

PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC CLUB

DECEMBER 8, 1944

MINIATURE ALBUM

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to take up arms. Although there has been re-established the National Government of China with which Japan has effected neighborly intercourse and co-still continues its fratricidal opposition.

Eager for the realization of their inordinate ambition to dominate the Orient, both America and Britain, giving support to the Changking regime, have aggravated the disturbances in East Asia.

Moreover, these two Powers, inducing other countries to follow suit, increased military preparations on all sides of Our Empire to challenge us. They have obstructed by every means our peaceful commerce, and finally resorted to a direct severance of economic relations, menacing gravely the existence of Our Empire.

Patiently have We waited and long have We endured in the hope that Our Government might retrieve the situation in peace, but Our adversaries showing not the least spirit of conciliation, have unduly delayed a settlement; and in the meantime, they have intensified the economic and political pressure to compel thereby Our Empire to submission.

This trend of affairs would, if left unchecked, not only nullify Our Empire's effort of many years for the sake of the stabilization of East Asia, but also endanger the very existence of Our Nation. The situation being such as it is, Our Empire for its existence and self-defense has no other recourse but to appeal to arms and to crush every obstacle in its path.

The hallowed spirits of Our Imperial Ancestors guarding Us from above, We rely upon the loyalty and courage of Our subjects in Our confident expectation that the task bequeathed by Our Forefathers will be carried forward, and that the source of evil will be speedily eradicated and an enduring peace immutably established in East Asia, preserving thereby the glory of Our Empire.

THE Greater East Asia War is one of the chapters of World War II. It is the greatest war ever witnessed in the Pacific and in the Far East. With outbreak of this war, many changes took place in the Orient, and one of them was the Japanese occupation of the Philippines.

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PROVISIONAL ISSUE

TRUE to the maxim that "Philately follows the flag," the first two provisional stamps of the Philippines under the Japanese regime were issued close on the heels of the occupation—March 4, 1942 to be exact. Denomination of these two provisional stamps are: 2 and 16 centavos. Stamps used were of the Commonwealth regular issue, namely, 2 centavo green Rizal and 16-centavo blue Magellan's Landing, which were overprinted with black bars. Together with these two provisional stamps, a provisional postal card was issued, too. It was the 2-centavo rose Rizal and overprinted likewise with a black bar. Words deleted with black bars on these provisionals are: "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" and "COMMONWEALTH OF THE" and the overprint "COMMONWEALTH." The overprints on these provisional issues were made at the Bureau of Printing, Manila. No official cachet whatsoever was used by the Bureau of Posts (later on changed to Bureau of Communications) on the first day sale of these provisionals. With the issuance of these provisionals, mail service in Greater Manila, comprising the City of Manila, Quezon City, Caloocan, Parañaque, Pasay, Mandaluyong, San Juan and San Pedro Makati, was resumed and mail censorship was started by the Bureau of Posts under the Japanese Military Administration.

JAPANESE OCCUPATION ISSUE