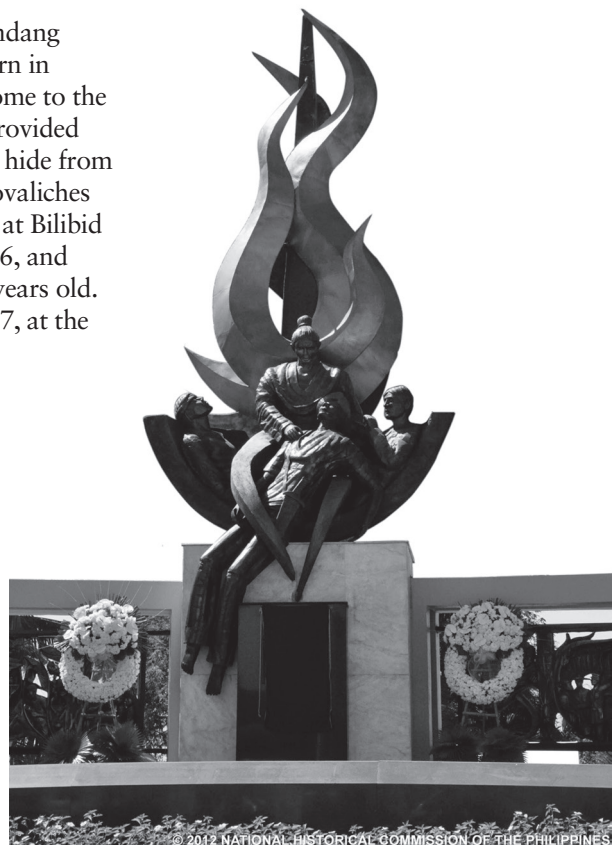
### PROCLAMATION

Community Development Day  
(Proclamation No. 341, s. 1964)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Pasig River Rehabilitation  
Commission  
(Executive Order No. 54, s. 1999)

Tandang Sora  
Shrine along  
Banlat Road in  
Barangay Tandang  
Sora, Quezon City.



REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**JANUARY**



**JANUARY 7**

In 1901, Brigadier General Arthur MacArthur ordered the deportation of a number of Filipino revolutionaries to the island of Guam. Among the deportees was Apolinario Mabini. The order would be carried out nine days later, as detailed by Mabini in his diary entry for January 15, 1901.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of National Artist Salvador F. Bernal (1945)

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

Philippine Commission on Women (Presidential Decree No. 633, s. 1975)

**JANUARY 8**

In 1942, the Philippine Executive Commission, headed by Jorge B. Vargas, was organized by the Japanese Military Administration. The Commission assumed responsibility for civil administration in Japan-occupied Manila.



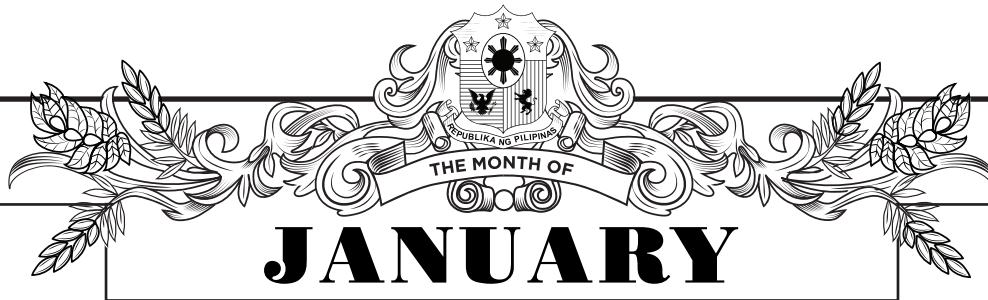
General Masaharu Homma with Jorge B. Vargas.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Birthday of National Scientist Ricardo M. Lantican (1933)



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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**JANUARY**

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## JANUARY 9



Southern Landing Beach at Lingayen.

In 1945, American troops under the command of Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur landed in Lingayen and Blue Beach, Dagupan. During the initial landing, 68,000 troops landed, followed by a total of 203,608 troops in the subsequent landings. These landings were part of the campaign to liberate the Philippines from the Imperial Japanese Forces.

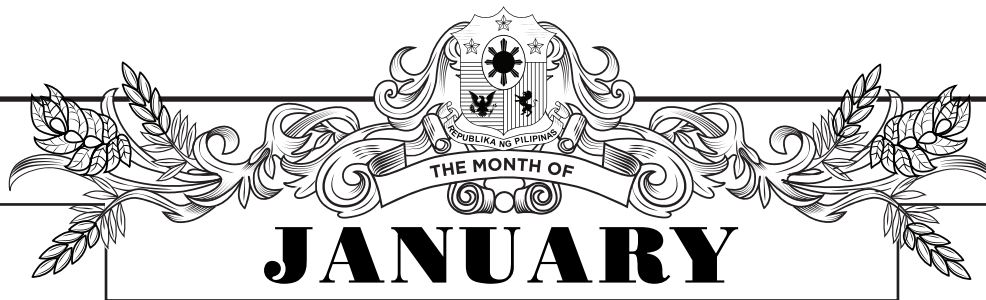
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## JANUARY 10

In 1785, King Charles III of Spain granted the title “Royal” to the University of Santo Tomas for its contribution to Manila’s defense from the British forces.



Portrait of Charles III in Armor by Anton Raphael Mengs.



## JANUARY 11

In 1897, thirteen members of the reformist La Liga Filipina were executed—Jose A. Dizon, Domingo Franco, Numeriano Adriano, Moises Salvador, Faustino Villaruel, Francisco L. Roxas, Luis Enciso Villareal, Geronimo Cristobal Medina, Antonio Salazar, Ramon Padilla, Braulio Rivera, Eustacio Manalac, and Benedicto Nijaga.



### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of  
National Artist Honorata  
"Atang" de la Rama (1902)

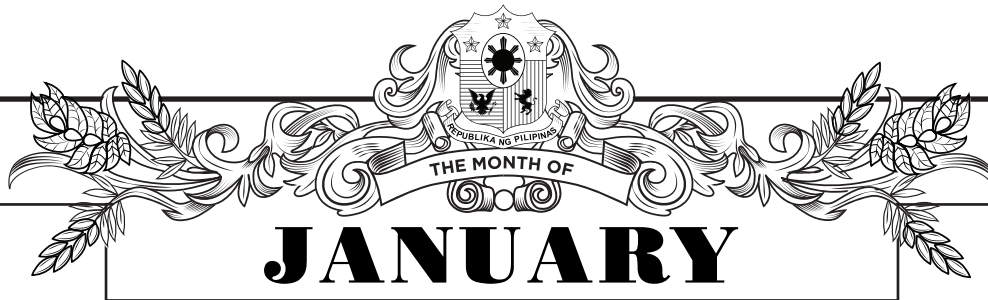
Thirteen members of the reformist La Liga Filipina—all freemasons—prior to their execution at Luneta.

## JANUARY 12

In 1777, a Spanish Royal Decree ordered the cultivation of flax in the Philippines for the production of dungaree fabric and other industrial fibers.

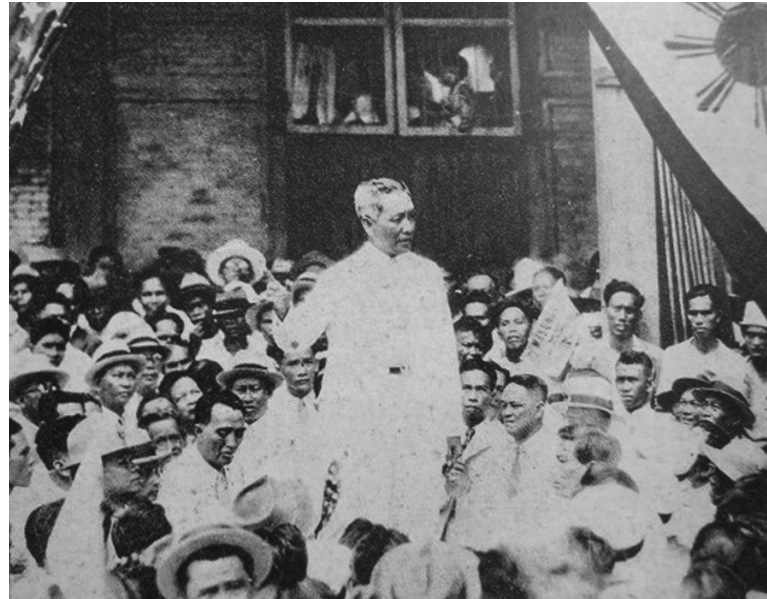


Long flax fibre is perfect for production of high quality yarn.



## JANUARY 13

In 1933, the U.S. Congress passed the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act, the first law setting a specific date for Philippine independence. This was soon rejected by the Philippine Legislature, and was replaced by the Tydings-McDuffie Act.



Sergio Osmeña during his campaign for the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act.

## JANUARY 14

In 1889, the Association Internationale des Philippinistes, a Philippinist organization in Austria, was established, with Ferdinand Blumentritt as President and Jose Rizal as Secretary. The other members of the association were Vice President Plauchut (French), Counselor Rost (Anglo-German), and Counselor Regidor (Mestizo Filipino).

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist

**Carlos P. Romulo (1899)**

Birth anniversary of National Artist

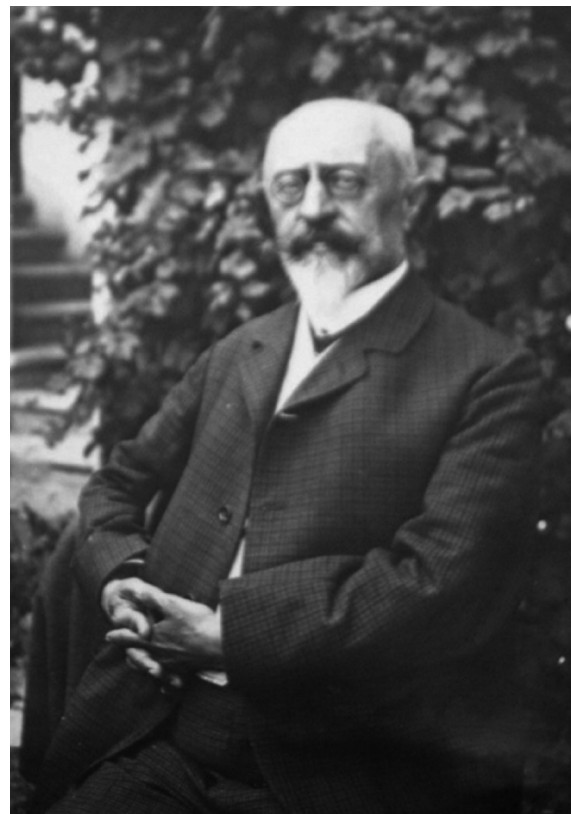
**Carlos Quirino (1910)**

Birth Anniversary of National Artist

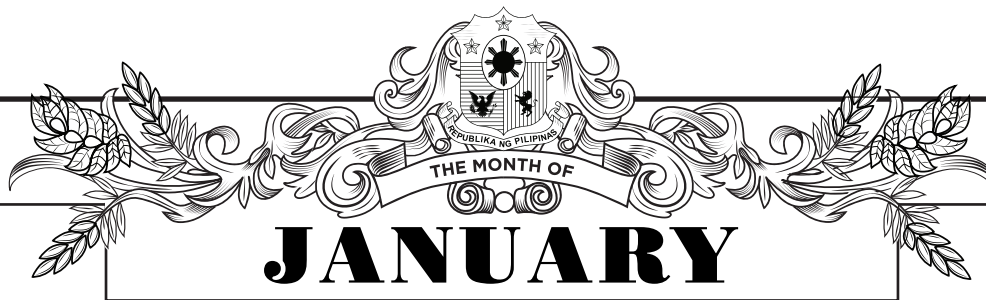
**Abdulmari Asia Imao (1936)**

Death anniversary of National Scientist

**Teodoro Agoncillo (1985)**



Ferdinand Blumentritt.


  
 THE MONTH OF  
**JANUARY**

JANUARY 15



President Marcos addressing a crowd inside Malacañan Palace.

In 1973, a Citizen's Assembly ratified the constitution drafted by the Constitutional Convention of 1971. President Ferdinand E. Marcos issued a proclamation calling for the Citizens' Assembly (plebiscite) to ratify or reject the proposed Constitution.

The government claimed that a solid 90% voted to adopt it and also voted not to hold another plebiscite to ratify the new Constitution.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of  
National Scientist  
Hilario D.G. Lara (1894)

JANUARY 16

In 1901, Apolinario Mabini, his brother Prudencio, and other patriots like Artemio Ricarte, Pio del Pilar, Maximo Hizon, Mariano Llanera, and Julian Gerona reached San Bernardino Strait in Samar. They were on their way to exile in Guam.

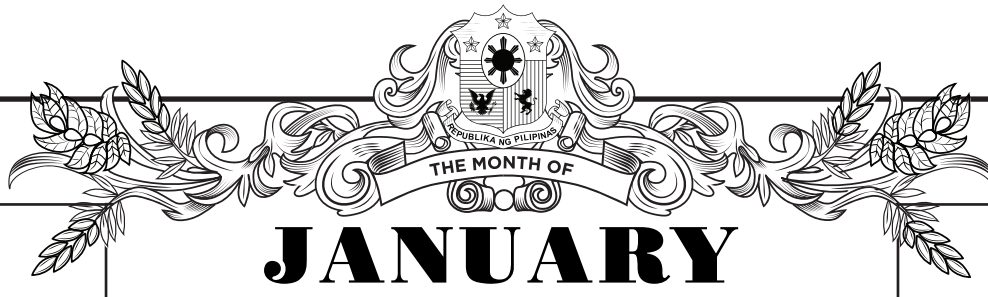
**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of Senate President  
Mariano Jesus Cuenco (1888)



Loading of prisoners for Guam in 1901

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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**JANUARY**

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### JANUARY 17

In 1973, President Ferdinand E. Marcos issued Proclamation No. 1102, declaring the 1973 Constitution ratified and in force, two days after the results of the Citizens' Assembly that began on January 10 and ended on January 15. He then ordered the padlocking of Congress. The Second Regular Session of the 7th Congress had been scheduled to open on January 22.



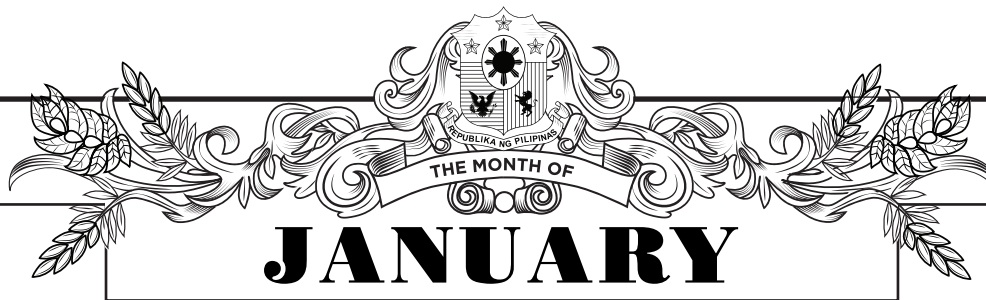
Senators Salvador "Doy" Laurel, Eva Estrada Kalaw, Ramon Mitra, Gerry Roxas, and Jovito Salonga outside the padlocked Senate Session Hall.

### JANUARY 18

In 1871, King Amadeo I of Spain appointed Lieutenant-General Rafael de Izquierdo as Governor-General of the Philippines to succeed Governor-General Carlos de la Torre.



Portrait of King Amadeo I of Spain.


  
**JANUARY**

**JANUARY 19**

In 1812, the Masonic Order in the Philippines was banned by royal decree. Freemasonry began in Medieval Europe as a guild for stonemasons but lived on as a fraternity organization. Shrouded in secrecy, it had often been judged as a conspiracy of different Masonic groups and had long been banned by the Catholic Church at the time. Long associated with the liberal and democratic movement in Spanish politics, the Masonic Order was influential in the crafting of the Cadiz Constitution of 1812, which allowed Philippine representation in the Spanish court. However, the Cortes reaffirmed the banning of the masonic movement. In 1856, the Masonic Order was introduced in the Philippines under the auspices of the Portuguese Gran Oriente Lusitano Lodge. Finally, in 1889, the Logia Revolucion was organized by Graciano Lopez-Jaena, linking the masonic structure to Filipino ilustrados like Jose Rizal, and later on, to the Katipunan which launched the first nationalist revolution in Asia.

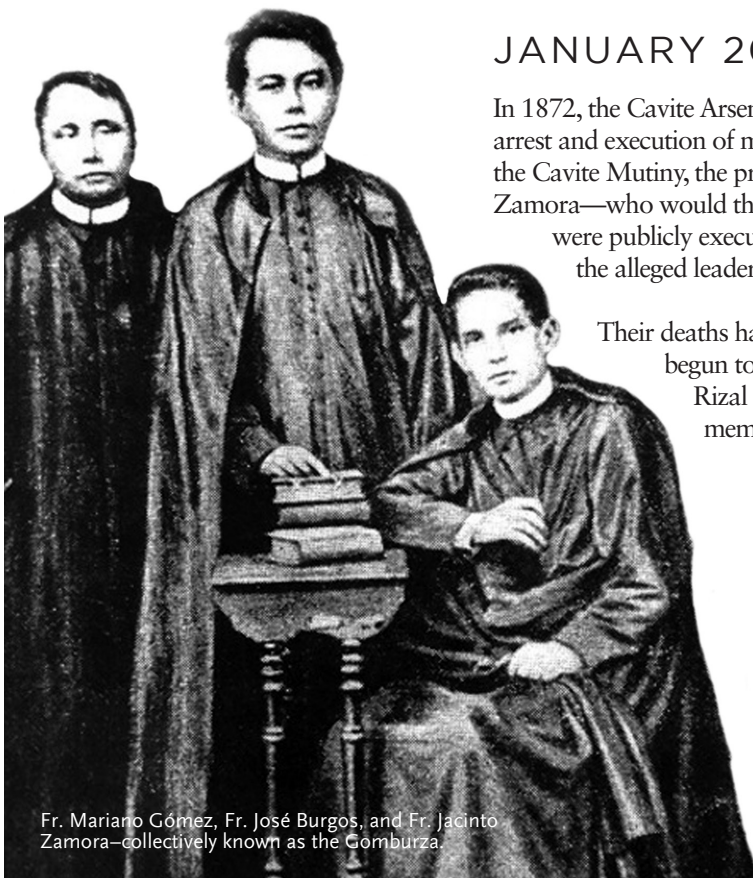


The seal of Gran Oriente Español, the second Masonic lodge to be established in the Philippines.

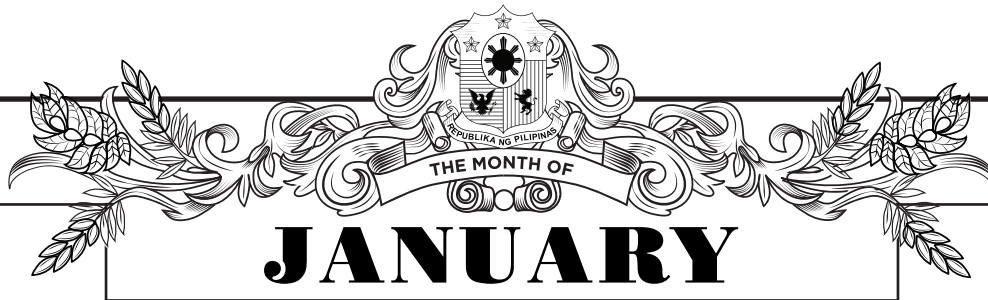
**JANUARY 20**

In 1872, the Cavite Arsenal workers staged a revolt, which led to the arrest and execution of many prominent Filipinos. In the aftermath of the Cavite Mutiny, the priests Mariano Gómez, José Burgos, and Jacinto Zamora—who would then be collectively named as the Gomburza—were publicly executed on February 17, 1872, at Bagumbayan, as the alleged leaders of the Cavite conspiracy.

Their deaths had a profound effect on the nation, which had begun to assert itself against Spanish colonial rule. Jose Rizal dedicated his novel *El Filibusterismo* to their memory.

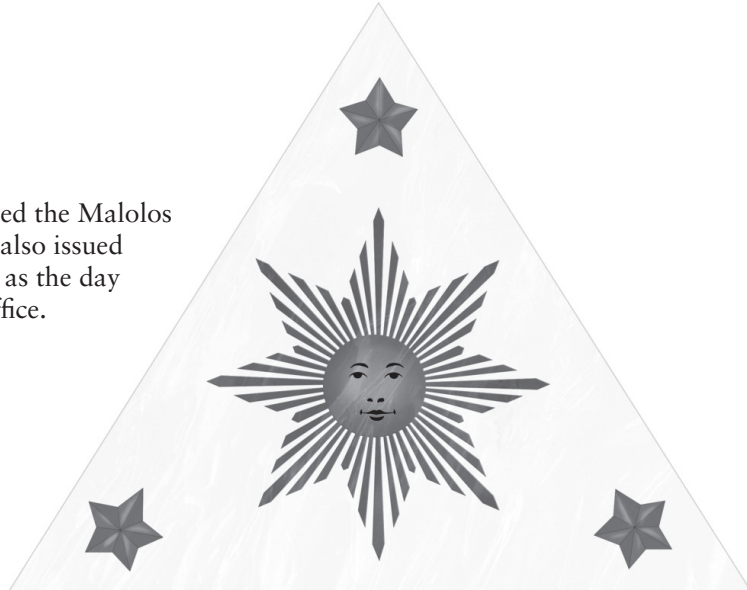


Fr. Mariano Gómez, Fr. José Burgos, and Fr. Jacinto Zamora—collectively known as the Gomburza.



## JANUARY 21

In 1899, Emilio Aguinaldo proclaimed the Malolos Constitution in effect. A decree was also issued which designated January 23, 1899, as the day the President will take his oath of office.



Coat of Arms of the First Republic.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of  
Senate President  
Eulogio A. Rodriguez, Sr.  
(1883)

## JANUARY 22

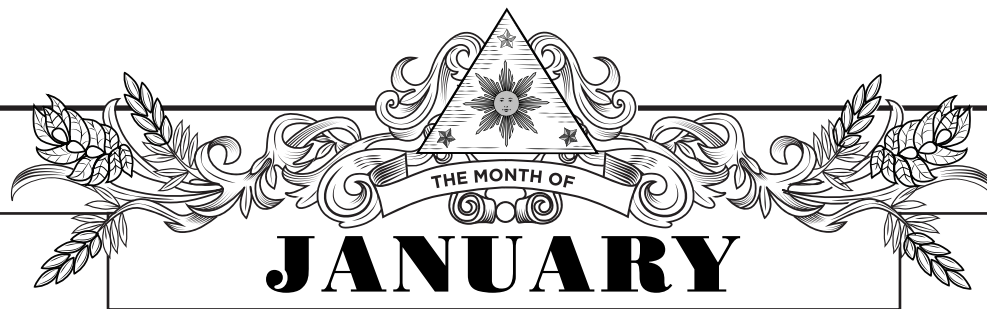
In 1872, Sergeant Francisco La Madrid, the real leader of the Cavite Mutiny, which started two days before, was killed by the Spaniards in Fort San Felipe.



Filipino soldiers with their artillery in front of Fort San Felipe Neri, Cavite.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of  
National Artist  
Vicente S. Manansala  
(1910)  
Birth anniversary of  
National Artist  
Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero  
(1910)



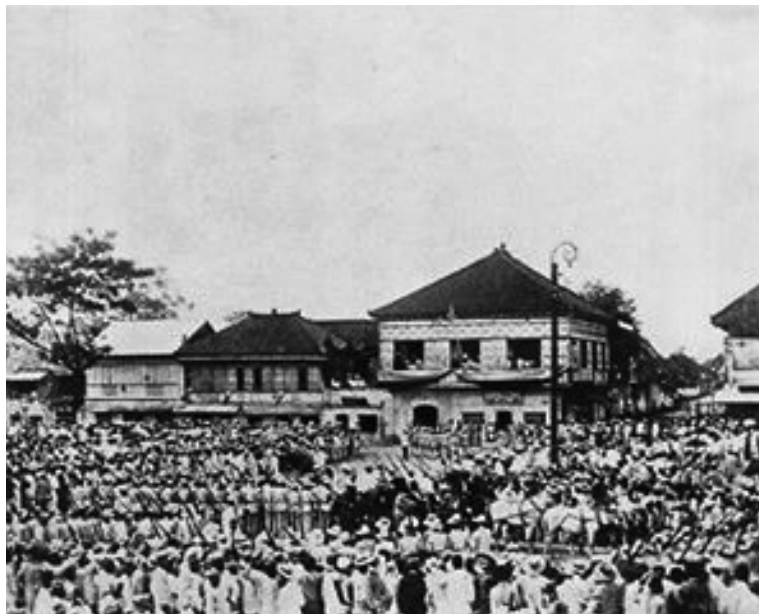
JANUARY 23

## Anniversary of the First Republic of the Philippines

In 1899, the First Republic of the Philippines was inaugurated in Malolos, Bulacan. January 23 marks the anniversary of the start of Emilio Aguinaldo's presidency. To commemorate this, President Benigno S. Aquino III, by virtue of Proclamation No. 533, s. 2013, declared January 23 as “Araw ng Republikang Filipino, 1899.”

The First Republic traces its origins to the Revolution of 1896, which began under the leadership of the Katipunan. On March 22, 1897, the Tejeros Convention was held in order to reconcile the differences between the two factions of the Katipunan: the Magdalo, which viewed Aguinaldo as its leader, and the Magdiwang, which gravitated towards Andres Bonifacio. The outcome dictated that the Katipunan be dissolved and a revolutionary government established. Elections were held and Aguinaldo was elected President.

The revolutionary government continued the revolution against the Spaniards. In the latter part of 1897, Aguinaldo was forced to retreat to the mountains of Biak-na-Bato



Arrival of Emilio Aguinaldo at Malolos on January 23, 1899.

by advancing Spanish forces. On November 1, 1897, Aguinaldo, along with several revolutionaries, convened a citizen's assembly in order to draft a provisional constitution for the Philippines, which has come to be known as the Constitution of Biak-na-Bato.

However, this plan never materialized because Aguinaldo agreed to go into exile in Hong Kong and surrender their arms in exchange for financial indemnities and pardons. In

Hong Kong, Aguinaldo and his companions established a Junta, which worked toward continuing the revolution. But soon after, with the outbreak of the Spanish–American War, Aguinaldo, with members of the Hong Kong Junta, returned to the Philippines in the middle of 1898.

On September 15, 1898, the revolutionary Congress was convened in Malolos, Bulacan, composed of 137 delegates from all over the provinces. They drafted and ratified



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The Malolos Constitution was formally ratified and the First Republic was inaugurated.

the 1899 Constitution, the first Philippine Constitution and the first republican constitution in Asia, adopted by the First Philippine Republic.

The constitution underwent several amendments until it was finally approved by President Aguinaldo on December 23, 1898. It was formally adopted by the Malolos Congress on January 20, 1899 and promulgated by President Aguinaldo on January 21, 1899.

The constitution provided for three branches of government: an Executive, Legislature, and

Judiciary. The Congress then elected Aguinaldo as President of the Philippines. He was inaugurated on January 23, 1899 and on the same date the First Republic of the Philippines was formally established.

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**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
 Department of Transportation and Communications  
 (Executive Order No. 125, s. 1987)

**PROCLAMATION**  
 Araw ng Republikang Filipino, 1899  
 (Proclamation No. 533, s. 2013)

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## JANUARY 24

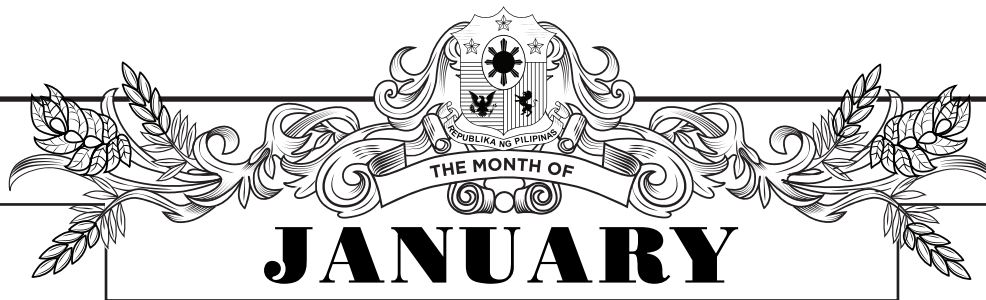
In 1981, pianist Cecile Licad was declared winner of the Leventritt International Competition, America's toughest and most prestigious instrumental competition. She was the first Filipino, the second Asian, and the first woman to win the contest.

**ANNIVERSARY**  
 Death anniversary of National Scientist  
 Jose R. Velasco (2007)

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARIES**  
 Philippine Sports Commission  
 (Republic Act No. 6847 of 1990)  
 National Economic Development Authority  
 (Presidential Decree No. 107, s. 1973)

Cecile Licad is an accomplished Filipina classical pianist.





JANUARY 25

## Birth anniversary of President Corazon C. Aquino

In 1933, Corazon "Cory" C. Aquino, the 11th President of the Philippines, the second President of the Fourth Republic, and the first President of the Fifth Republic, was born in Paniqui, Tarlac. The widow of Benigno S. Aquino Jr. was suddenly cast into politics when President Ferdinand E. Marcos called for snap elections in 1986, which Cory won, despite massive electoral fraud against her. She was sworn into office after the dramatic events at EDSA which forced President Marcos to leave the Philippines. President Cory Aquino is credited primarily for restoring democracy and human rights in the Philippines, safeguarding these freedoms and rights in a new 1987 Constitution promulgated on February 2, 1987, which established the Fifth Republic of the Philippines. After her presidency, she served as the conscience of our newly-restored democracy. She also devoted herself to microfinance for the disadvantaged and to resisting efforts to undermine democracy.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist

**Pablo S. Antonio (1902)**

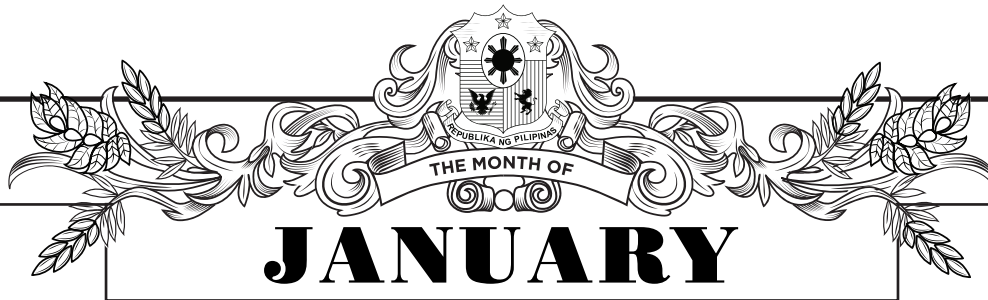
Death anniversary of National Artist

**Antonino R. Buenaventura (1996)**

### TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1898, the Philippine Revolution temporarily ceased with a proclamation of amnesty by the Spanish government in the country under Governor-General Fernando Primo de Rivera, in accordance with the Pact of Biak-na-Bato.





**JANUARY 26**

In 1821, Governor-General Mariano Fernández de Folgueras and Archbishop Luis de Arejola issued instructions for the election of Filipino deputies to the Spanish Cortés.



**ANNIVERSARIES**

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
**Daisy H. Avellana (1917)**  
 Birthday of National Artist  
**Napoleon Abueva (1930)**

*La Junta De Filipinas* (1815) by artist Francisco de Goya. The painting depicts King Ferdinand VII's return to power by attending a meeting of the Real Compañia de Filipinas amidst an economic depression. This marked Spain's return to absolutist monarchy, and the eventual abolition of Philippine representation in the Spanish Cortés.

**JANUARY 27**

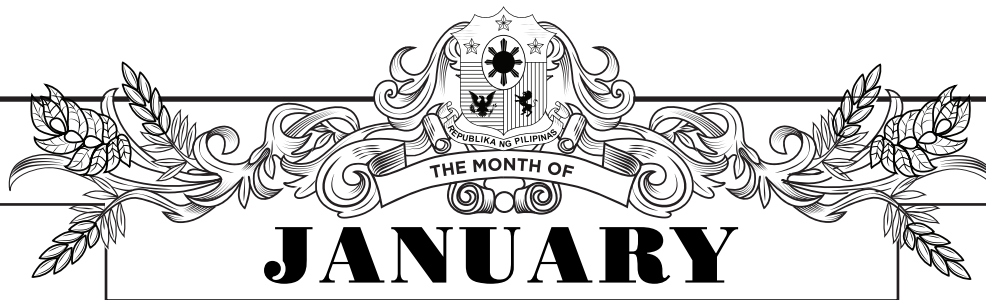
In 1867, Juan Crisostomo Soto—poet, dramatist, editor, and writer—was born in Pampanga. He is referred to as the “Father of Kapampangan Literature.” Soto died on July 12, 1918.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of Vice President  
**Salvador H. Laurel (2004)**



Juan Crisostomo Soto's statue in Bacolor, Pampanga.



## JANUARY 28

In 1861, Julian Felipe was born in Cavite City. By virtue of Republic Act No. 7805 of 1994, this day is celebrated as Julian Felipe Day.

Felipe composed the *Marcha Nacional Filipina*, which was played during the Proclamation of Philippine Independence on June 12, 1898, and remains our national anthem to this day.



## JANUARY 29

In 1945, on a march leading to the liberation of Manila from the Imperial Japanese Forces, the Allied forces established a beachhead in Subic Bay and continued to bomb the Japanese occupied naval bases in Cavite.



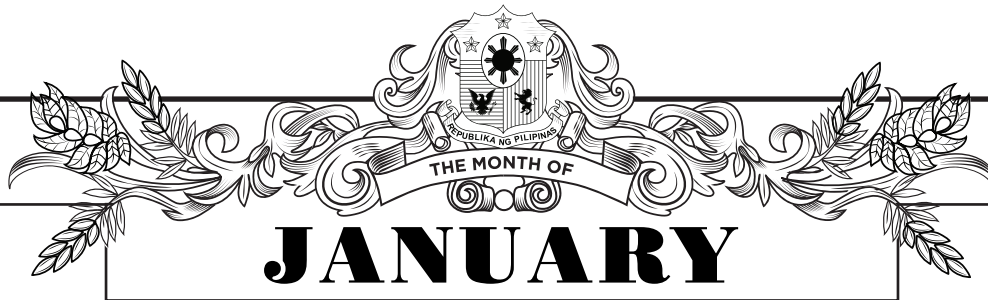
Intramuros in ruins after the Battle of Manila, 1945

### ANNIVERSARIES

Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Antonio J. Molina (1980)

Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Ildefonso P. Santos Jr. (2014)

Birth anniversary of  
National Artist  
Francisco V. Coching (1919)



## JANUARY 30



Kabataang Makabayan, one of the student groups which gathered in Mendiola.

In 1970, to protest the violent dispersal of the January 26 student-led rally, a demonstration was held in front of Malacañan Palace. It escalated into a bloody and protracted battle between authorities and students who stormed the Palace. Rallyists started fires and destroyed property, and a fire truck was rammed into the Palace gates. Two persons were reported killed and 106 persons were injured. The event was part of the First Quarter Storm, a period of unrest under the administration of President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives Quintin Paredes (1973)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Department of Science and Technology (Executive Order No. 128, s. 1987)

## JANUARY 31

In 1899, President Emilio Aguinaldo issued a decree requiring all idle lands to be used as plantations to provide food for the people, in preparation for the impending war against the Americans.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist Jose M. Maceda (1917)

126 THE LAWS OF THE FIRST PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC

31. Decree of January 31, 1899, requiring all idle lands to be planted to provide food for the people, in view of impending war with the Americans.

EL HONORABLE SR. PRESIDENTE de la República con fecha del 25 del actual ha decretado lo siguiente:

"Los funestos efectos que pudieran ocurrir en el caso de un conflicto con los Americanos por la tendencia de su política observada durante su gobierno militar de ocupación, exigen que por los Jefes provinciales se adopten en tiempo oportuno medidas de provisión que puedan evitar en su día la escasez de artículos de primera necesidad, especialmente en la época presente en que la cosecha de palay no ha sido abundante, en cambio la fertilidad de nuestro suelo constituye una garantía de sustituir con otros productos la falta de ese cereal si los Filipinos que son tan amantes de su prosperidad é independencia, utilizan sus terrenos sembrándolos de plantas alimenticias.

"En la firme convicción de que todos secundarán los buenos propósitos que animan al Gobierno de la Nación, he venido en disponer lo siguiente, de acuerdo con mi Consejo de Gobierno.

"Art. 1º Todos los solares, terrenos hacoeres, tomanales, en especial los terrenos que por escasez en este año de semillas de caña dulce se quedarán en barbecho, se siembren de mais, camote, tугue, ubi, gabe, cacuate, mongo, calabasa, encarnada y demás, señalando á sus poseedores del plazo de veinte días.

"Art. 2º Transcurrido dicho plazo los Presidentes locales harán que los Cabezas de los barrios practiquen en sus respectivas demarcaciones una visita de inspección para cerciorarse sobre si los tenedores de terrenos han cumplidos con lo dispuesto en el Artículo anterior.

"Art. 3º En el caso de que alguno tuviese dejado de sembrar su terreno será amonestado por primera vez por el Sr. Presidente local ante quien deberá comparecer haciéndole entender la convenienciá y necesidad de lo mandado señalándole nuevo plazo de diez días, pasado el cual y sin haberlo verificado se le impondrá por desobediencia la multa de cuatro reales en el papel de sello correspondiente.

"Art. 4º Los dueños de los carabaos, vacas y demás animales cuadrúpedos cuidarán bajo su mas estrecha responsibilidad de que estos no causen daño alguno en los nuevos sembrados, esto no obstante los interesados cercarán los mismos si es posible.

"Comuníquese a los Señores Jefes Provinciales para su conocimiento y efectos consiguientes."

Decree of January 1, 1899 from "The Laws of the First Philippine Republic."



# Vin d'Honneur

**A** yearly traditional reception—now called the “Vin d’Honneur” (pronounced “van duh nyur”)—takes place at Malacañan Palace to mark the New Year. As with many official traditions, the practice of an official reception to mark the New Year dates to the colonial period. In the United States, the New Year’s Day reception was adopted from the British tradition of holding a New Year’s Day Levee. The British Monarchs held a reception early in the afternoon of New Year’s Day. It was carried over to the colonies of the new world by the Governors-General, as the representative of the monarch. After American independence, the practice was continued by George Washington. The first reception held in the White House was in 1801 under U.S. President John Adams. The practice at the White House was to open its doors to any citizen who wanted to pay a visit to the American chief executive. This tradition was taken up in the Philippines by the Governors-General during the American colonial period. The last open house held at the White House was in 1932 under Herbert Hoover. It was discontinued thereafter.



LEFT: Magsaysay's "Open House", circa 1954.

BOTTOM: President Roxas "at home."

The reception for the New Year was originally held at Malacañan Palace. During the American Colonial Period, Governors-General held their receptions in Malacañan Palace on January 1. After the completion of the Mansion House in Baguio City, Governors-General resided there during summer and the holiday season. Thereafter, the New Year's Day reception was held on the lawn of the Mansion House. This practice continued even when the office of the Governor-General was abolished and replaced by the office of the High Commissioner to the Philippines.

When the Commonwealth of the Philippines was established, the two New Year's Day receptions were held at the same time each year; one was hosted by the President of the Philippines in Malacañan Palace, the other hosted by the United States High Commissioner on the lawn of the Mansion House in Baguio, until the official residence of the High Commissioner (now the U.S. Embassy) in Roxas Boulevard was built. It always took place on January 1, because the date had special significance under the old Catholic calendar: January 1 is the feast day, or name day, of people named Manuel.



The event was called simply a New Year's reception or an "at home day." For example, during the Commonwealth, invitations would simply state that the President and First Lady would be "at home" from the afternoon to early evening of January 1.

After the administrations of Presidents Quezon and Roxas, the receptions were not strictly held on the first of January. It was usually held in the early part of January, and called variously an "at home day" or an "open house."



President Ramon Magsaysay introduced an innovation in which, instead of using foreign liquors to toast with guests, he used Basi—or Ilocano sugarcane liquor—to toast.

In times past, the annual New Year's reception was quite the social event, the traditional "open house" being an opportunity for high government officials, former presidential families, members of Congress, the Judiciary, the diplomatic corps, and business and social circles to mingle freely and relatively informally in the Palace.

After the EDSA Revolution, the traditional New Year's reception was continued, but came to be known from the administration of President Corazon C. Aquino onward, as a Vin d'Honneur. Thus, the first Vin d'Honneur in history dates back to 1987. The term comes from the French practice; which means "wine of honor." It traditionally takes place at the end of inaugurations, speeches, and ceremonies that marks the social life of the French provinces.

In the Philippine context, over the years it has come to be considered primarily a diplomatic event, which features a toast exchanged between the President of the Philippines and the Papal Nuncio, who is the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps. (In Catholic countries or those that formerly belonged to the Spanish Empire, by tradition, the senior diplomat, or Dean, of the diplomatic corps is the Papal Nuncio or the ambassador. In other countries, the ambassador accredited to the country longest is the Dean.)

In addition, the President of the Philippines hosts the annual



TOP: President Aquino's Vin d'Honneur, 2012.  
BOTTOM: President Quezon's "at home day," circa 1940.

Vin d'Honneur as the head of state. And by tradition, after the President plays host to Philippine officialdom and the diplomatic corps, other departments in turn host their own New Year's receptions for their own officials and staff.

The rituals include guests entering the State Entrance of the Palace and climbing the main stairs, going into the Reception Hall where, in the past, a reception line would have been formed. President Benigno S. Aquino III follows the practice of his mother by

receiving guests in the Music Room; from there, guests are then escorted to the Rizal Ceremonial Hall. The President of the Philippines then joins the assembled guests and proceeds to deliver remarks, concluding with a toast to the prosperity and well-being of the Filipino people.

The New Year's Day Vin d'Honneur is the first of two Vin d'Honneur receptions held annually. The second Vin d'Honneur is held on June 12, the anniversary of Philippine Independence.





# FEBRUARY

This month is known the world over as the month for lovers. Likewise, we find in our own history deep expressions of love during this month. In late February, we celebrate the anniversary of the EDSA Revolution. We commemorate the Filipinos who fought against the tanks of dictatorship with only their faith in the nation and in each other. It is perhaps one of the purest acts of love for one's country.

**MONTHLY  
OBSERVANCES**

**Air Transportation Safety Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 115-A, s. 1966)*

**Philippine Heart Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1096, s. 1972)*

**Civil Registration Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 682, s. 1991)*

**National Arts Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 683, s. 1991)*

**National Down Syndrome Consciousness Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 157, s. 2002)*

**National Dental Health Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 559, s. 2004)*

**Philippine Marathon for the Pasig River Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 780, s. 2005)*

**National Health Insurance Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1400, s. 2007)*

FEB 3-9

**National Dental Health Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 235, s. 1951)*

FEB 14-20

**National Intellectual Disability Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1385, s. 1975)*

FEB 22-25

**EDSA People Power Commemoration Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1224, s. 2007)*

1<sup>ST</sup> WEEK

**Lupus Advocacy Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1435, s. 2007)*

2<sup>ND</sup> WEEK

**National Press Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 191, s. 1964 & Proclamation No. 8, s. 1966)*

3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK

**National Awareness Week for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation**  
*(Proclamation No. 731, s. 1996)*

LAST WEEK

**Public Administration Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 82, s. 1963)*

**Leprosy Control Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 467, s. 1965)*

**Private Development Bank Week**

*(Proclamation No. 343, s. 1968)*

**National TOYM [The Outstanding Young Men] Week**

*(Proclamation No. 521, s. 2003)*

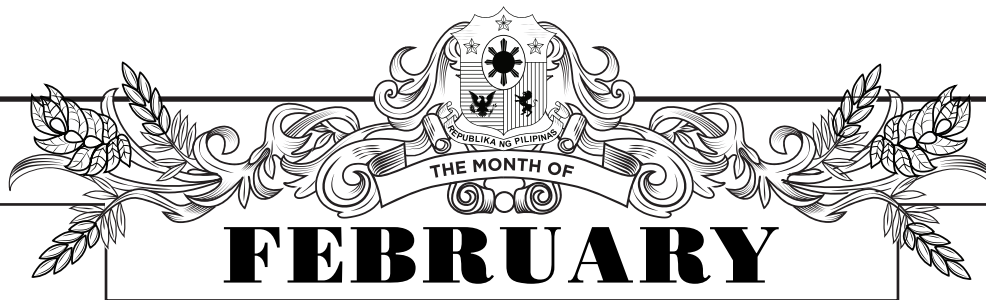
**Rotary International Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 877, s. 2005)*

**National Rare Disease Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1989, s. 2010)*

1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY

**Adoption Consciousness Day**  
*(Proclamation No. 72, s. 1999)*



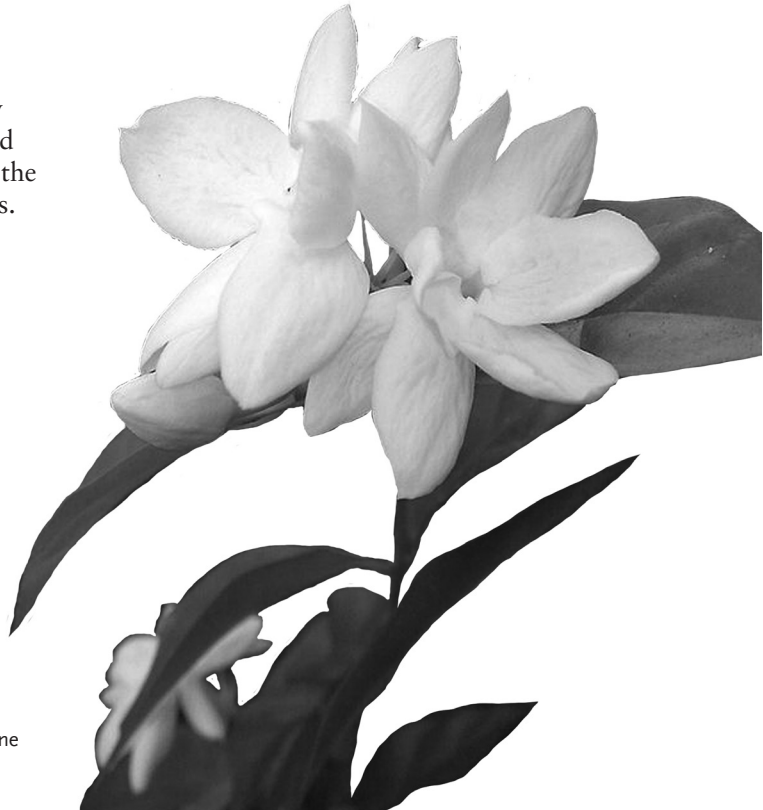

  
 THE MONTH OF  
**FEBRUARY**

## FEBRUARY 1

In 1934, Governor-General Frank Murphy issued Proclamation No. 654, which named the sampaguita as the national flower and the narra as the national tree of the Philippines.

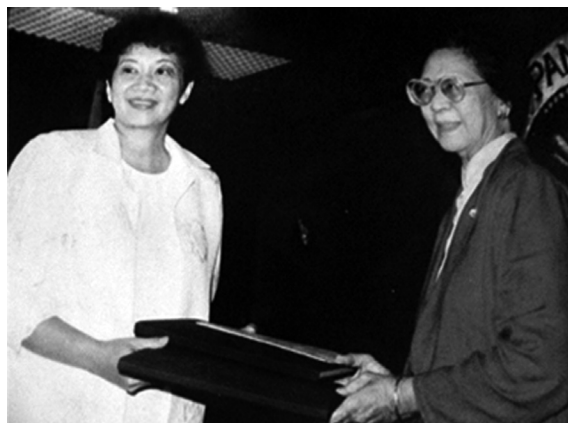
**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

Court of Appeals  
 (Commonwealth Act No. 3 of 1935)



Sampaguita, or *Jasminum sambac*, is a species of jasmine native to South and Southeast Asia.

## FEBRUARY 2



President Corazon C. Aquino receives the 1987 Constitution from Constitutional Commission President Cecilia Muñoz-Palma.

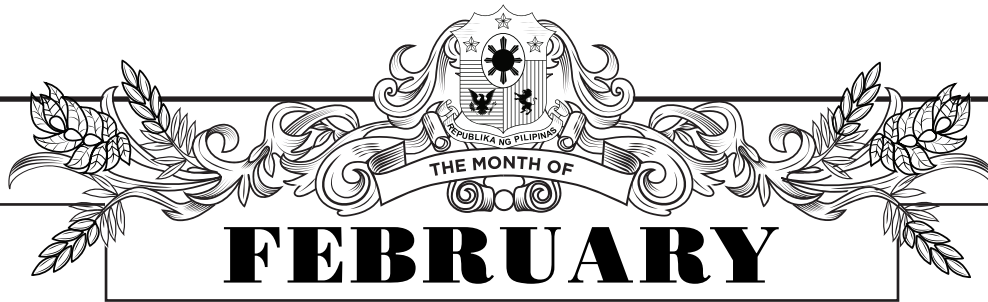
**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of National Artist  
 Federico Aguilar Alcuaz (2011)

**PROCLAMATION**

Constitution Day  
 (Proclamation No. 211, s. 1988)

In 1987, the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines was finally ratified through a national plebiscite. With the ousting of President Ferdinand E. Marcos—due to electoral fraud a year before—President Corazon C. Aquino was faced with three options: first, to do away with all Marcosian influence and return to the 1935 Constitution which was in use until the 1972 declaration of Martial Law; second, to retain the 1973 Constitution promulgated under President Marcos; and third, to provide a clean break, a fresh start from the vestiges of a disgraced dictatorship by drafting a new Constitution. President Cory Aquino chose the third option, and authorized the creation of a Constitutional Commission to craft a new Constitution. After a national plebiscite on this day in 1987, 76.30% of the population voted for the ratification of the Constitution. It was promulgated on February 11, 1987, with the President, civilian officials, and members of the Armed Forces swearing allegiance to the new charter.



FEBRUARY 3

## Anniversary of the Liberation Battle of Manila

In 1945, the grueling liberation of Manila began. As American forces headed for Manila, Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur hoped for a peaceful handover of the city by the Japanese. American troops were given three major objectives: first, the liberation of the University of Santo Tomas (UST); second, the seizure of Malacañan Palace; and third, the reclamation of the Legislative Building, the site upon which MacArthur hoped the Commonwealth would be restored.

The American 1st Cavalry Division and the 37th Infantry Division were first deployed to immediately liberate the internees held by Japanese forces at the UST. The 1st Cavalry quickly and successfully captured UST and Malacañan Palace and spared parts of northern Manila from destruction. Their liberation marked the beginning of the Battle of Manila.

Recognizing this threat, the bulk of Japanese forces under General Tomoyuki Yamashita withdrew to Baguio City with the intention of preventing U.S. and Filipino forces from entering Northern Luzon. However, Rear Admiral Iwabuchi Sanji, fully aware of the ignominy of surrender under the code of Bushido, opted instead to defend the city to the death. They destroyed bridges to limit the mobility of the Allied Forces. They set aflame entire rows of houses and buildings in the areas of Escolta, Sta. Cruz, Quiapo, and Chinatown. Ordinary civilians burned along with their homes. The ruination of Manila had begun.

The Battle of Manila ended on March 3, 1945. 100,000 Filipinos perished and government buildings were ruined—Manila was 'Pearl of the Orient' no more. During this month-long conflict, Filipinos lost invaluable articulations of culture and identity. Government buildings, universities and colleges, churches, as well as other institutional landmarks perished along with all the valuables in their possession.



American soldiers patrolling what remained of Avenida Rizal, Manila in February 1945.



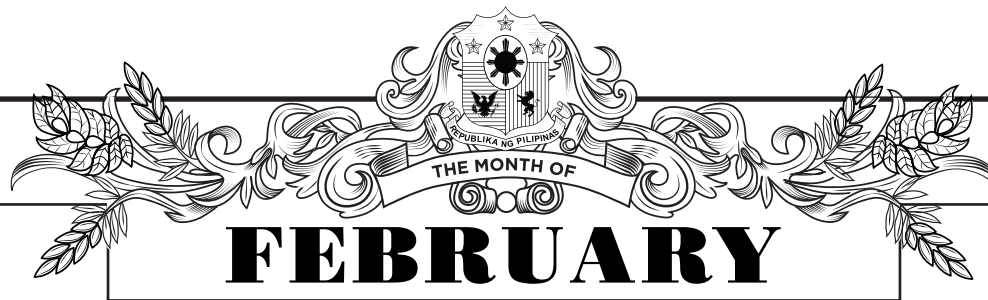
Legislative Building in ruins after the battle.

On February 18, 1995, a monument was built at the Plazuela de Santa Isabel in Intramuros to keep alive the memory of the 100,000 Filipinos who perished during the Battle of Manila.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of Senate President Blas F. Ople (1927)

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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**FEBRUARY**

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## FEBRUARY 4

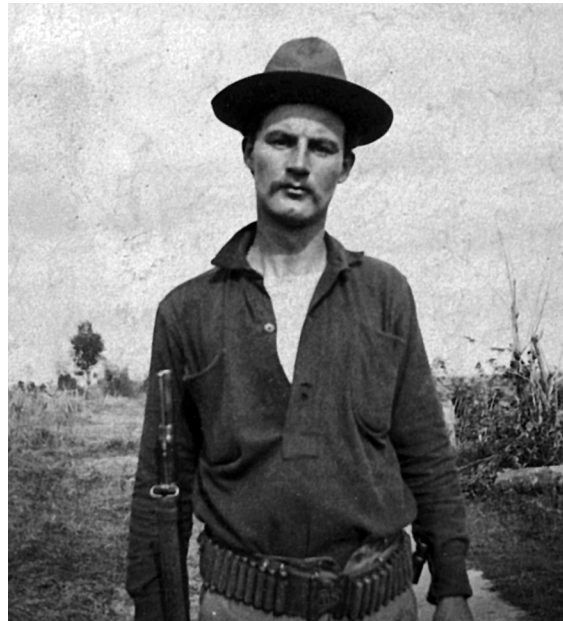
In 1899, at 9:20 in the evening, Private William Grayson fired the shot that started the Philippine-American War.

Contrary to common belief, the first shot of the Philippine-American War was fired not on a bridge in San Juan City but on Sociego Street in Sta. Mesa district, Manila. In Board Resolution No. 7, series of 2003, the National Historical Commission of the Philippines recognized the Sta. Mesa site, not the San Juan Bridge, as the place where the first shot of the Philippine-American War was fired, and ordered the transfer of the marker from San Juan to Sta. Mesa.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Scientist  
**Jose R. Velasco (1916)**

Birth anniversary of House Speaker  
**Ramon V. Mitra Jr. (1928)**



Private William Walter Grayson, who fired the first shots that signalled the beginning of the Philippine-American War.

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## FEBRUARY 5



President Aguinaldo in the 1930s.

In 1899, President Emilio Aguinaldo issued a proclamation announcing a state of war between the Philippines and the United States.

## FEBRUARY 6



President Emilio Aguinaldo died of coronary thrombosis at age 94.

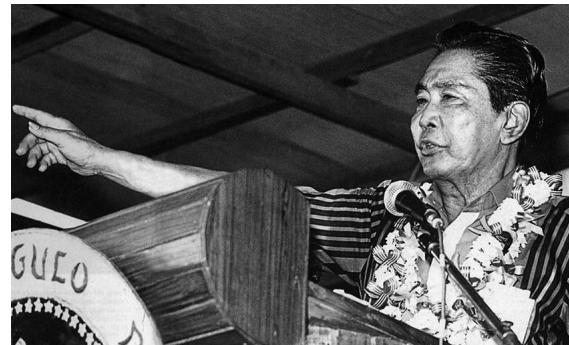
In 1964, Emilio Aguinaldo, the first President of the Philippines, and the only President of the First Republic, passed away at the Veterans Memorial Hospital in Quezon City. President Aguinaldo fought in the Philippine Revolution and led the First Republic that came in conflict with the United States in the Philippine-American War. He was captured by the Americans, which led to the defeat of the Republic. He lived long enough to see the Japanese invasion of the Philippines and its liberation; and thereafter, the recognition of the government he'd led which was duly recognized when the date of Philippine independence was moved from July 4 to June 12, by virtue of Proclamation No. 28 of President Diosdado Macapagal on May 12, 1962.

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

**Bureau of Customs**  
(Administrative Act No. 355 of 1902)

## FEBRUARY 7

In 1986, Snap Presidential and Vice Presidential elections were held. Incumbent President Ferdinand E. Marcos and Assemblyman Arturo Tolentino of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) were challenged by opposition leaders Corazon C. Aquino, widow of martyred Senator Benigno S. Aquino Jr., and former Senator Salvador H. Laurel of the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO).

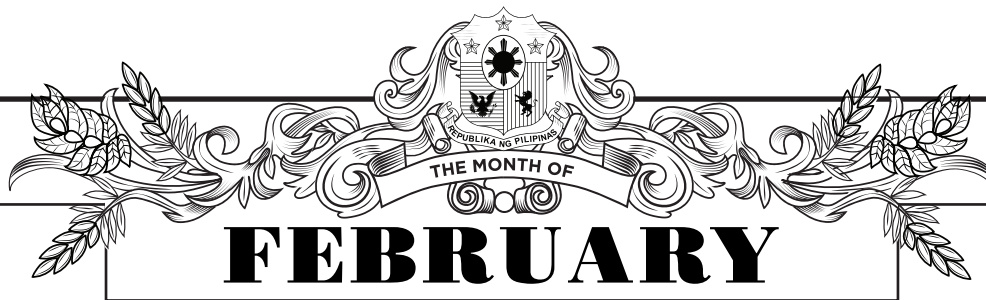


### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives **Jose C. Zulueta (1889)**  
Death anniversary of National Artist **Jose Garcia Villa (1997)**

NAMFREL OPERATION QUICK COUNT NATIONAL TALLY BOARD				
	MARCOS	AQUINO	PRECINCTS COUNT	TOLENTINO LAUREL KALAW REGISTERED VOTER
TOTAL :	6,787,551	7,502,601		6,315,233 7,165,915 431,237
(1) NCR	1,312,512	1,520,678	11,947(72)	1,323,201 1,288,246 431,237
(7) REGION I	389,087	2,221,664	3,810(242)	552,674 236,681 61,111
(4) REGION II	785,554	1,057,704	1,111(71)	797,191 701,551 5,111
(10) REGION III	6,75,837	846,865	5,461(35)	708,364 722,078 3,111
(3) REGION IV	1,047,716	1,034,083	7,031(45)	986,364 986,364 3,111
(6) REGION V	261,317	445,217	4,131(26)	317,656 317,656 3,111
(8) REGION VI	6,93,210	5,82,306	5,414(35)	247,422 433,025 3,111
(9) REGION VII	535,343	722,631	4,113(27)	532,360 704,571 3,111
(5) REGION VIII	231,676	375,177	4,537(30)	386,455 571,735 3,111
(2) REGION IX	231,844	255,817	3,380(22)	239,855 255,817 3,111
(6) REGION X	40,057	475,052	3,178(20)	317,512 421,101 3,111
(7) REGION XI	42,574	500,455	3,624(23)	727,444 464,715 3,111
(5) REGION XII	76,381	227,756	1,872(12)	179,111 233,833 3,111
TOTAL PRECINCTS :	85,913		15,978	% OF TOTAL : 61,037
TIME :	12:00 a.m.			DATE :

TOP: Incumbent President Ferdinand E. Marcos, whose health was rapidly deteriorating at the time, campaigning in Iloilo. BOTTOM: The historic tally board used in the 1986 elections, preserved in the La Salle Greenhills campus.

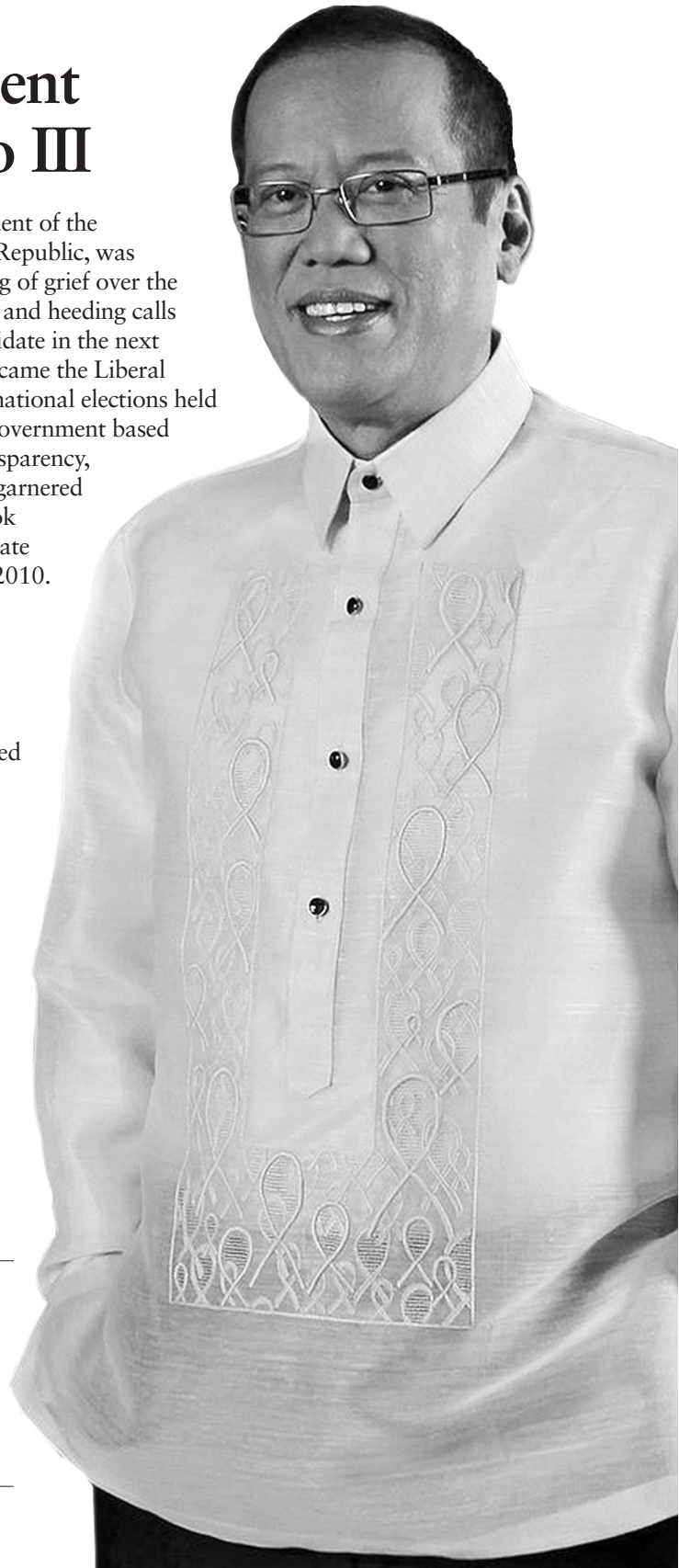


FEBRUARY 8

## Birthday of President Benigno S. Aquino III

In 1960, Benigno S. Aquino III, the 15th President of the Philippines and the fifth President of the Fifth Republic, was born in Tarlac. Driven by the public outpouring of grief over the death of former President Corazon C. Aquino, and heeding calls from various groups to offer himself as a candidate in the next presidential elections, Benigno S. Aquino III became the Liberal Party's standard bearer in the first automated national elections held on May 10, 2010. Running on a platform of government based on transformational leadership to achieve transparency, honesty, and accountability, President Aquino garnered more than 15 million votes in the polls. He took his oath of office before Supreme Court Associate Justice Conchita Carpio-Morales on June 30, 2010.

President Benigno "Noynoy" S. Aquino III is an economist by training and a public official by profession. He served in the House of Representatives as representative of the 2nd District of Tarlac from 1998 to 2007, and served in the Philippine Senate from May 2007 to June 2010. As a Senator, he chaired the Senate Committee on Local Government, where he anchored his key legislative initiatives on good governance through increased transparency and accountability, particularly in the use of public funds. His public service is founded on the democratic ideals championed by his parents, former Senator and martyr Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr. and former President Corazon C. Aquino.

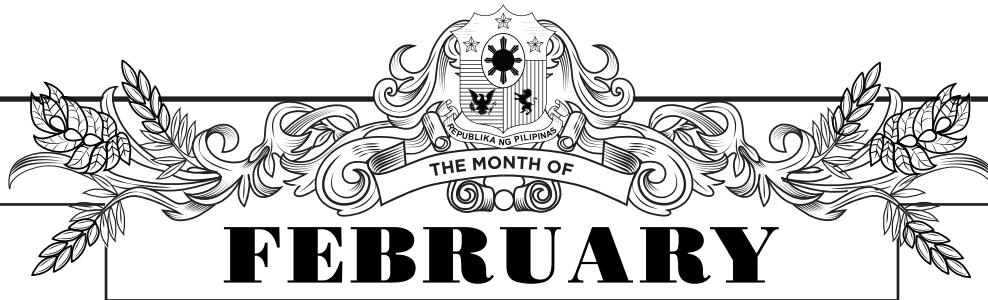


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### TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1945, the Japanese began burning Intramuros, realizing their impending defeat by the Allied forces.

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## FEBRUARY 9

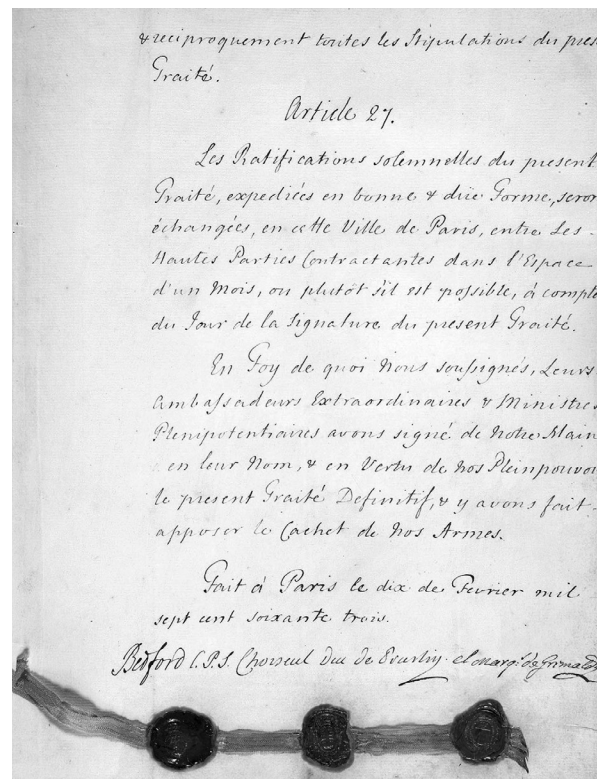
In 1971, the Diliman Commune, wherein students from the University of the Philippines occupied the campus and barricaded its roads, finally ceased. The demonstrations ended only after the school administration came to accept some demands of the students. The military siege was also put to a halt following a recommendation made by the University President to President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

A year and a month after the start of the First Quarter Storm, University of the Philippines (U.P.) students, supported by the faculty members and non-academic personnel, occupied the U.P. Diliman campus and barricaded its main roads from February 1 to 9, 1971.



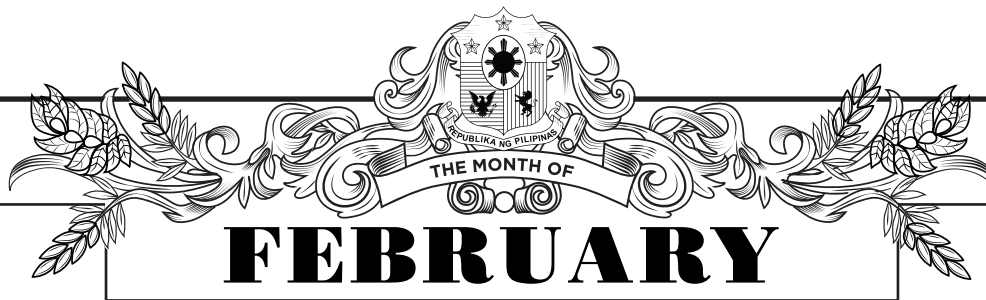
## FEBRUARY 10

In 1763, the peace treaty between Spain and England returned the Philippines to Spain. This agreement is commonly known as the 1763 Treaty of Paris.



A page of the 1763 Treaty of Paris.

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
**Optical Media Board**  
 (Republic Act No. 92399 of 2004)



## FEBRUARY 11

In 1986, former Antique governor and Marcos opposition stalwart Evelio Javier was gunned down in front of the new Provincial Capitol building in San Jose, Antique, while protecting ballot boxes for the 1986 snap elections. Hailing from Hamtic, Antique, Javier ran for Antique's gubernatorial seat and won at the age of 29, making him one of the youngest governors in the Philippines. His death was one of the rallying cries of the People Power Revolution.



### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Lucio D. San Pedro (1913)

## FEBRUARY 12



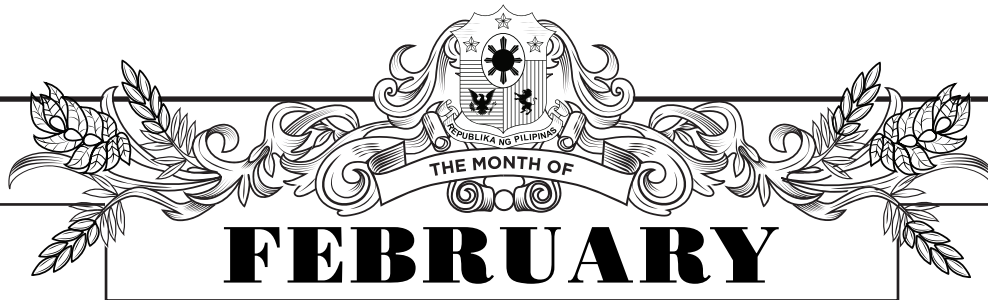
Commonwealth War Cabinet-in-exile: (LEFT TO RIGHT) Defense Secretary General Basilio J. Valdes, Resident Commissioner Joaquin Elizalde, President Manuel L. Quezon, Vice President Sergio Osmeña, Finance Secretary Andres Soriano, Auditor-General Jaime Hernandez.

In 1942, the Commonwealth War Cabinet undertook a great debate on whether or not to neutralize the country by withdrawing the Philippines from the war with Japan. It authorized the President to negotiate for the cessation of hostilities in the Philippines.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of  
National Artist  
Lamberto V. Avellana (1915)




  
 THE MONTH OF
   
**FEBRUARY**

**FEBRUARY 13**



Spanish map of the Cavite war front, 1896-1897.

In 1897, Governor-General Camilo de Polavieja began his Cavite campaign and deployed 9,277 troops, led by General Jose Lachambre, in a full offensive against General Emilio Aguinaldo.

**FEBRUARY 14**

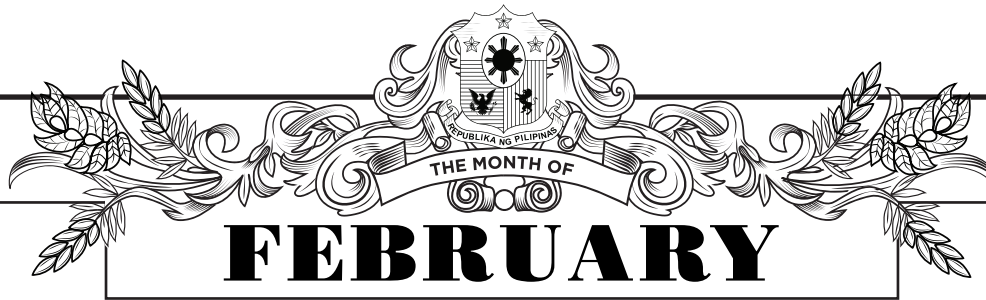
In 1945, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division units moved into Manila.



In the photo, smoke from fires set by the Japanese rises in the background.

**ANNIVERSARY**  
 Birthday of Senate President  
 Juan Ponce Enrile (1924)

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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**FEBRUARY**

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## FEBRUARY 15

In 1889, the maiden issue of *La Solidaridad*, edited by Graciano Lopez Jaena, was published in Barcelona, Spain. The newspaper's aim was to make Philippine issues known in Spain and to advocate for the return of Philippine representation in the Spanish Cortés. Its last issue went to the press on November 15, 1895.



### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Jovita Fuentes (1895)  
Birthday of Manlilikha ng Bayan  
Uwang Ahadas (1945)

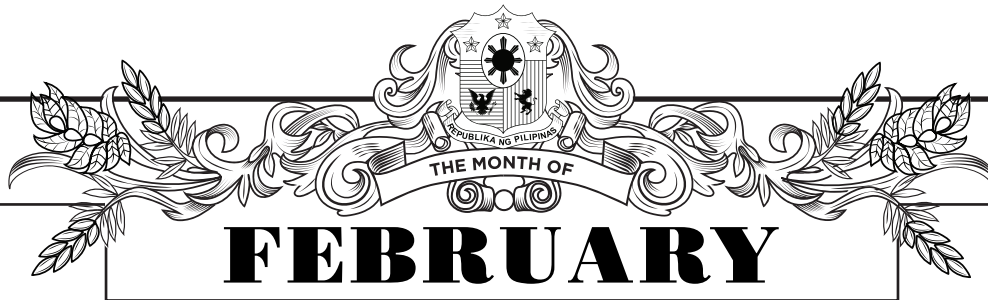
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## FEBRUARY 16



In 1921, legislation was enacted celebrating the birth anniversary of Andres Bonifacio on November 30 by virtue of Act No. 2946, which was introduced by Lope K. Santos.

An image dating from a February 8, 1897 issue of *La Ilustración Española y Americana*, a Spanish-American weekly publication that features a heavily altered representation of Bonifacio at odds with the earlier depiction from Chofre y Cia.

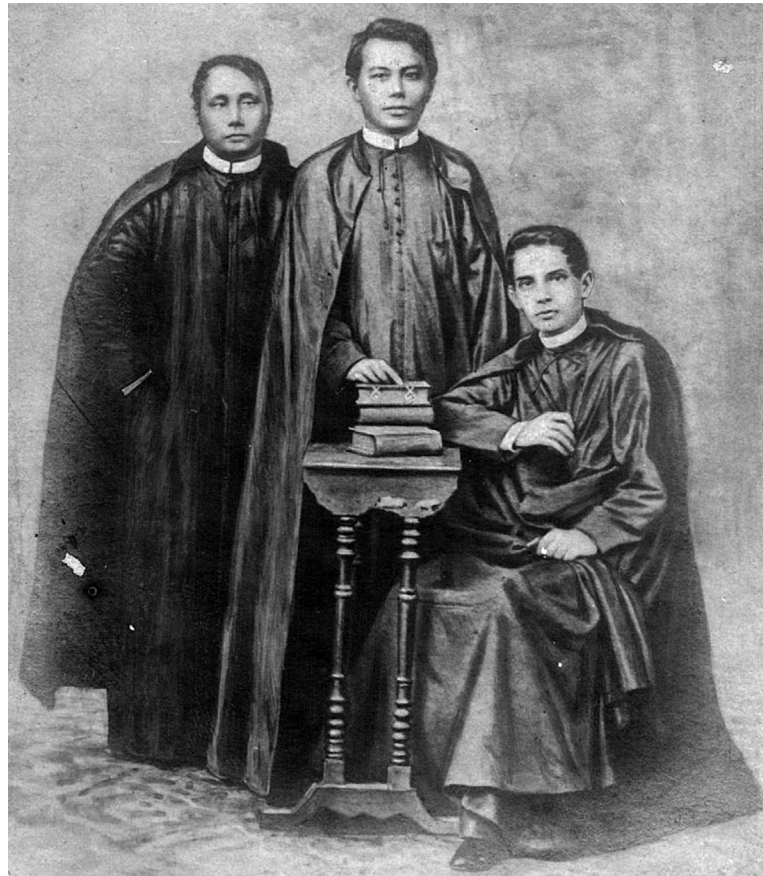


FEBRUARY 17

## The Martyrdom of Gomburza

In 1872, Mariano Gomez, Jose Burgos, and Jacinto Zamora were martyred for allegedly leading the Cavite Mutiny. On January 20, 1872, 200 Filipinos employed at the Cavite arsenal staged a revolt against the Spanish government's voiding of their exemption from the payment of tributes. The Cavite Mutiny led to the persecution of prominent Filipinos; secular priests Mariano Gómez, José Burgos, and Jacinto Zamora—who would then be collectively named Gomburza—were tagged as the masterminds of the uprising. The priests were charged with treason and sedition by the Spanish military tribunal—a ruling believed to be part of a conspiracy to stifle the growing popularity of Filipino secular priests and the threat they posed to the Spanish clergy. The Gomburza were publicly executed, by garrote, on the early morning of February 17, 1872, at Bagumbayan.

The archbishop of Manila, Gregorio Meliton Martinez Santa Cruz, refused to defrock them, and ordered the bells of every church to toll in honor of their deaths; the sword, in this instance, denied the moral justification of the cross. The martyrdom of the three secular priests would resonate among Filipinos; grief and outrage over their execution would make way for the first stirrings of the Filipino revolution, thus making the first secular



martyrs of a nascent national identity. Jose Rizal would dedicate his second novel, *El Filibusterismo*, to the memory of Gomburza, to what they stood for, and to the symbolic weight their deaths would henceforth hold:

"The government, by enshrouding your trial in mystery and pardoning your co-accused, has suggested that some mistake was committed when your fate was decided; and the whole of the Philippines, in paying

homage to your memory and calling you martyrs, totally rejects your guilt. The church, by refusing to degrade you, has put in doubt the crime charged against you." (Translation by Leon Ma. Guerrero)

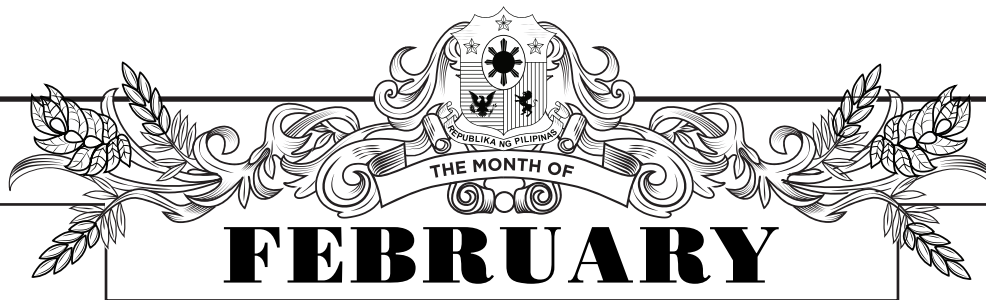
#### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of Chief Justice Ricardo Paras (1891)

Death anniversary of National Scientist Francisco M. Fronda (1986)

#### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Mindanao Development Authority (Republic Act No. 9996 of 2010)


  
 REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
 THE MONTH OF  
**FEBRUARY**

## FEBRUARY 18

In 1565, Miguel Lopez de Legazpi took possession of the island of Cibabao, now Samar, in the name of King Philip II of Spain.



Juan Luna's *El Pacto de Sangre* (The Blood Compact), 1886. The painting was a gift from Luna to the Ayuntamiento de Manila, and shows the pact of friendship between Rajah Sikatuna and Miguel Lopez de Legazpi. It has adorned Malacañan Palace since 1904.

## FEBRUARY 19

In 1899, President Emilio Aguinaldo signed the Budget Act of 1899 for the First Philippine Republic.

### ANNIVERSARIES

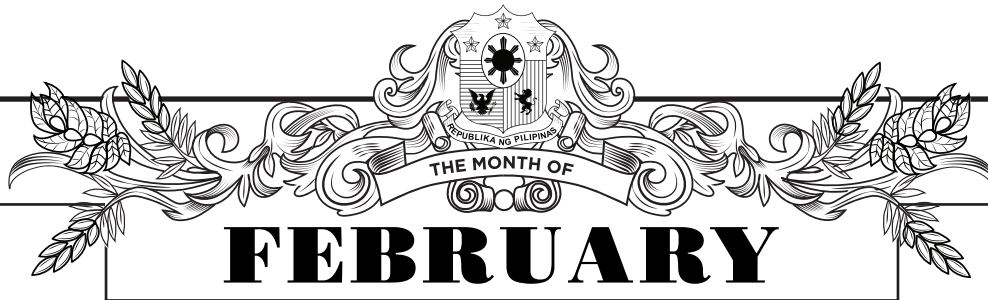
Birth anniversary of National Artist  
**Francisco F. Feliciano (1941)**  
 Death anniversary of National Scientist  
**Francisco O. Santos (1983)**  
 Birth anniversary of Chief Justice  
**Jose Abad Santos (1886)**  
 Death anniversary of Chief Justice  
**Felix J. Makasiar (1992)**

### PROCLAMATION

**Jose Abad Santos Day**  
 (Proclamation No. 374, s. 1956)



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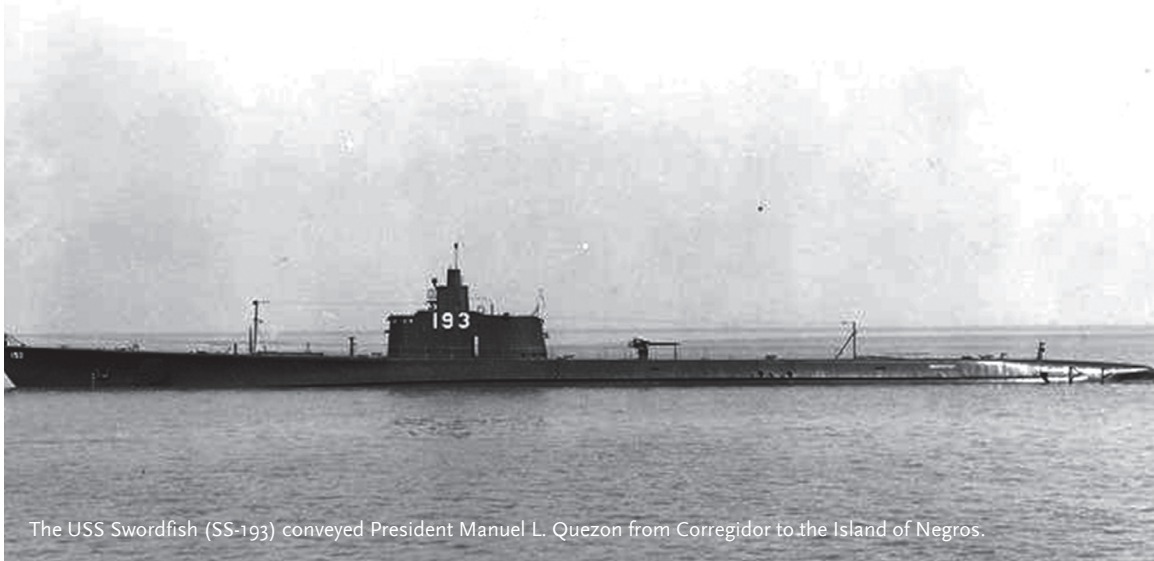


REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**FEBRUARY**

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## FEBRUARY 20

In 1942, President Manuel L. Quezon, his family, the Commonwealth War Cabinet, and Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos left Corregidor aboard the submarine USS *Swordfish* bound for San Jose de Buenavista, Antique.



The USS *Swordfish* (SS-193) conveyed President Manuel L. Quezon from Corregidor to the Island of Negros.

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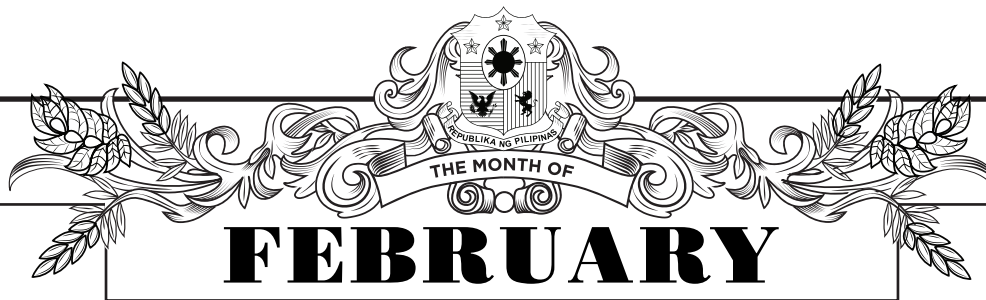
## FEBRUARY 21



The Quezon family at Corregidor in 1942 before they left the island via the submarine USS *Swordfish*.

In 1942, aboard the submarine USS *Swordfish*, President Manuel L. Quezon and the Commonwealth War Cabinet, including Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos, reached San Jose de Buenavista, Antique.

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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**FEBRUARY**

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## FEBRUARY 22



Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile (RIGHT) and General Fidel V. Ramos (LEFT).

In 1986, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and General Fidel V. Ramos held a press conference to announce their withdrawal of support from President Ferdinand E. Marcos, and acknowledged cheating in the recent elections. General Ramos also called on the Armed Forces of the Philippines for their support.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist Lázaro Francisco (1898)

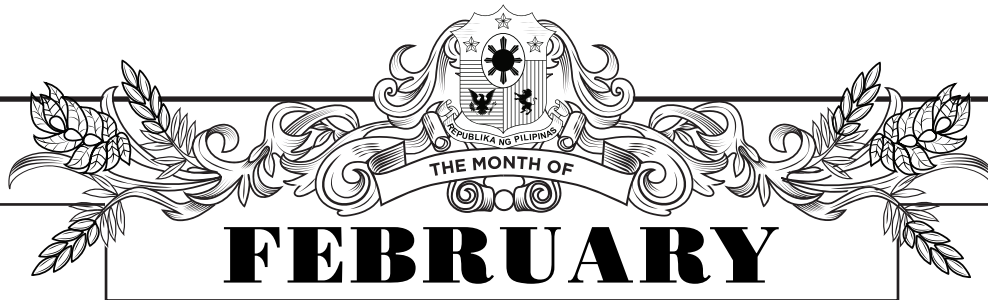
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## FEBRUARY 23

In 1986, civilian supporters of the opposition responded to Cardinal Jaime Sin's call for support. They climbed the gates of Camp Crame to deliver bags of food to the rebel soldiers inside. People flashed the hand sign for "*laban*," or fight.



Civilian supporters climbing the gates to deliver bags of food to rebel soldiers.



## FEBRUARY 24

In 1888, General Vicente Lim, a Bataan Hero and the first Filipino to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point (Class of 1914) was born in Laguna.

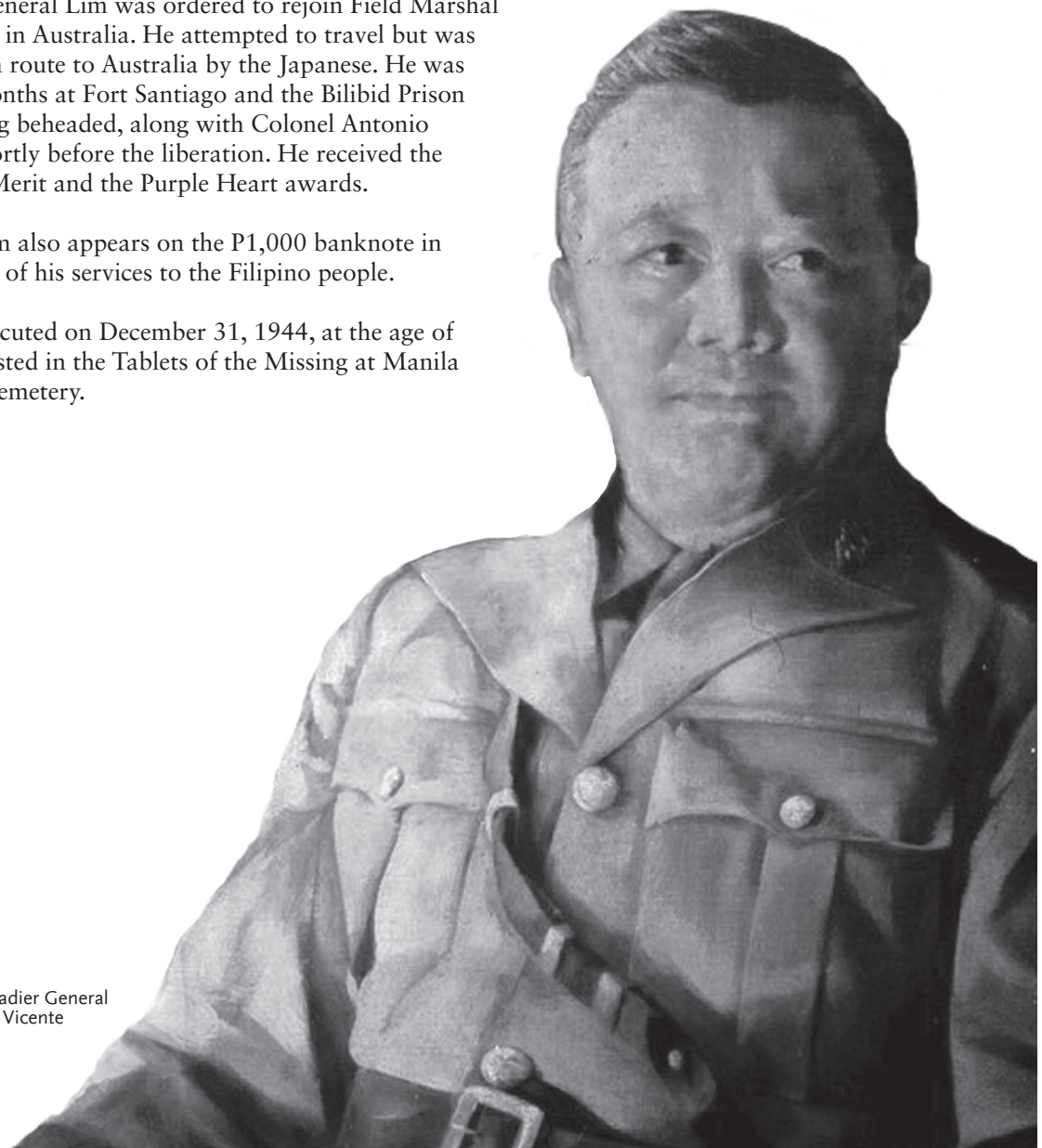
Lim served as Brigadier General and became the top-ranking Filipino under Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur tasked with the defense of Southern Luzon when the Philippine Army was incorporated into United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFFE) on July 16, 1941.

He survived the Bataan Death March after American and Filipino forces surrendered to the Japanese forces on April 9, 1942. Subsequently admitted for injuries at the Philippine General Hospital, General Lim convinced the Japanese of his incapacitation and pretended to be confined at the Philippine General Hospital while managing to conduct secret guerrilla activities in Luzon.

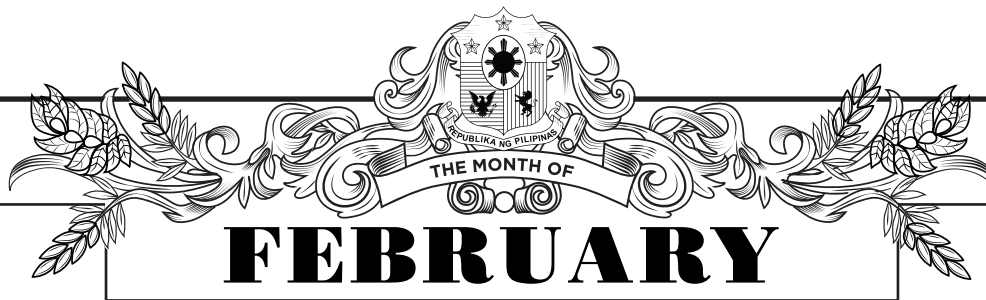
In 1944, General Lim was ordered to rejoin Field Marshal MacArthur in Australia. He attempted to travel but was captured en route to Australia by the Japanese. He was held for months at Fort Santiago and the Bilibid Prison before being beheaded, along with Colonel Antonio Escoda, shortly before the liberation. He received the Legion of Merit and the Purple Heart awards.

General Lim also appears on the P1,000 banknote in recognition of his services to the Filipino people.

He was executed on December 31, 1944, at the age of 56 and is listed in the Tablets of the Missing at Manila National Cemetery.



Portrait of Brigadier General Vicente Lim by Vicente Manansala.



FEBRUARY 25

## Anniversary of the EDSA Revolution

In 1986, the Epifanio de los Santos Avenue (EDSA) Revolution began. The clamor for change began when on February 7, 1986, when the nationwide snap elections were held for the presidency and the newly restored position of vice president. The contenders were the tandem of President Ferdinand E. Marcos and Arturo M. Tolentino of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL), versus Corazon C. Aquino, widowed spouse of assassinated senator Benigno Aquino Jr. and Salvador H. Laurel of the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO). Come election time, the Comelec numbers showed President Marcos and Tolentino the winners, a result made official by the KBL dominated Batasang Pambansa. Within two weeks, multitudes of demonstrators filled the vast expanse of EDSA calling for the peaceful ouster of a dictator.

The 1986 EDSA People Power Revolution gathered throngs of people. However, the spirit of their movement did not remain contained in the streets of Manila. Pockets of dissent manifested nationwide, creating a stir in local communities and uniting the nation in the desire to attain freedom. Cebuanos and Davaoeños gathered in their own plazas, packing streets with slogans and singing the anthems of the revolution.

When news of President Marcos leaving the Palace reached Jaro, Iloilo, it was late at night and yet the lights came on and residents made their way toward the Cathedral of Jaro. Suddenly illuminated and with ringing bells to boot, Ruby A. Dumalaog, then a high school



After hearing the news that the Marcoses had fled Malacañan, people flocked to the streets in Davao City and Iloilo.

student, stood in awe of her town.

“I realized that what was happening at EDSA was also happening in Jaro. Soldiers patrolling the city shook hands with people on the street. People who didn’t know each other were embracing each other and crying. That night, I realized that although the islands in the Philippines are far apart, although we are far away from EDSA, although we were not there to face the tanks, in our hearts we are one, we have one dream and we can be together.”

