

PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC CLUB

DECEMBER 8, 1944

MINIATURE ALBUM

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PHILIPPINES
JAPANESE OCCUPATION ISSUE

FOREWORD

INDUBITABLY the Japanese occupation of the Philippines amidst the present World War II, will earn a place in Philippine history. As the history of virtually every country is reflected through its postage stamps, historically the Japanese occupation of the Philippines as part of Philippine history, may be traced through the ubiquitous hobby of philately. Relatively, at the time of writing up this collection, the present World War II is still going on, and for this reason, the events relevant to the occupation stamps in this collection are given chronologically as reflected through the stamps of the Philippines issued during the Japanese occupation.—RIZALINO D. ARISPIA SR.

Manila, October 13, 1943.

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INTRODUCTION

DECEMBER 8, 1941, saw the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War, a war between the Japanese Empire and the ABCD powers (America, Britain, China and Dutch East Indies). According to the Japanese, it is a "war of liberation for all subjugated Oriental peoples"; its war cry is "Asia for the Asiatics", and aims to establish a "New Order based on moral justice," with the ultimate end of establishing the "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperty Sphere." Thus, upon the declaration of war by Japan against the ABCD powers, on December 8, 1941, the Japanese Empire issued the following Imperial Rescript:

We, by grace of heaven, Emperor of Japan, seated on the Throne of a line unbroken for ages eternal, enjoin upon ye, Our loyal and brave subjects:

We hereby declare war on the United States of America and the British Empire. The men and officers of our Army and Navy shall do their utmost in prosecuting the war. Our public servants of various departments shall perform faithfully and diligently their appointed tasks, and all other subjects of Ours shall pursue their respective duties; the entire nation with a united will shall mobilize their total strength so that nothing will miscarry in the attainment of our war aims.

To insure the stability of East Asia and to contribute to world peace is the far-sighted policy which was formulated by Our Great Imperial Sire succeeding Him, and which We lay constantly to heart.

To cultivate friendship among nations and to enjoy prosperity in common with all nations has always been the guiding principle of Our Empire's foreign policy. It has been truly unavoidable and far from Our wishes that Our Empire has now been brought to cross swords with America and Britain.

More than four years have passed since China, failing to comprehend the true intentions of Our Empire, and recklessly courting trouble, disturbed the peace of East Asia and compelled Our Empire