



From the Commander

For those of you who wonder about the various internment camp rosters, how they relate to each other and what story each tells, we've got a special treat for you. Cliff Mill's article, "*Roster Mania: 2021 Edition*", helps clarify the multitude of rosters, where they came from and what they each detail. He's developing further information on his website, so if you're intrigued by what you learn here and want to know more, check it out online at PhilippineInternment.com.

Also, this issue completes our look back at our previous Commanders; we're reacquainting ourselves with the first Commander of BACEPOW, Doug Willard. We shared reflections from our most recent former Commander, Angus Lorenzen, in September 2020, Don Thompson in January 2021, and Commander Emeritus Sascha (Weinzheimer) Jansen was recognized in September 2018.

In January, we highlighted an article "*Looking Back, Looking Forward: 'Adulting' at Santo Tomas*", by Dr. Mary Beth Klee. Angus Lorenzen offers "*Another Example of 'Adulting': Dr. Fe del Mundo*" of the Holy Ghost Children's Home. If you also have an example of "adulting" to share, please send it to us.

We've included our 2021 membership form again. This is the last chance to renew in time to receive the September newsletter (TIP: all past newsletters are available on our website). You can also renew your membership online (<https://cpow.org/membership-registration-2021/>) thanks to Cliff Mills and Cindie Leonard for making this possible.

And finally, the news you've all been waiting for, Cindie Leonard has volunteered to be our 2022 Reunion Chair and she instructs us to:

Save the Date: Our 2022 CPOW Reunion in Norfolk, Virginia, is set for Thursday, April 28 to Sunday, May 1. We will be staying at the Hilton Norfolk the Main. Stay tuned! Further details will be included in the September newsletter. Highlights include a morning at the MacArthur Memorial, an agenda filled with dynamic speakers, the opportunity to experience NATOFEST Parade of Nations (Military Tattoo), along with a dinner banquet at the Hilton on Saturday, April 30.

Big thanks to Cindie. Keep an eye on our Facebook page, CPOW - Civilian Prisoners of War, for more information.

In the meantime, I'm wishing everyone a healthy spring and to please take good care.

Sally Meadows

Roster Mania: 2021 Edition

By Cliff Mills

No two rosters are the same. They are done by different people, at different times, for different purposes and are often frustrating to use. However, they give unique information on people, dates and places available nowhere else. In this print article, it is impossible to provide hyperlinks to online resources, but a companion piece will be posted on my website, PhilippineInternment.com, when this issue is released, listing the resources that are already available.

The earliest camp rosters were compiled in 1942 by Francis B. Sayre, the U.S. High Commissioner to the Philippines, with input from the U.S. Department of State, the Red Cross and other agencies. Sayre was able to escape the Philippines before the Japanese occupation. His information was augmented by the knowledge of the 1942 S.S. Gripsholm repatriates. For example, Ex-STIC internee, Jenifer White, compiled a list of hundreds of internees, with short notes on each individual.

In 1943 the Red Cross issued the Census of Civilian Non-Combatants Interned in the Philippines. It included the camps at Santo Tomás, Los Baños, Baguio and Davao. It also included lists of people who were outside of the camps, for various reasons. This includes those in hospitals, some of the elderly, those in the Holy Ghost Children's Home and "persons of special nationality" (usually non-combatant countries).

In 1945, liberation rosters were created listing the former internees of Santo Tomás and Los Baños, over 3,700 and 2,000 names, respectively. Passenger lists then became an essential type of roster in that they recorded who was repatriated on which ship on which date, together with additional information. The information gathered for American, and non-Americans, was quite different and families were often split up between the two categories.

Military POW Rosters were compiled and databased by the U.S. Department of War, as they obtained information from the camps and other sources. Their listings included those in the Merchant Marine and some civilians who had joined the military after the start of the War. Most of these men were shipped to China and Japan, as slave labor, in unmarked ships. A number of these ships were sunk by U.S. planes and submarines, resulting

(Rosters, continued on page 2)

(Rosters, continued from page 1)

in thousands of deaths. "Hell Ship" rosters were painstakingly compiled by survivors and other witnesses.

The Rizal Roster (also sometimes referred to as "Dhea's Roster") indexes the various rosters compiled mainly for Santo Tomás. It was intended to give readers one alphabetical index to all the internees and gives basic information such as name, nationality and age. This roster, however, contains many typographical errors which results in duplicate entries for a number of internees.

The late Roger Mansell, founder of the Center for Research Allied POWs Under the Japanese, developed the Pacific POW Roster from mainly U.S. military database records. It is a mammoth work which includes over 46,000 entries, including over 15,000 civilians. This roster, however, includes prisoners outside of the Philippines and focuses mainly on Americans. I am trying to gain access to the data for the civilians in the Philippine camps, to share with our audience.