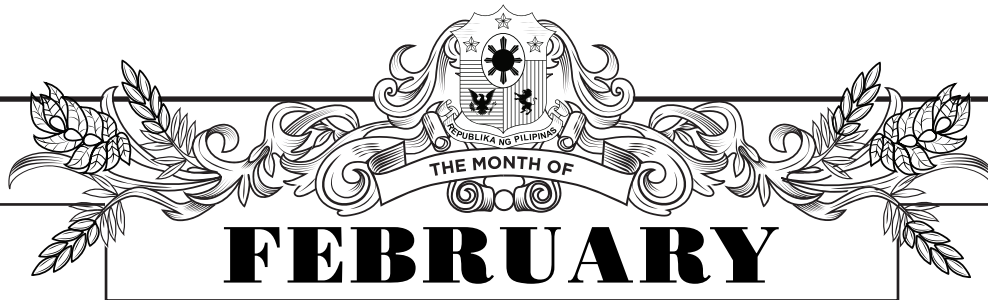
### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of Chief Justice  
**Victorino Mapa (1855)**  
 Birthday of National Artist  
**Ramon P. Santos (1941)**  
 Death anniversary of Senate President  
**Mariano Jesus L. Cuenco (1964)**

### PROCLAMATION

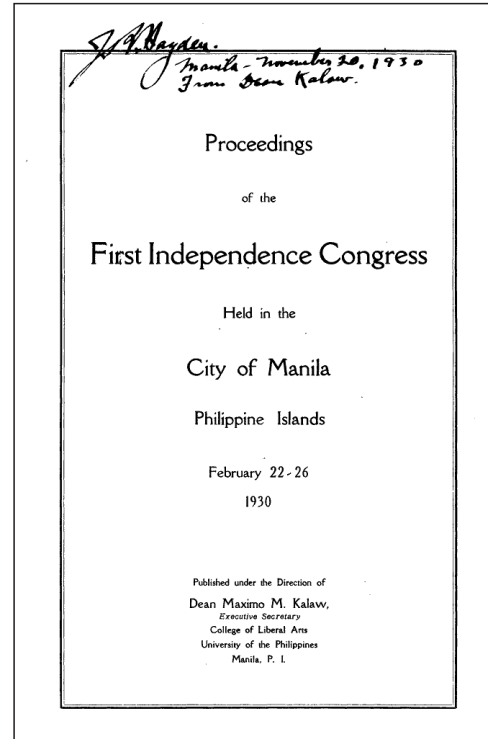
▪ **EDSA Revolution Anniversary**  
 (Republic Act No. 9492 of 2007)





## FEBRUARY 26

In 1930, the First Independence Congress unanimously adopted a resolution affirming the desire of the Filipino people to be free and independent.



Cover document of the Proceedings of the First Independence Congress.

## FEBRUARY 27

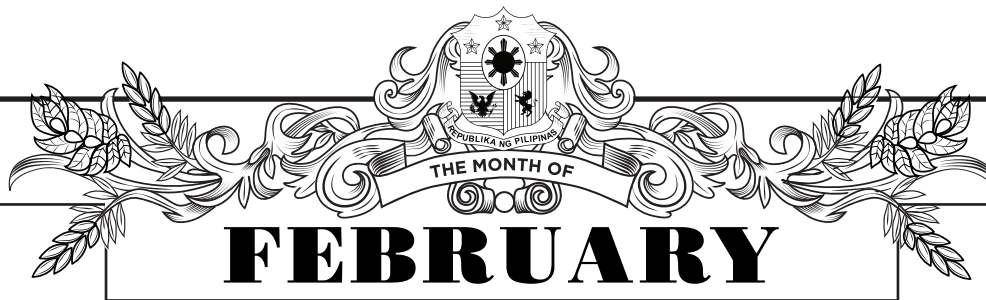
In 1945, Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur turned over control of the civil government of the Philippines to President Sergio Osmeña.



Field Marshal MacArthur and President Sergio Osmeña at Malacañan Palace after the ceremony.

**PROCLAMATION**  
**USAFFE Day**  
 (Proclamation No. 371,  
 s. 1953)

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
**Order of Sikatuna**  
 (Executive Order No.  
 571, s. 1953)



## FEBRUARY 28

In 1986, President Corazon C. Aquino created the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG), tasked to retrieve the hidden wealth of the Marcoses. To date, it has recovered over P1.3 billion in assets.



## FEBRUARY 29

In 1932, the son of U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt, Theodore Roosevelt Jr., assumed his duties as Governor-General. He was appointed by President Herbert Hoover and served until July 15, 1933.



### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of President  
Elpidio Quirino (1956)

Theodore Roosevelt Jr.



# Evolution of the Philippine Constitution

**T**he Philippines has had a total of six constitutions since the Proclamation of Independence on June 12, 1898. In 1899, the Malolos Constitution, the first Philippine Constitution—the first republican constitution in Asia—was drafted and adopted by the First Philippine Republic, which lasted from 1899 to 1901.

During the American Occupation, the Philippines was governed by the laws of the United States of America. Organic Acts were passed by the United States Congress for the administration of the Government of the Philippine Islands. The first was the Philippine Organic Act of 1902, which provided for a Philippine Assembly composed of Filipino citizens. The second was the Philippine Autonomy Act of 1916, which included the first pledge of Philippine independence. These laws served as constitutions of the Philippines from 1902 to 1935.

In 1934, the United States Congress passed the Philippine Independence Act, which set the parameters for the creation of a constitution for the Philippines. The Act mandated the Philippine Legislature to call for an election of delegates to a Constitutional Convention to draft a Constitution for the Philippines. The 1934 Constitutional Convention finished its work on February 8, 1935. The Constitution was submitted to the President of the United States for certification on March 25, 1935. It was in

accordance with the Philippine Independence Act of 1934. The 1935 Constitution was ratified by the Filipino people through a national plebiscite on May 14, 1935, and came into full force and effect on November 15, 1935 with the inauguration of the Commonwealth of the Philippines. Among its provisions was that it would remain the constitution of the Republic of the Philippines once independence was granted on July 4, 1946.

In 1940, the 1935 Constitution was amended by the National Assembly of the Philippines. The legislature was changed from a unicameral assembly to a bicameral congress. The amendment also changed the term limit of the President of the Philippines from six years with no reelection, to four years with a possibility of being reelected for a second term.

During World War II, the Japanese-sponsored government nullified the 1935 Constitution and appointed the Preparatory Committee on Philippine Independence to replace it. The 1943 Constitution was used by the Second Republic with Jose P. Laurel as President.

Upon the liberation of the Philippines in 1945, the 1935 Constitution came back into effect. The Constitution remained unaltered until 1947 when the Philippine Congress called for its amendment through Commonwealth Act No. 733. On March 11, 1947, the Parity Amendment gave United States citizens equal rights with



The iconic photograph of 1899 Malolos Congress. President Aguinaldo sits at the center, as a gentleman reads a document to his left.

Filipino citizens to develop natural resources in the country and operate public utilities. The Constitution, thereafter, remained the same until the declaration of Martial Law on September 23, 1972.

Before President Ferdinand E. Marcos declared Martial Law, a Constitutional Convention was already in the process of deliberating on amending or revising the 1935 Constitution. They finished their work and submitted it to President Marcos on December 1, 1972. President Marcos submitted it for ratification in early January of 1973. Foreseeing that a direct ratification of the constitution was bound to fail, President Marcos issued Presidential Decree No. 86, s. 1972, creating citizens assemblies to ratify the newly drafted constitution by means of a Viva Voce vote in place of secret ballots. President Marcos announced that it had been ratified and in full force and effect on January 17, 1973. Although the 1973 Constitution had been “ratified” in this manner, opposition

against it continued. Chief Justice Roberto V. Concepcion in his dissenting opinion in the case of *Javellana v. Executive Secretary*, exposed the fraud that happened during the citizens' assembly ratification of the 1973 Constitution on January 10 – 15, 1973. However, the final decision of this case was that the ratification of the 1973 Constitution was valid and was in force.

When democracy was restored in 1986, President Corazon C. Aquino issued Proclamation No. 3, suspending certain provisions of the 1973 Constitution and promulgating in its stead a transitory constitution. A month later, President Corazon Aquino issued Proclamation No. 9, s. 1986, which created a Constitutional Commission tasked with writing a new charter to replace the 1973 Constitution. The commission finished its work at 12:28 a.m. of October 16, 1986. A National Plebiscite was held on February 2, 1987, ratifying the new constitution. On

February 11, 1987, by virtue of Proclamation No. 58, President Corazon Aquino announced the official canvassing of results and the ratification of the draft constitution. The 1987 Constitution finally came into full force and effect that same day with the President, other civilian officials, and members of the Armed Forces swearing allegiance to the new charter.

#### COMMEMORATION OF CONSTITUTION DAY

For every constitutional change the Philippines has experienced, a corresponding proclamation was issued in order to celebrate the date that each charter was put into full force and effect—with the exception of the 1943 Constitution.

President Emilio Aguinaldo issued the first proclamation that celebrated the effectiveness of a constitution in 1899 on January 23 of the said year. In the proclamation, President Aguinaldo ordered the release of Spanish prisoners under the custody of the Philippine revolutionary forces, to mark



the inauguration of the First Philippine Republic. No subsequent proclamations were issued because of the outbreak of the Philippine-American War and the fall of the First Philippine Republic in 1901.

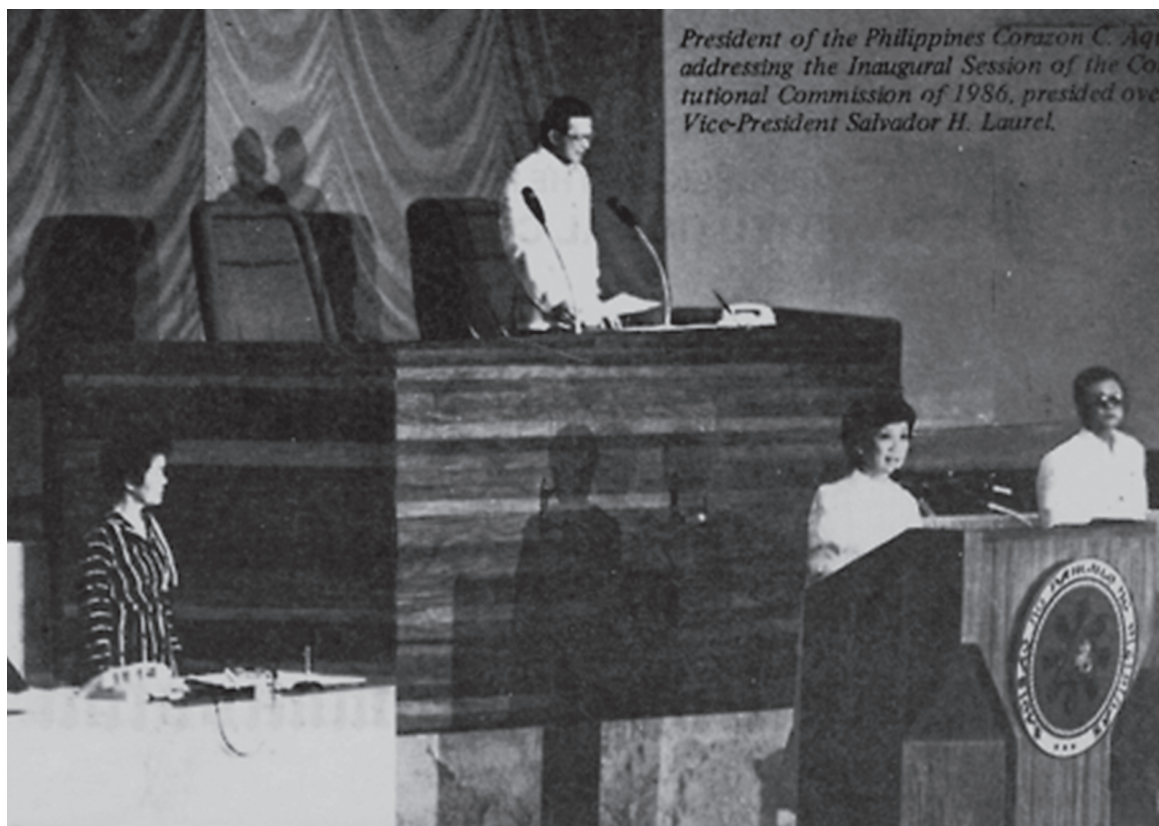
When the United States Congress authorized the creation of a constitution for the Philippines in accordance with the Tydings-McDuffie Act of 1934, a Constitutional Convention was established to draft a charter for the Philippines. It finished its work on February 8, 1935. On the inauguration of the Commonwealth of the Philippines on November 15, 1935, the new charter came into full force and effect. A year later, President Manuel L. Quezon issued Proclamation No. 36, s. 1936, declaring the 8th of February of every

year as Constitution Day to commemorate the completion of the 1934 Constitutional Convention's task. This commemoration was observed throughout the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Third Republic, up until the declaration of Martial Law on September 23, 1972. (President Marcos reiterated President Quezon's original proclamation by issuing Proclamation No. 10, s. 1966.)

In 1973, after the declaration of Martial Law, the 1935 Constitution was replaced by a new charter, the 1973 Constitution. In commemoration, President Marcos repealed President Quezon's Proclamation No. 36, s. 1936, by virtue of Proclamation No. 1219, s. 1973, which moved Constitution Day from

February 8 to January 17 of every year. This proclamation commemorated the day when President Marcos certified that the new Constitution had been ratified. Constitution Day was commemorated until the end of President Marcos' term but was overshadowed by the proclamation making September 21st of every year as "Thanksgiving Day," the date indicated on Presidential Proclamation No. 1081, s. 1972. Martial Law, however, was actually declared two days later when President Marcos announced it through nationwide television.

When democracy was restored in 1986, the 1973 Constitution was replaced first by the Freedom Constitution, also known as Proclamation No. 3, s. 1986, then our current constitution, the 1987



President Corazon C. Aquino addressing the 1986 Constitutional Commission at its inaugural session.



Delegate Manuel Roxas signs the Constitution. He was the leading member of the Committee on Style, also known as the Seven Wise Men, who had a significant impact on the final draft of the 1935 Constitution.

Constitution. This constitution came into full force and effect on February 11, 1987, after President Corazon Aquino issued Proclamation No. 58, s. 1987. The proclamation issued by President Corazon Aquino included the results of the plebiscite held on February 2, 1987.

After the ratification of the 1987 Constitution, President Corazon Aquino issued Proclamation No. 211, s. 1988, which moved the commemoration of Constitution Day from January 17 to February 2 of every year—a proclamation still in effect to this day.



President Corazon C. Aquino receives the 1987 Constitution from Constitutional Commission President Cecilia Muñoz-Palma.



# MARCH

March is a month of transitions. Graduates march up the ceremonial stage to receive their diplomas, and students anticipate the coming summer vacation. March was also the month when the Katipunan, a secret organization that sought Philippine independence from Spain, gathered to elect a revolutionary government. The secret meeting was known as the Tejeros Convention.

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MONTHLY OBSERVANCES	<b>Fire Prevention Month</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 115-A, s. 1966)</i> <b>Tax Consciousness Month</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 1239, s. 1974)</i> <b>Women's Role in History Month</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 227, s. 1988)</i> <b>Burn Prevention Month</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 360, s. 1989)</i> <b>Rabies Awareness Month</b> <i>(Executive Order No. 84, s. 1999)</i> <b>National Women's Heart Health Month</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 1675, s. 2008)</i>
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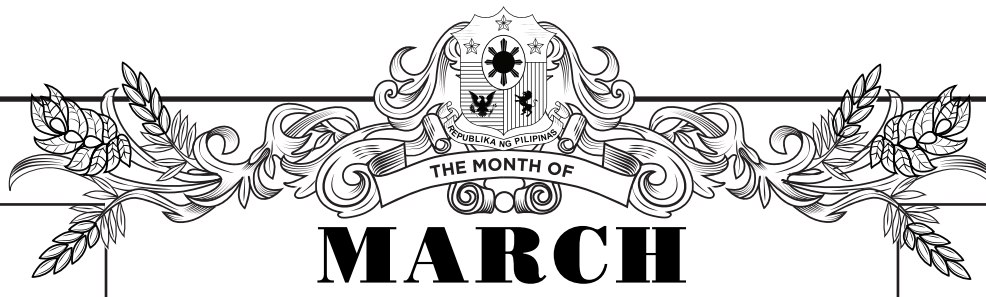
MAR 1-7	<b>Office Machines Week</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 1108, s. 1973)</i>
MAR 11-18	<b>Grandparents' Week</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 757, s. 1996)</i>
MAR 21-27	<b>UNESCO-ITI World Theater Week</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 1262, s. 2007)</i>
1 <sup>ST</sup> WEEK	<b>Aviation Week</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 774, s. 1970)</i> <b>Environmental Week</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 975, s. 1972)</i> <b>Women's Week</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 224, s. 1988)</i>
2 <sup>ND</sup> WEEK	<b>Philippine Foreign Trade Week</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 248, s. 1956)</i>
3 <sup>RD</sup> WEEK	<b>Philippine Industry and Made-in-the-Philippines Products Week</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 387, s. 1957)</i> <b>Accountancy Week</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 19, s. 1966)</i>
4 <sup>TH</sup> WEEK	<b>Protection and Gender-Fair Treatment of the Girl Child Week</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 759, s. 1996)</i>

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LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH	<b>Women with Disabilities Day</b> <i>(Proclamation No. 744, s. 2004)</i>
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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**MARCH**

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## MARCH 1

In 1896, the Supreme Council of the Katipunan appointed a committee composed of Emilio Jacinto, Jose Dizon, Mariano Crisostomo, and Jose Ma. Basa, to negotiate the purchase of arms and ammunition from Japan.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday of National Scientist  
Angel C. Alcala (1929)  
Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Ang Kiukok (1931)



Commemorative postage stamp of Emilio Jacinto issued on January 23, 1963.

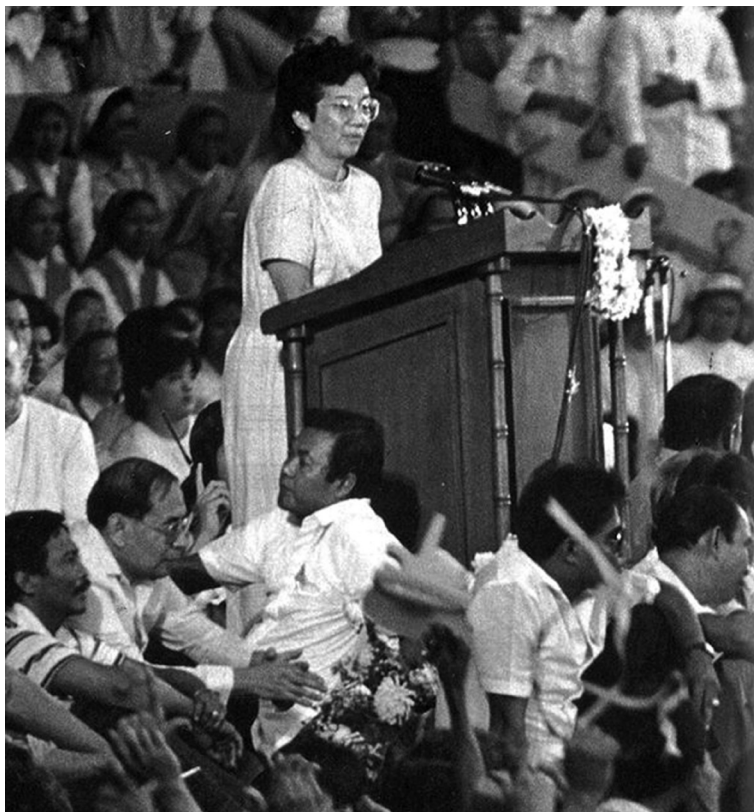
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## MARCH 2

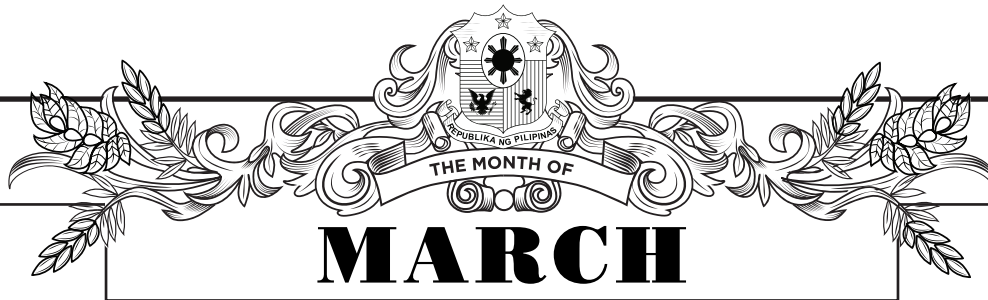
In 1986, addressing a large audience that had gathered in Rizal Park, the newly elected President Corazon C. Aquino announced the restoration of the Writ of Habeas Corpus.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of Chief Justice  
Cayetano L. Arellano (1847)







## MARCH 3

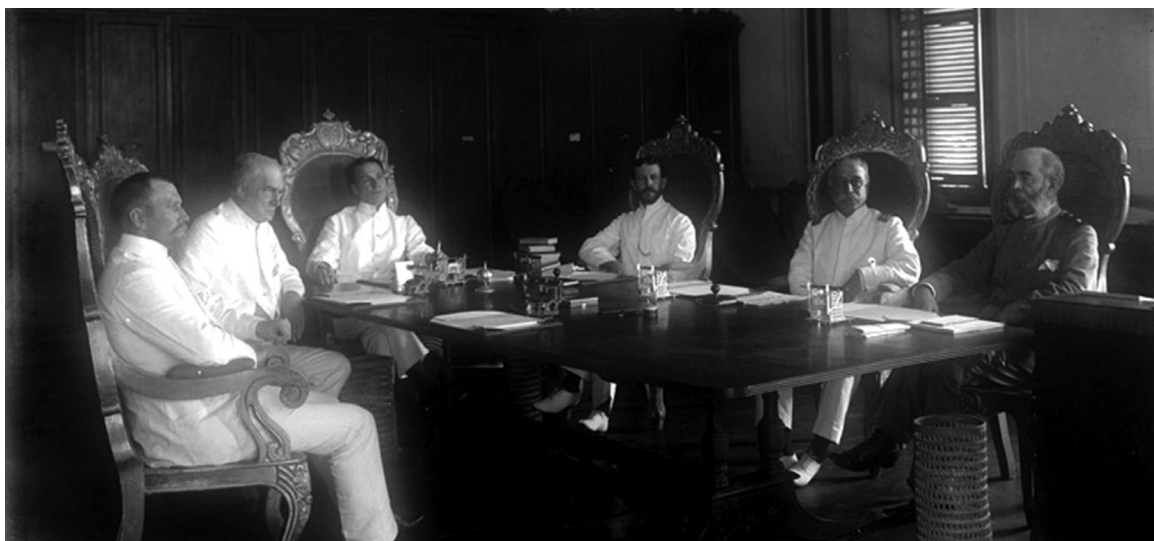
In 1894, educator Paz Marquez-Benitez, who authored the first Filipino modern English-language short story "Dead Stars," was born in Lucena City, Quezon. She was the founder of the first women's magazine in the country, the *Woman's Home Journal*.



### ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday of National Scientist  
Gelia T. Castillo (1928)  
Birth anniversary of  
Manlilikha ng Bayan  
Samaon Sulaiman (1953)

## MARCH 4



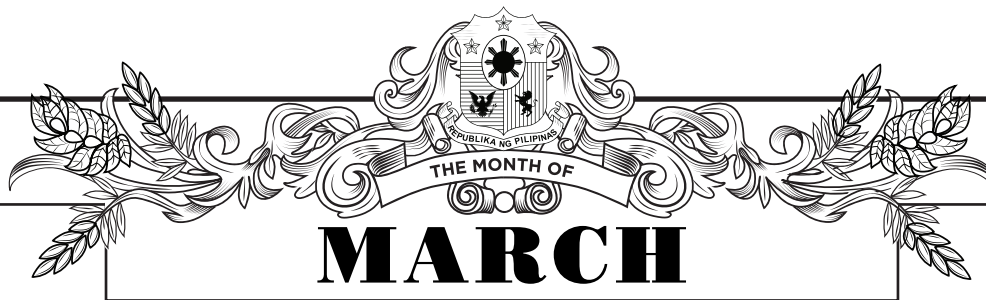
The only photo of all the members of the first Philippine Commission together.

In 1899, the first Philippine Commission, under Dr. Jacob G. Schurman, arrived in Manila.

The five-man team appointed by U.S. President William McKinley was composed of Elwell S.

Otis, Charles H. Denby, George Dewey, Dean C. Worcester, and Jacob G. Schurman. It was tasked to investigate conditions in the Philippines and make recommendations to the American government.

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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**MARCH**

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## MARCH 5

In 1986, President Corazon C. Aquino offered general amnesty to all rebels, provided that they lay down their arms and support reconciliation.



### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Rolando S. Tinio (1937)



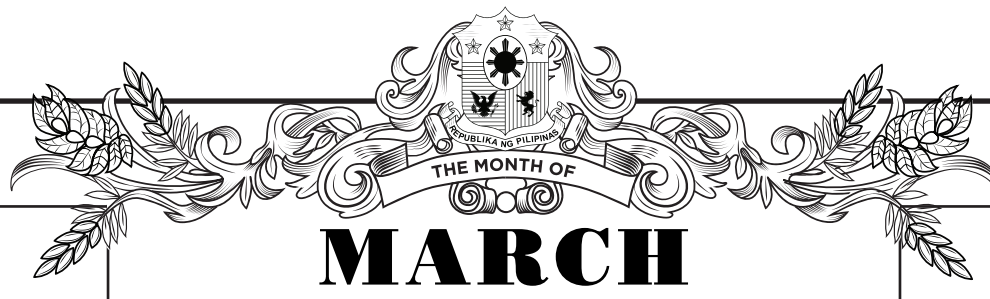
## MARCH 6

In 1921, President Emilio Aguinaldo's first wife, Hilaria del Rosario, the mother of his five children, died.

During the term of President Aguinaldo, Hilaria organized the Hijas de la Revolucion (Daughters of the Revolution), which later became the Asociacion Nacional de la Cruz Roja (National Association of the Red Cross). This organization raised funds for medicine and other supplies, and helped attend to sick soldiers during the revolution.

At that time, the term First Lady was not yet in use. This makes Hilaria del Rosario the unofficial First Lady of the Philippines.

Portrait of Hilaria del Rosario, the first wife of President Emilio Aguinaldo.



## MARCH 7

In 1820, Spanish ports were opened to Philippine trade and commerce, and Philippine goods were granted preferential entry for a period of ten years.



An artistic rendition of the Manila Spanish Galleon.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Artist  
Victorio C. Edades (1985)

## MARCH 8

In 1565, Felipe de Salcedo, grandson of Miguel Lopez de Legazpi, took possession of the island of Leyte.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Scientist  
Gregorio Y. Zara (1902)

### PROCLAMATIONS

**Women's Rights and International Peace Day**  
(Proclamation No. 224, s. 1988)

▲ **National Women's Day**  
(Republic Act No. 6949 of 1990)

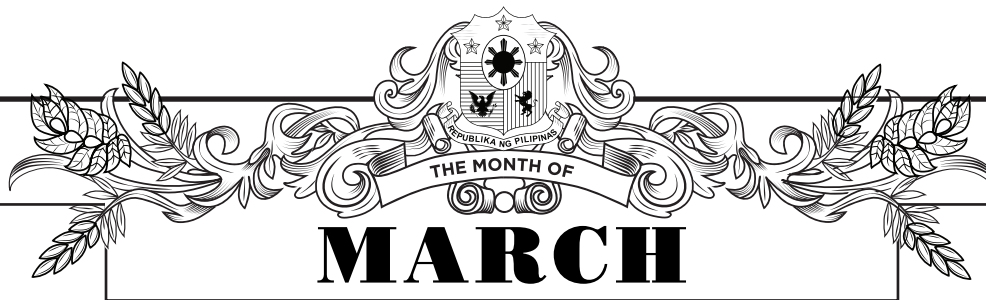
**National Commission on Muslim Filipinos**  
(Republic Act No. 9997 of 2010)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

**Presidential Security Group**  
(General Order No. 60 dated March  
18, 1986, effective March 8, 1986)



1899 map of Leyte by P. Jose Algue, from the David Rumsey Map Collection.

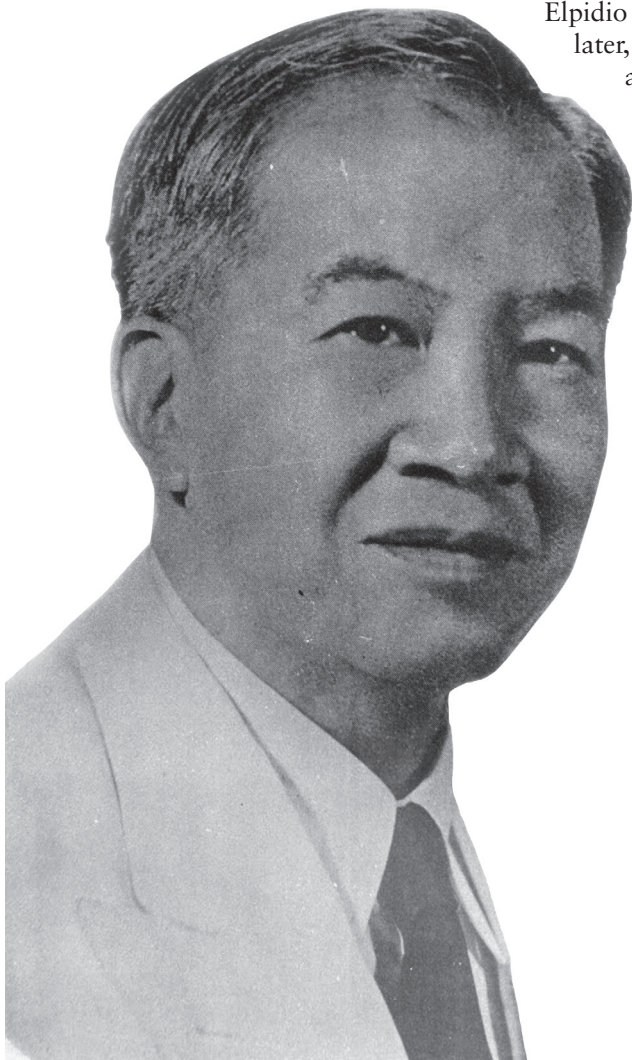


MARCH 9

## Birth anniversary of President Jose P. Laurel

In 1891, Jose P. Laurel, the third President of the Philippines and the only President of the Second Republic, was born in Tanauan, Batangas. After having served the country in various elective and appointive posts before and during the Quezon administration, including Secretary of the Interior and Justice of the Supreme Court, Laurel was instructed by Quezon to remain in the Philippines during the Japanese occupation. The Japanese Military Administration created the Executive Commission of which Laurel was a member, and when the Second Republic of the Philippines was proclaimed under the auspices of the Japanese Military Administration in 1943, Laurel was elected President by the National Assembly, an opportunity which he used to ameliorate the plight of his people under occupation. With the liberation of the country by the Allied forces underway in August 1944, Laurel and the seat of government were transferred to Baguio on December 22, 1944. Brought to Japan with the Japanese retreat, Laurel proclaimed the dissolution of the Second Republic on August 17, 1945, during the period of the Japanese surrender to the Allies. In 1949,

Laurel contested the Presidency against incumbent President Elpidio Quirino but lost the contentious election. Two years later, Laurel was elected Senator, which was largely viewed as political rehabilitation from earlier charges of wartime collaboration. He was also the founder of the Lyceum of the Philippines.



### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist

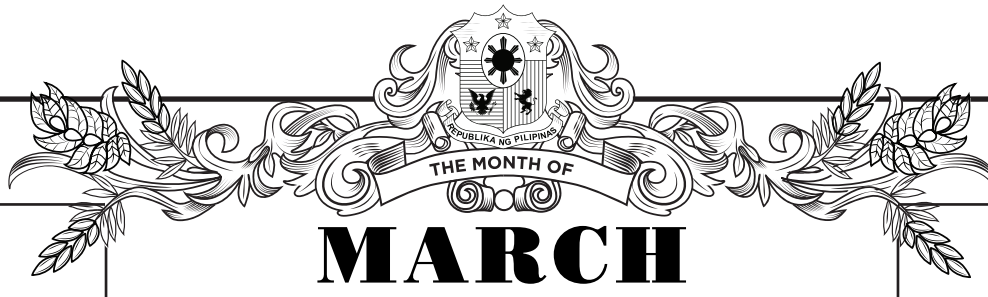
Francisca R. Aquino (1899)

Birthday of National Artist

Virgilio S. Almario (1944)

### TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1851, General Paciano Rizal, the revolutionary leader and brother of Jose Rizal, was born in Calamba, Laguna. He died on April 13, 1930.



## MARCH 10

In 1947, as President Manuel Roxas was delivering a speech in Plaza Miranda about the Parity rights amendment to the 1935 Constitution, a man lobbed a grenade on the stage, prompting General Mariano Castañeda to kick it away and cover President Roxas with his body. The grenade landed near the audience, killing two and wounding a dozen people. The man, later identified as Julio Guillen, was a barber by occupation.



## MARCH 11

In 1947, the parity amendment to the 1935 Constitution was approved in a nationwide plebiscite. U.S. citizens were granted the right to utilize Philippine natural resources. However, it was later revoked.



**ANNIVERSARY**  
Death anniversary of  
House Speaker  
Jose B. Laurel Jr. (1998)

Senator Jose P. Laurel negotiating for the revision of Bell Trade Act of 1946 with the American Panel. The Bell Trade Act was ratified by the Filipino people upon the parity amendment of the 1935 Constitution. In 1953, Laurel was tasked with negotiating provisions, resulting in the Laurel-Langley Agreement of 1955.

REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**MARCH**

MARCH 12



Senator Diokno and Aquino in happier days.

In 1973, Senators Benigno S. Aquino Jr. and Jose W. Diokno were incarcerated and placed in solitary confinement in Fort Magsaysay in Laur, Nueva Ecija.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of Manlilikha ng Bayan Darhata Sawabi (2005)

MARCH 13

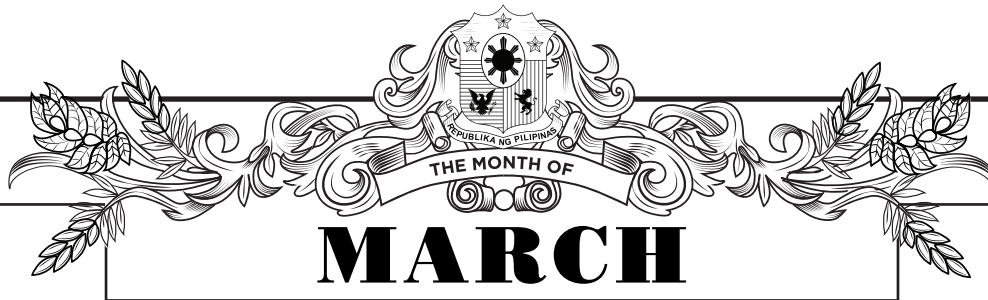
In 1986, President Corazon C. Aquino convened her Cabinet members for the first time since the new government was installed. They agreed to appoint a Constitutional Commission to rewrite the Constitution and to hold a simultaneous election for Constitutional Commission delegates and local officials in November.



President Corazon C. Aquino with members of her Cabinet.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of National Scientist Encarnacion A. Alzona (2001)


  
 THE MONTH OF  
**MARCH**

MARCH 14



In 1947, President Manuel Roxas and U.S. Ambassador Paul V. McNutt signed the Military Bases Agreement in Malacañan Palace, surrounded by onlookers, including Vice President Elpidio Quirino. It allowed the U.S. to maintain military, naval, and air bases in the Philippines for the defense of both countries for a term of 99 years.

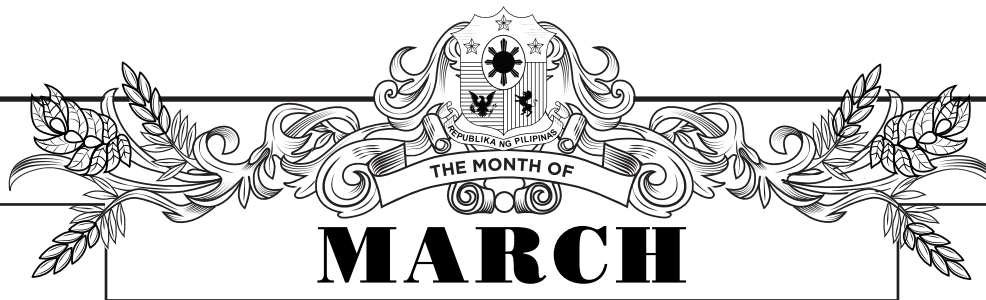
MARCH 15

In 1941, Philippine Airlines commenced operations, with its first flight taking off from Nielson Airfield in Makati, bound for Baguio. The Philippine Airlines is Asia's first airline.



Commemorative stamp released by the Philippine Postal Corporation for Philippine Airlines' 45th anniversary in 1986.

**ANNIVERSARY**  
 Birthday of National Scientist  
 Bienvenido F. Nebres, S.J. (1940)



## MARCH 16

In 1521, explorer Ferdinand Magellan sighted for the first time the mountains of Samar, while on a mission to find a westward route to the Moluccas from Spain. He dropped anchor off the coast of Samar.



## MARCH 17

In 1957, the plane carrying President Ramon Magsaysay and twenty-five other passengers crashed at Mt. Manunggal, Cebu. Nestor Mata, a reporter for the *Philippines Herald*, was the lone survivor of the crash.



### ANNIVERSARY

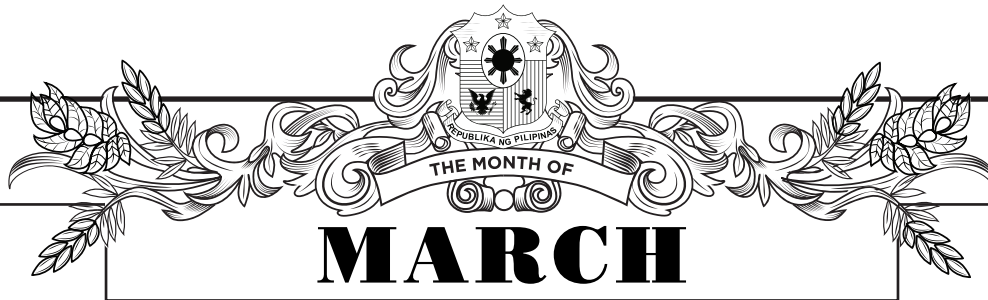
Death anniversary of President Ramon Magsaysay (1957)

### PROCLAMATION

Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Day (Proclamation No. 15, s. 1966)

Crash site of the 1957 Cebu Douglas C-47, President Ramon Magsaysay's plane.





MARCH 18

## Birthday of President Fidel V. Ramos

In 1928, Fidel V. Ramos, the 12th President of the Philippines and the second President of the Fifth Republic, was born in Lingayen, Pangasinan. Ramos, in 1986, turned his back on repressive autocracy and embraced the democratic forces of EDSA, with the help of others, bringing a critical mass of the military along with him. Under President Corazon C. Aquino, he became the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces and later, Secretary of National Defense. Nominated by President Corazon Aquino, he narrowly won the presidency in the 1992 elections, serving as President during the centennial of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence. Ramos proceeded to negotiate peace with Communist and Muslim rebels, tackle the prevailing electric power crisis, and successfully achieve many social and economic reforms that liberalized key sectors, boosted growth, and lifted the country's international profile.

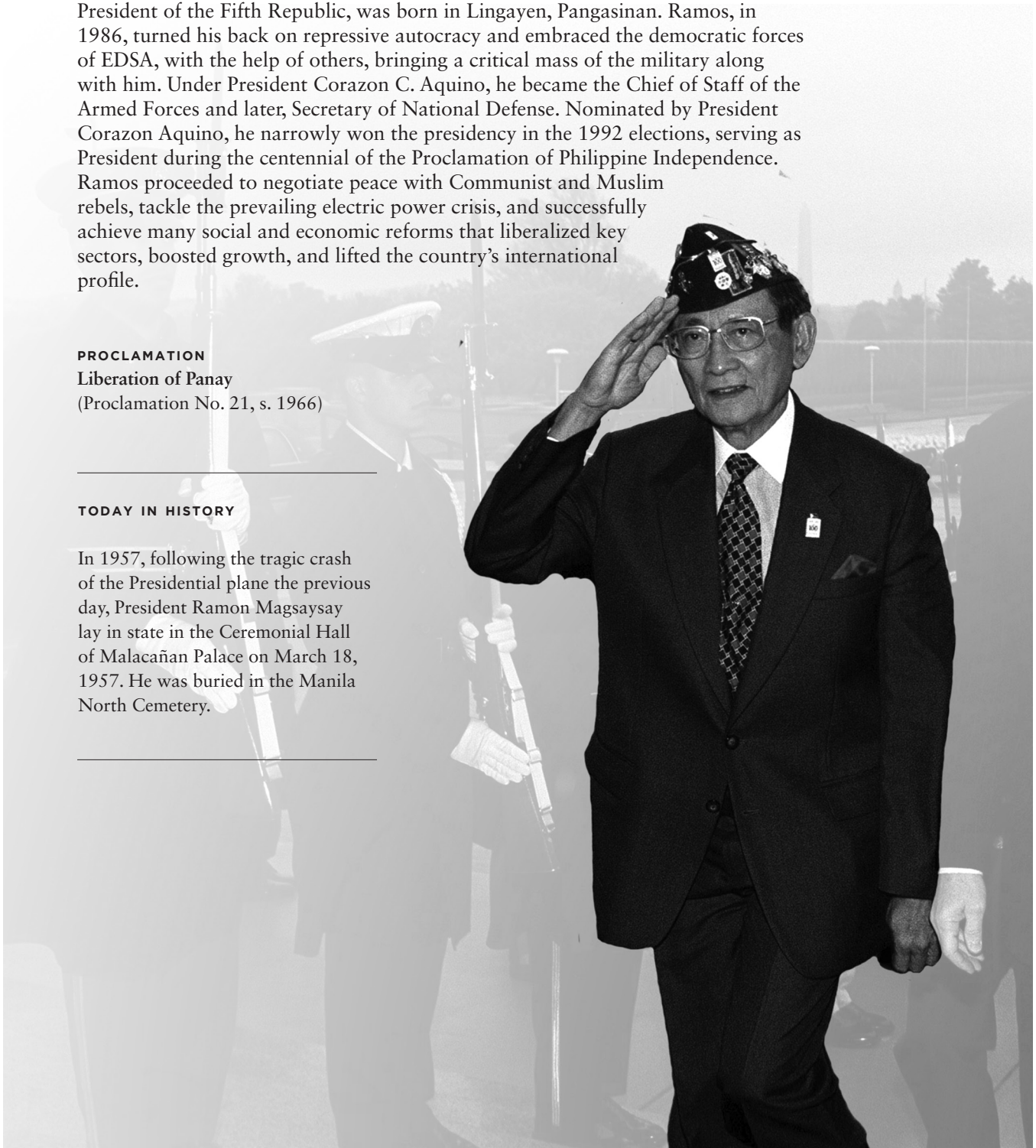
### PROCLAMATION

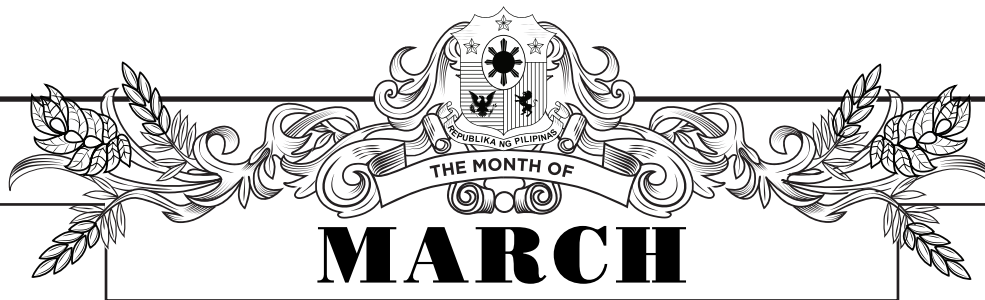
Liberation of Panay

(Proclamation No. 21, s. 1966)

### TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1957, following the tragic crash of the Presidential plane the previous day, President Ramon Magsaysay lay in state in the Ceremonial Hall of Malacañan Palace on March 18, 1957. He was buried in the Manila North Cemetery.





## MARCH 19

In 1986, the Presidential Committee on Human Rights was created by President Corazon C. Aquino by virtue of Executive Order No. 8, s. 1986. The Executive Order appointed former Senator Jose W. Diokno as chairman of the committee.

The Presidential Committee on Human Rights was the predecessor of the Philippine Commission on Human Rights, which was created by virtue of the 1987 Constitution.



## MARCH 20

In 1843, Ambrosio Flores, Secretary of War of the First Republic, was born.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of House Speaker  
Ramon Mitra Jr. (2000)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Philippine Racing Commission  
(Presidential Decree No. 420, s. 1974)



## MARCH 21

In 1887, *Noli Me Tangere*, the first novel by Jose Rizal, was printed in Berlin, Germany.

Set in the fictional town of San Diego, a young idealistic Crisostomo Ibarra returns to the Philippines after his seven-year study in Europe, seeking reform by means of education—only to encounter opposition and the tragic parting of the woman he loves. He vows to take vengeance on all those who unjustly went against him.

The *Noli Me Tangere* and its sequel, *El Filibusterismo*, were Rizal's two novels written in Spanish that inspired the nation to revolt against Spain, culminating in the Philippine Revolution of 1896.



The original front cover of the book.



MARCH 22

## Birth anniversary of President Emilio Aguinaldo

In 1869, Emilio Aguinaldo y Famy, the first President of the Philippines, as well as the only President of the First Republic, was born in Kawit, Cavite. As a young man, Aguinaldo was a leader of the Katipunan in Cavite, a province south of Manila. He went on to become the undisputed head of the Philippine Revolution. Following self-exile in Hong Kong, a stipulation of the Pact of Biak-na-Bato that had ended the first phase of the Revolution in 1897, Aguinaldo returned to the Philippines on May 19, 1898, to resume the fight against Spain, this time with the help of the United States of America. The second phase of the Revolution came to a fitting end with Aguinaldo's proclamation of independence on June 12, 1898. Consequently, he was elected the first President of the Philippines by the Malolos Congress of the First Republic on January 23, 1899. International recognition for the fledgling republic would prove elusive following the decision of Spain to cede her last colonial possession, the Philippines included, to the United States through the 1898 Treaty of Paris. This led to the outbreak of the Philippine-American War on February 4, 1899, which eventually led to Aguinaldo's capture and surrender in Palanan, Isabela on March 23, 1901. He formally surrendered on April 1, took the oath of allegiance to the United States, enjoined all his forces to lay down their arms, and dissolved the First Republic of the Philippines.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of House Speaker  
Daniel Romualdez (1965)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Philippine Army  
(Tejeros Convention, March 22, 1899)

### TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1897, a meeting was held gathering the two factions of the Katipunan, the Magdiwang and the Magdalo, at the administration building of the friar estate in Tejeros, San Francisco de Malabon. The intention, according to the memoirists Artemio Ricarte and Santiago Alvarez, was twofold. First, there was a need to discuss the ways in which to defend the liberated territory of Cavite against the Spanish offensive led by General José de Lachambre and second, to elect a revolutionary government. This was known as the Tejeros Convention.



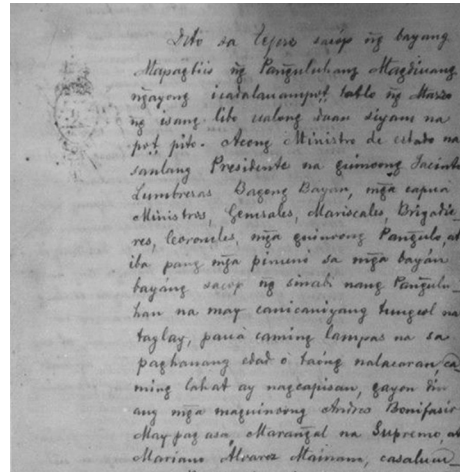
REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**MARCH**

## MARCH 23

In 1897, Andres Bonifacio and the leaders of the Magdiwang council signed the *Acta de Tejeros* which proclaimed the Tejeros Convention, held the previous day, illegitimate and invalid because of how disorderly its decisions were.

### ANNIVERSARIES

- Birth anniversary of Senate President **Camilo O. Osias** (1889)
- Birth anniversary of National Scientist **Encarnacion A. Alzona** (1895)
- Death anniversary of Senate President **Gil J. Puyat** (1980)
- Death anniversary of National Scientist **Onofre D. Corpuz** (2013)



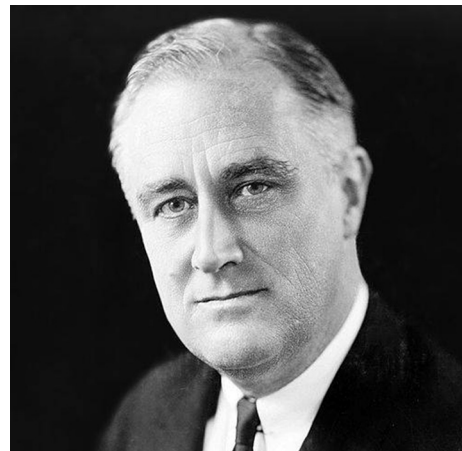
The first page of *Acta De Tejeros*, 1897.

## MARCH 24

In 1934, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Tydings-McDuffie Act (Public Act No. 127), which would recognize the independence to the Philippines after a transition period of ten years.

### ANNIVERSARY

- Death anniversary of National Artist **Amado V. Hernandez** (1970)



## MARCH 25

In 1986, President Corazon C. Aquino signed Proclamation No. 3, known as the 1986 Freedom Constitution, on the Family Dining Room table of Malacañan Palace.

### PROCLAMATIONS

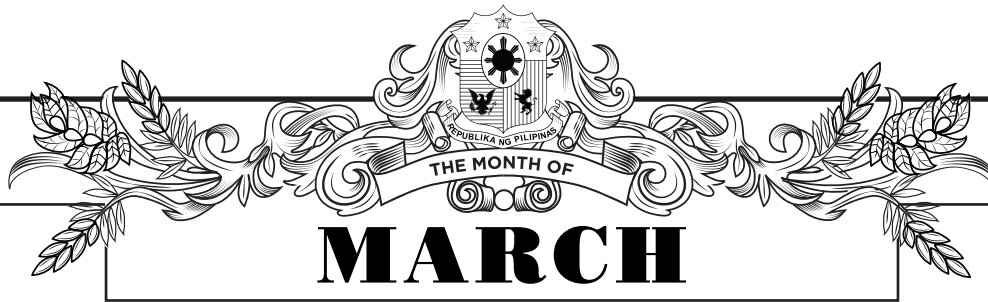
- Cry of Candon Day (Republic Act No. 9198 of 2003)
- Day of the Unborn (Proclamation No. 586, s. 2004)

### ANNIVERSARIES

- Birth anniversary of National Scientist **Encarnacion A. Alzona** (1895)



The family dining room table in the Malacañan Palace.



## MARCH 26



The Philippine Flag of 1901-1907 was banned by the American-dominated Philippine Commission through Act No. 1697 of 1907. The flag was restored through Act No. 2928 of 1920, without the anthropomorphic sun.

In 1920, the Philippine Legislature enacted Act No. 2928, which adopted the official flag of the Philippines.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of Senate President Ernesto M. Maceda (1935)

## MARCH 27

In 2014, the grounds of Kalayaan Hall of Malacañan Palace hosted the historic signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB).

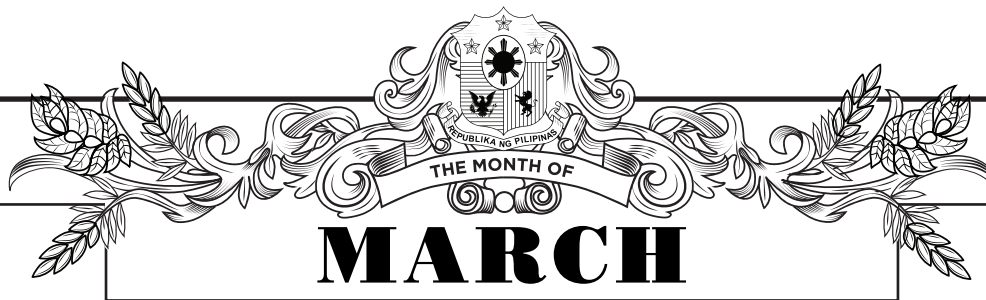
The CAB brought together all the major agreements—the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro and the four Annexes—signed by the Philippine government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in the course of the 17-year negotiations. The CAB provides the roadmap and the terms pertaining to the creation of the Bangsamoro entity, and the transformation of the MILF from an armed group to an active participant in governance and societal reform.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of Manlilikha ng Bayan Teofilo Garcia (1941)



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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**MARCH**

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## MARCH 28

In 1901, President Emilio Aguinaldo arrived in Manila on the USS *Vicksburg* from Palanan, Isabela, as a prisoner of Colonel Frederick Funston.



President Emilio Aguinaldo on the USS *Vicksburg*.

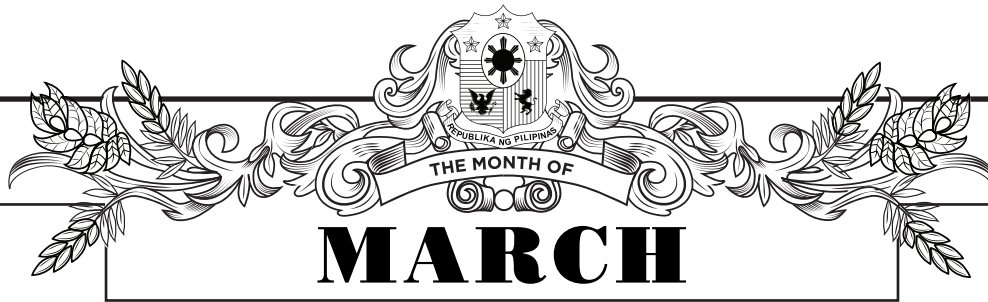
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## MARCH 29

In 1521, Ferdinand Magellan and Rajah Kolambu of Limasawa Island entered into a blood compact of friendship.

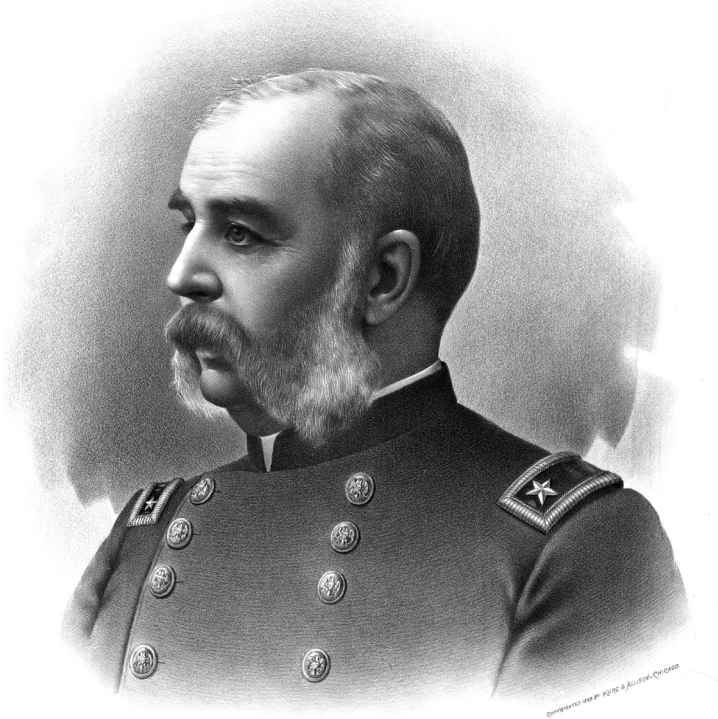


1935 stamp commemorating the arrival of Ferdinand Magellan.


  
 REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
 THE MONTH OF  
**MARCH**

**MARCH 30**

In 1900, American General Elwell Otis formally constituted a Department of Public Instruction for the Philippines now known as the Department of Education.



**MARCH 31**



Carlos V. Francisco's *First Mass at Limasawa*. The mural depicts Fr. Pedro de Valderama officiating the mass in an improvised altar in the presence of Ferdinand Magellan, Pigafetta (chronicler of Magellan), Spanish soldiers, and the natives.

In 1521, the officially recognized First Mass in the Philippines was celebrated at Limasawa Island. It was officiated by Fr. Pedro de Valderama and attended by Kolambu, Siagu, Magellan, and their men.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- Death anniversary of National Artist **Carlos V. Francisco (1969)**
- Death anniversary of Chief Justice **Ramon Aquino (1993)**
- Death anniversary of National Artist **Lucio D. San Pedro (2002)**



# The Tejeros Convention

On March 22, 1897, a meeting was held, gathering the two factions of the Katipunan, the Magdiwang and the Magdalo, at the administration building of the friar estate in Tejeros, San Francisco de Malabon. The intention, according to the memoirists Artemio Ricarte and Santiago Alvarez, was twofold. First, there was a need to discuss the ways in which to defend the liberated territory of Cavite against the Spanish offensive led by General José de Lachambre and second, to elect a revolutionary government. The meeting was first presided over by Jacinto Lumbreras, a member of the Magdiwang faction, who would later yield the chair to Andres Bonifacio when it came time to address the reorganization of the revolutionary government. The Katipunan, a secret society that aimed to attain independence for the Philippines, was a well-organized revolutionary movement with its own structure and officers. It had an established system that included provincial units. However, during the Imus

assembly of December 31, 1896, proposals to either transform and revise the organization of the Katipunan or replace it with a revolutionary government organization fomented.

Only three months since the Imus assembly had convened, Bonifacio once again took his place as presiding officer for the same purpose of assessing the kind of governing structure the Katipunan needed in order to best fulfill its goals. In Imus, no resolution was made despite an attempt to determine what the revolutionary government would be. Tejeros, on the other hand, successfully embodied the aforementioned government by holding elections that yielded the following results:

- Emilio Aguinaldo – President of the Government
- Mariano Trias – Vice President
- Artemio Ricarte – Captain General
- Emiliano Riego de Dios – Director of War
- Andres Bonifacio – Director of the Interior





There is no exact listing of delegates present at the time. However, Santiago Alvarez' account shows the following twenty-six delegates:

- Mariano Alvarez (Noveleta)
- Pascual Alvarez (Noveleta)
- Santiago Alvarez (Noveleta)
- Andres Bonifacio (Manila; staying in San Francisco de Malabon)
- Severino de las Alas (Indang)
- José del Rosario (Tanza)
- Teodoro Gonzales (Manila; staying in San Francisco de Malabon)
- Jacinto Lumbreras (San Francisco de Malabon)
- Diego Mojica (San Francisco de Malabon)
- Pablo Mojica (San Francisco de Malabon)
- Santos Nocon (San Francisco de Malabon)
- Artemio Ricarte (Batac, Ilocos Norte; living in San Francisco de Malabon)

- Emiliano Riego de Dios (Maragondon)
- Santiago Rillo (Tuy, Batangas; formerly Maragondon)
- Luciano San Miguel (Noveleta)
- Mariano Trias (San Francisco de Malabon)
- Ariston Villanueva (Noveleta)

The above lists members belonging to the Magdiwang faction while the following belong to the Magdalo group:

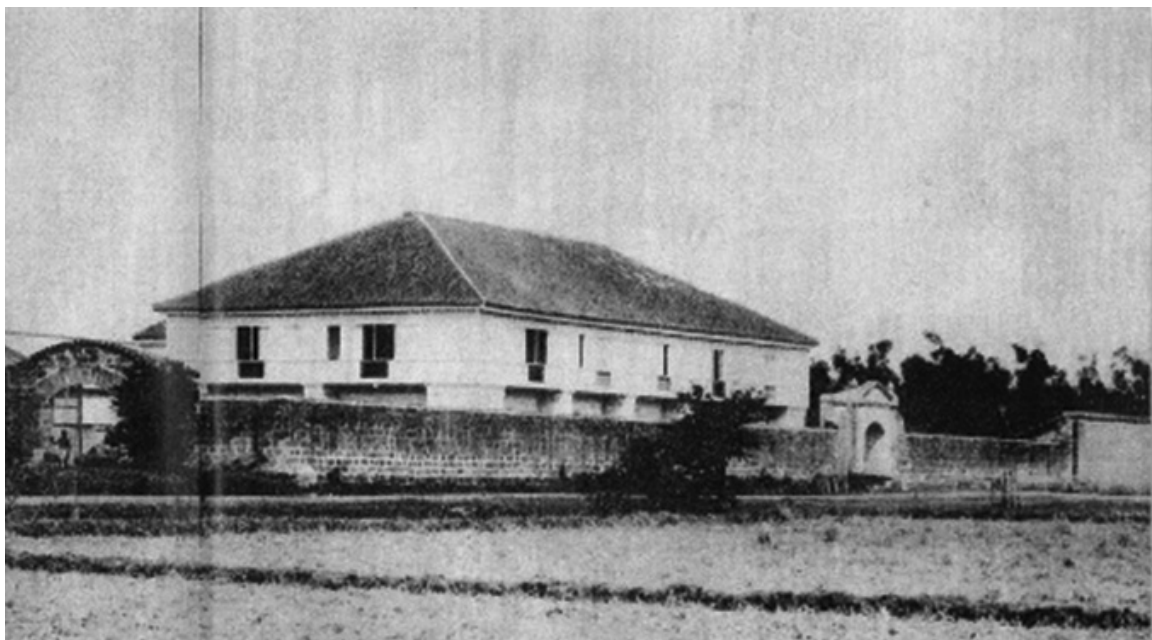
- Baldomero Aguinaldo (Kawit)
- Crispulo Aguinaldo (Kawit)
- Felix Cuenca (Bacoor)
- Tomas Mascardo (Kawit)
- Antonio Montenegro (Manila; staying in Imus)
- Sixto Sapinoso (Imus)
- Daniel Tirona (Kawit)
- Cayetano Topacio (Imus)
- Licerio Topacio (Imus)

Mariano Alvarez, in a letter to his uncle-in-law, noted that

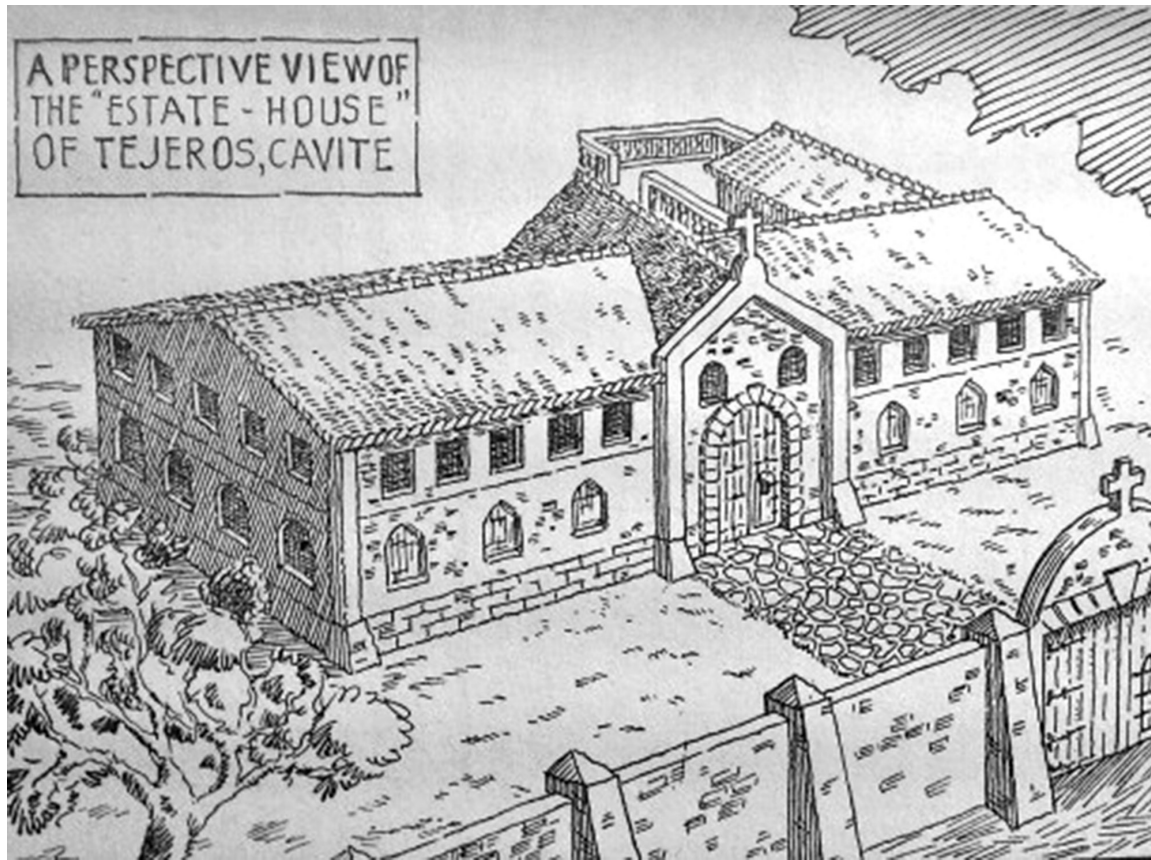
fraudulence marred the voting process:

*...Before the election began, I discovered the underhand work of some of the Imus crowd who had quietly spread the statement that it was not advisable that they be governed by men from other pueblos, and that they should for this reason strive to elect Captain Emilio as President.*

Intriguing as these events are, they would not, however, capture the imagination of people as expected, as it was greatly upstaged, in memory at least, by the ensuing tiff that occurred between Andres Bonifacio and Daniel Tirona. The latter raised provocations when he insinuated that Bonifacio was unfit to take on his position owing to a lack of credentials. He raised his voice calling for the election of one Jose del Rosario—a lawyer. At this instance, the proverbial salt had been rubbed against



Casa Hacienda de Tejeros in Rosario, Cavite.



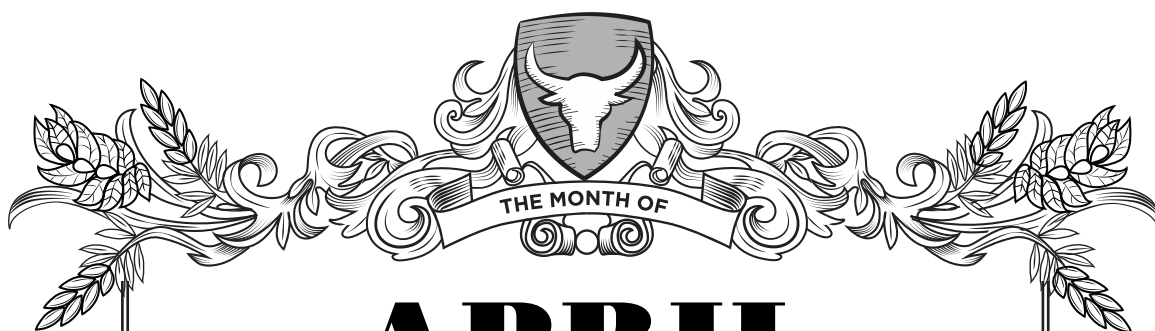
Casa Hacienda de Tejeros in Rosario, Cavite.

the wound, for what vexed Bonifacio most was not so much the attack on his credentials but rather, the lack of due process. He had after all reminded the assembly gathered at Tejeros that the will of the majority—however divergent from each individual’s, must be respected at all costs. His resolve would, a day later, become manifested in a document called the Acta de Tejeros, which proclaimed the events at the assembly to be disorderly and tarnished by chicanery. Signatories to this petition rejected the republic instituted at Tejeros and affirmed their steadfast devotion to the Katipunan’s ideals. This declaration and the intention of starting a government anew would later cost Bonifacio his life. He would be tried for treason and sentenced to death at Maragondon, Cavite.

Contentious as the events surrounding Tejeros are, both in intention and outcome, it was undoubtedly a pivotal moment in Philippine

revolutionary history. The first school of thought argues that apart from organizational structure and personality politics, Tejeros would betray the realignment in the leadership and goals of the revolution. The assembly at Tejeros exposed how the Caviteño elite had besieged the revolt of the masses. Another perspective offers the shift from a revolution of mystical and masonically-organized aims to one adhering to 18th and 19th century rationalist and deist lines, imbued with the characteristics of *principalia* used to command.

From a more nuanced perspective, the events of Tejeros are also relevant as they give us a very real glimpse into the nascence of a nation. While history can sometimes be written as myth and romanticized narrative intent on fostering loyalty to nation, the accounts themselves may give a more sobering argument for why we must remember at all.



# APRIL

With the arrival of summer, beaches all over are suddenly filled with those who seek to enjoy the heat. As they wade in the shallow sandy shores, beachgoers could, if they wanted to, contemplate the freedom and rights afforded to them by a democracy—or not, and instead romp about with delight. You see, in April, we celebrate Araw ng Kagitingan, the day when we pay tribute to all veterans and their heroism and courage—people who've sacrificed more than enough to afford the rest of us our freedoms today.

**MONTHLY  
OBSERVANCES**

- Vacation Hazards Prevention Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 115-A, s. 1966)*
- Panagyaman Rice Festival, The National Celebration of Successful Rice Harvest**  
*(Proclamation No. 606, s. 2004)*
- National Hemophilia Awareness Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1478, s. 2008)*
- Month of Planet Earth**  
*(Proclamation No. 1482, s. 2008)*

APR 5-11

**Philippine Veterans Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 466-A, s. 2007)*

APR 22-28

**Rural Broadcast Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 381, s. 1968)*

1<sup>ST</sup> WEEK

**Industry and NEPA Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 364, s. 1965)*

2<sup>ND</sup> WEEK

**Tax Consciousness Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 960, s. 1972)*

4<sup>TH</sup> WEEK

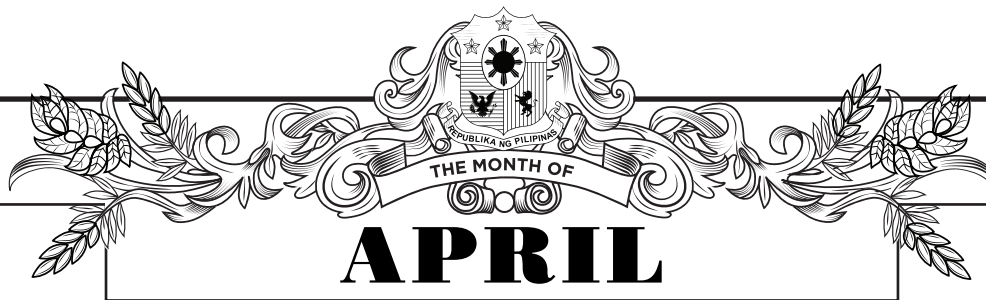
**Livestock and Poultry Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 658, s. 1970)*

LAST WEEK

**Head and Neck Consciousness Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1676, s. 2008)*

**Rice Festival Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 279, s. 1956)*




  
 THE MONTH OF  
**APRIL**

## APRIL 1

In 1901, nine days after Emilio Aguinaldo's capture in Palanan, Isabela, he swore an oath of allegiance to the United States of America.



**Aguinaldo Takes the Oath of Allegiance.**

An editorial cartoon from the April 4, 1901 issue of *The Salt Lake Herald*.

## APRIL 2



Portrait of former Chief Justice Claudio Teehankee.

In 1986, the reorganization of the Supreme Court began with the appointment of Claudio Teehankee as Chief Justice.

The reorganization continued with the appointments of other Associate Justices such as Vicente Abad Santos, Jose V. Feria, Pedro L. Yap, Marcelo B. Fernan, Andres R. Narvasa, Ameurfina Melencio-Herrera, Nestor B. Alampay, Hugo E. Gutierrez Jr., and Isagani A. Cruz.

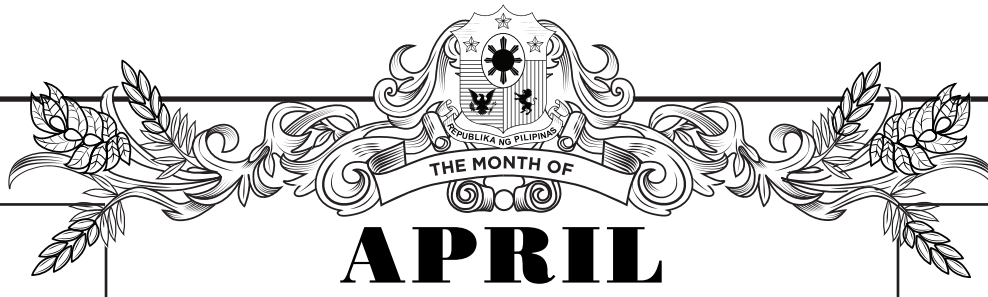
President Corazon C. Aquino declared the reorganization complete by signing Executive Order No. 12, on April 16, 1986.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
**Cesar T. Legaspi (1917)**  
 Death anniversary of National Artist  
**Levi Celerio (2002)**  
 Death anniversary of Manlilikha ng Bayan  
**Haja Amina Appi (2013)**

### PROCLAMATION

**Araw ni Balagtas**  
 (Proclamation No. 1249, s. 1974)



## APRIL 3

In 1942, Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos met Manuel Roxas in Bacolod City. Roxas transmitted to him the last instructions of President Quezon and sought his advice on important government matters.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Lino Brocka (1939)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan  
(Republic Act No. 7355 of 1992)  
National Commission for Culture and the Arts  
(Republic Act No. 7356 of 1992)



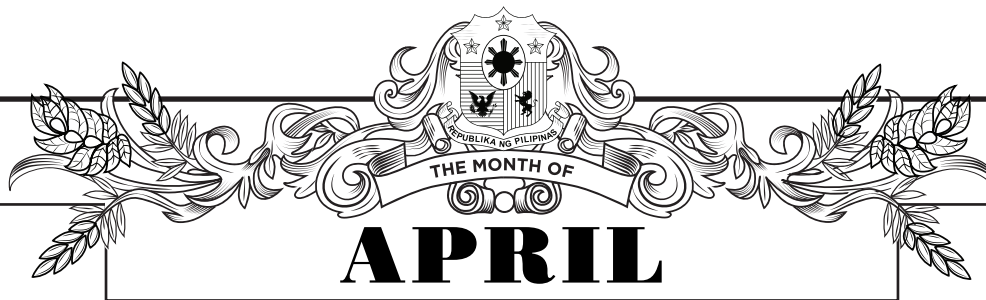
Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos

## APRIL 4

In 1975, in protest of what he felt was a sham trial, Benigno “Ninoy” S. Aquino Jr. began what he intended to be a death fast, subsisting only on salt tablets, sodium bicarbonate and amino acids, and two glasses of water. Despite this, the Military Tribunal forced Ninoy to be brought to the session hall every day.



Ninoy Aquino (RIGHT), gaunt and visibly weakened, after his hunger strike.



APRIL 5

## Birthday of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

In 1947, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, the 14th President of the Philippines and the fifth President of the Fifth Republic, was born in San Juan, Manila. Daughter of the ninth President Diosdado Macapagal, Mrs. Arroyo enjoyed a teaching career prior to joining the government in 1987 during the administration of President Corazon Aquino, who appointed her Undersecretary of Trade and Industry two years later. She was elected as Senator in 1992. In 1998, she was elected Vice President of the Philippines and was appointed by President Joseph Estrada as concurrent Secretary of Social Welfare and Development, a post she held until her resignation from the Cabinet in October 2000. The military's withdrawal of support from President Estrada, and the overwhelming movement of the people for his resignation following an aborted impeachment trial, led to the vacating of the presidency by Estrada. Vice President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was sworn in as the 14th President of the Philippines on January 20, 2001, after which she served the remaining years of her predecessor's term. In the 2004 elections, she was re-elected. In 2010 and 2013, she was elected Representative of the 2nd District of Pampanga.

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### TODAY IN HISTORY

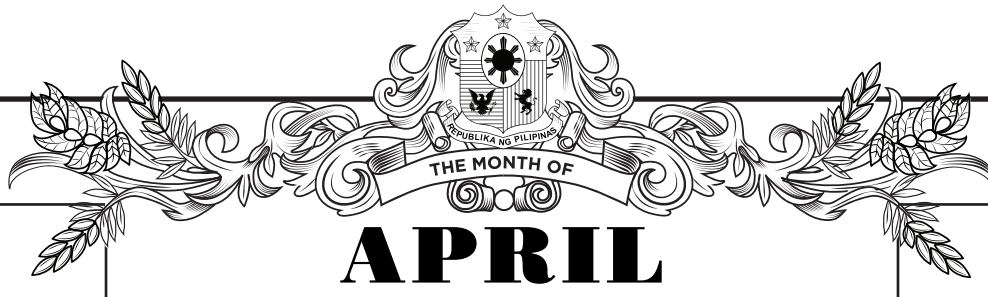
In 1964, Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur died of biliary cirrhosis in the Walter Reed Medical Center, Washington, D.C., Sunday—3:39 a.m., Manila time. The U.S. President on April 6 ordered flags half-masted until the MacArthur funeral. In Manila, President Diosdado Macapagal issued a proclamation declaring a period of mourning from April 6 to the day of the funeral.

Carlos P. Romulo, President Macapagal's representative, attended the funeral.

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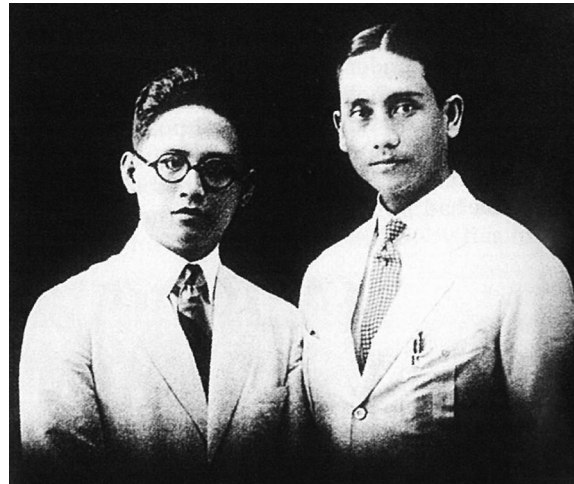


PCPD



## APRIL 6

In 1924, the first *Balagtasan* took place in Manila. The contestants were poets Jose Corazon de Jesus and Florentino Collantes. *Balagtasan* is a debate in verse, a verbal joust done almost spontaneously between protagonists who debate over the pros and cons of an issue.



Jose Corazon de Jesus (RIGHT) and Florentino Collantes (LEFT) wrote love poems, patriotic poems, and satirical poems, and were the two most famous "kings" of the Balagtasan.

## APRIL 7

In 1978, elections were held for members of the Interim Batasang Pambansa, known as Mambabatas Pambansa or Assemblymen. They were elected per region, through a bloc-voting system.



### ANNIVERSARY

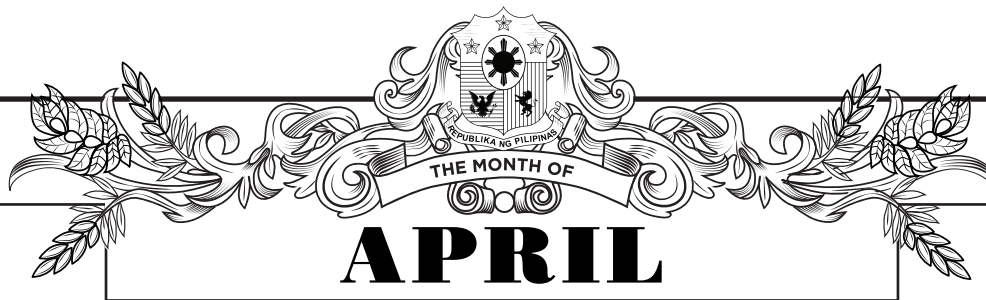
Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Cesar F. Legaspi (1994)

## APRIL 8

In 1978, Benigno "Ninoy" S. Aquino Jr. released a manifesto regarding the elections to the Interim Batasang Pambansa, where the administration party Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) had won an overwhelming majority of seats.



An excerpt from the manifesto released by the late Senator Ninoy Aquino.



APRIL 9

## Araw ng Kagitingan

In 1942, four months after the retreat of United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFPE) forces to Bataan following the Japanese invasion of the Philippines, the long battle ended when General Edward P. King Jr. officially surrendered the Bataan command. Lieutenant General Jonathan M. Wainwright later reported to Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur that he would strive to hold Corregidor.

By all accounts, the anniversary of the fall of Bataan was a day of solemnity. It became a solemn date of commemoration among Filipino resistance fighters as well as the Philippine government-in-exile, which promoted “The Fighting Filipinos” poster on the first anniversary of the Fall of Bataan to rally Allied support for the Philippines. The date would become one commemorated in speeches and other observances in the immediate postwar years.

In 1953, President Elpidio Quirino declared April 9 as Bataan Day, by virtue of Proclamation No. 381, s. 1953. The commemoration was, for President Quirino, a “fitting homage to the unparalleled heroism of Filipino and American forces who, despite overwhelming odds, fought side by side to the last in their stubborn defense of freedom and democracy.”

President Ramon Magsaysay then signed Proclamation No.

11, s. 1954 the following year, declaring the twelfth anniversary of the Fall of Bataan as a special public holiday. In 1955, President Magsaysay signed Proclamation No. 140, which enjoined Filipinos and Americans residing in the country to observe “a one-minute silence at 4:30 o’clock in the afternoon of that day, and to hold appropriate rites in honor of the heroic defenders of Bataan.”

In 1961, the House of Representatives passed Republic Act No. 3022, which declared April 9 of every year as Bataan Day, a legal holiday. The law followed President Magsaysay’s proclamation’s call for one-minute silence at 4:30 p.m., and enjoined that “appropriate rites in honor of the heroic defenders of Bataan and their parents, wives and/or widows” be held.

Twenty-six years later, under the administration of President Corazon C. Aquino, Executive Order No. 203, s. 1987 revised the roster of all nationwide holidays of the Philippines and renamed Bataan Day to Araw ng Kagitingan (Bataan and Corregidor Day).

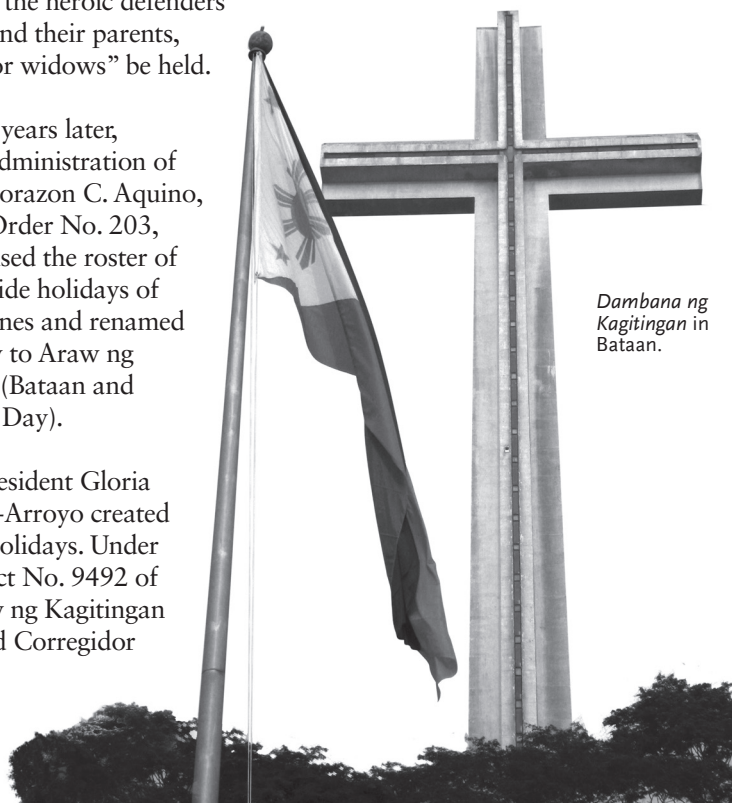
In 2007, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo created moveable holidays. Under Republic Act No. 9492 of 2007, Araw ng Kagitingan (Bataan and Corregidor Day) was

commemorated either on April 9 or on the nearest Monday.

The administration of President Benigno S. Aquino III reverted to commemorating the fall of Bataan every April 9 of a given year. The past four holiday proclamations of President Benigno S. Aquino III have all declared April 9 as a regular nationwide holiday, and have called the commemoration, simply, Araw ng Kagitingan.

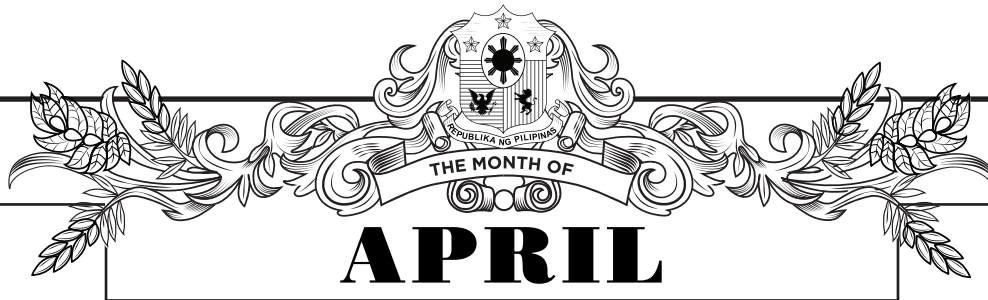
### PROCLAMATION

- Araw ng Kagitingan (Republic Act No. 9492 of 2007)



*Dambana ng Kagitingan in Bataan.*





## APRIL 10



U.S. General Henry W. Lawton.

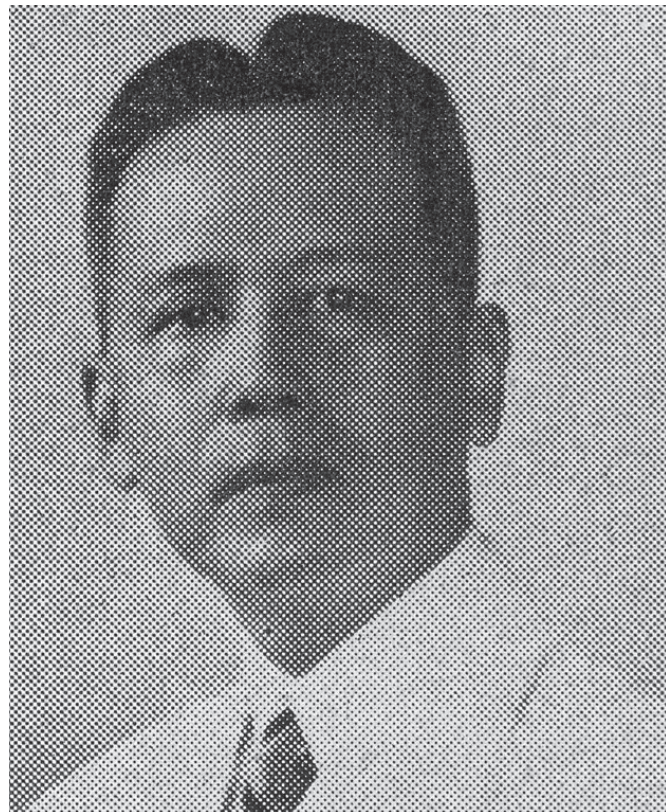
In 1899, from April 9 to 10, U.S. General Henry W. Lawton captured the Filipino stronghold of Santa Cruz and pushed into the Laguna province in Luzon.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday of  
National Artist  
**Benedicto R. Cabrera (1942)**  
Birth anniversary of  
Manlilikha ng Bayan  
**Masino Intaray (1943)**

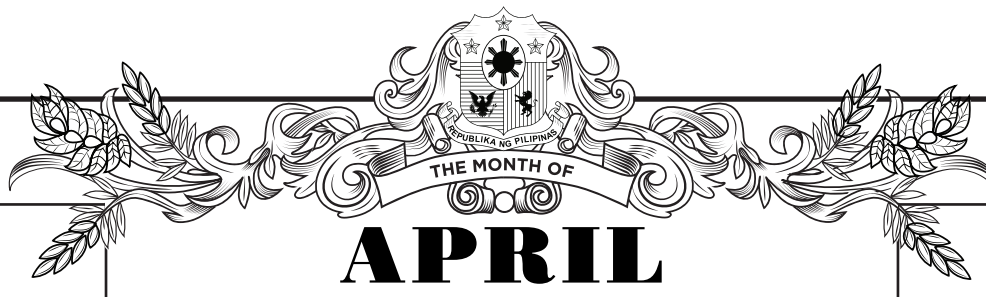
## APRIL 11

In 1942, Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos was captured by the Imperial Japanese Army in Barili, Cebu.



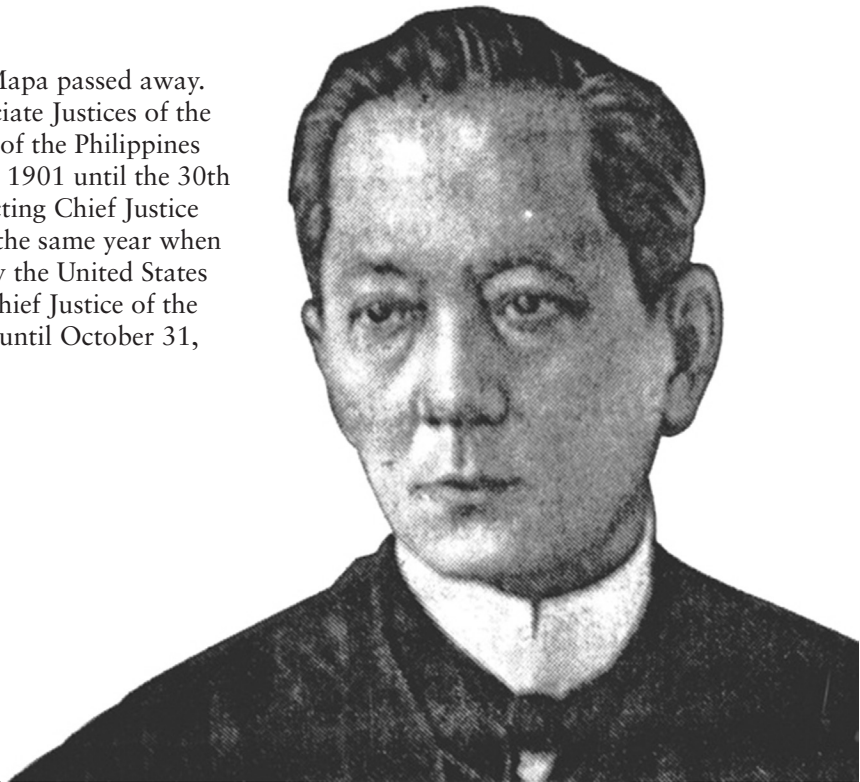
### ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday of National Artist  
**Bienvenido Lumbera (1932)**  
Death anniversary of National Scientist  
**Alfredo C. Santos (1990)**



## APRIL 12

In 1927, Chief Justice Victorino Mapa passed away. He served as one of the first Associate Justices of the newly established Supreme Court of the Philippines from his appointment on June 17, 1901 until the 30th of October, 1913. He served as Acting Chief Justice from April 1, 1920 until July 1 of the same year when his appointment was confirmed by the United States Senate. He served as the second Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines until October 31,

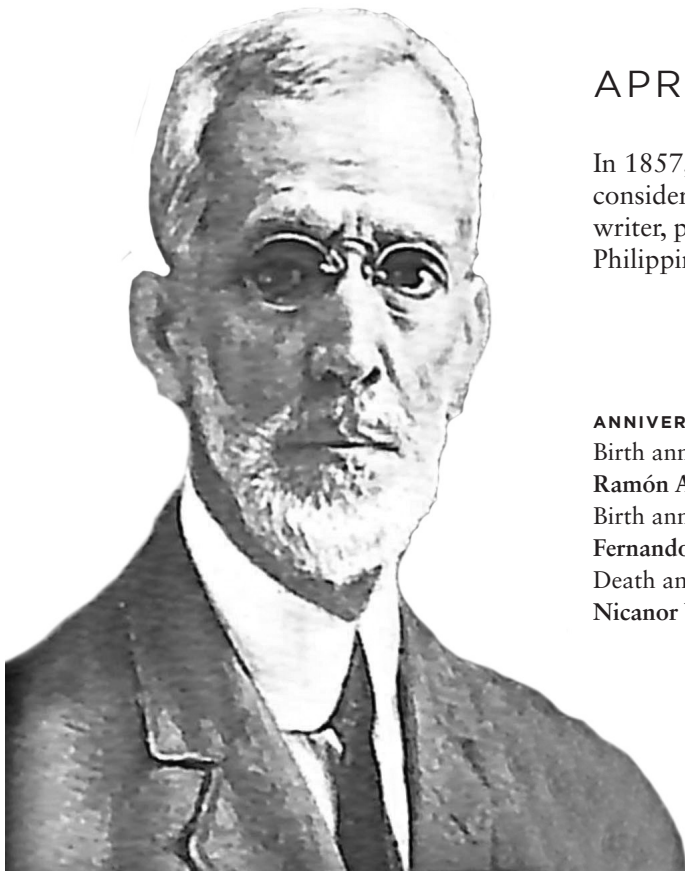


### ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday of National Scientist  
**Raul V. Fabella (1949)**  
Death anniversary of Chief Justice  
**Victorino Mapa (1927)**

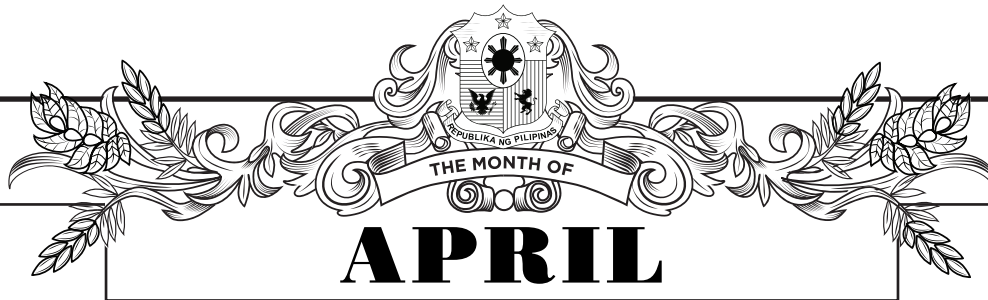
## APRIL 13

In 1857, Trinidad H. Pardo de Tavera was born. He was considered a bibliophile, bibliographer, scholar, historian, writer, political leader, physician, and member of the Philippine Commission. He died on March 26, 1925.



### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of Chief Justice  
**Ramón Avanceña (1872)**  
Birth anniversary of Vice President  
**Fernando Lopez (1904)**  
Death anniversary of Speaker of the Batasang Pambansa  
**Nicanor Yñiguez (2007)**



APRIL 14



President Manuel L. Quezon and his family met by U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Captain John McCrea in Washington, D.C., upon their arrival on May 13, 1942.

In 1937, U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt appointed the Joint Preparatory Commission on Philippine Affairs to recommend a program of economic adjustment as the Philippines moved towards independence. The Committee, composed of American and Filipino experts, was to study trade relations between the United States and the Philippines and to recommend a program for the adjustment of Philippine national economy.

APRIL 15

In 1948, President Manuel Roxas delivered a speech at Clark Air Base, Pampanga. Shortly afterwards, he suffered from a heart attack and passed away.



Upon his arrival at Clark Air Base, President Manuel Roxas (LEFT) was received by General E. L. Eubanks (RIGHT), who was Commanding General of the 13th Air Force. After being taken ill after delivering his speech, President Roxas retired to General Eubank's house, where he died later that evening.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of President Manuel Roxas (1948)

**PROCLAMATION**

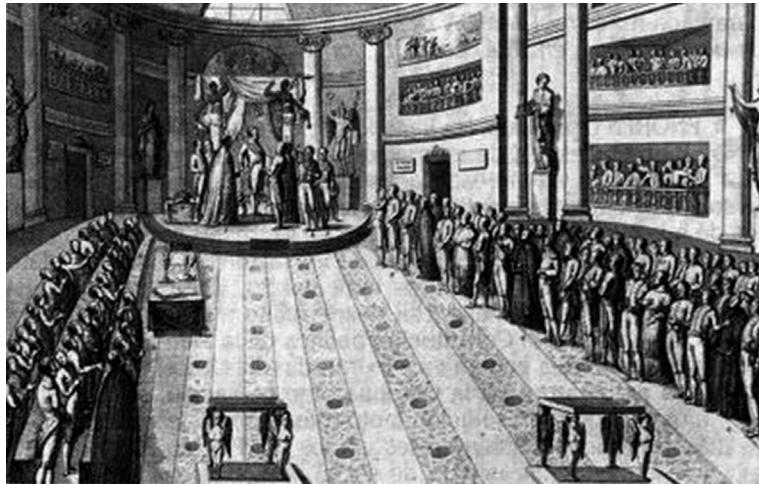
▲ President Manuel Roxas Day (Republic Act No. 9067 of 2001)

REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**APRIL**

**APRIL 16**

In 1837, the Philippine representation in the Spanish Cortes was abolished. It was established for 27 years before its abolishment.

The opening of the Spanish Court of 1812 to draft the Cadiz Constitution. At the time, the Philippines had direct representation in the court.



**APRIL 17**

In 1948, Vice President Elpidio Quirino arrived in Manila to take his oath of office and pay his respects to the late President Manuel Roxas, who died two days before.

Vice President Quirino had been on the coast guard cutter *Anemone* off the coast of Visayas when he learned of President Roxas' death.

**PROCLAMATION**

**National Hemophilia Day**  
(Proclamation No. 1478, s. 2008)



At 9:45 a.m., President Elpidio Quirino was sworn in as the second President of the Third Republic of the Philippines by Acting Chief Justice Ricardo Paras.

**APRIL 18**

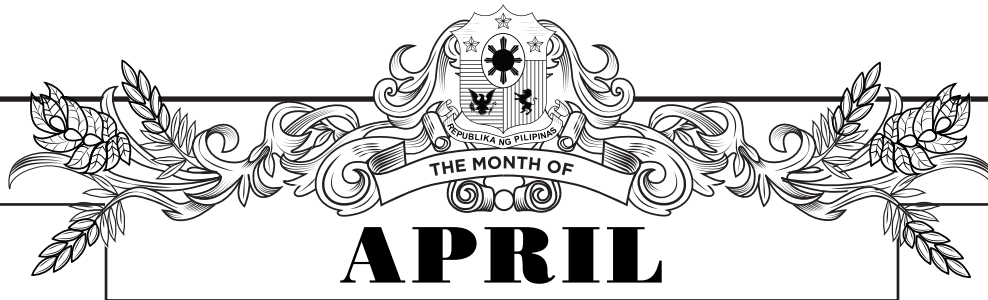
In 1591, Pope Gregory XIV issued a papal bull freeing all the slaves in the Philippines.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of Chief Justice  
Claudio Teehankee Sr. (1918)



Pope Gregory XIV



APRIL 19

## Birthday of President Joseph Ejercito Estrada

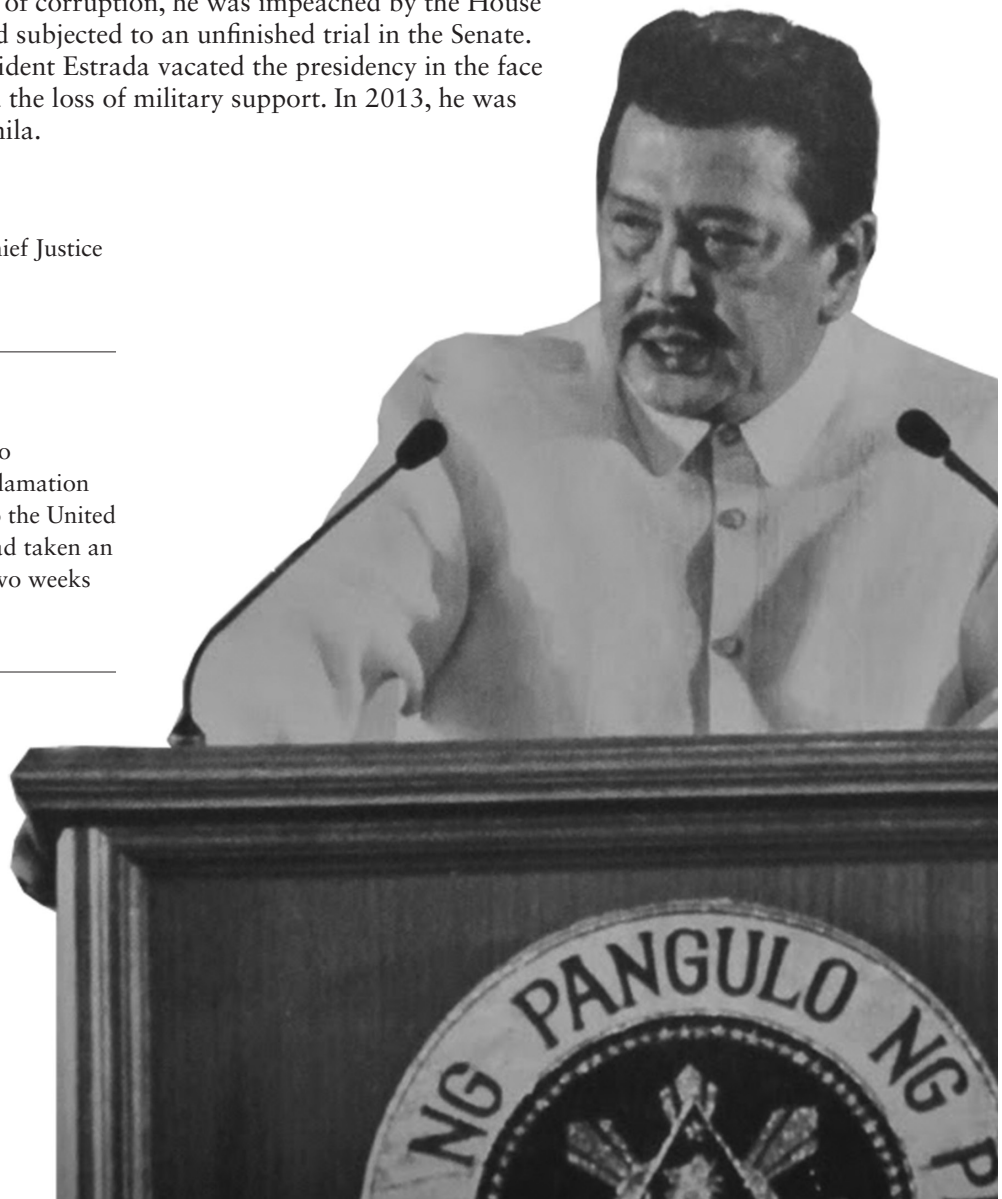
In 1937, Joseph Ejercito Estrada, the 13th President of the Philippines and the third President of the Fifth Republic, was born in Tondo, Manila. Popularly known as “Erap,” the former film actor started his political career as Mayor of San Juan, a municipality within Metropolitan Manila. After the EDSA Revolution, he won a seat in the Senate before being elected as Vice President in 1992, after which he was tasked by President Ramos to lead crime-fighting initiatives. Elected President by a large margin in 1998, President Estrada pursued a hard line against Muslim rebels and sought to eradicate poverty, crime, and corruption in the country. After being himself accused of corruption, he was impeached by the House of Representatives and subjected to an unfinished trial in the Senate. In January 2001, President Estrada vacated the presidency in the face of popular outcry and the loss of military support. In 2013, he was elected Mayor of Manila.

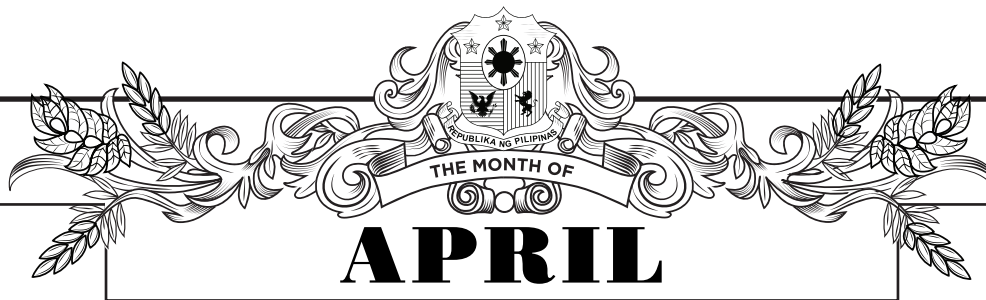
### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of Chief Justice Fred Ruiz Castro (1979)

### TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1901, President Emilio Aguinaldo issued a proclamation formally surrendering to the United States of America. He had taken an oath of allegiance just two weeks earlier.





## APRIL 20

In 1654, Archbishop Miguel Poblete laid the cornerstone of the Manila Cathedral, rebuilt for the fourth time. The third iteration of the cathedral was destroyed by the 1645 earthquake.



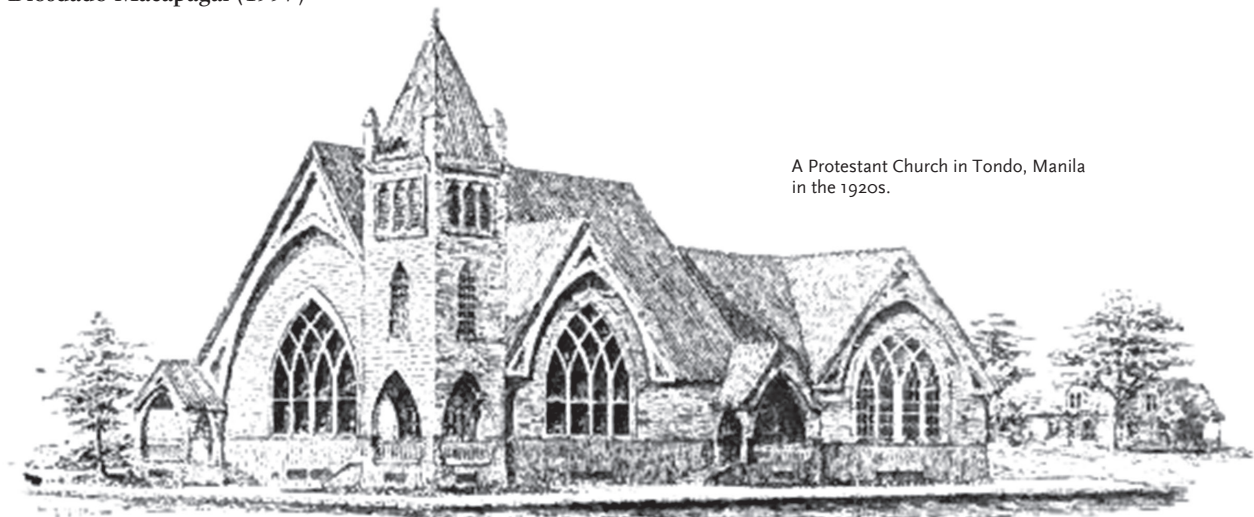
The Manila Cathedral in Intramuros, Manila before World War II.

## APRIL 21

In 1899, Presbyterian missionaries arrived in Manila—the first Protestant mission in the Philippines.

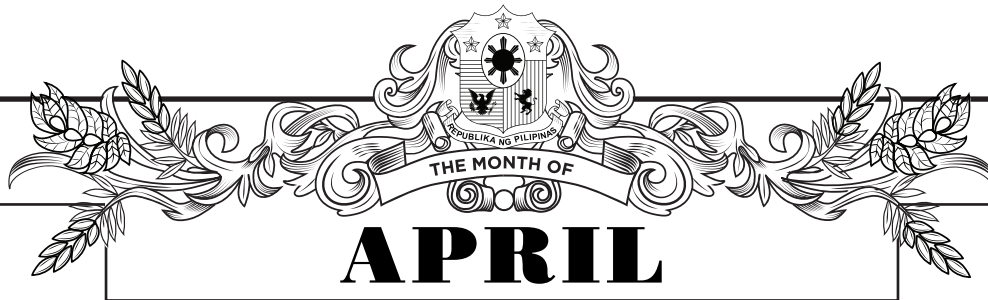
### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of President Diosdado Macapagal (1997)



A Protestant Church in Tondo, Manila in the 1920s.

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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**APRIL**

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## APRIL 22

In 1901, a civil government was established by the Americans in Albay.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist Edith L. Tiempo (1919)

### PROCLAMATION

Philippines' Earth Day (Proclamation No. 1481, s. 2008)



Hemp carts at the Albay Province in the early 1900s.

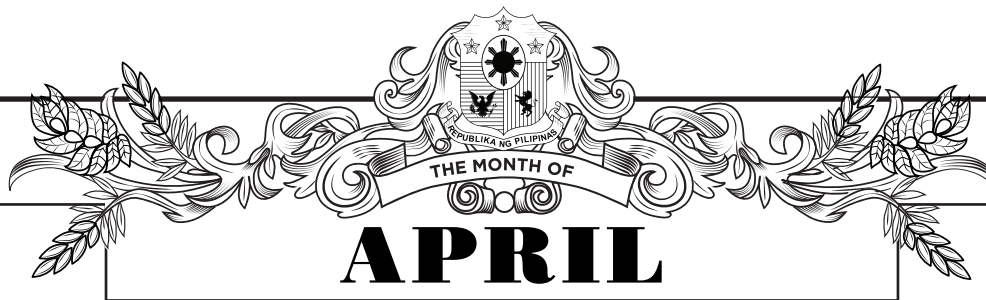
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## APRIL 23



In 1946, the first post-war elections were held in the country. Manuel Roxas and Elpidio Quirino were elected President and Vice President of the Philippines, respectively.

Manuel Roxas (LEFT) and Elpidio Quirino (RIGHT)



APRIL 24

## First National Artist: Fernando Amorsolo

In 1972, Fernando Amorsolo, National Artist for Visual Arts - Painting, passed away.

"The country had its first National Artist in Fernando C. Amorsolo. The official title 'Grand Old Man of Philippine Art' was bestowed on Amorsolo when the Manila Hilton inaugurated its art center on January 23, 1969, with an exhibit of a selection of his works. Returning from his studies abroad in the 1920s, Amorsolo developed the backlighting technique that became his trademark where figures, a cluster of leaves, spill of hair, the swell of breast, are seen aglow on canvas." "This light, Nick Joaquin opines, is the rapture of a sensualist utterly in love with the earth, with the Philippine sun, and is an accurate expression of Amorsolo's own exuberance. His citation underscores all his years of creative activity which have 'defined and perpetuated a distinct element of the nation's artistic and cultural heritage.'" (National Commission for Culture and the Arts)

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
Department of Finance  
(Philippine Revolutionary Government  
of 1897)





## APRIL 25

In 1898, the United States of America formally declared war on Spain.

Known as the Spanish-American War, it would result in the defeat of the Spanish forces in Cuba and the Philippines. The hostilities would end in December of 1898, with the signing of the Treaty of Paris which turned over the Philippines to the United States of America.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Artist Lamberto V. Avellana (1991)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Department of Budget and Management (Executive Order No. 25, s. 1936)

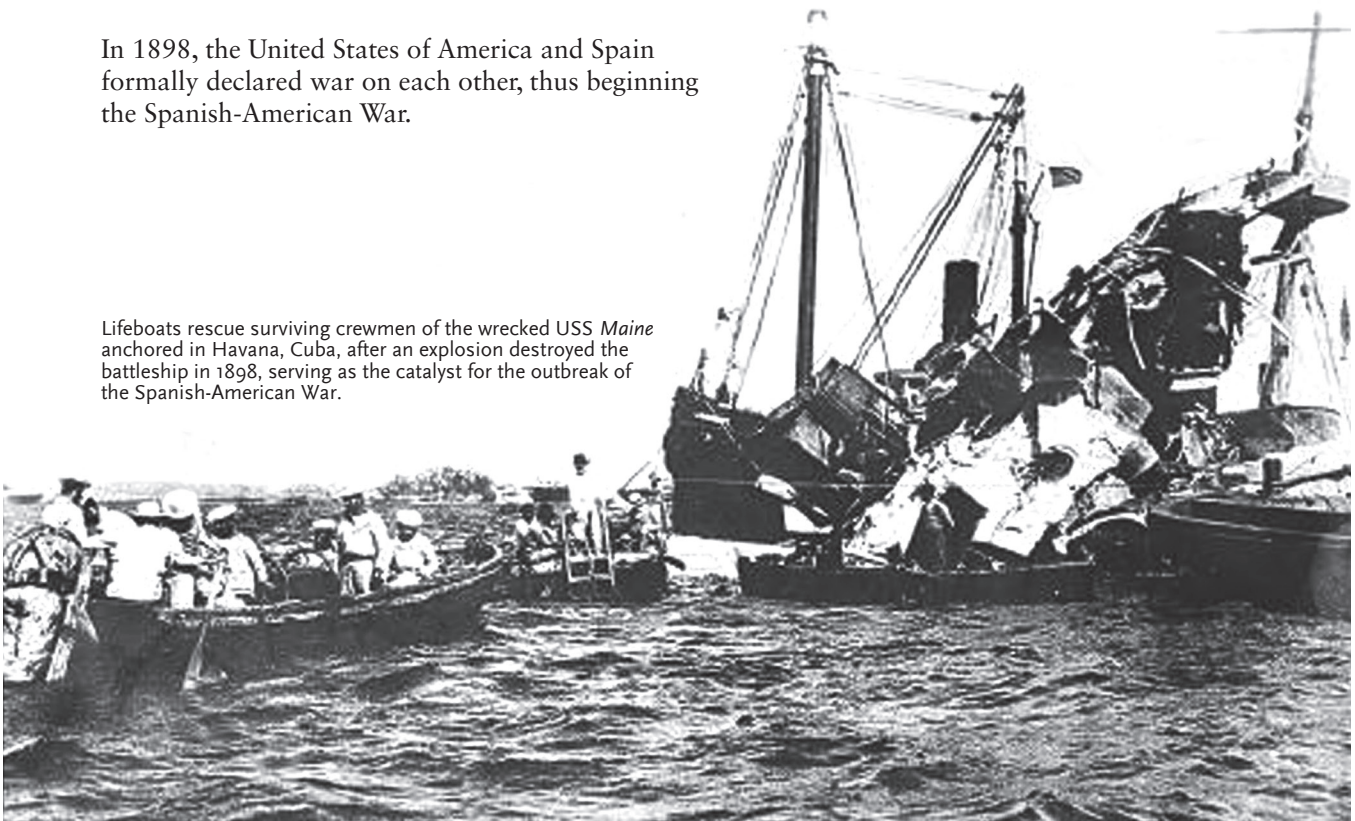


Frontpage spread of the April 25, 1898 issue of *The San Francisco Call*.

## APRIL 26

In 1898, the United States of America and Spain formally declared war on each other, thus beginning the Spanish-American War.

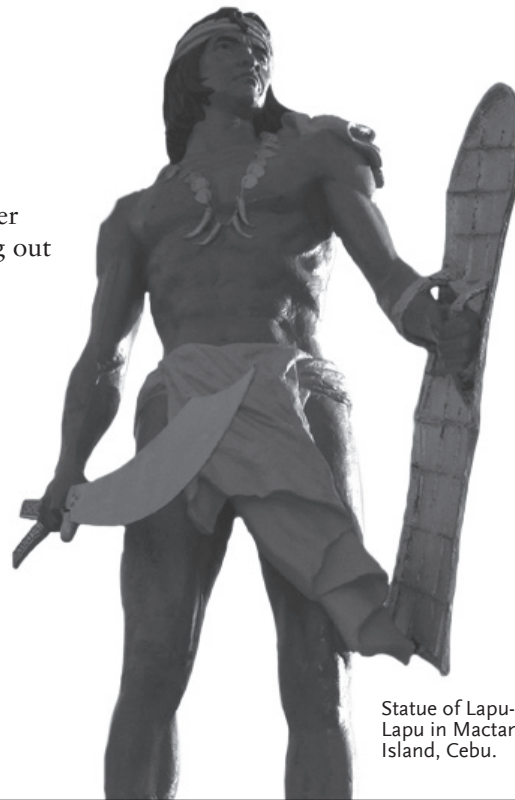
Lifeboats rescue surviving crewmen of the wrecked USS *Maine* anchored in Havana, Cuba, after an explosion destroyed the battleship in 1898, serving as the catalyst for the outbreak of the Spanish-American War.



REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**APRIL**

**APRIL 27**

In 1521, Lapu-Lapu, the datu of Mactan, defeated Ferdinand Magellan, a renowned Portuguese explorer who swore fealty to Spain, in a pitched battle arising out of a controversy with the Rajah of Cebu.



**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
Order of National Artists  
(Proclamation No. 1144, s. 1973)

Statue of Lapu-Lapu in Mactan Island, Cebu.

**APRIL 28**



University of Santo Tomas building in Intramuros in the 1900s.

In 1611, the University of Santo Tomas, the oldest university in Asia, was founded. The institution was established through the initiative of Bishop Miguel de Benavides, O.P., the third Archbishop of Manila.

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
Birth anniversary of National Artist **Hernando R. Ocampo** (1911)  
Death anniversary of National Artist **Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero** (1995)

**APRIL 29**

In 1898, the Filipino Committee in Hong Kong, known as the Hong Kong Junta, drafted a proclamation in the name of General Aguinaldo urging all Filipino revolutionary chiefs “to prepare yourselves to fight our old enemies, and to use all means within your power to capture their forces.”



**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of National Artist Nick Joaquin (2004)

The Pact of Biak-na-Bato concluded by the Filipino revolutionaries led by Emilio Aguinaldo and the Spanish government represented by Pedro Paterno. The revolutionaries were voluntarily exiled in Hong Kong. The exiles would be known as the Hong Kong Junta.

**APRIL 30**



An editorial cartoon from the April 3, 1937 issue of the *Philippines Free Press*.

In 1937, women’s suffrage in the Philippines was approved in a special plebiscite mandated by Commonwealth Act No. 34, where voting was restricted to women who possessed the qualifications required for male voters.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of National Artist Levi Celerio (1910)  
 Death anniversary of Manlilikha ng Bayan Lang Dulay (2015)



# World War II in the Philippines

President Manuel L. Quezon was in Baguio, recovering from an illness, when Executive Secretary Jorge Vargas informed him—at three in the morning of December 8, 1941, Philippine time—of the Imperial Japanese Forces’ attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii.

A reporter, Yay Panlilio, had gone up to Baguio to get a statement from President Quezon. Just after dawn, President Quezon sat down to write, “The zero hour has arrived. I expect every Filipino—man and woman—to do his duty. We have pledged our honor to stand to the last by the United States and we shall not fail her, happen what may.”

At 6:20 a.m., Japanese aircraft attacked Davao. At 8:30 a.m., Baguio and Tuguegarao and Tarlac were simultaneously attacked by the Japanese. By the close of December 8, the Japanese army had bombed airfields in Zambales, Clark Field Pampanga, and Fort McKinley on the outskirts of Manila.

The next handful of days would be marked by the first volley of attacks by the Japanese troops. Japanese planes would repeatedly bomb Nichols Field, destroying vital American aircraft on the ground, and the Cavite Navy Yard, heavily damaging the American naval fleet stationed in the Philippines.

On December 18, 1941, by virtue of Executive Order No. 386, s. 1941, the Philippine flag was reversed to indicate a state of war. Not since the Philippine-American War was the flag flown with the red side up.

The Japanese invasion of the Philippines began on December 8, 1941; on December 24, 1941, the United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFFE) high command and the War Cabinet of the Commonwealth withdrew to Corregidor. On December 26, 1941, Manila was declared an Open City. The Japanese occupied Manila on January 2, 1942, and the siege of Bataan and Corregidor began. The ordeal of the Filipino and American troops in Bataan and Corregidor was marked with audacious exploits: from the naval heroism demonstrated by Ramon Alcaraz and other intrepid officers and crew of the Philippine Army’s Q-Boats, to the derring-do and aerial valor of pilots such as Jose Villamor, to the untold hardships endured by Philippine Scouts, Philippine Army and Constabulary troops, and American forces as they parried the attacks of the Japanese, including some signal successes such as the Battle of the Points on January 23 to February 13, 1941.

On April 9, 1942, officials in command of Bataan—where Filipino and American forces maintained the main resistance in the war



Flushed with victory, invaders give with the traditional “Banzai!”

against the Japanese—formally surrendered. Through the “Voice of Freedom” radio broadcast, Third Lieutenant Normando Idefonso Reyes—reading a message prepared by Captain Salvador P. Lopez—informed the Philippines and the world from Malinta Tunnel in Corregidor: “Bataan has fallen.”

*Bataan has fallen. The Philippine-American troops on this war-ravaged and bloodstained peninsula have laid down their arms. With heads bloody but unbowed, they have yielded to the superior force and numbers of the enemy.*

Halfway through the “Voice of Freedom” radio broadcast, Third Lieutenant Reyes read, “Bataan has fallen, but the spirit that made it stand—a beacon to all the liberty-loving peoples of the world—cannot fall!”

The siege and defense of Bataan lasted 93 days—just four months after the USAFFE (later renamed the United States Forces in the Philippines) retreated to Bataan. Teodoro Agoncillo writes in *The Fateful Years: Japan’s Adventure in the Philippines* of the events leading up to General Edward P. King Jr.’s official surrender of the Bataan command to Japanese troops:

*Whether by design or by accident, [General Masaharu Homma]’s choice of April 3 as the opening of his general offensive against the USFIP (United States Forces in the Philippines) was significant not only to the Japanese, but to the Filipino-American troops. To the Japanese, it was the anniversary of the death of their first emperor, Jimmu, a day of fasting and devout ceremonies. To the Filipinos and the Americans, it meant the religious observance of the Crucifixion, a day of fasting, of compassion, and of suffering. To both combatants, therefore, April 3 was a day of sacrifice and gloom.*

*At about 9:00 a.m. [April 3, 1942], an array of guns, mortars and howitzers began pounding the USFIP lines with devastating effect. At the same time, enemy bombers battered the USFIP targets with such frequency and strength as to shake the whole of central Bataan and to make the Filipino-American troops in the foxholes shiver with fright. The defense constructions so painfully put up by the Filipinos and Americans were pulverized, communications lines knocked out, and trees and grass turned to cinders. The bombing went on and on until the morale of the defenders sagged and almost collapsed. The young*



*and inexperienced Philippine Army recruits and trainees who were caught by the way in their training camps and who were thus compelled to retreat to Bataan with the rest of the USAFFE units, cowered, wept and huddled together like frightened sheep—unable to move and carry their guns for fear of being blasted out of their foxholes. For these young boys, most of whom were in college or high school when they ordered to report for military training, there could only be interminable prayers and a faint hope of salvation from the enemy's furious bombing and cannonading.*

*In the morning of April 4, the Japanese began another series of air-artillery bombardment that softened further the already soft USFIP lines... At dusk, a Japanese unit succeeded in reaching the foothills of Mt. Samat. They then regrouped preparatory to an all-out attack on the mountain. On Easter Sunday [April 5, 1942], the Japanese renewed their drumfire, and soon after two columns moved to the attack... At past noon the Japanese securing the summit of Mt. Samat.... The Japanese were now in possession of a strategic area... At 4:30pm the advance elements of this column surprised the command post of the 21st Division and captured [their leader] General Capinpin... That night, the Tanugichi and the Sato columns joined up at Capinpin's former command post. Thus, at the end of the day, [the leader of the Japanese 14th army, Masaharu] Homma's hopes of driving [the Fil-am forces] to Manila Bay were almost realized. For him, victory was in sight. As the morning light filtered through the leafy branches of the Bataan jungles, April 6, the USFIP jumped off to a counterattack.*

The frenzied enemy bombing and artillery fire, coupled with hunger and the high incidence of malaria and other diseases, further demoralized the Filipino-American troops. Large groups of soldiers—Filipinos as well as Americans—moved back to the rear even without any orders to do so. Attempts to put them back into the fighting line proved futile. April 7 saw the disintegration of the USFIP. The Japanese artillery continued pounding the defender's lines; bombers flew no less than 160 sorties and dropped some 100 tons of

explosives on the Second Corps installations. Intentional or not, the Japanese bombers hit the hospital at Little Baguio, and its sick and wounded patients shrieked in agony and fear as bombs exploded in their midst. Mangled bodies were strewn in all directions, human flesh was later found dangling on the trees, and limbs were almost everywhere.

Along the Second Corps lines chaos and pandemonium took the place of order and discipline. In the hope of retrieving the almost impossible situation, Wainwright, in the afternoon of April 7, ordered a counter-attack to the east of the First Corps in an attempt to maintain the line unbroken from the east to the west side of the [Bataan] peninsula. General Jones, commander of the First Corps, protested on the ground that his men could not make it, particularly because they were too sick and could not pull the heavy equipment or artillery. Wainwright then gave General King, commander of the Luzon force, the right to make the final decision... Homma, who had estimated his final drive to last a month, was jubilant over his enemy's unexpected deterioration. He took advantage of the chaos reigning in his enemy's camp by ordering his troops to push on to Cabcaben, at the tip of Bataan.

The USFIP was no longer in a position to meet this enemy thrust. The troops were suffering from extreme hunger and from lack of sleep. "We were so tired," said one officer, "that the only way to stay awake was to remain standing."

Added to this discomfiture was the enemy's constant bombing and strafing. Incendiary bombs were dropped on USFIP positions along the cogon grass, and when "hell broke loose" the troops were transformed into firemen desperately trying to put out the raging fire with whatever equipment they had at the moment.

On April 8, Wainwright wrote to MacArthur that his men's power of resistance was practically nil and that he was "forced to report that the troops on Bataan are fast folding up."

As early as April 7, General King had already been toying with the idea of surrendering to the enemy. The Second Corps was in shambles;



the First Corps, though intact, was in full retreat.

Equipment was being put to the torch. The trails and roads were clogged with men and assorted vehicles that made movement almost an impossibility. Nobody knew the direction of his march. And all wanted a piece of earth, a little space on which they could rest their weary heads. Communications between the frontline and headquarters no longer existed and "orders had to be revoked because they could not be complied with."



Japanese unit moves down open space on battered island fort following successful bombing and landing.

On April 8, General Edward P. King ordered his field commanders to make adequate preparations for the destruction of equipment and weapons, except vehicles and gasoline. At 11:00 pm, when all seemed lost, General King held a "weighty conference" with his chief of staff and the operations officer. There was much introspection and self-analysis. General King laid before his senior officers the actual situation and asked whether the enemy, under the circumstances, would succeed in reaching Mariveles, and thus dominate Corregidor island, with or without opposition from them. Reviewing the tactical situation, all agreed that there was no way of stopping the Japanese from capturing Mariveles not later than the evening of April 9. With no relief in sight, General King then decided to negotiate with the Japanese to surrender.

Thus General King surrendered the Bataan command to the Japanese. His meeting with General Nagano Kamaechiro and Colonel Nakayama Matoo began at 11 a.m. of April 9, 1942; he officially surrendered the Bataan command on 12:30 p.m. John H. Whitman notes in *Bataan: Our Last Ditch* that General

King enacted a scene that "had not been seen since 1865 and that has not been seen since, the surrender of an American army." Agoncillo writes of the meeting:

*King, as befits a military man, rose to greet Nakayama, but the latter, obviously displaying the air of a conqueror, brushed him off and proceeded to the head of the table. King, at the opposite end of the table, never looked 'more like a soldier than in this hour of defeat.'*

*It was quite obvious at the start that Nakayama had no definite instructions, for Homma believed that King was Wainwright's representative and, consequently, sent a man of lesser rank to meet with King. [King explains that] he could not get Wainwright and that he represented the forces on Bataan alone. He explained in detail that he was seeking armistice to prevent further bloodshed. Consequently, he asked the Japanese to stop their bombing missions. Nakayama pointed out that it was impossible, for their planes had missions until noon.*

*"Thinking of the sick and the wounded,*



*King requested that his troops be permitted to leave Bataan under their own officers and that the sick and the wounded be allowed to ride in their vehicles to be delivered at any place General Homma might designate. Nakayama refused to consider this request and insisted that cessation of hostilities would be considered only on the basis of the surrender of all the forces in the Philippines. "It is absolutely impossible," said Nakayama, "or me to consider negotiations... in any limited area." However, he added that if the units on Bataan wanted to surrender as units they could do so 'voluntarily and unconditionally.'*

*"Will our troops be well treated?" King wanted assurances.*

*"We are not barbarians. Will you surrender unconditionally?" the Japanese asked with some asperity.*

*King, realizing the impossibility of his position and that of his men, decided to give up. At 12:30 p.m, he agreed to surrender unconditionally.*

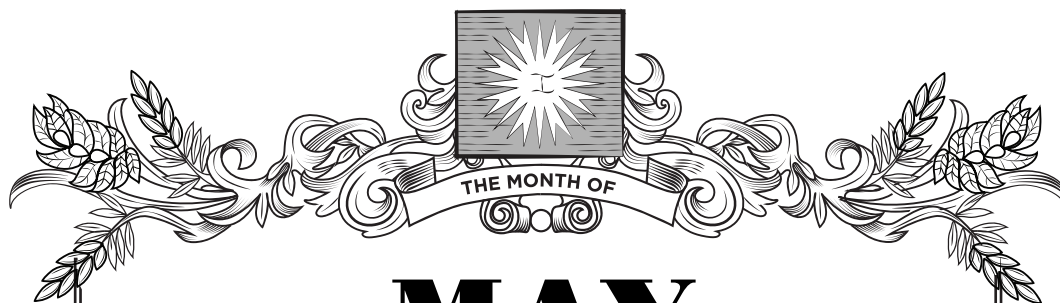
*He handed his pistol to Nakayama, in lieu of his saber, which, he explained, he had left behind in Manila when the war broke out. His officers followed suit and they became captives of the enemy. Col. Collier and Major Hurt were sent back to King's headquarters to break the news to Gen. Funk, King's chief of staff. On the way, they notified all troops of the armistice and told them to march to the East Road and there await further instructions. The Japanese, on the other hand, agreed to advance only as far as Cabcaben airfield and no further. The Battle of Bataan was over.*

In Australia, President Quezon made his first

public statement since arriving Australia, summarized by the press as pledging the Philippines to the Allied cause, and which paid a "glowing tribute" to the valor of Filipino troops who fought side by side with the Americans. Every Filipino who fought on Bataan will be a national hero, he said; and pointed out that resistance continued in other parts of the country. For his part, Field Marshal MacArthur read a statement to reporters, following the fall of Bataan: "The Bataan Force went out as it would have wished, fighting to the end its flickering, forlorn hope. No army has done so much with so little, and nothing became it more than its last hour of trial and agony. To the weeping mothers of its dead, I can only say that the sacrifice and halo of Jesus of Nazareth has descended upon their sons, and that God will take them unto Himself."

After the official surrender of Bataan to the Imperial Japanese Forces, thousands of Filipino and American soldiers were forced to march from Mariveles, Bataan to Capas, Tarlac. The prisoners initially began on foot but then transferred to freight cars. Whitman writes, "Because of the complete breakdown in the army's organization, the losses suffered by the defenders in the final week of fighting will never be known. The Luzon Force personnel officer's returns for April 3 carried 78,100 Filipinos and Americans on the rolls. About 3,000 men escaped to Corregidor. There were about 45,000 Filipinos and 9,300 Americans in Camp O'Donnell prison camp between April 10 and June 4. The difference in the two figures, 75,000 and 54,300, is due to fighting, the Death March, and—most significant—disease and starvation in the prison camp itself. Within two months of the surrender, more than 21,000 men disappeared." Though the death toll may vary, the Bataan Death March remains widely considered as one of the worst atrocities of the Second World War.





# MAY

Kicking off the month of May is Labor Day. This occasion serves as a reminder of the rights of workers and employees. As such, it has been declared by the government as a non-working holiday. Later on in the month, we start a two-week-long tribute to the Philippine flag, as a prelude to the celebration of independence in June.

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MONTHLY  
OBSERVANCES

**Land Transportation Safety Month**

*(Proclamation No. 115-A, s. 1966)*

**Youth and Student Travel Month**

*(Proclamation No. 1138, s. 1973)*

**The Month of the Ocean**

*(Proclamation No. 57, s. 1998)*

**Cervical Cancer Consciousness Month**

*(Proclamation No. 368, s. 2003)*

**National Heritage Month**

*(Proclamation No. 439, s. 2003)*

**Anti-Graft and Corruption Awareness Month**

*(Proclamation No. 591, s. 2004)*

**National Hypertension Awareness Month**

*(Proclamation No. 1761, s. 2009)*

**Volunteerism Month**

*(Proclamation No. 1778, s. 2009)*

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MAY 6-12

**National Hospital Week**

*(Proclamation No. 308, s. 1952)*

FIRST MONDAY TO  
THE SUCCEEDING  
SUNDAY OF MAY

**National Traffic Safety Week**

*(Proclamation No. 28, s. 1966)*

2<sup>ND</sup> WEEK

**Safe Motherhood Week**

*(Proclamation No. 200, s. 2002)*

**National 4-H Club Week**

*(Proclamation No. 196, s. 1967)*

3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK

**Barrio Communities Week**

*(Proclamation No. 485, s. 1958)*

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1<sup>ST</sup> FULL MOON  
OF MAY

**Vesak Day**

*(Proclamation No. 24, s. 2001)*

2<sup>ND</sup> MONDAY

**Safe Driving Day (S-D Day)**

*(Proclamation No. 28, s. 1966)*



MAY 1

## Tydings-McDuffie Act



President Franklin D. Roosevelt (SEATED) signed the Tydings-McDuffie Bill on March 24, 1934. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: U.S. Senator Joseph O'Mahoney; George Dern, Secretary of War; Philippine Senator Elpidio Quirino; U.S. President Roosevelt; Manuel Quezon, President of the Philippine Senate; U.S. Senator Millard E. Tydings; and General Charles Frederick Cox, Chief of the Bureau of Insular Affairs.

In 1934, the Philippine Legislature unanimously accepted the Tydings-McDuffie Act, which provided for a ten-year transition period before the U.S. recognition of Philippine Independence. The said legislature, led by Senate President Manuel L. Quezon, lobbied the Philippine Independence Bill in the U.S. Congress through several "Independence Missions." The Act was finally authored in the 73rd U.S. Congress by Senator Millard E. Tydings and Representative John McDuffie, with the Philippine delegates led by Quezon securing the Act's passage. The Act provided for the drafting and guidelines of a Constitution for a temporary government, which became known as the Commonwealth of the Philippines, during which the U.S. would maintain military forces in the Philippines. Furthermore, during this period the American President was granted the power to call into military service all military forces of the Philippine government. The Act permitted the maintenance of U.S. naval bases within the Philippine region, for two years after independence.

The Act also reclassified all Filipinos that were living in the United States as aliens for the purposes of immigration to America. Filipinos residing in the U.S. who still held on to their Filipino citizenship were no longer allowed to work legally in the U.S., and a quota of 50 immigrants per year was established.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Felipe P. de Leon (1912)

### PROCLAMATION

• Labor Day  
(Proclamation No. 655, s. 2013)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Philippine Overseas Employment Administration  
(Executive Order No. 797, s. 1982)



MAY 2

## The Execution of Jose Abad Santos

In 1942, Chief Justice Abad Santos was executed by the Imperial Japanese Forces for refusing to collaborate. Jose Abad Santos was born on February 19, 1886, and was raised in Pampanga at the height of the Philippine Revolution against Spain. He was one of the first Filipinos to return from America with a law degree. He served as Secretary of Justice under various American Governors-General beginning 1922. In 1938, he was appointed Secretary of Justice for the third time by President Manuel L. Quezon, who had long trusted him because of his remarkable legal expertise and steadfast temperament, and often sought his advice on matters of state. On July 16, 1941, Abad Santos was reappointed to the Supreme Court by President Quezon.

War broke out on December 8, 1941, and the Japanese invasion of the Philippines began. The Commonwealth Government had to evacuate Manila. On December 22, the Government reorganized to address the situation, creating the Commonwealth War Cabinet. On December 24, President Quezon appointed Abad Santos as Chief Justice, hours before the Commonwealth War Cabinet evacuated Manila for Corregidor.

When President Quezon invited Chief Justice Abad Santos to join his government-in-exile in Washington, D.C., he replied, "If you will excuse me, Mr. President, I prefer to remain, carry on my work here, and stay with my family." President Quezon would appoint Abad Santos as his "delegate"—effectively Acting President of the Commonwealth Government. Abad Santos bade goodbye to the President for the last time in Zamboangita Point and returned to Bacolod. He proceeded to Cebu by boat to oversee the civil government there. He and his men were later captured in the hinterlands of Barili, Cebu on April 11, 1942.

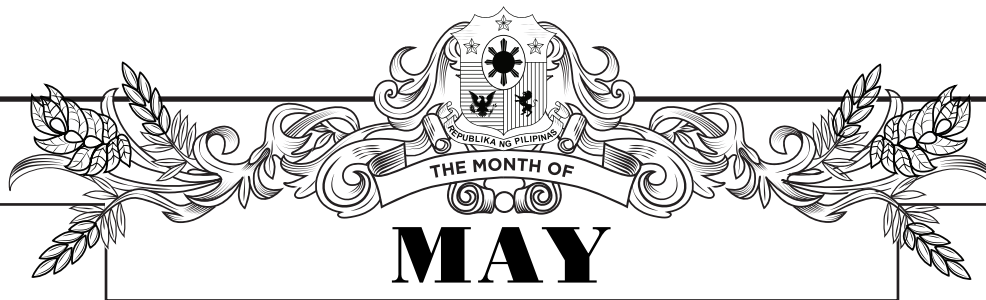
When he declined to take an oath of allegiance to Japan, or to cooperate with the Japanese government, he was ordered to be executed. On



May 2, 1942, the date he was to be killed, he spent his last moments with his son Jose "Pepito" Abad Santos Jr., reminding him not to cry. "Show these people that you are brave. It is a rare opportunity for me to die for our country. Not everybody is given that chance." Before he left his son for the last time, he instructed Pepito to take care of the remaining members of his family. His last words were: "Tell them to live up to our name. God bless you, my son." While his tenure as Chief Justice may have been short and his stint as acting President has often been relegated to dusty history books, Jose Abad Santos, continues to be an exemplar of fidelity to the Filipino nation.

### ANNIVERSARY

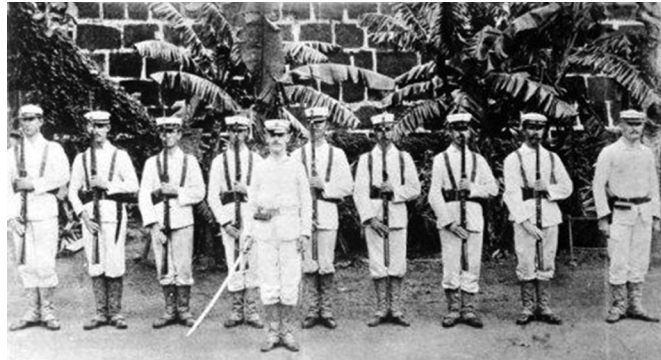
Death anniversary of Chief Justice  
Jose Abad Santos (1942)



## MAY 3

In 1899, the Cavite arsenal was occupied by American forces under Commodore George Dewey.

On the same day, the Spanish garrison in Corregidor surrendered to the USS *Baltimore* also under Commodore Dewey's fleet.



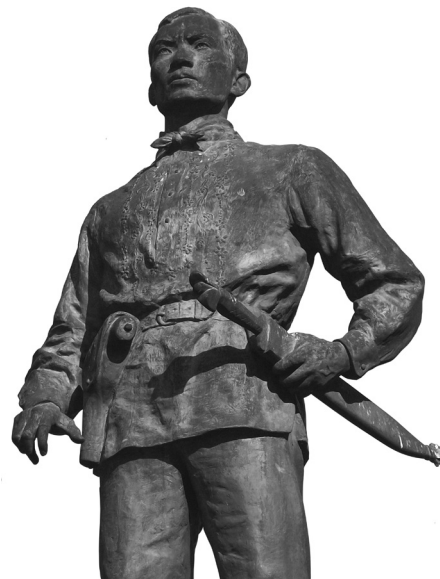
Lt. Dion Williams, U.S. Marine Corps—and the marine detachment which ran up the first American flag to fly over the Philippines—rendered military courtesy to Commodore George Dewey on his first visit ashore.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of Chief Justice **Roberto V. Concepcion (1987)**

## MAY 4

In 1897, Andres Bonifacio's trial before the Council of War began amidst the Filipino campaign of war against Spain. Allegedly going against the government established in Tejeros due to his contending of its legitimacy, Andres Bonifacio and his brother Procopio were arrested by a one-sided military court. A few days later they were sentenced to death.



### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist **Antonino R. Buenaventura (1904)**  
 Birth anniversary of National Artist **Nick Joaquin (1917)**

## MAY 5

In 1939, the National Assembly approved the transfer of the University of the Philippines from Manila to Diliman in Quezon City, appropriating P17,500,000.00 for the project.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Artist **Jose M. Maceda (2004)**

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

**Commission on Human Rights**  
 (Executive Order No. 163, s. 1987)



The Oblation in the University of the Philippines Diliman has become the iconic symbol of the institution.



MAY 6

## The Fall of Corregidor



3-inch anti-aircraft gun M3 on Corregidor.

In 1942, Corregidor Island, the island fortress at the entrance of Manila Bay, fell to the Japanese Imperial Army. Upon the fall of Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942, Corregidor was the last bastion of Filipino and American forces against the Japanese invasion. It was important for the Japanese to capture Corregidor for their navy to utilize Manila Bay for their campaign. The island was subjected to constant shelling from more than 300 full-scale Japanese air raids and hundreds of thousands of heavy artillery rounds—up to 16,000 on a single day. Lt. Gen. Jonathan Wainwright, commander of the forces in Corregidor, finally surrendered to the Japanese led by General Masaharu Homma.



## MAY 7

In 1892, Private Tomas Mateo Claudio, the only Filipino casualty of the First World War, was born in Morong, Rizal.

On 1917, the United States entered the First World War in Europe. Claudio, who had been a student in the United States when the war broke out, had enlisted in the US Army.

On June 29, 1918, Private Tomas Claudio died at the Battle of Chateau-Thierry in France. He is considered the first Filipino to fall on foreign soil during World War I.



**ANNIVERSARY**  
Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Juan F. Nakpil (1986)

**PROCLAMATION**  
Health Worker's Day  
(Republic Act No. 10069 of 2010)

## MAY 8

In 1942, President Manuel L. Quezon and his family arrived in San Francisco from Australia. They escaped capture from the Japanese Imperial Army in the Philippines.



**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
Commission on Audit  
(Unnumbered memorandum by U.S.  
President William McKinley)

President Manuel L. Quezon congratulates Lieutenant John D. Bulkeley who had piloted him out of the Philippines in a torpedo boat through Japanese infested waters.



## MAY 9

In 1875, Lakambini of the Katipunan, and the wife of Andres Bonifacio, Gregoria de Jesus, was born in Kalookan (now Caloocan) to a middle class family. Andres Bonifacio, founder of the Katipunan, became her suitor when she was 18 years old. They married eventually. Aling Oriang—as she became known to Katipunan members—became the head of the women’s chapter of the Katipunan. She also became the custodian of Katipunan’s secret documents and seals. After Bonifacio’s untimely death, Gregoria de Jesus married Julio Nakpil, a Katipunan general, and they had eight children, one of whom was Juan F. Nakpil, a National Artist for Architecture.



### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Artist  
Ang Kiukok (2005)



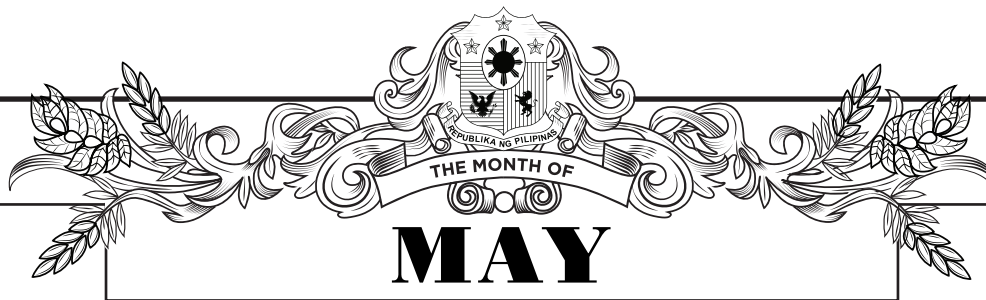
An alternate version of Bonifacio’s death illustrated by Carlos Valino Jr. According to this version, after his brother was shot, Bonifacio was stabbed to death.

## MAY 10

In 1897, days after his trial, Andres Bonifacio and his brother Procopio were executed at Mt. Buntis, Cavite.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of  
National Artist  
Ernani J. Cuenco (1936)



## MAY 11

In 1818, Francisco Mercado, Jose Rizal's father, was born in Biñan, Laguna. Known as an industrious man who cultivated his land by sheer hard work, Mercado established himself in Calamba, Laguna, becoming for a time its cabeza de barangay. He married Teodora Alonzo in 1848 and had eight children, one of whom was Jose Rizal.

Six days after Jose Rizal's martyrdom, Francisco Mercado died on January 5, 1897.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Artist Jose T. Joya (1995)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Department of Tourism  
(Presidential Decree No. 189, s. 1973)



## MAY 12

In 1962, President Diosdado Macapagal moved the celebration of Independence Day from July 4 to June 12.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Artist Daisy H. Avellana (2013)



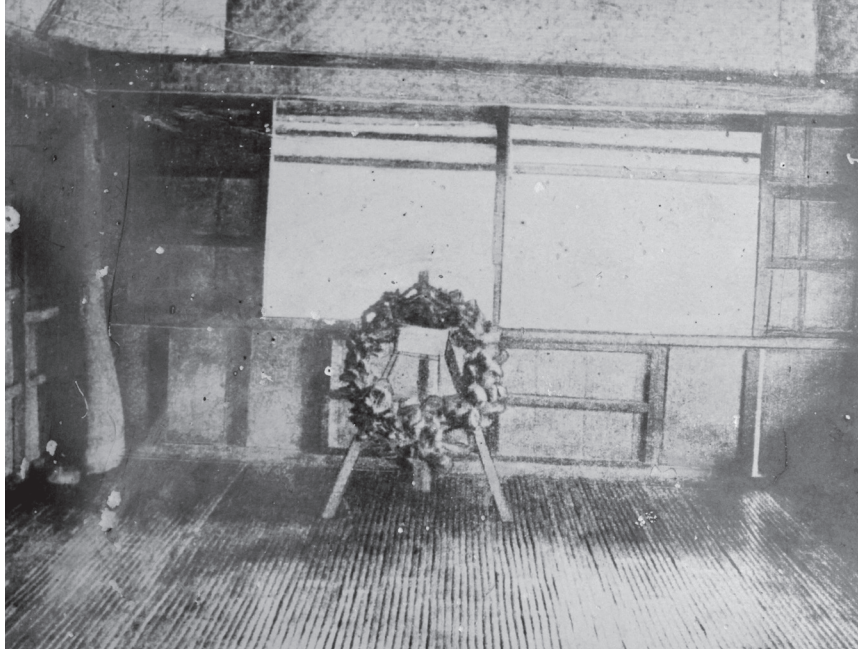
President Diosdado Macapagal and 93-year-old Emilio Aguinaldo (attended by a nurse) celebrating Philippine Independence at the Aguinaldo Mansion in Kawit, Cavite Province, June 12, 1962.





## MAY 13

In 1903, Apolinario Mabini, the “Sublime Paralytic” and the Prime Minister of the First Republic, died of cholera in his brother’s house in Nagtahan, Manila.



**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
Housing and Land Use  
Regulatory Board  
(Executive Order No. 90,  
s. 1986)

The room where Apolinario Mabini died.

## MAY 14

In 1935, the Filipino people voted to ratify the 1935 Constitution draft, via plebiscite.

*IN THE PHOTO:* U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt certifying the draft of the 1935 Constitution on March 25, 1935. (SEATED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) U.S. Secretary of War George Dern, U.S. President Roosevelt, Philippine President Manuel L. Quezon. (STANDING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) Chief of Bureau of Insular Affairs Brigadier General Creed F. Cox, Governor-General Frank Murphy, U.S. Secretary of State Cordell Hull, Chairman of Foreign Relations Committee Key Pittman, Atty. Marcial Lichauco, Philippine Resident Commissioner Pedro Guevara, Senator Manuel Roxas, Philippine Resident Commissioner Francisco Delgado, President of the Constitutional Convention Claro M. Recto, and an unidentified aide.



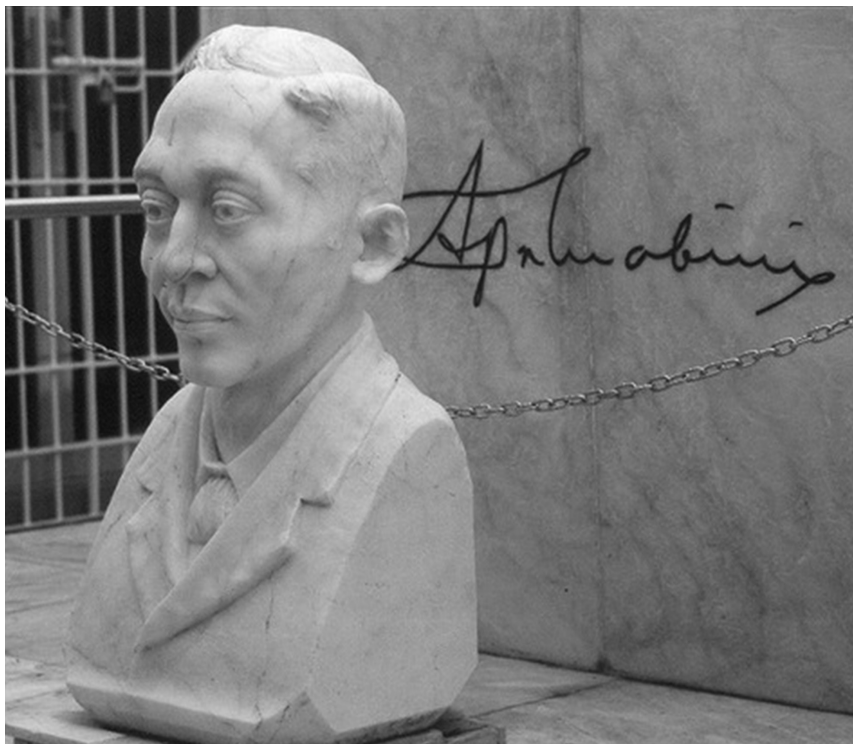


## MAY 15

In 1916, General Guillermo Masangkay, one of the Katipunan veterans, proposed to build a monument in honor of Andres Bonifacio to Speaker Sergio Osmeña.



## MAY 16



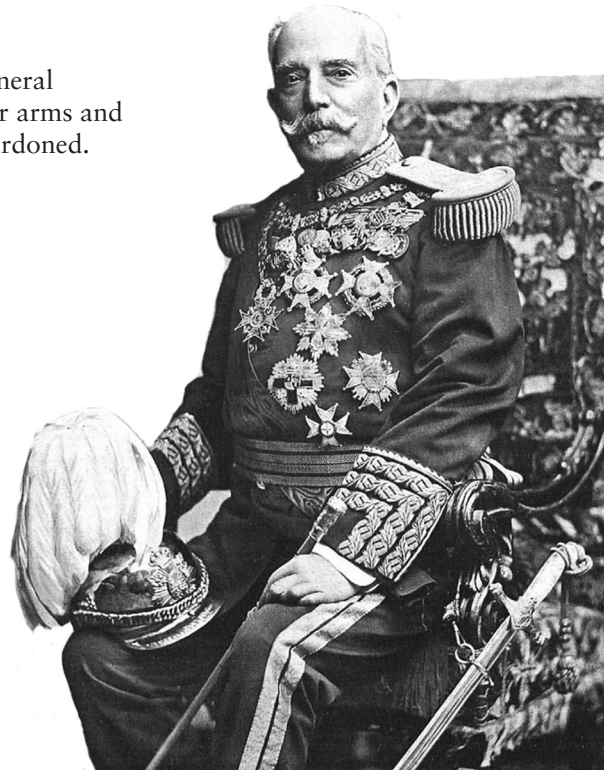
In 1903, Apolinario Mabini was buried in the Manila Chinese Cemetery, three days after he died of cholera. His remains were later transferred to the Mausoleo de los Veteranos de la Revolucion, and transferred again to Tanauan in July 1965.

Bust of Mabini at his tomb in Talaga, Tanauan, Batangas.



## MAY 17

In 1897, Fernando Primo de Rivera issued a general amnesty: All Filipino "rebels" who give up their arms and surrender to the Spanish government will be pardoned.



### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of Chief Justice  
Reynato S. Puno (1940)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Department of Agriculture  
(Presidential Decree No. 461, s. 1974)

## MAY 18



The aerial view of the U.S. Naval Base in Subic in 1981.

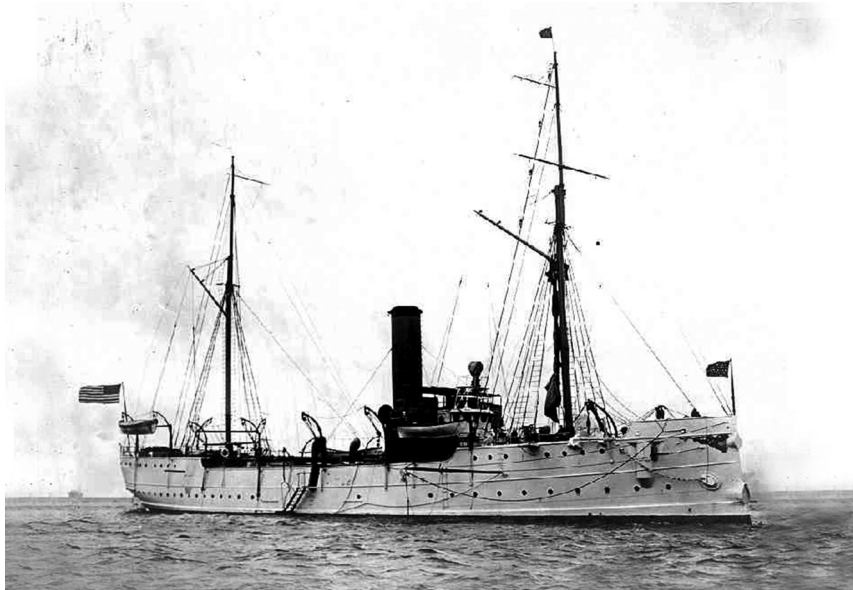
In 1990, the Philippines and the United States reached an agreement on the shortfalls in the bases' compensation and the expiry date of the Philippines-United States Military Bases Agreement, paving the way for further talks on the U.S. military facilities.

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Commission on  
Higher Education  
(Republic Act No. 7722 of 1994)



MAY 19



In 1898, General Emilio Aguinaldo returned to Cavite from exile in Hong Kong on board the American vessel *McCulloch*. He brought with him the new Philippine flag.

**ANNIVERSARY**  
Birthday of  
National Scientist  
Lourdes J. Cruz (1942)

The USS *McCulloch* was the largest cruising cutter of its time. It bore the first dispatch to Hong Kong regarding the naval victory of Americans against the Spanish in the Battle of Manila Bay.

MAY 20



In 1909, the cornerstone of the Legislative Building (which now houses the National Museum of the Philippines) was symbolically laid.

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
Death anniversary of  
Senate President  
Camilo O. Osias (1976)  
Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Carlos Quirino (1999)

The front and side portion of the Old Legislative Building circa 1930. It now houses the National Museum.



## MAY 21

In 1898, General Emilio Aguinaldo issued a Proclamation urging the Filipino people to unite and resume the revolution against Spain.



### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of Manlilikha ng Bayan  
Samaon Sulaiman (2011)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Philippine Navy  
(Decree of Aguinaldo, 1898)

## MAY 22

In 1867, Julio Nakpil, revolutionary, musician, and composer, was born. His musical compositions reflected his intense love of country. He died on November 2, 1960.



### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
J. Elizalde Navarro (1924)  
Death anniversary of National Artist  
Lino Brocka (1991)

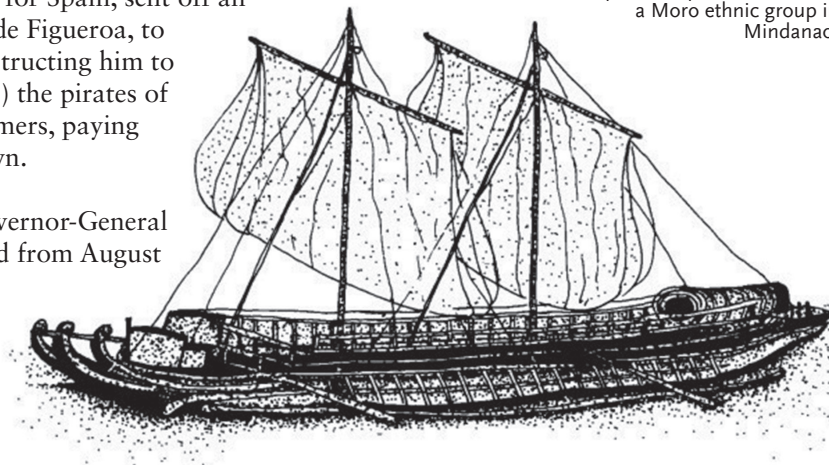


## MAY 23

In 1578, Governor Francisco de Sande, who had taken possession of Borneo for Spain, sent off an officer, Esteban Rodriguez de Figueroa, to subdue the Sulu Islands, instructing him to convert (as gently as he can) the pirates of that place into peaceful farmers, paying tribute to the Spanish Crown.

De Sande was the third Governor-General of the Philippines who ruled from August 25, 1575 to April 1580.

An illustration of an Iranun pirate ship. The Iranun are a Moro ethnic group in Mindanao.



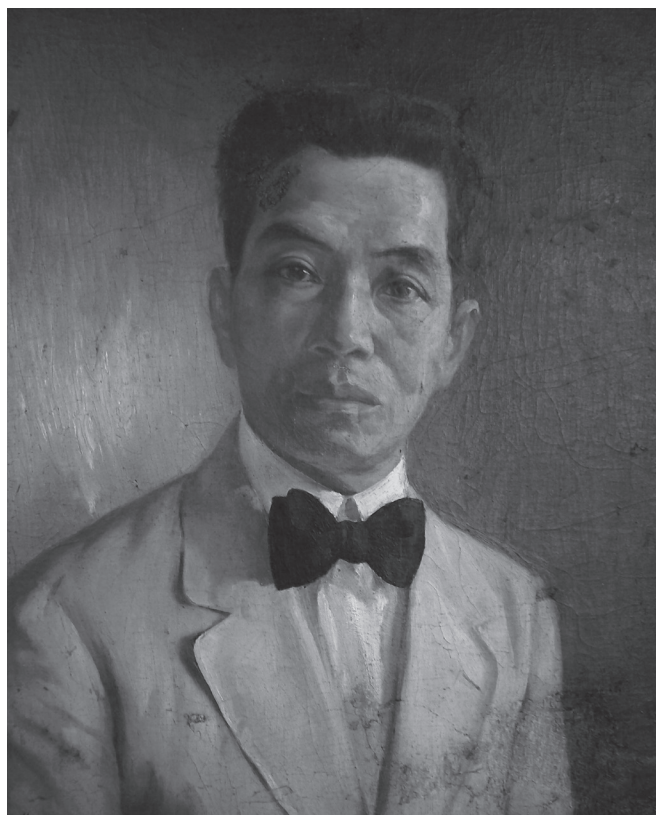
### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Alejandro R. Roces (2011)

## MAY 24

In 1898, General Emilio Aguinaldo established a Dictatorial Government, with himself as dictator.

This was a prelude to the plan to proclaim the Philippines independent from Spain and establish a democratic form of government.



Portrait of Emilio Aguinaldo in the Aguinaldo Shrine.



## MAY 25

In 1934, American Governor-General Frank Murphy signed an Act providing for the holding of a Constitutional Convention set on July 10, 1934 to craft the constitution of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, a 10-year transitional government to independence, by virtue of the Tydings-McDuffie Act.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Scientist  
**Julian A. Banzon (1908)**  
Death anniversary of National Artist  
**Ramon O. Valera (1972)**



## MAY 26

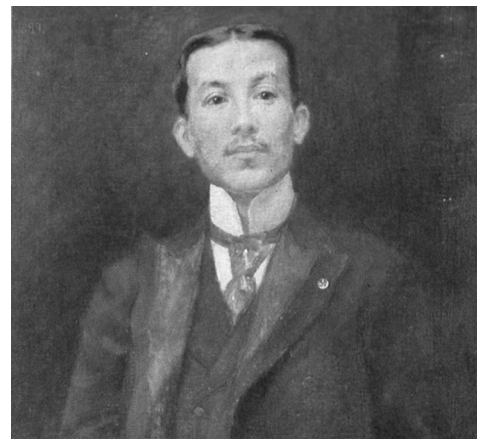
In 1859, Felipe Agoncillo, lawyer, diplomat, and revolutionary leader, was born in Taal, Batangas. He died on September 29, 1941.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
**Juan F. Nakpil (1899)**  
Death anniversary of Vice President  
**Fernando Lopez (1993)**

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

**National Historical Commission of the Philippines**  
(Republic Act No. 10086 of 2010)



Felix Resurreccion Hidalgo's *Portrait of Felipe Agoncillo* (1899)

## MAY 27

In 1936, President Manuel L. Quezon gave instructions for the installation of an air-conditioning system in Malacañan Palace.

The office of President Quezon was the first air-conditioned office in the Philippines. Today, it is called the Quezon Executive Office in honor of President Quezon, and is located in the Presidential Museum and Library.

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

**National Security Council**  
(Executive Order No. 115, s. 1955)





MAY 28

## Flag Days: May 28 to June 12

In 1898, the Philippine flag was first unfurled after the Philippine Revolutionary Army defeated Spanish forces in the Battle at Alapan in Imus, Cavite. The national flag was yet to be formally announced on the day of that battle. It was formally presented to the people on June 12, 1898. From 1919, when the Philippine flag was once more legalized, until 1940, Flag Day was observed in October, the date the Philippine Legislature had restored the flag. From 1941 to 1964, Flag Day was commemorated on the date the national flag was unfurled in Kawit: June 12.

However, in 1965, since Flag Day coincided with Independence Day, in order to commemorate the date the national emblem was first unfurled in battle, President Diosdado Macapagal issued Proclamation No. 374, which moved National Flag Day to May 28.

On May 23, 1994, President Fidel V. Ramos issued Executive Order No. 179, stretching National Flag Day into an extended period, from May 28 to June 12, culminating in the celebration of Independence Day. All Filipinos are encouraged to display the Philippine flag in all offices, agencies, and instruments of government, business establishments, schools, and private homes throughout this period.



President Benigno S. Aquino III (LEFT) sings the national anthem during flag raising ceremonies at the historic Emilio Aguinaldo Shrine in Kawit, Cavite during the 113th Philippine Independence Day celebrations on June 12, 2011.

**ANNIVERSARY**  
Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Eddie S. Romero (2013)

**PROCLAMATION**  
Flag Days begin  
(Republic Act No. 8941 of 1998)





## MAY 29

In 1936, Juan Calvo and Antonio Arnaiz flew the plane *Commonwealth* and became the first Filipinos to fly to Madrid, Spain.



### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon (1896)

Commemorative stamp of the Manila-Madrid flight by aviators Antonio Arnaiz and Juan Calvo.

## MAY 30

In 1942, President Manuel L. Quezon met with the American press at Shoreham Hotel, Washington D.C. after the presidential family's escape from the Japanese-occupied Philippines.



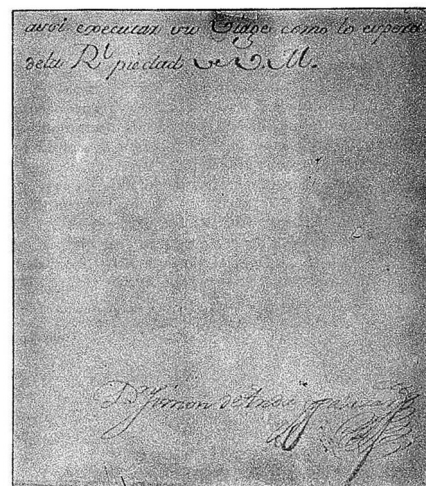
### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist Fernando Amorsolo (1892)

The Presidential Family in America.

## MAY 31

In 1764, Governor-General Simon de Anda y Salazar and his defenders entered Manila to accept the turnover of the City of Manila from the British forces.



### PROCLAMATION

National Fisherfolks Day  
(Proclamation No. 261, s. 2000)

Photographic facsimile of the signature of Simon de Anda y Salazar, from the original in the Archivo General de Indias in Spain.



# The History of the Philippine Flag

## REVOLUTIONARY BEGINNINGS

### 1898 - 1901

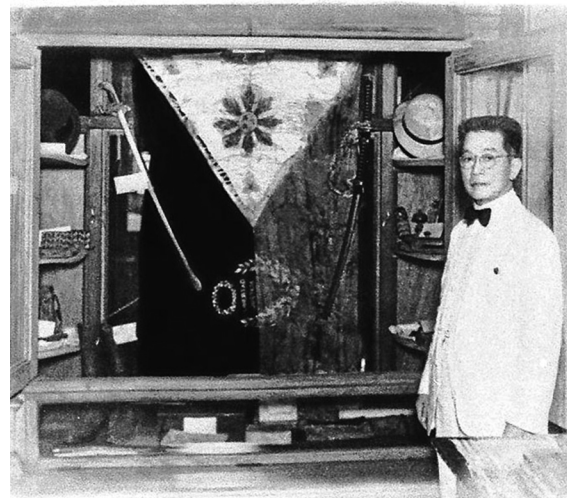
On May 28, 1898, days after the return of General Emilio Aguinaldo from exile in Hong Kong, Filipino troops were once again engaged in a battle against Spanish forces in Alapan, Cavite. It was in this skirmish that the Philippine flag was first unfurled as the revolutionary standard. Sewn in Hong Kong by Filipino expatriates and brought to the country by Aguinaldo, the flag was a tri-color featuring red and blue with a white triangle framing three yellow stars and an anthropomorphic eight-rayed sun.

Half a month later, on June 12, 1898, following the proclamation of independence from Spain, the same flag was waved at Aguinaldo's residence in Kawit, Cavite, as the *Marcha Nacional Filipina* played.

Throughout the Filipino revolutionary war until the capture of Aguinaldo that precipitated the end of the Philippine-American War, this flag was flown with the red field on top to denote a state of war. Aguinaldo wrote about this unique feature in a letter to Captain Emmanuel A. Baja dated June 11, 1925:

*Several press representatives called on me then to inquire as to how the Flag should be flown. I answered them that it should be always hoisted with the blue stripe up in time of peace. But on the battlefields and in camps during the past war, first with Spain and then with the United States of America later, our National Flag had been hoisted with the red stripe up.*

Upon Aguinaldo's capture, the Philippine Republic was abolished; the American Insular



Aguinaldo posed in front of the Philippine Flag believed to be the one unfurled on June 12, 1898 in Kawit, Cavite. c.1930's.

Government, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. War Department, was established. With the war over and Philippine leaders officially accepting American sovereignty over the islands, the Philippine flag was flown with the blue field on top. It was to be displayed this way henceforth during peacetime.

### 1901 - 1907

#### *American Occupation and the Commonwealth Government*

For six years, the Philippine flag and other banners and emblems of the Katipunan continued to proliferate. In response, the Philippine Commission, dominated by Americans, passed Act No. 1697 of 1907 or the Flag Law of 1907, which outlawed the display of the Philippine flag and replaced the country's flag with the stars and stripes of the United States of America. The same law prohibited the playing of the national anthem.



### 1919 - 1936

It took 11 years until the Philippine Legislature, finally in the hands of elected Filipino representatives and senators, repealed the Flag Law, through the efforts of Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison, and reinstated the Philippine flag as the official standard of the nation. Modifications were made to Aguinaldo's flag: The sun no longer had anthropomorphic features, and its rays were stylized. This design would be used from 1919 until the inauguration of the Commonwealth of the Philippines in 1935. From 1919 to 1941, Flag Day was celebrated on October 30th of every year by virtue of Proclamation No. 18 series of 1919, issued by Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison in commemoration of the day the Flag Law was repealed.

Months after the inauguration of the Commonwealth, President Manuel L. Quezon issued Executive Order No. 23, s. 1936, instituting the description and specifications of the Filipino flag, which would remain in effect until the Second World War. Throughout this period, the American and Philippine flags flew side by side.

President Quezon, in 1941, moved the commemoration of Flag Day from October 30 to June 12. This marked the first instance that June 12, the date of Aguinaldo's proclamation, was commemorated.

### 1936 - 1941

*The Second Republic and the Second World War*  
Bombing attacks on the Philippines and the American naval base at Pearl Harbor plunged the United States of America into war with Japan and the Axis powers. President Quezon issued Executive Order No. 386, s. 1941, mandating all Philippine flags to be flown with the red field on top to signify a state of war.

### 1941 - 1945

Meanwhile, the Second Philippine Republic was established in the islands under the auspices of the Empire of Japan, with Jose P. Laurel as president. The flag was raised by former President Emilio Aguinaldo and General Artemio Ricarte during the inaugural of the Second Republic on October 14, 1943. Laurel issued Executive Order No. 17, s. 1943, which essentially brought back the Aguinaldo design of the Philippine flag. This flag would eventually be

displayed with the red stripe up in 1944, when the Second Republic declared that it was under a State of War.



A World War II propaganda poster c. 1942-1943.

### 1943 - 1944

From 1943 until the end of the War in the Pacific, two versions of the Philippine flag existed: the Commonwealth flag used by the Government-in-exile based in Washington D.C., as well as by guerrillas in the islands, and the Aguinaldo flag used by the Japanese-sponsored government. Following the surrender of Japan and the liberation of the Philippines, the latter's use would be discontinued with the dissolution of the Second Republic.

In the aftermath of World War II, the Commonwealth of the Philippines was restored and with it the specifications of the Philippine flag in accordance with Executive Order No. 23, s. 1936. On July 4, 1946, Philippine independence was recognized by the United States, giving birth to the Third Republic of the Philippines. During the ceremonies held in what is now Luneta, United States High Commissioner to the Philippines Paul V. McNutt and Philippine



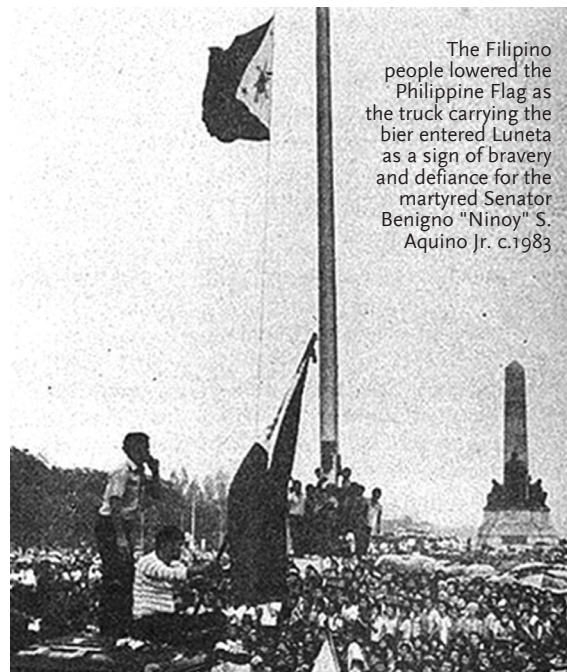
President Manuel Roxas made it to the front cover of July 8, 1946 issue of Time Magazine with the Philippine Flag in the background.

President Manuel Roxas lowered the American flag for the last time and in its stead raised the Philippine flag to henceforth fly alone on Philippine soil, except in military bases still held and occupied by the United States Armed Forces. Starting May 1, 1957, the Philippine flag was raised beside the U.S. flag in U.S. military bases in the Philippines.

### THIRD, FOURTH, AND FIFTH REPUBLICS 1985 - 1986

Commonwealth-era specifications, in accordance with Executive Order No. 23, s. 1936, would remain in effect throughout the Third and Fourth Republics until 1985, when President Ferdinand E. Marcos issued Executive Order No. 1010, s. 1985, changing the shade of blue of the Philippine flag from navy blue to light blue. The change was due to a longstanding debate among historians concerning the original shade of blue used in the national flag. Debates centered on whether Cuban blue (since the flag was patterned on some aspects of Cuba's national flag), or sky blue (based on written accounts by some revolutionaries as well as a watercolor from the era), or navy blue (based on the colors of the American flag) was used. Historian Ambeth Ocampo says that the actual color used—pale sky blue—owed less to historical precedent and more to available cloth supplies at the time.

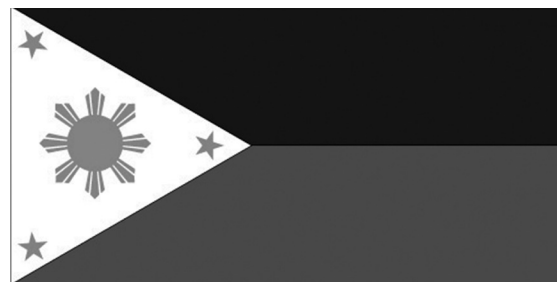
The change in color proved unpopular. After the EDSA revolution of 1986, President Corazon C. Aquino restored the pre-martial law specifications of the National flag through Executive Order No. 292, s. 1987, yet again in accordance with Commonwealth regulations. Under President Corazon Aquino's term, the Philippine Senate rejected the Bases Treaty with the United States, thus putting an end to more than 90 years of American military presence in the Philippines—in particular, the sprawling naval base in Subic Bay and the Clark Airfield in Pampanga. As the American flag was lowered in these areas, it marked the last time a foreign flag would fly in Philippine territory.



The Filipino people lowered the Philippine Flag as the truck carrying the bier entered Luneta as a sign of bravery and defiance for the martyred Senator Benigno "Ninoy" S. Aquino Jr. c.1983

Commonwealth regulations were maintained until 1998, when Republic Act. No. 8491 or the "Flag and Heraldic Code of the Philippines" was enacted, changing the shade of blue once again from navy to royal, viewed as a suitable historical compromise to settle earlier debates.

This is how the flag looks today:





# JUNE

June is a hard month to miss. You only have to walk down the road to a row of streetlamps decorated with the Philippine Flag to know that June has finally arrived. The flags are there of course because June 12 is when we celebrate Independence Day. We also commemorate the establishment of Malacañan Palace as an institution on this month.

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MONTHLY  
OBSERVANCES

**Sea Transportation Month**

*(Proclamation No. 115-A, s. 1966)*

**Rural Workers Month**

*(Proclamation No. 2418, s. 1985)*

**Philippine Environment Month**

*(Proclamation No. 237, s. 1988)*

**National No Smoking Month**

*(Proclamation No. 183, s. 1993)*

**National Kidney Month**

*(Proclamation No. 184, s. 1993)*

**National Dengue Awareness Month**

*(Proclamation No. 1204, s. 1998)*

**Celebrate the Sea Month**

*(Proclamation No. 1512, s. 2008)*

**National Information and Communications  
Technology [ICT] Month**

*(Proclamation No. 1521, s. 2008)*

**W.A.T.C.H. [We Advocate Time Consciousness  
and Honesty] Month**

*(Proclamation No. 1782, s. 2009)*

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JUNE 4-10

**Week of the Philippine Eagle**

*(Proclamation No. 79, s. 1999)*

3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK

**National Safe Kids Week**

*(Proclamation No. 1307, s. 2007)*

**Metals and Engineering Week**

*(Proclamation No. 144, s. 2011)*

4<sup>TH</sup> WEEK

**National Poison Prevention Week**

*(Proclamation No. 1777, s. 2009)*

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2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAY

**Celebrate the Sea Day**

*(Proclamation No. 1512, s. 2008)*

3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAY

**National Tour Guides' Day**

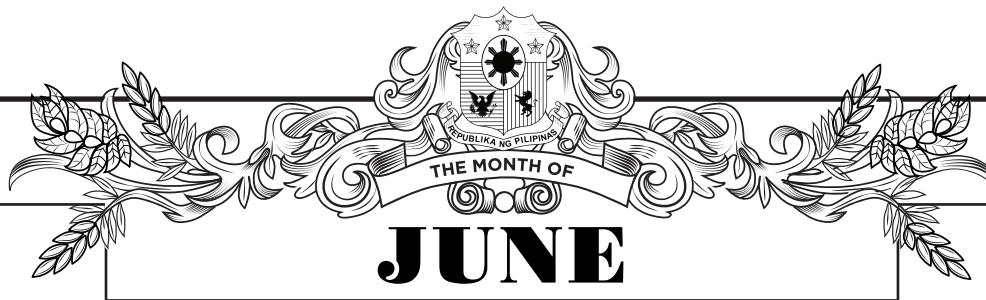
*(Proclamation No. 574, s. 2013)*

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY

**Alay-Lakad Para sa Kabataan Day**

*(Proclamation No. 1267, s. 1974)*





## JUNE 1

In 1971, Congress called for a Constitutional Convention to review and rewrite the 1935 Constitution, with 320 delegates who were elected on November 10, 1970.

With the declaration of Martial Law in 1972, President Ferdinand E. Marcos, through Presidential Decree No. 86, s. 1973, created the Citizen's Assemblies—who voted to ratify the proposed Constitution of the 1971 Constitutional Convention. This constitution gave President Marcos powers to assure a smooth transition from a presidential system to a parliamentary form of government, with provision for the creation of the Interim National Assembly. He then assumed both executive and legislative powers for himself.



The 1971 Constitutional Convention delegates, just before signing the Constitution.

## JUNE 2

In 1899, the Malolos Congress declared war on the United States of America, with its President, Pedro Paterno, issuing a Proclamation of War.



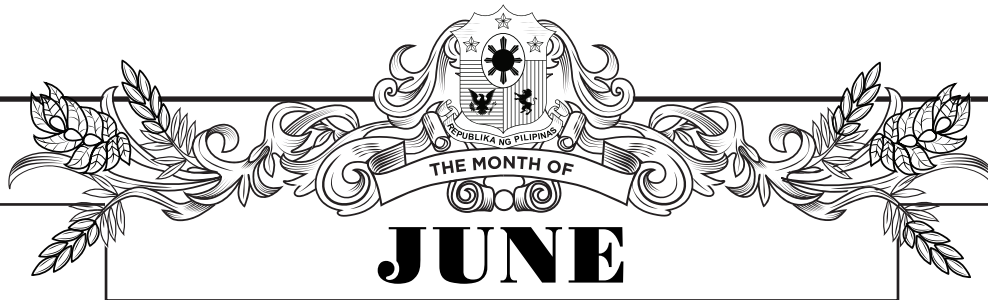
### ANNIVERSARIES

Death anniversary of  
National Artist

**Ishmael Bernal (1996)**

Death anniversary of  
National Scientist

**Paulo C. Campos (2007)**



## JUNE 3

In 1863, a great earthquake shook Manila, badly damaging the Palacio del Gobernador in Intramuros, forcing the Governors-General to temporarily move to Malacañan Palace—a temporary move that lasted, with some brief interruptions, until the end of the Spanish regime in 1898. Rafael de Echague y Bermingham, Count del Serrallo was the Governor-General at the time.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Scientist **Francisco O. Santos (1892)**  
Birth anniversary of National Artist **Jose T. Joya (1931)**  
Death anniversary of Manlilikha ng Bayan **Ginaw Bilog (2003)**



Plaza Mayor (now Plaza de Roma) in 1851. Palacio Del Gobernador is seen on the right side.

## JUNE 4

In 1941, President Manuel L. Quezon signed Commonwealth Act No. 616, known as "An Act to Punish Espionage and Other Offenses Against National Security" into law.



### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of Manlilikha ng Bayan **Salinta Monon (2009)**

THE MONTH OF  
**JUNE**

JUNE 5



General Luna's death made the front page of the June 13, 1899 issue of *The Evening Times*, an American news daily in Washington, D.C.

In 1899, General Antonio Luna and Colonel Francisco Roman were assassinated when members of the Kawit Company, composed of President Emilio Aguinaldo's men, infiltrated their camp in Cabanatuan. These were the same soldiers Luna had relieved of their duties,

following their disobedience during the Battle of Calocan on February 10, 1899.

Though General Luna suffered no less than 40 wounds, the murder was never investigated further.



JUNE 6

In 1943, President Jose P. Laurel was confined in the Philippine General Hospital after an assassination attempt against him the day before in the Wack-Wack golf course in Mandaluyong.

After the incident, President Laurel pardoned his would-be assassin and even made him his bodyguard. The former boxer turned guerilla, Feliciano "Little Jo" Lizardo, served as President Laurel's bodyguard from the 1949 elections until President Laurel's death in 1959.

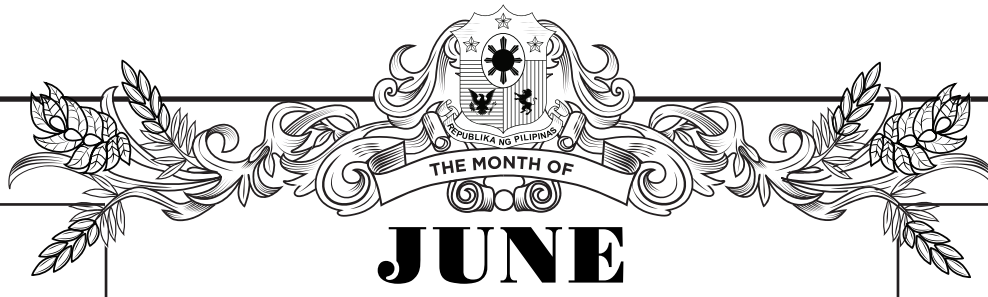
**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of National Artist Federico Aguilar Alcuaz (1932)

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

Governance Commission for Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations (Republic Act No. 10149 of 2011)





## JUNE 7

In 1889, Governor-General Valeriano Weyler received instructions from the Spanish government in Madrid to authorize the construction of a telephone network in Manila. The project was implemented the following year, transforming Manila into a modern city.

### **ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of Chief Justice  
Roberto Concepcion (1903)

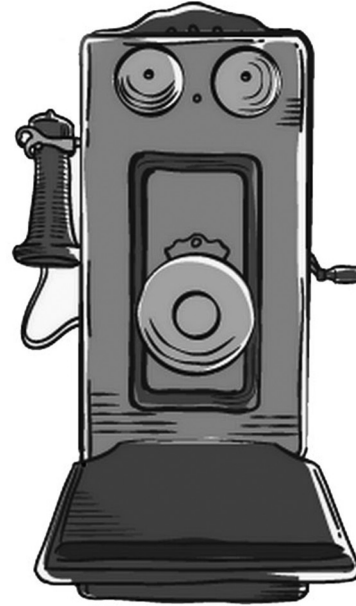
### **PROCLAMATION**

Migrant Workers Day  
(Republic Act No. 804 of 1996)

### **FOUNDING ANNIVERSARIES**

Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency  
(Republic Act No. 9165 of 2002)

Film Development Council of the Philippines  
(Republic Act No. 9167 of 2002)



Early telephone in 1900

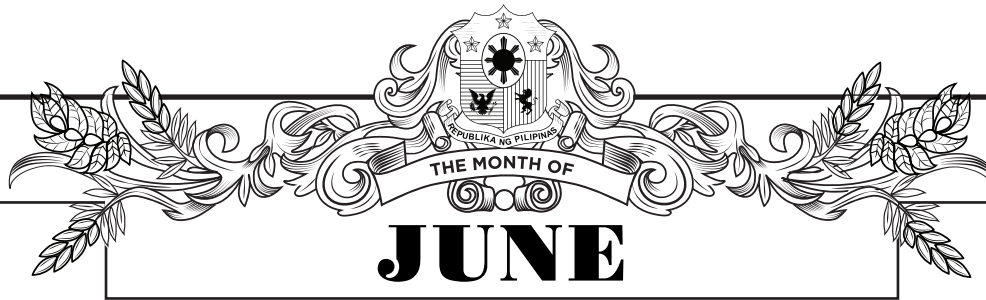
## JUNE 8

In 1900, General Pio del Pilar was captured in Guadalupe, Rizal (now the Makati area) by American forces.



### **FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

Energy Regulatory Commission  
(Republic Act No. 9136 of 2001)



## JUNE 9



An active Mt. Pinatubo after its eruption in 1991.

In 1991, the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo ejected 7 billion cubic meters of sand and ash, cooling temperatures all over the world. It is one of the most violent disasters recorded in the 20th century.

### PROCLAMATION

**Filipino-Chinese Friendship Day**  
(Proclamation No. 148, s. 2002)

## JUNE 10

In 1988, President Corazon Aquino signed into law Republic Act No. 6657, also known as the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law (CARP).



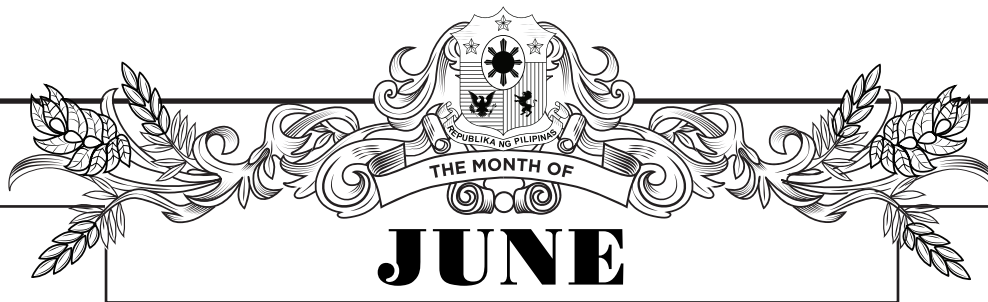
### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of Senate President **Neptali A. Gonzales (1923)**  
 Birthday of National Scientist **Mercedes B. Concepcion (1928)**  
 Death anniversary of National Artist **J. Elizalde Navarro (1999)**

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

**Department of Environment and Natural Resources**  
(Executive Order No. 192, s. 1987)

President Corazon C. Aquino, (*RIGHT*), discusses some points with Agrarian Reform Secretary Philip Juico (*LEFT*), photo taken in January of 1988 before signing an agreement placing her family-owned 6,000 hectare (15,067-acre) Hacienda Luisita sugar plantation under land reform.



JUNE 11

## Malacañan Palace Anniversary

In 1862, Malacañan Palace was designated as the official residence of the Chief Executive of the Philippines.

### SPANISH COLONIAL ERA

The first recorded owner of the property is Luis Rocha, a Spaniard in the Galleon trade. The Rocha property was built of stone, described as being a relatively modest country house. Rocha sold the property in 1802 to Colonel Jose Miguel Fomento of the Spanish Army. Fomento's testamentary executors in turn sold it to the government upon his death in 1825.

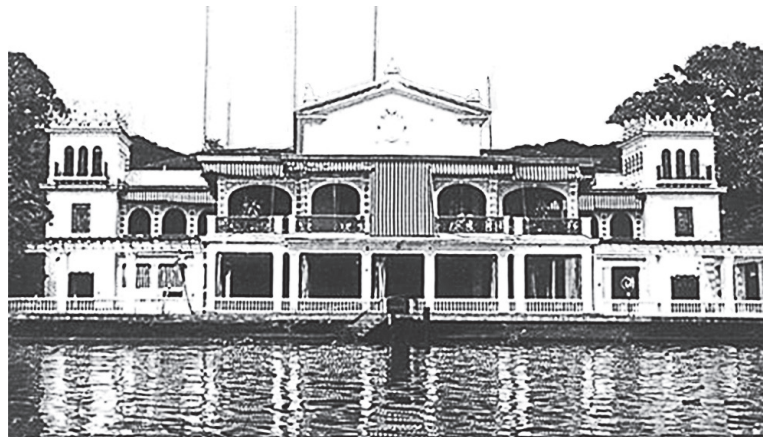
On June 3, 1863, the Governor-General moved to Malacañan Palace. A wooden two-storey building was added at the back of the original structure, as well as smaller buildings for aides, stables, carriage sheds, and a boat landing.

