



LA PCG Joins Commemoration of 75th Anniversary of 40th Infantry Division World War II Landings in PHL



Maj. Gen. Laura Yeager and Deputy Consul General Ambrosio Brian F. Enciso III lay a wreath in front of Tojo's Eagle to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the landings of the 40th Infantry Division.

14 January 2020, Los Angeles – The Philippine Consulate General participated in the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the landings of the U.S. Army's 40th Infantry Division (ID) during the Second World War held on 12 January 2020 at its Headquarters in Los Alamitos, CA. Consul General Adelio Angelito S. Cruz was represented by Deputy Consul General Ambrosio Brian F. Enciso III and Vice Consul Joan Macrise C. Corrado.

Prior to the ceremonies, Deputy Consul General Enciso and Vice Consul Corrado called on Major General Laura Yeager and Brigadier General Michael Leeney. Maj. Gen. Yeager expressed deep appreciation to the Consulate General as it is the first time for Philippine Government officials to be present for any commemoration of the landings by the 40th ID. Brig. Gen. Leeney relayed the 40th ID's desire to strengthen its relationship with the Philippines, specifically in the island of Panay, where the "Sunshine" Division landed in the Visayas.

After the call, Deputy Consul General Enciso presented Maj. Gen. Yeager a Certificate of Appreciation to commemorate the occasion.

This was followed by a briefing by Sergeant First Class David Field on the creation and accomplishments of the 40th ID, particularly as part of the liberation of the Philippines at the end of the Second World War. The victory of the Division was in part helped by the intelligence given by Filipino guerillas who put up the almost three-year resistance against the Japanese Imperial Forces. The Division suffered 741 casualties, all of whom were left behind and are now among the more than 17,000 fallen soldiers buried at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in Taguig City, Philippines.

In his keynote address, DCG Enciso expressed the Consulate General's appreciation for being invited to the anniversary, and shared that the bold efforts of the Division in battling the main Japanese forces in Northern Luzon and in various areas in the Visayas are always remembered with pride and fondness. He



(From left) Brig. Gen. Michael Leeney, Vice Consul Joan Macrise C. Corrado, Deputy Consul General Ambrosio Brian F. Enciso III, and Maj. Gen. Laura Yeager.



Deputy Consul General Enciso delivers his keynote address.

also remarked on how the Philippines and the United States have become special friends, and became each other's greatest and most dependable ally in East Asia.

After his remarks, DCG Enciso and Maj. Gen. Yeager laid a wreath in front of Tojo's Eagle in commemoration of the anniversary, which was followed by a tour of the Headquarters. END