

May 15, 1911: MANILA to ROCHESTER, NY, USA

Luzon Chapter No. 1 corner card printed in red color and on 4c McKinley PSE issue of 1907 (UPSS 81).

J. Far East Commandery No. 1, K.T. (Knights Templar)

Through the guidance of Master Mason Newton C. Comfort, the Far East Commander No.1, K.T. was instituted in Manila in 1910. Members of this body practiced the York Rite of Masonry and were subordinates to the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the U.S.A. In 1917, with the fusion of all masonic lodges and bodies in the Philippines, the Far East Commandery No. 1, K.T. also became a subordinate to the new Grand Masonic Lodge of the Philippines.

The Knights Templar is by far the most visible arm of the York Rite of Masonry. Whether they be participating in parades, church services, or doing good works in the local community, the white plume and dark uniform of a Knight Templar is an unmistakable symbol of one of the most active branches of Freemasonry. A Knights Templar Commandery is traditionally the final body that a member joins in the York Rite after the chapter of Royal Arch Masons and a council of Royal & Select Masters. The Knights Templar is one of several additional Masonic Orders in which membership is open only to Freemasons who profess a belief in Christianity.

Far East Commandery No. 1 Logo