### AMERICAN RULE

The American Governors-General continued to improve and enlarge Malacañan Palace, buying up more land, reclaiming more of the Pasig River, raising the ground level, changing wood to concrete, and beautifying the interiors with hardwood panelling and chandeliers.

### COMMONWEALTH

When Manuel L. Quezon moved to Malacañan Palace as the President of the Commonwealth in 1935, Palace improvements were continued, including the construction of



The Pasig River facade of the Malacañan Palace as completed in 1940.

the Social Hall (now Heroes Hall), State Dining Room, and the famous Pasig River facade. It was then-First Lady Doña Aurora Aragon Quezon who saw to the construction of a Palace chapel in 1937.

### MODERN DAY

The Marcos family left Malacañan Palace in the evening of February 25, 1986, a few hours after Ferdinand E. Marcos took his oath for a six-year term before Chief Justice Ramon Aquino. Corazon C. Aquino decided to live in what had been the Arlegui Guest House and held office in the Premier Guest House. Fidel V. Ramos also lived in the Arlegui Guest House but held office in the Palace. Joseph Ejercito Estrada remodelled the Premier Guest House into a combination residence and office. In January 2001, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo made the Palace both her residence and office. Benigno S. Aquino III, in 2010, chose not to reside in the

Palace but in Bahay Pangarap, located within Malacañang Park, and holds office in Bonifacio Hall of the Palace.

The building is now made of poured concrete, concrete slabs, steel girders and trusses, all concealed by elegant hardwood floors, panels and ceilings. It is fully bullet-proofed and air-conditioned and has an independent power supply.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Artist **Ernani J. Cuenco (1988)**

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARIES

**Supreme Court of the Philippines** (Act No. 136 of 1901)  
**Commission on Audit** (Presidential Decree No. 1445, s. 1978)  
**Office of the Ombudsman** (Presidential Decree No. 1487, s. 1978)  
**Sandiganbayan** (Presidential Decree No. 1486, s. 1978)



JUNE 12

## The Commemoration of Philippine Independence



TOP: Aguinaldo house with thatched roof and no balcony, circa 1898

БОТТОМ: Aguinaldo house during the Philippine-American War. Shows that the family wing may have been built before the 1920s.

In 1898, the independence of the Philippines from Spain was solemnly proclaimed in Kawit, Cavite. It now seems natural for us to celebrate Independence Day on June 12. Prior to 1962, however, Independence Day was celebrated on July 4, to commemorate the day when the United States recognized our independence in 1946.

The change of date was initiated on May 12, 1962, through President Diosdado Macapagal's Proclamation No. 28, s. 1962, which declared June 12 as Independence Day. In 1964, Congress passed Republic Act No. 4166, which formally designated June 12 of every year as the date of Philippine independence.



The earliest declaration date put forward was on April 12, 1895, made by Andres Bonifacio in Pamintan Cave, Montalban, Rizal. He wrote "Viva la independencia Filipina!" on the walls of the

cave, in the presence of some Katipunan leaders.

Another contending date for Independence Day was the Cry of Pugad Lawin, which began the Philippine Revolution.

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THE MONTH OF

# JUNE

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Bonifacio, in the presence of many Katipuneros, tore his cedula as a sign of defiance and independence from Spanish colonial authorities. The Cry was originally commemorated on August 26. Due to the testimony of surviving Katipuneros of that time, like Pio Valenzuela, the official date of the Cry was

moved from August 26 to August 23. Recent scholarship, however, suggests that the Cry happened on August 24.

Yet another contending date was the one put forward by the Philippine Historical Association, reasoning that the proclamation of independence from Spanish rule in Kawit,

Cavite on June 12, 1898 (with the official unfurling of the flag and the playing of the national anthem) was “not dependent upon the will and discretion of another.” This date is now the official date of Independence.

The least mentioned Independence Day is October 14, 1943, under the Second Republic.

Finally, there is July 4, 1946, proclaimed at Luneta, Manila. This was when the independence of the Philippines was recognized by the community of nations at Luneta, Manila. This is still being observed as Republic Day.

That the movement for independence was a collective one—a national one—has been recognized by President Benigno S. Aquino III, as reflected in his Independence Day commemorations of the past years from various crucial settings. This annual pilgrimage by the President emphasizes that the revolution was truly national in extent and character.



The Aguinaldo Shrine.

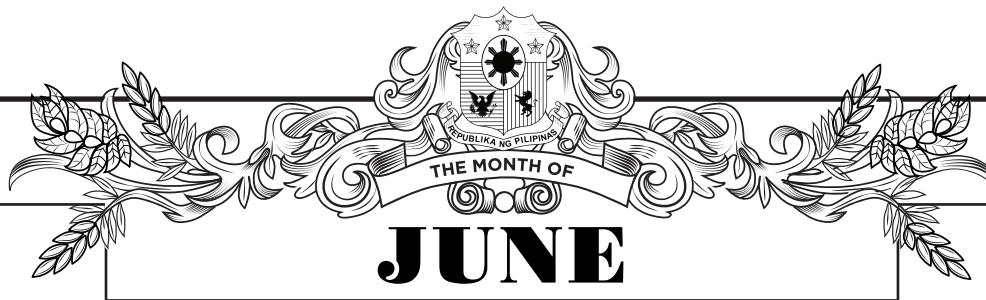
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**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of Chief Justice Ramon Avanceña (1957)

**PROCLAMATION**

- Independence Day (Republic Act No. 4166 of 1964)



## JUNE 13



The reconnected Zapote Bridge in 1899 guarded by an American soldier after the battle of June 13, 1899.

In 1899, 3,000 American soldiers led by Major General Henry Lawton and 5,000 Filipinos commanded by Generals Artemio Ricarte and Mariano Noriel engaged in one of the largest battles of the Philippine-American War in Zapote, Cavite.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Scientist **Casimiro V. del Rosario (1896)**

## JUNE 14

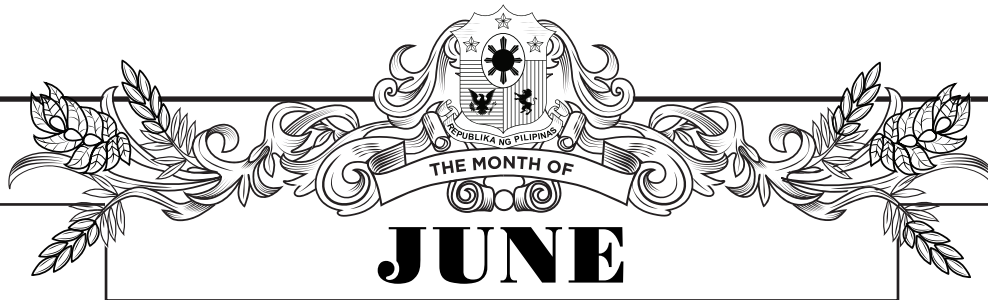
In 1960, U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower met with President Carlos P. Garcia on a state visit to the Philippines. He was then conferred the Order of Sikatuna, Rank of Raja, the highest of the order of diplomatic merit. President Eisenhower was the first U.S. President to be conferred with such an award.



Arrival honors for U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower in the Manila International Airport (now called Ninoy Aquino International Airport).

### ANNIVERSARIES

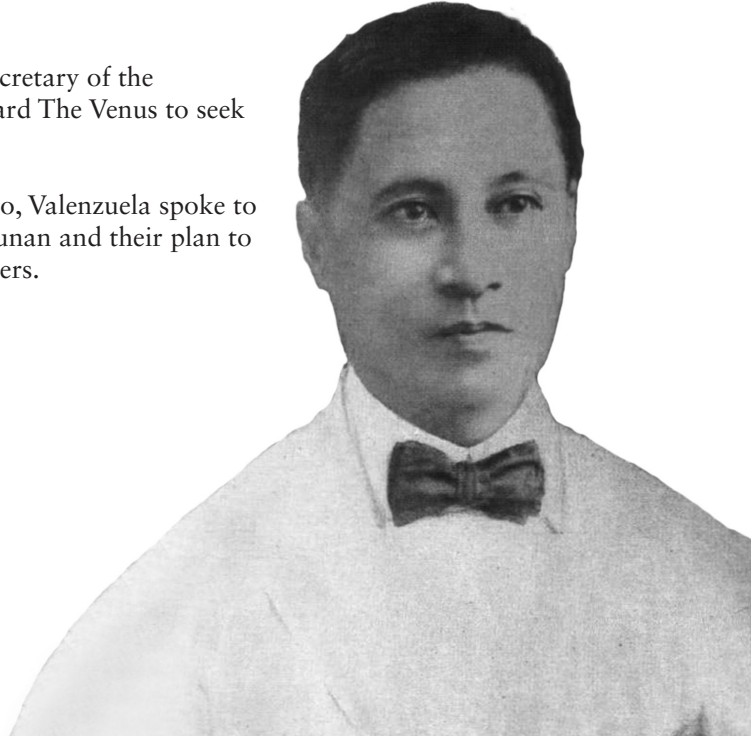
Death anniversary of President **Carlos P. Garcia (1971)**  
 Death anniversary of National Artist **Pablo S. Antonio (1975)**



## JUNE 15

In 1896, Dr. Pio Valenzuela, the Secretary of the Katipunan, left for Dapitan on board The Venus to seek out Jose Rizal's counsel.

Commissioned by Andres Bonifacio, Valenzuela spoke to Rizal about the founding of Katipunan and their plan to rise up against the Spanish colonizers.



## JUNE 16

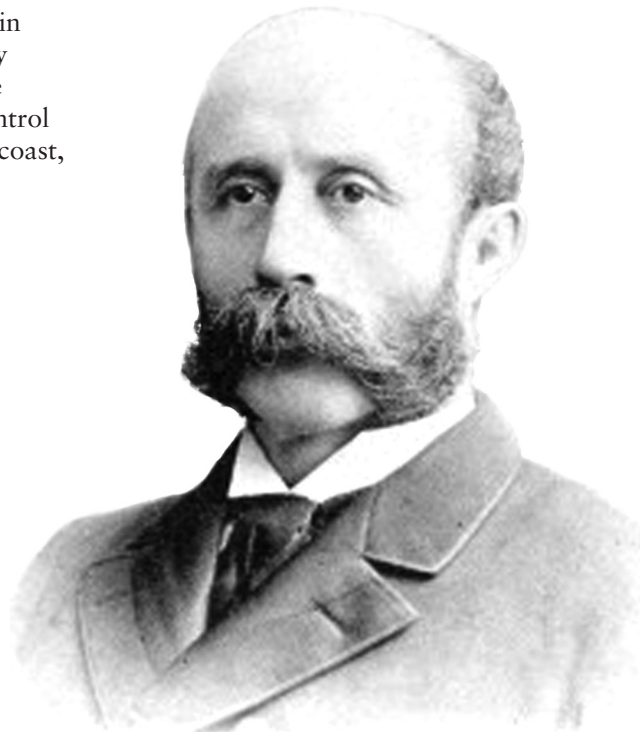
In 1898, American Consul Oscar F. Williams in Manila sent a dispatch to Secretary W. R. Day reporting that the Filipino revolutionists have defeated the Spanish forces and have won control of the northern provinces and the whole bay coast, save for the city of Manila.

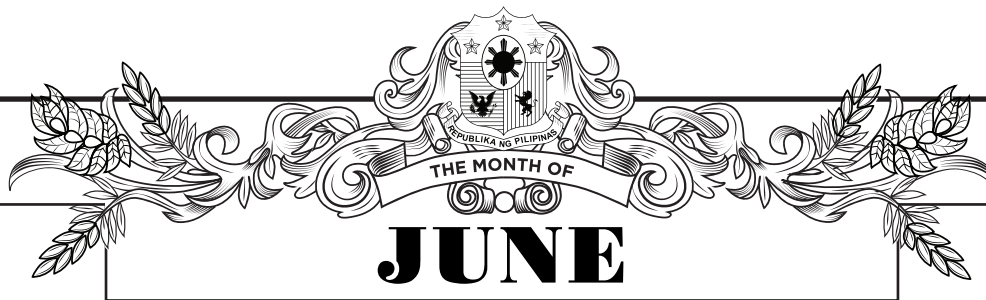
### **ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Ramon Obusan (1938)

### **FOUNDING ANNIVERSARIES**

Court of Tax Appeals  
(Republic Act No. 1125 of 1954)  
Commission on Filipinos Overseas  
(Batas Pambansa Blg. 79 ng 1980)





## JUNE 17

In 1863, Rafael del Pan, lawyer, journalist, and the country's first criminologist, was born in Intramuros, Manila. As publisher and editor of *La Oceania Española*, an influential newspaper at that time, he exposed his sympathies for the Filipinos and earned the ire of the Spanish authorities and the clergy. In his columns, he advocated Filipino participation in the Spanish Cortés and openly criticized the authorities for deporting Rizal to Dapitan. After his death on May 12, 1915, a bridge in Manila that connects Tondo and North Harbor to the rest of Manila, was named after him, before it was renamed to Manuel Roxas Bridge .



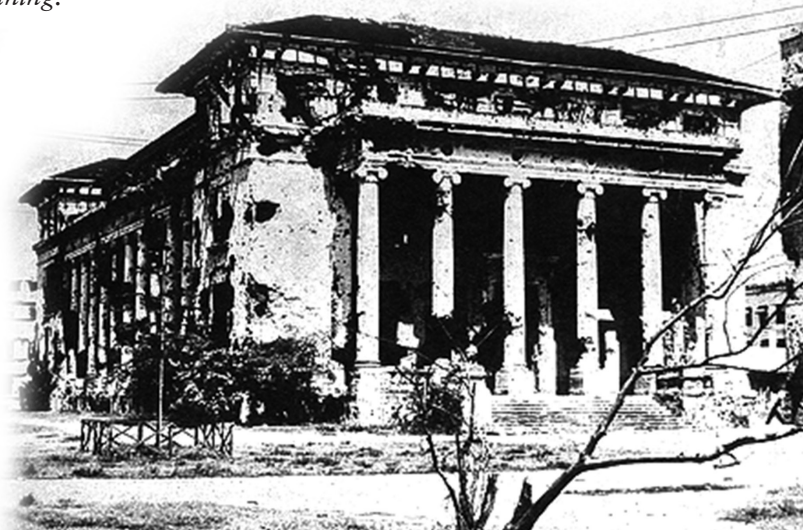
### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Artist  
Lazaro Francisco (1980)

## JUNE 18

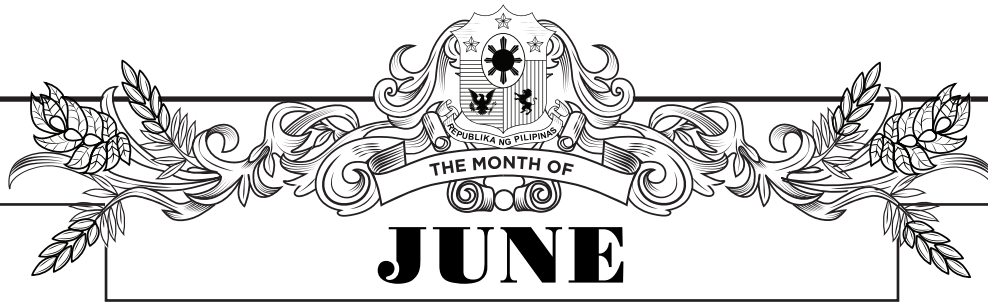
In 1908, Act No. 1870 was passed, which established the University of the Philippines.

*“The purpose of said university shall be to provide advanced instruction in literature, philosophy, the sciences, and arts, and to give professional and technical training.”*



The Rizal Hall, University of the Philippines, Padre Faura St., Manila after the liberation of Manila in February 1945.

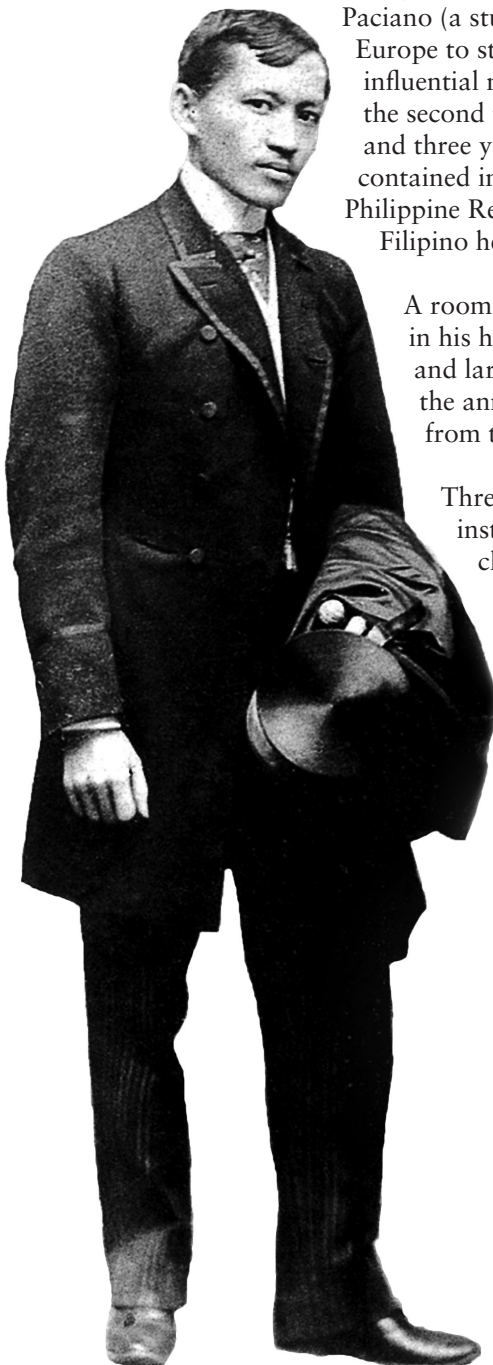




JUNE 19

## Birth anniversary of Jose Rizal

In 1861, Dr. Jose Rizal, national hero of the Philippines, was born in Calamba, Laguna to Francisco Mercado and Teodora Alonzo. He was the seventh child of 11 in the family.



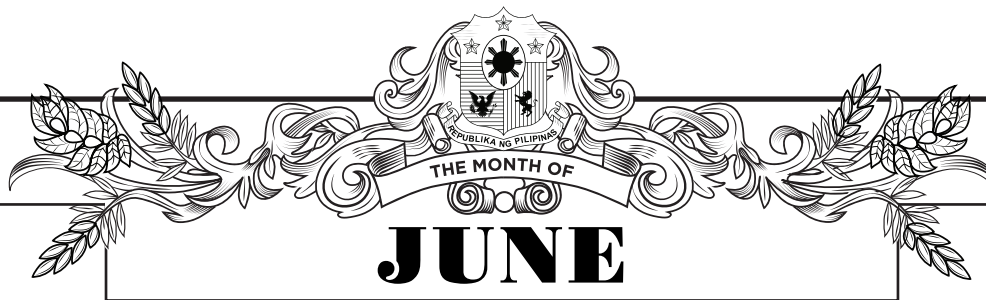
Learning of the plight of Filipinos under Spanish rule from his eldest brother, Paciano (a student of the martyred Father Jose Burgos), Rizal travelled to Europe to study. He then wrote *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo*, two influential novels that made waves in the Philippines. Upon his return for the second time to the Philippines, he was exiled to Dapitan in Mindanao and three years later, executed by the Spanish colonial authority. The ideas contained in his novels and his martyrdom were the rallying cry of the Philippine Revolution against Spain. His ideals made him one of the foremost Filipino heroes. Leon Ma. Guerrero calls him the “First Filipino.”

A room in Malacañan Palace has been named the Rizal Ceremonial Hall in his honor. This room, the largest in the Palace, is used for large dinners and large assemblies, notably the mass oath takings of public officials and the annual Independence Day Vin d’Honneur. Orchestras sometimes play from the minstrels’ galleries at the two ends of the hall.

Three large wood and glass chandeliers illuminate the hall. Carved and installed in 1979 by the famous Juan Flores of Betis, Pampanga, the chandeliers are masterpieces of Philippine artistry in wood.

**PROCLAMATION**  
Filipino Youth Day  
(Proclamation No. 75, s. 1948)

Jose Rizal's iconic photograph, circa 1890.



## JUNE 20

In 1943, the Japanese-sponsored Preparatory Commission for Philippine Independence (PCPI), composed of 20 delegates, convened to start writing a new constitution for the Philippines. The Japanese monitored the drafting of the constitution and instructed the delegates to conform with the principles of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere propaganda. By September of that year, the draft constitution was unanimously approved by PCPI members and submitted to the Kapisanan ng Paglilingkod sa Bagong Pilipinas (KALIBAPI) convention in Manila, the only political party in Japanese-occupied Philippines.



Philippine Executive Commission Chairman Jorge B. Vargas speaks to the KALIBAPI in the presence of Lieutenant General Shigenori Kuroda and Speaker Benigno S. Aquino Sr. in the old Senate Session Hall in the Legislative Building, Manila (now the National Art Gallery, National Museum).

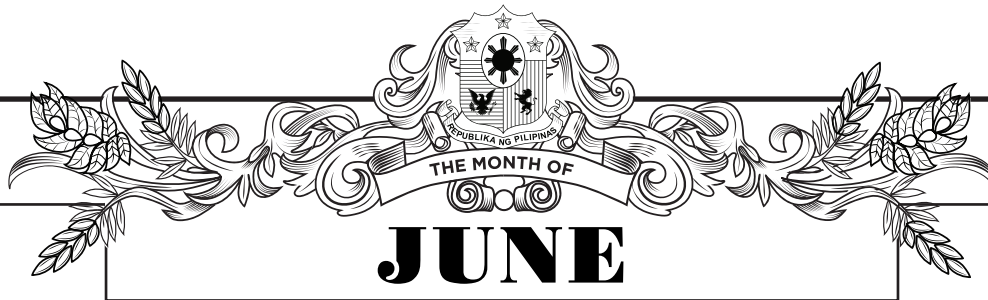
## JUNE 21

In 1574, King Felipe II of Spain granted the title "Ciudad Insigne y Siempre Leal" or the "Distinguished and Ever Loyal City" to the City of Manila.



**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
**Order of the Golden Heart**  
(Executive Order No. 236, s. 2003)

Coat of arms awarded by King Felipe II of Spain to Manila.



## JUNE 22

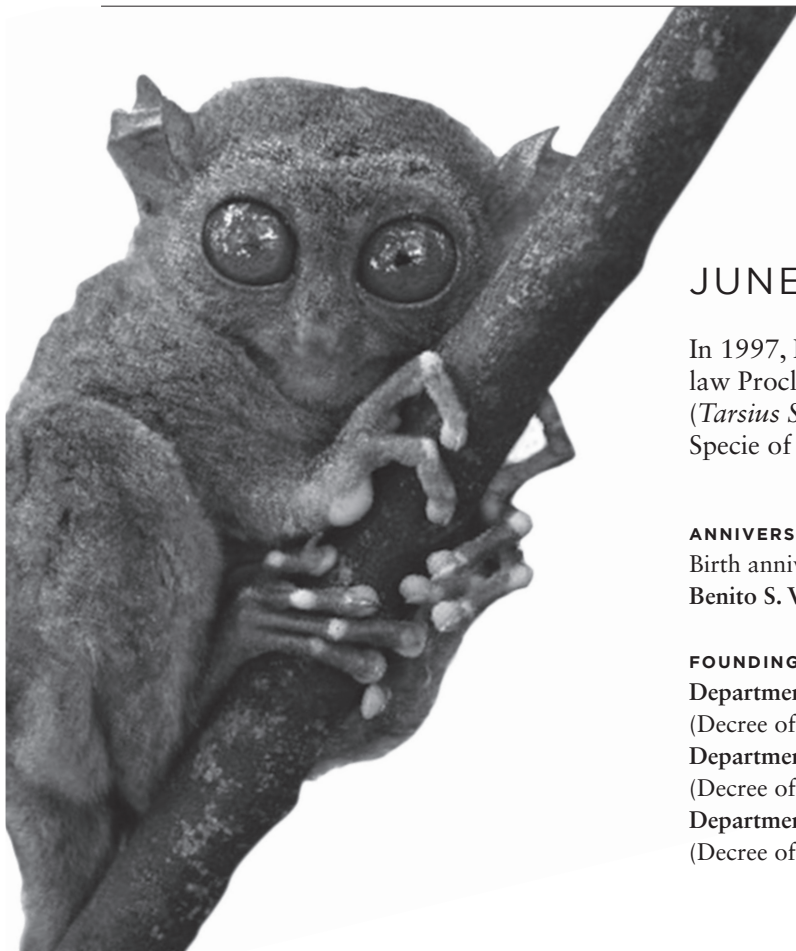
In 1759, Miguel Lino de Ezpeleta, Bishop of Cebu, became interim Governor-General. Traditionally, the powers of the vacant position of Governor-General are ceded to the Archbishop of Manila until a successor is appointed; however, at the time of the Governor-General Arandía's death, the seat of the Archbishop of Manila was also vacant. Bishop Miguel Lino de Ezpeleta, thus took the reins of government in the Philippines, serving as acting Governor-General from 1759 to 1761. When the new Archbishop of Manila was appointed, Ezpeleta turned over control of the colonial government.



Coat of arms of the Diocese of Cebu

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth of Senate President  
Jovito R. Salonga (1920)



## JUNE 23

In 1997, President Fidel V. Ramos signed into law Proclamation No. 1030 declaring the Tarsier (*Tarsius Syrichta*) a Specially Protected Faunal Specie of the Philippines.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Scientist  
Benito S. Vergara (1934)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARIES

Department of Agrarian Reform

(Decree of Aguinaldo, 1898)

Department of Health

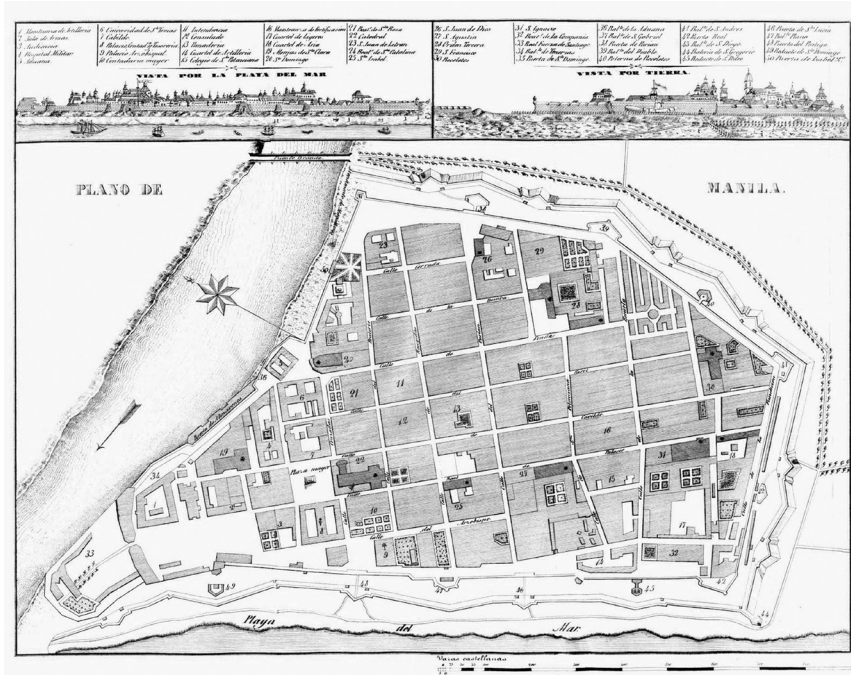
(Decree of Aguinaldo, 1898)

Department of Public Works and Highways

(Decree of Aguinaldo, 1898)

**JUNE 24**

In 1571, Manila was founded as a Spanish settlement and made the capital of the Philippines.



An 1851 map of Intramuros. During the Spanish period, Intramuros was the City of Manila.

**JUNE 25**



Juan Luna's *Spoliarium* (1884)

**ANNIVERSARY**

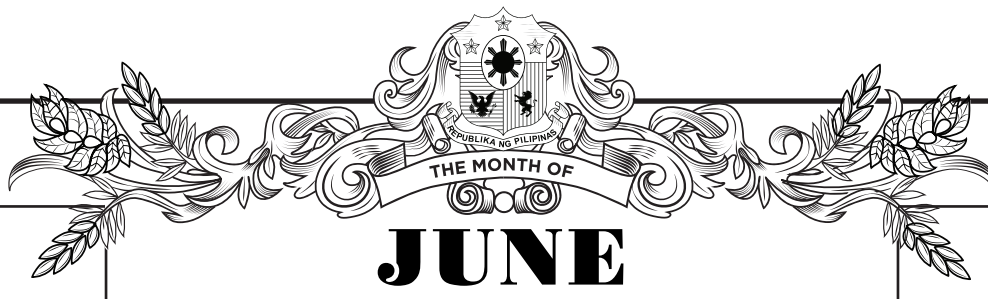
Birth anniversary of  
Manlilikha ng Bayan  
Haja Amina Appi (1925)

**PROCLAMATIONS**

Philippine Arbor Day  
(Proclamation No. 643, s.  
2004)

The Day of the Filipino  
Seafarer  
(Proclamation No. 183, s.  
2011)

In 1884, Filipino and Spanish intellectuals organized an event to celebrate Juan Luna and Felix Resurrección Hidalgo's winning of the *Exposicion Nacional de Bellas Artes* through their paintings *Spoliarium* and *Las Virgenes Cristianas Expuestas al Populacho*. Jose Rizal prepared a speech honoring his two colleagues.



## JUNE 26

In 1945, General Carlos P. Romulo signed the historic United Nations Charter as Chairman of the Delegation from the Philippine Commonwealth.

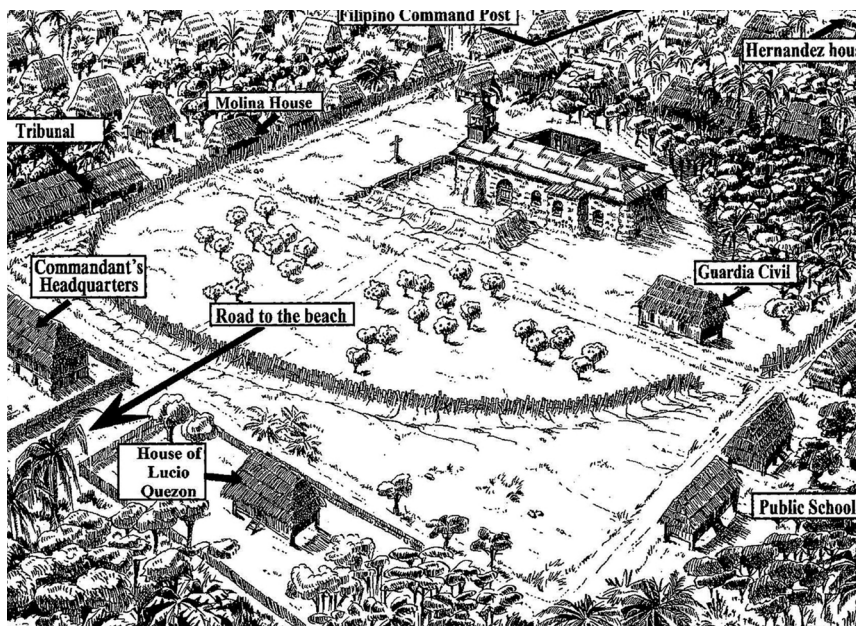


### PROCLAMATION

**International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking of Drugs**  
(Proclamation No. 264, s. 1988)

(SEATED) General Carlos P. Romulo, (STANDING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) Newspaper publisher and editor Manuel Manahan, Jose F. Imperial, Erasmo R. Cruz, Solomon V. Arnaldo, and Pedro Lopez.

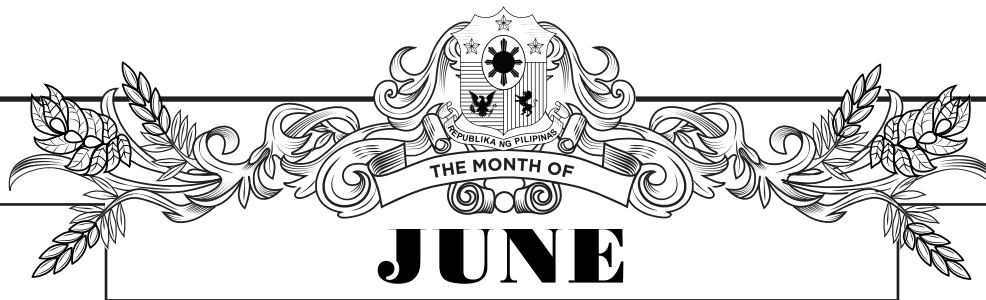
## JUNE 27



A reconstructed modern sketch as it appeared during the Siege of Baler.

In 1898, the Siege of Baler, the last stand of Spanish forces in the Philippines, began.

The Spanish detachment, led by Captain Enrique de las Morenas y Fossi, garrisoned themselves in the church of Baler. The Spanish flag was installed at the highest point of the bell tower. Fifty-three Spanish soldiers and four officers stayed in the church until June 2, 1899, withstanding attacks from Filipino soldiers.



## JUNE 28

In 1571, the first session of the Ayuntamiento was held in Manila. The Ayuntamiento was a Spanish colonial administrative council.

The building, also known as the Casas Consistoriales, was considered the equivalent of the modern-day City Hall. At the turn of the 19th century, the Ayuntamiento witnessed the signing of terms of the capitulation of Manila between General Wesley Merritt and Governor-General Fermin de Jaudenes. It was destroyed during the Liberation of Manila in February 1945 but was rebuilt in 2013.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of National Scientist  
Ernesto O. Domingo (1936)



Ayuntamiento de Manila before World War II.

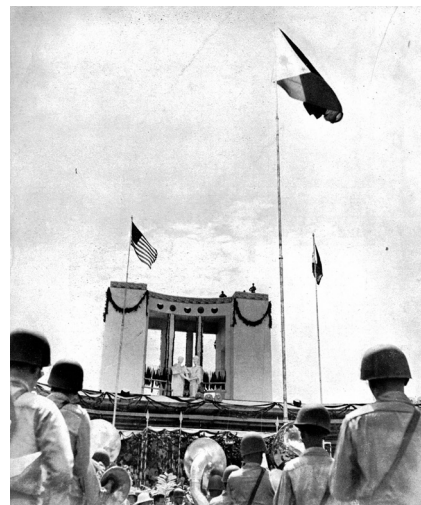
## JUNE 29

In 1944, the U.S. Congress passed Joint Resolution No. 93, authorizing the President of the United States to proclaim the Independence of the Philippines.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Lucrecia R. Urtula (1929)  
Death anniversary of National Scientist  
Perla D. Santos-Ocampo (2012)

In ceremonies held at the Independence Grandstand on July 4, 1946, the flag of America was lowered and the Philippine flag was raised to fly alone over the islands.



## JUNE 30

The 1987 Constitution designated June 30 as the day when the President of the Philippines takes his oath of office.

### PROCLAMATION

Philippine-Spanish Friendship Day  
(Republic Act No. 9187 of 2003)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

National Anti-Poverty Commission  
(Republic Act No. 8425 of 1997)



President Manuel Roxas takes his oath of office during the Independence Ceremony of July 4, 1946. Administering the oath is a Chief Justice Manuel Moran.



The earliest-known photograph of Malacañan Palace, c. 1860s.

## History and Symbolism of the Possession of Malacañan Palace

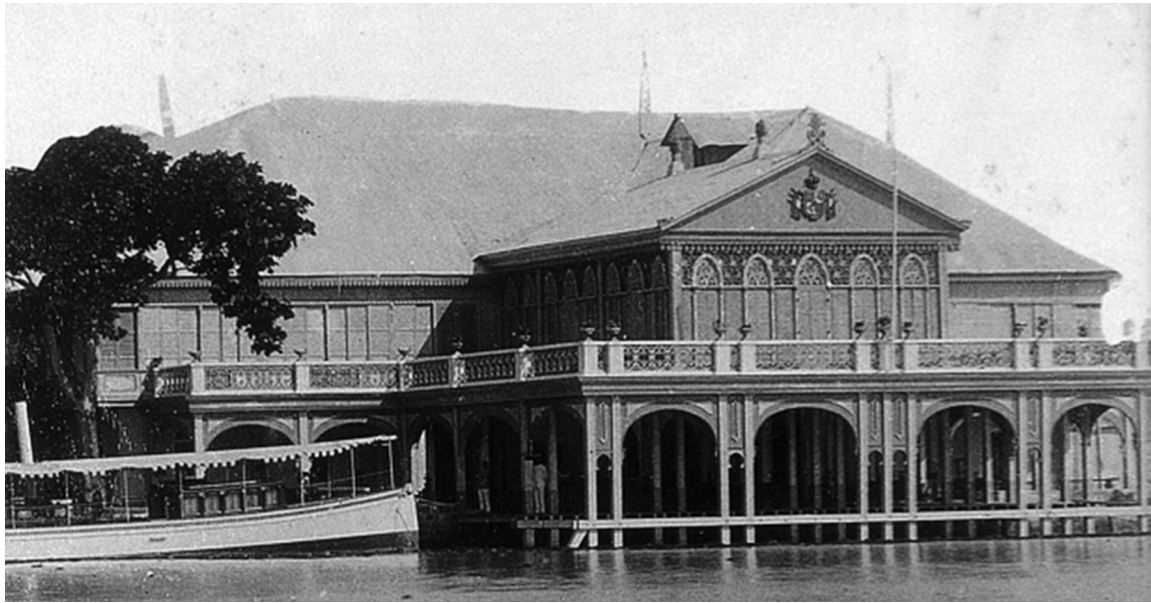
The President formally takes possession of the Palace as his official residence and office by climbing the main stairs of the Palace for the first time as President of the Philippines. This is a tradition begun by President Manuel L. Quezon, who was moved by the legend that Jose Rizal's mother climbed the stairs on her knees, to beg for the life of her son.

Malacañan Palace stands as the office and the official residence of the President of the Philippines. According to *"Malacañan Palace: The Official Illustrated History,"* it is "the expression, in ornamental landscaping, in concrete, wood, and stone, of the Office of the Presidency," and is "the embodiment of the supreme authority in the country, indivisible, in many ways, but also imbued with a history of its own, as an almost organic institution on its own." In its role as the

epicenter of "the panoply of state and the minutiae of governance," perhaps no ritual of the inauguration is so steeped in history and legend, and so symbolic of the gravitas accorded the highest office in the land, as a President's first climbing of its main stairs.

Indeed, even the transfer of power from one President to another is affirmed through these stairs. On his successor's inaugural, the President descends the stairs of the Palace accompanied by the President-elect—thus marking the formal act of leaving office for the incumbent. The President-elect will then symbolically mark the start of his presidency by climbing the same stairs later in the day.

President Quezon wanted the ritual to symbolize that, henceforth, a Filipino Chief Executive would be governing from Malacañan



Malacañan Palace towards the end of the nineteenth century would adopt grander and more imposing dimensions.

Palace, one who could walk up the stairs proudly as the leader of his own people; at the same time, ascending those stairs would be a constant reminder to every President of the portion of the oath of office which pledges justice to every man.

And so it was on “the fine, clear, and cold morning” of November 15, 1935, after he had taken his oath as President of the newly established Commonwealth of the Philippines President Quezon led the crowd to Malacañan Palace. At last, a Filipino—one chosen by the very people he was to lead—was to live in the edifice that had, since time immemorial, been the seat of two colonial governments. The climbing of the stairs would henceforth signify that the Chief Executive was the freely-elected head of the Filipino people, one pledged to govern them with justice in contrast to the appointed colonial governors who formerly inhabited the Palace. He could stand tall as a leader elected by the people, in contrast to the chosen representatives of governments of distant lands. The ritual climbing of the stairs, at the start of a presidency, would then on remain a simple yet eloquent act reclaiming that which had once been denied Filipinos.

*President Quezon wanted the ritual to symbolize that, henceforth, a Filipino Chief Executive would be governing from Malacañan Palace, one who could walk up the stairs proudly as the leader of his own people.*



This photograph from the 1890s records what altogether amounted to a substantial architectural, engineering and administrative achievement in the service of the First Authority.





# JULY

It was in July that the Katipunan was founded. At the end of the first week of the month, Andres Bonifacio, with other members of La Liga Filipina, gathered and decided that a secret society was necessary to achieve their goal of independence from Spain.

As if to complete the circle, it was also on this month that the United States recognized the Philippines as an independent republic.

MONTHLY  
OBSERVANCES

- Schools Safety Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 115-A, s. 1966)*
- Nutrition Month**  
*(Presidential Decree No. 491, s. 1974)*
- Blood Donors Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1021, s. 1997)*
- National Disaster Consciousness Month**  
*(Executive Order No. 137, s. 1999)*

2<sup>ND</sup> WEEK

- Cultural Communities Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 250, s. 1988)*
- Diabetes Awareness Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 213, s. 1993)*
- Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Week**  
*(Republic Act No. 9501 of 2008)*

3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK

- National Science and Technology Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 169, s. 1993)*
- National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 361, s. 2000)*

JULY 1 TO 7

- National Culture Consciousness Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1148, s. 1973)*

JULY 13 TO 19

- Philippines Business Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 400, s. 1953)*

LAST WEEK

- Marketing Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1135, s. 1973)*

WEEK ENDING

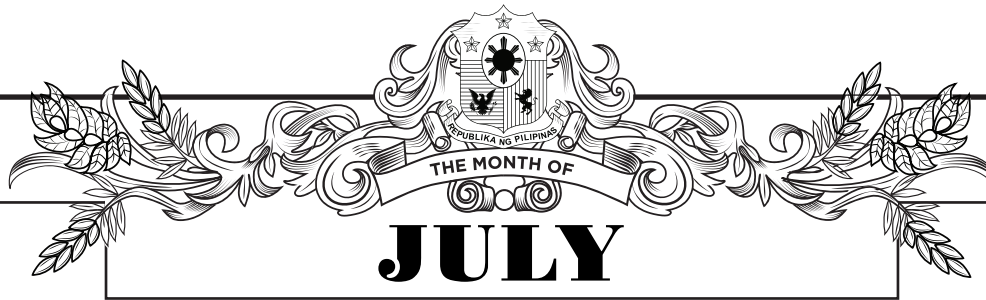
- Arbor Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 129, s. 1955)*

WITH THE LAST  
SATURDAY OF JULY

1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY  
OF JULY

- International Cooperative Day in the Philippines**  
*(Proclamation No. 133, s. 1949)*





## JULY 1

In 1902, the Philippine Organic Act was passed by the United States Congress.

The Act provided for the creation of a Philippine Assembly. It is also known as the Philippine Bill of 1902 and the Cooper Act, after its author Representative Henry A. Cooper.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of Chief Justice  
**Pedro Yap (1918)**

Death anniversary of National Scientist  
**Dioscoro L. Umali (1992)**



William Howard Taft addressing the First Philippine Assembly in the Manila Grand Opera House.

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARIES

**Philippine Airforce**

(Executive Order No. 94, s. 1947)

**Presidential Legislative Liaison Office**

(Memorandum Order No. 128, s. 1987)

## JULY 2

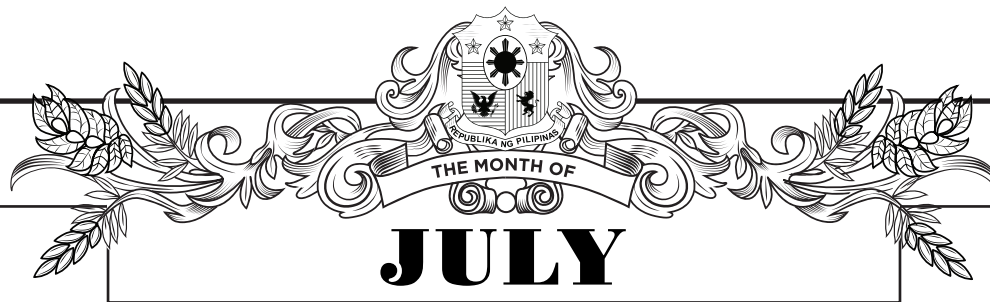
In 1897, at the height of the Philippine Revolution, Governor-General Fernando Primo de Rivera issued a decree prohibiting residents from leaving their villages and towns without proof of identity by way of *cédula personal*.

The decree allowed authorities to “adopt every possible means of repression.” Despite this, Filipinos continued to retaliate against the Spaniards.



### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of Chief Justice  
**Maria Lourdes Sereno (1960)**



JULY 3

## Anniversary of the Coat of Arms of the Republic

In 1947, the Presidential Seal was adopted by President Manuel Roxas. The design was by the artist Galo Ocampo, who also designed the Coat of Arms of the Republic. The Presidential Seal is composed of the Coat of Arms of the President of the Philippines, surrounded by the legend “Seal of the President of the Philippines” (“Sagisag ng Pangulo ng Pilipinas”). The blue circle is the shield; on the shield is a red triangle (representing liberty, equality, and fraternity, the ideals of the French and Philippine revolutions and our republic), on which is a sealion and three stars.

The sealion is a lion with a sea creature’s tail. It was adopted as part of the coat of arms of Manila during the reign of Philip II of Spain. Manila’s Coat of Arms was an adaptation of the arms of the Spanish kingdoms of Castile and Leon. To show we were ultramar, a new settlement overseas, the Lion of León became a sealion.

The sealion became the symbol both of Manila and of the governors-general; therefore, a symbol of the supreme authority in the islands. Combined with the red triangle representing valor and the three stars representing Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, the triangle then represents the

President of the Philippines as supreme authority and successor of past rulers.

The triangle is on the Philippine sun, as adopted for our flag, with the eight rays representing the provinces placed under martial law at the onset of the revolution against Spain.

During the administration of President Elpidio Quirino, the American Presidential Seal, after which our own was patterned, was modified to include a ring of stars representing the states of the union. President Quirino modified the Presidential Seal to include a ring of stars, representing the provinces of the Philippines, then 52.

Because of poor terminology in the official document specifying the seal, and ignorance of heraldry on the part of officials, the stars were represented as white stars, although the Executive Order specified they would be gold. This was because people were more familiar with the American design.

During President Joseph Ejercito Estrada’s term, the Presidential Seal was further modified to reflect the great increase in the number of provinces since 1952. Now, we have 79 provinces. To correct the errors



Republic Coat of Arms

that are possibly due to sloppy terminology, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo signed Executive Order No. 310, s. 2004 correcting the lapses in terminology and representations that have crept in over the years.

The result is a superior rendering of the Presidential Coat of Arms and Seal.

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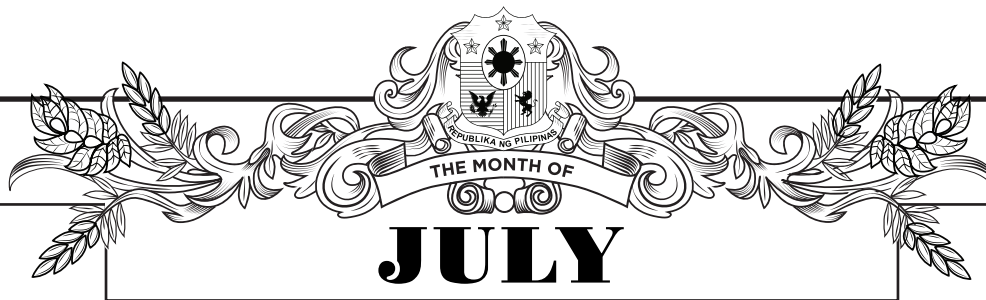
**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
Department of Foreign Affairs  
(Commonwealth Act No. 732 of 1952)

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**TODAY IN HISTORY**

In 1892, Jose Rizal established La Liga Filipina, a progressive organization that sought to give more Filipinos a chance for direct involvement in the reform movement.

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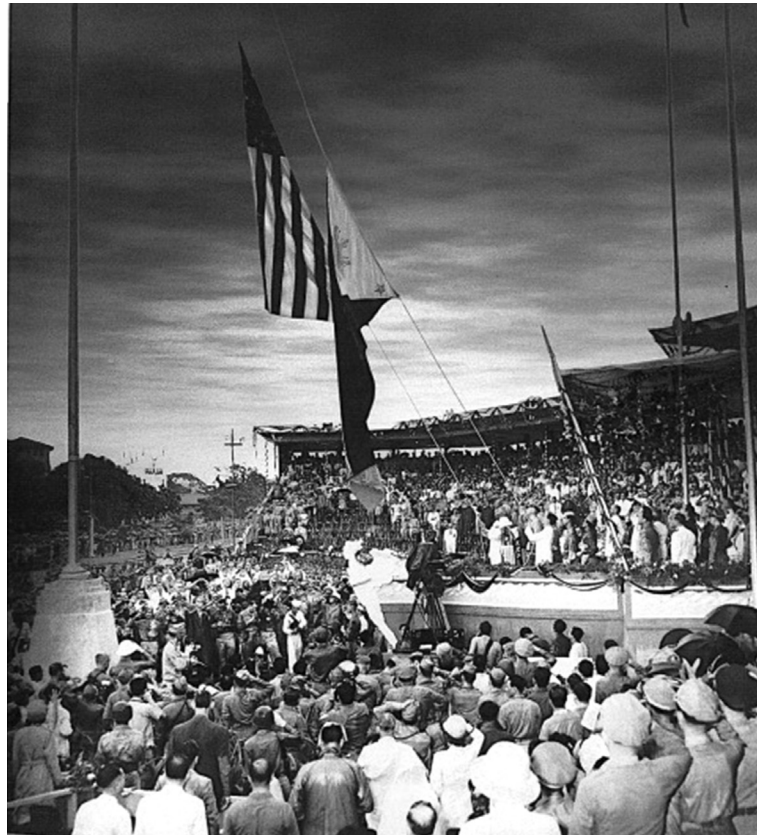
JULY 4

## Republic Day

In 1946, the United States formally recognized the independence of the Republic of the Philippines. This was the culmination of the process that began in 1916, with the Jones Law pledging the eventual recognition of Philippine independence, and the Tydings-McDuffie Act of 1933, which provided for a ten-year transitional period to prepare for independence. Independence thereafter was celebrated on July 4 until 1962.

In 1962, President Diosdado Macapagal issued Proclamation No. 28, effectively moving the date of Philippine Independence from July 4 to June 12—the date independence from Spain was proclaimed in Kawit, Cavite. Thereafter, the Congress of the Philippines passed Republic Act No. 4166 in 1964, formally designating June 12 as the date of Philippine independence. The date commemorates the Proclamation of Philippine Independence, because it remains the foundation date for the modern, independent Republic of the Philippines and of our independent nationhood, as recognized by the world community. From 1964 until 1984, Philippine Republic Day was celebrated as a national holiday.

The origin of Philippine–American Friendship Day dates to 1955, when President Ramon Magsaysay, by virtue of



In ceremonies held in the temporary Independence Grandstand (built in front of the Rizal Monument), the Philippine flag is raised while the U.S. flag is lowered. The flagpole in front of the Rizal Monument is thus known as the Independence Flagpole, commemorating the culmination of the quest for National Independence.

Proclamation No. 212, s. 1955, established the observance of “Philippine American Day,” every November 15, anniversary of the inauguration of the Commonwealth of the Philippines.

During the President Ferdinand E. Marcos era, Philippine–American Day was renamed Philippine–American Friendship Day and moved to July 4, overshadowing the observance of the date as Philippine Republic Day. During the administration of President Corazon C. Aquino, the practice of celebrating Philippine–American Friendship Day and Philippine Republic Day

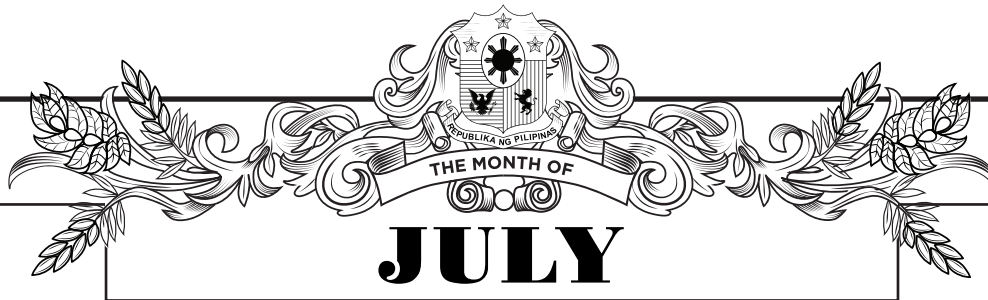
as a Special (non-working) day was abolished. In 1996, President Fidel V. Ramos would once again commemorate the anniversary of Republic Day through Proclamation No. 811, not with a holiday but with public celebrations to commemorate 50 years of independence.

#### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of Vice President Teofisto Guingona, Jr. (1928)

#### PROCLAMATION

▲ Republic Day  
(Republic Act No. 4166 of 1964, Proclamation 811, s. 1996)



## JULY 5

In 1945, Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur announced “All the Philippines are now liberated,” in a GHQ communiqué.



### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Scientist  
Jose Encarnacion Jr. (1998)

Portrait of Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur, circa 1943-1944 from the U.S. Navy Naval History and Heritage Command Collection.

## JULY 6

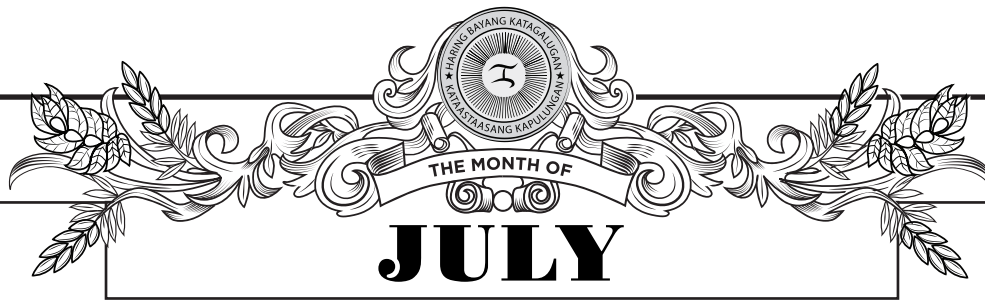


Portrait of President Corazon C. Aquino from the January 5, 1987 issue of Time Magazine.

In 1987, President Corazon C. Aquino signed the New Family Code into law.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of Vice President  
Manuel L. de Castro Jr. (1949)



JULY 7

## Founding of the Katipunan

In 1892, a secret organization, the *Kataas-taasang Kagalang-galangang Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan* (KKK) or simply the Katipunan, was formally established by Andres Bonifacio, Deodato Arellano, Valentin Diaz, Teodoro Plata, Ladislao Diwa, Jose Dizon, and a few others. While it was conceived in January of the same year, the Katipunan was established upon learning that Dr. Jose Rizal was to be deported to Dapitan, and that his written works were to be banned in the country. The secret council met in No. 72 Azcarraga Street in Manila to establish the organization. The primary aim of the Katipunan was Philippine Independence from Spain through an armed revolution.

The Katipunan was built on a sophisticated underground network of members. It drew thousands of new recruits. Upon its premature discovery on August 19, 1896, the Katipunan launched its revolution on August 23. This sparked the Philippine Revolution of 1896, the first national revolution against Western colonial rule in Asia.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Scientist

**Paolo C. Campos (1921)**

Birth anniversary of National Artist

**Eddie S. Romero (1924)**

Death anniversary of National Artist

**Rolando S. Tinio (1997)**

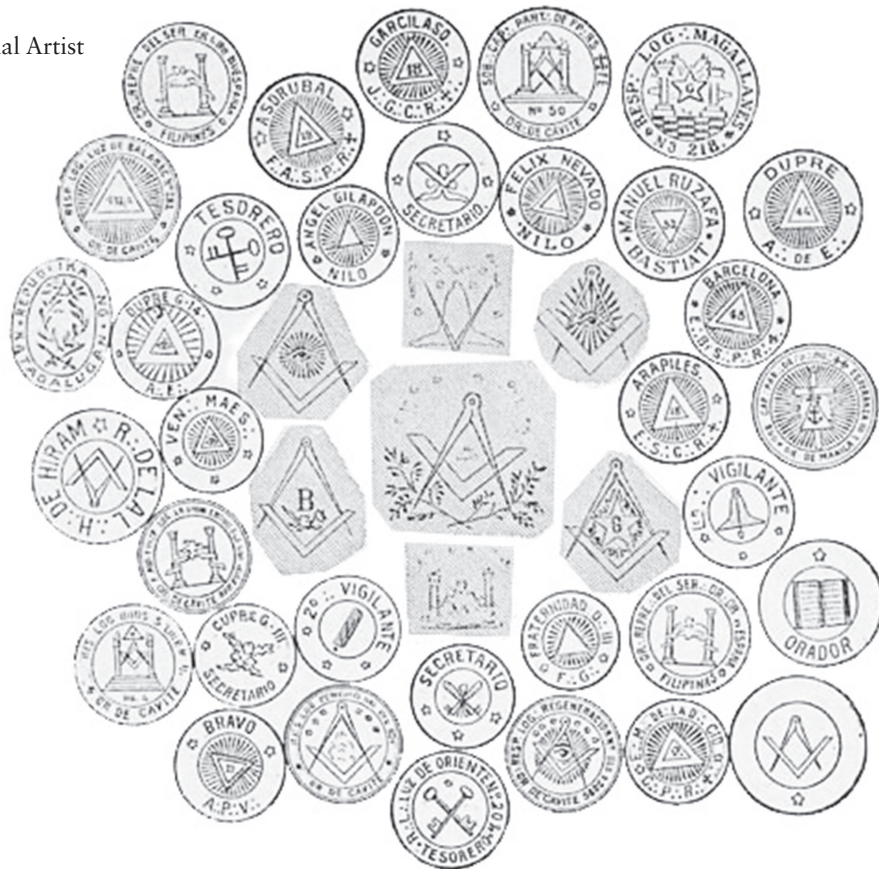
### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

National Intelligence

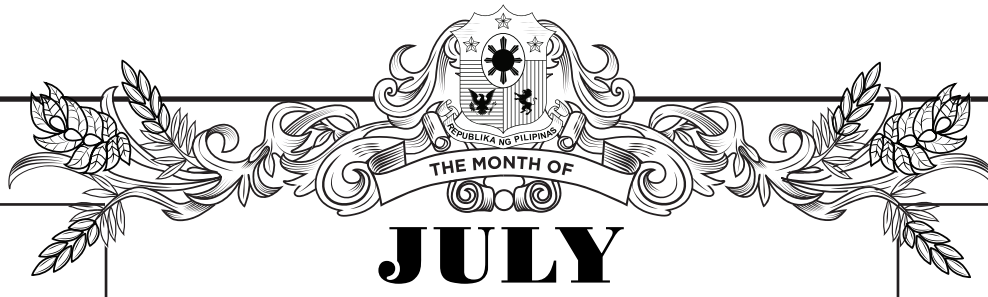
Coordinating Agency

(Executive Order

No. 235, s. 1949)



Collection of seals and stamps used by various branches of the Katipunan, from the book "The Friars in the Philippines" (1899) by Ambrose Coleman.



## JULY 8

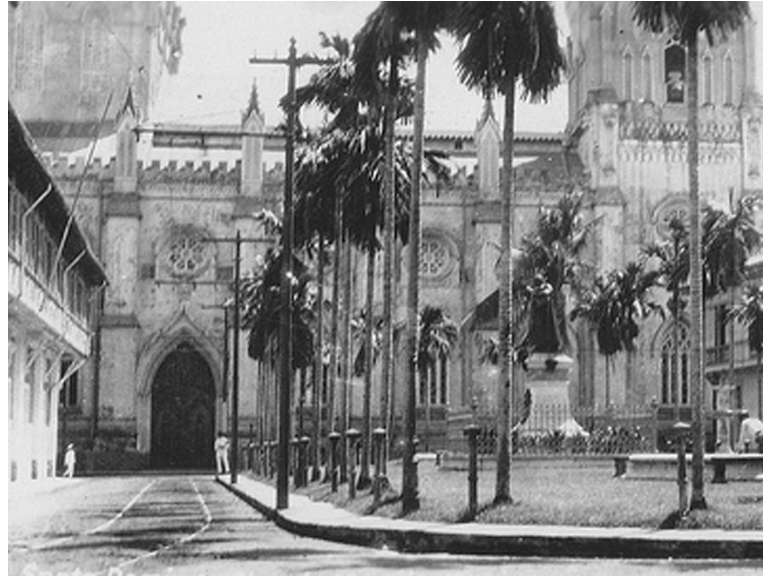
In 1648, the Royal Audiencia promulgated the papal bull of November 1645, recognizing “the perpetuity” of the University of Santo Tomas, making it the oldest university in Asia.

### PROCLAMATION

National Allergy Day  
(Proclamation No. 1313, s. 2007)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Presidential Management Staff  
(Presidential Decree No. 955, s. 1976)



The old campus of University of Santo Tomas beside the old Santo Domingo Church in Intramuros, before they were destroyed in the Liberation of Manila.

## JULY 9

In 1985, Arturo Pineda Alcaraz, a volcanologist and acknowledged “Father of Geothermal Energy” in the Philippines won the IBM Science and Technology Award.

With a vast and extensive knowledge on volcanoes in the Philippines, Alcaraz explored the possibility of harnessing geothermal steam to produce energy. He succeeded in 1967 when the country's first geothermal plant produced much-needed electricity, ushering in the era of geothermal-based energy to power homes and industries.

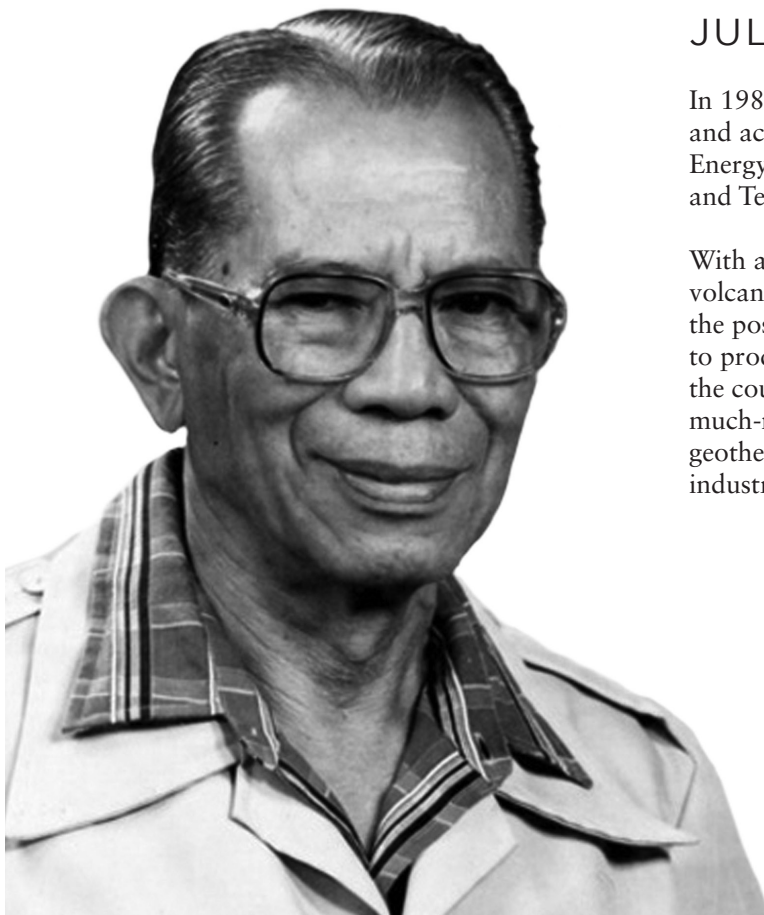
### ANNIVERSARIES

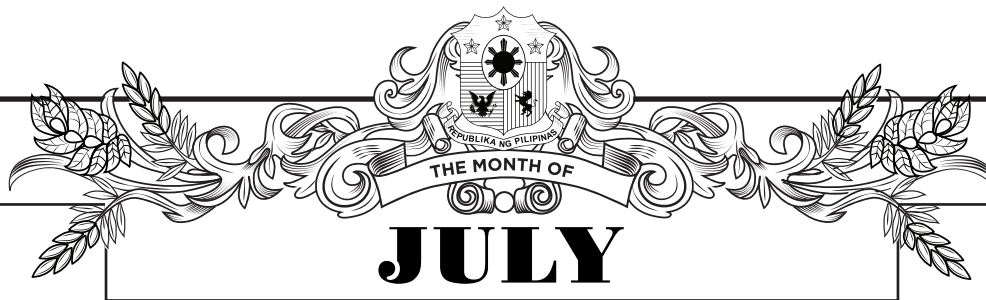
Birthday of National Artist

Cirilo F. Bautista (1941)

Death anniversary of National Artist

Andrea O. Veneracion (2013)



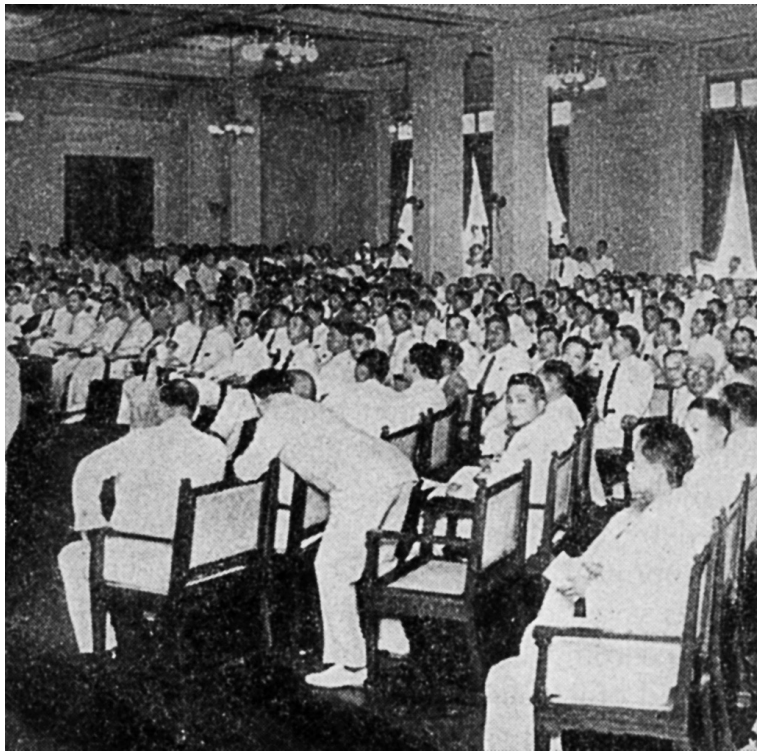


## JULY 10

In 1934, 202 delegates were elected to the Constitutional Convention, in accordance with the Tydings-McDuffie Act.

The 1934 Constitutional Convention was responsible for drafting the 1935 Constitution which was eventually used by the Commonwealth of the Philippines.

Claro M. Recto, a representative from Batangas, was unanimously chosen as President of the Constitutional Convention.



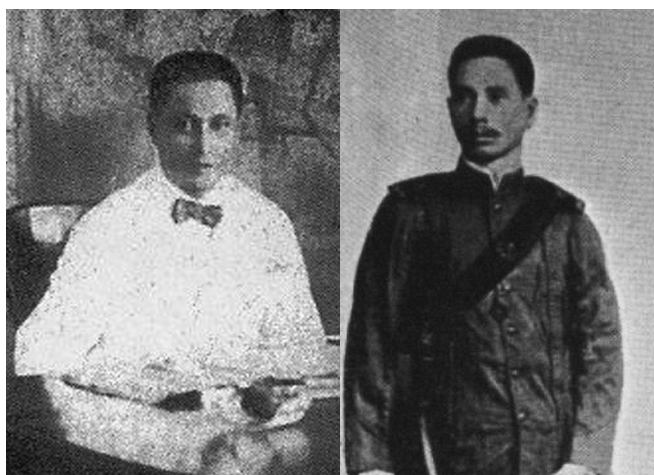
The opening of the Constitutional Convention in the Session Hall of the Old Legislative Building.

## JULY 11

In 1860, Pio del Pilar was born in Culi-culi, San Pedro de Macati; while in 1869, Pio Valenzuela was born in Polo, Bulacan.

Both were members of the Katipunan. Dr. Valenzuela was elected the fiscal of the said secret society in 1895, and was a member of the "Secret Chamber," while del Pilar was a Magdiwang general who initiated the Katipunan chapter of "Magtagumpay" in his hometown.

Pio del Pilar was originally a member of the Magdiwang faction of the Katipunan. However, he eventually switched allegiances, and was one of the members of the War Council who convinced President Emilio Aguinaldo to withdraw his pardon of the Bonifacio brothers.



LEFT: Pio Valenzuela, RIGHT: Pio Del Pilar

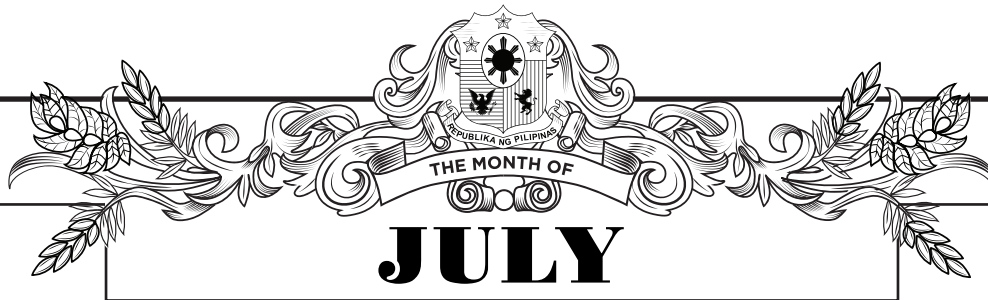
### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Andrea O. Veneracion (1928)

Death anniversary of National Artist  
Honorata "Atang" de la Rama (1991)

Death anniversary of Senate  
President and Chief Justice  
Marcelo B. Fernan (1999)





## JULY 12



Ateneo Municipal de Manila(1881) in Intramuros.

In 1859, the Jesuits returned in the Philippines for the first time since their expulsion as issued by a papal decree on April 2, 1767. From their expulsion they brought in new liberal ideas in education that they inculcated in their building of educational institutions. They took over a municipal school, Escuela Pia, which later evolved into the Ateneo de Manila, an institution run by Jesuits up to this day.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Guillermo E. Tolentino (1976)

## JULY 13

In 1883, pioneering anthropologist Henry Otley Beyer, “Father of Philippine Anthropology,” was born in Edgewood, Iowa, United States of America. Beyer was among the founding members of the Anthropology department in the University of the Philippines in 1914.

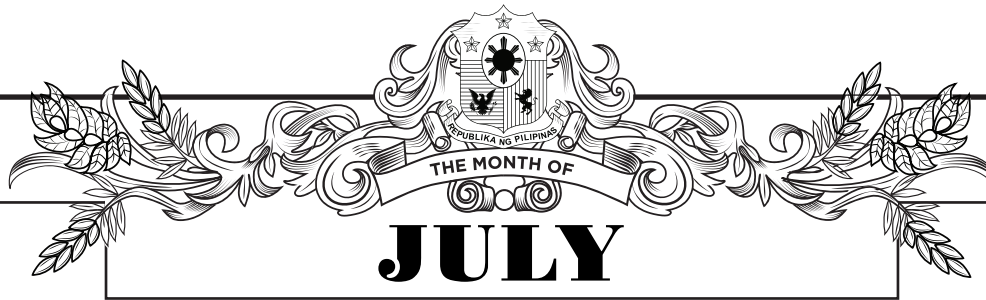
As head of the department, Beyer also founded the Museum and Institute of Archaeological Ethnology in the University of the Philippines where he preserved artifacts, stoneware, prehistoric tools, jewelry, Chinese ceramics, and tektites found in the Philippines. The University of the Philippines, Silliman University and Ateneo de Manila University awarded him with honorary doctorates.

He is remembered in the Philippines as an anthropologist, archaeologist, and prehistorian.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Alejandro R. Roces (1924)





## JULY 14



In 1974, the first Miss Universe beauty pageant held in the Philippines which formally opened at the Folk Arts Theater in Manila was participated by 65 contestants from all over the world and was won by Amparo Muñoz of Spain.

Then outgoing Miss Universe Margarita Moran of the Philippines crowned the tearful Miss Muñoz at the conclusion of a two-hour telecast.

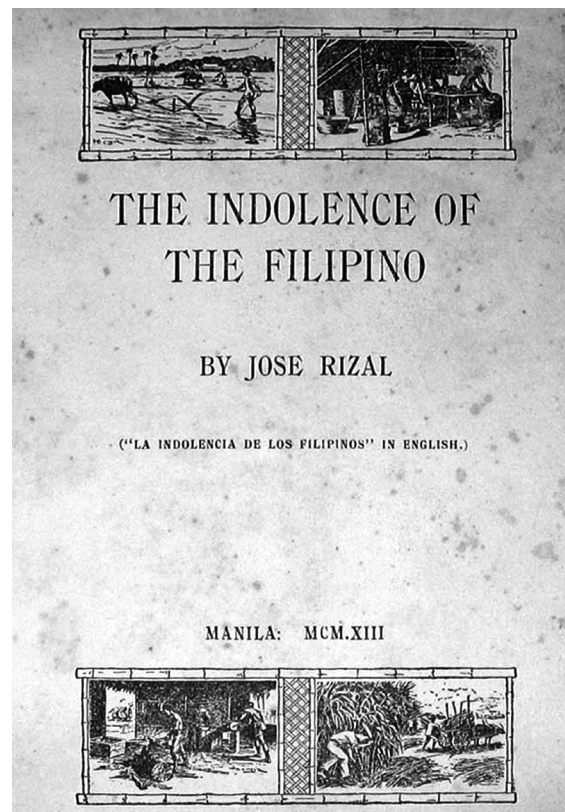
## JULY 15

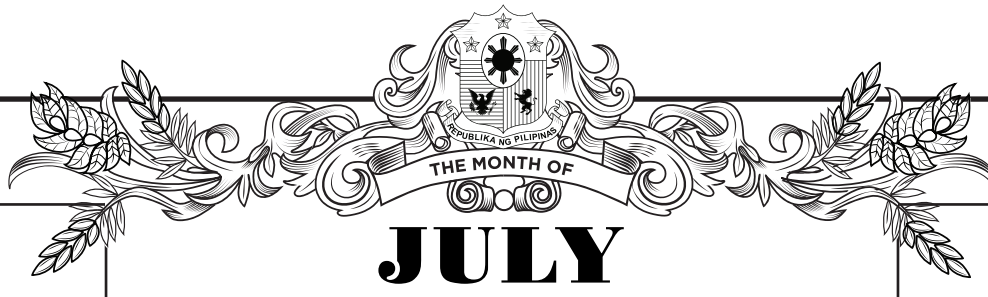
In 1890, Jose Rizal's "The Indolence of the Filipino" was published in the *La Solidaridad*. It was printed in five installments, which ran from July 15, 1890 to September 15, 1890.

The essay was Rizal's effort to educate his countrymen by revealing truths about their own faults, as well as calling the Spaniards' attention to defects in their colonial system.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Artist  
Leonor Orosa-Goqingco (2005)





## JULY 16

In 1990, at 4:26 p.m., a 7.7 magnitude earthquake hit Luzon, lasting 45 seconds.

One of the hardest hit cities was Baguio City, which was isolated from the rest of the Philippines for the first 48 hours after the quake. A prominent building in Baguio, the Hyatt Terraces Hotel, was destroyed.



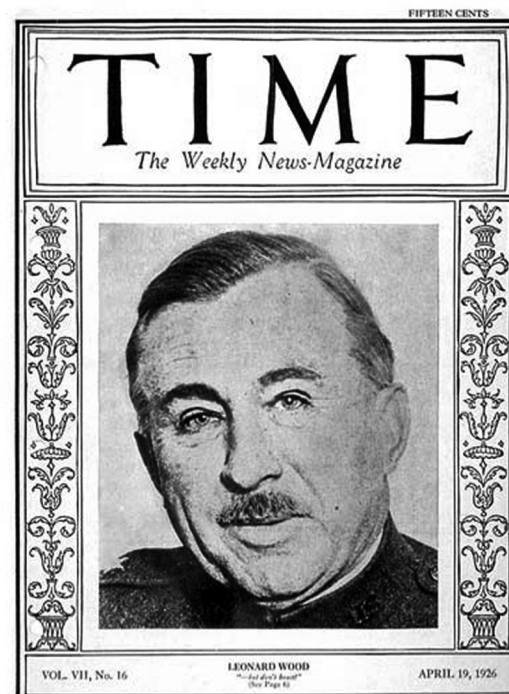
The Hyatt Terraces Hotel in Baguio was destroyed in the Luzon Earthquake of 1990. It was never rebuilt.

## JULY 17

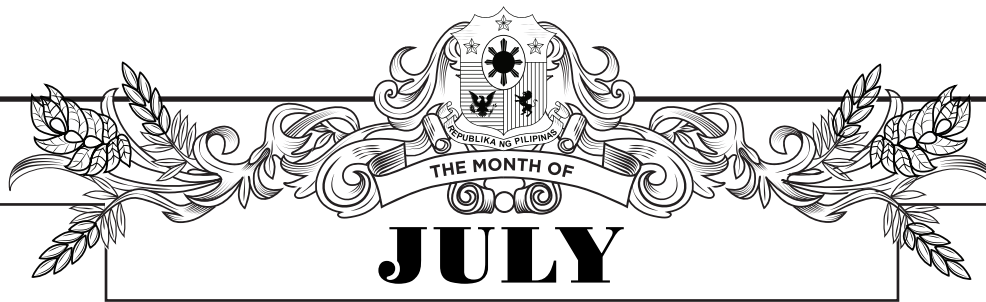
In 1923, Filipino members of Governor-General Leonard Wood's cabinet, including Secretary of the Interior Jose P. Laurel and Secretary of Justice Jose Abad Santos, resigned in protest of Wood's handling of the Ray Conley case.

Ray Conley was an American detective who was suspended for bribery. Conley appealed his case to Secretary Laurel but was denied. Governor-General Wood intervened on Conley's behalf, which the Filipino members of his cabinet found insulting.

Senate President Manuel L. Quezon and Speaker of the House Manuel Roxas also handed in their resignations as members of the Council of State.



Leonard Wood (on the cover of Time Magazine) was Governor-General of the Philippines from 1921 to 1927.



## JULY 18

In 1974, agronomists from the University of the Philippines, Los Baños confirmed, after 16 years of research, that wheat can be grown in Isabela and Cagayan.

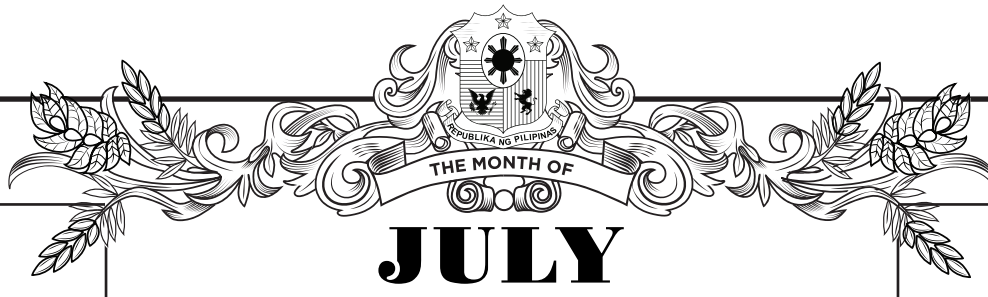


## JULY 19

In 1770, Simon de Anda became Governor-General of the Philippines.



Anda Monument in its original site at the waterfront of Fort Santiago, Intramuros in the early 20th century.



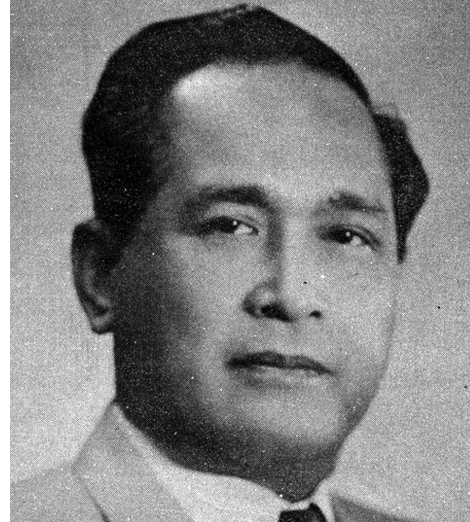
## JULY 20

In 1961, President Carlos P. Garcia signed an Administrative Order pursuant to Republic Act No. 3019, otherwise known as the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act.

Republic Act 3019 prohibits public officers and employees from dealing with relatives in any business, transaction, contract, or application with the government or any other business, calling for action or decision by such officers or employees.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of Speaker of the National Assembly  
Gil Montilla (1946)

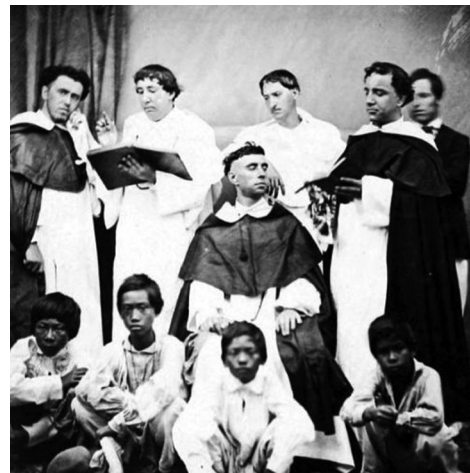


## JULY 21

In 1587, the first Dominicans arrived in the Philippines.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Death anniversary of Senate President  
Jose D. Avelino (1986)  
Death anniversary of National Scientist  
Gregorio T. Velasquez (1989)



Members of the Order of Preachers (OP) commonly known as Dominicans.

## JULY 22

In 1814, Apolinario de la Cruz, also known as Hermano Pule, was born in Lukban, Tayabas (present day Quezon province).

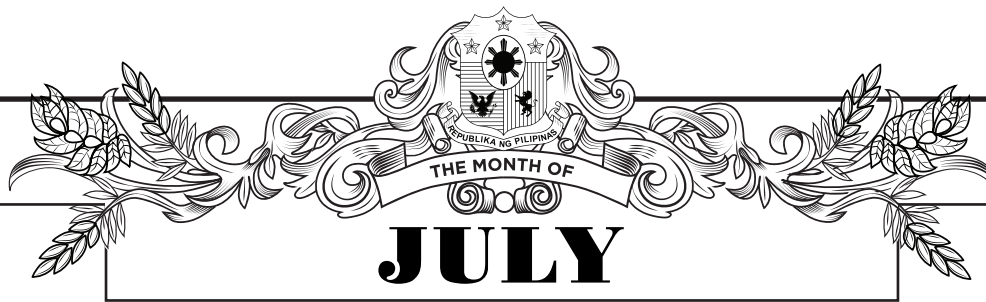
Hermano Pule founded the Cofradia de San Jose in 1832, which was composed of Filipinos. He led a major revolt against Spanish rule of the Philippines based on a struggle for religious freedom and independence.

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Gawad Mabini  
(Presidential Decree No. 490, s. 1974)



The bust of Hermano Pule in Rizal Park.



JULY 23

## Birth anniversary of Apolinario Mabini

In 1864, Apolinario Mabini y Maranan, the country's first Prime Minister, was born in Talaga, Tanauan, Batangas. Mabini has been relegated to being a minor player in our pantheon of heroes. He is not a figure with well-defined virtues, hence our inability to assign to him an iconic status that can appease our need for a clear-cut hero.

The closest comparison we could make of Mabini is to José Rizal, the nation's foremost man of letters, the very symbol of sacrifice in the name of freedom and fellowmen. Both were learned, both strove to reach beyond the limitations of the pejorative *indio*. Rizal and Mabini—*ilustrados* both—took from the European intelligentsia what they could and translated that philosophy into their protest against foreign rule.

But Rizal came from provincial gentry, and became part of the liberal ferment in Europe; Mabini was a homegrown intellectual of genuinely more modest means, who occupied himself with the inner workings of Philippine politics and government. Both were fervent disciples of logic, reason, independent thinking, and ethics; both were vocal in their belief that human dignity and the agency of the individual should be prized above else. Their work reflected this philosophy—but whereas Rizal channeled his beliefs into literature and science, Mabini drew on them in dedicating himself to legal and political theory, and their application to governance.

Mabini was the son of an illiterate peasant and a market vendor; every day, he crossed the mountains of Tanauan, Batangas, to attend his classes at the poblacion. He entered the Colegio de San Juan de Letran in threadbare clothing, worked part-time as a teacher of children to augment his funds. After earning a bachelor's degree and the title of "Profesor de Segunda Enseñanza," he took up law at the University of Santo Tomas. There, he found himself among an elite class of young intellectuals who would later on lead the Philippine



Apolinario Mabini at the Anda Street Police Station in Intramuros, in 1900.

revolution and, subsequently, the First Republic; as Rafael Palma notes, "Never in the memory of the University had so many vigorous minds and such well-equipped talent been gathered together in a single hall."

### ANNIVERSARY

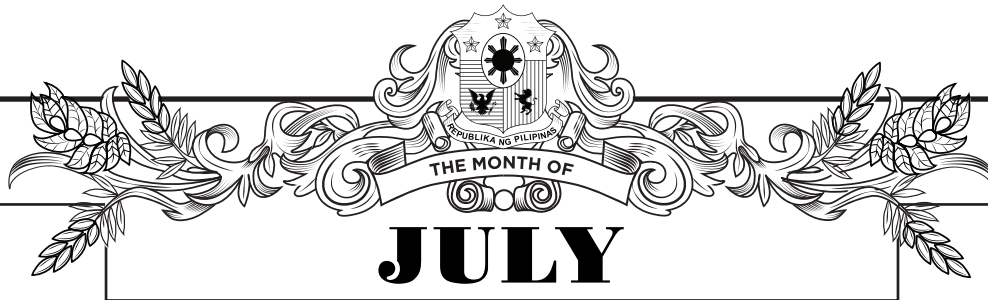
Death anniversary of National Artist  
Clara Y. Lim-Sylianco (2013)

### PROCLAMATION

★ Apolinario Mabini Day  
*City of Tanauan, Batangas*  
(Republic Act No. 9430 of 2007)

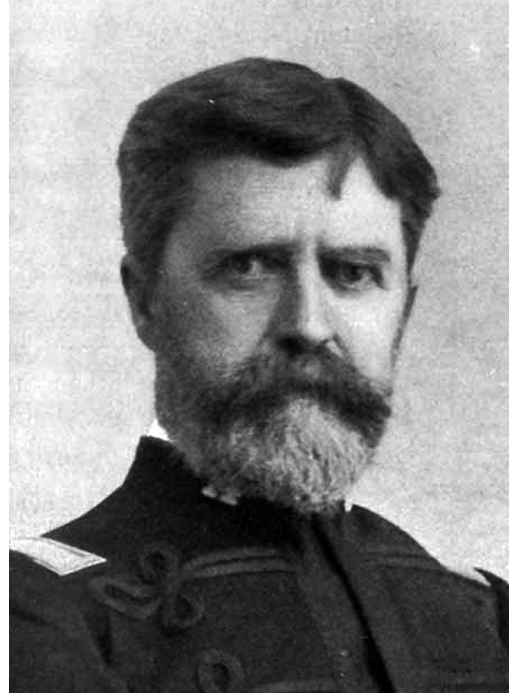
### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

National Telecommunications Commission  
(Executive Order No. 546, s. 1979)



## JULY 24

In 1898, President Emilio Aguinaldo wrote a letter to General Thomas M. Anderson, in effect warning him not to disembark American troops in places conquered by the Filipinos from the Spaniards without first communicating in writing the places to be occupied and the reason for the occupation.



General Thomas M. Anderson

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
**Guillermo E. Tolentino (1890)**

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
**Leonor Orosa-Goquingco (1917)**

## JULY 25



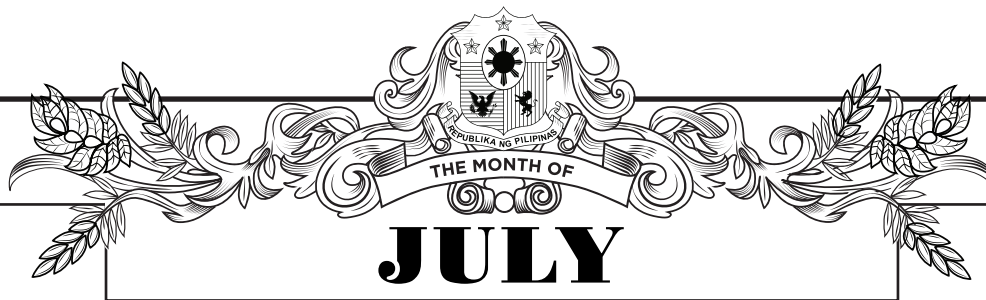
In 2011, during the second State of the Nation Address (SONA) of President Benigno S. Aquino III, an English translation of the address was delivered in real time for the benefit of the Diplomatic Corps. Thus, during his second year in office, President Benigno Aquino III introduced an innovation in the SONA tradition: the delivery of the address purely in Filipino with real-time translation.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of Chief Justice  
**Enrique M. Fernando (1915)**

Birth anniversary of National Scientist  
**Perla D. Santos-Ocampo (1931)**

Death anniversary of National Artist  
**Gerardo de Leon (1981)**


  
 THE MONTH OF  
**JULY**

**JULY 26**



United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFEF) headquarters on Bataan. *LEFT TO RIGHT:* Brigadier General Spencer B. Akin, Major Paul R. Wing (photographic officer), Lieutenant Colonel Nicoll F. Galbraith, and Brigadier General Richard J. Marshall.

In 1941, No. 1 Calle Victoria in Intramuros, the headquarters of the newly created United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFEF) was established.

Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur, military adviser to the Commonwealth of the Philippines, was recalled to active service as USAFEF Commander. MacArthur, who had retired from the U.S. Army on December 31, 1937, was promoted to the position of lieutenant general.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of Chief Justice Manuel Araullo (1924)

**JULY 27**

In 1856, Pantaleon Garcia, a General of the Philippine Revolution, was born in Imus, Cavite. In the Philippine-American war, Garcia was assigned as a Commanding General in Central Luzon. During the American regime, he was the first municipal President of Imus, Cavite. He also became its Justice of the Peace.



**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of Vice President Emmanuel Pelaez (2003)

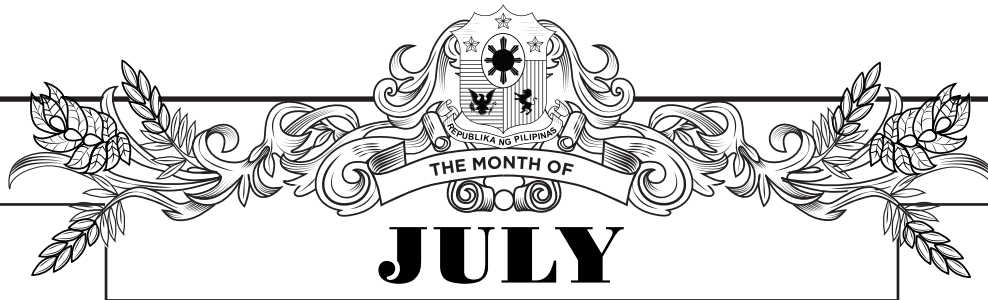
**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

Department of Trade and Industry (Executive Order No. 709, s. 1981)

**PROCLAMATION**

Iglesia ni Cristo Day (Republic Act No. 9645 of 2009)




  
 THE MONTH OF  
**JULY**

**JULY 28**

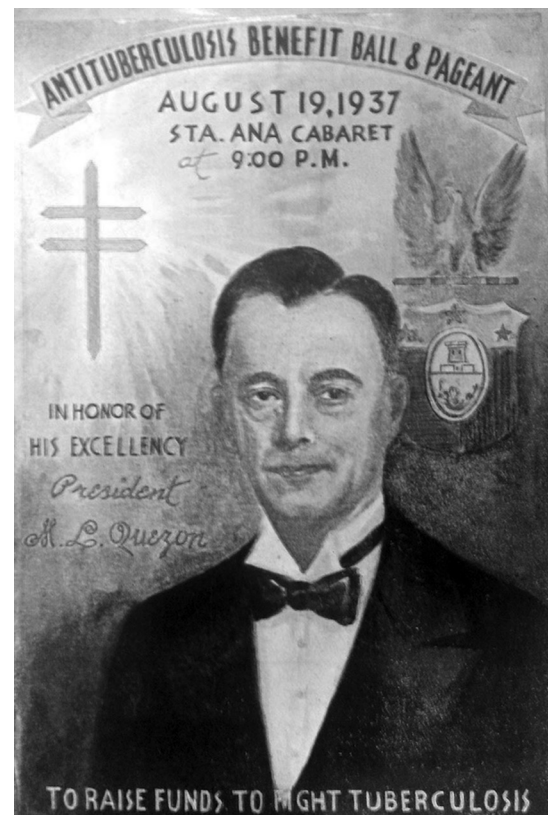


Representatives of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines to the 11th World Jamboree wave their hands as they boarded their plane for the Jamboree Site in Marathon, Greece.

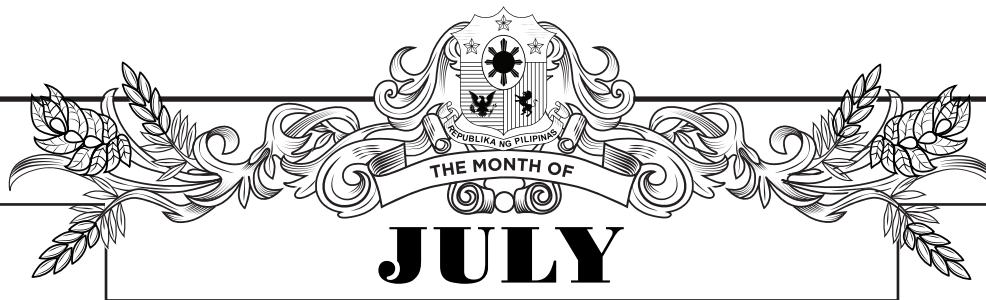
In 1963, 24 Boy Scouts and scouting officials, delegates of the Philippines to the 11th Boy Scout World Jamboree in Marathon, Greece, perished in an airplane crash of a United Arab Airlines (now Egypt Air) jetliner in the Bay of Bombay, India. The Scout area in Quezon City memorializes them.

**JULY 29**

In 1910, the Philippine Anti-Tuberculosis Society was founded in Manila by a group of Filipinos and Americans to combat the spread of tuberculosis. Its biggest and most well-known unit was the Quezon Institute, founded in 1938. The organization is currently known as the Philippine Tuberculosis Society, Inc. (PTSI), and continues to be engaged in the prevention, control, and treatment of tuberculosis in the Philippines.



A poster for the Anti-Tuberculosis Benefit Ball and Pageant of August 19, 1937, held in honor of President Manuel L. Quezon to raise funds to fight tuberculosis.



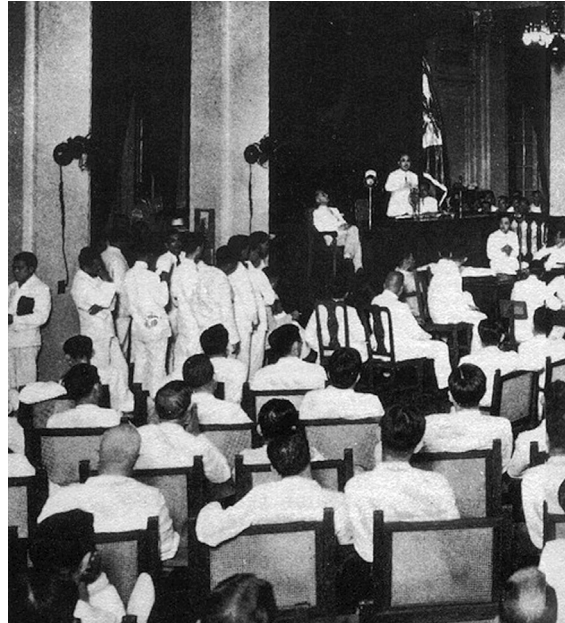
## JULY 30

In 1934, pursuant to the Tydings-McDuffie Act, the Constitutional Convention was convened in the Legislative Building in Manila with Claro M. Recto as President.

On February 8, 1935, the 1935 Constitution was approved with 177 votes to 1. President Franklin D. Roosevelt certified the draft on March 23, 1935. It was then ratified in a nationwide plebiscite on May 14, 1935.

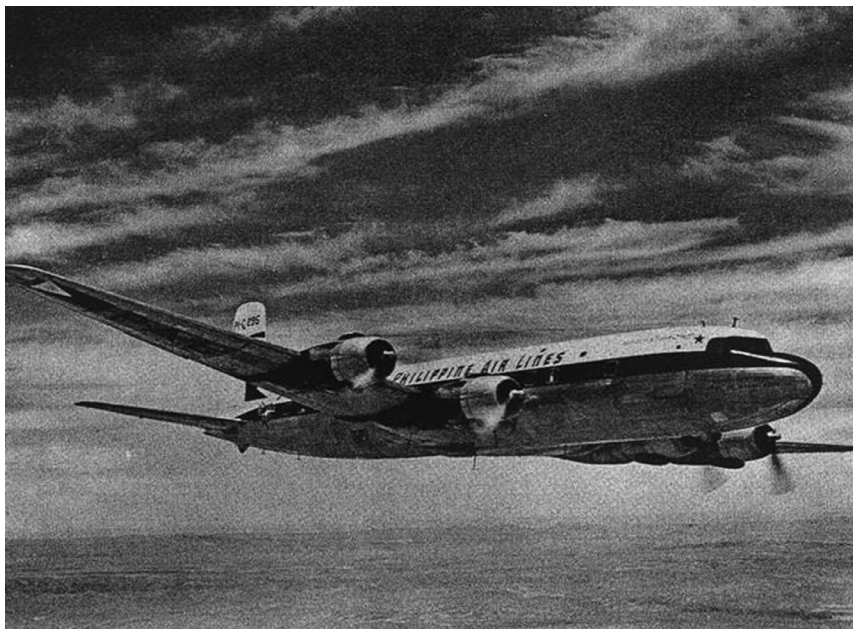
### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARIES

Presidential Communications  
Development and Strategic Planning Office  
(Executive Order No. 4, s. 2010)  
Presidential Communications  
Operations Office  
(Executive Order No. 4, s. 2010)



The opening of the Constitutional Convention in the House Session Hall of the Legislative Building.

## JULY 31



Philippine Airlines in the 1940s.

In 1946, Philippine Airlines (PAL) became the first Asian airline to cross the Pacific Ocean when a chartered Douglas DC-4 ferried 40 American servicemen to Oakland, California from Nielson Airport in Makati, with stopovers in Guam, Wake Island, Johnston Atoll, and Honolulu.



# Historical Evolution of the State of the Nation Address

**O**n September 15, 1898, President Emilio Aguinaldo delivered an address during the Inaugural Session of the Assembly of Representatives, more popularly known as the Malolos Congress. This speech was not a State of the Nation Address (SONA) because it was merely a congratulatory message to the Assembly instead of a constitutionally mandated report to the Legislature.

The practice of giving an annual report on the state of the Philippines was first enshrined in the Jones Law of 1916. The legal measure prescribed the Governor-General of the Philippine Islands to report to an executive office on the administration of the territory, which would then transmit the report to the President of the United States. According to the Jones Law, the report shall include the transactions of the government of the Philippine Islands to be submitted annually and as regularly as may be required.



### COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES

The SONA, as the annual practice we know it today, began during the Commonwealth of the Philippines. The 1935 Constitution, as amended, stated in Article VII, Section 5 that

*[t]he President shall from time to time give to the Congress information on the state of the Nation, and recommend to its consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient.*

Thus, the annual address to the Legislature became known as the SONA.

The first SONA was delivered during a special session of the National Assembly on November 25, 1935. President Manuel L. Quezon mentioned in his speech that he is delivering his message in fulfillment of the Constitutional mandate to give a report to Congress on its opening session.

Thereafter, the date of the opening of the sessions of the National Assembly was fixed, pursuant to Commonwealth Act (CA) No. 17, on June 16 of every year. The second SONA was delivered by President Quezon at the Legislative Building on June 16, 1936.

CA 49 of 1936, however, amended CA 17 of 1936 and designated the 16th of October as the date of the opening of the regular sessions of the National Assembly. As this fell on a Saturday in 1937, the second SONA was delivered by President Quezon on Monday, October 18, 1937.

With the approval of CA 244 on December 10, 1937, the date of the opening of the regular sessions of the National Assembly was again moved to the fourth Monday of every year, starting in 1938. President Quezon delivered his last SONA on January 31, 1941, as he would already be in exile the following year because of the Japanese occupation.

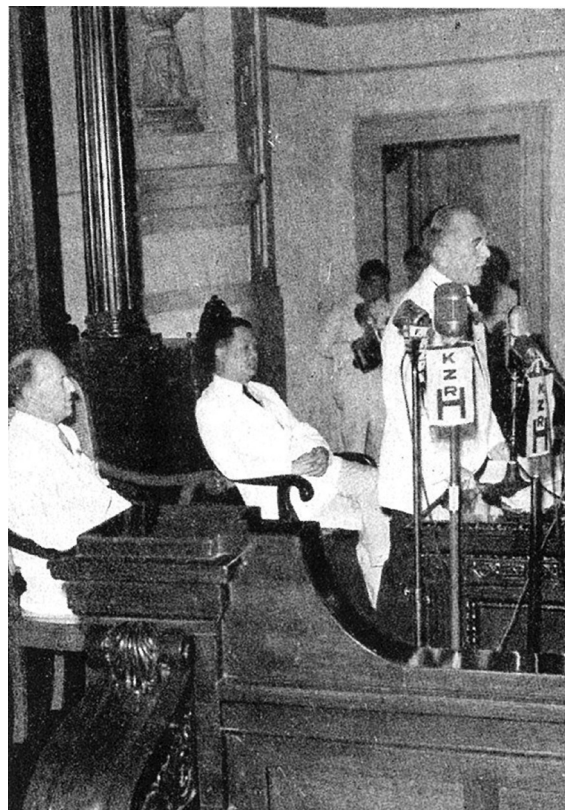
### SECOND REPUBLIC

President Jose P. Laurel of the Second Philippine Republic was able to deliver his first and only message before the special session of the National Assembly, led by Speaker Benigno Aquino Sr., on October 18, 1943, four days after the Republic was established. This also took place in the Legislative Building, Manila. However, President Laurel, who was one of the delegates who drafted the 1935 Constitution, pointed out in his address

that the 1943 Constitution did not provide for a report to the Legislature on the state of the nation and that his speech was not a SONA. His message before the assembly, therefore, is not included in the roster of SONAs.

### RESTORED COMMONWEALTH

With the defeat of the Imperial Japanese forces and the reestablishment of the Commonwealth Government in the Philippines, the Congress of the Philippines, elected in 1941 and now a bicameral body, convened on June 9, 1945. During this special session, President Sergio Osmeña addressed the lawmakers at their provisional quarters in a converted school house at Lepanto Street in Manila and gave a comprehensive report on the work carried out by the Commonwealth Government during its three-year stay in Washington, D.C.. Furthermore, he described the conditions prevailing in the Philippines during the period of occupation and an acknowledgment of the invaluable assistance rendered by the guerrillas to the American forces in the liberation of the Philippines. This was President Osmeña's first and only SONA.



President Manuel L. Quezon delivers his 1940 message to the National Assembly in front of its Speaker Jose Yulo and United States High Commissioner Francis B. Sayre.



The last SONA under the Commonwealth of the Philippines was delivered by President Manuel Roxas on June 3, 1946. After the establishment of the independent Republic of the Philippines on July 4, 1946, the SONA was to be delivered on the fourth Monday of January, pursuant to CA 244 of 1937, starting with President Roxas's address to the First Congress on January 27, 1947.

### THIRD REPUBLIC

Starting in 1949, the address was held at the reconstructed Legislative Building. Only once did a President not appear personally before Congress: On January 23, 1950, President Elpidio Quirino, who was recuperating at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, delivered his SONA to the Joint Session of Congress via radio broadcast through RCS in the United States that was picked up by the local radio network at 10:00 a.m., just in time for the opening of the regular Congressional session.

### MARTIAL LAW AND THE FOURTH REPUBLIC

The January tradition was continued until 1972. From 1973 to 1977, the SONA was delivered on the official anniversary of the imposition of martial law on September 21 of each year (official because martial law was actually imposed on September 23, 1972), and because Congress was abolished with the promulgation of the 1973 Constitution, these addresses were delivered before an assembly either in Malacañan Palace or at Luneta, except in 1976, when the address was given during the opening of the Batasang Bayan at the Philippine International Convention Center.

President Marcos began delivering the SONA at the Batasang Pambansa in Quezon City on June 12, 1978, during the opening session of the Interim Batasang Pambansa. From 1979 onward, the SONA was delivered on the fourth Monday of July, following the provisions of the 1973 and, later, 1987 Constitutions. The only exceptions were in 1983, when the SONA was delivered on January 17 to commemorate the anniversary




TOP: Ramon Magsaysay is flanked by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez Sr. and Speaker Pro Tempore Daniel Romualdez during the 1956 SONA delivered at the Legislative Building, Manila. MIDDLE: President Quirino in his 1949 SONA. BOTTOM: President Ferdinand E. Marcos delivering the 1972 SONA in the Legislative Building in Manila.

of the ratification of the 1973 Constitution and the second anniversary of the lifting of martial law, and in 1986, when President Corazon C. Aquino, who had declared a revolutionary government, did not deliver any SONA.

### FIFTH REPUBLIC


With the restoration of Congress in 1987, President Corazon C. Aquino was able to deliver her SONA in the Session Hall of the House of Representatives at the Batasang Pambansa Complex, Quezon City. Presidents Corazon C. Aquino, Fidel V. Ramos, Joseph Ejercito Estrada, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, and Benigno S. Aquino III all delivered their SONAs at the same venue.



 **MALACAÑANG Journal**

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# State of the Nation



President Corason C. Aquino addressing the joint session of the Senate and House of Representatives on July 27, 1987.

**F**IFTEEN years ago, in this season of the year, my husband stood in the Senate and delivered what turned out to be the valedictory of Philippine democracy. He exposed the conspiracy to place the country under martial law, dissolve the Congress and set the stage for the unremitting plunder of our patrimony, and the degradation of our great name and honor.

**SPECIAL REPORT ON AGRARIAN REFORM**

President Corazon C. Aquino's 1987 SONA was published in the now defunct Malacañang Journal. The photo shows her at the rostrum of the Batasang Pambansa, with Speaker Ramon Mitra and Senate President Jovito Salonga.

#### TRIVIA: PRESIDENTS AND THEIR STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESSES

On July 26, 2010, President Benigno S. Aquino III delivered his first SONA. It was the first SONA in history delivered entirely in Filipino. Past Presidents have either delivered entirely in English or included some portions in the vernacular, starting with President Quezon, who used the single Tagalog word “kasamas” in the 1936 SONA —the address wherein he proposed the creation of Filipino, the national language.

On July 25, 2011, during the second SONA of President Benigno S. Aquino III, an English translation of the address was delivered in real time for the benefit of the Diplomatic Corps. Thus, on his second year in office, President Benigno S. Aquino III introduced two new innovations in the SONA tradition: the delivery of the address purely in Filipino and real-time translation.

The President who has delivered the most SONAs was President Ferdinand E. Marcos, who held power from December 30, 1965 to February 26, 1986. He delivered 20 SONAs. Second to him is President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, who stayed in power for nine years and delivered nine SONAs.



# Mabini Sesquicentennial

## THE MABINI BRIDGE

Nagtahan Bridge was built sometime between January to February 1945, initially as a pontoon bridge crossing the Pasig River, connecting the towns of Sta. Mesa and Paco. It was used to transport U.S. Army jeeps and evacuate citizens caught in the crossfire during the Liberation of Manila. Prior to World War II, plans for a bridge to connect the Mendiola route to Malacañan Palace was conceived, but construction did not push through. The pontoon bridge remained in place for decades after the war.

On August 17, 1960, a barge rammed against the wooden piles of the bridge, causing the bridge to tilt; nearby residences were also flooded. In 1963, a permanent bridge was finally constructed and was named Nagtahan; it connected Paco with the Pandacan District. Prior to construction, the Mabini Shrine (the former residence of Apolinario Mabini) was situated on the north bank, thus prompting the government to move the house to another location.

On the occasion of Mabini's 103rd birth anniversary on July 22, 1967, in recognition of the bridge's site as the former site of Mabini's residence, President Ferdinand E. Marcos issued Proclamation No. 234, s. 1967, naming the bridge at Nagtahan Street, Manila the "Mabini Bridge"



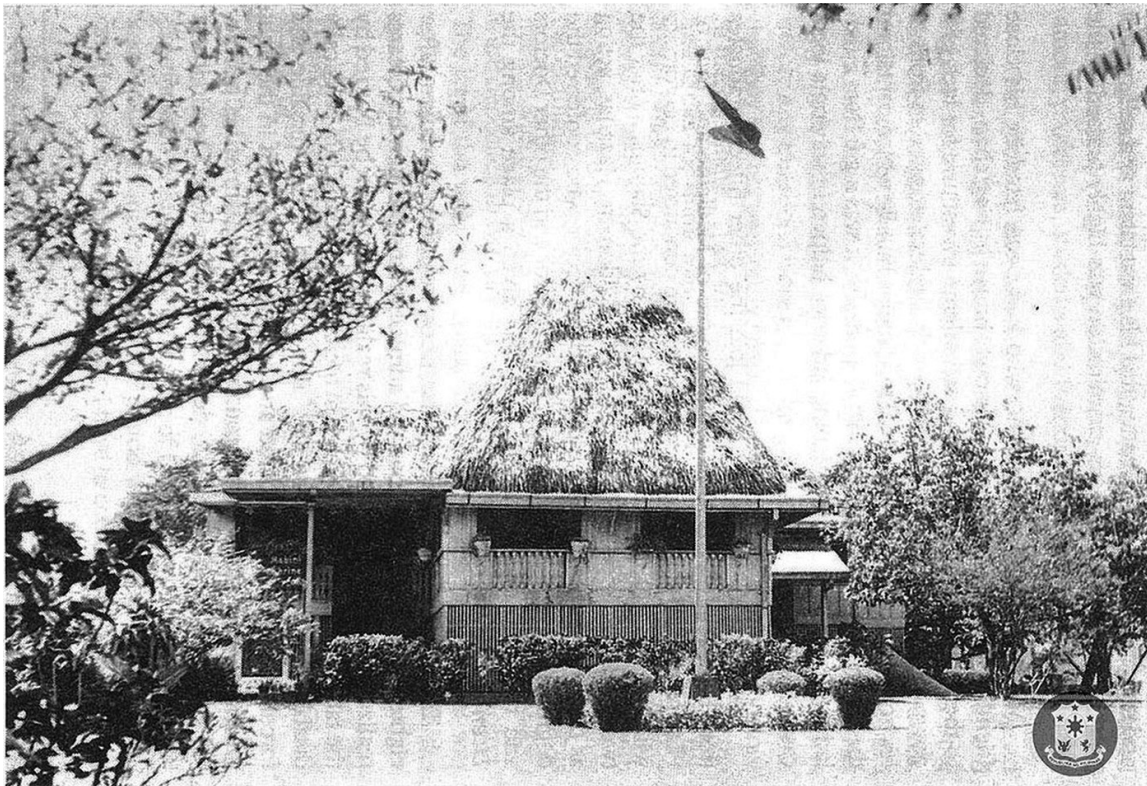
Photo of Nagtahan Bridge, February 1945.

in memory of Apolinario Mabini. However, little notice was made of this, and in time the correct name of the bridge was forgotten.

In 2014, as a fitting contribution to the Mabini Sesquicentennial and upon the recommendation of the Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office, the Department of Public Works and Highways changed the pertinent road signs to read Mabini Bridge.

## THE MABINI SHRINE IN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES

The bamboo-and-nipa house which would later be known as the Mabini Shrine belonged



Reconstruction of the Nagtahan house where Mabini died.

to the couple Cecilio del Rosario and Maxima Castaneda-del Rosario, to whom Mabini was related by affinity. (His younger brother married a del Rosario daughter.)

The house was located in Nagtahan, Pandacan, in Manila. Formerly known as Pandanan, it was the neighborhood where Francisco Balagtas settled down, where Fr. Jacinto Zamora was born, and where Ambrosio Rianzares Bautista and Apolinario Mabini were neighbors. In an ironic twist of events, Mabini would later supplant Bautista as President Emilio Aguinaldo's chief adviser, after the latter expressed misgivings about the form and content of the Proclamation of Independence read by Bautista on June 12, 1898.

Mabini first lived in the del Rosario house in 1888, the year he entered the Faculty of Law at the University of Santo Tomas.

It was in this same house that Mabini's friends gathered on March 14, 1894, the day he was to be conferred with his Licentiate degree in jurisprudence. Mabini initially refused to attend the ceremony because he didn't have a ceremonial gown. A gown, however, was donated

to him by a client in Sta. Cruz to whom Mabini offered legal assistance.

Mabini continued to live in Pandacan until October 10, 1896, when he was arrested by a sergeant of the Civil Guard as a *suspechosa* due to his connections with Rizal and La Liga Filipina and, later, with Cuerpo de Compromisarios, the organization that served as the mouthpiece of *La Solidaridad* in the Philippines. Mabini was held in confinement at the San Juan de Dios Hospital in Intramuros, instead of a regular prison.

Mabini was granted amnesty on May 17, 1897, and returned to the Pandacan house until January 1898, when he left Manila for Laguna, he become a pamphleteer.

At the end of May 1898, Mabini was invited by President Aguinaldo to be an adviser for the revolutionary government. Aguinaldo was familiar with Mabini's work positing the organization of a formal revolutionary government.

Mabini became the chief adviser of President Aguinaldo on June 12, 1898. He arrived





late to the ceremony of the Proclamation of Independence. From the founding of the First Republic on January 23, 1899, Mabini resided in Malolos, Bulacan, the First Republic's seat of power, as he headed President Aguinaldo's cabinet. On May 4, 1899, he resigned from the post, giving way to Pedro Paterno.

Mabini went to Cuyapo, Nueva Ecija and was captured there by the American colonial government on December 10, 1899. Mabini was then exiled to Guam in 1901. Upon his return to the country on February 26, 1903, Mabini decided to reside again in the same house in Pandacan with his brother. On May 13, 1903, Mabini died, due to an outbreak of cholera in the area.

\* \* \*

Mabini's house in Pandacan was originally located at the foot of the Nagtahan Bridge on the north bank of the Pasig River. It was moved to the south bank in 1960, into the Presidential Security Group Compound in Malacañan Park, in order to give way for the widening of Nagtahan (now Mabini) Bridge. Within the compound, it was restored under the care of National Artist for Architecture, Juan F. Nakpil. On April 2007, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) proposed that the Mabini Shrine be relocated to a new site, as part of a project to widen the river channel in order to let the water in the Pasig River flow unimpeded.

Meetings involving representatives of the MMDA, the Presidential Security Group, and the National Historical Institute (now the National Historical Commission of the Philippines), were conducted. On August 6, 2007, the President of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), Dr. Dante G. Guevarra, successfully volunteered the PUP Main Campus as the new site. PUP allotted a 905-square-meter site for the shrine, and renamed its campus accordingly. With NHI Board Resolution No. 1, s. 2008, the PUP Mabini Campus became the third site of the Mabini Shrine.

In order to prevent another movement that "may further diminish its historical and architectural authenticity and sanctity as a National Shrine," President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, through

Proclamation No. 1992, s. 2010, declared the PUP Mabini Campus to be the permanent home of the Mabini Shrine.

On January 24, 2013, a year-long project was kicked off, conducted by R. A. Lacanlale Construction, to restore the house and the surrounding grounds.

### THE MABINI REPUBLIC

Mabini's belief in doing the right thing was marked by pragmatism, conscience, and a refusal to mince words. On Mabini's political ideology and reasonable idealism:

*True honour can be discerned in the simple manifestations of an upright and honest soul, not in brilliant pomp and ornament, which scarcely serve to mask the deformities of the body. True honour is attained by teaching our minds to recognize truth, and training our hearts to love it. The recognition of truth shall lead us to the recognition of our duties and of justice, and by performing our duties and doing justice we shall be respected and honoured, whatever our station in life. Let us never forget that we are on the first rung of our national life, and that we are called upon to rise, and can go upward only on the ladder of virtue and heroism. Let us not forget that, if we do not grow, we shall have died without ever having been great, unable to reach maturity, which is proper of a degenerate race.*

— From *The Philippine Revolution* by Apolinario Mabini, translated from Spanish by León Ma. Guerrero.

Upon the establishment of the First Republic, Aguinaldo needed a legal luminary to take the infant government by hand in its first steps. This role fell on Mabini—"a star of the first magnitude," as Rafael Palma would later describe him.

Mabini proved to be more than capable to fulfill this responsibility within Aguinaldo's rule; through the first official documents of the Philippine republic that Mabini demonstrated his usual intellectual flare.

Decree after decree, he organized the administration of justice and human rights under the new republic. Letter after letter, he explained



why the American occupation of the Philippines was illegal. Section after section, he debated with his comrades on the draft Malolos Constitution. Indeed, his ideas became even more indispensable after independence was proclaimed. By this time, Mabini had played a more public role as the country's first prime minister and top diplomat, and had the experience in government to provide a sharper analysis of self-governance in the Philippines.

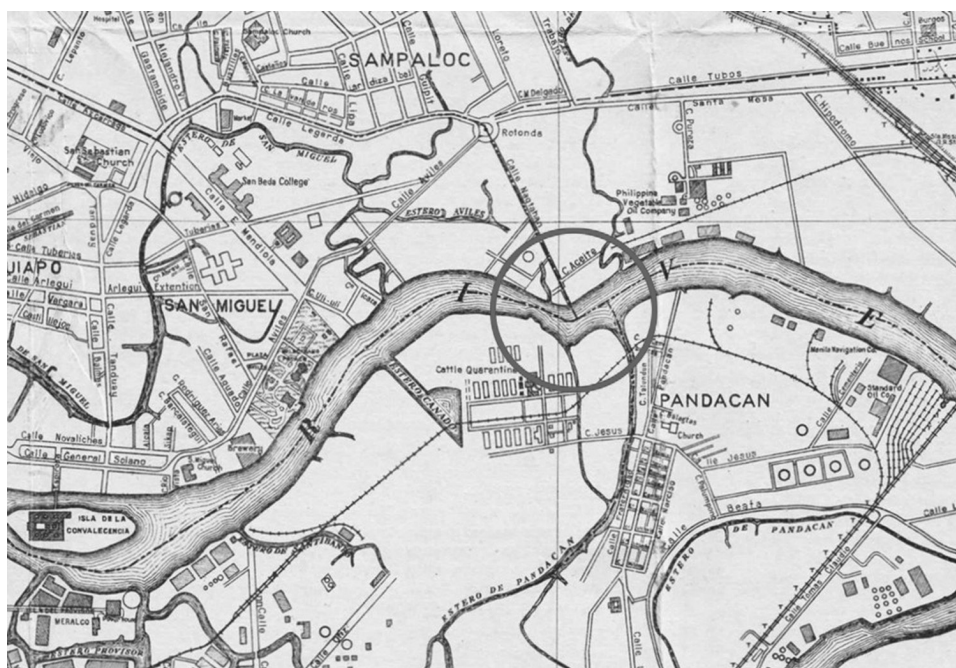
Later in his life, Mabini would take on the more unenviable, contentious task of excoriating the very government he had helped establish—scoring personalities for their greed and their corruption, for the self-interests that threatened the dignity of hard-earned democratic institutions. Acknowledging the incendiary nature of his account of the First Republic, Mabini nonetheless insists on its necessity: “I do not see anything wrong in examining our past in order to draw up a balance-sheet of our failures, mistakes, and weaknesses; whoever voluntarily confesses his sins shows at least a praiseworthy and honourable purpose of amendment and correction.”

But León Ma. Guerrero, in his introduction to Apolinario Mabini's *The Philippine Revolution*, offers up an astute encapsulation of the Mabini: “Righteous, perceptive, and farsighted beyond the measure of his contemporaries and successors, the very embodiment of the

intellectual in a revolution, he was not so intransigent as he was thought to be, as the following pages will show. Among the Filipinos, he was one of the few who knew what it was all about.”

In his essay on the statesman's legacy, “The Relevance of Mabini's Social Ideas to Our Times,” Moro historian Cesar Adib Majul examined the coexistent duality of Mabini's political ideology—which he consistently applied to his response to the first mass uprising against Spain and to the science of self-governance in the newly formed republic, and which can be seen in his critique of the Aguinaldo Government.

Adib Majul notes that Mabini held the fervent belief that an individual was born with immense intellectual and moral capacities and that he has been equipped with the natural impulse to cultivate these faculties. And for Mabini, the very nature of a colonial regime deprived his people of the freedom to develop those faculties, to attain *la mayor suma de libertades, conocimientos, bienes y seguridades para los ciudadanos*—that is (to use the popular Lockean saying): “the right to life, liberty, and property” and, in addition, the right to education. Mabini also believed that individuals could unite and stand in solidarity, their collective strength—and the ability to nurture one's intellectual and moral faculties—allowing them to wrest control back. Thus Mabini justified the revolution



Young Men's Christian Association's 1934 map of Manila features the topography of the area prior to the construction of the Mabini Bridge.



against Spain. By implication, Mabini viewed independence as the fundamental prerequisite to attain the individual freedom of all Filipinos.

Mabini's initial optimism on independence, to take on Adib Majul's exposition, can be traced back to some of the assumptions underpinning his political philosophy. First, as mentioned earlier, Man's natural impulse to develop his mental and emotional capacities will lead him to topple down any obstacle to his progress. Second, in the face of common danger, and coupled with love of country and countrymen, the people united would set aside their class and regional differences. And third, the conception of a greater good will make men sublimate their personal interests to the former.

From these abovementioned premises, the revolution's failure to turn the promise of independence into something palpable and tangible to the people can be attributed to the perversion of self-governance; that the people in government had failed to conceive the general good of the nation, that they had put personal and family gain over the interests of the people.

Mabini's prose soars when he scores the defeat of independence, of true government, of service. Nearing the conclusion of his *The Philippine Revolution*, Mabini unleashes a condemnation that's singular for its honesty, considering how fast the factionalism had replaced brotherhood in the new, so-called democratic institution of government:

*The Revolution failed because it was badly led; because its leader won his post by reprehensible rather than meritorious acts; because instead of supporting the men most useful to the people, he made them useless out of jealousy. Identifying the aggrandizement of the people with his own, he judged the worth of men not by their ability, character, and patriotism but rather by their degree of friendship and kinship with him; and, anxious to secure the readiness of his favourites to sacrifice themselves for him, he was tolerant even of their transgressions. Because he thus neglected the people, the people forsook him; and forsaken by the people, he was bound to fall like a waxen idol melting in the heat of adversity. God grant we do not forget such a terrible lesson, learnt at the cost of untold suffering.*

One can almost imagine the man with his fingers steeped before him, in his merciless condemnation of Aguinaldo's actions. The entire book is, tonally, of quiet self-righteousness—the kind of self-righteousness seemingly unburdened by ego, and reliant only on the knowledge and what is true and what is right. Paragraphs after taking “Mr. Aguinaldo” to task for botching both the revolution and the government that preceded it—for “[believing] that one can serve his country with honour and glory only from a high office”—Mabini gives an admonition all the more stinging in its gentleness: “Mr. Aguinaldo should not despair. [...] He can still make up for his past and recapture the general esteem with worthy deeds. He is still young and has shown in natural sagacity in making the most of circumstances for his own ends, questionable as they were because he lacked the culture and virtue demanded by his office.”



Apolinario Mabini's remains were transferred from Mausoleo de los Veteranos de la Revolucion to Talaga, Tanauan, Batangas on July 23, 1956.

Mabini's belief in doing the right and honorable thing was marked also by his pragmatism, his conscientiousness, and his refusal to mince words. This is as evident in two adjacent sentences in his introductory manifesto to his account of the Philippine revolution: “We fought in the conviction that our dignity and sense of duty required the sacrifice of defending our freedoms as long as we could, since without them social equality between the dominant class and the native population would be impossible in practice and perfect justice among us could not have been achieved. Yet we knew it would not be long before our scant resources were exhausted, our defeat inevitable.” Here he was in the tradition of Cassandra—the prophet of



Upon the recommendation of the Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office (PCDSPO), the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) changed pertinent road signs to “Mabini Bridge.”

Greek myth who saw too much of the future, yet cursed in her lifetime to never be believed. Apolinario Mabini, for all his tireless efforts in ensuring true independence—an independence and, subsequently, a government that was founded on the principle of popular sovereignty—is in danger of remaining as the unseen hand that he was in his lifetime. His intellectual stance, his insistence on relying on political theory to launch the science of government, his refusal to confine unpopular opinions to himself—in his very adamance at being the voice of reason, Mabini risked being relegated to mere adviser or cast as humble paper-pusher.

But Mabini’s was a noble calling. Mabini’s was a reasonable idealism—founded on honor and the decency of men (especially of those in positions of authority), but tempered with the unflinching acknowledgement of limitations yet to be conquered.

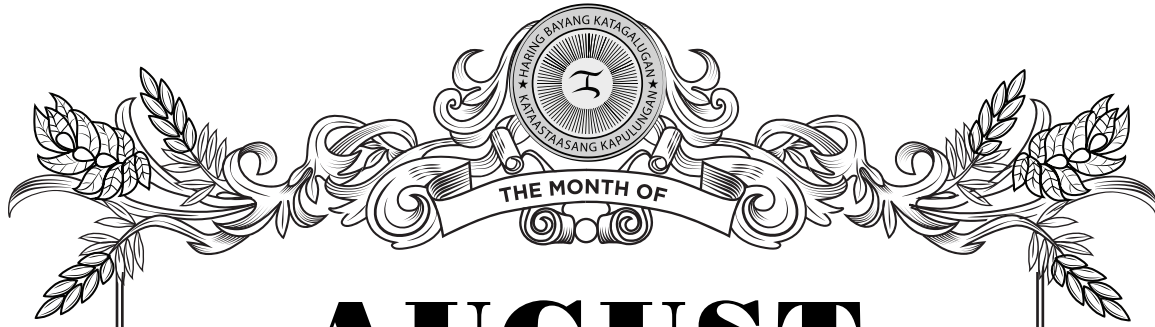
“Fighting to the limits of our strength and of reasonableness,” Mabini writes, “all we have accomplished has been to show our love of freedom.” It’s the kind of check-and-balance that remains in government today, a check-and-balance reliant on level-headedness, on knowledge, and above all, on the belief in public service and in doing the right thing for the people one has committed to.

His stance toward independence was always marked by his temperance. He was lukewarm to the idea of revolution in 1896; but while a faction of the *ilustrados* yearned and campaigned for statehood from Spain, Mabini was of those who believed in a Commonwealth model: To have his countrymen’s status elevated

from *indio* to subjects, to have autonomy over the country and yet retain the protection of the motherland. When war with the Americans broke out, faith in achieving independence had begun to wane among the *ilustrado* set—but Mabini was among those who remained steadfast. While Aguinaldo resolved to keep fighting, keep wresting control of his homeland from new conquerors, Mabini on the other hand understood that after “fighting to the limits of our strength and of reasonableness” an alternative to defeat was welcome: The Philippines could ask from America what we had originally wanted from Spain; that is: to become its province, with an eye toward independence in the future.

It is imperative that Mabini’s temperance and pragmatism should not be seen as a defeatist attitude—it, in fact, underscores his unwavering belief in the nation. Mabini knew that whether under American or Spanish rule, regardless of statehood or commonwealth granted by conquerors, the Philippines had already become a country; it had, by virtue of its campaigns and its sacrifices, become a true nation. And a true government, with sound democratic institutions, was only befitting. Mabini understood that its achievement was inevitable.

His life’s work has a belated, but ultimately fulfilling, vindication: Thirteen years after Mabini’s death, the United States of America conceded: Philippine independence and self-governance was pledged in the Jones Law of 1916. Its fulfillment was made certain with the Commonwealth’s inaugural in 1935. It became a formality in 1946—when at long last, Filipinos became fully responsible for their triumphs and failures, as an independent people.



# AUGUST

The whole month of August, known as Buwan ng Wika, celebrates the complexity, history, and evolution of Filipino culture and language.

August is also in which our country lost some of its greatest contemporary heroes—the deaths of exemplar of public service, former Naga Mayor Jesse Robredo; political martyr, Ninoy Aquino Jr.; President Manuel L. Quezon, and President Corazon C. Aquino, are all commemorated in the month of August, which is also History Month.

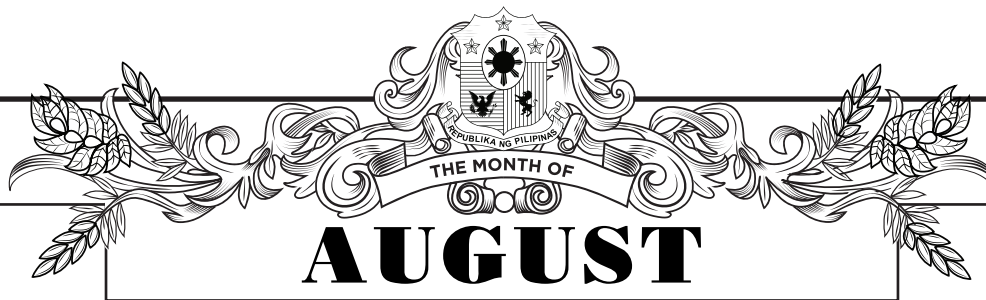
**MONTHLY  
OBSERVANCES**

- Farms Safety Month**  
*(Proclamation 115-A, s. 1966)*
- National Lung Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1761 s. 1978)*
- Buwan ng Wikang Pambansa**  
*(Proclamation No. 1041, s. 1997)*
- National Electrification Awareness Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1743, s. 2009)*
- Breastfeeding Awareness Month**  
*(Republic Act No. 10028 of 2010)*
- History Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 339, s. 2012)*

- 
- AUG 1-7**                    **World Breastfeeding Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1113, s. 2006)*
  - AUG 6-12**                **National Hospital Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 181, s. 1993)*
  - AUG 13-19**              **National Language Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 19, s. 1988)*
  - AUG 17-23**              **Made in the Philippines Product Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 76, s. 1936)*
  - AUG 24-30**              **National Coconut Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 142, s. 1987)*
  - AUG 29-SEPT 5**        **Rice and Corn Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 304, s. 1964)*
  - 1<sup>ST</sup> WEEK**                **Sight-Conservation Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 40, s. 1954)*
  - 2<sup>ND</sup> WEEK**              **Asthma Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 442, s. 1994)*
  - Philippine National Research System Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1309, s. 2007)*
  - 3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK**              **Brain Attack Awareness Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 92, s. 2001)*
  - LAST WEEK**             **Barrio Officials Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 282, s. 1964)*

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- LAST MONDAY**        **National Heroes Day**  
*(Act No. 3827 of 1931)*  
*(Republic Act No. 9492 of 2007)*





AUGUST 1

## Death anniversary of President Manuel L. Quezon



This last photograph of President Manuel L. Quezon was taken while in bed in his residence in Miami, Florida, U.S.A., in March 1944, when he presented the Medal of Valor to Major Emigdio Cruz.

In 1944, President Manuel L. Quezon passed away from severe tuberculosis, in Saranak Lake, New York. Prior to this, his long career in politics championed the freedom of the Filipino people. By March 1942, President Quezon and his family had to escape from the Japanese invasion and continue to govern a Philippine government-in-exile from Washington, D.C. During those last years, President Quezon sounded the call to the American public not to forget the Philippines under Japanese occupation.

Sergio Osmeña assumed presidency of the Commonwealth government-in-exile.

#### ANNIVERSARY

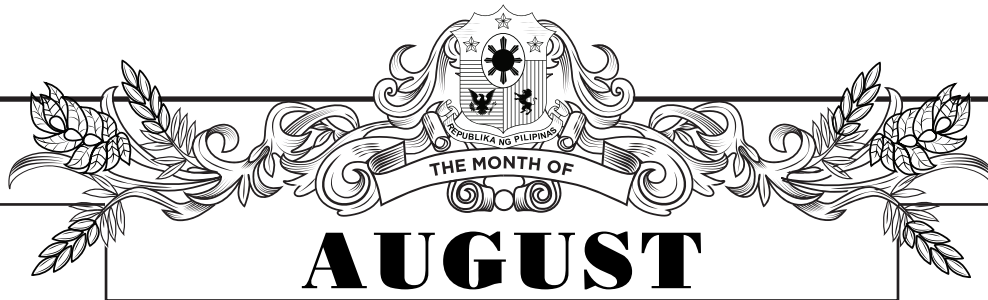
Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Francisco Arcellana (2002)

#### PROCLAMATIONS

White Cane Safety Day  
(Republic Act No. 6759 of 1989)  
Family Planning Day  
(Proclamation No. 429, s. 1994)

#### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Bureau of Internal Revenue  
(Act No. 1189 of 1904)



AUGUST 1

## Death anniversary of President Corazon C. Aquino

In 2009, President Corazon C. Aquino or "Cory," as she was fondly called, passed away after a long battle with cancer. The mourning Filipino public took to the streets to pay their respects to the late President, who was swept into power following the 1986 EDSA People Power Revolution. Cory was a revered icon of democracy who was in so many ways a moral compass of the Philippine nation. She was the 11<sup>th</sup> President of the Philippines and the first woman to hold that position.



President Corazon C. Aquino's flag-draped casket borne on a flatbed truck during the funeral procession. This was intentionally modelled after the funeral of her husband, Senator Benigno S. Aquino Jr., a quarter century before.

REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**AUGUST**

AUGUST 2



Monte de Piedad building without the additional floors that were later built on top.

In 1882, the Monte de Piedad, a savings bank founded by Fray Felix Huertas, was opened.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Birth anniversary of National Scientist **Pedro B. Escuro (1923)**  
Death anniversary of Senate President **Arturo M. Tolentino (2004)**

AUGUST 3

In 1902, Filipino revolutionary, Ilocano journalist and future senator Isabelo de los Reyes, in a meeting of 42 members of the Union Obrera Democratica Filipina in Quiapo, proclaimed the establishment of the Iglesia Filipina Independiente with Fr. Gregorio Aglipay as Obispo Maximo (Supreme Bishop). Its schism from the Roman Catholic Church was proclaimed due to the alleged mistreatment of Filipinos by Spanish priests and the unjust execution of Jose Rizal under Spanish colonial rule. Thereafter, the denomination sought to be a national church for the Philippines.



**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth Anniversary of Manlilikha ng Bayan **Lang Dulay (1928)**



## AUGUST 4

In 1944, President Manuel L. Quezon's remains were temporarily interred at the Maine Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery in a State Funeral.

*“The flag-draped casket was carried on a black-wheeled artillery caisson pulled by six white horses. A saddled white horse without its rider, suggestive of the irreparable loss of the leader, was conspicuous in the funeral. The Washington Metropolitan Police escorted the caisson as no less than 5,000 mourners rode in their cars behind the military unit, and thousands of others stood in complete silence along the streets as the casket passed by.”* (From “Manuel L. Quezon: His Life and Career” by Sol H. Gwekoh, 1948).

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday of Manlilikha ng Bayan

Alonzo Saclag (1942)

Death anniversary of Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Eugenio P. Perez (1957)

Death anniversary of National Artist  
Lucrecia R. Urtula (1999)



President Manuel L. Quezon's remains were temporarily interred at the Maine Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

## AUGUST 5



The portrait above, by the renowned court painter Diego Velázquez, was composed during de la Asunción's stopover in Seville, on her way to the Philippines.

In 1621, nuns of the Franciscan Order arrived in Manila to establish the first convent in the country and in the region, the Convento de Santa Clara. Jeronima de la Asunción, 66, was appointed founder and abbess of the convent.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of Senate President  
Jose D. Avelino (1890)

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Jose Garcia Villa (1908)

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**AUGUST**

**AUGUST 6**

In 1898, President Emilio Aguinaldo addressed a plea to foreign governments to recognize the success of the revolution and the Independence of the Philippines.

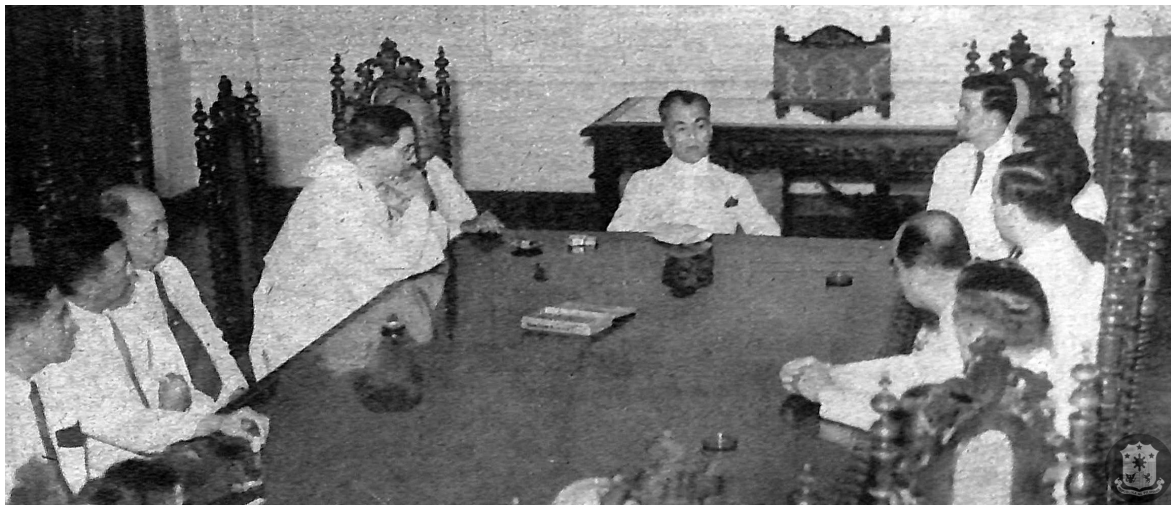


Emilio Aguinaldo circa 1960

**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of National Scientist  
Fe del Mundo (2011)

**AUGUST 7**

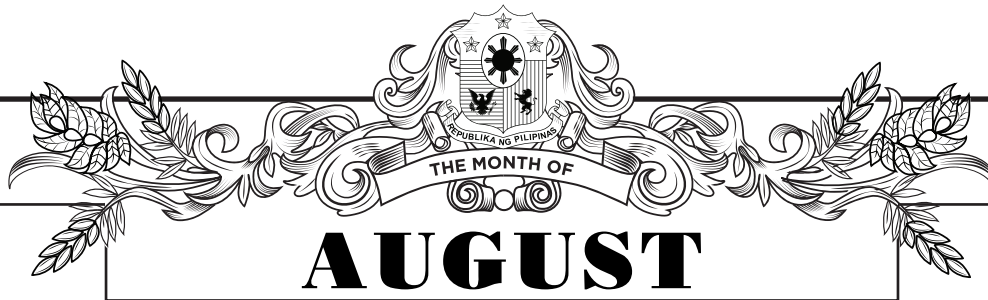


President Manuel L. Quezon summoned the heads of private colleges and universities for a conference on educational instruction, circa 1938.

In 1940, the National Assembly passed the Educational Act of 1940. The Act provided vacations that coincide with the working season, the reduction of the elementary course from seven to six years, and the support of public elementary education by the national government.

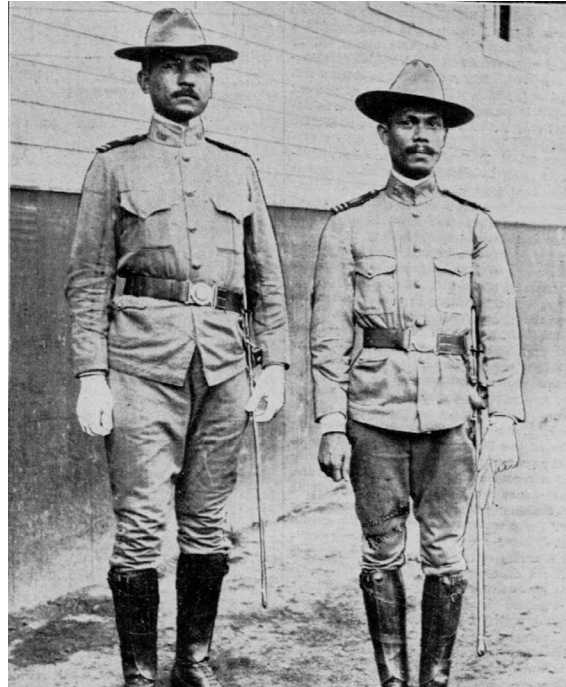
**ANNIVERSARIES**

Birth anniversary of National Scientist  
Carmen C. Velasquez (1913)  
Death anniversary of National Artist  
Jovita Fuentes (1978)



## AUGUST 8

In 1901, the Philippine Constabulary was established as the local police force. It is now known as the Philippine National Police.



### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Philippine National Police (Police Service Anniversary)  
(Republic Act No. 6975 of 1990)

Two members of the Philippine Constabulary posing for a photo in the *New York Tribune* in 1905.

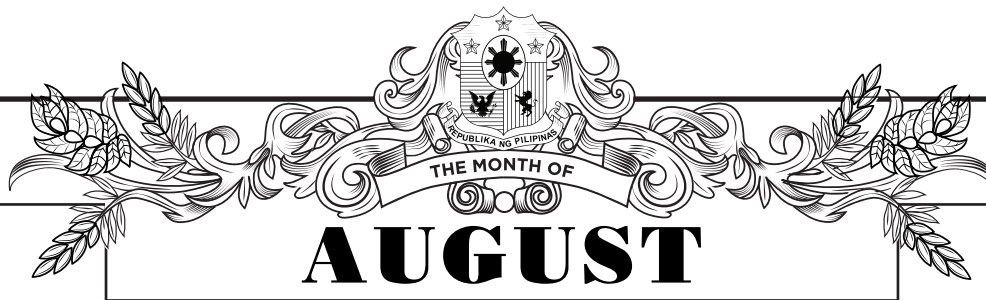
## AUGUST 9

In 1717, Fernando Bustamante y Rueda assumed his post as the Spanish Governor-General of the Philippines. He allegedly stirred trouble with the religious orders and also with the archbishop, which led to his assassination by mob.



A Study for *El Asesinato del Gobernador Bustamante y su Hijo* by Félix Resurrección Hidalgo.

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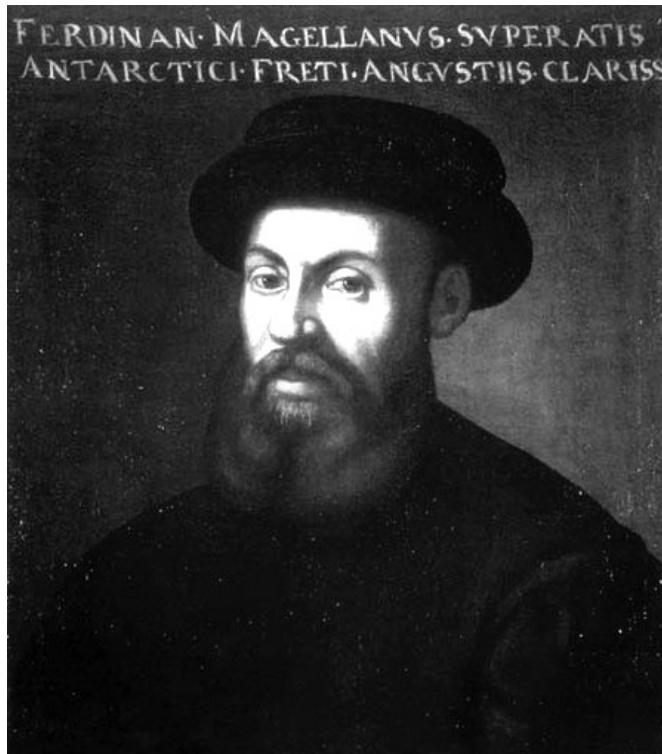
THE MONTH OF  
**AUGUST**

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## AUGUST 10

In 1519, Ferdinand Magellan's fleet set sail from Seville, Spain.

His fleet landed on the island of Homonhon, Philippines in March, 1521.



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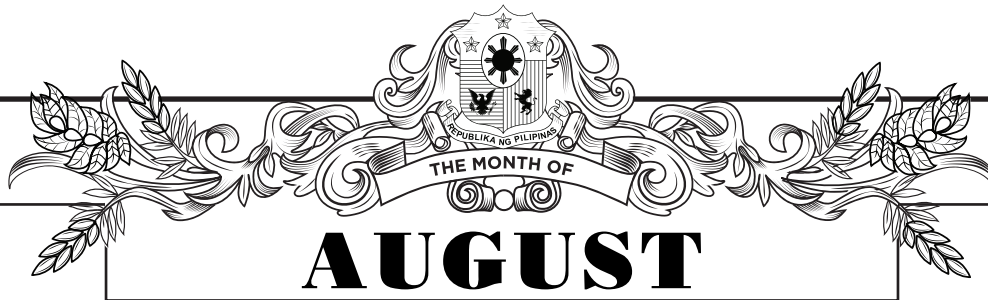
## AUGUST 11

In 1898, the Filipino forces that besieged Intramuros noted movement among the American military units, which made them realize that the Americans were preparing to take Manila.



**ANNIVERSARY**  
Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
**Manuel Conde (1985)**

An American soldier and two Filipino policemen posted at the Puerta de Almacenes, Intramuros district, Manila.



## AUGUST 12

In 1898, a Protocol of Peace was signed between the United States of America and Spain to negotiate the end of hostilities in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. This was held in Washington D.C. It was already August 13 in Manila.

U.S. President William McKinley directed that “all operations against the enemy be suspended.” However, word of this did not reach Manila until August 16, as Commodore George Dewey had cut the cable between Manila and Hong Kong (the only contact of the Philippines to the outside world) after the battle of Manila Bay.



Jules Cambon, Ambassador of France and representing Spain (*SEATED, LEFT*), and William R. Day, U.S. Secretary of State (*SEATED, NEAR CENTER*), sign the protocol in the presence of President William McKinley (*STANDING, FOURTH FROM RIGHT*).

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

National Library  
(Royal Order No. 689 of 1887)

## AUGUST 13



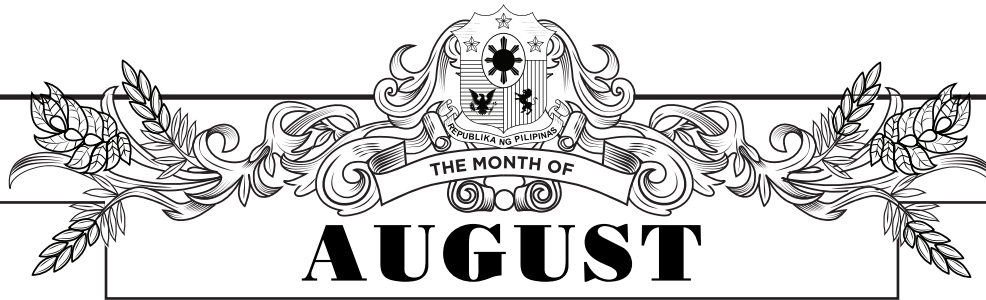
From Harper's Pictorial History of the War with Spain, Vol. II—Raising the American flag over Fort Santiago, Manila, on the evening of August 13, 1898.

In 1898, the Mock Battle of Manila ended with the Spaniards surrendering to the Americans. The battle was meant to keep Manila from falling into the hands of Philippine forces led by Emilio Aguinaldo.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of Manlilikha ng Bayan  
Magdalena Gamayo  
(1924)

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THE MONTH OF  
**AUGUST**

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## AUGUST 14

In 1981, the National Arts Center Ballet Studies in Mt. Makiling, Los Baños, was opened. The opening was graced by Prima Ballerina Assoluta, Natalia Makarova of Russia.



### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Scientist  
**Alfredo V. Lagmay (1919)**

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

**Komisyon sa Wikang Pilipino**  
(Republic Act No. 7104 of 1981)

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## AUGUST 15



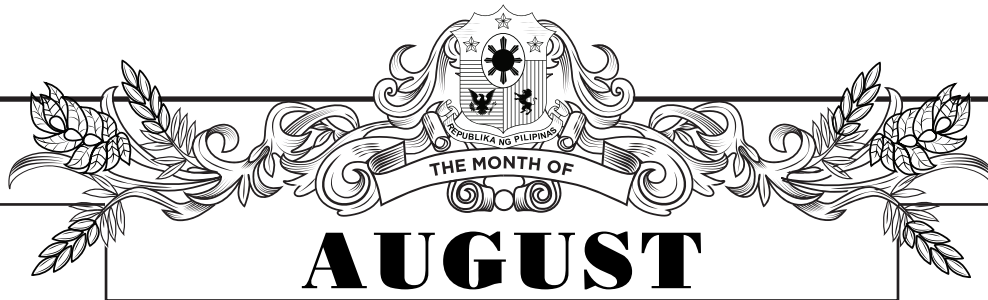
In 1945, Emperor Hirohito of Japan, at noon that day, went on national radio for the first time to announce the Japanese surrender. The United States immediately accepted. This led to the formal surrender of Japan on September 2, 1945 ending the Second World War.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Scientist  
**Alfredo C. Santos (1900)**

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
**Leandro V. Locsin (1928)**

Birthday of National Scientist  
**Bienvenido O. Juliano (1936)**



## AUGUST 16

In 1911, Teodora Alonzo, the mother of Jose Rizal, died in her home in Manila. She was offered a pension by the American Civil Government in the Philippines but she declined, saying, "My family has never been patriotic for the money. If the government has plenty of funds and does not know what to do with them, it's better to reduce the taxes."



### ANNIVERSARY

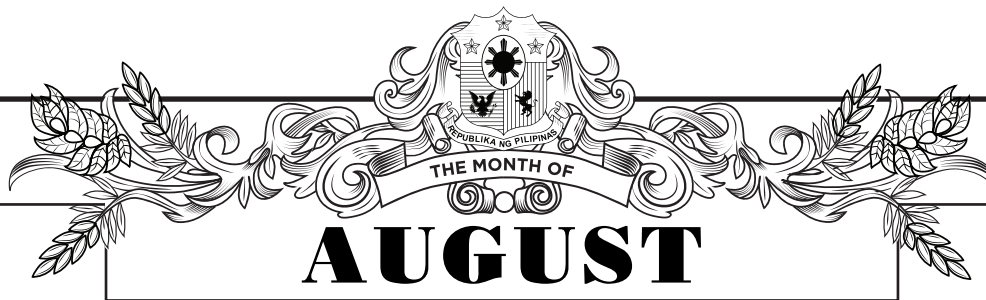
Death anniversary of National Artist  
Lucrecia R. Kasilag (2008)

## AUGUST 17

In 1945, in Nara, Japan, President Jose P. Laurel dissolved the Second Republic of the Philippines. This came after the August 15 broadcast of Emperor Hirohito, which announced Japan's acceptance of the terms of the Potsdam Declaration.



An undated photo of President Jose P. Laurel and his son Salvador "Doy" H. Laurel in Nara, Japan.



AUGUST 18

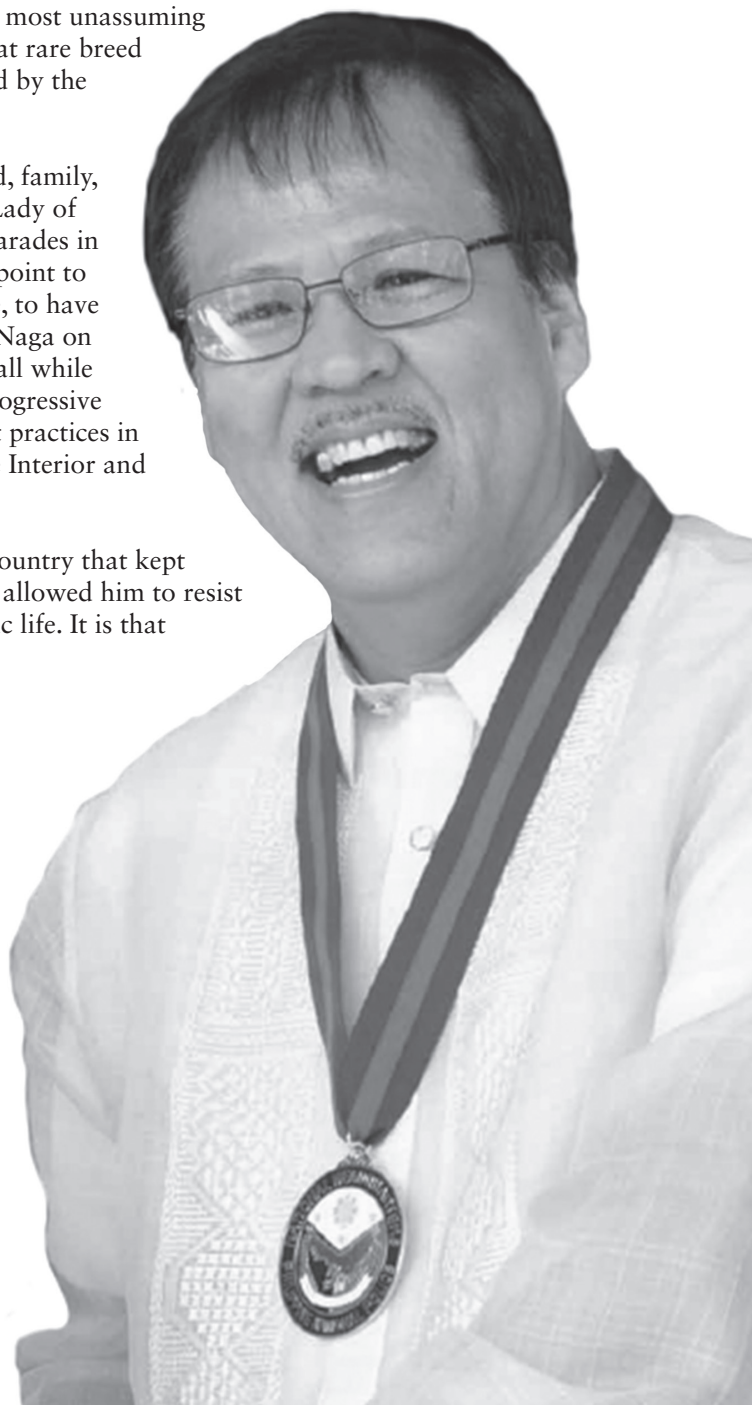
## Death anniversary of Jesse Robredo

In 2012, Secretary of the Interior and Local Government Jesse Robredo died on a plane crash due to engine failure. He was a Ramon Magsaysay awardee and was given a State Funeral. According to the Jesse M. Robredo Memorial Book published by the Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office:

“Jesse Manalastas Robredo was one of the most unassuming people in public service. He belonged to that rare breed of public servants who remained unaffected by the trappings of power.

What Robredo believed in was simple: God, family, and country. he was a devotee of the Our Lady of Peñafrancia and would attend the fluvial parades in Naga religiously. He would also make it a point to come home every night as often as possible, to have dinner with his daughters, and go back to Naga on weekends to be with his wife and family—all while transforming Naga into one of the most progressive cities in Bicol and alter, while instilling best practices in other local governments as Secretary of the Interior and Local Government.

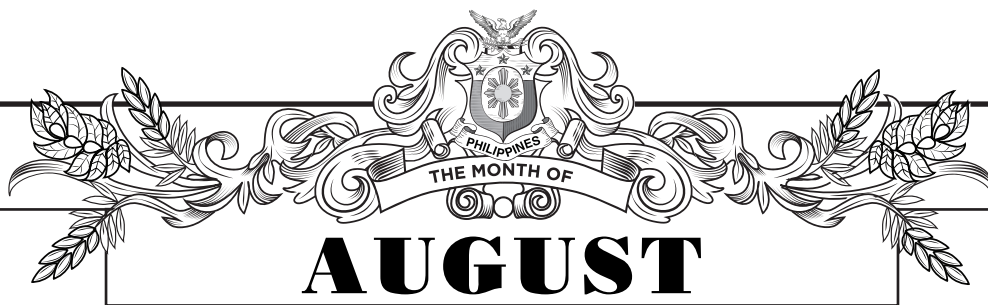
It was this dedication to God, family and country that kept Robredo grounded throughout his life and allowed him to resist temptations that normally come with public life. It is that life that we remember and celebrate.”



### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Scientist  
Clara Y. Lim-Sylianco (1925)





AUGUST 19

## Birth anniversary of President Manuel L. Quezon

In 1878, Manuel L. Quezon, the second President of the Philippines, and the first President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, was born in Baler, Tayabas. Famously described as the “Paladin of Philippine Freedom,” Quezon was a Major in the Army of the First Republic, Majority Leader in the First Philippine Assembly, and became Philippine Resident Commissioner to the United States Congress in 1909 where he was instrumental in securing the Jones Law in 1916, which pledged eventual independence for the Philippines. He became the first President of the Senate. Quezon was elected President of the transitory Philippine Commonwealth in 1935, and re-elected in 1941. With the impending Japanese invasion of the Philippines, President Quezon and a selected few in his cabinet were forced to leave for the United States where he established a government-in-exile. President Quezon became the dominant Philippine political personality for an entire generation then served as a member of the Pacific War Council until his death in 1944.

### PROCLAMATIONS

#### ★ Quezon Day

*Provinces of Aurora and Quezon  
and Quezon City*

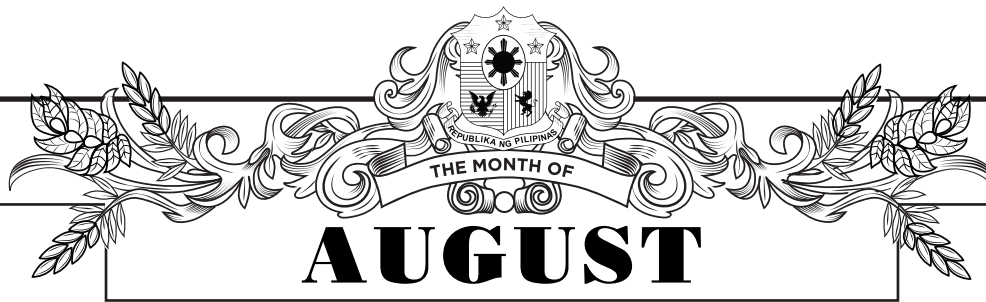
(Republic Act No. 6741 of 1989)

#### National Tuberculosis Day

(Proclamation No. 840, s. 1996)



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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**AUGUST**

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AUGUST 20



Sultan Jamalul Kiram (FRONT, 3RD FROM LEFT)

In 1899, U.S. General John C. Bates signed a formal agreement with Sultan Jamalul Kiram II of Sulu, known as the Bates Treaty. The Bates Treaty had promised to uphold mutual respect between the U.S. and the Sultanate of Sulu, to respect Moro autonomy, and to not give or sell Sulu or any part of it to any other nation. In addition, under this treaty the Sultan and his datus were to receive monthly payments in return for flying the American flag and for allowing the U.S. the right to occupy lands on the islands. There was a very critical translation error from English to Tausug. The word sovereignty was not used anywhere in the Tausug version. Article I of the Treaty in the Tausug version states "The support, aid, and protection of the Jolo Island and Archipelago are in the American nation," whereas the English version read "The sovereignty of the United States over the whole Archipelago of Jolo and its dependencies is declared and acknowledged." Najeeb Saleeby, an American of Lebanese descent who was assigned to

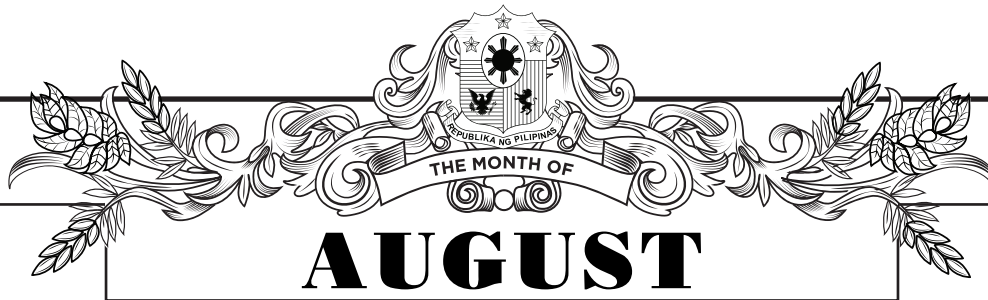
Mindanao and Sulu, caught the translation flaws and charged Charlie Schuck, son of a German businessman, for deliberately mistranslating the treaty. Schuck was acquitted of all legal charges. Whether mistranslated, the wording of the treaty provided the justification for the U.S. decision to incorporate the Sulu Archipelago into the Philippine state in 1946.

Bates never intended to ratify the treaty. As Bates would later confess, the agreement was merely a temporary expedient to buy time until the Filipino forces in Luzon were defeated.

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**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Fernando Poe Jr. (1939)



AUGUST 21

## Death anniversary of Ninoy Aquino

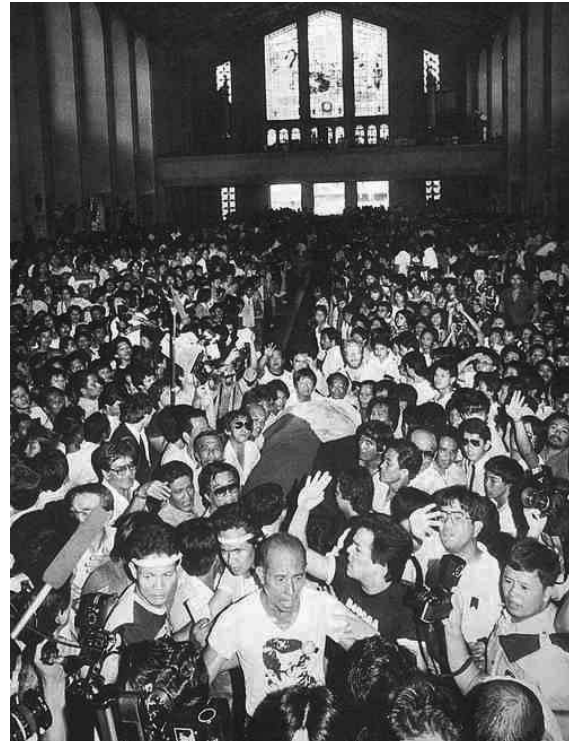
In 1983, former Senator Benigno "Ninoy" S. Aquino Jr. was assassinated—shot fatally on the head—at the Manila International Airport, upon returning home from a three-year self-exile in the United States.

The murder sparked a series of protests from an enraged nation that culminated in the February 22-25, 1986 EDSA People Power Revolution, forcing then President Ferdinand E. Marcos to flee to Hawaii.

Mrs. Corazon C. Aquino, widow of the late Ninoy Aquino, was eventually proclaimed as the country's 11th President.

Born on November 27, 1932, in Concepcion, Tarlac, Ninoy earned the monicker "Wonder Boy" of Philippine politics for his achievements as the youngest mayor of Concepcion, Tarlac at age 22, youngest vice-governor of Tarlac at age 27, youngest governor at age 29, and youngest elected senator of the Republic at age 34. When President Marcos put into effect Martial Law on September 23, 1972 and suspended the Writ of Habeas Corpus, Ninoy was among the many critics of the Marcos administration to be arrested and imprisoned.

In his honor, the Manila International Airport was renamed Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA).



The body of the fallen Benigno S. Aquino Jr. being carried out of the Sto. Domingo Church.

On February 25, 2004, the Philippine Congress enacted Republic Act No. 9256, declaring August 21 of every year, the anniversary of his death, as "Ninoy Aquino Day," an annual public holiday. Several monuments have been built in his honor.

### ANNIVERSARY

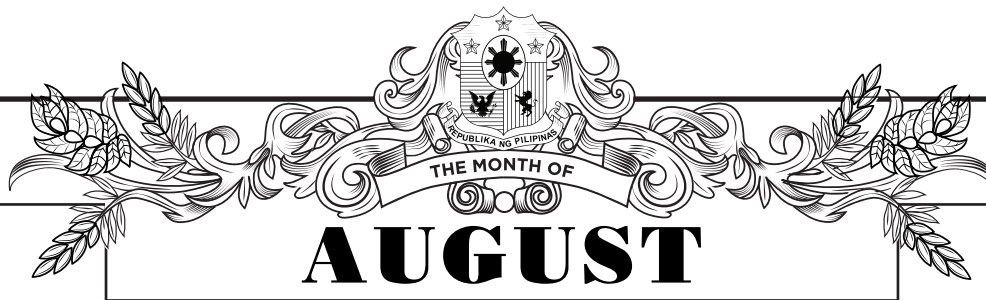
Death anniversary of National Artist  
Edith L. Tiempo (2011)

### PROCLAMATION

★ Ninoy Aquino Day  
(Republic Act No. 9256 of 2004)

### TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1971, a political rally of the Liberal Party in Plaza Miranda was bombed, killing nine people and maiming scores of others. Among those hurt were prominent opposition leaders Jovito Salonga, Gerardo Roxas, and Sergio Osmeña, Jr. Immediately after the Plaza Miranda bombing, President Ferdinand Marcos suspended the Writ of Habeas Corpus, leading to the arrest and incarceration of twenty people.


  
 THE MONTH OF  
**AUGUST**

## AUGUST 22

In 1898, President Emilio Aguinaldo decreed the transfer of his headquarters from Bacoor to Malolos, Bulacan.



**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Vicente S. Manansala (1981)

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

Commission on Elections  
(Commonwealth Act No. 607 of 1941)

The church and smoking ruins of President Aguinaldo's headquarters in Malolos, Bulacan.

## AUGUST 23



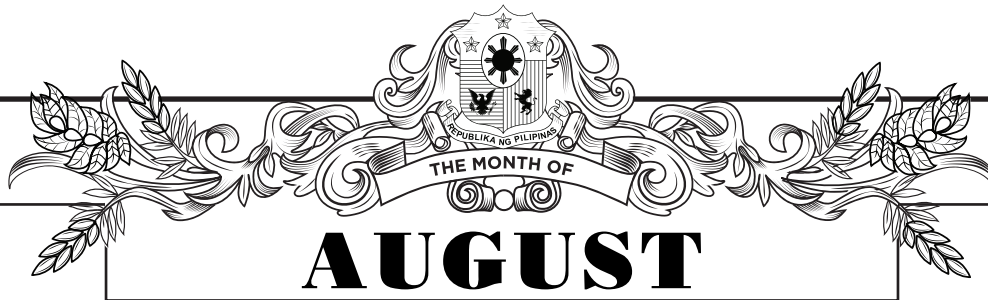
The Cry of Pugad Lawin monument in Quezon City.

In 1896, 500 members of the Katipunan, led by Andres Bonifacio, tore their cedulas as a sign of revolt against the Spaniards. This is known as the Cry of Pugad Lawin.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Death anniversary of  
Chief Justice  
**Manuel Moran (1961)**  
Death anniversary of  
National Scientist  
**Eduardo A. Quisumbing (1986)**

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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**AUGUST**

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## AUGUST 24

In 1896 — according to recent scholarship of Jim Richardson, Milagros Guerrero, Emmanuel Encarnacion, and Ramon Villegas — a decision was made to initiate the Philippine Revolution, confirmed by a meeting of the Supreme Assembly of Katipunan.



In an artistic depiction, Andres Bonifacio, Katipunan's Supremo, welcomes the attendance of Filipino revolutionaries and informs them of the urgency of an armed revolution.

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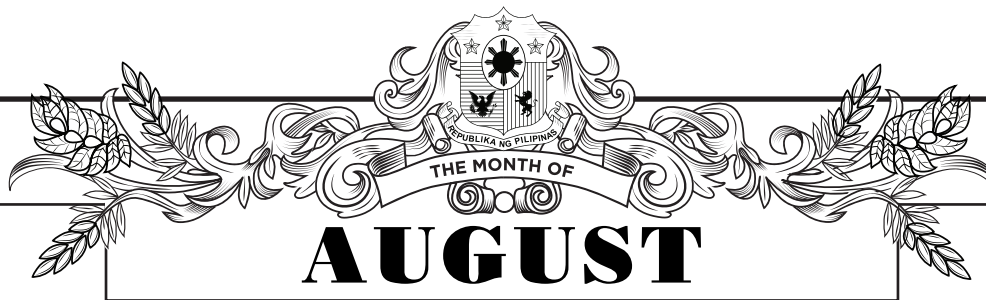
## AUGUST 25



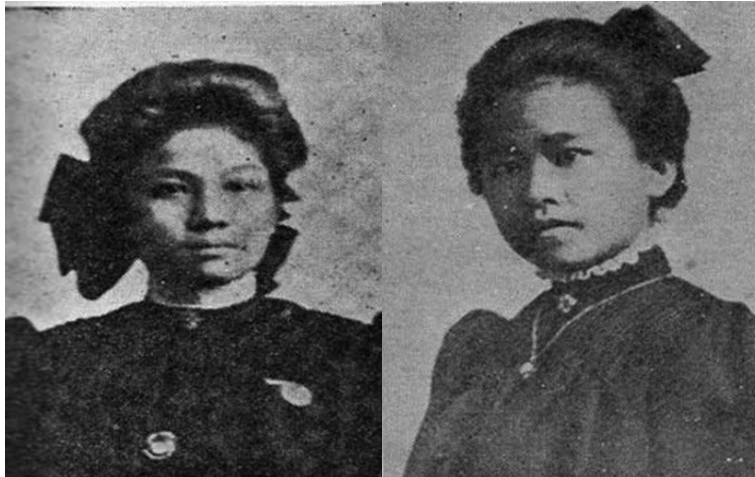
Postcard of Colegio De San Jose printed in 1910.

In 1601, Colegio de San Jose, a school of the Jesuits, was established in Manila. It is now known as San Jose Seminary at the Ateneo de Manila University.

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
Technical Education and Skills  
Development Authority  
(Republic Act No. 7796 of 1994)


  
 REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS
   
 THE MONTH OF
   
**AUGUST**

**AUGUST 26**



Filipina Pensionados: (LEFT) Pilar Elumbra and (RIGHT) Olivia Salamanca

In 1903, Act No. 854 or the Pensionado Law of the American government in the Philippines, was approved by Governor-General William Howard Taft. The law allowed qualified Filipino students to study as scholars at the expense of the colonial government in various universities and colleges in the United States. Many Filipino scholars were admitted and sent to the U.S. and later on went back to fill positions in government.

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
**Bureau of Immigration**  
 (Commonwealth Act No. 613 of 1940)

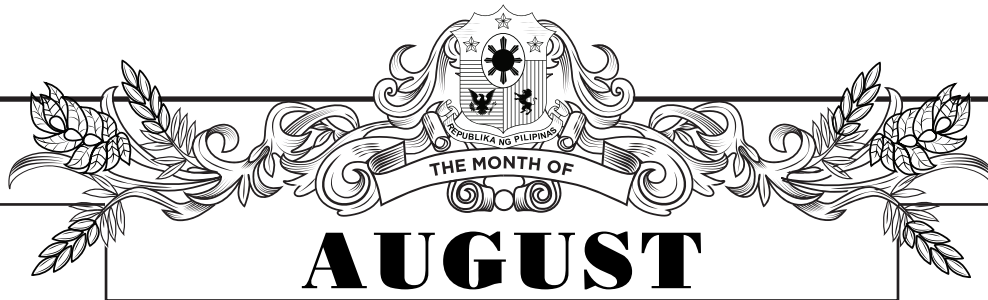
**AUGUST 27**

In 1900, President Emilio Aguinaldo decided to flee to Palanan, Isabela. Prior to the decision, President Aguinaldo established his headquarters in Tierra Virgen, Cagayan Valley. When the Americans landed in Aparri, the President deemed the headquarters indefensible, thus his decision to move eastward, to Palanan.



Map of President Emilio Aguinaldo's escape to Palanan, Isabela.

**ANNIVERSARY**  
 Birth anniversary of Speaker of the House of Representatives Jose B. Laurel Jr. (1912)



## AUGUST 28

In 1987, rebel forces under the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM) led by Colonel Gregorio Honasan (a former top aide to Juan Ponce Enrile during the Marcos regime) attempted to seize Malacañan Palace. They gunned down several members of the Presidential Security Group. The President's only son Benigno S. Aquino III was wounded...



Benigno S. Aquino III gesturing to the patched-up gunshot wound in his neck.

## AUGUST 29

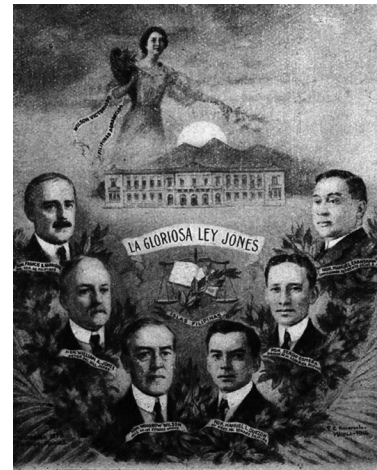
In 1916, the Jones Law was enacted, thus enabling Filipinos to hold more positions in government—Filipinos could then be elected to positions in both houses of the Philippine Legislature.

The Jones Law (39 Stat. 545, c. 416) also established the Philippine Senate, with 12 Senatorial Districts and two Senators elected from each. The inaugural President of the Senate in 1916 was President Manuel L. Quezon, representing the Fifth Senatorial District. He would hold this position until the establishment of the Commonwealth of the Philippines in 1935.

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARIES

Senate of the Philippines (Jones Law)

House of Representatives (Jones Law)

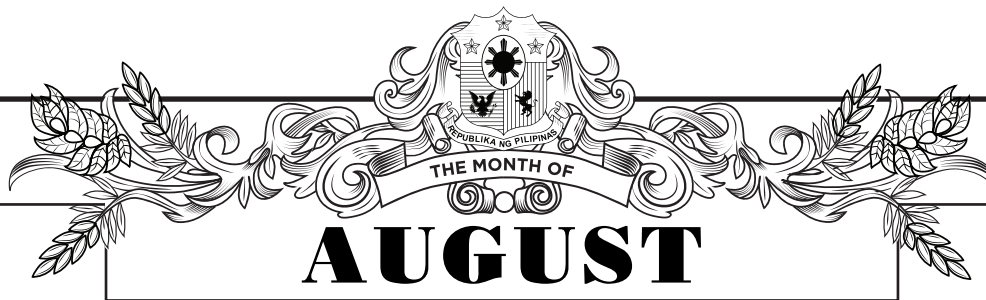


A poster advertising the Jones Law of 1916.

## AUGUST 30

In 1850, Marcelo H. del Pilar was born. He was one of the most prominent members of the Propaganda movement. Known by the nom-de-plume Plaridel, his satirical essays gained fame in the publications *Diariong Tagalog* and *La Solidaridad*. He died on July 4, 1896 in Barcelona, Spain.

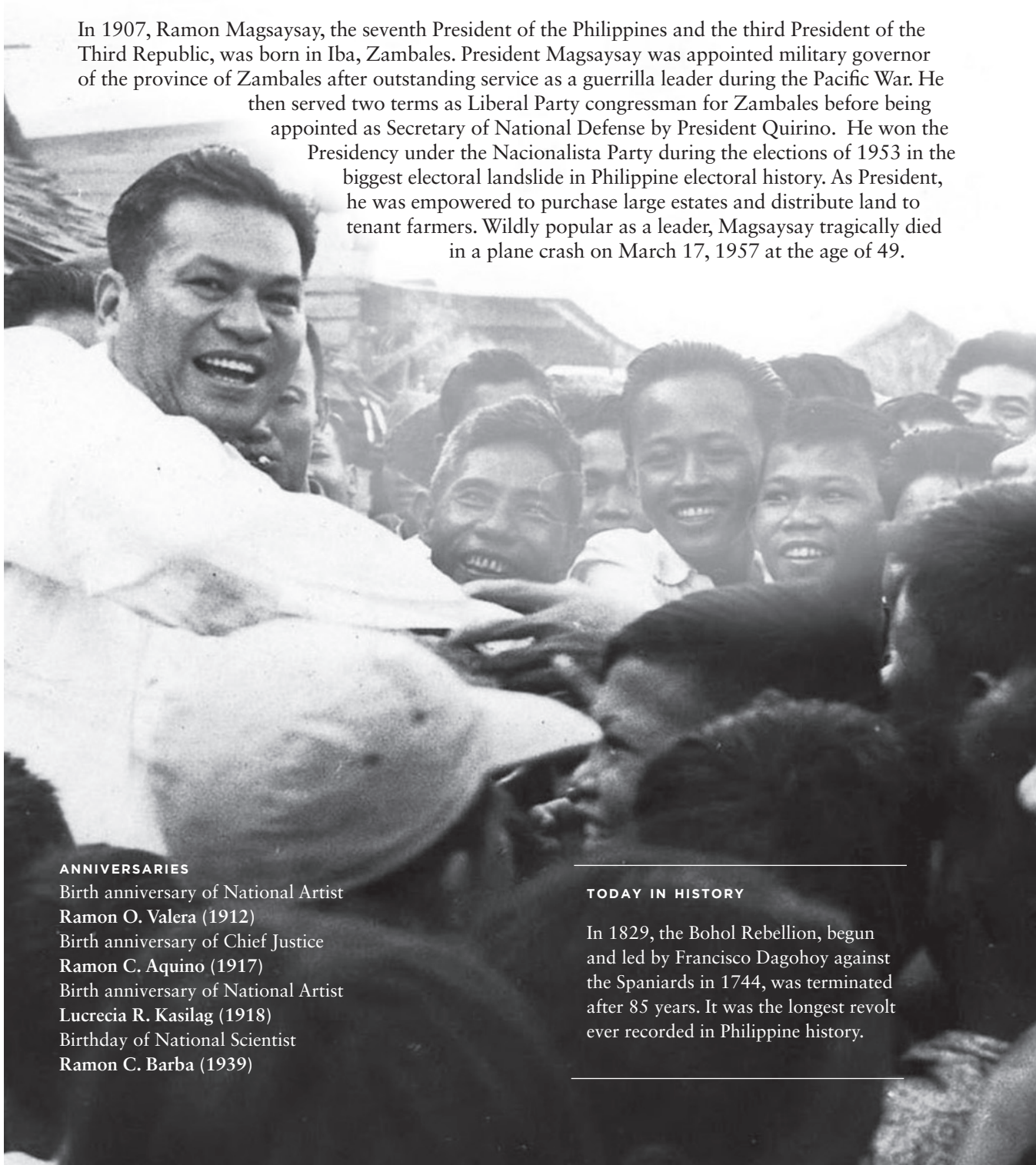




AUGUST 31

## Birth anniversary of President Ramon Magsaysay

In 1907, Ramon Magsaysay, the seventh President of the Philippines and the third President of the Third Republic, was born in Iba, Zambales. President Magsaysay was appointed military governor of the province of Zambales after outstanding service as a guerrilla leader during the Pacific War. He then served two terms as Liberal Party congressman for Zambales before being appointed as Secretary of National Defense by President Quirino. He won the Presidency under the Nacionalista Party during the elections of 1953 in the biggest electoral landslide in Philippine electoral history. As President, he was empowered to purchase large estates and distribute land to tenant farmers. Wildly popular as a leader, Magsaysay tragically died in a plane crash on March 17, 1957 at the age of 49.



#### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Ramon O. Valera (1912)  
Birth anniversary of Chief Justice  
Ramon C. Aquino (1917)  
Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Lucrecia R. Kasilag (1918)  
Birthday of National Scientist  
Ramon C. Barba (1939)

#### TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1829, the Bohol Rebellion, begun and led by Francisco Dagohoy against the Spaniards in 1744, was terminated after 85 years. It was the longest revolt ever recorded in Philippine history.





## DEFEND IT AT PLAZA MIRANDA

# A History of the Country's Foremost Public Square

Manila, the seat of colonial political power in the Philippines, spawned 16 geographical districts—known as *arabales*, or suburbs—mostly drawn up during the colonial period. One of the busiest and most important of these *arabales* is Quiapo, situated north of the Pasig River. Originally a residential area for Manileños with means, the district evolved to become Manila's downtown from 1920s to the 1960s—a unique and potent melting pot of commerce and entertainment, politics, and religion.

**A**t the heart of Quiapo is a public square known as “Plaza Miranda.” Little is known, however, about the man for whom the plaza is named, a certain Jose Sandino Miranda, who was Secretary of the Treasury between 1833 and 1854.

This geographic center of the district has seen countless demonstrations throughout its long existence—from religious processions of devotees of the Black Nazarene to gatherings of political partisans.

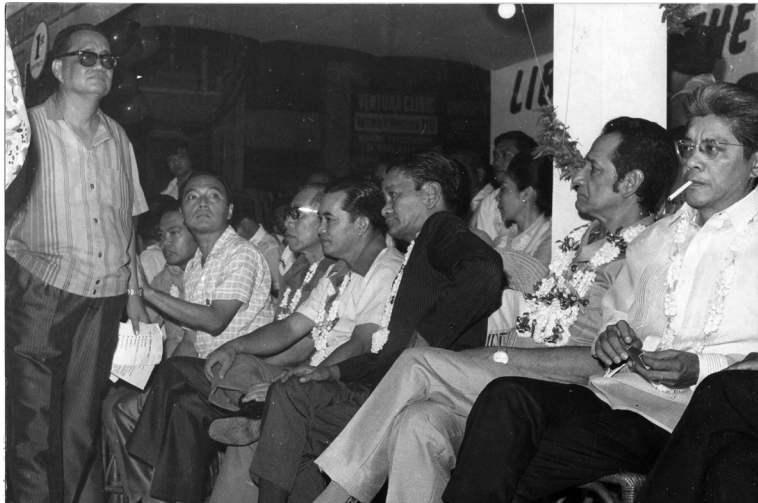
Located no more than a kilometer from Malacañan Palace, Plaza Miranda was the largest venue from which rallyists could be physically close to the residence of the country's chief executive, whether in loyal support or oppositionist denunciation.

In the era of grand demonstrations and mass mobilizations, National Artist for Literature Nick Joaquin, in his *Almanac for Manileños*, described Plaza Miranda as “the crossroads of the nation, the forum of the land.” President Ramon Magsaysay, arguably the most popular of our postwar chief executives, famously recognized

the square as a gauge of public opinion when he asked a proponent of a policy or project: “Can we defend this at Plaza Miranda?” Far removed from the closed, air-conditioned rooms of Congress or cushioned seats in public buildings, bringing an issue to Plaza Miranda was the ultimate act of transparency and accountability, where the people, any Juan or Juana de la Cruz, could question their government.

In the half century that Plaza Miranda served as the country's foremost public square, three events stand out. The 1946 Presidential elections pitted incumbent President Sergio Osmeña versus his protégé-turned-rival Senate President Manuel Roxas. President Osmeña, upholding traditionalist notions from the prewar era, refused to campaign and delivered a solitary yet scathing speech in Plaza Miranda:

*“(S)o I am here before you, to see me, to listen to me. Probably my hair is grayer than it was a year ago, but I assure you that this was not because of worry about the elections, but rather because of my grave responsibilities and preoccupations concerning our country, so rashly imperiled by the big ambitions of small men ...”*



ABOVE: Plaza Miranda, circa 1945, taken

LEFT: August 21, 1971: Liberal Party Senators assembled in the Plaza Miranda: Jovito Salonga (CENTER), Sergio Osmeña Jr., Ramon Bagatsing, and Gerardo "Gerry" Roxas.

Senators Sergio Osmeña Jr. and Gerardo Roxas both figured in the third, perhaps most infamous, incident in Plaza Miranda, which would indelibly link the Liberal Party of the Philippines to Plaza Miranda's identity as the forum of Philippine democracy.

President Osmeña lost the election to President Manuel Roxas, founder of the breakaway wing of the old Nacionalista Party that would eventually become the Liberal Party (LP), who mounted a nationwide campaign, going house-to-house, and giving stump speeches in town plazas. Barely a year into his term, President Roxas also delivered an important speech in Plaza Miranda—rallying the Liberal Party to support the Parity Agreement to the 1935 Constitution, which granted American citizens equal rights with Filipino nationals in the use of national natural

resources. Just as the President finished speaking, a man lobbed a grenade on the stage, prompting General Mariano Castañeda to kick it away and cover President Roxas with his body. The grenade landed near the audience, killing two and wounding a dozen people.

Two decades later, after President Marcos won reelection in 1969, only to plunge in popularity as the peso was devalued and inflation and student demonstrations rocked the land, the sons of Presidents Osmeña and Roxas united under the LP, in opposition to President Ferdinand Marcos.

The political situation in Manila and throughout the country was at a fever pitch. Growing disenchantment with Marcos put his political future at stake with the 1971 midterm Senatorial elections, the traditional dividing line between continued political relevance or a reduction to political lameduckhood for an incumbent.

On August 21, 1971 at the Miting de Avance of the Liberal Party in Plaza Miranda, the square became the scene of two simultaneous grenade attacks that nearly liquidated the



party's leadership, just as Senator Roxas, Liberal Party President, was proclaiming his party's local candidates for the City of Manila.

Among those seriously injured were: Presidents Roxas, Osmeña, Senators Jovito Salonga, Genaro Magsaysay, Eva Estrada-Kalaw (Nacionalista guest candidate of the LP), and senatorial bets John Henry Osmeña and Ramon Mitra, Jr.

President Roxas would hold President Marcos responsible for the attack:

“The Plaza Miranda incident has illustrated beyond doubt that there is not a safe place in the country where people may express their views without having to face the perils of assassination.

I have only one message to leaders, followers and the electorate: Nothing will deter the LP nor dampen its determination to win the mandate of the people this election. We shall continue to fight for the right of our citizenry. I am grateful to the Almighty for those of us who were fortunate to have been spared.”

Widely considered the most blatant assault on free speech and guaranteed democratic rights at the time, many quarters believed it to be masterminded by President Marcos himself, which led to increased opposition to his administration. Three months later, the polls resulted in a Senate sweep by the Liberals, with only two Marcos allies making it into the winner's circle. The President's alter



Senator and Liberal Party President Gerry Roxas with the LP slate of the City of Manila, on the fateful night of August 21, 1971, just before the bombing.



The audience at the Plaza Miranda, caught in a panic following the 1971 blast.

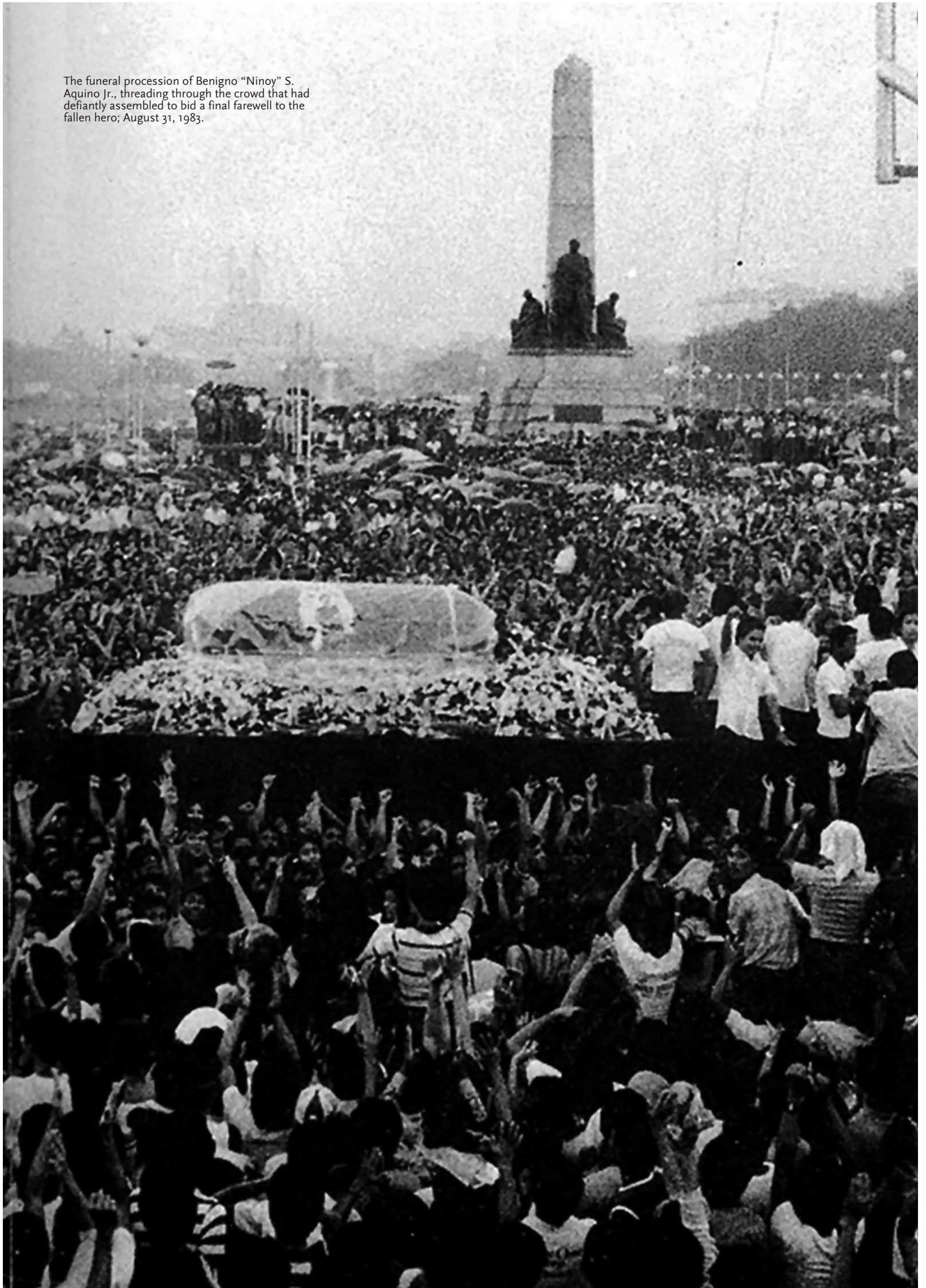
egos—Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Secretary of Labor Blas Ople—were among the losers.

Edward R. Kiunisala, in his article “The Outrage,” published in the *Philippines Free Press*, wrote:

*“It will take a long time before Plaza Miranda, the symbol of free expression, will be as it used to be. No one will ascend the Plaza Miranda stage again without fearing for his life. How much of the militancy, the courage, the national pride and the spirit of the Filipino people have gone that Black Saturday at Plaza Miranda?”*

The 1971 Plaza Miranda Bombing was, in a way, the square's last hurrah as the country's foremost stage for political discourse. The advent of mass media, which allowed candidates to reach a wide audience through television or the radio, political rallies have been reserved for proclamations or the traditional *Miting de Avance*. While no longer the grandest nor most prominent political forum, Plaza Miranda continues to remind Filipinos that Philippine democracy was not only restored in 1986, but is alive and free.

The funeral procession of Benigno "Ninoy" S. Aquino Jr., threading through the crowd that had defiantly assembled to bid a final farewell to the fallen hero; August 31, 1983.





# SEPTEMBER

The first of the “ber” months, September bore witness to one of the pivotal moments in our country’s history. Late into the month, in 1972, President Ferdinand Marcos declared Martial Law.

It was also in this month that the Official Gazette, the official journal of the Republic of the Philippines, was first published in 1902.

**MONTHLY  
OBSERVANCES**

**Anti-Rat Campaign Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 179, s. 1955)*

**Health, Safety and Sanitation Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 115-A, s. 1966)*

**National Clean-up Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 244, s. 1993)*

**Civil Service Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1050, s. 1997)*

**Development Policy Research Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 247, s. 2002)*

**National Peace Consciousness Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 675, s. 2004)*

**Social Security Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 682, s. 2004)*

**Rule of Law Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 713, s. 2004)*

**Public Relations Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1357, s. 2007)*

**Peoples Management Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1614, s. 2008)*

**Blood Diseases Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1833, s. 2009)*

**Cybersecurity Awareness Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 2054, s. 2010)*

**National Teachers’ Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 242, s. 2011)*

SEPT 16-22

**Cerebral Palsy Awareness and Protection Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 588, s. 2004)*

SEPT 17-23

**World Clean and Green Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 244, s. 1993)*

1<sup>ST</sup> WEEK

**National Crime Prevention Week**

*(Proclamation No. 461, s. 1994)*

**Obesity Prevention and Awareness Week**

*(Proclamation No. 162, s. 1999)*

**National Epilepsy Awareness Week**

*(Proclamation No. 230, s. 2002)*

2<sup>ND</sup> WEEK

**Education Week**

*(Proclamation No. 409, s. 1953)*

3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK

**Medical Technology Week**

*(Proclamation No. 1181, s. 1973)*

**Design Consciousness Week**

*(Proclamation No. 1259, s. 1974)*

**National Building**

**Management Industry Week**

*(Proclamation No. 12, s. 1998)*

**Chemical Engineering Week**

*(Proclamation No. 1365, s. 2007)*

4<sup>TH</sup> WEEK

**Medicine Week**

*(Proclamation No. 439, s. 1957)*

**Family Week**

*(Proclamation No. 60, s. 1992)*

**National Tourism Week**

*(Proclamation No. 894, s. 1996)*

3<sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY

**International Coastal Clean-up Day**

*(Proclamation No. 470, s. 2003)*

3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAY

**World Health Day**

*(Proclamation No. 144, s. 1963)*

LAST FRIDAY

**National Maritime Day**

*(Proclamation No. 866, s. 1966)*



## SEPTEMBER 1

In 1896, the leaders of Kawit, Cavite, joined the Imus bolomen under Jose Tagle in attacking and capturing the estate house of the friars and the barracks of the civil guards in Imus. This was known as the Battle of Imus.



The Monument of the Battle of Imus.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of  
Senate President

**Gil J. Puyat (1907)**

Death anniversary of  
National Artist

**Francisco V. Coching (1998)**

## SEPTEMBER 2

In 1896, Filipino revolutionaries led by General Mariano Llanera, the municipal captain of Cabiao, attacked the Spanish Garrison in San Isidro, Nueva Ecija.



General Mariano Llanera's battle flag, known as Llanera's *bungo* as it showed a white skull and crossbones on a black field.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Birth anniversary of  
National Scientist

**Gregorio T. Velasquez (1901)**

Birth anniversary of  
Chief Justice

**Fred Ruiz Castro (1914)**

Death anniversary of  
National Scientist

**Geminiano T. de Ocampo (1987)**

SEPTEMBER 3



A newspaper page of the September 1899 issue of *La Independencia*.

In 1898, *La Independencia*, the periodical organ of the Revolution, was founded by General Antonio Luna, with Leon Ma. Guerrero, Cecilio Apostol, Jose Palma, Mariano V. del Rosario, Rosa Sevilla, Rafael Palma, Fernando Ma. Guerrero, Salvador V. del Rosario, and Felipe G. Calderon as staff members.

**ANNIVERSARY**  
 Death anniversary of Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon (1992)

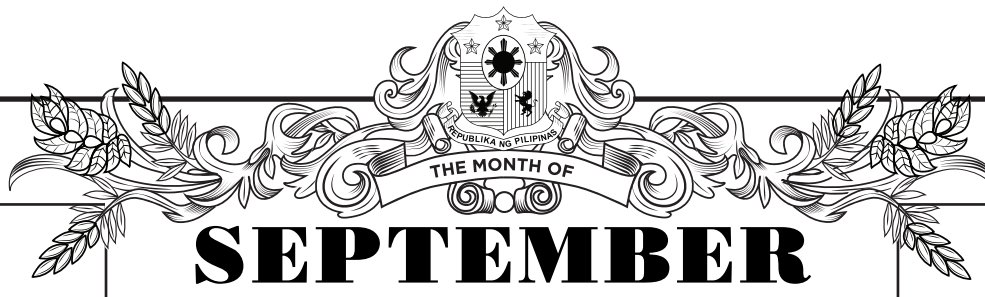
SEPTEMBER 4



President Jose P. Laurel addresses the Preparatory Committee for Philippine Independence to approve the 1943 Constitution.

In 1943, in the thick of World War II, the Preparatory Committee for Philippine Independence headed by President Jose P. Laurel adopted a Constitution for the Japanese-sponsored Republic of the Philippines.

**ANNIVERSARY**  
 Birth anniversary of Speaker of the National Assembly Benigno S. Aquino Sr. (1894)


  
 REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
 THE MONTH OF  
**SEPTEMBER**

## SEPTEMBER 5

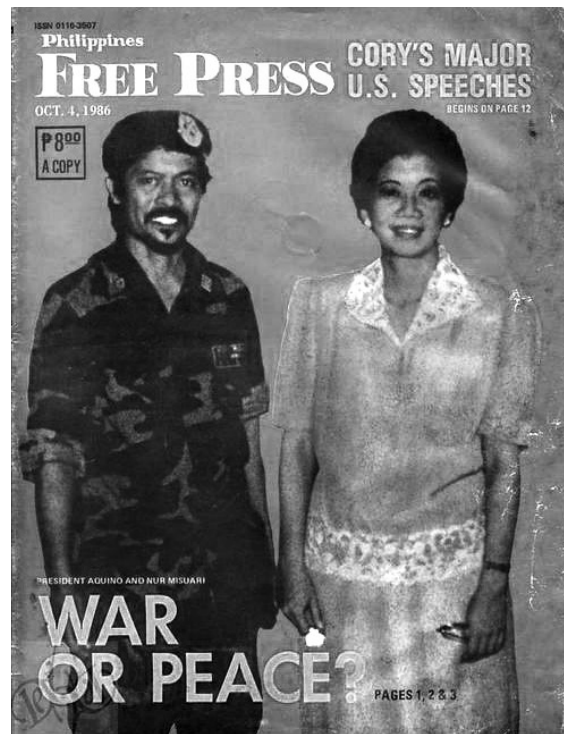
In 1986, President Corazon C. Aquino broke protocol to personally meet Nur Misuari, Chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

*"The air was thick with tension. Maimbung, Sulu was full of fierce-looking men armed to the teeth. Government soldiers filled one half of the town, while Muslim secessionists controlled the other. It was September 1986, and the battle-weary town was expecting an unusual guest. For the first time in the history of the nation, its President was about to land in the heart of conflict. She was either insane or very fearless, indeed."*

(An excerpt from *Power to the Regions* by the Presidential Management Staff.)

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist Ildelfonso P. Santos Jr. (1929)



Front cover of the October 4, 1986 issue of the *Philippine Free Press*.

## SEPTEMBER 6

In 1834, the Philippines was opened to world trade when *Real Compania de Filipinas* was abolished. Previously, trade was limited to Spain through the Galleon Trade with Mexico until it ended in 1815.

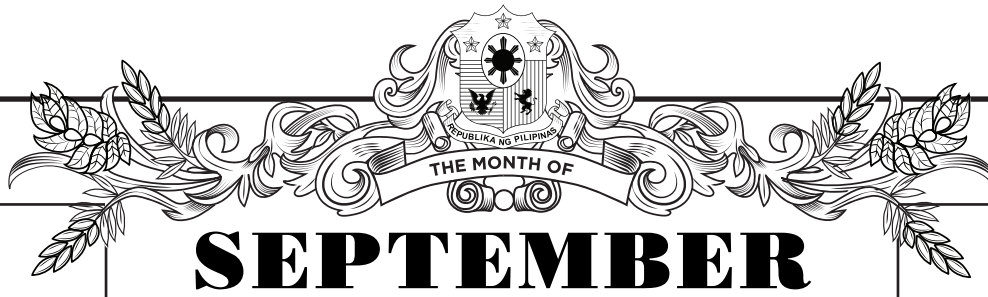


### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist Francisco Arcellana (1916)



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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**SEPTEMBER**

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## SEPTEMBER 7

In 1922, Valeriano P. Hernandez y Peña, the "Father of the Tagalog Novel" acclaimed for "Nena at Neneng," the first ever novel in the vernacular published in 1905, died.



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## SEPTEMBER 8



President Ferdinand E. Marcos presiding over a meeting during the Manila conference of SEATO nations on the Vietnam War at Malacañan Palace.

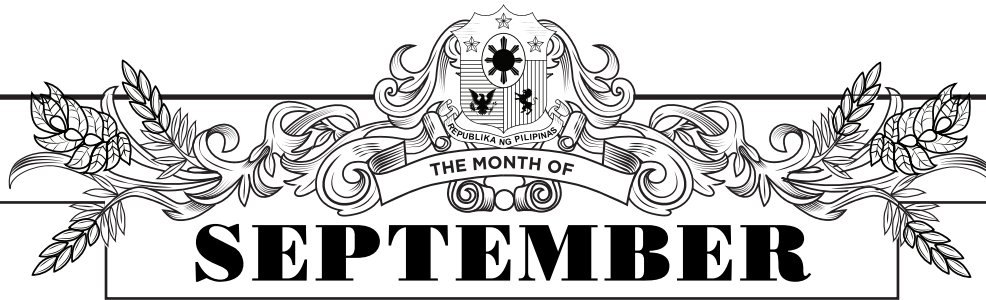
In 1954, the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) was organized with the United States, Great Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Thailand, and the Philippines as members.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of  
National Artist  
N.V.M. Gonzales (1915)  
Death anniversary of  
National Scientist  
Pedro B. Escuro (2000)

### PROCLAMATIONS

**National Literacy Day**  
(Proclamation No. 1886, s. 1979)  
**National Physical Therapy Day**  
(Proclamation No. 15, s. 1998)



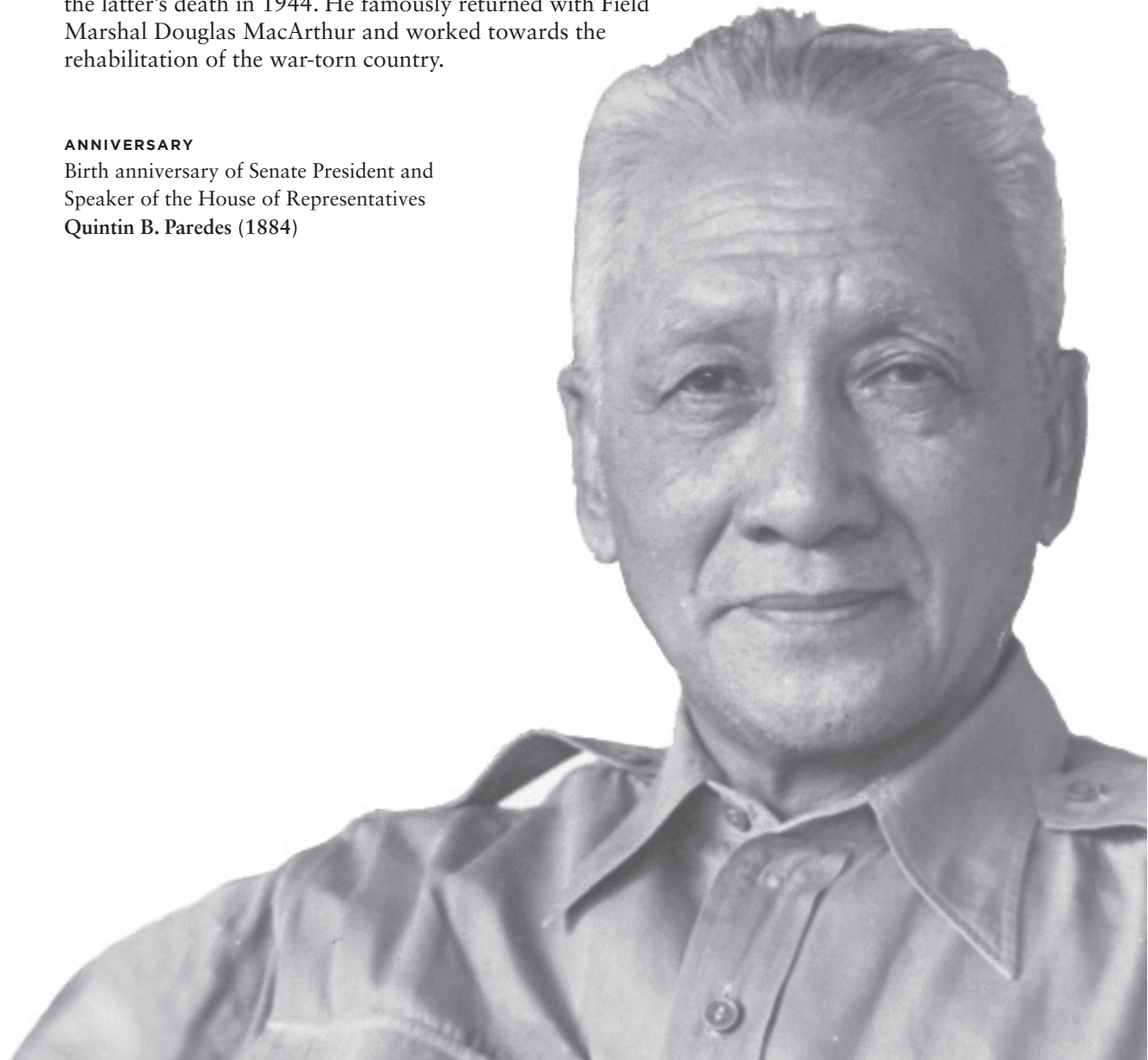
SEPTEMBER 9

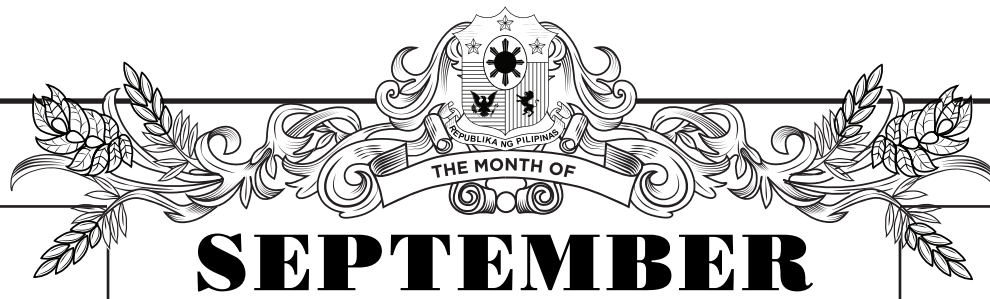
## Birth anniversary of President Sergio Osmeña

In 1878, Sergio Osmeña, the fourth President of the Philippines and the second President of the Commonwealth, was born in Cebu City. A lawyer and newspaper editor, Osmeña became Governor of the Province of Cebu in 1904. He resigned in 1906 and was elected to the First Philippine Assembly, where he served as founding Speaker until his election to the Senate in 1922. He also co-founded the Nacionalista Party, which went on to dominate domestic politics. In 1935, he was elected Vice President of the Philippine Commonwealth. In exile with Quezon, he succeeded as President of the Commonwealth upon the latter's death in 1944. He famously returned with Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur and worked towards the rehabilitation of the war-torn country.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives Quintin B. Paredes (1884)





SEPTEMBER 10

## Anniversary of the Official Gazette



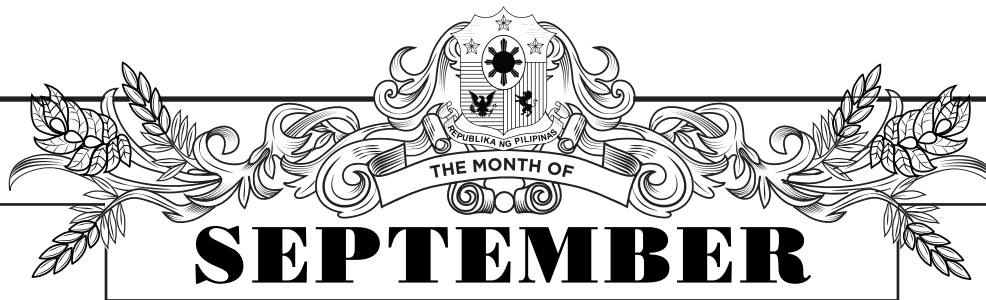
First issue of *Gaceta Oficial* or Official Gazette.

In 1902, the Official Gazette, the official journal of the Republic of the Philippines, was printed for the first time. It is edited at the Office of the President by virtue of Commonwealth Act No. 638 of 1941, as amended by the Administrative Code of 1987. On a weekly basis, it publishes Executive Issuances, Republic Acts, judicial papers, and other government documents. During the Third Philippine Republic (1946–1972), it also published the President's statements and the President's day or week in review.

In 2010, the Official Gazette went online, adopting the URL [www.gov.ph](http://www.gov.ph). It went live on July 26, 2010, the day of President Benigno S. Aquino III's first State of the Nation Address. It has since been updated regularly with speeches, reports, statements, press releases, and documents from the Office of the President and other departments. It has also revived the practice of logging the President's official activities.

The staff of the website, with the help of private partners, such as CD Technologies Asia, Inc. (CD Asia), is currently in the process of posting content from the old print version, covering thousands of documents, including thousands of laws from 1901 onward. In 2011, President Benigno S. Aquino III announced that the Official Gazette will serve as the national online portal to the Philippine Government. This project is being accomplished through partnerships with the Department of Science and Technology–Advanced Science and Technology Institute (DOST-ASTI) and with the National Computer Center (NCC).

The website's servers are maintained and secured at the data center of DOST-ASTI. By virtue of Executive Order No. 4, s. 2010, the Official Gazette's editorial responsibilities fall under the Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office (PCDSPO). The Official Gazette print edition continues to be published by the National Printing Office.



SEPTEMBER 11

## Birth anniversary of President Ferdinand E. Marcos

In 1917, Ferdinand E. Marcos, the tenth President of the Philippines, the sixth President of the Third Republic, and the first President of the Fourth Republic, was born in Sarrat, Ilocos Norte. Marcos began his political career as a technical assistant to President Manuel Roxas, after which he served as a member of the House of Representatives for three terms from 1949 to 1959. He also served as Senator and later Senate President from 1959, before being elected as President in 1965. In 1969, he won re-election to an unprecedented second full term. However, under the pretext of the bombing of Plaza Miranda and the staged ambush on the convoy of Defense Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile, President Marcos placed the whole country under Martial Law on September 23, 1972, by virtue of Proclamation No. 1081, s. 1972, and suspended Congress. A new constitution was promulgated in January 1973, and amendments to this constitution led, in 1981, to the establishment of the Fourth Republic of the Philippines and a further term for Marcos. From 1972 until 1986, the country experienced virtually absolute rule, which, after the assassination of opposition leader Benigno Aquino Jr. in 1983, ultimately led to the EDSA People Power Revolution and, on February 25, 1986, the President's overthrow and exile to Hawaii, where he died on September 28, 1989.



### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of Speaker  
of the National Assembly  
**Gil Montilla (1876)**

Birth anniversary of Speaker  
of the House of  
Representatives

**Cornelio T. Villareal (1904)**

Birth anniversary of Speaker  
of the House of  
Representatives

**Daniel Romualdez (1907)**

## SEPTEMBER 12

In 1896, thirteen Filipinos were executed by the Spanish authorities at Plaza de Armas, near Fort of San Felipe, Cavite City. They were Maximo Inocencio, Luis Aguado, Victoriano Luciano, Hugo Perez, Jose Lallana, Antonio San Agustin, Agapito Conchu, Feliciano Cabuco, Maximo Gregorio, Eugenio Cabezas, Severino Lapidario, Alfonso de Ocampo, and Francisco Osorio. They are now known as the Thirteen Martyrs of Cavite or Trece Martires.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist  
Gerardo de Leon (1913)



A poster featuring the Thirteen Martyrs of Cavite.

## SEPTEMBER 13

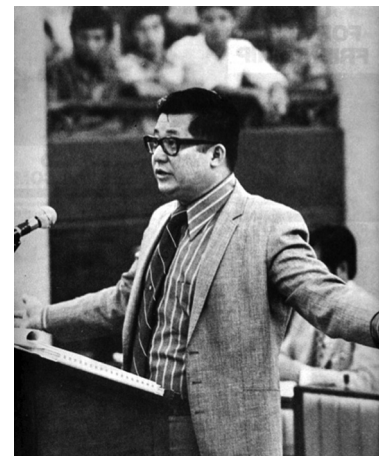
In 1972, Senator Benigno "Ninoy" S. Aquino Jr. delivered his privilege speech on "Oplan Sagittarius."

Senator Ninoy Aquino said that he had received a top-secret military plan given by President Ferdinand E. Marcos himself to place Metro Manila and outlying areas under the control of the Philippine Constabulary as a prelude to Martial Law. President Marcos was going to use the bombings, including the Plaza Miranda Bombing, in Metro Manila as a justification for his takeover and subsequent authoritarian rule.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of  
National Artist  
Amado V. Hernandez (1903)

Death anniversary of  
National Scientist  
Julian A. Banzon (1988)



Senator Ninoy Aquino delivers his privilege speech on "Oplan Sagittarius."

## SEPTEMBER 14

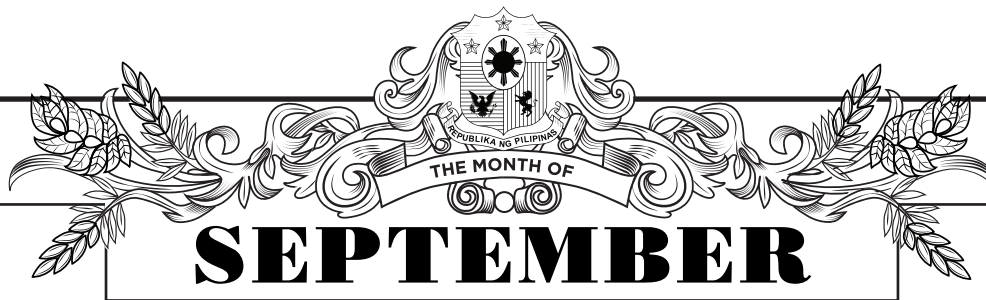
In 1815, the last ship from Acapulco to Manila, via the historic Manila Galleon Trade between the Philippines and Mexico, arrived in Manila. The Galleon trade was ended by virtue of Ferdinand VII's acceptance of the Cadiz Cortes' recommendation on October 25, 1813. A few years later, Mexico achieved independence from Spain.

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Office of the Presidential Adviser on  
the Peace Process  
(Executive Order No. 125, s. 1993)



Herb Kane's painting of a Spanish Galleon sighting Hawaii, on its way to Manila.



## SEPTEMBER 15

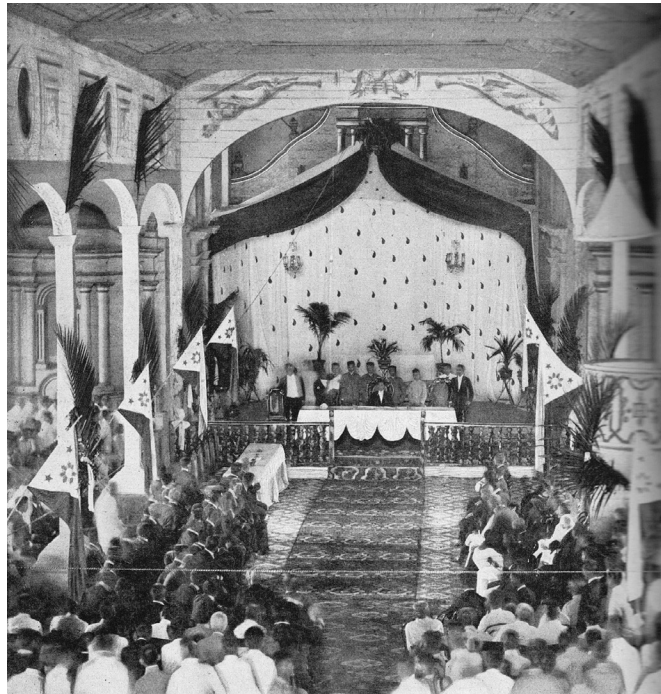
In 1898, representatives of the provinces liberated from Spain by Filipino revolutionaries met at Barasoain Church, in Malolos, Bulacan, and convened the Revolutionary Congress, which drafted the Constitution of the First Philippine Republic.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of National Scientist Casimiro V. del Rosario (1982)

**PROCLAMATION**

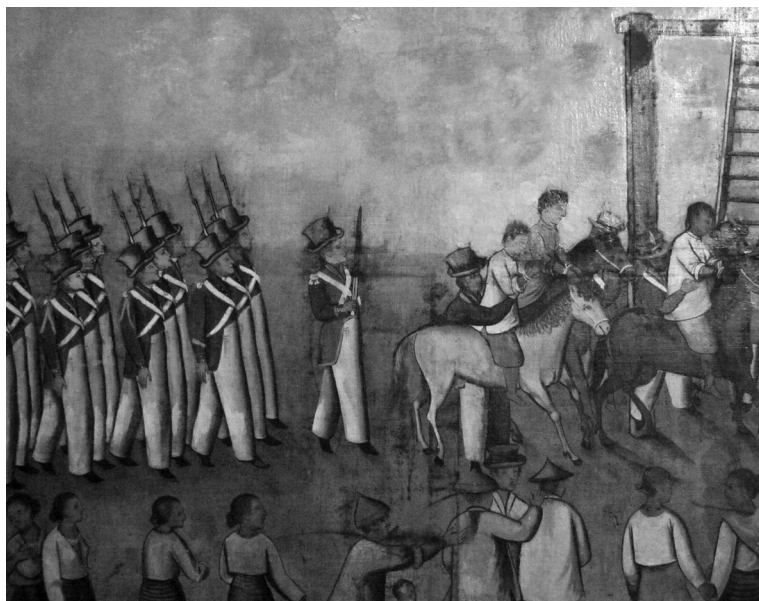
Philippine Medicine Day  
(Proclamation No. 407, s. 1953)



Opening of the Congress in Malolos, Bulacan on September 15, 1898.

## SEPTEMBER 16

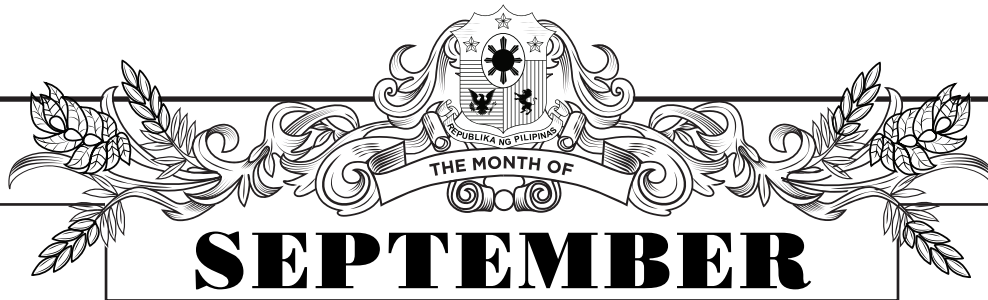
In 1807, the Ilokanos of Piddig, Ilocos Norte, took up arms against the wine monopoly and the government prohibition of the manufacturing of *basi*, a native cane wine. The uprising came to be known as the Basi Revolt.



One of Esteban Villanueva's prized fourteen works of art depicting the Basi Revolt. These were commissioned in 1821.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Birth anniversary of National Scientist Geminiano T. de Ocampo (1907)  
Death anniversary of Senate President Neptali A. Gonzales (2001)



## SEPTEMBER 17

In 1871, revolutionary General Francisco Makabulos was born in La Paz, Tarlac to Alejandro Makabulos of Lubao, Pampanga and Gregoria Soliman.

He is considered the first patriot of Tarlac to join the Katipunan having been inducted into the secret society by Ladislao Diwa in 1896.

Makabulos was appointed by General Emilio Aguinaldo as one of the brigadier generals of the Central Luzon area.

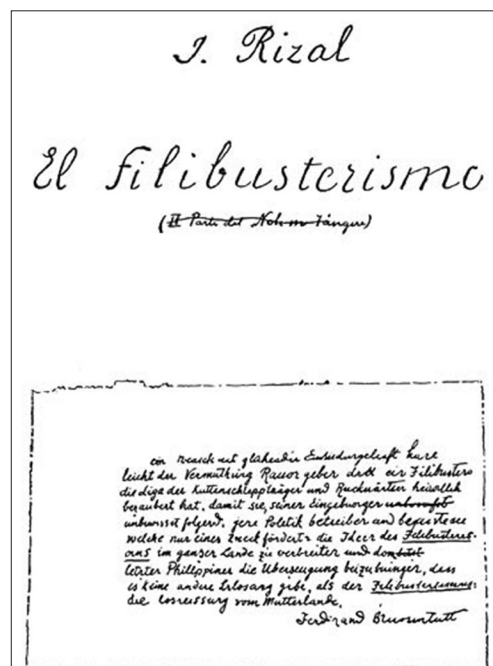


## SEPTEMBER 18

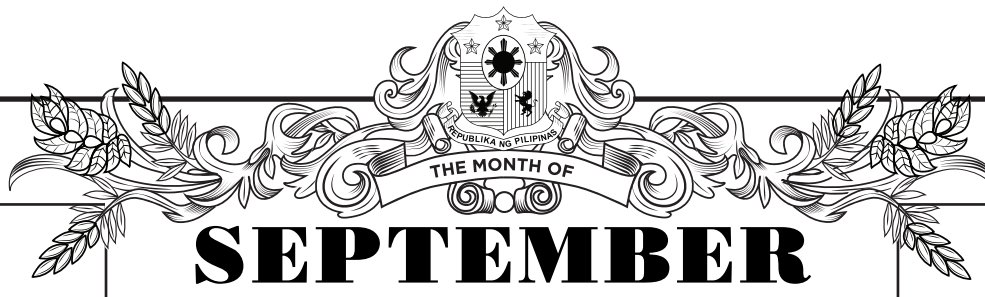
In 1891, *El Filibusterismo*, the second novel by Jose Rizal, was printed in Ghent, Belgium.

Set in a fictional town of San Diego, the novel begins where the *Noli Me Tangere* ended. Crisostomo Ibarra, now disguised as Don Simoun, plans an arson and revolution against the corrupt frailocracy that halted his reforms and sought to kill him.

*Noli Me Tangere* (Latin, meaning “Touch me Not”) and its sequel *El Filibusterismo* (The Subversive), were Rizal’s two novels written in Spanish that inspired the nation to revolt against the Spain, culminating in the Philippine Revolution of 1896.



A Manuscript of *El Filibusterismo*.


  
 THE MONTH OF  
**SEPTEMBER**

## SEPTEMBER 19

In 1900, the Philippine Civil Service System was established through Act No. 5 of 1900 of the Second Philippine Commission.

Known as “An Act for the Establishment and Maintenance of an Efficient and Honest Civil Service in the Philippines,” it started the concept of appointments and promotions in government according to merit.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of Senate President  
**Arturo M. Tolentino** (1910)  
 Death anniversary of National Artist  
**Francisco F. Feliciano** (2014)

### FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARIES

Civil Service Commission  
 (Public Law No. 5 of 1900)  
 Order of Gabriela Silang  
 (Executive Order No. 236, s. 2003)



The Second Philippine Commission (*FROM LEFT*): Dean C. Worcester, Henry Clay Ide, William Howard Taft, Bernard Moses, and Luke Wright.

### Order of Lakandula

(Executive Order No. 236, s. 2003)

### Order of National Social Scientists

(Executive Order No. 236, s. 2003)

### PROCLAMATION

#### Law Day

(Proclamation No. 1477, s. 1975)

## SEPTEMBER 20

In 1763, Gabriela Silang, wife of Diego Silang, was executed for revolting against Spanish rule along with 80 of her followers.

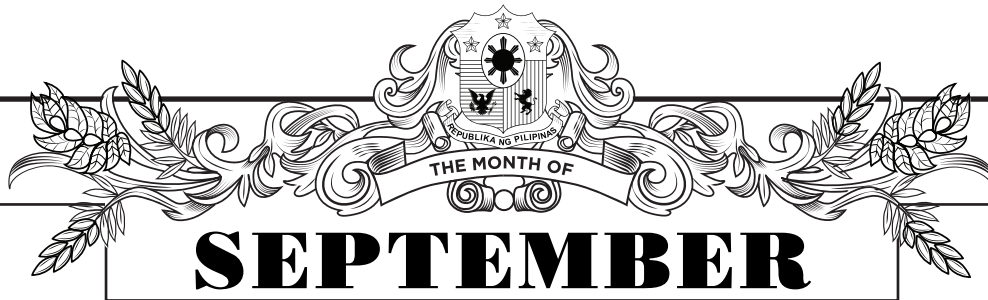


### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of  
 National Scientist  
**Dolores A. Ramirez**  
 (1931)

A monument of Gabriela Silang sculpted by Jose Mendoza in 1971 now stands proudly in Makati Avenue corner Ayala Avenue, Makati City.





## SEPTEMBER 21

In 1896, Tomas Remigio was arrested for revolutionary activities. Remigio was one of the finest Filipino playwrights during the American Colonial period. Born in Sampaloc, Manila in 1867, Remigio later served as secretary of the Civil Government of Manila under the Americans, commissioner of deeds, and captain of the Army. He died on August 1, 1916.



## SEPTEMBER 22

In 1972, Juan Ponce Enrile, National Defense Secretary, and his convoy were allegedly ambushed. In 1986, following his declaration of revolt against the Marcos government, he would expose the incident as a staged ambush.



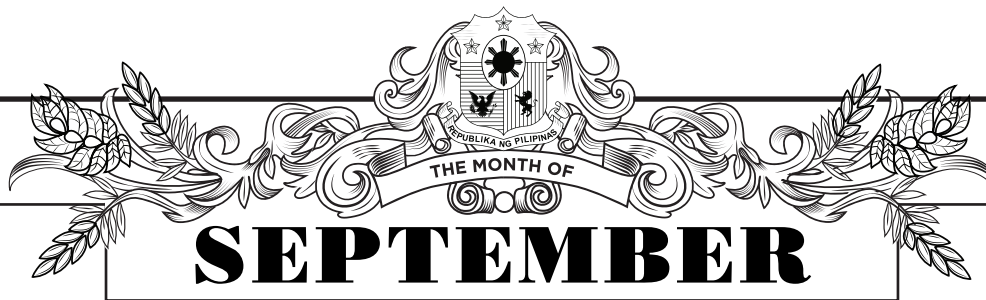
(AP) Wirephoto

### Philippines Defense Chief Escapes Shooting

A police officer inspects the car of Philippine Defense Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile after it was peppered with bullets by unidentified gunman in a suburb of Manila late Friday. Enrile, who was in another car, escaped unhurt. Uniformed Philippine police

took over the offices of the Manila Times and The Associated Press according to informed sources, and press communications were cut off. The development took place a few hours after the assassination attempt on Enrile.

The bullet-riddled car of Juan Ponce Enrile.


  
 THE MONTH OF  
**SEPTEMBER**

**SEPTEMBER 23**

In 1972, at exactly 7:15 p.m., President Ferdinand E. Marcos appeared on live television to announce that he had placed the “entire Philippines under Martial Law,” by virtue of Proclamation No. 1081. He claimed to have put martial law into effect as of 9:00 p.m. on September 22, 1972, which he said he signed on September 21, 1972.



The Marcos administration also amassed great wealth during this time, sequestered after the Marcos regime. Thus, the Philippines plunged into economic debt as a result. Martial Law was lifted by President Marcos on January 17, 1981, but it was not until the assassination of Senator Benigno "Ninoy" S. Aquino, Jr. that the opposition against the regime gained popular support, culminating in the People Power Revolution on February 22 to 25, 1986.

**SEPTEMBER 24**



The invasion of British Fleet in Manila.

In 1762, the British launched their attack on Manila. The conflict between the European powers, especially between Britain and Spain during the Seven Years' War (1756–1763), spilled over to their colonies in Asia, with the Philippines embroiled in the conflict. This led to a two-year British occupation of Manila.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Birth anniversary of  
 Chief Justice and Speaker of the  
 National Assembly  
**Jose Yulo (1894)**  
 Birthday of Senate President  
**Edgardo J. Angara (1934)**

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF

# SEPTEMBER

## SEPTEMBER 25



In 1943, the National Assembly of the Japanese occupation government held a general session to elect its Speaker and the President of the Republic. Senate President Benigno S. Aquino Sr. was the chosen Speaker and Jose P. Laurel, President.

President Jose P. Laurel (LEFT) being taken into U.S. custody at Osaka Airport in 1945, along with Senate President Benigno Aquino, Sr. (CENTER) and José Laurel III.

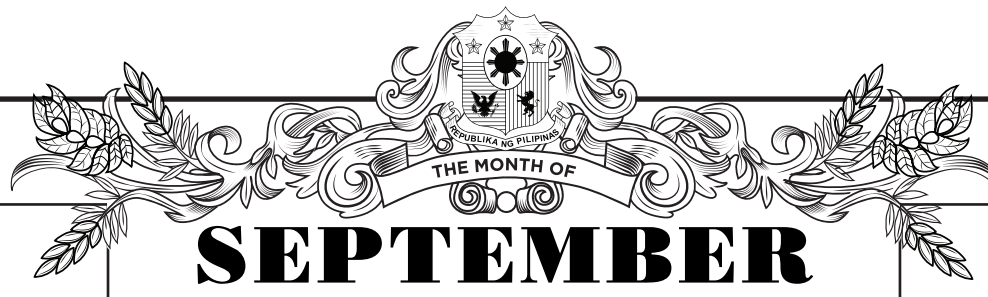
## SEPTEMBER 26

In 1898, Antonio Luna was made Director of War by the Philippine government under President Emilio Aguinaldo. General Luna was a scientist, journalist, and patriot. He wrote under the pen name “Taga-Ilog” for *La Solidaridad*. He later established a separate patriotic newspaper, called *La Independencia*. He became famous for his bravery, his unusual style of fighting, and his strict discipline on Filipino soldiers fighting the Philippine-American War. He was assassinated in Cabanatuan on June 5, 1899 by men he had dismissed.



**FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY**  
Department of Justice  
(Decree of Aguinaldo, September 26, 1898)

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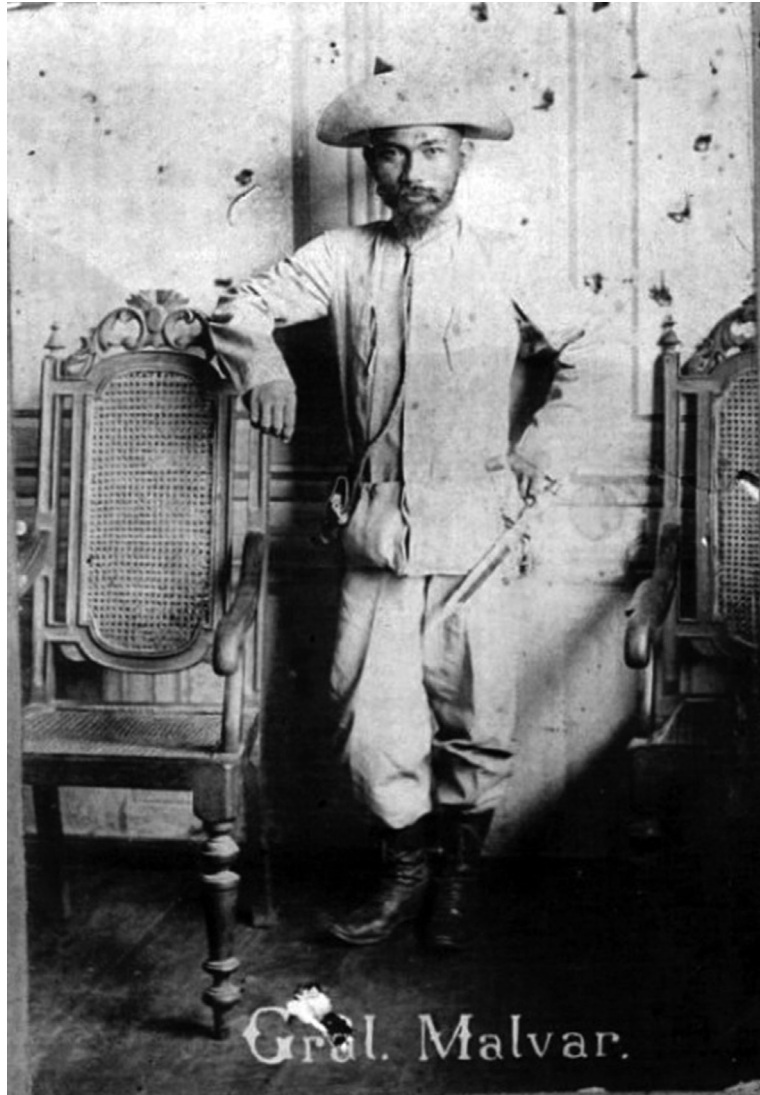
REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**SEPTEMBER**

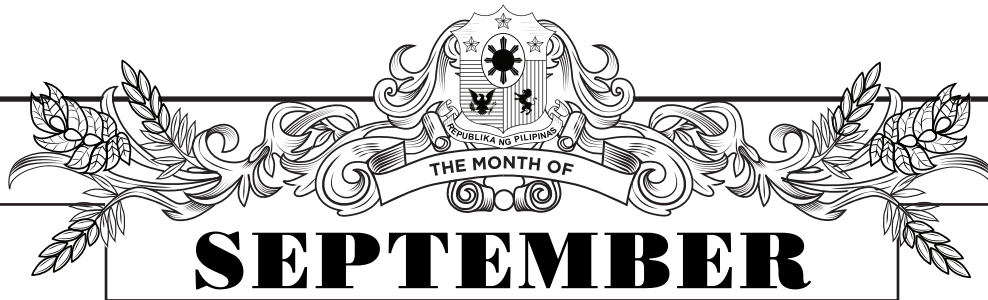
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## SEPTEMBER 27

In 1865, General Miguel Malvar—farmer, businessman, Batangas revolutionary leader and the last general to surrender to the Americans—was born.

During the Philippine Revolution, he led his troops in the Battles of Indang, Bailen, Magallanes, and Alfonso, all fought in Cavite. He was soon promoted to General and was named Commanding General of Batangas upon the organization of the Revolutionary Government. In the Philippine-American War, General Malvar led his armies in the Battle of San Pedro Tunasan, Calamba, and Cabuyao in Laguna. Eventually, he was commissioned Division General in charge of all the provinces in Southern Luzon. When President Emilio Aguinaldo was captured on March 23, 1901, Malvar assumed control of all the Filipino forces, reversing President Aguinaldo's declaration of surrender. As the American Civil Government was established in the provinces, the resistance led by General Malvar in Batangas continued to attack American forces with great losses on his side. He eventually surrendered to the Americans on April 16, 1902, in Batangas, having been betrayed by his former officers. He pledged allegiance to the United States, and led a quiet life, tending to his farm. He died on October 13, 1911.





SEPTEMBER 28

## Birth anniversary of President Diosdado Macapagal

In 1910, Diosdado Macapagal, the ninth President of the Philippines and the fifth President of the Third Republic, was born in Lubao, Pampanga. Known as the “poor boy from Lubao” in the province of Pampanga, he served two Presidents as Legal Assistant. Macapagal was first elected Congressman in 1949. In the elections of 1957, he became Vice President under the Liberal Party ticket. Though not given a cabinet portfolio by President Carlos P. Garcia, who was from the rival Nacionalista Party, Macapagal worked to familiarize himself intimately with the concerns of ordinary people all over the country. In 1961, he was elected as President. During his term, he famously enacted comprehensive land reform. He was affectionately called the “Champion of the Common Man” because of his many achievements in improving the plight of the masses and the poor. In 1971, he became President of the ill-fated Constitution Convention.

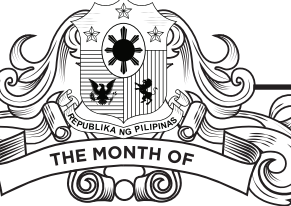
### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of President Ferdinand E. Marcos (1989)

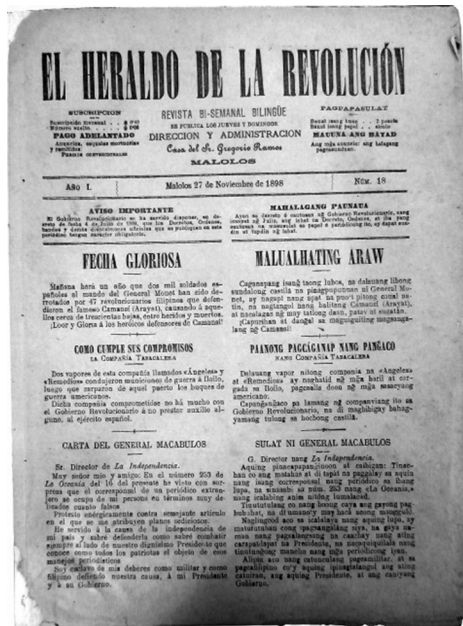
### TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1901, the townspeople of Balangiga, Samar conducted a pre-planned attack against American soldiers in response to the 143 male residents rounded up by the Americans for forced labor. This was done in retaliation for the two Filipino brothers who rescued their sister from being molested by drunken American soldiers. At the ring of the Balangiga bell, the Balangiga men killed the unguarded American contingent. Of the original 74-man contingent, 48 Americans died. Of the 26 who survived, 22 of them were severely wounded. In response, on September 30, Major General Adna R. Chaffee initiated retaliatory measures. Brigadier General Jacob Smith ordered to "kill everyone over the age of ten" and make the island of Samar "a howling wilderness." This incident became known as the Balangiga Massacre.



  
 REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
 THE MONTH OF  
**SEPTEMBER**

SEPTEMBER 29



In 1898, the first number of *El Heraldo de la Revolucion* was issued at Malolos, Bulacan. As the official publication of the Malolos Congress, it printed and published the decrees, proclamations, and accounts of the proceedings of the Congress.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of National Scientist  
**Juan S. Salcedo, Jr. (1904)**

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

Anti-Money Laundering Council  
 (Republic Act No. 9160 of 2001)

SEPTEMBER 30



Jose Rizal with other Ilustrados in Europe.

In 1891, Dr. Jose Rizal published the essay “Filipinas Dentro de cien años” or “Philippines a Century Hence,” which appeared for the first time in *La Solidaridad* at Madrid. The essay exhorts Spain to give more rights to the Filipinos, or she will surely lose the Philippines.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of  
 National Artist  
**Ishmael Bernal (1938)**



# Declaration of Martial Law

The anniversary of the declaration of Martial Law is on September 23 (not September 21).

Throughout the martial law period, President Ferdinand E. Marcos built up the cult of September 21, proclaiming it National Thanksgiving Day by virtue of Proclamation No. 1180, s. 1973 to memorialize the date as the Foundation Day of his New Society. The propaganda effort was so successful that up to the present, many Filipinos, particularly those who did not live through the events of September 23, 1972, labor under the misapprehension that Martial Law was proclaimed on September 21, 1972. It was not.

The facts are clear. A week before the actual declaration of Martial Law, a number of people had already received information that President Marcos had drawn up a plan to completely take over the government and gain absolute rule. Senator Benigno S. Aquino Jr., during a September 13, 1972 privilege speech, thus exposed what was known as "Operation Sagittarius." Senator Aquino Jr. said that he had received a top-secret military plan given by President Marcos himself to place Metro Manila and outlying areas under the

control of the Philippine Constabulary as a prelude to Martial Law. President Marcos was going to use the bombings, which includes the Plaza Miranda Bombing, in Metro Manila as a justification for his takeover and subsequent authoritarian rule. In his own diary, President Marcos in his entry for September 14, 1972, wrote that he informed the military that he would proceed with proclaiming Martial Law.

This was indeed the culmination of a long period of preparation: In his January 1971 diary entries, President Marcos discussed meeting business leaders, intellectuals from the University of the Philippines, and the military, to lay the groundwork that extreme measures would be needed in the future. By May 8, 1972, in his diary,

*Marcos was going to use the bombings, which includes the Plaza Miranda Bombing, in Metro Manila as a justification for his takeover and subsequent authoritarian rule.*

President Marcos confided that he had instructed the military to update its plans, including the list of personalities to be arrested, and had met with Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile to finalize the legal paperwork required.

September 21, 1972, Thursday, was the last session day of the week. Primitivo

Mijares, among others, recounted the functioning of the House of Representatives and the Senate, with committee meetings scheduled for that night.



The Philippine Daily Express, then a tabloid, announces the declaration of martial law.

That afternoon, as Edicio de la Torre recounted in 2009, a protest march was held in Plaza Miranda, sponsored by the Concerned Christians for Civil Liberties (Eva-Lotta E. Hedman, John Thayer Sidel in their book *Philippine Politics and Society in the Twentieth Century: Colonial Legacies, Post-Colonial Trajectories*, says this rally was led by a coalition of “more than thirty civic, religious, labor, student and activist groups [and] mobilized a crowd of 30,000 in a protest rally at Plaza Miranda which received prominent national radio, television, and newspaper coverage.”) For his part, in his diary, President Marcos wrote that he, together with members of his cabinet and staff, finished the preparation of Proclamation No. 1081 s. 1972 at 8 p.m., September 21.

The pretext for Martial Law was provided later in the evening of Friday, September 22, 1972, when the convoy of Secretary of Defense Juan Ponce Enrile was ambushed in Wack-Wack as he was going home to Dasmariñas Village in Makati before 9:00 p.m. This ambush, as Secretary Enrile later revealed in 1986, was staged by President Marcos to justify Martial Law. President Marcos himself, in his diary entry for September 22, 1972 (9:55 p.m.) wrote, “Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile was ambushed near Wack-Wack at about 8:00 p.m. tonight. It was a good thing he was riding in his security car as a protective measure... This

makes the Martial Law proclamation a necessity.” His diary entry for September 25, 1972, mentions conditions after two days of Martial Law, also indicating Martial Law in reality is dated to September 23, 1972.

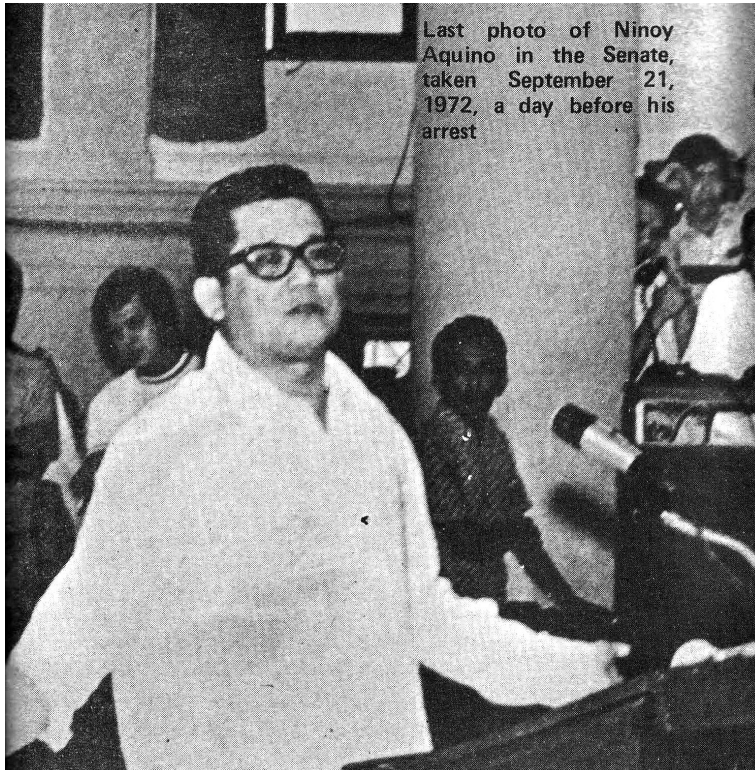
This means that when President Marcos appeared on television at 7:15 PM on September 23, 1972, to announce that he had placed the “entire Philippines under Martial Law” by virtue of Proclamation No. 1081, s. 1972, he framed his announcement in legalistic terms that, however, were untrue, and that has helped camouflage the true nature of his act, to this day: for it was nothing less than an autogolpe, or self-coup. He said that he had placed the entire country under martial law as of 9:00 p.m. on September 22, 1972, which, he claimed, he signed on September 21, 1972.

Yet accounts differ. David Rosenberg, writing in the Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars (*The End of the Freest Press in the World*,” Volume 5, 1973) chronicled that about six hours after the ambush, President Marcos signed Proclamation No. 1081, s. 1972, placing the entire country under Martial Law, placing the signing at around 3:00 a.m. on September 23. Raymond Bonner, in his book *Waltzing with the Dictator*, narrates his interview with Secretary Enrile with which the former Defense Secretary recalls that he and Acting Executive Secretary Roberto Reyes witnessed President Marcos sign Proclamation No. 1081 in the morning of September 23, 1972. *The Bangkok Post* in a series of articles called “The Aquino Papers” published in February 20 – 22 of 1973, asserted that Proclamation No. 1081 had been signed even earlier, on September 17, 1972, postdated to September 21. Mijares also mentioned in his book that President Marcos said as much in an address to a conference of historians, in January 1973.

Two things emerge: first, whether they conflict or not, accounts all indicate President Marcos’ obsession with numerology, seven being his lucky number, necessitated that Proclamation No. 1081 be officially signed on a date that was divisible by seven. Thus, September 21, 1972 became the official date that Martial Law was established and the Marcos dictatorship began. It also allowed Marcos to control history on his own terms.

The second is that the arbitrary date underscores that the actual date for martial law was not the





Last photo of Ninoy Aquino in the Senate, taken September 21, 1972, a day before his arrest

Senator Benigno S. Aquino Jr. delivers a privilege speech on the Senate floor on September 21, two days before martial law was declared and implemented.



The photo above shows injured Liberal Party senatorial bets campaigning after the bombing.

numerologically-auspicious (for President Marcos) 21st, but rather, the moment that Martial Law was put into full effect, which was after the nationwide address of President Marcos as far as the nation was concerned: September 23, 1972. By then, personalities considered threats to President Marcos (Senators Benigno S. Aquino Jr., Jose Diokno, Francisco Rodrigo, and Ramon Mitra Jr., and members of the media such as Joaquin

Roces, Teodoro Locsin Sr., Maximo Soliven, and Amando Doronila) had already been rounded up, starting with the arrest of Senator Aquino, Jr. at midnight on September 22, and going into the early morning hours of September 23, when 100 of the 400 personalities targeted for arrest were already detained in Camp Crame by 4:00 a.m.

In the meantime, the military

had shut down mass media, flights were canceled, and incoming overseas calls were prohibited. Press Secretary Francisco Tatad went on air at 3:00 p.m. on September 23 to read the text of Proclamation No. 1081. The reading of the proclamation was followed by President Marcos going on air at 7:15 p.m. to justify the massive clampdown of democratic institutions in the country. He would subsequently issue General Order No. 1 of 1972, asserting that all powers had been transferred to the President who was to rule by decree. Congress would not convene until, in anticipation of it in January, 1973, President Marcos accelerated the "approval" of a new constitution to preempt the legislature.

*The New York Times* reported these events in an article entitled "Mass Arrests and Curfew Announced in Philippines; Mass Arrests Ordered in Philippines" in their September 24, 1972 issue. The *Daily Express* itself, announced in its September 24 issue, that President Marcos had proclaimed Martial Law the day before, September 23, 1972.

Martial Law would officially end on January 17, 1981 with Proclamation No. 2045. President Marcos, however, reserved decree-making powers for himself.

Today, the Constitution safeguards our institutions from a repeat of Martial Law. The Supreme Court is empowered to review all official acts to determine if there has been grave abuse of discretion. Congress cannot be padlocked. Martial Law is limited in duration and effects, even if contemplated by a President.



Lieutenant General Masaharu Homma with members of the Philippine Executive Commission: Serafin Marabut, Teofilo Sison, Quintin Paredes, Rafael Alunan, Jose P. Laurel, and Antonio de las Alas.



# OCTOBER

It was in October that a very brief, and often forgotten, chapter in our history began. Starting in 1762, for a period of two years, the British controlled the Philippines. More prominent in our minds however is Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur on the shores of Leyte, to liberate the Philippines during the final months of the World War II.

**MONTHLY  
OBSERVANCES**

**Industry and Commerce Safety  
Month**

*(Proclamation No. 115-A, s. 1966)*

**National Statistics Month**

*(Proclamation No. 647, s. 1990)*

**Museums and Galleries Month**

*(Proclamation No. 798, s. 1991)*

**Local Government Month**

*(Proclamation No. 63, s. 1992)*

**National Children's Month**

*(Proclamation No. 267, s. 1993)*

**Consumer Welfare Month**

*(Proclamation No. 1098, s. 1997)*

**Special Month for the  
Conservation and Protection  
of the Tamaraw in Mindoro**

*(Proclamation No. 273, s. 2002)*

**National Anti-Video Piracy  
Month**

*(Proclamation No. 448, s. 2003)*

**Cooperative Month**

*(Proclamation No. 493, s. 2003)*

**National Quality and  
Productivity Improvement Month**

*(Proclamation No. 726, s. 2004)*

**National Health and Wellness**

*(Proclamation No. 1280, s. 2007)*

**National Indigenous**

**Peoples Month**

*(Proclamation No. 1906, s. 2009)*

OCT 17-23

**National Week for Overcoming  
Extreme Poverty**

*(Proclamation No. 717, s. 2004)*

OCT 18-24

**United Nations Week**

*(Proclamation No. 483, s. 2003)*

OCT 31-NOV 6

**Boy Scouts Week**

*(Proclamation No. 39, s. 1947)*

1<sup>ST</sup> WEEK

**Elderly Filipino Week**

*(Proclamation No. 470, s. 1994)*

**Life Insurance Consciousness Week**

*(Proclamation No. 1059, s. 1997)*

2<sup>ND</sup> WEEK

**National Newborn  
Screening Week**

*(Proclamation No. 540, s. 2004)*

**National Health**

**Education Week**

*(Proclamation No. 255, s. 1967)*

**Local Government Week**

*(Proclamation No. 63, s. 1992)*

**National Mental Health Week**

*(Proclamation No. 452, s. 1994)*

**Fish Conservation Week**

*(Proclamation No. 176, s. 1963)*

**Credit Union Week**

*(Proclamation No. 619, s. 1969)*

**Meat Safety Consciousness Week**

*(Proclamation No. 276, s. 1993)*

**National Attention Deficit/  
Hyperactivity Disorder**

**(AD/HD) Awareness Week**

*(Proclamation No. 472, s. 2003)*

**Bone and Joint Disorders  
Awareness Week**

*(Proclamation No. 658, s. 2004)*

**Nurses' Week**

*(Proclamation No. 539, s. 1958)*

**Consumers' Protection Week**

*(Proclamation No. 822, s. 1971)*

**National Correctional  
Consciousness Week**

*(Proclamation No. 551, s. 1995)*

**Food Safety Awareness Week**

*(Proclamation No. 160, s. 1999)*

**National Towns Week**

*(Proclamation No. 652, s. 2004)*

**Barrio Farmers' Week**

*(Proclamation No. 76, s. 1954)*

WEEK OF THE

4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY

1<sup>ST</sup> MONDAY

**Universal Children's Day In  
The Philippines**

*(Proclamation No. 265, s. 1967)*

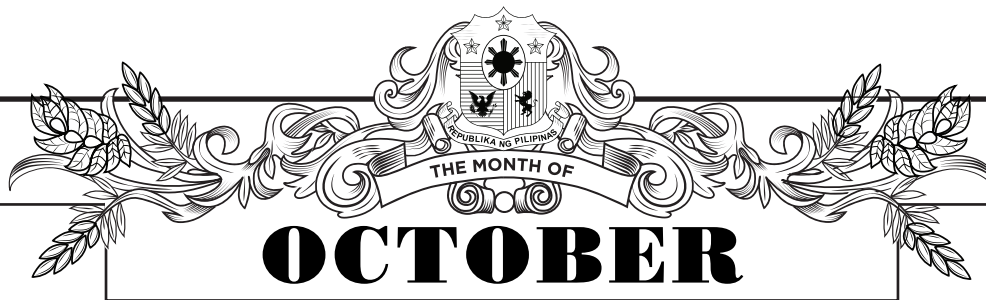
3<sup>RD</sup> THURSDAY

**Conflict Resolution Day**

*(Proclamation No. 1152, s. 2006)*



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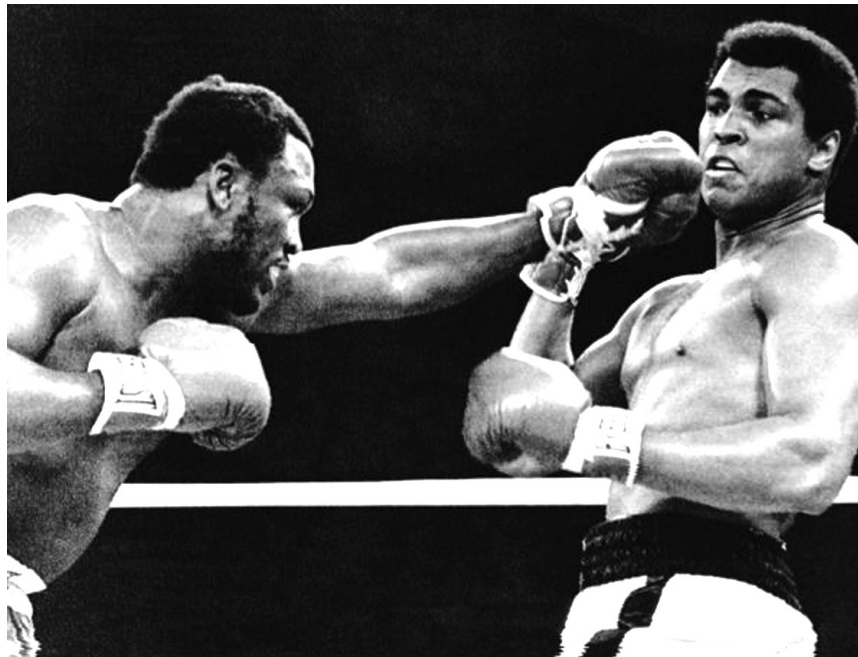


REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**OCTOBER**

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## OCTOBER 1

In 1975, the so-called “Thrilla in Manila” boxing match between Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier for the Heavyweight Boxing Championship of the World took place at the Araneta Coliseum in Cubao, Quezon City.



Joe Frazier throwing a punch at Muhammad Ali.

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## OCTOBER 2



In 1863, Brigadier General Rafael Crame, the first Filipino Chief of the Philippine Constabulary, was born in Malabon.

Sometime in 1902, Brigadier General Crame joined the newly organized Philippine Constabulary under the United States. Starting at fourth-class inspector, he rose rapidly to become its active chief on December 17, 1917.

In his capacity as acting superintendent of the information division in 1913, he was commended by Brigadier General H. Bandholtz on the occasion of the recovery of the stolen Corregidor plans.

He was awarded the American Medal of Valor for helping end a mutiny in Manila in 1921.

The headquarters of the Philippine National Police—Camp Crame—is named after him.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of Speaker of the House of Representatives Feliciano Belmonte Jr. (1936)

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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**OCTOBER**

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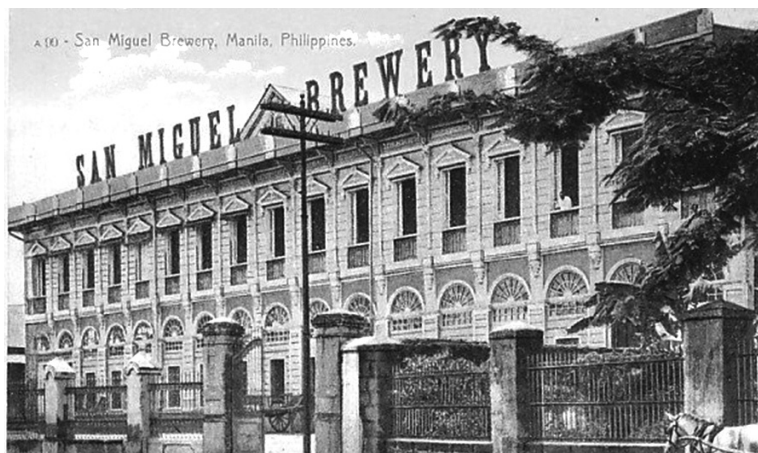
### OCTOBER 3

In 1900, Apolinario Mabini, who was captured in December 1899 by American soldiers in Cuyapo, Nueva Ecija, was released upon orders of the American authorities from imprisonment in Anda Jail in Intramuros.



### OCTOBER 4

In 1890, La Fabrica de Cerveza de San Miguel was established by Don Enrique Ma. Barreto. It was later incorporated as the San Miguel Brewery, Inc. in 1913. The brewery's building was purchased as part of the Malacañang complex. A part of the original building, the New Executive Building, now houses Presidential offices.



Archival photo of the San Miguel Brewery from an early 20th century Philippine postcard.

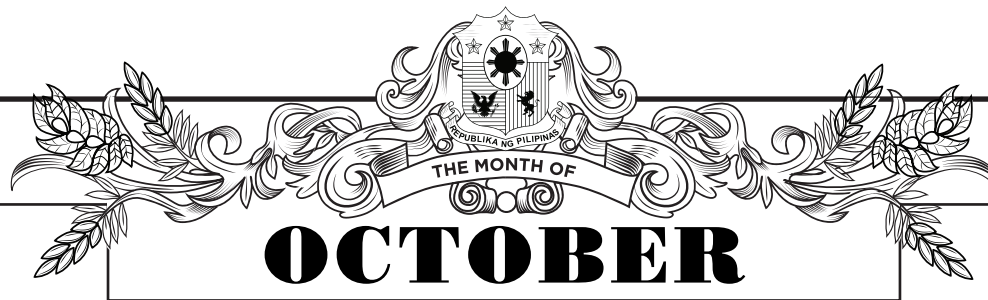
### OCTOBER 5

In 1913, the Instituto de Manila (later known as the University of Manila) was established.

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
**Movie and Television Review and**  
**Classification Board**  
 (Presidential Decree No. 1986, s. 1985)



Casa Vyzantina, an ancestral house used to be situated in Manila, housed Instituto de Manila. The structure has been moved piece by piece and reassembled in Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar, Bataan.



OCTOBER 6

## British Conquest of Manila

In 1762, the city of Manila was conquered by the British, starting a two year period of British rule. At around 4:00 a.m., under the cover of artillery fire, Colonel William Draper and his men entered Manila. This was the first time the Spaniards had been ousted from their Asian colony by a foreign power.

The conflict between the European powers during the period of 1756–1763 spilled over to their colonies in Asia. One of the outcomes was a two-year period of British control over the Philippine Islands. In the 1700s, the battle for dominance in the “new world,” or current-day North America, was being waged between France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. In 1756, the two countries formally declared war upon each other. Although several battles were fought in mainland Europe, the battle for dominance reached the colonies, thus spreading the war across the globe.

Two years into the war between the United Kingdom and the Spanish Empire, a British fleet—under the East India Company—was dispatched from their colony in India toward Southeast Asia to conquer colonies under the Spanish crown. The fleet was under the command of Rear-Admiral Samuel Cornish and Colonel William Draper, and its



British fleet.

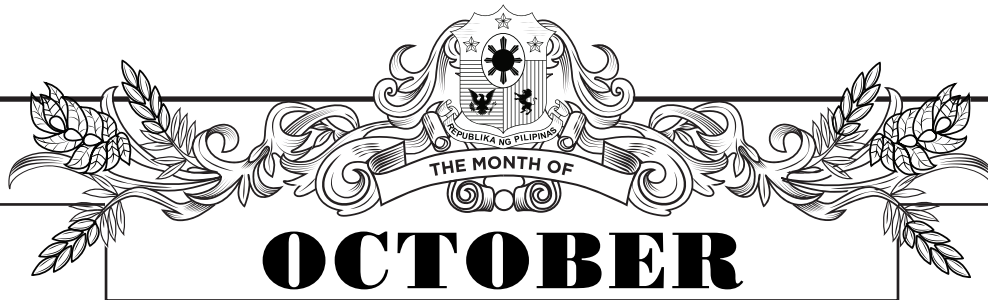
land forces were comprised of Regiments of British Soldiers, Royal Artillery, and Indian Sepoys. The “little army,” as Colonel Draper described it in his journal, arrived in the Philippine Archipelago on September 23, 1762.

Upon the British fleet’s arrival in Manila Bay, an emissary from the Spanish forces was sent to deliver a letter to the Commanding Officer, to ask about their nationality and reason for their arrival. The British replied by sending two messengers of their own, which bore the orders of King George III: Capture the city of Manila and order the Spanish in the city to surrender. At this point, Archbishop Miguel Rojo had likewise been informed of the ongoing war between France and the United Kingdom. The final siege of the walled

city of Intramuros began on October 5, 1762. Archbishop Rojo recounts that at 6:00 a.m., British troops began leaving the lines to head for the breach. The British seized the foundry and attacked the Royal Gate, which they battered down with axes and iron levers. On the night of the 5th, final preparations were made for the final push into the walled city.

Colonel Draper’s account shows that at 4:00 a.m. of October 6, 1762, the British troops started their offensive by firing mortar shells against the Spanish. At daybreak, a large body of Spanish troops formed in front of St. Andrew’s Church in Parañaque. However, the resistance proved futile; the Spaniards eventually surrendered the city to the British.

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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**OCTOBER**

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## OCTOBER 7

In 1986, the Constitutional Commission approved a provision in the Constitution allowing President Corazon "Cory" C. Aquino and Vice President Salvador "Doy" H. Laurel to serve a 6-year term until June 30, 1992.



Vice President Doy Laurel campaigning with President Cory Aquino.

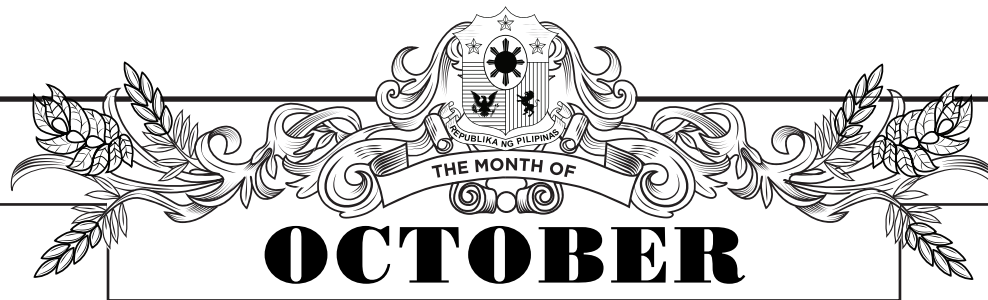
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## OCTOBER 8



A late 19th century government building in the former capital town of Bacolor, Pampanga.

In 1762, Governor-General Simon de Anda y Salazar made Bacolor, Pampanga the temporary capital of the Philippines, in view of the British invasion of Manila.


  
 THE MONTH OF  
**OCTOBER**

OCTOBER 9



The cells of Fort Santiago (Fuerza de Santiago) in Manila during 1896.

In 1896, suspected revolutionists from Bicol were brought to Manila on board the mail steamer *Aeolus* to stand trial for rebellion and/or other charges, two months after the outbreak of the Philippine Revolution against Spain. Of the 15 prisoners, 11 were executed at Bagumbayan. They are known as Bicol's Quince Martires.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of National Artist **Manuel Conde (1915)**

OCTOBER 10



The San Juan de Dios Hospital on Calle Real, Intramuros, Manila.

In 1896, Apolinario Mabini was arrested by the Guardia Civil and was placed under house arrest at the San Juan de Dios Hospital because of his illness.

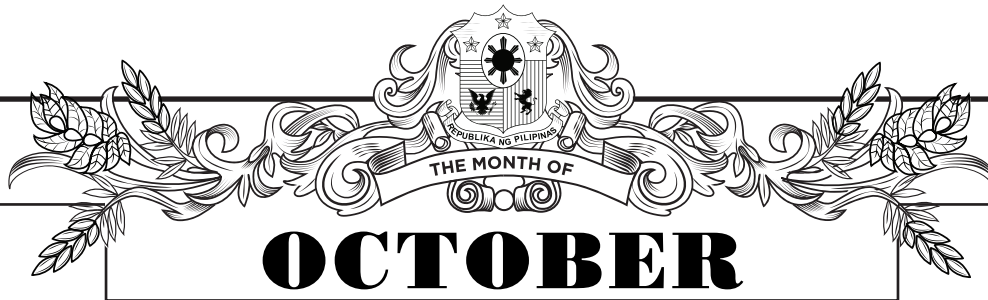
**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of Chief Justice **Ricardo Paras (1984)**

**PROCLAMATION**

▲ **Local Government Day**  
(Proclamation No. 63, s. 1992)



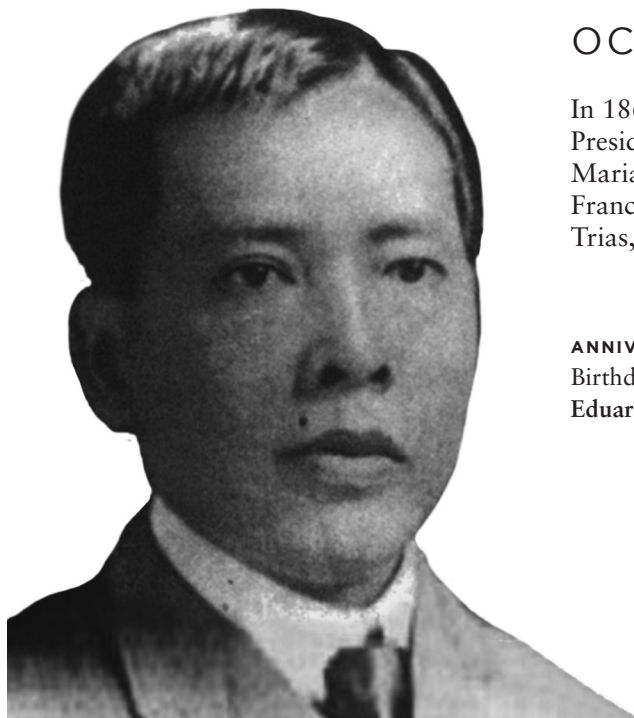
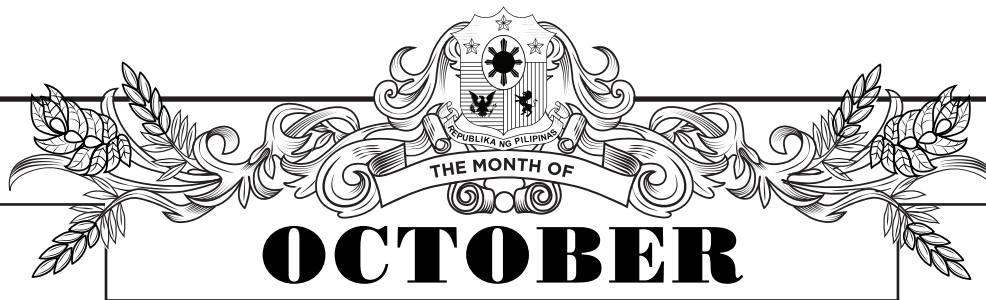


## OCTOBER 11

In 1954, Senator Benigno S. Aquino, Jr. and Corazon S. Cojuangco were married at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Pasay City. Senator Aquino was the chief opposition leader during President Ferdinand E. Marcos' regime. His assassination on August 21, 1983 sparked widespread demonstrations that culminated in President Marcos' downfall and the rise of the People Power Revolution on February 22-25 of 1986. The peaceful revolution propelled Corazon C. Aquino to the mantle of leadership as the country's first woman president.

*(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT)* the groom, Senator Benigno S. Aquino Jr., the bride, Corazon C. Aquino (*CENTER*), and the bride's father, Jose Cojuangco Sr.





## OCTOBER 12

In 1868, revolutionary leader and *de facto* Vice President of the Biak-na-Bato Republic, General Mariano Trias was born. Trias was born in San Francisco de Malabon, now known as General Trias, Cavite.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of Manlilikha ng Bayan  
Eduardo Mutuc (1949)

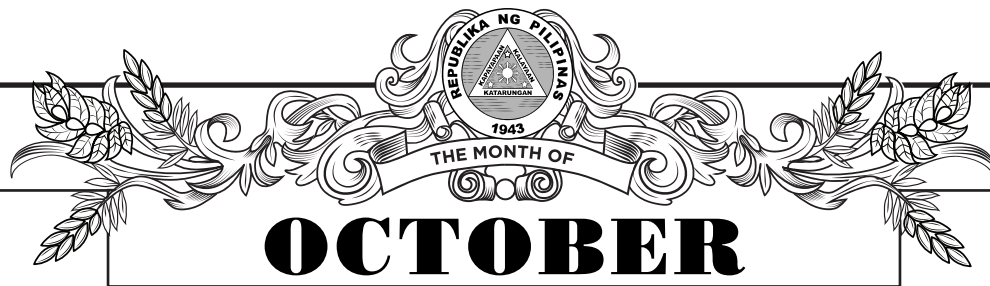
## OCTOBER 13

In 1868, Teresa Magbanua y Ferraris, the only woman to lead the Revolutionary combat troops against Spanish and American forces, was born at Pototan, Iloilo.



### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of Chief Justice  
Enrique M. Fernando (2004)



OCTOBER 14

## Anniversary of the Second Republic

In 1943, during the Japanese occupation of the Philippines, the Second Philippine Republic was established. At the outset of the occupation, the Japanese Government established a military administration over the Philippines, as well as the Philippine Executive Commission, composed of several pre-war Filipino political leaders. The *Kapisanan ng Paglilingkod sa Bagong Pilipinas* (KALIBAPI) was also organized, designed to be the sole and exclusive political organization in the Philippines.

On June 16, 1943, Premier Hideki Tojo promised independence to the Philippines. The KALIBAPI would then form the Preparatory Committee on Philippine Independence (PCPI), which was tasked with drafting a new Constitution. The new Constitution was approved by the Preparatory Committee on Philippine Independence on September 4, 1943 and ratified by the KALIBAPI on September 7, 1943.

The KALIBAPI then proceeded to elect part of the new National Assembly, which also included appointed members; in turn, the National Assembly elected its Speaker and then elected Jose P. Laurel as President. On October 14, 1943, in ceremonies in front of the Legislative Building in Manila, the new Republic



The inaugural parade for President Jose P. Laurel's inauguration on the steps of the Legislative Building on October 14, 1943. The arch was only a temporary structure constructed for the ceremony.

was inaugurated, and Jose P. Laurel, the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee, assumed office as President.

On September 21, 1944, President Laurel proclaimed Martial Law in the Philippines (it came into effect on September 22). On September 23, 1944, President Laurel proclaimed that the Philippines was “in a state of war” with the Allied Powers—but this was never ratified by the National Assembly. When the Commonwealth government was restored on Philippine soil on October 23, 1944, Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur as military commander had issued a Proclamation nullifying all acts of the Philippine Executive Commission and the Second Republic. The Supreme Court of the Philippines reiterated this nullification in a decision

(G.R. No. L-5) on September 17, 1945 (and subsequent decisions).

The Supreme Court categorized the Philippine Executive Commission and the Second Republic as a *de facto* (actual, whether by right or not) government, in contrast to the *de jure* (meaning rightful, or legitimate) status of the Commonwealth Government. While this means no laws or regulations from the Second Republic are legally recognized, President Laurel has been included in the roster of Philippine Presidents since the 1960s.

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**ANNIVERSARY**  
 Birthday of National Artist  
 Alice Reyes (1942)

## OCTOBER 15

In 2012, Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato' Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak visited the Philippines to witness the signing of the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro, a landmark in the peace process between the government of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.



President Benigno S. Aquino III and Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Sri Haji Mohammad Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, after their joint press statement.

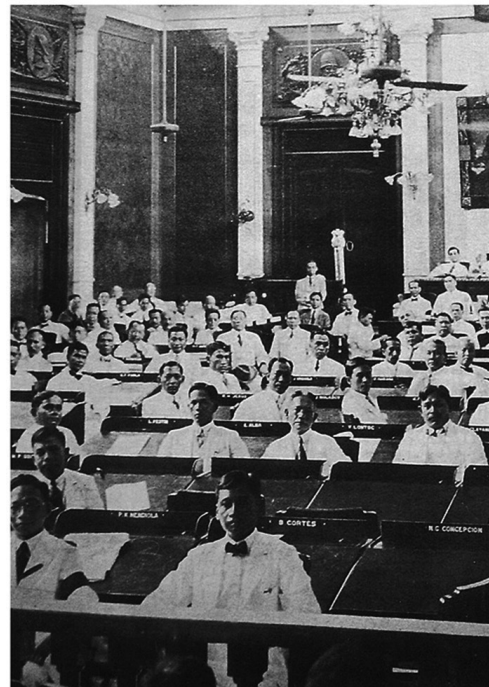
### ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday of Chief Justice  
**Renato C. Corona (1948)**  
 Death anniversary of  
 National Scientist  
**Gregorio Y. Zara (1978)**

## OCTOBER 16

In 1916, pursuant to the provisions of the Jones Law, the Philippine Commission was abolished and the Philippine Legislature was inaugurated. Thus marks, for the first time, a Philippine Legislature fully composed of Filipinos.

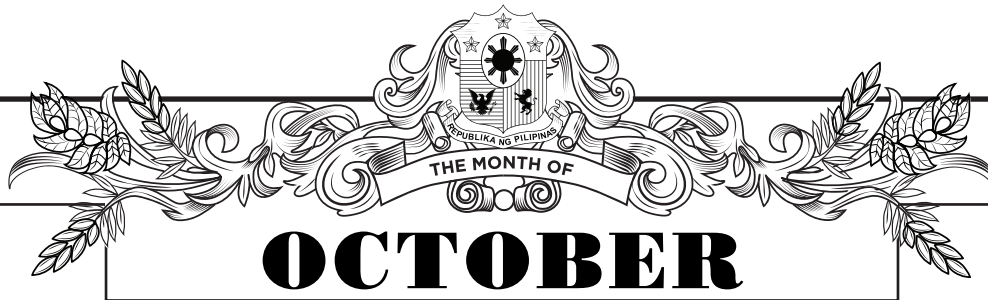
It was comprised of the Philippine Senate and the House of Representatives, which replaced the Philippine Commission and the National Assembly as the upper and lower house, respectively. Manuel L. Quezon was elected the Senate President, and Sergio Osmeña is elected Speaker of the House.



The 4th Philippine Legislature meeting in joint session at the House session hall at the Ayuntamiento.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Scientist  
**Carmen C. Velasquez (1994)**



## OCTOBER 17

In 1933, the Philippine Independence Act, otherwise known as the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act, was rejected by the Philippine Legislature. Objections were made to the provisions of the law regarding American-Philippine Trade relations, which were disadvantageous to the Philippines and to the retention of naval reservations by the United States, a step which violated national dignity and sovereignty.



Manuel L. Quezon's campaign against Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act

## OCTOBER 18



In 1950, the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) suffered a crisis with the arrest of 23 top members of the Politburo in Manila. This exacerbated the struggle for power between the CPP faction led by Jesus Lava and the faction led by Armando Guerrero contributing to the party's decline.

Communist Party of the Philippines.

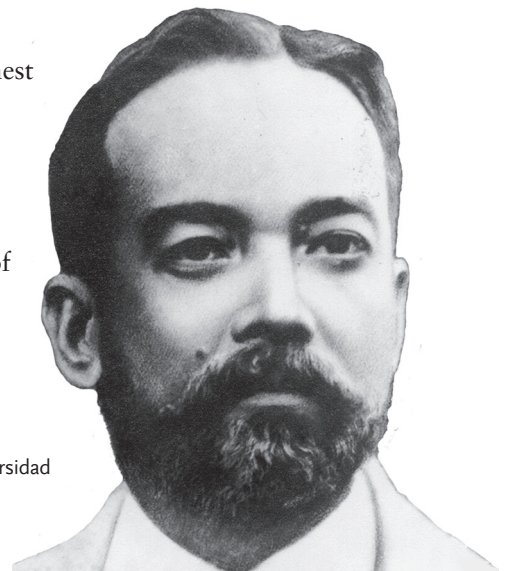
## OCTOBER 19

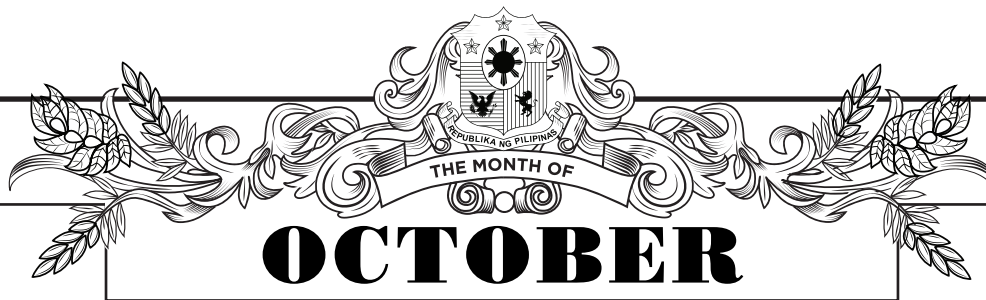
In 1898, the Universidad Literaria de Filipinas, the seat of highest learning of the Republic, was established in Malolos, Bulacan, through a declaration of President Emilio Aguinaldo. Dr. Joaquin Gonzalez was its first President and was succeeded by Dr. Leon Ma. Guerrero. Aguinaldo appointed Dr. Gonzalez to the position upon the recommendation of Felipe Buencamino Sr., who was at the time a member (Secretary of Promotions) of President Aguinaldo's cabinet.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of President Sergio Osmeña (1961)

Dr. Joaquin Gonzalez (*RIGHT*) had the distinction of being the First Rector of the Universidad Literaria de Filipinas (Cientifico was added later), the first Philippine State University.





OCTOBER 20

## Leyte Landing

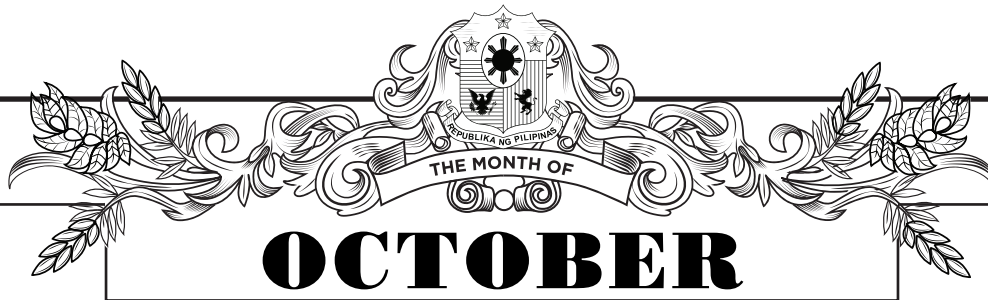
In 1944, President Sergio Osmeña and Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur landed in Leyte with over 100,000 American soldiers. MacArthur's invasion of Luzon required softening up the enemy. Thus, the amphibious landing of the American forces at Leyte and the concomitant goal of destroying the Japanese fleet in the gulf was undertaken. The American forces landed on Red Beach in the municipality of Palo, roughly 14 kilometers from the Leyte capital, Tacloban. The ensuing battles in Leyte proved to be among the bloodiest of the war in the Pacific and signalled the beginning of the end of the Japanese occupation. This marked the beginning of the Philippine Liberation in World War II.

### PROCLAMATION

Philippine-British Friendship Day  
(Proclamation No. 1592, s. 2008)

Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur  
(FOURTH FROM LEFT), President Sergio  
Osmeña (LEFT), then Brigadier  
General Carlos P. Romulo (THIRD  
FROM THE LEFT)





## OCTOBER 21

In 1946, President Manuel Roxas approved Republic Act No. 73, which called for a plebiscite to be held on March 11, 1947, for the approval of the proposed amendment to the constitution known as the "Parity Amendment." The Parity Amendment granted U.S. citizens the right to the disposition and utilization of Philippine natural resources.

### PROCLAMATIONS

**Tenants' Emancipation day**  
(Proclamation No. 1193, s. 1973)  
**National Archives Day**  
(Proclamation No. 660, s. 1995)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARIES

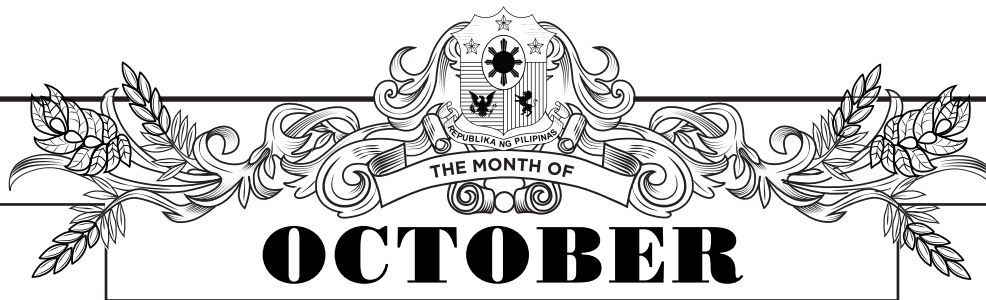
**National Archives of the Philippines**  
(Philippine Commission Act No. 273 of 1901)  
**Quezon Service Cross**  
(Created on October 21, 1946 by virtue of Joint Resolution No. 4 of the First Congress)



## OCTOBER 22

In 1950, President Elpidio Quirino issued Proclamation No. 210, suspending the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus due to the impending communist threat from the Hukbong Bayan Laban sa mga Hapon (HUKBALAHAP).




  
 THE MONTH OF  
**OCTOBER**

## OCTOBER 23

In 1944, the Commonwealth Government of the Philippines—with Sergio Osmeña as President—was restored in Tacloban, Leyte, by Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur.

Field Marshal MacArthur also read the proclamation declaring null and void all laws promulgated by the Second Philippine Republic.

At the same ceremony, Ruperto Kangleon, the Filipino leader of the resistance movement in Leyte, was also appointed the Military Governor of Leyte. Kangleon went on to further serve the country, first as Secretary of National Defense under the administration of President Manuel Roxas, and then as a Senator.



Colonel Kangleon reporting to Field Marshal MacArthur.

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

**Climate Change Commission**  
(Republic Act No. 9729 of 2009)

## OCTOBER 24



The leaders of some of the South East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) nations in front of the Congress Building in Manila, hosted by Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos on 24 October 1966. *FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:* Prime Minister Nguyen Cao Ky (South Vietnam), Prime Minister Harold Holt (Australia), President Park Chung Hee (South Korea), President Ferdinand E. Marcos (Philippines), Prime Minister Keith Holyoake (New Zealand), Lt. Gen. Nguyen Van Thien (South Vietnam), Prime Minister Thanom Kitkitachorn (Thailand), and President Lyndon B. Johnson (United States).

In 1966, the Manila Summit began. It was a conference composed of seven nations: Australia, South Korea, Thailand, South Vietnam, United States, New Zealand, and the Philippines. These nations were invited by President Ferdinand E. Marcos to resolve the Vietnam War.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of  
Senate President and  
Chief Justice  
**Marcelo B. Fernan (1927)**  
Death anniversary of  
National Scientist  
**Benito S. Vergara (2015)**

**PROCLAMATION**

**United Nations Day**  
(Proclamation No. 138,  
s. 1949)





## OCTOBER 25

In 1762, residents of Manila were compelled to swear allegiance to King George III of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Scientist  
Juan S. Salcedo Jr. (1988)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Philippine Military Academy  
(Decree of Aguinaldo 1898)



Portrait of King George III by Allan Ramsay, circa 1762.

## OCTOBER 26

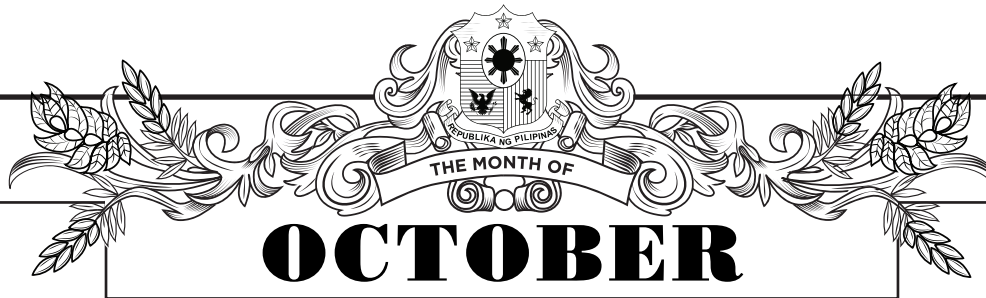


BRP Magat Salamat (PS-20) was named after Magat Salamat, Datu of Tondo in the 16th century. The ship is known as one of the oldest active navy ships in the world today.

In 1588, the Spaniards in the Philippines discovered the planned revolt of Magat Salamat, chieftain of Tondo. After he was turned away by Kapampangan chieftains, Magat Salamat headed south to invite the Sultan of Sulu to join the plot—but he was captured before reaching his destination and was brought back to Manila, where he was executed. Other co-conspirators were exiled to Mexico, then a colony of Spain.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Salvador F. Bernal (2011)



**OCTOBER 27**

In 1950, Marina Dizon, one of the first women recruited into the Katipunan, and who presided over initiation rites for Katipunan women, died at the age of 75. She was Emilio Jacinto's cousin.



**ANNIVERSARIES**

Birth anniversary of Chief Justice  
**Manuel Moran (1893)**  
 Death anniversary of Chief Justice and  
 Speaker of the National Assembly  
**Jose Yulo (1976)**

**OCTOBER 28**



Philippine National Heroes

In 1931, Act No. 3827 was approved by the Philippine Legislature, declaring the Last Sunday of August of every year as an official holiday known as National Heroes Day. This was moved to the last Monday of August by virtue of Republic Act No. 9492, signed by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in 2007.

**OCTOBER 29**

In 1901, The National Museum of the Philippines was established. It is now housed in the Old Legislative Building by virtue of Republic Act No. 8492 of 1998



This was the Legislative Building soon after its inauguration on July 16, 1926.

**ANNIVERSARY**

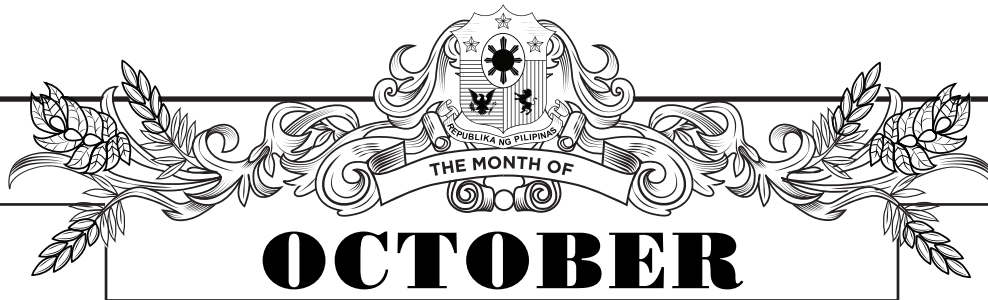
Birthday of Speaker of the House of Representatives  
**Arnulfo P. Fuentabella (1945)**

**PROCLAMATION**

**National Indigenous People's Thanksgiving Day**  
 (Proclamation No. 486, s. 2003)

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARIES**

**National Museum**  
 (Philippine Commission Act of 1901)  
**National Commission on Indigenous Peoples**  
 (Republic Act No. 8371 of 1997)



## OCTOBER 30



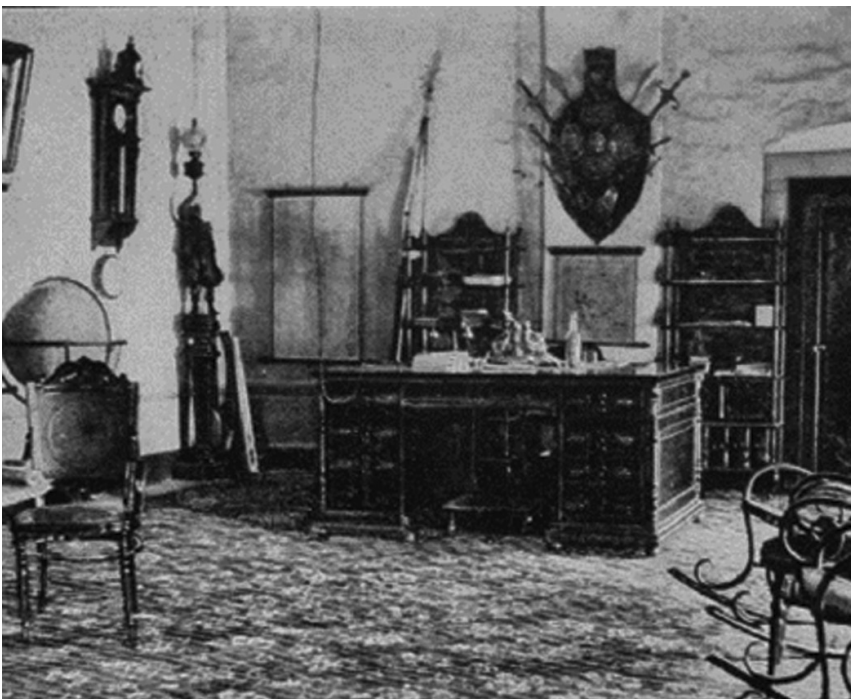
The Philippine Flag  
from 1919-1936.

From 1919 to 1941, Flag Day was celebrated on October 30th in accordance with Act No. 2928 of 1919 of the Philippine Legislature, restoring the use of the Philippine flag.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Prospero C. Nograles (1947)

## OCTOBER 31



President Emilio Aguinaldo's office in Malolos, Bulacan from June 12, 1898 to March 31, 1899.

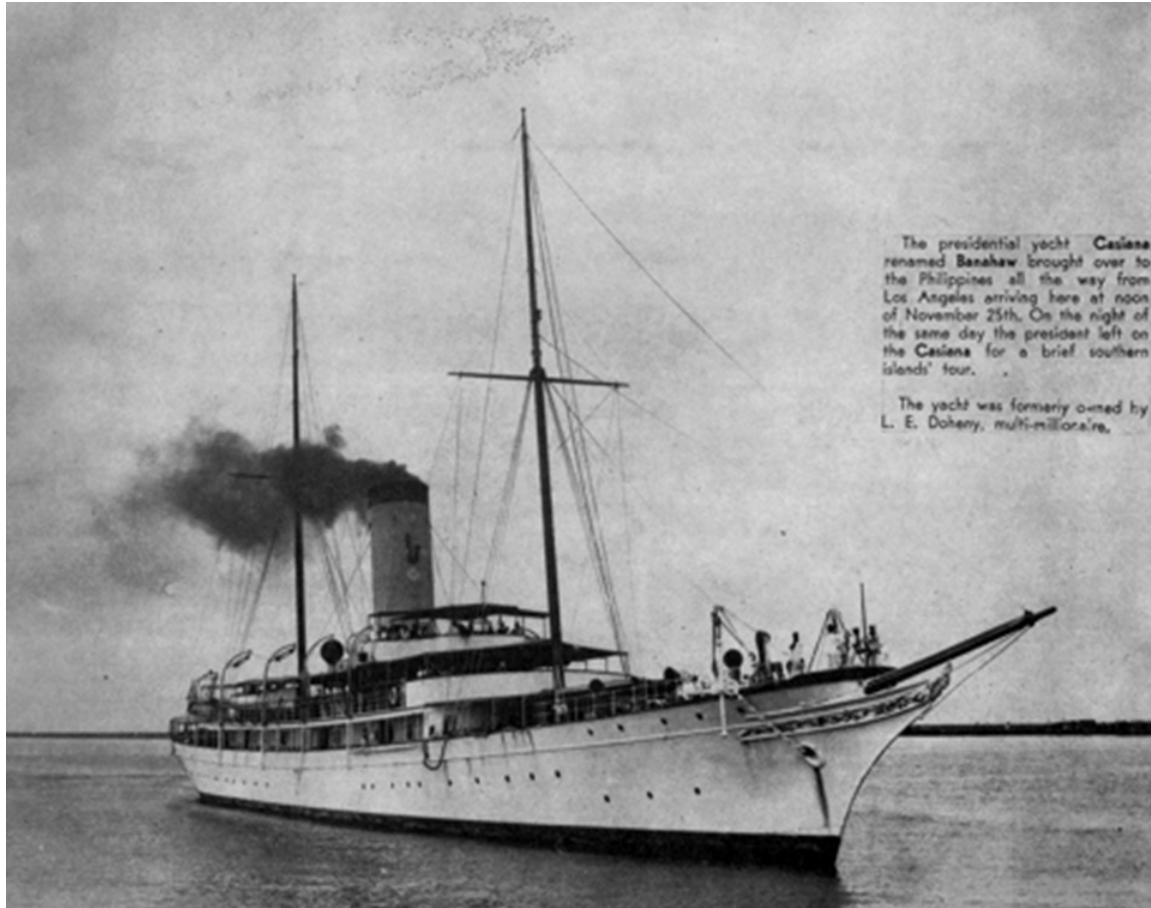
In 1896, Emilio Aguinaldo issued his first two manifestos from Kawit, Cavite. One is entitled "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity," in which he defined the aim of the revolution as the attainment of independence, and the other which denounced the conduct of Spanish soldiers in Nasugbu and Lemery, Batangas.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of  
Chief Justice  
Andres Narvasa (2013)



# Presidential Yachts



The presidential yacht *Casiana*, renamed *Banahaw*, brought over to the Philippines all the way from Los Angeles arriving here at noon of November 25th. On the night of the same day the president left on the *Casiana* for a brief southern islands' tour.

The yacht was formerly owned by L. E. Doheny, multi-millionaire.

## THE APO (1921-1932)

The *Apo* was a steam yacht built in Kinghorn, Scotland, in 1898. It was initially called the *Cem* but was later on renamed The *Amelia III* after it was acquired by King Carlos of Portugal. In 1906, it was purchased by Henry Clay Pierce, and the name was changed to the *Yacona*. It was acquired by the United States Navy and commissioned in 1917. After it was decommissioned at Engineer Island, Manila, in 1921, it was transferred to the Insular Government of the Philippine Islands and renamed The *Apo*. Designated as the official yacht of the Governor-General, it was used for inspection voyages by Leonard Wood, Henry Stimson, Dwight Davis, and Theodore Roosevelt Jr.

In 1932, it was returned to the United States Federal Government.

## THE CASIANA/BANAHAW (1936-1941)

The *Cassandra*, an oil-burning yacht, was built in 1908. It was acquired by oil tycoon Edward L. Doheny and renamed the *Casiana*, after his first major oil well in Mexico. In 1936, the Commonwealth government acquired it for \$50,000, and the ship arrived in Manila on November 25 of the same year. The name was changed to *Banahaw*, and it was made part of the Coast Guard service, although, primarily, it was reserved for use of the President and his family. On December 29, 1941, The *Casiana/Banahaw* was sunk off Fort Mills wharf, Corregidor, by Japanese bombing.

## THE ORCHID (1946-1948)

The *Orchid* (WAGL-240) was a 190-foot Manzanita Class vessel built in New Jersey. Its keel was laid on October 1907; it was launched



on May 1908, and was commissioned on August 1908 to the United States Lighthouse Service, which was merged with the Coast Guard in 1939. It was called the *Orchid* in line with the Lighthouse Service's tradition of using flora as names for certain vessels (tenders, in particular), which was continued by the Coast Guard. With its sister ships, the *Anemone*, *Sequoia*, and the *Tulip*, the *Orchid* was transferred to the Philippines when it was decommissioned on December 1945. It was used by President Manuel Roxas.

#### **THE APO/PAGASA/SANTA MARIA (1948-1959)**

The second *Apo* was an Admirable-class minesweeper laid down on November 24, 1943 by the Gulf Shipbuilding Corporation in Alabama. On March 16, 1944, it was launched, and on October 25, 1944, was commissioned as the USS *Quest* (AM 281). It received two battle stars during World War II. It was decommissioned on May 2, 1946 and struck from the Navy register on September 29, 1947.

It was renamed *Dalisay* when it was transferred to the Republic of the Philippines on July 2, 1948. It was then renamed *Pagasa*, by President Ramon Magsaysay, and again to *Santa Maria* by President Carlos P. Garcia, after his hometown.

In 1959, it was replaced by the new Presidential Yacht, the *Lapu-Lapu*, but continued to serve as the alternate yacht.

With the designation TK-21, it was renamed three times by President Diosdado Macapagal as the *Corregidor* (1963), *Pagasa* (1964), and *Incorruptible* (1965). However, the name was reverted to *Pagasa* (1966) and finally changed to *Mount Samat* by President Ferdinand E. Marcos in 1967.

The ship was decommissioned on September 21, 1993 and sunk off Sangley Point.

#### **THE LAPU-LAPU/ROXAS/THE PRESIDENT/PAG-ASA/ANG PANGULO (1959- )**

What is now known as the BRP *Ang Pangulo* was obtained during the administration of President Carlos P. Garcia as part of the war reparations given to the Philippines by Japan.

It was built at the Ishikawajima dry-docks in Tokyo, and was known then as Bow No. 77.

On July 16, 1958, its keel was laid at the Harume Yard, and the ship was launched on October 16 of the same year. Under the command of Lieutenant Commander Manuel Mandapat, its first commanding officer, sea trials were conducted on February 9 and 10, 1959. President Garcia designated it as the flagship of the Philippine Navy on February 14, 1959, and brought it to the Philippines on February 28, 1959. It was first named the RPS *Lapu-Lapu*, commissioned on March 7, 1959. The ship joined the Philippine Fleet in Manila on April 2, 1959.

It saw its first presidential engagement on April 7, 1959 and was sent on its first mission on April 19, 1959. It successfully completed a trade and cultural exposition at the ports of Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan on June 4, 1959. Since then, the ship was mainly used for relief, emergency search and rescue, patrol, auxiliary transport, and command-vessel purposes, above its duties to the president and his government.

On December 31, 1961, President Macapagal removed it as the flagship of the Philippine Navy. On October 9, 1962, the ship was renamed RPS *Roxas*, the first ship to be named in honor of a Philippine president. In trying to stay true to his platform of simplicity, President Macapagal never sailed on the ship and used a different ship for his sea-bound missions.

The ship was again renamed during the Marcos administration as RPS *The President*. It saw the most number of engagements during this administration. Reportedly the site of many lavish parties of the Marcos family, it served as a venue for entertaining VIP guests. Among the notable guests that the Marcoses entertained in the ship were British ballerina Margot Fonteyn, actress Brooke Shields, dancer Rudolf Nureyev, concert pianist Van Cliburn, and Cristina Ford, former wife of Henry Ford II, who was once chairman of Ford Motor Co. On January 11, 1967, President Marcos again renamed the ship, now christening it as the BRP *Ang Pangulo*. The Marcos administration also created a seal for the presidential yacht.



In May 2012, President Benigno S. Aquino III rode aboard the BRP *Ang Pangulo* to bring him to Corregidor Island, where he led the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Fall of Corregidor.

After the 1986 EDSA Revolution, President Corazon C. Aquino tried to do away with all the lavishness and extravagance of the previous administration. The ship was also costing the government P400,000 a month simply to maintain it. On September of 1986, President Aquino put the ship up for sale for \$5.5 million, but it was not sold. President Fidel V. Ramos, during his term, entertained Chinese President Jiang Zemin on this yacht.

When President Joseph Ejercito Estrada took office, he had the yacht extensively refurbished. The ship served as a venue for presidential events and as a mobile office for the President. On trips to Mindanao, President Estrada would sail using the yacht, functioning as a mobile Malacañang in the south.

In 2006, the Presidential Yacht caught on fire while it was undergoing repairs in a Batangas port. The ship reportedly incurred only minor damage. After refurbishing and repair, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, on March 6, 2009, again changed the name of the yacht to the BRP *Pag-Asa*.

President Benigno S. Aquino III rechristened the presidential yacht with its old name, the BRP *Ang Pangulo*. The yacht joined the Philippine Fleet, which includes the newly refurbished Hamilton-class Cutter named the BRP *Gregorio del Pilar*. In his speech during the christening, the President said that this ship would augment the capabilities of the Philippine Navy.



# NOVEMBER

The start of November is when we remember the dead—family and friends who've passed on but continue to remain a presence in our lives. It is timely that at the end of the month we celebrate Bonifacio Day, in honor of the Supremo of the Katipunan himself. In prewar and wartime days, Commonwealth Day, a national holiday, was also celebrated in November.

**MONTHLY  
OBSERVANCES**

**Homes Safety Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 115-A, s. 1966)*

**Library and Information  
Services Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 837, s. 1991)*

**Filipino Values Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 479, s. 1994)*

**Clean Air Month Through  
National Vehicle Inspection and  
Maintenance Consciousness**  
*(Proclamation No. 1109, s. 1997)*

**National Construction Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 115, s. 2001)*

**Filariasis Mass Treatment Month**  
*(Executive Order No. 369, s. 2004)*

**National Rice Awareness Month**  
*(Republic Act No. 524 of 2004)*

**Traditional and Alternative  
Health Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 698, s. 2004)*

**Malaria Awareness Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1168, s. 2006)*

**Philippine Book Development  
Month**  
*(Proclamation No. 1436, s. 2007)*

**National Consciousness Month  
for Punctuality and Civility**  
*(Proclamation No. 1638, s. 2008)*

**Environmental Awareness Month**  
*(Republic Act No. 9512 of 2008)*

**Deaf Awareness Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 829, s. 1991)*

**Global Warming and Climate  
Change Consciousness Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1667, s. 2008)*

**National Girls' Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 3, s. 1935)*

NOV 10-16

NOV 19-25

NOV 23-29

NOV 24-30

NOV 25- DEC 1

NOV 25-

DEC 12

2<sup>ND</sup> WEEK

3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK

4<sup>TH</sup> WEEK

LAST WEEK

LAST THURSDAY  
TO 1<sup>ST</sup> WEDNESDAY  
OF DECEMBER

3<sup>RD</sup> WEDNESDAY

LAST  
SATURDAY

**Population and Development  
Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 76, s. 1992)*

**National Book Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 109, s. 1936)*

**Social Welfare Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1205, s. 1973)*

**18-Day Campaign to End  
Violence against Women**  
*(Proclamation No. 1172, s. 2006)*

**National Skin Disease  
Detection and Prevention Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 110, s. 2001)*

**Drug Abuse Prevention and  
Control Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 124, s. 2001)*

**National Consciousness Week  
against Counterfeit Medicines**  
*(Proclamation No. 2082, s. 2010)*

**Safety and Accident  
Prevention Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 359, s. 1956)*

**Philatelic Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 622, s. 1969)*

**Food Science and  
Technology Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1206, s. 1973)*

**National Biotechnology Week**  
*(Proclamation No. 1414, s. 2007)*

**Mindanao Week of Peace**  
*(Proclamation No. 127, s. 2001)*

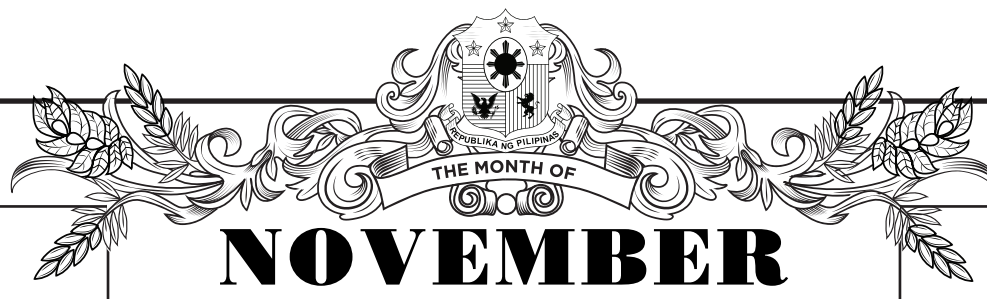
**Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary  
Disease Awareness Day**  
*(Proclamation No. 501, s. 2003)*

**Career Executive Service Day**  
*(Proclamation No. 1111, s. 2006)*

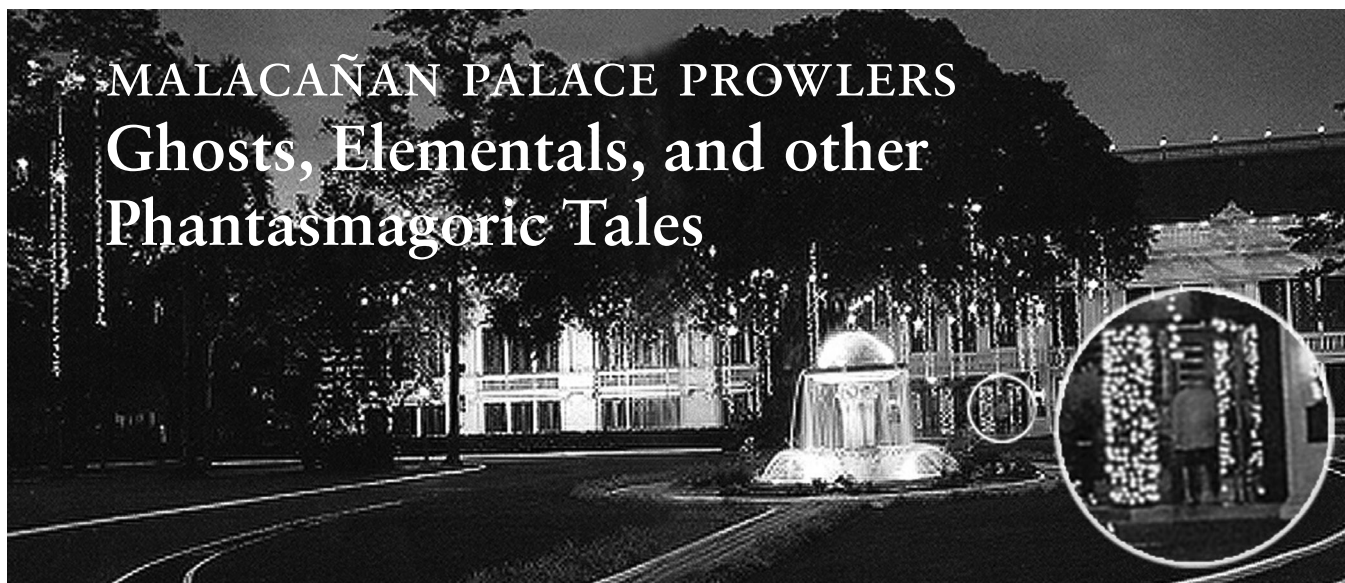
**Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary  
Disease Awareness Day**  
*(Proclamation No. 501, s. 2003)*

**Career Executive Service Day**  
*(Proclamation No. 1111, s. 2006)*





NOVEMBER 1



## MALACAÑAN PALACE PROWLERS Ghosts, Elementals, and other Phantasmagoric Tales

A prominent photo spread in the definitive *Malacañan Palace: The Official Illustrated History* features a panoramic view of the Palace's State Entrance, with the accompanying balet tree—and, it seems, the headless figure of one of the members of the Presidential Security Group. The image has sparked much speculation, feeding suspicions of the Palace being the ultimate haunted house—and prompting many of the book's owners to splay its pages open to visitors. However, when asked if he had truly captured a specter on film, photographer Wig Tysmans offered a simple explanation: long exposure. The now-immortalized security personnel must have held his pose throughout the exposure, only to move his head before it ended.

Despite more innocuous rationales, the Palace remains rife with such supposed hauntings. The conservative supposition of the probable age

of Malacañan Palace places its beginnings from 1746-1750. Being thus a structure so old and so laden with history—having gone through centuries' worth of residents, countless skirmishes, a handful of wars, reconstructions, and the myriad influences of culture—almost ensures the proliferation of ghost stories about the Palace. From sightings of mysterious faceless personages, to the mainstay kapre puffing away his cigar on the famous balet tree declared a National Heritage Tree in 2011; to the ghosts of dead Presidents roaming the state rooms and their househelp haunting the balconies and halls.

One other tale is of U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower, principal aide of Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur, when he was assigned an office in the Executive Building (in what is now the Presidential Broadcast Studio where Secretary Jesse M. Robredo's wake was held

in Kalayaan Hall) by President Manuel L. Quezon. After returning to Manila on a State Visit to President Carlos P. Garcia, he recounted that during his stay, a mysterious valet brought snacks to his room at midnight. Decades later, President Ferdinand E. Marcos would tell his children of a shadowed aide haunting the room the President used as his study, responding to neither summons nor the physical constraints of solid walls.

#### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of National Scientist  
Clare R. Baltazar (1927)

#### PROCLAMATION

★ All Saints Day  
(Republic Act No. 9492 of 2007)

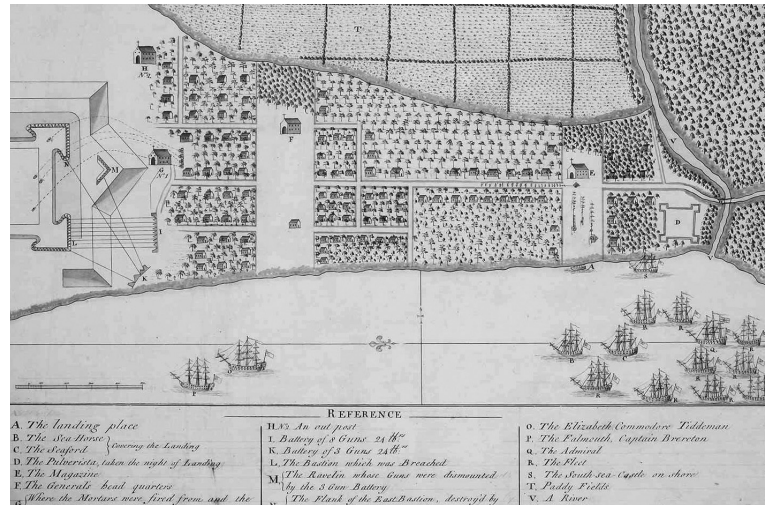
#### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Department of National Defense  
(Executive Order No. 230, s. 1939)



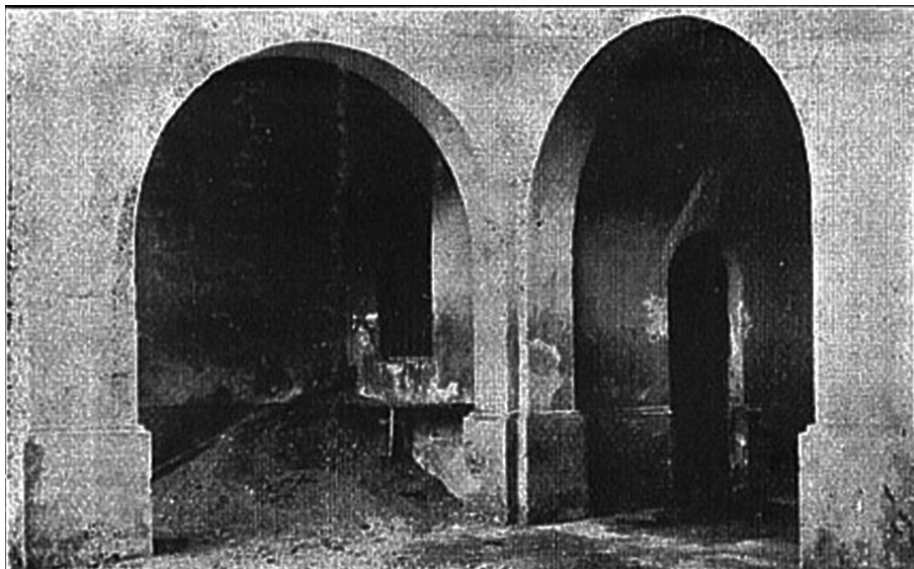
## NOVEMBER 2

In 1762, Rt. Hon. Dawsonne Drake from the British East India Company assumed office as the first and only British Governor of the Philippines during the British Occupation of Manila. His term was marked by quarrels among the British military officials.



The map showing the British attack on Manila in October 1762 leading to its possession by the British for two years.

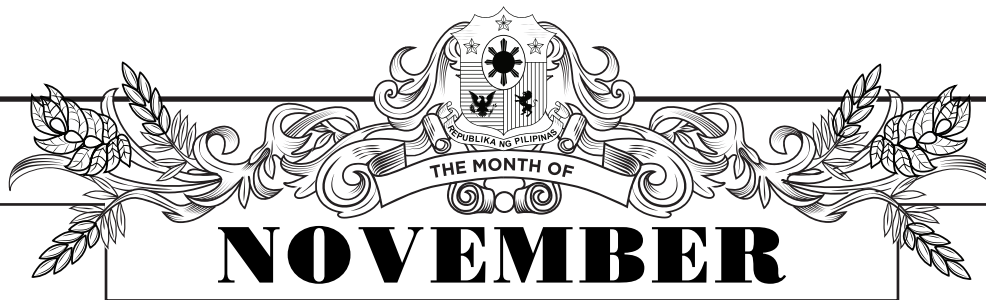
## NOVEMBER 3



Jose Rizal's cell in Fort Santiago.

In 1896, Dr. Jose Rizal arrived in Manila on board the transport *Colon* and was taken into custody in Fort Santiago.

**ANNIVERSARY**  
 Birth Anniversary of  
 National Scientist  
 Luz Oliveros-Belardo (1906)



NOVEMBER 4

## Birth anniversary of President Carlos P. Garcia

In 1896, Carlos P. Garcia, the eighth President of the Philippines and the fourth President of the Third Republic, was born. Garcia was instrumental in pressing the Philippine case in the United States for war damage claims arising from the Pacific War. A former schoolteacher and wartime guerrilla leader, he served as a governor of the province of Bohol, as well as Senator, before being elected Vice President in 1953. He was concurrently appointed Secretary of Foreign Affairs. Garcia succeeded Magsaysay as President after the latter's death, and was elected as President in his own right later that same year. Known for his austerity program, he popularized economic nationalism through the "Filipino First Policy." President Garcia is also remembered for being a poet and a keen chess player.

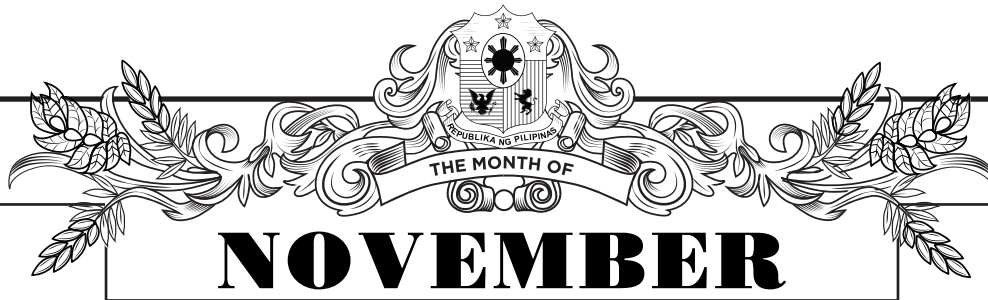


### TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1901, Seditious Law, Act No. 292, was passed by the Philippine Commission, led by five American intellectuals, to suppress public sentiment pushing for Philippine independence from the United States. It made the display of the Philippine flag illegal in the country. The law was repealed on October 24, 1919.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Artist Carlos V. Francisco (1912)



## NOVEMBER 5

In 1881, George Malcolm, American justice and Philippine law expert who founded the University of the Philippines (U.P.) College of Law in 1911, was born in Michigan, USA.



Malcolm Hall in University of the Philippines Law.

## NOVEMBER 6

In 1574, Rajah Lakandula, King of Tondo, and uncle of Soliman, led an uprising, protesting the Spaniards' ill-treatment of his countrymen.

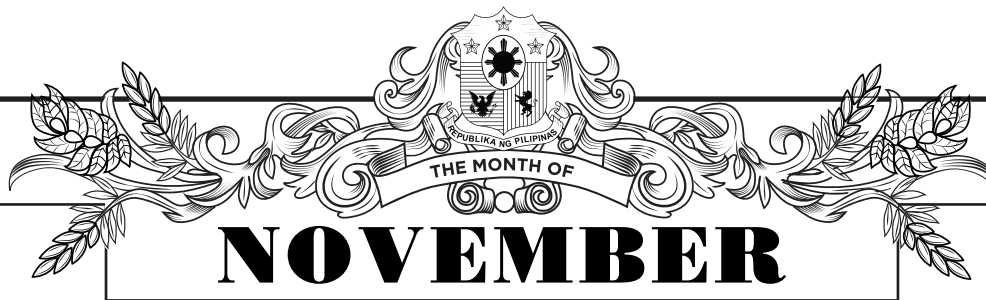
### ANNIVERSARIES

Death anniversary of President  
Jose P. Laurel (1959)

Birth anniversary of Speaker of the  
Batasang Pambansa  
Nicanor Yñiguez (1915)



The Order of Lakandula is the Order of Political and Civic Merit of the Republic, conferred in commemoration of the leadership, courage, and resolve of Rajah Lakandula. It is one of the Senior Honors of the Republic conferred by the President of the Philippines.



## NOVEMBER 7



The banner used by southern Negros revolutionaries in their three-day uprising (November 3 - 6, 1898) against the Spanish authorities, which resulted in the establishment of the Canton de Isla de Negros.

In 1898, the liberators of Negros promulgated a constitution and established a provisional revolutionary government, the Republic of Negros, with Aniceto Lacson as President and Juan Araneta as Secretary of War.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of National Scientist  
Edgardo D. Gomez (1938)

### PROCLAMATION

National Food Fortification Day  
(Executive Order 382, s. 2004)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Metro Manila Development Authority  
(Presidential Decree No. 824, s. 1975)

## NOVEMBER 8



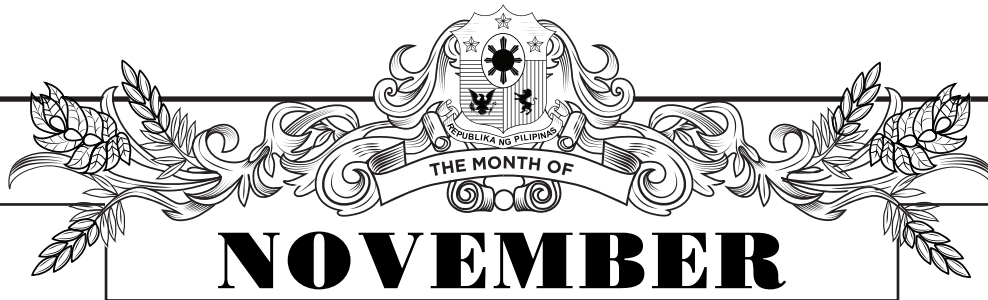
The devastation caused by Typhoon Yolanda.

In 2013, Typhoon Yolanda (internationally known as Haiyan) made landfall at Guiuan, Eastern Samar. Due to the massive destruction and immense effects of the typhoon, the President Benigno S. Aquino III issued Proclamation No. 682, s. 2013, declaring a state of calamity. It is considered the most powerful storm to make landfall in recorded history.

### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of Chief  
Justice and Speaker of the Interim  
Batasang Pambansa  
Querube C. Makalintal (2002)

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## NOVEMBER 9

In 1937, the Institute of National Language (now Komisyon ng Wikang Filipino) recommended Tagalog to be the basis of the national language.



### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of National Scientist Teodoro A. Agoncillo (1912)

The Institute of National Language during 1950s.

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## NOVEMBER 10



Battle of Binakayan-Dalahican Monument at Kawit, Cavite.

In 1896, Katipunan general, Candido Tirona, died in the Battle of Binakayan-Dalahican of the Philippine Revolution against Spain, after having been stabbed in the neck by a Spanish soldier.

REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**NOVEMBER**

NOVEMBER 11



An election campaign ad for the Nacionalista Party placed in the November 5, 1941 issue of *The Tribune*. President Manuel L. Quezon and Vice President Sergio Osmeña, running for re-election, led the Party.

In 1941, Manuel L. Quezon and Sergio Osmeña were re-elected President and Vice President of the Philippines, respectively, in the Second Commonwealth election.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

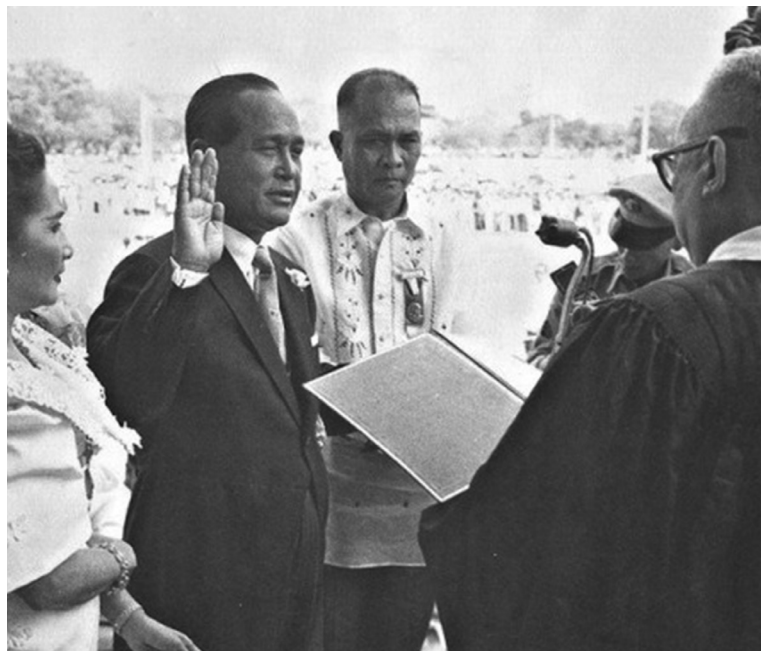
Birthday of National Scientist  
**Gavino C. Trono (1931)**  
Birthday of Vice President  
**Jejomar C. Binay (1942)**

**PROCLAMATION**

**Puerto Princesa Underground  
River Day**  
(Proclamation No. 816, s. 2014)

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

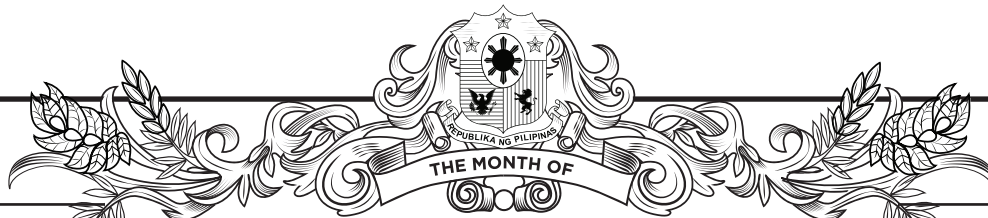
**Securities and Exchange Commission**  
(Commonwealth Act No. 83 of 1936)



The second inauguration of President Carlos P. Garcia at the Independence Grandstand (what is now known as the Quirino Grandstand).

NOVEMBER 12

In 1957, Nacionalista Party standard-bearer Carlos P. Garcia was re-elected President of the Philippines, edging out main contenders former Speaker Jose Yulo (Liberal Party), Manuel Manahan (Progressive Party of the Philippines), and Senator Claro M. Recto (Nationalist Citizens' Party)

  
**NOVEMBER**

**NOVEMBER 13**

In 1899, during the Philippine-American War, President Emilio Aguinaldo and his aides retreated towards Northern Luzon to escape the Americans. He left Bayambang with his staff and with a force under the command of General Gregorio del Pilar. In a final stand, General del Pilar would be killed in the defense of the President at the Battle of Tirad Pass on December 2, 1899.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of Speaker of the House of Representatives Eugenio P. Perez (1896)

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

National Bureau of Investigation (Commonwealth Act No. 181 of 1936)



This map of Luzon between the Pampango River and Lingayen Bay shows the position of several columns of American troops who are said to have surrounded Aguinaldo.

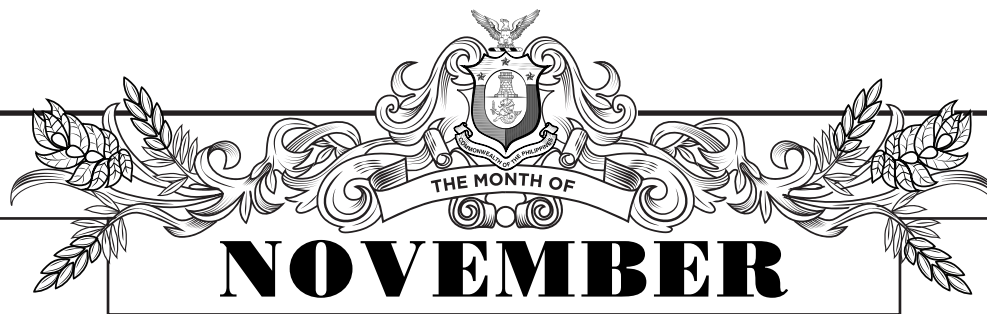
**NOVEMBER 14**



In 1875, the “Boy General” Gregorio del Pilar—one of the youngest generals of the Philippine Revolution—was born in Bulacan. The flagship of the Philippine Navy was named after him.

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

Dangerous Drugs Board (Republic Act No. 6425 of 1972)



NOVEMBER 15

## Inauguration of the Commonwealth of the Philippines

In 1935, the Filipino people took the penultimate step to independence with the inauguration of the Commonwealth of the Philippines. Two months prior, on September 16, a million Filipinos had trooped to the polls to elect their two highest officials – the President and Vice President. This was the first time in the history of the nation that a Filipino would sit as Chief Executive and hold office in Malacañan Palace.

It was not until the Jones Law of 1916 that the pledge of eventual independence was made. The Jones Law led to the creation of an all-Filipino legislature composed of the Philippine Senate and House of Representatives. In 1931, the OsRox Mission (OsRox stands for “Osmeña and Roxas”) successfully lobbied for the enactment of the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act, which was passed over President Herbert Hoover’s veto in 1932. This was, however, rejected by the Philippine Legislature. In 1934, a new mission (the QuAQuAl Mission, made up of Quezon, Benigno Aquino Sr., and Rafael Alunan) negotiated the Tydings-McDuffie, or the Philippine Independence Act, which set a ten-year transition period to be known as the Commonwealth of the Philippines.



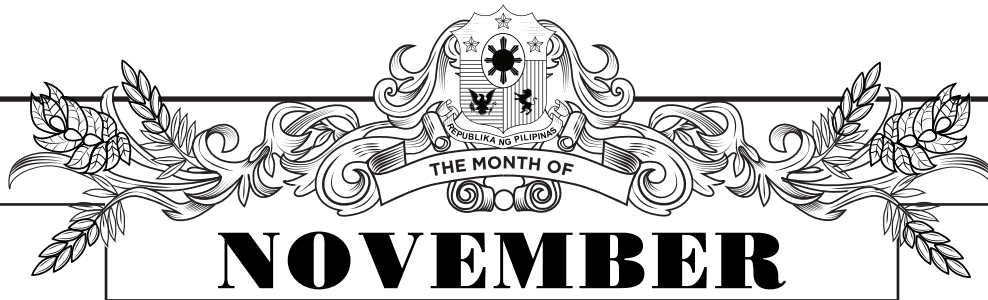
President Manuel L. Quezon delivering his inaugural address.

The Tydings-McDuffie Act established the parameters for the preparatory period. Some powers of supervision were reserved to the United States, as well as foreign diplomacy and currency. In all other respects, the Philippines became self-governing. The Commonwealth was the culmination of efforts to

secure the withdrawal of American sovereignty over the Philippines.

**ANNIVERSARY**  
Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Leandro V. Locsin (1994)



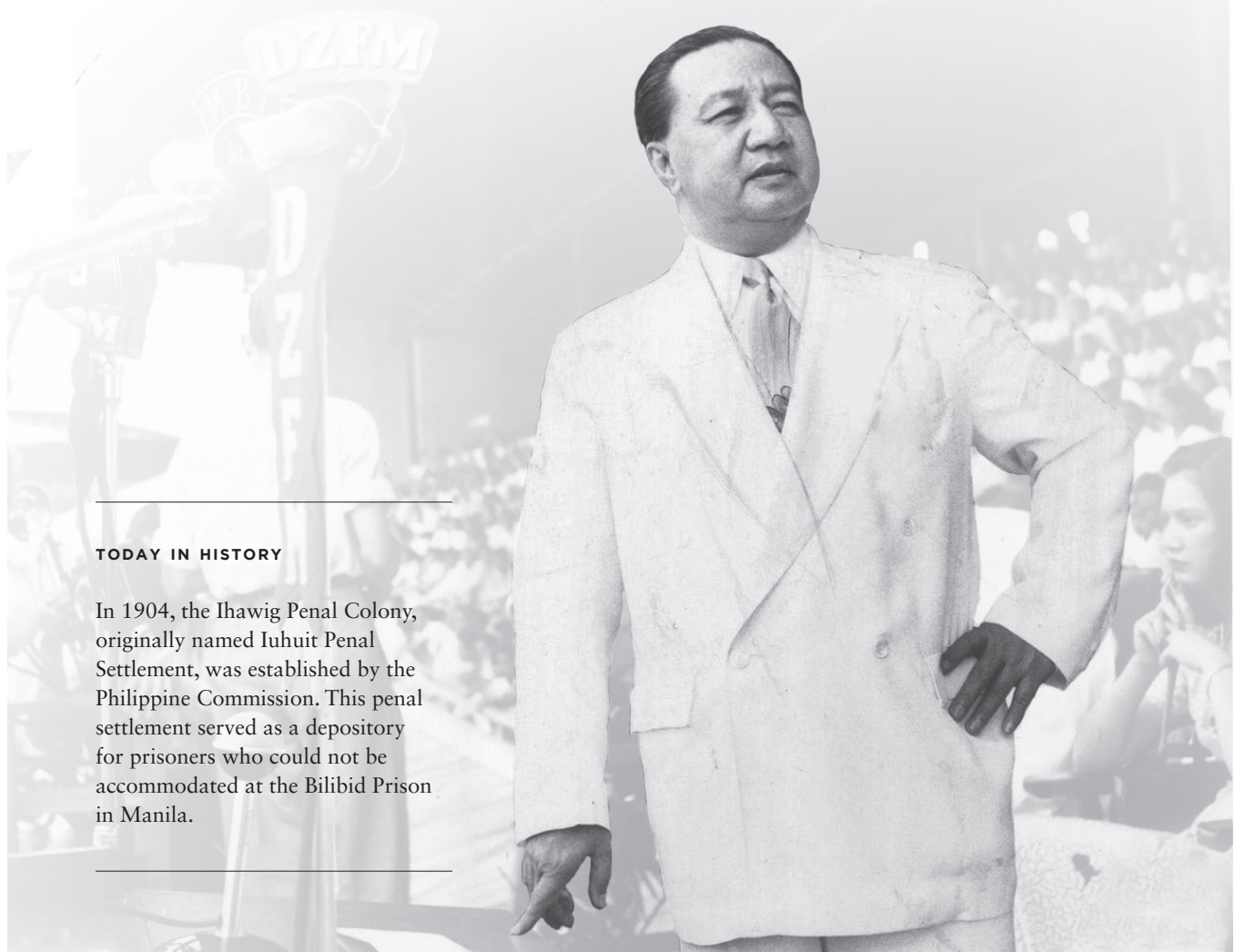


NOVEMBER 16

## Birth anniversary of President Elpidio Quirino

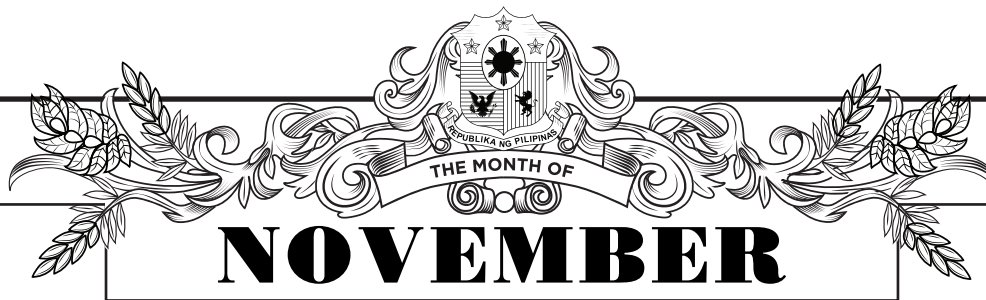
In 1890, Elpidio Quirino, the sixth President of the Philippines and the second President of the Third Republic, was born in Vigan, Ilocos Sur. Quirino was a practicing lawyer until he was elected as a member of the House of Representatives in 1919, and in 1925, Senator. He collaborated with President Manuel L. Quezon in securing the passage of the Tydings-McDuffie Act in the United States Congress in 1934. After serving with the Constitutional Convention of the same year, he became

Secretary of Finance and then of the Interior in the Commonwealth Government. After the war, in which most of his immediate family were massacred, he was elected Vice President, serving as the first Secretary of Foreign Affairs in the Roxas administration, and becoming President after Roxas' sudden death in 1948. Quirino saw his mission as restoring the people's faith in government, as well as solving problems of agrarian unrest.

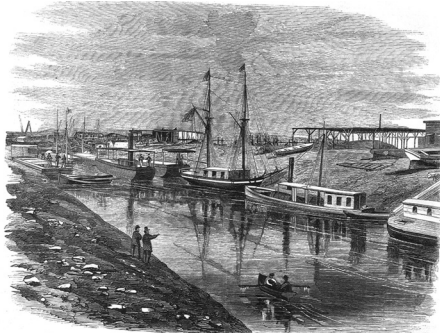


### TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1904, the Ihawig Penal Colony, originally named Iuhuit Penal Settlement, was established by the Philippine Commission. This penal settlement served as a depository for prisoners who could not be accommodated at the Bilibid Prison in Manila.


  
 THE MONTH OF  
**NOVEMBER**

**NOVEMBER 17**



An illustration of the Suez Canal.

In 1869, the opening of the Suez Canal enabled the Philippines to have direct commercial relations with Spain instead of via Mexico. It shortened ship travel time from the Philippines to Spain to 30 days and thus enabled many Filipinos to go to Europe to further their studies.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Birth anniversary of  
National Scientist  
Dioscoro L. Umali (1917)

Birth anniversary of  
National Scientist  
Jose Encarnacion Jr. (1928)

**NOVEMBER 18**

In 1899, with the Filipino forces overcome by the military strength of the Americans in the Philippine-American War, President Emilio Aguinaldo authorized all Filipino units across the archipelago to implement guerilla warfare against the Americans.



U.S. troops moving into the backcountry in the war against Filipino forces.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Birth anniversary of Vice President  
Salvador Laurel (1928)

**NOVEMBER 19**

In 1595, King Philip II of Spain issued a royal decree that declared Manila the capital of the Philippine archipelago. The decree granted Manila the powers and privileges of all capital cities in the Spanish Empire.

**PROCLAMATION**

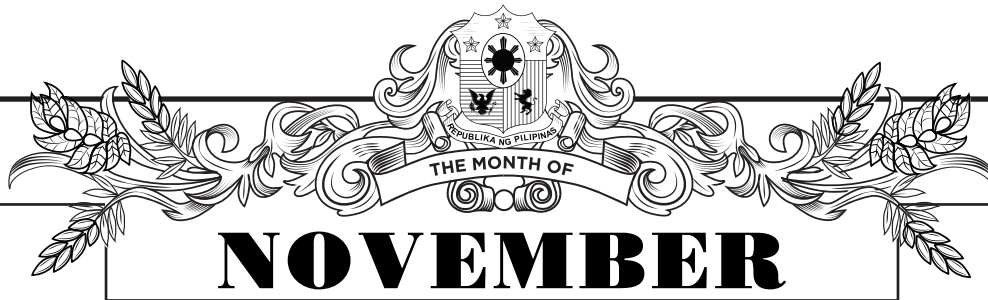
National Child Health Day  
(Proclamation No. 100, s. 1948)

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao  
(Republic Act No. 6734 of 1989)



Portrait of King Philip II of Spain by Sofonisba Anguissola.



## NOVEMBER 20

In 1645, the Colegio de Santo Tomas became a university. It was therefore renamed as the University of Santo Tomas.



Plaza Benavides of University of Santo Tomas in Intramuros.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of Chief Justice

**Felix V. Makasiar (1915)**

Birthday of National Artist

**Arturo R. Luz (1926)**

Death anniversary of Chief Justice

**Pedro Yap (2003)**



This fine painting in naive style, by an anonymous and likely Filipino artist, formerly hung in the Royal Palace in Intramuros, and afterwards in Malacañan Palace.

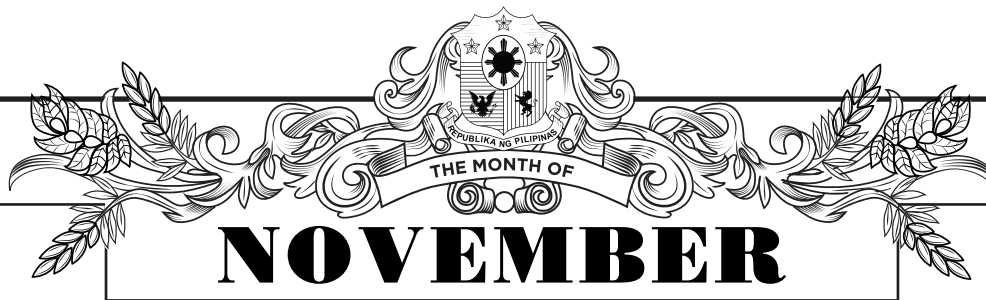
## NOVEMBER 21

In 1849, Spanish Governor-General Narciso Claveria decreed the printing of *Catalogo alfabetico de apellidos*, which systematically assigned surnames to Filipinos so as to avoid confusion and duplication of names.

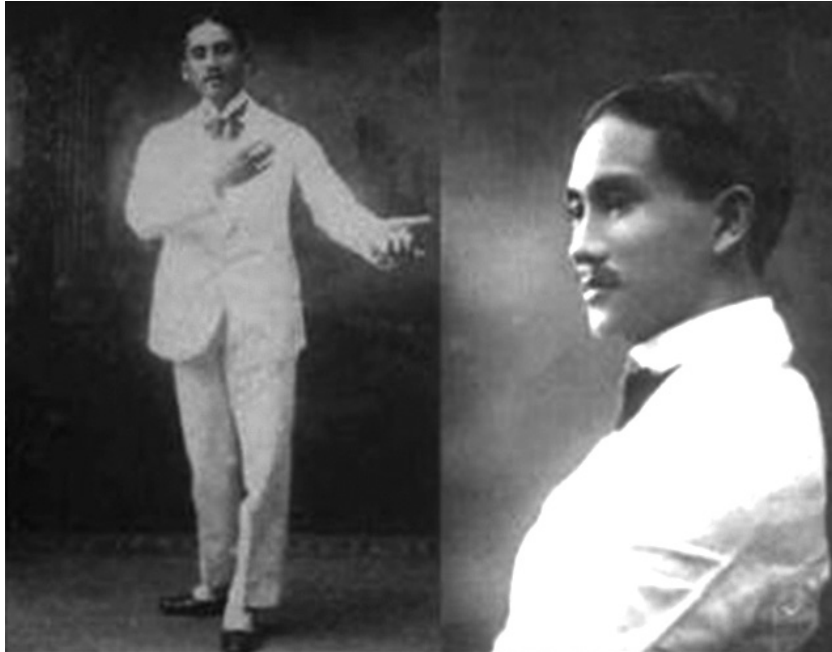
### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Artist

**Francisca R. Aquino (1983)**



## NOVEMBER 22



In 1896, Jose Corazon de Jesus, Tagalog poet, King of Balagtas and popularly known as “Huseng Batute” was born. He died on May 26, 1932.

## NOVEMBER 23

In 1970, the Philippines garnered five top awards in the 8th International Children’s Art exhibition in Japan, sponsored by UNESCO Art Education League of Japan.



UNESCO Convention on Cultural Property.

NOVEMBER 24



Spanish-Filipino civilians on the Manila-Dagupan line. It was called *Ferrocarril de Manila a Dagupan*.

In 1892, the first railroad line in the Philippines was opened. It covered a distance of 195.4 kilometers from Manila to Dagupan.

**ANNIVERSARY**  
 Birth anniversary of National Scientist Eduardo A. Quisumbing (1895)

NOVEMBER 25

In 1901, *La Democracia*, the organ of the Federal party published the Royal Decree of 1751 on the usurpation of Indian lands by Friars. The copy of the Royal Decree was furnished by Hugo Salazar, a native of Luzon, educated as a pharmacist, prominent in the Federal party during 1901-1904, and in 1903-1904, governor of Surigao province. It was printed with accompanying comments written by him under the pen-name "Ambut."



A copy of *La Democracia* found in Negros Museum.

REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**NOVEMBER**

NOVEMBER 26

In 2012, President Benigno S. Aquino III conferred on the late Secretary Jesse M. Robredo the Quezon Service Cross. Secretary Robredo was the sixth recipient of the Quezon Service Cross, which is the highest award the Republic can bestow on a citizen. It was given to him for his life's work, through which he, according to President Benigno S. Aquino III, "showed all our countrymen how true public servants must act—with the Filipino people always foremost in mind, regardless of personal cost or danger."



The late Secretary Jesse M. Robredo was posthumously conferred the Quezon Service Cross; the award was received by his widow, Atty. Leni G. Robredo. Secretary Robredo is the sixth recipient of the award since its creation in 1946.

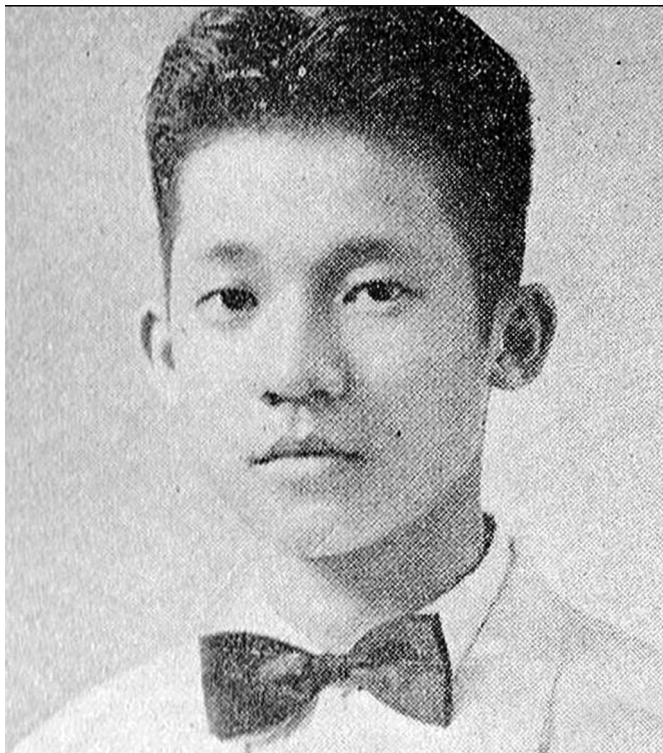
**ANNIVERSARIES**

Death anniversary of  
National Artist

Jose Maria V. Zaragoza (1994)

NOVEMBER 27

In 1932, the late Senator Benigno "Ninoy" S. Aquino, Jr. was born to Benigno S. Aquino, Sr. and Aurora A. Aquino, in Concepcion, Tarlac. Senator Aquino was the main opposition leader of the President Ferdinand E. Marcos regime, and a serious contender of President Marcos in influence. He was assassinated on the tarmac of Manila International Airport (now Ninoy Aquino International Airport) in 1983.

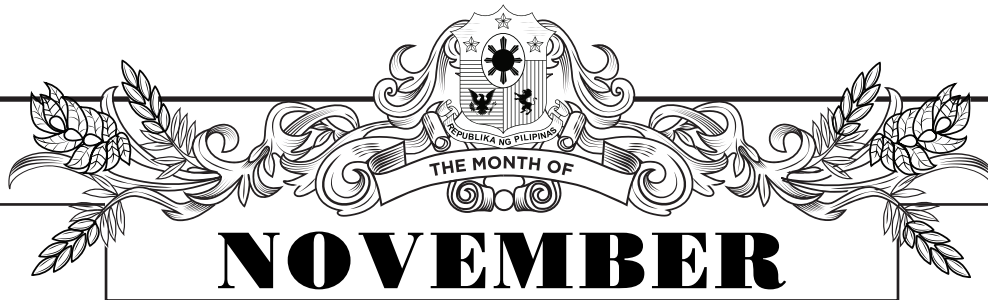


Senator Benigno "Ninoy" S. Aquino, Jr.'s high school graduation picture.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Birth anniversary of National Scientist  
Fe Del Mundo (1911)

Death anniversary of Chief Justice  
Claudio Teehankee Sr. (1989)



Ferdinand Magellan.

## NOVEMBER 28

In 1520, in the search for another route to the Spice Islands, Ferdinand Magellan's expedition reached a vast and calm sea and christened it "Mar Pacifico," which means "Peaceful Sea" in Portuguese. Hence, its name—Pacific Ocean.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday of Senate President

Franklin M. Drilon (1945)

Death anniversary of National Artist

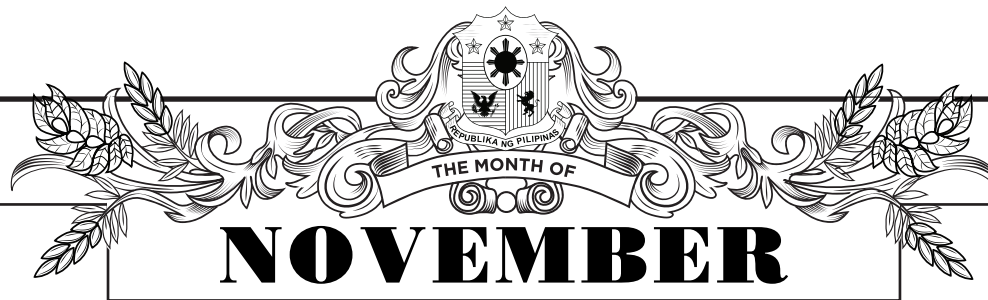
N.V.M. Gonzales (1999)

## NOVEMBER 29

In 1935, the *China Clipper*, the first trans-Pacific flight, arrived in Manila.



The *China Clipper* en route to Manila after a 7 day 1,191-mile flight from San Francisco.



NOVEMBER 30

## Bonifacio Day

In 1863, Andres Bonifacio, Supremo and founder of the Kataastaasan Kagalanggalangang Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan (Katipunan), was born in Tondo, Manila. The eldest of six children in the family, his parents died of illness when he was 14 years of age. He took upon himself the burden of the family by making use of his craftsmanship in making paper fans and canes and sustaining the family financially. Bonifacio never finished schooling but was self-learned, having read *Les Miserables*, *Les Juif Errant* and the two Rizalian novels *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo*.

Inspired by Dr. Jose Rizal's ideas, Bonifacio planned of creating a secret organization for revolution against Spain as early as January 1892. When Rizal was exiled to Dapitan after he founded the reformist organization La Liga Filipina, Bonifacio inaugurated the Katipunan in a secret council at the house in No. 72 Azcarraga Street in Manila. The Katipunan would be the first nationalist revolutionary movement in Asia, drawing members from all classes of society. It was the catalyst for the outbreak of the Philippine Revolution on August 1896.

#### PROCLAMATION

- Bonifacio Day  
(Act No. 2946 of 1921)



The only known photograph of Andres Bonifacio, dated 1896, is housed in the Archivo General de Indias in Seville, Spain.

#### ANNIVERSARIES

- Birth anniversary of Vice President **Emmanuel Pelaez (1915)**
- Birthday of National Scientist **Teodoro M. Topacio (1924)**
- Birth anniversary of Chief Justice **Andres Narvasa (1928)**
- Death anniversary of Manlilikha ng Bayan **Masino Intaray (2013)**





Bonifacio Monument in Caloocan

# The Bonifacio Monument

In Caloocan City, four major thoroughfares ring a soaring monument of granite and bronze—a memorial to Andres Bonifacio, the emblematic father of the Philippine Revolution and once the president of the Supreme Council of the Katipunan.

The monument has stood for 80 years—first as a solitary rise in the expanse of Caloocan, and over the years a lynchpin for the city’s landscape to form around. It has lent its very name to the area now dotted by establishments that had once almost furtively crept toward it, and which now threaten to tower over its Winged Victory perched forty-five feet from the ground. Glancing at the monument enveloped in the shadows cast by these new and ever-newer

buildings, pedestrians and commuters circle around it, barely looking up, even as those in vehicles consider it more an obstacle than a landmark. The Bonifacio Monument, imposing yet graceful, thus manages to both serve as gateway and landmark to the thousands that traverse it, and yet fades into the scenery for those who’ve seen it far too often.

For those who passionately argue that Bonifacio has suffered the double-edged sword that is martyrdom-by-history, the Bonifacio Monument likewise attests to the drawback a prominent memorial represents. The symbolism resonates: The nominal hero of the masses, the plebeian idealist, the revolutionary from Tondo, standing still in the midst of the hustle and bustle of the



city—his gaze forever fixed on the length of Avenida Rizal, the old road leading back to Manila—indistinguishable in the background, unmistakable yet obscure.

\* \* \*

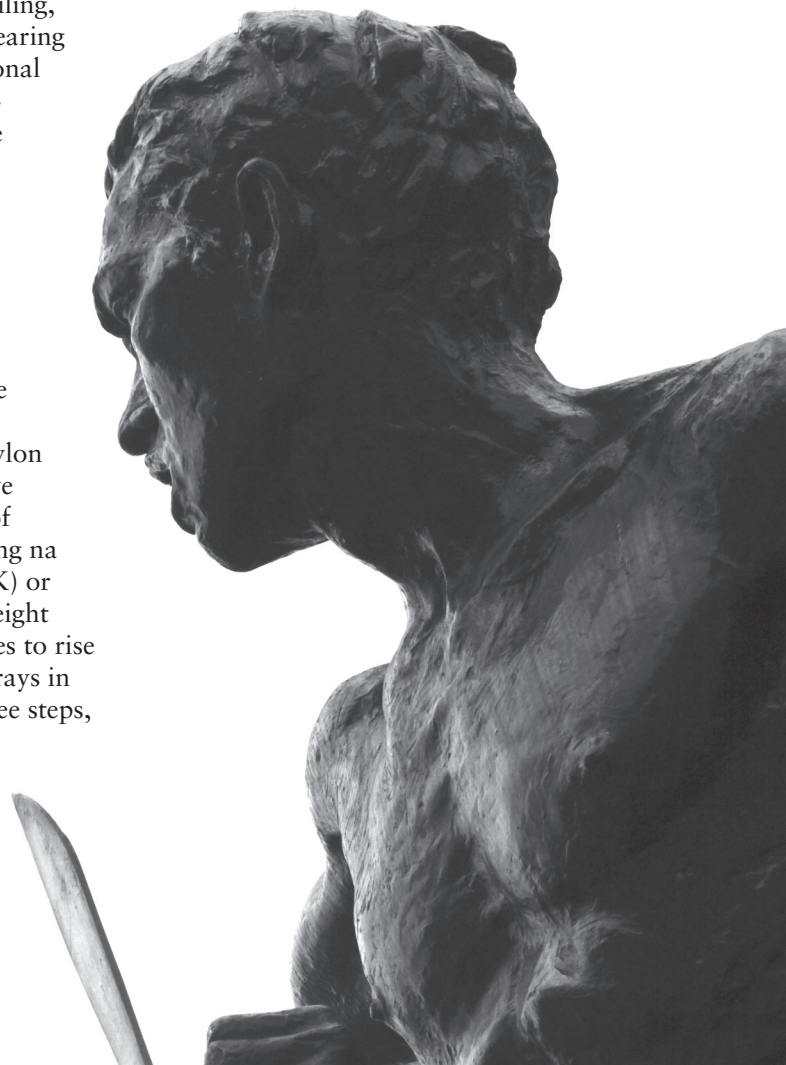
“The Bonifacio Monument,” Architect and historian Paolo Alcazaren writes, “was intended to sit at its site specifically to commemorate the historic spark ignited there and that led to the culminating events of 1898.” Moreover, the site was a perfect counterpoint to the monument of Rizal in Luneta: The two leading figures of the Philippines’ emancipation from Spain would bracket Manila—the national man of letters down South by the sea, and the father of the Philippine revolution up North—not unlike sentries.

The rationale for the memorial’s location would be just one of the many details honed to capture the narrative of the Philippine Revolution—and the very story of the Philippines’ crusade for independence. From conception to unveiling, the Bonifacio Monument—an obelisk bearing 23 figures cast in bronze, atop an octagonal base with an eight-rayed sun; with a 45-foot tall pylon bearing the winged figure of Victory; covering an area of 200sqm at the time of its unveiling—is a precise symbol, every element imbued with meaning. The sculptor’s notes on his design described it thusly: “The main component of the monument is a 45-foot pylon topped by the winged figure of Victory. At its base, on a platform-like structure are the figures underlining the various causes of the Revolution. The pylon or obelisque (obelisk) is composed of five parts corresponding to the five aspects of the society, Kataastaasan, Kagalanggalang na Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan (KKK) or Katipunan. The base is an octagon, the eight sides standing for the first eight provinces to rise against Spain, also represented as eight rays in the Katipunan flag. The base rises in three steps, each step alluding to each century of Spanish rule.”

The very pools of water that surround the central obelisk were a nod to Rizal’s comparison of the Filipino temper to water—vital, its mien ever-changing, raging when

provoked, an “elemental force,” which was among the motifs used in his *El Filibusterismo*: “That water is very mild and can be drunk, but that it drowns out the wine and beer and puts out the fire, that heated it becomes steam, and that ruffled it is the ocean, that it once destroyed mankind and made the earth tremble to its foundations!”

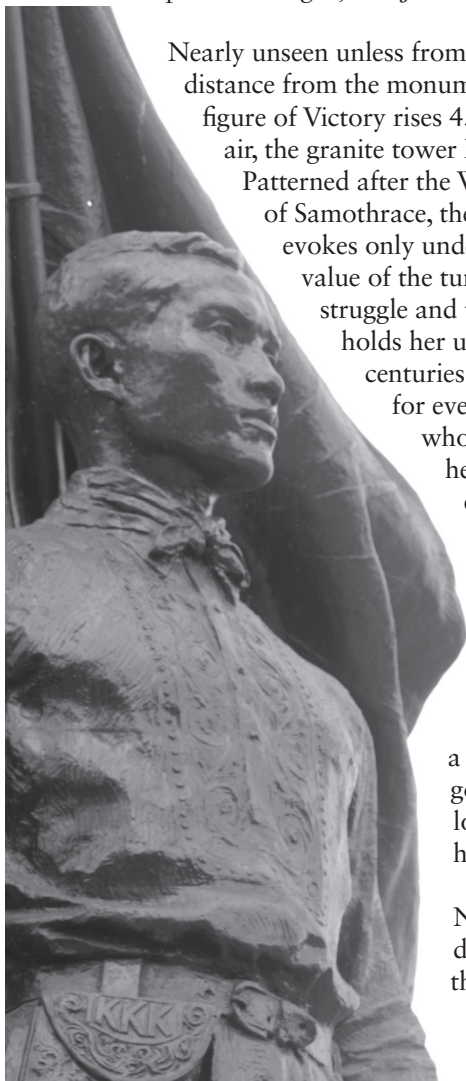
And so the pockets of water would serve as a reminder of this elemental nature of the Filipino; the sun with its eight rays was an ever-loyal nod to the first eight provinces that rose up against Spain; the bronze figures were frozen in tableaux that embodied all those sparks that would ultimately set afire the long-suppressed yearning for liberty. Even the very steps that led to the monument were meant to allude to the centuries of Spanish rule. Every step, then, that one took toward Bonifacio and all that he stood for was to effectively rise against oppression by foreign rule.





The keenness to imbue every element with meaning and allusion was in keeping with Tolentino's training as a classical sculptor. Guillermo Tolentino—who would become a National Artist for Sculpture—was at the time an established figure in the arts, having been appointed a professor at the University of the Philippines School of Fine Arts upon his return from the the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Rome. His style, honed in Europe, was of classical realism, and he would remain a staunch and vocal champion of the movement.

If the tableaux in the Rizal monument are static and sparse, those in the Bonifacio Monument are imbued with energy and emotion. Each figure is modeled with classical perfection in composition, but charged with the fierce sentiments of a romanticist—and all of them fashioned with a realist's careful and conscientious attention to detail. Emilio Jacinto's face is frozen in a battle-cry right behind Bonifacio; on the other side of the obelisk are the priests Mariano Gómez, José Apolonio Burgos, and Jacinto Zamora.



Nearly unseen unless from a considerable distance from the monument, the winged figure of Victory rises 45 feet in the air, the granite tower her pedestal.

Patterned after the Winged Victory of Samothrace, the triumph it evokes only underscores the value of the tumult and the struggle and the fury that holds her up. That in the centuries of subjugation, for every mother who had held her dead child, every laborer who defiantly tore proof of Spain's ownership, for every boy from Tondo who dared form a nation—the goddess of Victory looked on. We had won.

Nothing demonstrates this—the claiming

of the Monument and the Hero for a nation once more on the threshold of independence—better than the marker at the foot of Bonifacio's statue: cast in the same enduring bronze, in the various codes of the Katipunan, with exhortations not in English or Spanish, but the Tagalog wielded by Bonifacio as every bit as powerful a weapon as the bolos, rifles, and handguns of the Katipuneros. Literally a codex—it is a proclamation, enduring, inscrutable except to those to whom the words were originally addressed: the Filipinos. Decoded, it is Bonifacio's proclamation of August 28th, two days before he led the attack at San Juan del Monte—the first real battle of the Philippine revolution:

*Bonifacio's Proclamation of August 28, 1896, translated into English by Teodoro A. Agoncillo and S.V. Epistola: This manifesto is for all of you: It is absolutely necessary for us to stop at the earliest possible time the nameless oppressions being perpetrated on the sons of the country who are now suffering the brutal punishment and tortures in jails, and because of this please let all the brethren know that on Saturday, the 29th of the current month, the revolution shall commence according to our agreement. For this purpose it is necessary for all towns to rise simultaneously and attack Manila at the same time. Anybody who obstructs this sacred ideal of the people will be considered a traitor and an enemy, except if he is ill or is not physically fit, in which case he shall be tried according to the regulations we have put in force. — Mount of Liberty, 28th August 1896, Andres Bonifacio.*

The structure is undoubtedly anchored on Andres Bonifacio—in the midst the tumult of these tableaux portraying the agonizing struggle for Philippine independence was a Bonifacio standing tall and serene, his gaze cast toward Old Manila. The Bonifacio of Tolentino was imbued with classical meaning, expressing almost no emotion—a cool, calculating, stoical leader in the thick of battle. Not deaf to the horrors and rage that surrounded him, but drawing strength from it all, held in a calm center. Napoleon Abueva, a student of Tolentino, offers an alternative interpretation: that Bonifacio's quiet dignity and confidence evokes the resilient spirit of Filipinos.



And so here, at what was once the entrance to Manila before the era of the expressway, stands a calm Bonifacio, dressed in an embroidered Barong Tagalog and knotted kerchief, with a bolo in one hand, a revolver in the other, surrounded by Jacinto and two other Katipuneros, symbolizing the Cry of Pugad Lawin. Guillermo Tolentino's work on Bonifacio was the culmination of extensive research and consultations not just with Bonifacio's living contemporaries, but also with the occult through seances and espiritistas. Tolentino modelled the figure's bone structure after Bonifacio's surviving younger sister Espiridiona. Tolentino's classical realist aesthetic has, perhaps, given us a Bonifacio so unlike the volatile man of action that has bled into our collective psyche—but was nonetheless the best approximation of the man so few could ever define so accurately.

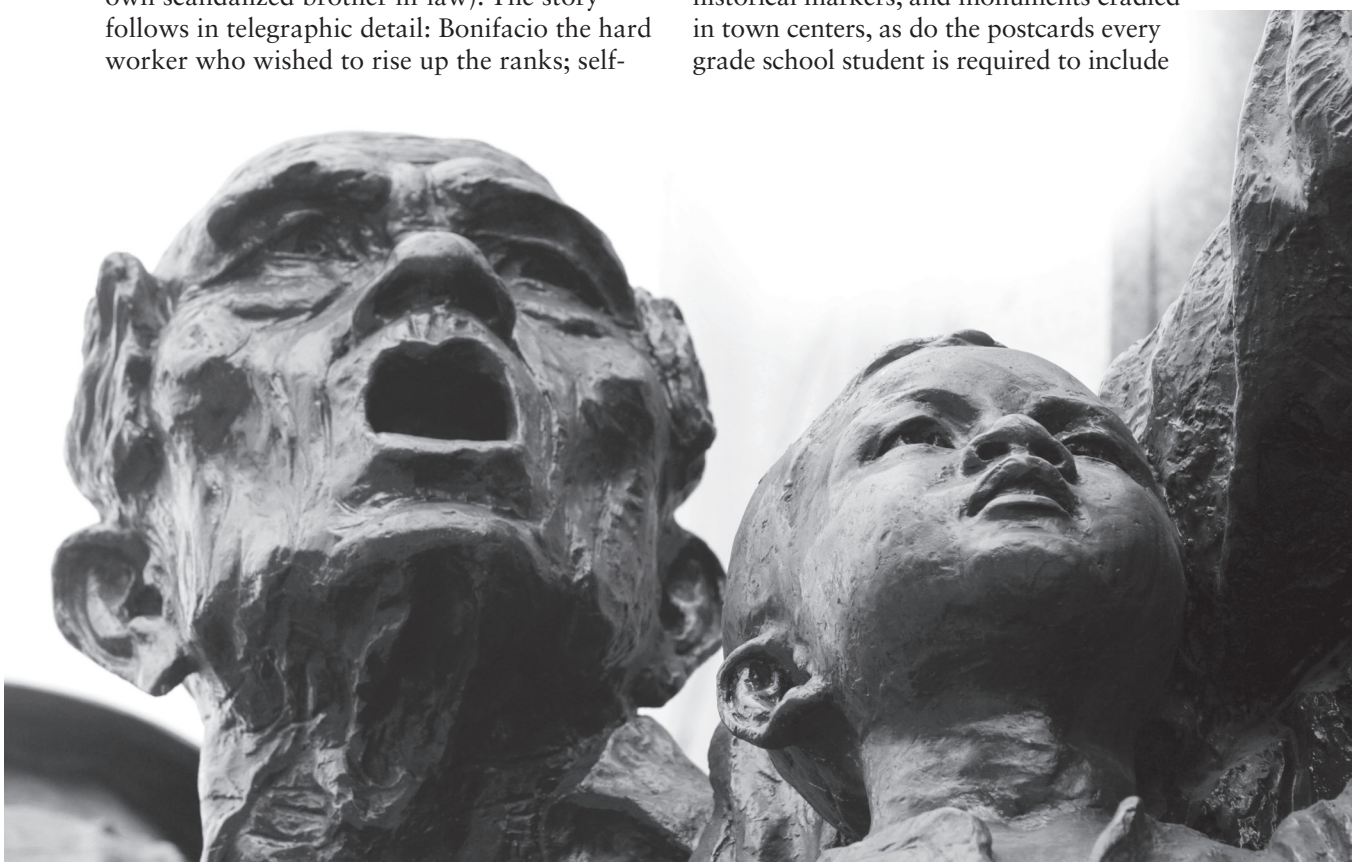
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The biographies of the man who would found the Katipunan trace his 33 years in a short, terse, faithful rote: A man of humble beginnings who wanted more from life—this, unfortunately, in a rigid society that frowned upon such audacious ambition (how we forget the rejection he faced from the family of his second wife, or the protestations against revolution of his own scandalized brother-in-law). The story follows in telegraphic detail: Bonifacio the hard worker who wished to rise up the ranks; self-

taught, with a desire to be a great thinker, to be ilustrado in spirit—he read the great French novels, we learned; admired Rizal; and would himself pen stirring manifestos and rousing nationalist poetry. More importantly, we are told, his ambition did not end with himself. Disgruntled by the status quo—the seeming futility of simply desiring more under Spanish rule, with its insistence on class divides and the superiority of the foreign race—Bonifacio formed and led the Katipunan, a secret society whose sole aim was to overthrow three centuries of subjugation to Spain.

The Katipunan, for Bonifacio, was something that the country direly needed; for the Katipunan was action. It was to be more than the stirrings of dissatisfaction, more than mere grumbling; it was more than mere response, more than the willingness to risk life and limb because of the cause. The Katipunan was committing one's self fully to the cause. For Bonifacio, the Katipunan was going to do something that would liberate the people, proudly reclaim what was truly ours, and in the process—consciously for its founder or otherwise—build a nation independent in thought, word, and deed.

Our history books catalog the doings of this Bonifacio spurred into action—as do countless historical markers, and monuments cradled in town centers, as do the postcards every grade school student is required to include





in a scrapbook of Philippine history: the President of the Supreme Council at the head of a defiant crowd in the then-wilderness of Caloocan (of whose composition we can forever catch a glimpse through the testimony of Guillermo Masangkay), leading the tearing of the sacred cedula—the diminutive piece of paper that proved that one was a subject of Spain. And then here we have Bonifacio with his bolo thrust forward—what could be nobler than a revolution equipped with nothing more than crude blades and the frenzied thirst for freedom—leading the charge. Here, too, is the Bonifacio painted vividly, even luridly, in the national memory: The red pantaloons of the Katipunan gleaming in the night skirmishes, the indio face scorned by the conquerors forever frozen in the battle-cry for liberty. Our collective memory has successfully immortalized this boy from Tondo: Bonifacio the noble, Bonifacio the indignant, Bonifacio the defiant, ever the proud “Pangulo Nang Haring-Bayang Katagalugan.”

The Bonifacio Monument sought to capture all that—and it was built, it must be said, as much as an act of posthumous vindication, even rehabilitation, as it was intended to be a symbolic place of interment for a Supremo whose mortal remains were lost to history: for it, too, fulfills the role of a particular memorial, the symbolic resting place for one whose bones are lost to posterity.

Monuments are meant to capture a greatness precisely because they are forged to stand in defiance of the passage of time, of the reputations assigned by trends in historiography, and of the caprices of popular fashion. From the late 1990s onward, the government of Caloocan City would paint the eight-rayed sun a deep yellow, and the

octagonal base that surrounded it a red-brown meant to simulate brick. The punch of color would only underscore the stateliness of the granite-and-bronze that lay at its heart. Numerous attempts have been made to entirely move the monument—to Fort Bonifacio, to Luneta close to Rizal’s own memorial (where, in the twilight of his life, Emilio Aguinaldo dreamed his own monument would stand), to the northern district of Caloocan. These numerous proposals have been rejected—in preservation of historical importance, of national art, of the wholeness of Tolentino’s aesthetic and nationalist vision, of what the historian Simon Schama terms “landscape and memory.”

It is Guillermo Tolentino’s memorial—rich in symbolism, imbued, not with false gravitas, but rather, the vital energy, emotions, and losses that are the landmarks in the long road to Philippine independence—that has perhaps served Bonifacio’s legacy best. It stands at the heart of Caloocan today, eighty years from its unveiling, crowded from all sides by artless establishments that proclaim their transient commercialism, pedestrians who view the bronze-and-granite ode and testament to the Filipino spirit as nothing more than scenery. But it will endure, the winged figure of Victory continues to gaze from her pedestal assuring us of our hard-won liberty as she surmounts the eight provinces first proudly proclaimed in the Katipunan flag and commemorated in our national flag born of the resumed revolution in 1898—and Bonifacio will stand tall and proud and defiant in a world that has refused to stay still, as a reminder that passion must be born of reason; and that action must have, at its heart, a moral purpose.



The prewar entrance of the Legislative Building, from Philippine Magazine.



# DECEMBER

While we celebrate Christmas in December, the month's festivities adopt undertones of solemnity when we are reminded that it was also on this month, in 1896, when Dr. Jose Rizal was executed. Rizal was sentenced to death a day after Christmas, and on the 30th, he was executed by firing squad. From 1941 to 1969, Presidents were inaugurated on the same day.

**MONTHLY  
OBSERVANCES**

**Holiday Hazards Prevention Month**

*(Proclamation No. 115-A, s. 1966)*

**National Volunteers Month**

*(Proclamation No. 55, s. 1998)*

**The Month of Overseas Filipinos**

*(Proclamation No. 276, s. 1988)*

**Rizal Month**

*(Proclamation No. 126, s. 2001)*

**National Press Congress Month and Month  
of the Community Press in the Service of the  
Nation**

*(Proclamation No. 1187, s. 2006)*

**Energy Consciousness Month**

*(Proclamation No. 1427, s. 2007)*

**1<sup>ST</sup> MONDAY UP  
TO FOLLOWING  
SUNDAY  
DEC 4-10**

**Philippine Aviation Week**

*(Proclamation No. 732, s. 1970)*

**National Human Rights Consciousness Week**

*(Republic Act No. 9201 of 2003)*

**1<sup>ST</sup> WEEK**

**Family Week**

*(Proclamation No. 147, s. 1949)*

**Commerce and Industry Week**

*(Proclamation No. 480, s. 1968)*

**Electronics and Telecommunications Week**

*(Proclamation No. 615, s. 1969)*

**Atomic Energy Week Celebration**

*(Proclamation No. 1211, s. 1973)*

**National Government Employees' Week**

*(Proclamation No. 1130, s. 1997)*

**2<sup>ND</sup> WEEK**

**National Pharmacy Week**

*(Proclamation No. 219, s. 1950)*

**Linggo ng Kabataan**

*(Proclamation No. 99, s. 1992)*

**1<sup>ST</sup> MONDAY**

**Parents' Day**

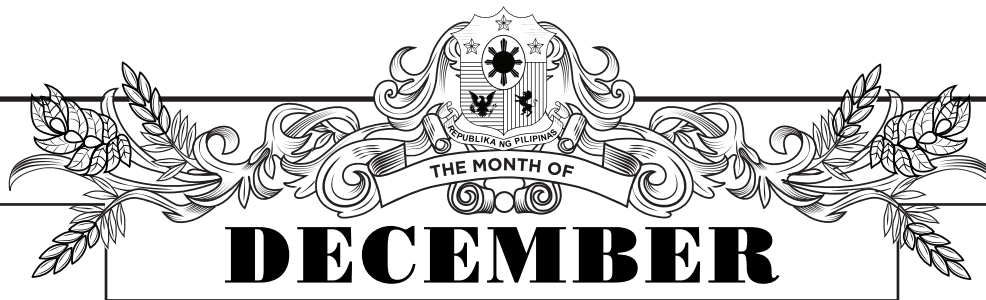
*(Proclamation No. 213, s. 1937)*

**Mother's Day and Father's Day**

*(Proclamation No. 58, s. 1998)*



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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**DECEMBER**

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## DECEMBER 1

In 1935, President Manuel L. Quezon opened Malacañan Palace to the public for the first time. Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison, in his diary dated December 1935, describes that on that Sunday morning came "crowds of *tao* sightseers."



### ANNIVERSARY

Birth anniversary of  
National Scientist

**Onofre D. Corpuz (1926)** In 1937, First Lady Aurora Quezon hosted 4,000 children in the Palace grounds.

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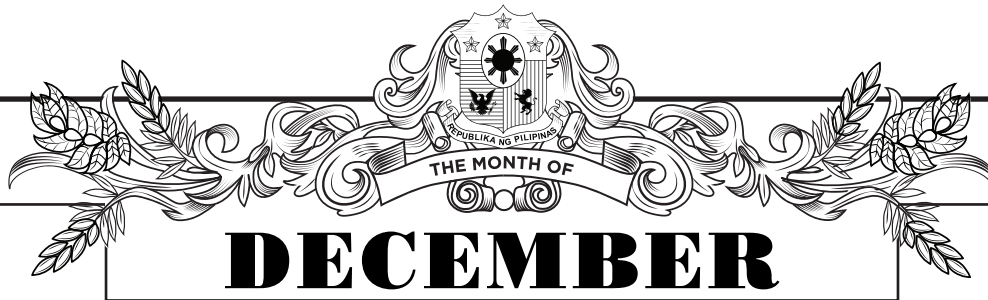
## DECEMBER 2

In 1899, General Gregorio del Pilar took his last stand at Pasong Tirad, with around 60 Filipino men facing around 300 Americans. The battle lasted for more than five hours, and nearly all of the Filipino forces were killed. The Battle of Tirad Pass helped delay the Americans in their pursuit of Emilio Aguinaldo. Among those who died in the battle was del Pilar, who was twenty-four years old.



Filipino casualties of Battle of Tirad Pass.





## DECEMBER 3

In 1985, Corazon C. Aquino, with Salvador Laurel as her running mate, filed her certificate of candidacy for President in the snap elections of February 1986.



### ANNIVERSARY

Birthdays of National Artist  
F. Sionil Jose (1924)

### PROCLAMATION

International Day of Persons with  
Disabilities in the Philippines  
(Proclamation No. 1157, s. 2006)

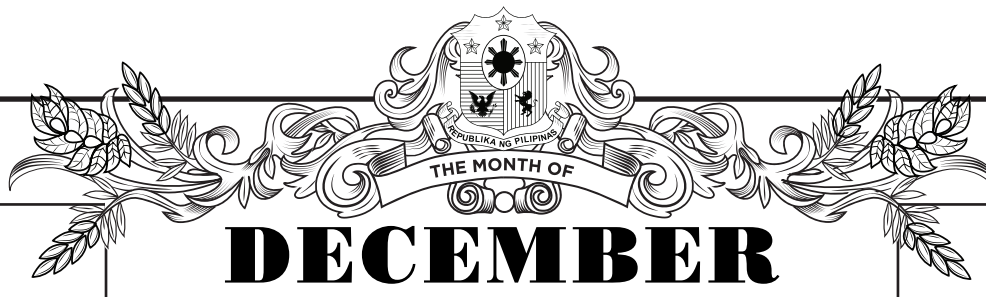
Doing the thumbs-down sign is President Corazon "Cory" C. Aquino, who overthrew the Marcos regime as a result of People Power. To her left is Salvador "Doy" Laurel, then Vice President.

## DECEMBER 4



The Kalayaan Hall is the oldest part of Malacañan Palace.

In 1935, Francis Burton Harrison, former Governor-General of the Philippines and adviser to President Manuel L. Quezon, moved into his new office in the Executive Building of Malacañan Palace (now Kalayaan Hall).


  
 THE MONTH OF  
**DECEMBER**

## DECEMBER 5

In 1985, Corazon C. Aquino and Salvador Laurel were formally proclaimed as the opposition standard bearers against incumbent President Ferdinand E. Marcos for the February 1986 snap elections.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of  
National Artist  
Felipe P. de Leon (1992)

**PROCLAMATIONS**

International Volunteer Day for  
Economic and Social Development  
in the Philippines  
(Proclamation No. 194, s. 1987)  
National Competition Day  
(Proclamation No. 384, s. 2012)



## DECEMBER 6

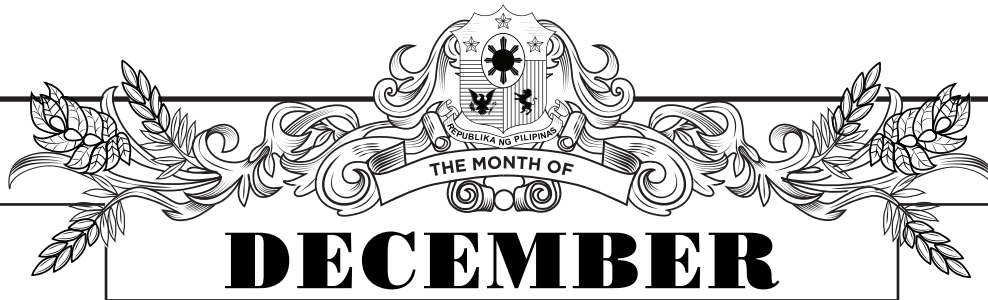
In 1896, the trial of Dr. Jose Rizal—for charges of rebellion, sedition, and conspiracy—began.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Birth Anniversary of National Artist  
Jose Maria Zaragoza (1912)  
Death anniversary of Senate President  
and Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Jose C. Zulueta (1972)

**PROCLAMATION**

National Health Emergency Preparedness Day  
(Proclamation No. 705, s. 1995)



## DECEMBER 7

In 1972, an assassination attempt was made on First Lady Imelda R. Marcos. The assailant, Carlito Damahilig, stabbed her with a bolo, during an awards ceremony broadcasted live on television.



### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of Chief Justice Artemio V. Panganiban (1936)

A screenshot from the video footage where Carlito Dimahilig caught stabbing First Lady Imelda Marcos.

## DECEMBER 8



In 1941, (2:30 a.m. local time) Japanese planes attacked American military installations in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, crippling the United States Army Forces in the Far East. Thereafter, the U.S. declared war on Japan, thereby signalling the beginning of World War II in the Pacific.

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARIES

Department of Labor and Employment (Act No. 4121 of 1933)  
Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (Executive Order No. 82, s. 1986)

DECEMBER 9



Troops of the 185th Infantry, 40th Division, take cover behind advancing tanks while moving up on Japanese positions on Panay Island.

In 1941, the Japanese landed at several points in northern Luzon, while bombing raids continued all over the Philippines.

**ANNIVERSARY**

Death anniversary of  
Senate President  
Eulogio A. Rodriguez Sr. (1964)

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

Department of Energy  
(Republic Act No. 7638 of 1992)

DECEMBER 10

In 1898, the last joint session of the Treaty of Paris was held. The attendees were Senator William Frye, John Moore (Secretary), Senator George Gray, Senator Cushman Davis, Judge William Day, Whitelaw Reid, General Rafael Cerero, Wenceslao Ramirez de Villa-Urrutia, Jose de Garnica, Buenaventura de Abarzuza, Eugenio Montero Rios, Arthur Ferguson (interpreter), and Emilio de Ojeda.

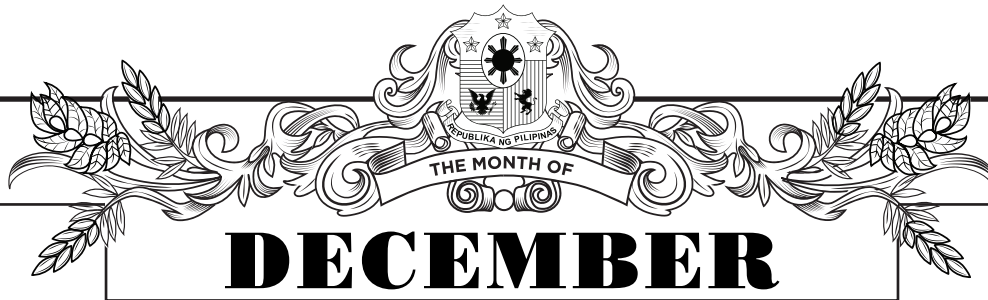
The Treaty of Paris was signed. It formally ended the Spanish-American War and ceded the Philippines to the U.S. for \$20 million.



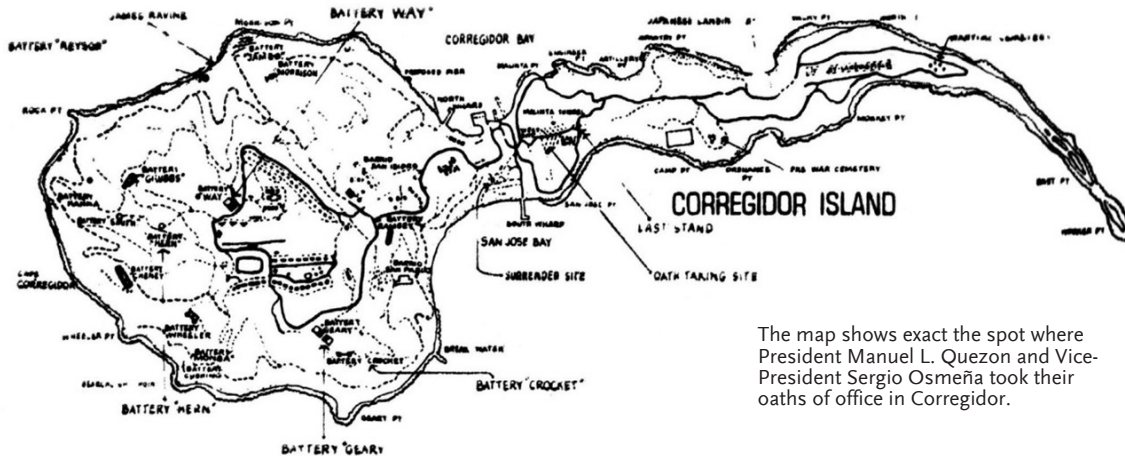
The signature page of the Treaty of Paris.

**PROCLAMATION**

Human Rights Day  
(Proclamation No. 347, s. 1952)



## DECEMBER 11



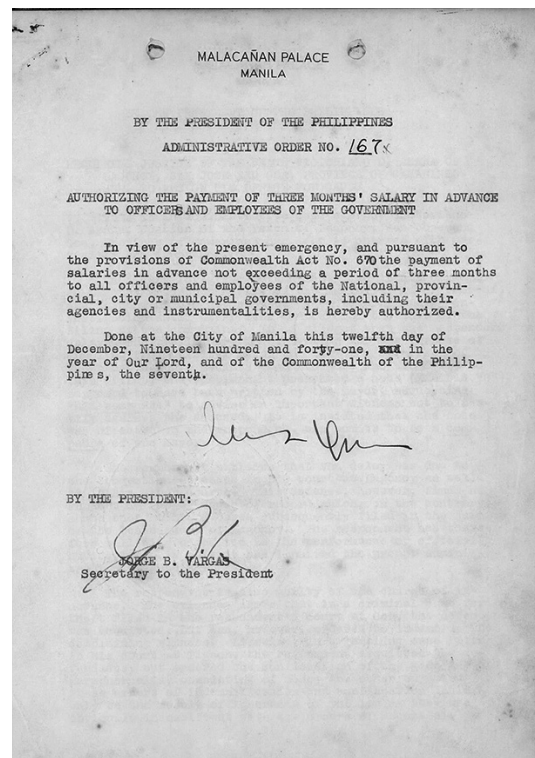
The map shows exact the spot where President Manuel L. Quezon and Vice-President Sergio Osmeña took their oaths of office in Corregidor.

In 1941, the National Assembly passed Resolution No. 115, which pledged support to the United States in the wake of the Pearl Harbor attacks and proclaimed Manuel L. Quezon and Sergio Osmeña as winners of the November presidential elections. A few days later, as the country was undergoing an attack from Imperial Japanese forces, the two escaped to Corregidor where they took their oaths of office.

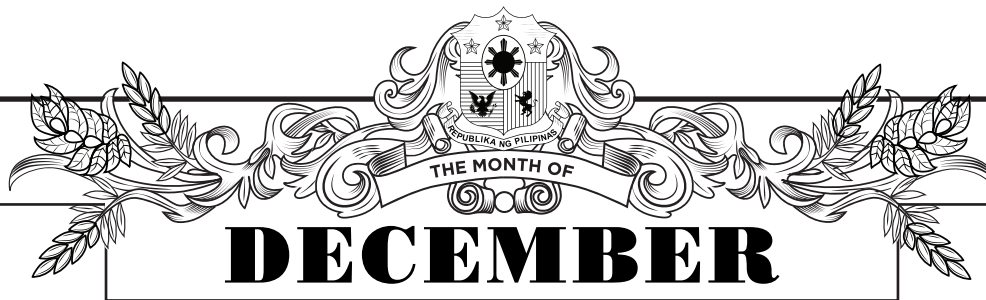
**ANNIVERSARY**  
 Birthday of  
 Senate President  
 Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr.  
 (1933)

## DECEMBER 12

In 1941, President Manuel L. Quezon, in response to the Imperial Japanese invasion, issued Administrative Order no. 167, s. 1941. This authorized the government to give public sector employees a three-month advance on their salaries because of the looming threat of war.



**ANNIVERSARIES**  
 Birth anniversary of Manlilikha ng Bayan  
 Salinta Monon (1920)  
 Death anniversary of National Artist  
 Severino Montano (1980)  
 Death anniversary of National Scientist  
 Luz Oliveros-Belardo (1999)



## DECEMBER 13

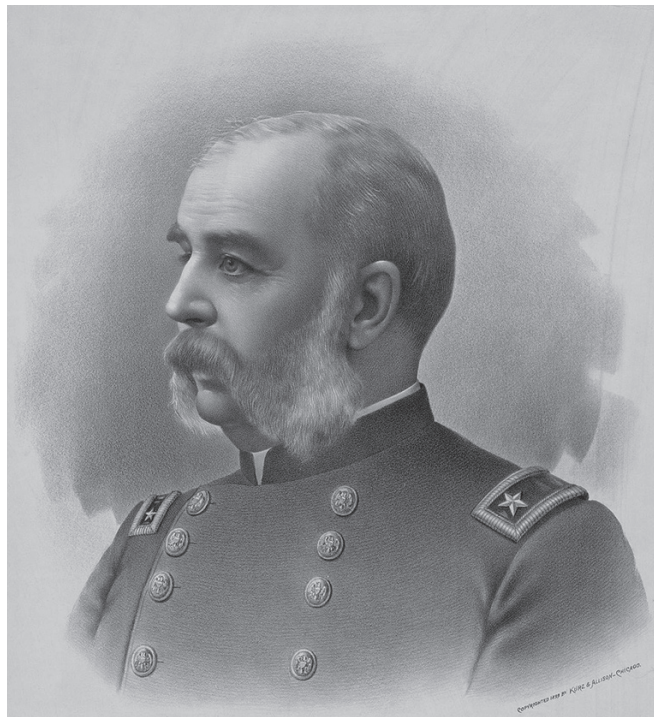
In 1898, General Elwell Stephen Otis was petitioned to occupy Iloilo by that town's business community.

### ANNIVERSARY

Birthday of Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives **Manuel S. Villar Jr. (1949)**

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Department of Interior and Local Government  
(Republic Act No. 6975 of 1990)



General Elwell Stephen Otis.

## DECEMBER 14

In 1897, the second document of the Truce of Biak-na-Bato, known as the "Program," was signed by Pedro Paterno (representing the revolutionaries) and Governor-General Primo de Rivera (representing the Spanish colonial government).

This outlined, in detail, the steps to be followed in the surrender of arms, the payment of the 800,000 pesos indemnity to Emilio Aguinaldo, and the keeping of the Spanish hostages in Biak-na-Bato pending Aguinaldo's arrival in Hong Kong.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Death anniversary of Senate President **Blas F. Ople (2003)**  
Death anniversary of National Artist **Fernando Poe Jr. (2004)**

(SEATED, LEFT TO RIGHT): Pedro Paterno and Emilio Aguinaldo.  
(STANDING, LEFT TO RIGHT): Isabelo Artacho, Baldomero Aguinaldo, Severino de las Alas, Antonio



**DECEMBER 15**

In 1875, Emilio Jacinto, the “Brains of the Katipunan,” founder of *Kalayaan* and the author of the *Kartilya ng Katipunan*, the official news organ of the Katipunan, was born in Tondo, Manila. He contracted malaria and died in Magdalena, Laguna on April 16, 1899.



Remains of Emilio Jacinto in front of his grieving friends and family.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Death anniversary of  
National Artist

**Carlos P. Romulo (1985)**

Death anniversary of  
National Scientist

**Alfredo V. Lagmay (2005)**

**DECEMBER 16**

In 1730, Diego Silang, leader of the Ilocos Revolt of 1762-1763, was born. During the British Occupation of Manila in 1762, Diego Silang saw the opportunity to lead a revolt against the weakened Spanish forces to liberate Ilocanos from the yoke of Spanish oppression that was brought about by suppressive monopolies, high taxes, and the imposition of free labor in the construction of Spanish structures.

He was assassinated by Miguel Vicos and Pedro Becbec on May 28, 1863. Diego Silang’s revolt was continued by his wife, Gabriela Silang, who was later captured and executed by Spanish authorities on September 29, 1763.

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**

Order of National Scientists  
(Presidential Decree No. 1003-A, s. 1976)

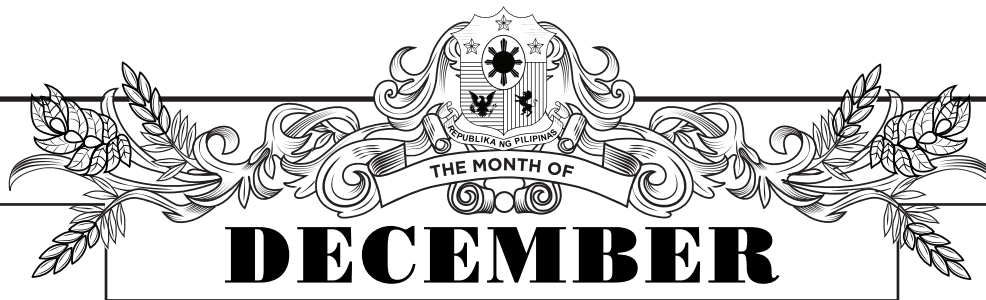
**ANNIVERSARY**

Death Anniversary of National Artist  
**Abdulmari Asia Imao (2014)**



The movie “Diego Silang” (1951) was directed by National Artist for Film Gerardo de Leon, starring Jose Padilla Jr. as the Ilocano hero.

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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**DECEMBER**

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## DECEMBER 17



In 1978, Manny Pacquiao, the first boxer in history to win ten world titles in eight different weight divisions, was born in Kibawe, Bukidnon.

**FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY**  
Housing and Urban  
Development Coordinating  
Council (Executive Order  
No. 90, s. 1986 )

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## DECEMBER 18

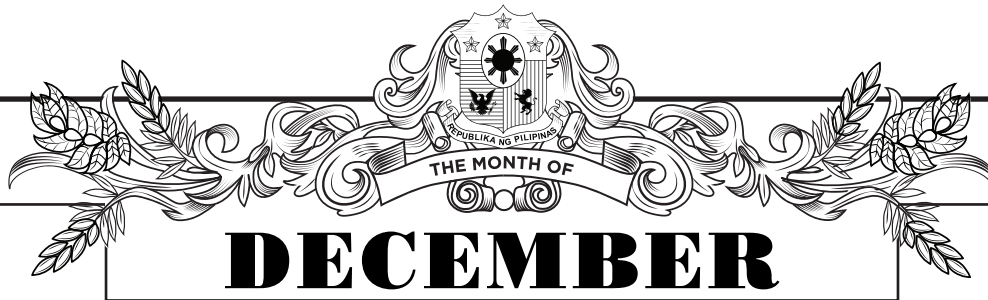
In 1856, Graciano Lopez Jaena was born in Jaro, Iloilo. The founder of *La Solidaridad* was a gifted orator who pursued (but did not finish) medical studies in Spain.

**ANNIVERSARY**  
Death anniversary of National Scientist  
Hilario D. G. Lara (1987)

**PROCLAMATION**  
Graciano Lopez-Jaena Day  
(Republic Act No. 9070 of 2001)







## DECEMBER 19

In 1896, Governor-General Camilo Polavieja issued a decree ordering that the charges of sedition against Dr. Jose Rizal be tried under court martial. The decorated military man had replaced Ramon Blanco on December 13, 1896.



Polavieja (RIGHT) as head of the Spanish delegation commemorating the "Centenario" of Mexico 1910.

78 THE LAWS OF THE FIRST PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC

22. Decree of December 20, 1898, declaring December 30th of every year a day of national mourning.

### GOBIERNO REVOLUCIONARIO DE FILIPINAS

#### Decreto

SR. EMILIO AGUINALDO Y FAMY, PRESIDENTE DEL GOBIERNO REVOLUCIONARIO DE FILIPINAS, CAPITAN GENERAL Y GENERAL EN JEFE DE SU EJERCITO.

Atendiendo á las aspiraciones del pueblo Filipino, é interpretando sus sentimientos nobles y patrióticos vengo en decretar lo siguiente:

Artículo 1º En memoria de los grandes patriotas filipinos Dr. José Rizal y demás víctimas que sucumbieron bajo la extinguida dominación española se declara día de luto nacional el día 30 de Diciembre.

Art. 2º Con tal motivo desde el medio día, del 29 hasta el medio día del 30 en señal de duelo se izará á media esta la bandera nacional.

Art. 3º Vacarán todas las dependencias del Gobierno Revolucionario durante el día 30 de Diciembre.

Comuníquese y publíquese para general conocimiento.

Dado en Malolos á 20 de Diciembre de 1898.

El Presidente,  
—EMILIO AGUINALDO

A copy of the decree declaring December 30th a day of national mourning.

## DECEMBER 20

In 1898, President Emilio Aguinaldo issued a decree commemorating the death of Dr. Jose Rizal. This was the first instance wherein the martyrdom of Rizal was commemorated.

#### ANNIVERSARIES

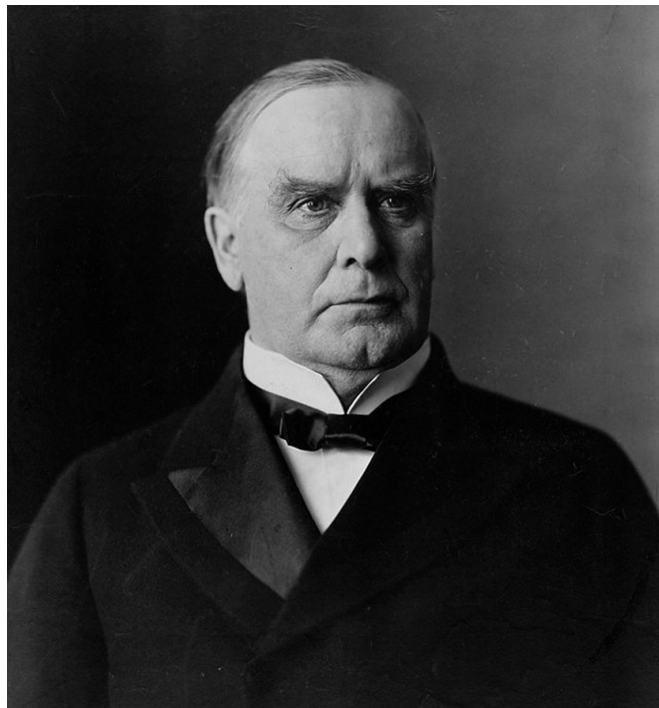
Birthday of Chief Justice  
Hilario Davide Jr. (1935)  
Death anniversary of Speaker  
of the National Assembly  
Benigno S. Aquino Sr. (1947)

#### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Department of Education  
(Educational Decree of 1863)

## DECEMBER 21

In 1898, U.S. President William McKinley issued the Benevolent Assimilation Proclamation. The Proclamation stated that the U.S. came to the Philippines "not as invaders or conquerors, but as friends, to protect the natives in their homes, in their employment, and in their personal and religious rights."



Portrait of U.S. President William McKinley.

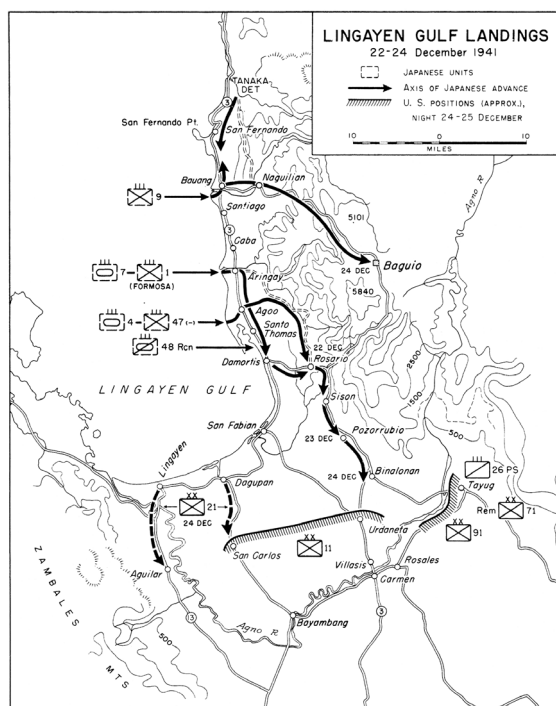
### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Artist **Ramon Obusan** (2006)

### FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

**Armed Forces of the Philippines**  
(Commonwealth Act No. 1 of 1935)

## DECEMBER 22



Map of Lingayen Gulf Landings.

In 1941, the Japanese 14th Army under the command of Lt. Gen. Masaharu Homma landed in Lingayen Gulf, Pangasinan, overpowering the 11th and 21st Divisions of the Philippine Army.

Teodoro M. Locsin's diary entry for this day: "Early this morning USAFFE headquarters declared that there was increased activity south of Vigan, but nothing serious, it said reassuringly, had developed." Then, at 11 a.m., came this: "There was sighted this morning off Lingayen Gulf a huge enemy fleet estimated at 80 transports. Undoubtedly this is a major expeditionary drive aimed at the Philippines."

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Scientist **Francisco M. Fronda** (1896)  
 Birth anniversary of Chief Justice and Speaker of the Interim Batasang Pambansa **Querube C. Makalintal** (1910)  
 Death anniversary of Speaker of the House of Representatives **Cornelio T. Villareal** (1992)

## DECEMBER 23

In 1898, President Emilio Aguinaldo approved the draft Malolos Constitution.



President Emilio Aguinaldo (*SEATED, CENTER*) and ten of the delegates to the first assembly that passed the Constitution, in the Barasoain Church, Malolos.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Birth anniversary of National Artist

**Victorio C. Edades (1895)**

Death anniversary of Chief Justice **Cayetano Arellano (1920)**

Birthday of *Manlilikha ng Bayan*

**Frederico Caballero (1938)**

## DECEMBER 24



Philippine Army Chief of Staff Basilio J. Valdes watches as President Manuel L. Quezon administers the oath of office to Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos, witnessed by Executive Secretary Jorge B. Vargas, Secretary of Justice Jose P. Laurel and former Agriculture Secretary Benigno S. Aquino, Sr. (newly-elected representative for Tarlac and slated to be Speaker of the House of Representatives), and Manila Mayor Juan Posadas. A few hours later the government evacuated to Corregidor.

In 1941, the seat of the Commonwealth of the Philippines was transferred to Corregidor, with the evacuation of President Manuel L. Quezon and Vice President Sergio Osmeña. They were accompanied by President Quezon's family, Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos, Philippine Army Chief of Staff Major General Basilio J. Valdes, the President's aide Colonel Manuel Nieto, and the President's private secretary, Serapio D. Canceran.

**DECEMBER 25**

The Philippines prides itself as having the longest Christmas celebration in the world. Come September and onwards, elaborate blinking parols are displayed everywhere, garlanding lamp posts, doorways, and windows. The devout troop to evening mass, the Misa de Gallo, from the early morning of December 16 to Christmas Eve. The Christmas Eve feast, the noche buena, is made a spectacle as the family counts down to Christmas Day. Even the celebration of the New Year has been subsumed into Christmas—an extension of it. Christmas in the Philippines is a four-month affair. But it's all centered on this faithful date in which we are joined by the rest of the Christian world as it celebrates its favorite holiday.



President Benigno S. Aquino III at the ceremonial switching-on of the National Christmas Tree on November 29, 2012.

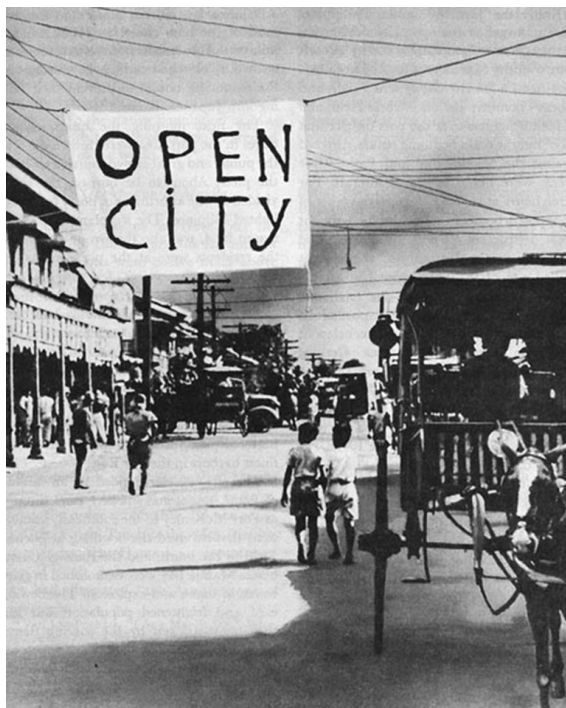
**ANNIVERSARY**

Birthday of Manlilikha ng Bayan  
 Federico Caballero (1938)

**PROCLAMATION**

• Christmas Day  
 (Republic Act No. 9492 of 2007)

**DECEMBER 26**



Manila declared as an Open City.

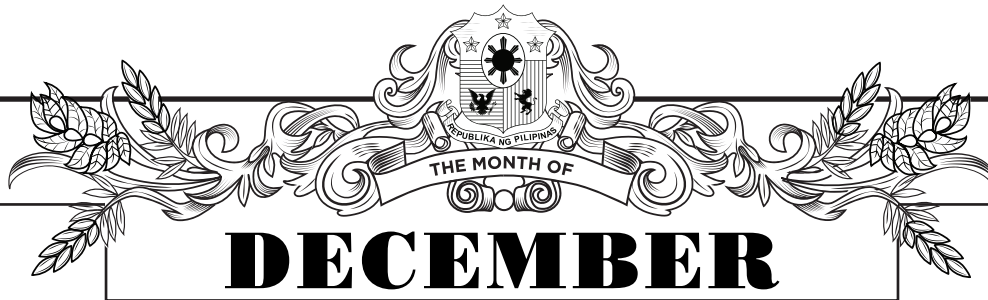
In 1941, in an effort to spare further damage to the city and its civilians, Manila was declared an Open City by Field Marshal Douglas MacArthur. All military installations were ordered removed.

Juan Labrador, who was Rector of Colegio de San Juan de Letran at the time, voiced out the concern felt by those in Manila in his diary entry for this day: "Though some people rejoice at the thought Manila would be spared from destruction many are skeptical. Will the Japanese ignore the declaration? Have they been officially notified through a neutral power which would guarantee its observance? Would they accept its validity?"

**ANNIVERSARIES**

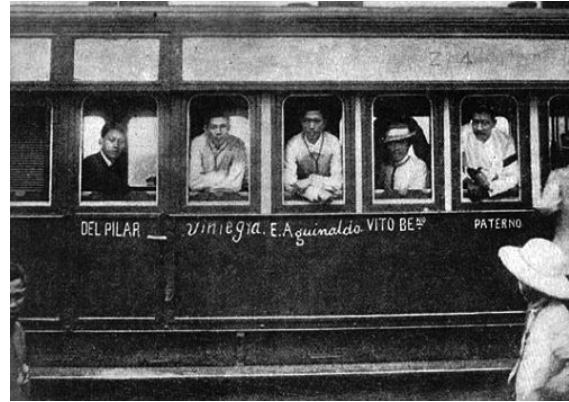
Birth anniversary of National Artist  
 Antonio J. Molina (1894)

Birthday of Speaker of the House of Representatives  
 Jose de Venecia Jr. (1936)



## DECEMBER 27

In 1897, General Emilio Aguinaldo and his companions left for Hong Kong, as fulfillment of the provisions of the Truce of Biak-na-Bato. They arrived in Dagupan and proceeded to the port of Sual, where they boarded the Hong Kong-bound steamer S.S. *Uranus*. They arrived in Hong Kong on December 31, 1897.



FROM LEFT: Gregorio del Pilar, Wenceslao Vinięgia, Emilio Aguinaldo, Vito Belarmino, and Pedro Paterno.

## DECEMBER 28

In 1896, Governor-General Camilo de Polavieja confirmed Dr. Jose Rizal's death sentence.



### ANNIVERSARY

Death anniversary of National Artist  
Hernando R. Ocampo (1978)

## DECEMBER 29

In 1896, Dr. Jose P. Rizal was read his death sentence. The rest of Rizal's day would be composed of visits by priests and by his family. To his sisters, he would give away his possessions—and it was to his sister Trinidad that he would bequeath an alcohol burner (lamp) with a copy of "Mi Ultimo Adios."

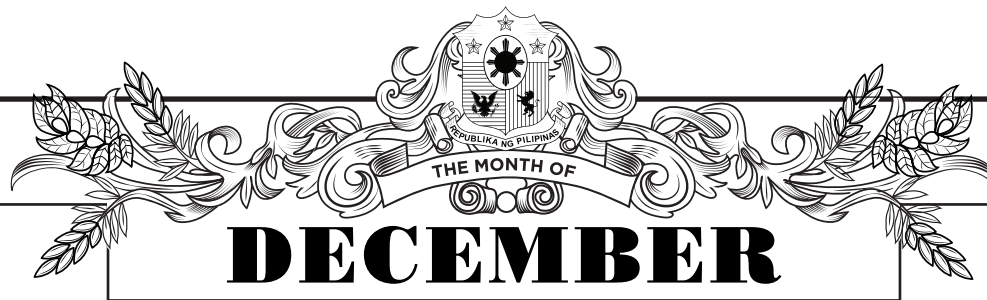
An excerpt of the December 30, 1896 issue of  
*The Record Union*

## THE RECORD-UNION.

SACRAMENTO, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 30, 1896.—EIGHT PAGES.

### Dr. Rizal Sentenced to Death

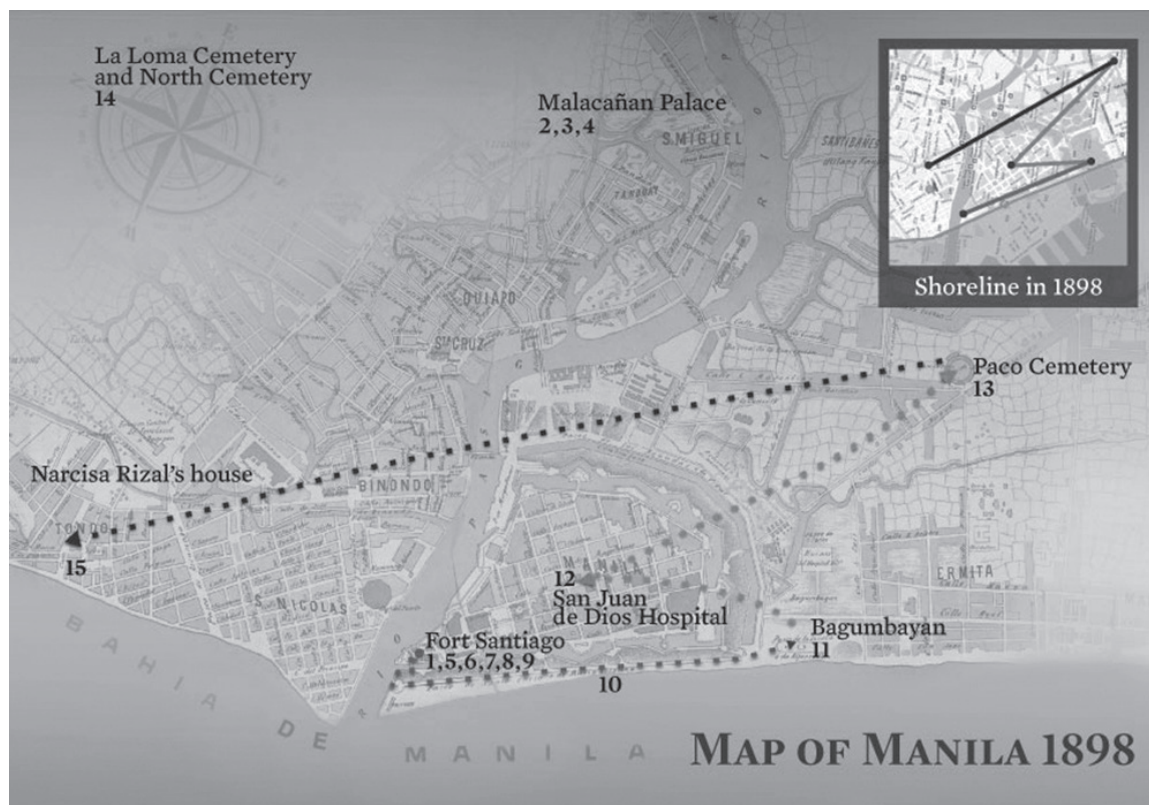
MADRID, Dec. 29.—Advices from Manila show that Dr. Rizal, a prominent resident, has been sentenced to death for fomenting rebellion. He will probably be shot. On his trial, which was before a court-marital, Dr. Rizal admitted that he was the author of the constitution of the Philippine League, the object of which was revolutionary, but denied that he had taken any active part in the rebellion.



DECEMBER 30

## Rizal Day

In 1896, Dr. Jose Rizal was shot at Bagumbayan (now Luneta). His martyrdom became the rallying cry of the Philippine Revolution. His remains are now buried in Rizal Monument at Rizal Park.



This map traces Dr. Jose Rizal's last days in 1896, from the verdict of his trial on December 26, to his various visitors in Fort Santiago, to his execution on December 30 in Bagumbayan, and, finally, to his burial in an unmarked grave in Paco Park.

The map above depicts the locations of the events starting from the verdict of Rizal's trial to the exhumation of his remains. The numbers on the map indicate the places where the incidents happened. Below are narratives for the events indicated in the map.

### 1. DECEMBER 26, 1896

A Spanish court martial found Rizal guilty for sedition and sentenced him to death.

### 2. DECEMBER 28, 1896

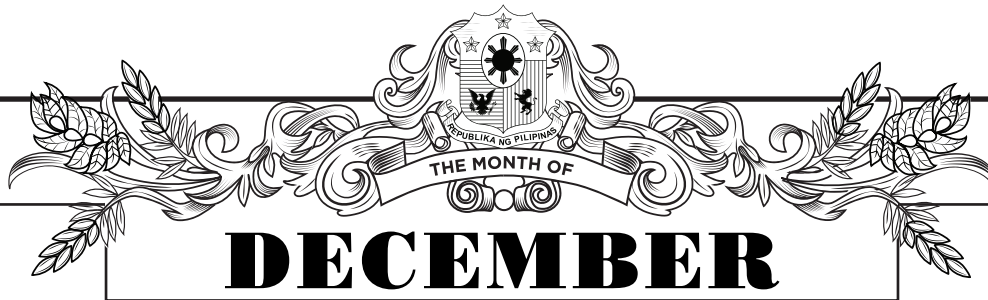
It was decided that Rizal will be executed by musketry; Governor-General Camillo Polavieja confirmed the sentence.

### 3. DECEMBER 28, 1896

Teodora Alonzo wrote the Governor-General asking for clemency for her son.

### 4. DECEMBER 28, 1896

At Malacañan Palace, Rizal's sisters pleaded to Governor-General Polavieja: stay Rizal's execution.



**5. DECEMBER 29, 1896**

Rizal was read his death sentence.

**6. DECEMBER 29, 1896**

Rizal was visited by several priests including Fr. Faura, S.J.

**7. DECEMBER 29, 1896**

Rizal wrote his last letter to Ferdinand Blumentritt which read:

*“My dear Brother, when you receive this letter, I shall be dead by then. Tomorrow at seven, I shall be shot; but I am innocent of the crime of rebellion. I am going to die with a tranquil conscience. Adieu, my best, my dearest friend, and never think ill of me! Fort Santiago, 29 December 1896 José Rizal Regards to the whole family, to Sra. Rosa, Loleng, Conradito, and Federico. I leave a book for you as my remembrance.”*

**8. DECEMBER 29, 1896**

Teodora Alonzo paid her final visit to Rizal. She was accompanied by her daughter, Trinidad Mercado.

**9. DECEMBER 29, 1896**

Rizal’s relatives were allowed to pay him visits. He gave them his worldly possessions:

- Narcisa – wicker chair
- Angelica, niece – handkerchief
- Mauricio, nephew – belt, watch, and chain
- Trinidad – alcohol burner with *Mi Ultimo Adios*

**10. DECEMBER 30, 1896, 6:30AM**

Rizal was brought to the execution site from Fort Santiago.

**11. DECEMBER 30, 1896, 7:03 A.M.**

Rizal was executed by musketry.

**12. DECEMBER 30, 1896**

After the execution, Rizal’s body was brought to San Juan de Dios Hospital.

**13. DECEMBER 30, 1896**

Rizal’s remains were buried in the Paco Cemetery in an unmarked grave.

14. Rizal’s sister, Narcisa, searched suburban graveyards for where Rizal was buried. She eventually discovered that he was buried in Paco Park. She marked the plot with the letters R.P.J. (Rizal’s initials in reverse)

**15. AUGUST 17, 1898**

Rizal’s remains were exhumed and brought to the Rizal family house in Binondo.

**RIZAL’S RE-INTERMENT**

The remains of Rizal, after exhumation on August 17, 1898, were kept in the Rizal family house in Binondo until they were brought to their final resting place in Luneta. On December 30, 1912, a solemn ceremony was held to finally bury the remains in the base of the monument dedicated in memory of Rizal.

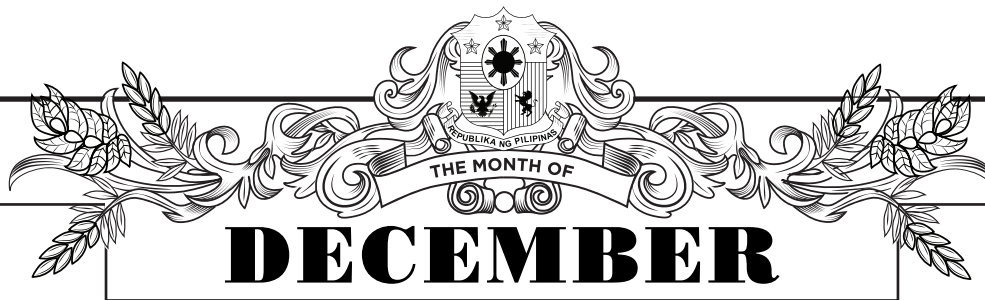


An original print of the execution of Jose Rizal entitled “Fusilamiento de Rizal” taken on December 30, 1896 by the noted Spanish photographer Manuel Arias Rodriguez.

**PROCLAMATION**

- Rizal Day  
(Act No. 345 of 1902)

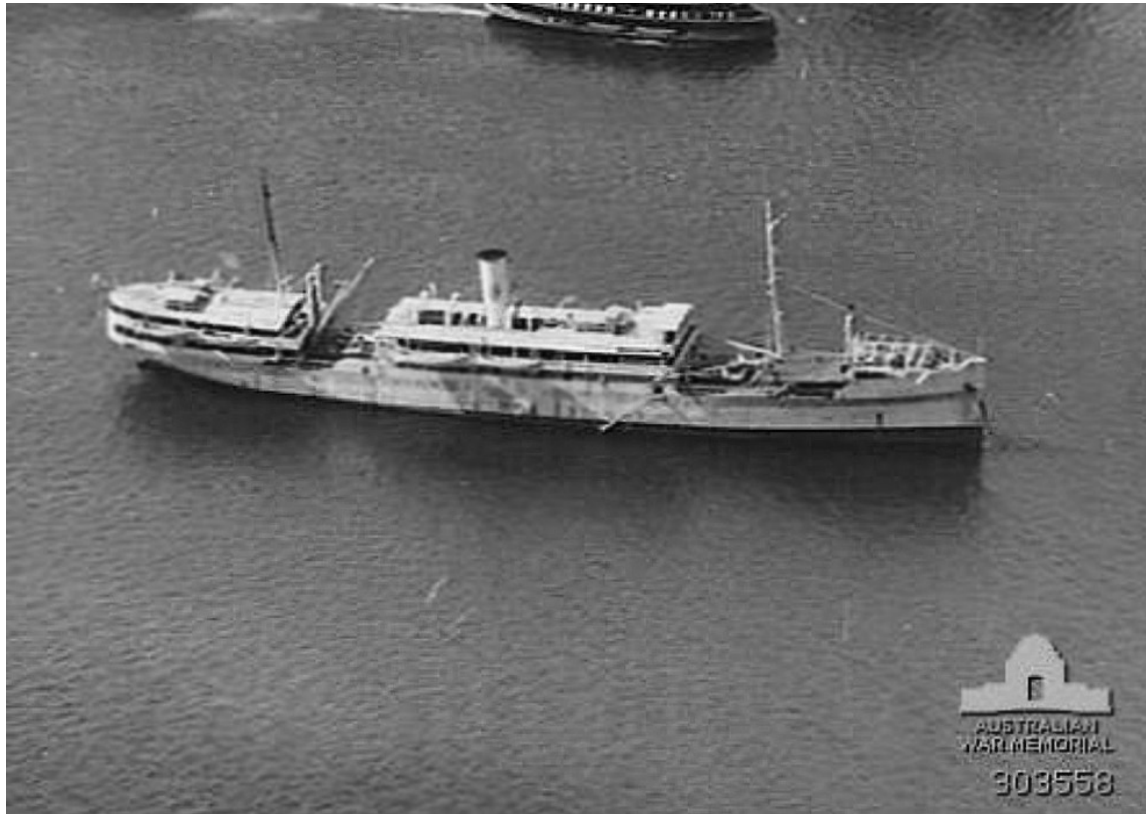
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REPUBLICA NG PILIPINAS  
THE MONTH OF  
**DECEMBER**

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DECEMBER 31



Aerial starboard side view of the American hospital ship S.S. *Mactan*.

In 1941, an old ship called the S.S. *Mactan* prepared to weigh anchor to escape Manila. Its destination was Sydney, Australia. On board were 224 wounded USAFFE soldiers (134 of them Americans and 90 of whom were Filipinos), 67 crew members—all Filipino, and 25 medical and Red Cross personnel—all Filipino except for one American nurse, and some others. It was one of the great escapes of World War II.

**PROCLAMATION**

Last day of the Year

(Republic Act No. 9492 of 2007)





# The Rizal Monument

**T**he tomb and memorial to Filipino nationalist Dr. Jose P. Rizal stands right by the edge of Manila, at the heart of a landscape bearing the much-vaunted histories it helped launch.

As an object, the monument shies away from magnificence. It does not tower, there are no ornate details, no grandiose aesthetic claims. Its principal form, an obelisk of unpolished granite rising 12.7 meters toward the sky, is as straightforward a sculptural marker as a monument can be: Here lie the remains of Rizal, it announces, its duty as signpost and landmark thus achieved. The figure of Rizal follows the same simple aesthetic: It is a Rizal made restive in bronze, cradling the books that have lent to his legacy and in an overcoat that hangs just a little too boxy for his frame. This figure stands conspicuously, too, however: His garb is unsuited to the tropics—a reminder that he lived his life as an *ilustrado* in the stranger, colder climes of the European continent—and the underscoring of the scholarly air further sets him apart from the riotous revolution that led, if indirectly, to his death. It is a Rizal whose very rendering eschewed the revolutionary glory that had been continually thrust upon him, a glory that he could nonetheless rightly stake a claim to. His gaze does not even meet

the sea; this is a Rizal that offers no dares, dispenses no threat. In a pensive mood, the Rizal of the monument angles his head ever so slightly—perhaps by chance toward the Walled City of Intramuros, the principal seat of the Spanish conquerors.

\* \* \*

What we know today as Rizal Park, that which began as barely habitable marshland, was a hub of the Spanish leisure class. The soft ground and the esteros had been filled to create a uniform field that stretched from Intramuros to surrounding *arrabals* or suburbs—particularly to Ermita, originally christened Bagumbayan or the “new village.” But with the onset of the Philippine revolution, the Paseo de Luneta—drawing its name from the *lunette* or the “crescent-shaped structure for defense used in fortifications in the 17th to 18th centuries”—would transform into the capital’s killing field. For seventy-four years in total, Bagumbayan served as execution site for *insurrectos*, Filipino rebels and mutineers that paved the way to lasting independence. As the National Parks Development Committee points out, “Bagumbayan Park gracefully hosted flirtations among the Manila elite, as well as callously witnessed the deaths of the disloyal citizenry.”



It was the site of the martyrdom of three secular priests falsely accused of leading an uprising. On January 20, 1872, two hundred Filipinos employed at the Cavite arsenal staged a revolt against the Spanish government's voiding of their exemption from the payment of tributes. The Cavite Mutiny led to the persecution of several prominent Filipinos; secular priests Mariano Gómez, José Burgos, and Jacinto Zamora—who would then be collectively named GomBurZa—were tagged as the masterminds of the uprising. They were charged with treason and sedition by the Spanish military tribunal—a charge believed to be part of a conspiracy to stifle the growing popularity of Filipino secular priests and the threat they posed to the Spanish clergy. It was at Bagumbayan that the GomBurZa were publicly executed, by garrote, on the early morning of February 17, 1872.

The martyrdom of the three secular priests would resonate among Filipinos; grief and outrage over their execution would make way for the first stirrings of the Filipino revolution, thus making the first secular martyrs of a nascent national identity. Rizal would dedicate his *El Filibusterismo* to the memory of GomBurZa, to what they stood for, and to the symbolic weight their deaths would henceforth hold: “The Government, by enshrouding your trial in mystery and pardoning your co-accused, has suggested that some mistake was committed when your fate was decided; and the whole of the Philippines, in paying homage to your memory and calling you martyrs, totally rejects your guilt. The Church, by refusing to degrade you, has put in doubt the crime charged against you.”

As Leon Ma. Guerrero astutely notes in his celebrated biography of the Filipino nationalist, *The First Filipino*, “Our story begins with an execution which prefigures its end.” It would be nearly fourteen years after the portentous garroting of the GomBurZa that Rizal would meet his own death at the hands of the Spanish government—stemming from similarly flimsy accusations, the same mystery-enshrouded trial, and in the same seaside field.

The most bravo of the indios—the “Tagalog Christ,” in the immortal lines of the Basque intellectual Miguel de Unamuno—was executed by musketry in Bagumbayan, on December 30,

1896, for sedition and for inciting an uprising: Jose P. Rizal—scholar and writer, practicing ophthalmologist, celebrated ilustrado, and he who would be designated as the Philippines' national hero.

Eyewitnesses all marveled at his composure, instantly, it seems, identifying it as a secular crucifixion. Rafael Palma described it as a combination of the sacred and profane: “A shot rang out and something like an immense sigh arose from the multitude, indicating that all was over. [...] Shouts of 'Long Live Spain! Death to the Traitors!' could be heard three or four times. People began to disperse and to leave the place, contented and happy at satisfying their curiosity. I even saw some Filipinos laughing; a British writer declared the execution “one of the most cold-blooded crimes registered in history since the tragedy of Golgotha; and the last words attributed to Rizal at the moment the rifles fired: “*Consummatum est.*” It is finished. Biblical, indeed.

The National Parks Development Committee notes, in their *Parks for a Nation*, “The actual number of people executed at the Luneta remains unknown. According to the National Historical Commission of the Philippines, there were some 880 people martyred at the old Bagumbayan. One of the earliest recorded incidents was the capture and execution of 82 non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Tayabas regiment, headed by Sergeant Irineo Samaniego, on January 21, 1843. Samaniego and his men launched an uprising in retaliation to the killings by the Spanish army of hundreds of old men, women, and children in Alitao on November 1, 1841.”

Seventy-three members of the Katipunan were executed in Bagumbayan; black granite tablets bearing the names of identified members now line the pathway in modern-day Rizal Park's Heroes' Square. Four months before Rizal's execution by musketry—on August 31, 1896, two days after Bonifacio issued a manifesto declaring the start of the revolt against Spain—57 Filipino revolutionaries were shot in Bagumbayan. Five days after this, four more Katipuneros were captured and executed at the same site. Rizal's execution, too, would be far from the last the site would host, despite the furor it had sparked from Filipinos already roused by the movements of the



Spanish era Luneta.

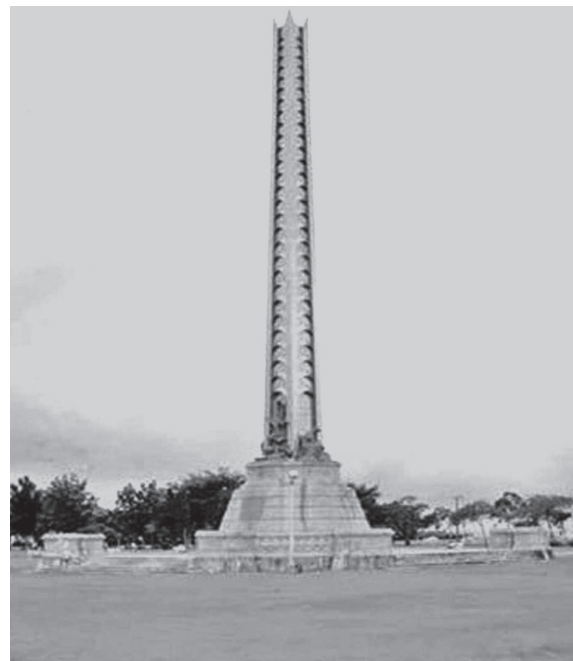
Katipunan: Five days after Rizal's martyrdom, on January 4, 1887, 11 people—most of them Freemasons—were killed by firing squad. They were the ilustrados of Nueva Caceres—a city in what is now Camarines Sur. A week later, another 13—immortalized as Trece Martires in both memory and the place-name of their home town—would be martyred at Bagumbayan.

\* \* \*

In the 17 years after Rizal's execution, authorities both Filipino and American—the new, more “benevolent” conquerors—would legislate the martyrdom of Rizal, culminating in the construction of a monument in his honor. It is this formalistically simple memorial—albeit an elaborate final resting place of his nearing-sacred remains—that has become the *de facto* symbol of our nationhood: a bronze-and-granite homage to a man's martyrdom, built at the very field where he met his untimely death. And this monument—and the extravagant rallying for the memory of Rizal, almost immediately after Spain surrendered to the United States of America its colonial possession—was but one of many of the Americans' politically strategic moves in their occupation of the Philippines.

But even before all the legislation that, by whatever agenda, pushed forward Rizal as the nation's foremost hero, even before Rizal's

execution at daybreak of December 30, 1886—the Filipino revolutionaries looked to Rizal as their hero, his principles were adopted, if translated, in the Katipunan's crusade for Philippine independence. Because even if Rizal himself disavowed the revolution as Andres Bonifacio and Emilio Aguinaldo envisioned it, sharing with Rizal the dream of true independence—of nationhood—was part of the spirit that spurred the revolution.



Rizal monument with additional steel pylon in 1961.



Aerial view of Luneta in its prime 1960's.

Filipinos were inclined—thought it only right—to give Rizal the honor that he was due. The First Republic, in its quest to achieve an identity, decreed worthy veneration: On December 20, 1898, President Emilio Aguinaldo issued an edict designating December 30 of every year as “National Day of mourning for Rizal and other victims of the Spanish government, throughout its three centuries of oppressive rule.” Ten days later, Filipinos as citizens of a nation commemorated Rizal Day for the first time.

In 1901, under the country’s first American civil governor William Howard Taft, the Rizal martyred by Spain not five years before had become Philippine National Hero regardless of whether any legislature, Filipino or foreign, had declared him as such. The Americans certainly had no compunctions about assimilating the cult of Rizal renaming districts, cities, and provinces after Rizal—this, the Philippine Commission undertook. It was also during the early years of American Occupation that Rizal Day was made an official holiday: On February 1, 1902, the Philippine Commission enacted Act. No. 345

which set December 30 of each year as Rizal Day, and made it one of the ten official holidays of the Philippines.

It was during this period that construction of a monument honoring Rizal received colonial approval. On September 28, 1901, Act No. 243 was passed, thus granting the right to use public land in Luneta as the site in which a statue of Rizal would be erected. Act No. 243 of 1901 likewise stipulated that the monument would also house his remains. Thus, a marker would forever serve as a reminder of where the country’s National Hero had fallen, his bones made sacred to the budding Filipino nation.

The Committee held an international design competition between 1905–1907, and invited sculptors from Europe and the United States to submit entries with material preference produced in the archipelago. The estimated cost of the monument was 100,000 pesos, including prizes for the winners of the design contest. The insular government donated 30,000 pesos for the fund. By January 1905, that goal had been



The new Independence Flagpole.

oversubscribed. When the campaign closed in August 1912, the amount collected had reached 135,195.61 pesos. Forty entries were received by the 1907 deadline, and the *bozetos* (scale models) of the shortlisted ten were displayed at the Ayuntamiento in Intramuros.

On January 8, 1908, the judges—Governor-General Frank Smith, John T. MacLeod, and Dr. Maximo M. Paterno—announced its decision. The Committee on the Rizal Monument declared the *Al Martir de Bagumbayan* (To the Martyr of Bagumbayan), an ornate neo-classical piece, the winner of the design competition. The design of Carlos Nicoli of Carrara, Italy was awarded the first prize, worth 5,000 pesos. His design depicted an 18m-tall monument, with its 12 meter base rendered in two shades of gray Italian marble, and the pedestal that held the entire structure to be rendered in two shades of white Italian marble. Elaborate figurative elements dominated Nicoli's design.

The contract, however, was ultimately awarded to Swiss sculptor Richard Kissling for his *Motto Stella* (Guiding Star), which had won second place. According to *Parks for a Nation*, "Nicoli was reportedly not able to put up the construction bond required to build the monument. Still others claimed his designed was deemed too expensive as it used Carrara marble." Kissling's design, which would use unpolished granite and bronze, cost less than that of Nicoli's, a predominantly marble structure.

The *Motto Stella* was an understated, straightforward monument: Allegorical figures arranged around an obelisk, with the likeness of Rizal facing the sea. It was as opposite from Nicoli's lofty ornateness as a sculpture could be, and criticism of Kissling's design surged. But the construction of the monument pushed through, and the tribute to Rizal—placed in daring proximity to the seat of the Spanish colonial government—would take four years to complete. Supervising the casting was Rizal's good friend, the painter Felix Resurreccion Hidalgo, who was less than pleased with the result.

But there is a curious serendipity to the choice of Kissling's design. It would not be ludicrous to think that Rizal, who eschewed pomp and circumstance and had expressly asked that no fanfare be attached to his death, would have approved of the simple and nearly anonymous grave in Paco Cemetery. The monument that would stand in his honor, owing to the wishes of the people and the sponsorship of the American government, would have chafed—and Nicoli's ornate and nearly grandiose design would have further gone against Rizal's wishes. Kissling's obelisk, the sense of containment in its unpolished granite, was a compromise—but it better suited the principles of the man it had been built to honor.



Last days of Rizal sculptures by Eduardo Castrillo.



On December 29, 1912, a solemn ceremony was held to finally bury Rizal's remains at the base of the monument that would soon rise in his honor. His remains have been stored in an ivory urn kept in Narcisa Rizal's house in Binondo since their exhumation on August 17, 1898. Before this, they had lain in a grave in Paco Cemetery, marked only by a marble plaque with the hero's initials in reverse.

On December 30, 1912, after a funeral procession and a "lying in-state" at the Ayuntamiento de Manila, the urn bearing Rizal's remains was brought back to Luneta. Thus, a year after the re-interment—more than twelve years since the enactment Act No. 243 of 1901, and seventeen years to the day of his death—the monument to Rizal was unveiled.

Rizal had become both icon and institution—but this time out in the open: a guide to the laying down of roads, now a monument at whose foot all roads would literally converge: for the monument would be Kilometer Zero, in the

manner of classical antiquity, where all roads converged in Rome.

\* \* \*

In 1998, during a state visit in the Centennial Year of the First Republic, King Juan Carlos of Spain and his consort Queen Sofia stood before tomb of Dr. Jose P. Rizal and laid a wreath against its base. In the shadow of Intramuros, before the final resting place of the man who was shot as enemy number one, the descendant of the last king to rule over the Philippines paid his homage. Closure had come; symbolically, the breach had been healed. But few Filipinos noticed this act of racial and national vindication. The Rizal Monument, however, remains preeminent: focal point of Manila; premier icon of the nation; and the Luneta a gathering place of the citizenry, who wander in a park under the shadow of the man whose dreams for them outlived that moment when the rifles fired, and when, in a last effort of will, he turned to fall facing the rising sun.

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# Appendices

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PERPETUAL CALENDAR

FOUNDATION DATES

PHOTO SOURCES

BILIOGRAPHY

# Perpetual Calendar

## How to use the Perpetual Calendar:

A perpetual calendar is used to indicate the specific day a particular date falls on. For example, the date September 15, 2014 falls on a Monday. While it is generally easy to remember the day your anniversary falls on, or determine whether or not your birthday on a weekend, it is not as easy if you go 50 years back.

To use this calendar, first look up the year and its corresponding letter using the table below. Match the letter with the set of months and days on the succeeding pages. From there you can look at a specific date and find out exactly the day it was—or is going to be.

1898 G	1927 G	1956 H	1985 C	2014 D	2043 E	2072 M
1899 A	1928 H	1957 C	1986 D	2015 E	2044 M	2073 A
1900 H	1929 C	1958 D	1987 E	2016 M	2045 A	2074 B
1901 C	1930 D	1959 E	1988 M	2017 A	2046 B	2075 C
1902 D	1931 E	1960 M	1989 A	2018 B	2047 C	2076 K
1903 E	1932 M	1961 A	1990 B	2019 C	2048 K	2077 F
1904 M	1933 A	1962 B	1991 C	2020 K	2049 F	2078 G
1905 A	1934 B	1963 C	1992 K	2021 F	2050 G	2079 A
1906 B	1935 C	1964 K	1993 F	2022 G	2051 A	2080 I
1907 C	1936 K	1965 F	1994 G	2023 A	2052 I	2081 D
1908 K	1937 F	1966 G	1995 A	2024 I	2053 D	2082 E
1909 F	1938 G	1967 A	1996 I	2025 D	2054 E	2083 F
1910 G	1939 A	1968 I	1997 D	2026 E	2055 F	2084 N
1911 A	1940 I	1969 D	1998 E	2027 F	2056 N	2085 B
1912 I	1941 D	1970 E	1999 F	2028 N	2057 B	2086 C
1913 D	1942 E	1971 F	2000 N	2029 B	2058 C	2087 D
1914 E	1943 F	1972 N	2001 B	2030 C	2059 D	2088 L
1915 F	1944 N	1973 B	2002 C	2031 D	2060 L	2089 G
1916 N	1945 B	1974 C	2003 D	2032 L	2061 G	2090 A
1917 B	1946 C	1975 D	2004 L	2033 G	2062 A	2091 B
1918 C	1947 D	1976 L	2005 G	2034 A	2063 B	2092 J
1919 D	1948 L	1977 G	2006 A	2035 B	2064 J	2093 E
1920 L	1949 G	1978 A	2007 B	2036 J	2065 E	2094 F
1921 G	1950 A	1979 B	2008 J	2037 E	2066 F	2095 G
1922 A	1951 B	1980 J	2009 E	2038 F	2067 G	2096 H
1923 B	1952 J	1981 E	2010 F	2039 G	2068 H	2097 C
1924 J	1953 E	1982 F	2011 G	2040 H	2069 C	2098 D
1925 E	1954 F	1983 G	2012 H	2041 C	2070 D	2099 E
1926 F	1955 G	1984 H	2013 C	2042 D	2071 E	2100 F



# PERPETUAL CALENDAR

**A**

January							February							March							April							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
29	30	31																			30							

May							June							July							August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31			
28	29	30	31										30	31													

September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
							29	30	31														31				

**B**

January							February							March							April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	26	27	28	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
28	29	30	31																29	30							

May							June							July							August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	31							

September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30							28	29	30	31							30	31									

**C**

January							February							March							April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				
													31							28	29	30					

May							June							July							August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
							30																				

September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30						27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31						

# PERPETUAL CALENDAR

**D**

January							February							March							April												
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						
			1	2	3	4							1												1				1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26						
26	27	28	30	31			23	24	25	26	27	28	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30										
														30	31																		

May							June							July							August								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	5							1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
																					31								

September							October							November							December											
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					
			1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4								1				1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27					
28	29	30					26	27	28	30	31			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31								
														30																		

**E**

January							February							March							April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

May							June							July							August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	4							1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
																					30	31					

September							October							November							December							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
			1	2	3	4	5				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			

**F**

January							February							March							April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6						1	2	3	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28							28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	

May							June							July							August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1		6	7	8	9	10	11	12				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29								25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31				
30	31																										

September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30			31							28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	



# PERPETUAL CALENDAR

**J**

January							February							March							April									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
			1	2	3	4	5						1	2								1				1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	29	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30									
														30	31															

May							June							July							August								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	5							1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		

September							October							November							December										
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				
		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4								1				1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31											

**K**

January							February							March							April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30							

May							June							July							August								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
				1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
31																													

September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	27	28	29	30	31									

**L**

January							February							March							April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	28	29	30	31	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30						

May							June							July							August															
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S									
						1				1	2	3	4	5							1	2	3							1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14									
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21									
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28									
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31																
30	31																																			

September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31							

# PERPETUAL CALENDAR

**M**

January							February							March							April									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3	4	5						1	2			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
31																														
May							June							July							August									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27			
29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	28	29	30	31	28	29	30	31							
September							October							November							December									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
					1	2	3						1			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
							30	31																						

**N**

January							February							March							April								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
						1			1	2	3	4	5				1	2	3	4							1		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31																30	27	28	29	30	31	30						
May							June							July							August								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3						1			1	2	3	4	5				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31	27	28	29	30	31			
												30	31																
September							October							November							December								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4						1	2		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
																31													

# Foundation Dates

## *Provinces and Chartered Cities*

### PROVINCES

#### *Cordillera Administrative Region*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Abra	March 9	Republic Act No. 7682 of 1994	Special (non-working) day in the province of Abra
Apayao	February 14	Republic Act No. 7878 of 1995	Special (non-working) day in the province of Apayao
Benguet	June 18	Republic Act No. 4695 of 1966	Special (non-working) day in the province of Benguet
Ifugao	June 18	Republic Act No. 4695 of 1966	Special (non-working) day in the province of Ifugao
Kalinga	February 14	Republic Act No. 7878 of 1995	Special (non-working) day in the province of Kalinga
Mt. Province	April 7	Republic Act No. 4695 of 1966	Special (non-working) day in the province of Mt. Province

#### *Region I-Ilocos Region*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Ilocos Norte	February 2	Act No. 207 of 1901	Special working holiday
Ilocos Sur	February 2	Act No. 205 of 1901	Special working holiday
La Union	March 2	Proclamation No. 334, s. 2012	Special (non-working) day in the province of La Union
Pangasinan	April 5	Proclamation No. 130, s. 2011	Special (non-working) day in the province of Pangasinan

#### *Region II-Cagayan Valley*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Batanes	June 26	Act 1952 of 1909	Special (non-working) day in the province of Batanes
Cagayan	June 29	Act No. 209 of 1901	Special (non-working) day in the province of Cagayan
Isabela	April 25	Republic Act No. 9023 of 2001	Special (non-working) day in the province of Isabela
Nueva Vizcaya	May 24	Act No. 337 of 1902	Special (non-working) day in the province of Isabela
Quirino	September 10	Republic Act No. 6394 of 1971	Special working holiday

#### *Region III-Central Luzon*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Aurora	February 19	Batas Pambansa Blg. 7 of 1978	Special (non-working) day in the province of Aurora
Bataan	March 2	Act No. 92 of 1901	Special working holiday
Bulacan	August 15	Proclamation No. 823, s. 2014	Special (non-working) day in the province of Bulacan
Nueva Ecija	September 2	Republic Act No. 7596 of 1992	Special (non-working) day in the province of Nueva Ecija
Pampanga	December 11	Proclamation No. 2226, s. 1982	Special (non-working) day in the province of Pampanga
Tarlac	April 19	Republic Act No. 8593 of 1998	Special (non-working) day in the province of Tarlac
Zambales	September 10	Act No. 211 of 1901	Special (non-working) day in the province of Zambales

*Region IV-A Calabarzon*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Batangas	July 23	Republic Act No. 5495 of 1969	Special (non-working) day in the province of Batangas
Cavite	September 7	Proclamation No. 462, s. 2012	Special (non-working) day in the province of Cavite
Laguna	June 19	Republic Act No. 7950 of 1995	Special (non-working) day in the province of Laguna
Quezon	August 19	Republic Act No. 6741 of 1989	Special (non-working) day in the province of Quezon
Rizal	June 11	Act No. 137 of 1901	Special (non-working) day in the province of Rizal

*Region IV-B Mimaropa*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Marinduque	February 21	Act No. 125 of 1916	Special (non-working) day in the province of Marinduque
Occidental Mindoro	November 15	Republic Act No. 505 of 1950	Special (non-working) day in the province of Occidental Mindoro
Oriental Mindoro	November 15	Republic Act No. 505 of 1950	Special (non-working) day in the province of Oriental Mindoro
Palawan	June 23	Republic Act No. 9748 of 2009	Special (non-working) day in the province of Palawan
Romblon	January 1	Republic Act No. 38 of 1947	Special (non-working) day in the province of Romblon

*Region V Bicol Region*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Albay	April 3	Proclamation No. 557, s. 2013	Special (non-working) day in the province of Albay
Camarines Norte	April 15	Act No. 2809 of 1919	Special (non-working) day in the province of Camarines Norte
Camarines Sur	April 15	Act No. 2809 of 1919	Special (non-working) day in the province of Camarines Sur
Catanduanes	October 26	Commonwealth Act No. 687 of 1945	Special (non-working) day in the province of Catanduanes
Masbate	March 18	Proclamation No. 726, s. 2014	Special (non-working) day in the province of Masbate
Sorsogon	October 17	Republic Act No. 7380 of 1992	Special (non-working) day in the province of Sorsogon

*Region VI Western Visayas*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Aklan	April 25	Republic Act No. 1414 of 1956	Special (non-working) day in the province of Aklan
Antique	March 10	Act No. 114 of 1901	Special (non-working) day in the province of Antique
Capiz	April 15	Act No. 115 of 1901	Special (non-working) day in the province of Capiz
Guimaras	May 11	Republic Act No. 7160 of 1992	Special working holiday
Iloilo	April 11	Act No. 113 of 1901	Special working holiday
Negros Occidental	November 5	Republic Act No. 6709 of 1989	Special (non-working) day in the province of Negros Occidental

*Region VII Central Visayas*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Bohol	July 22	Republic Act No. 7683 of 1994	Special (non-working) day in the province of Bohol
Cebu	August 6	Republic Act No. 8952 of 2000	Special (non-working) day in the Province of Cebu
Negros Oriental	April 20	Act No. 1753 of 1901	Special working holiday
Siquijor	September 17	Republic Act No. 7673 of 1994	Special (non-working) day in the Province of Siquijor

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*Region VIII Eastern Visayas*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Biliran	May 11	Republic Act No. 7160 of 1991	Special (non-working) day in the province of Biliran
Eastern Samar	June 19	Republic Act No. 4221 of 1965	Special (non-working) day in the province of Eastern Samar
Leyte	March 10	Act No. 121 of 1901	Special working holiday
Northern Samar	June 19	Republic Act No. 4221 of 1965	Special (non-working) day in the province of Northern Samar
Samar	August 11	Proclamation No. 427, s. 2012	Special (non-working) day in the province of Samar
Southern Leyte	May 22	Republic Act No. 2227 of 1959	Special working holiday

*Region IX Zamboanga Peninsula*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Zamboanga del Norte	June 6	Republic Act No. 711 of 1952	Special (non-working) day in the province of Zamboanga del Norte
Zamboanga del Sur	September 18	Proclamation No. 860, s. 2014	Special (non-working) day in the province of Zamboanga del Sur
Zamboanga Sibugay	February 24	Republic Act No. 8973 of 2000	Special (non-working) day in the province of Zamboanga Sibugay

*Region X Northern Mindanao*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Bukidnon	September 1	Act No. 2408 of 1914	Special (non-working) day in the province of Bukidnon
Camiguin	January 7	Republic Act No. 9204 of 2003	Special (non-working) day in the province of Camiguin
Lanao del Norte	July 4	Republic Act No. 2228 of 1959	Special (non-working) day in the province of Lanao Del Norte
Misamis Occidental	November 2	Proclamation No. 274, s. 2011	Special (non-working) day in the province of Misamis Occidental
Misamis Oriental	November 28	Act No. 3777 of 1930	Special (non-working) day in the province of Misamis Oriental

*Region XI Davao Region*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Compostela Valley	March 8	Republic Act No. 9426 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the province of Compostela Valley
Davao del Norte	July 1	Republic Act No. 6380 of 1971	Special (non-working) day in the province of Davao del Norte
Davao del Sur	July 1	Republic Act No. 6380 of 1971	Special (non-working) day in the province of Davao del Sur
Davao Oriental	July 1	Republic Act No. 6380 of 1971	Special (non-working) day in the province of Davao Oriental

*Region XII SOCCSKSARGEN*

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
North Cotabato	November 22	Presidential Decree No. 341, s. 1973	Special (non-working) day in the province of North Cotabato

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Sarangani	November 25	Proclamation No. 291, s. 2011	Special (non-working) day in the province of Sarangani
South Cotabato	July 18	Republic Act No. 4849 of 1966	Special (non-working) day in the province of South Cotabato
Sultan Kudarat	November 22	Presidential Decree No. 341, s. 1973	Special (non-working) day in the province of Sultan Kudarat

### Region XIII CARAGA

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Agusan del Norte	June 17	Republic Act No. 4979 of 1967	Special working holiday
Agusan del Sur	June 17	Republic Act No. 4979 of 1967	Special working holiday
Dinagat Island	October 2	Republic Act No. 9355 of 2005	Special (non-working) day in the province of Dinagat Island
Surigao del Norte	June 19	Republic Act No. 2786 of 1960	Special (non-working) day in the province of Surigao del Norte
Surigao del Sur	June 19	Republic Act No. 7671 of 1994	Special (non-working) day in Surigao del Sur

### ARMM

Province	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Basilan	March 7	Presidential Decree No.356, s. 1973	Special (non-working) day in the province of Basilan
Lanao del Sur	May 22	Republic Act No. 2228 of 1959	Special working holiday
Maguindanao	November 22	Presidential Decree No. 341, s. 1973	Special working holiday
Sulu	March 10	Act No. 2711 of 1917	Special (non-working) day in the province of Sulu
Tawi-Tawi	September 27	Presidential Decree No. 302, s. 1973	Special (non-working) day in the province of Tawi-Tawi

## CHARTERED CITIES

### National Capital Region

Cities	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Caloocan	February 16	Republic Act No. 7550 of 1992	Special (non-working) day in the city of Caloocan
Las Piñas	February 12	Republic Act No. 8251 of 1997	Special (non-working) day in the city of Las Piñas
Makati	June 1	Republic Act No. 7854 of 1994	Special (non-working) day in the city of Makati
Malabon	April 21	Republic Act No. 9019 of 2001	Special (non-working) day in the city of Malabon
Mandaluyong	February 9	Republic Act No. 7675 of 1994	Special (non-working) day in the city of Mandaluyong
Manila	June 24	Presidential Decree No. 940, s. 1976	Special (non-working) day in the city of Manila
Marikina	November 26	Proclamation No. 1417, s. 1975	Special (non-working) day in the city of Marikina
Muntinlupa	March 1	Republic Act No. 9191 of 2003	Special (non-working) day in the city of Muntinlupa
Navotas	January 16	Republic Act No. 9387 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of Navotas
Parañaque	February 13	Republic Act No. 8507 of 1998	Special (non-working) day in the city of Parañaque
Pasay	December 2	Proclamation No. 294, s. 2011	Special (non-working) day in the city of Pasay
Pasig	July 2	Republic Act No. 7829 of 1994	Special (non-working) day in the city of Pasig
Quezon	August 19	Republic Act No. 6741 of 1989	Special (non-working) day in the city of Quezon
San Juan	March 27	Republic Act No. 9388 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of San Juan
Taguig	December 8	Proclamation No. 298, s. 2011	Special (non-working) day in the city of Taguig
Valenzuela	November 12	Proclamation No. 498, s. 2012	Special (non-working) day in the city of Valenzuela

### *Cordillera Administrative Region*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Baguio (Benguet)	<i>September 1</i>	Republic Act No. 6710 of 1989	Special (non-working) day in the city of Baguio
Tabuk (Kalingan)	<i>March 23</i>	Republic Act No. 9404 of 2007	Special working holiday

### *Region I*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Alaminos (Pangasinan)	<i>March 29</i>	Executive Order No. 2, s. 2006	Special (non-working) day in the city of Alaminos
Batac (Ilocos Norte)	<i>June 23</i>	Republic Act No. 9407 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of Batac
Candon (Ilocos Sur)	<i>March 25</i>	Republic Act No. 9018 of 2001	Special (non-working) day in the city of Candon
Dagupan (Pangasinan)	<i>June 20</i>	Republic Act No. 170 of 1947	Special (non-working) day in the city of Dagupan
Laoag (Ilocos Norte)	<i>June 19</i>	Republic Act No. 4584 of 1965	Special (non-working) day in the city of Laoag
San Carlos (Pangasinan)	<i>July 1</i>	Proclamation No. 189, s. 2011	Special (non-working) day in the city of San Carlos
San Fernando (La Union)	<i>February 13</i>	Republic Act No. 8509 of 1998	Special working holiday
Urdaneta (Pangasinan)	<i>March 20</i>	Republic Act No. 8480 of 1998	Special working holiday
Vigan (Ilocos Sur)	<i>January 22</i>	Republic Act No. 9411 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of Vigan

### *Region II*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Cauayan (Isabela)	<i>February 28</i>	Republic Act No. 9017 of 2001	Special working holiday
Ilagan (Isabela)	<i>August 11</i>	Republic Act No. 8474 of 1998	Special (non-working) day in the city of Ilagan
Santiago (Isabela)	<i>May 5</i>	Republic Act No. 7720 of 1994	Special working holiday
Tuguegarao (Cagayan)	<i>December 18</i>	Republic Act No. 8755 of 1999	Special (non-working) day in the city of Tuguegarao

### *Region III*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Angeles (Pampanga)	<i>June 22</i>	Republic Act No. 3700 of 1963	Special (non-working) day in the city of Angeles
Balanga (Bataan)	<i>December 30</i>	Republic Act No. 8984 of 2000	Special (non-working) day in the city of Balanga
Cabanatuan (Nueva Ecija)	<i>February 3</i>	Republic Act No. 526 of 1950	Special (non-working) day in the city of Cabanatuan
Gapan (Nueva Ecija)	<i>August 25</i>	Republic Act No. 9022 of 2001	Special (non-working) day in the city of Gapan
Mabalacat (Pampanga)	<i>July 21</i>	Republic Act No. 10164 of 2012	Special working holiday
Malolos (Bulacan)	<i>December 18</i>	Republic Act No. 8754 of 1999	Special working holiday
Meycauayan (Bulacan)	<i>December 10</i>	Republic Act No. 9356 of 2006	Special (non-working) day in the city of Meycauayan
Olongapo, Zambales	<i>June 1</i>	Republic Act No. 4645 of 1966	Special working holiday

### Region III

City	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Palayan (Nueva Ecija)	December 5	Republic Act No. 4475 of 1965	Special (non-working) day in the city of Palayan
San Fernando (Pampanga)	February 4	Republic Act No. 8990 of 2001	Special working holiday
San Jose (Nueva Ecija)	August 10	Republic Act No. 9776 of 2009	Special (non-working) day in the city of San Jose
San Juan del Monte (Bulacan)	September 10	Republic Act No. 9750 of 2009	Special (non-working) day in the city of San Juan del Monte
Science City of Muñoz (Nueva Ecija)	December 9	Republic Act No. 8977 of 2000	Special working holiday
Tarlac (Tarlac)	April 19	Republic Act No. 8593 of 1998	Special (non-working) day in the city of Tarlac

### Region IV-A Calabarzon

City	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Antipolo (Rizal)	April 4	Republic Act No. 8508 of 1998	Special (non-working) day in the city of Antipolo
Bacoor (Cavite)	September 29	Republic Act No. 10160 of 2012	Special (non-working) day in the city of Bacoor
Batangas (Batangas)	July 23	Republic Act No. 5495 of 1969	Special (non-working) day in the city of Batangas
Biñan (Laguna)	February 2	Republic Act No. 9740 of 2010	Special (non-working) day in the city of Biñan
Cabuyao (Laguna)	May 16	Republic Act No. 10163 of 2012	Special (non-working) day in the city of Cabuyao
Calamba (Laguna)	April 21	Republic Act No. 9024 of 2001	Special (non-working) day in the city of Calamba
Cavite (Cavite)	September 7	Commonwealth Act No. 547 of 1909	Special (non-working) day in the city of Cavite
Dasmariñas (Cavite)	November 26	Republic Act No. 9723 of 2009	Special (non-working) day in the city of Dasmariñas
Imus (Cavite)	April 10	Republic Act No. 10161 of 2012	Special (non-working) day in the city of Imus
Lipa (Batangas)	June 20	Republic Act No. 162 of 1947	Special (non-working) day in the city of Lipa
Lucena (Quezon)	August 20	Proclamation No. 448, s. 2012	Special (non-working) day in the city of Lucena
San Pablo (Laguna)	May 7	Commonwealth Act No. 520 of 1940	Special (non-working) day in the city of San Pablo
Santa Rosa (Laguna)	January 18	Proclamation No. 309, s. 2012	Special (non-working) day in the city of Santa Rosa
Tagaytay (Cavite)	June 21	Commonwealth Act No. 338 of 1938	Special (non-working) day in the city of Tagaytay
Tanauan (Batangas)	March 10	Republic Act No. 9005 of 2001	Special (non-working) day in the city of Tanauan
Tayabas (Quezon)	March 18	Republic Act No. 9398 of 2007	Special working holiday
Trece Martires (Cavite)	October 11	Republic Act No. 981 of 1954	Special working holiday

### Region IV-B Mimaropa

City	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Calapan (Oriental Mindoro)	March 21	Republic Act No. 8475 of 1998	Special working holiday
Puerto Princesa (Palawan)	March 4	Republic Act No. 5906 of 1969	Special (non-working) day in the city of Puerto Princesa

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*Region V*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Iriga (Camarines Sur)	<i>September 3</i>	Republic Act No. 5261 of 1968	Special (non-working) day in the city of Iriga
Legazpi (Albay)	<i>June 12</i>	Republic Act No. 2234 of 1959	Special working holiday
Ligao (Albay)	<i>March 24</i>	Republic Act No. 9008 of 2001	Special (non-working) day in the city of Ligao
Masbate (Masbate)	<i>September 30</i>	Republic Act No. 8807 of 2000	Special (non-working) day in the city of Masbate
Naga (Camarines Sur)	<i>June 18</i>	Republic Act No. 9210 of 2003	Special (non-working) day in the city of Naga
Sorsogon (Sorsogon)	<i>August 16</i>	Republic Act No. 8806 of 2000	Special working holiday
Tabaco (Albay)	<i>March 24</i>	Republic Act No. 9020 of 2001	Special (non-working) day in the city of Tabaco

*Region VI*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Bacolod (Negros Occidental)	<i>October 19</i>	Republic Act No. 7724 of 1994	Special (non-working) day in the city of Bacolod
Bago (Negros Occidental)	<i>February 19</i>	Republic Act No. 4382 of 1966	Special working holiday
Cadiz (Negros Occidental)	<i>July 4</i>	Republic Act No. 4894 of 1967	Special (non-working) day in the city of Cadiz
Escalante (Negros Occidental)	<i>February 28</i>	Republic Act No. 9014 of 2001	Special (non-working) day in the city of Escalante
Himamaylan (Negros Occidental)	<i>March 31</i>	Republic Act No. 9028 of 2011	Special working holiday
Iloilo (Iloilo)	<i>August 25</i>	Commonwealth Act No. 158 of 1937	Special (non-working) day in the city of Iloilo
Kabankalan (Negros Occidental)	<i>August 2</i>	Republic Act No. 8297 of 1997	Special working holiday
La Carlota (Negros Occidental)	<i>June 19</i>	Republic Act No. 4845 of 1965	Special working holiday
Passi (Iloilo)	<i>March 14</i>	Republic Act No. 8469 of 1998	Special (non-working) day in the city of Passi
Roxas (Capiz)	<i>May 12</i>	Republic Act No. 608 of 1951	Special working holiday
Sagay (Negros Occidental)	<i>June 11</i>	Proclamation No. 392, s. 2012	Special (non-working) day in the city of Sagay
San Carlos (Negros Occidental)	<i>July 1</i>	Proclamation No. 189, s. 2011	Special (non-working) day in the city of San Carlos
Sipalay (Negros Occidental)	<i>March 31</i>	Republic Act No. 9027 of 2001	Special (non-working) day in the city of Sipalay
Talisay (Negros Occidental)	<i>February 11</i>	Republic Act No. 8979 of 1992	Special (non-working) day in the city of Talisay
Victorias (Negros Occidental)	<i>March 21</i>	Republic Act No. 8488 of 1998	Special (non-working) day in the city of Victorias

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*Region VII*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Bais (Negros Oriental)	<i>September 9</i>	Republic Act No. 5444 of 1968	Special (non-working) day in the city of Bais
Bayawan (Negros Oriental)	<i>December 23</i>	Republic Act No. 8983 of 2000	Special (non-working) day in the city of Bayawan
Bogo (Cebu)	<i>June 16</i>	Republic Act No. 9390 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of Bogo
Canlaon (Negros Oriental)	<i>July 2</i>	Executive Order No. 193, s. 1967	Special working holiday
Carcar (Cebu)	<i>July 7</i>	Republic Act No.10358 of 2013	Special working holiday
Cebu (Cebu)	<i>August 6</i>	Republic Act No. 7287 of 1992	Special (non-working) day in the city of Cebu
Danao (Cebu)	<i>June 7</i>	Republic Act No. 3028 of 1961	Special working holiday
Dumaguete (Negros Oriental)	<i>November 24</i>	Republic Act No. 327 of 1948	Special working holiday
Guihulngan (Negros Oriental)	<i>July 14</i>	Republic Act No. 9409 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of Guihulngan
Lapu-Lapu (Cebu)	<i>June 17</i>	Republic Act No. 3134 of 1961	Special (non-working) day in the city of Lapu-Lapu
Mandaue (Cebu)	<i>August 30</i>	Republic Act No. 8952 of 2000	Special (non-working) day in the city of Mandaue
Naga (Cebu)	<i>September 5</i>	Republic Act No. 9491 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of Naga
Tagbilaran (Bohol)	<i>July 2</i>	Republic Act No. 7683 of 1994	Special (non-working) day in the city of Tagbilaran
Talisay (Cebu)	<i>February 11</i>	Republic Act No. 8979 of 1992	Special (non-working) day in the city of Talisay
Tanjay (Negros Oriental)	<i>April 1</i>	Republic Act No. 9026 of 2001	Special working holiday
Toledo (Cebu)	<i>January 6</i>	Republic Act No. 2688 of 1969	Special (non-working) day in the city of Toledo

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*Region VIII*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Baybay (Leyte)	<i>June 6</i>	Republic Act No. 9389 of 2007	Special working holiday
Borongan (Eastern Samar)	<i>June 20</i>	Republic Act No. 9394 of 2007	Special working holiday
Calbayog (Western Samar)	<i>October 16</i>	Republic Act No. 328 of 1948	Special (non-working) day in the city of Calbayog
Catbalogan (Western Samar)	<i>June 16</i>	Republic Act No. 9391 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of Catbalogan
Maasin (Southern Leyte)	<i>August 10</i>	Republic Act No. 9202 of 2003	Special (non-working) day in the city of Maasin
Ormoc (Leyte)	<i>October 20</i>	Republic Act No. 179 of 1947	Special (non-working) day in the city of Ormoc
Tacloban (Leyte)	<i>June 12</i>	Republic Act No. 760 of 1953	Special working holiday

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*Region IX*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Dapitan (Zamboanga del Norte)	<i>June 22</i>	Republic Act No. 3811 of 1963	Special (non-working) day in the city of Dapitan

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*Region IX Zamboanga Peninsula*

City	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Dipolog (Zamboanga del Norte)	July 1	Republic Act No. 5520 of 1970	Special (non-working) day in the city of Dipolog
Pagadian (Zamboanga del Sur)	June 21	Republic Act No. 5478 of 1969	Special (non-working) day in the city of Pagadian
Zamboanga (Zamboanga del Sur)	February 26	Act No. 272 of 1912	Special (non-working) day in the city of Zamboanga

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*Region X Northern Mindanao*

City	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Cagayan de Oro (Misamis Oriental)	June 15	Republic Act No. 7670 of 1994	Special (non-working) day in the city of Cagayan de Oro
Gingoog (Misamis Oriental)	July 23	Republic Act No. 2668 of 1960	Special (non-working) day in the city of Gingoog
El Salvador (Misamis Oriental)	June 27	Republic Act No. 9435 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of El Salvador
Iligan (Lanao del Norte)	June 16	Republic Act No. 525 of 1950	Special (non-working) day in the city of Iligan
Malaybalay (Bukidnon)	March 22	Republic Act No. 8490 of 1998	Special working holiday
Oroquieta (Misamis Occidental)	January 1	Republic Act No. 7677 of 1994	Special (non-working) day in the city of Oroquieta
Ozamiz (Misamis Occidental)	July 16	Republic Act No. 321 of 1948	Special (non-working) day in the city of Ozamiz
Tangub (Misamis Occidental)	February 28	Republic Act No. 5153 of 1967	Special (non-working) day in the city of Tangub
Valencia (Bukidnon)	December 5	Republic Act No. 8985 of 2000	Special working holiday

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*Region XI Davao Region*

City	Date	Proclamation	Type of Holiday
Davao (Davao del Sur)	March 17	Republic Act No. 7685 of 1994	Special (non-working) day in the city of Davao
Digos (Davao del Sur)	September 8	Proclamation No. 444, s. 2012	Special (non-working) day in the city of Digos
Island Garden City of Samal (Davao del Norte)	January 30	Republic Act No. 8471 of 1998	Special working holiday
Mati (Davao Oriental)	March 24	Republic Act No. 9408 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of Mati

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*Region XI Davao Region*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Panabo (Davao del Norte)	<i>March 31</i>	Republic Act No. 9015 of 2001	Special (non-working) day in the city of Panabo
Tagum (Davao del Norte)	<i>March 7</i>	Republic Act No. 8472 of 1998	Special (non-working) day in the city of Tagum

*Region XII SOCCSKSARGEN*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Cotabato (Maguindanao)	<i>September 1</i>	Republic Act No. 2364 of 1959	Special (non-working) day in the city of Cotabato
Gen. Santos (South Cotabato)	<i>September 5</i>	Republic Act No. 5412 of 1968	Special (non-working) day in the city of Gen. Santos
Kidapawan (North Cotabato)	<i>January 12</i>	Republic Act No. 8500 of 1998	Special (non-working) day in the city of Kidapawan
Koronadal (South Cotabato)	<i>January 10</i>	Republic Act No. 8803 of 2000	Special (non-working) day in the city of Koronadal
Tacurong (Sultan Kudarat)	<i>September 18</i>	Republic Act No. 8805 of 2000	Special (non-working) day in the city of Tacurong

*Region XIII CARAGA*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Bayugan (Agusan del Sur)	<i>June 30</i>	Republic Act No. 9405 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of Bayugan
Bislig (Surigao del Sur)	<i>September 18</i>	Republic Act No. 8804 of 2000	Special (non-working) day in the city of Bislig
Butuan (Agusan del Norte)	<i>August 2</i>	Republic Act No. 523 of 1950	Special (non-working) day in the city of Butuan
Cabadbaran (Agusan del Norte)	<i>July 28</i>	Republic Act No. 9434 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of Cabadbaran
Surigao (Surigao del Norte)	<i>August 30</i>	Republic Act No. 6134 of 1970	Special (non-working) day in the city of Surigao
Tandag (Surigao del Sur)	<i>June 23</i>	Republic Act No. 9392 of 2007	Special (non-working) day in the city of Tandag

*ARMM*

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proclamation</b>	<b>Type of Holiday</b>
Marawi (Lanao del Sur)	<i>April 15</i>	Republic Act No. 288 of 1948	Special (non-working) day in the city of Marawi
Isabela (Basilan)	<i>April 25</i>	Republic Act No. 9023 of 2001	Special (non-working) day in the city of Isabela
Lamitan (Basilan)	<i>March 15</i>	Republic Act No. 9393 of 2007	Special working holiday

Source: Nationwide and Local Holidays by the Official Gazette

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### JULY

1 Wikimedia Commons; 2 Wikimedia Commons; 3 Official Gazette; 4 Blue Book of the First Year of the Republic; 5 United States Navy Naval History and Heritage Command; 6 TIME Magazine; 7 Ambrose Coleman, Project Gutenberg's The Friars in the Philippines; 8 Archivo de la Universidad de Santo Tomas, Manila; 9 Ramon Magsaysay Foundation; 10 The Philippines by Donn V. Hart & Harold E. Wilson via Filipinas Heritage Library; 11 Xiao Chua, Arnaldo Dumindin; 12 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 13 UP Archaeological Studies Program's Library; 14 Global Beauties; 15 Pinoy Collector; 16 City of Pines; 17 TIME Magazine; 18 Derrick Macutay; 19 John Tewell; 20 Presidential Museum and Library; 21 Xiao Chua; 22 Visions of the Possible, Felice Prudente Sta. Maria; 23 Mabini Shrine, Tanauan Batangas; 24 U.S. Library of Congress; 25 Malacañang Photo Bureau; 26 Ibiblio; 27 Lucban Historical and Heritage Conservation Society; 28 Quezon City Public Library; 29 Histogravure of Manuel L. Quezon; 30 Presidential Museum and Library; 31 Hawaii Government; *Historical Evolution of the State of the Nation Address* Malacañang Photo Bureau Presidential Museum and Library.

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### AUGUST

1 Manuel L. Quezon: His Life and Career by Sol H. Gwekoh; 2 Skyscraper City; 3 Wikimedia Commons; 4 Manuel L. Quezon Collection; 5 Wikimedia Commons; 6 National Library of the Philippines; 7 Histogravure of Manuel L. Quezon; 8 U.S. Library of Congress; 9 Wikimedia Commons; 10 Wikimedia Commons; 11 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 12 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 13 Harper's Pictorial History of the War with Spain, Vol. II; 14 Wikimedia Commons; 15 Wikimedia Commons; 16 WikiPilipinas; 17 Presidential Museum and Library; 18 Jesse Robredo Memorial Book; 19 Manuel L. Quezon III Collection; 20 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 21 Presidential Museum and Library; 22 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 23 Wikimedia Commons; 24 Studio 5; 25 Edward Delos Santos, Pinoy Kolektor; 26 Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center; 27 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-

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## PHOTO SOURCES

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American War Website; 28 National Geographic Channel; 29 Wikimedia Commons; 30 Wikimedia Commons; 31 Presidential Museum and Library; *Defend it at Plaza Miranda* John Tewell, Gerry Roxas Foundation.

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### SEPTEMBER

*September* Presidential Museum and Library; 1 Wikimedia Commons; 2 Official Gazette; 3 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 4 Wikimedia Commons; 5 Philippine Free Press; 6 Wikimedia Commons; 7 Center for Bulacan Studies; 8 US National Archives and Records; 9 National Library of the Philippines; 10 The Antonio V. del Rosario Heritage Library; 11 William Rempel; 12 Trece Martires Government; 13 Ninoy: The Willing Martyr; 14 Transpacific Project; 15 Presidential Museum and Library; 16 National Museum; 17 Philippine Information Agency - Tarlac; 18 Wikimedia Commons; 19 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 20 Bayani Warrior; 21 Wikimedia Commons; 22 Wikimedia Commons; 23 Presidential Museum and Library; 24 Elaput.org; 25 Wikimedia Commons; 26 Wikimedia Commons; 27 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 28 LIFE Magazine; 29 National Historical Commission of the Philippines; 30 Bayani Art; *Martial Law* Presidential Museum and Library.

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### OCTOBER

1 Primo Esteria, The Kahimyang Project; 2 Presidential Museum and Library; 3 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 4 Florian Millare, Filipino Deltiologist; 5 Asean Korea Blog; 6 Library of Congress; 7 TIME Magazine; 8 Skyscraper City; 9 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 10 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 11 Presidential Museum and Library; 12 Wikimedia Commons; 13 Skyscraper City; 14 Primo Esteria, The Kahimyang Project; 15 Malacañang Photo Bureau; 16 Assembly of the Nation: A Centennial History of the House of Representatives 1907-2007 by Manuel L. Quezon III, Jeremy R. Barns, Emmanuel A. Albano, Ricardo T. Jose and Manuel F. Martinez.; 17 *Manuel Luis Quezon* by Edgardo J. Angara and Sonia P. Ner; 18 *Ang Pagdating ni Elias Plaridel At Iba Pang Piling Mga Kuwento* by Ave Pérez Jacob; 19 Apalit Gonzales; 20 Wikimedia Commons; 21 National Library of the Philippines; 22 National Library of the Philippines; 23 National Archives and Records Administration; 24 National Archives and Records Administration; 25 Wikimedia Commons; 26 Primo Esteria, The Kahimyang Project; 27 Primo Esteria, The Kahimyang Project; 28 Presidential Museum and Library; 29 Skyscraper City;

30 Official Gazette; 31 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; *Presidential Yachts* Presidential Museum and Library.

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### NOVEMBER

1 Presidential Museum and Library; 2 Phil Maps Collectors Society; 3 Austin Craig: The Story of José Rizal; 4 National Library of the Philippines; 5 Wikimedia Commons; 6 Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office; 7 Sybhel Cordero; 8 National Library of the Philippines; 9 SIL Philippines; 10 Wikimedia Commons; 11 Presidential Museum and Library; 12 LIFE Magazine; 13 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 14 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 15 Presidential Museum and Library; 16 National Library of the Philippines; 17 Wikimedia Commons; 18 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 19 Wikimedia Commons; 20 Archivo de la Universidad de Santo Tomas, Manila; 21 Malacañan Palace: The Official Illustrated History; 22 Google Images; 23 Wikimedia Commons; 24 Wikimedia Commons; 25 Negros Museum; 26 Malacañang Photo Bureau; 27 Ninoy: Ideals and Ideologies 1932-1983; 28 Wikimedia Commons; 29 National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics; 30 Studio 5 Designs; *Bonifacio Sesquicentennial* Official Gazette.

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### DECEMBER

*December* Manuel L. Quezon III Collection; 1 Histogravure of Manuel L. Quezon; 2 Presidential Museum and Library; 3 American Free Press; 4 Presidential Museum and Library; 5 Romeo Gacad, American Free Press; 6 Presidential Museum and Library; 7 Youtube; 8 Wikimedia Commons; 9 U.S. Library of Congress; 10 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 11 Presidential Museum and Library; 12 Presidential Museum and Library; 13 U.S. Library of Congress; 14 Wikimedia Commons; 15 Ambeth Ocampo; 16 Video 48; 17 Associated Press; 18 Austrian-Philippine Website 19 Aurelio Escobar Castellanos Archive; 20 University of Michigan Archive; 21 U.S. Library of Congress; 22 Center of Military History, US Army; 23 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 24 Presidential Museum and Library; 25 Malacañang Photo Bureau 26 Center of Military History, US Army; 27 Belarmino Collection, Museo De Silan; 28 Wikimedia Commons; 29 Arnaldo Dumindin, Philippine-American War Website; 30 Presidential Museum and Library; 31 Wikimedia Commons; *The Rizal Monument* Presidential Museum and Library.

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