Some useful rosters have also been included in books about the internment, including:

- "Interned in Baguio," published in *Spirits Unbroken*, by R. Renton Hind, 1946
- "Official Census List," published in *Santo Tomas Internment Camp*, by Frederic H. Stevens, 1946
- "List of Internees of Manila Internment Camp as of July 1, 1944," published in *Only a Matter of Days: The World War II Prison Camp Diary of Fay Cook Bailey*, edited by Caroline Bailey Pratt, 2001
- "Los Banõs Internment Camp" final roster, published in *Escape at Dawn*, by Carol Terry Talbot and Virginia J. Muir, 1988

As more resources are digitized, they will only add to knowledge we have about the camps and those who suffered in them. I am doing whatever I can to help make this happen, as soon as possible, and hope to report these in future issues.

The First Commander: Doug Willard

by Sally Meadows

Rounding out our recognition of BACEPOW's past Commanders, we end where the organization began, with one of its founders and the first Commander, Douglas Willard.

Doug, a 4th generation Californian, was born in San Francisco in 1920. He was a student at University of California Berkeley, when he got his first job in the summer of 1940, working at the Pan American World Airways exhibit on Treasure Island during the Golden Gate International Exposition. In 1941, Doug took a leave of absence from his studies at Berkeley to stay on with Pan Am in their traffic department as a passenger service agent. Among other responsibilities, this involved checking and weighing in passengers and their luggage. That same year, the Manila Pan Am office requested additional staff; the job offered more pay and an overseas expense allowance. Doug's Philippine adventures began when he was transferred to work in Pan Am's Manila office. He arrived after crossing the International Date Line aboard Pan Am's China Clipper, a Martin 314, on May 21, 1941.

Barely over six months later on December 8, 1941, Doug was asleep in his bed at the Army-Navy YMCA in Manila when he was awakened by his roommate at 2:00 am with the news that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor. Subsequently after the Japanese invaded Manila, he and other Pan Am personnel were rounded up and interned with other Allied civilians in Santo

Tomas Internment Camp until they were liberated in February 1945.

After liberation, Doug returned to the San Francisco Bay Area, arriving the morning of Easter Sunday, 1945. He wasted no time in proposing to his high school sweetheart, Myrtle Barger, and they were married on July 7, 1945.



Doug on his return home from Santo Tomas in 1945, greeted by (L-R) sister, Nathalie, fiancée Myrtle, and father E.T. Willard.



Doug Willard in Manila, June 1941

As former Commander Don Thompson noted in January's newsletter, when Don joined BACEPOW in the 1990's, it was "led by Commander Doug Willard and Vice Commander George Mora. Doug ran the meetings with a smooth, caring and humorous approach ... [I] saw how those two individuals contributed to our organization, it became apparent to me that they were the heart and soul of BACEPOW." During his tenure, Doug was dedicated to the cause of helping former internees and was active in trying to get reparations and medical benefits for those who suffered through the ordeal. Doug's steadfast leadership is very much appreciated by all who knew him.

Another Example of “Adulging”: Dr. Fe del Mundo

by Angus Lorenzen

I joined Sascha Jansen’s 60th Anniversary of Liberation tour to the Philippines in 2005. On February 3 there was a grand celebration at the University of Santo Tomas and one of the features was lunch in the cafeteria in the UST hospital building that we once knew as the Education Building. At this luncheon we were honored to be addressed by Dr. Fe del Mundo. Sixty-three years earlier this sparrow-sized woman had played an enormous role in protecting and educating many of the children in Santo Tomas Internment Camp.

Fe was raised in a family with eight children, three of whom died in infancy and another in childhood, which set her life goal to have a career in medicine. After she graduated from the University of the Philippines with a medical degree, she moved to the U.S. where she spent three years of postgraduate study at Children’s Hospital in Boston and at Harvard Medical School, one year at the University of Chicago, six months at Johns Hopkins Hospital, and short terms in various pediatric institutions.

She returned to the Philippines in 1941, shortly before the Japanese invasion. She joined the International Red Cross and volunteered to care for child-internees then detained at Santo Tomas Internment Camp. When the number of children became too large for her facility, she approached the nuns at the Holy Ghost Convent, which already had a school, and they set up the Holy Ghost Children’s home, which many of our CPOW members remember attending. She also set up a makeshift hospice within the internment camp, and her activities led her to be known as “The Angel of Santo Tomas”. After the Japanese authorities shut down the hospice in 1943, she was no longer permitted on campus, and the Holy Ghost Children’s Home was closed in early 1944 with all of the children returned to STIC.

My mother enrolled my sister and me at Holy Ghost shortly after we were interned, where we lived with a large group of children and attended school. It was such an idealistic place that the Japanese used it for propaganda and sent camera crews to take movies of we “happy” children. I was not happy and returned to Santo Tomas after about 6-weeks, but my sister stayed for about a year and a half before returning when the Japanese isolated the camp from all outside contact.

After leaving the internment camp, Dr. del Mundo was asked to head a children’s hospital in Manila. During the Battle of Manila, it was converted to a full medical center. In 1957, she financed and opened a pediatric hospital in Quezon City, that still exists and bears her name.

She continued to do pediatric research at the University of Santo Tomas hospital joining the faculty of the University in 1954. She became the head of the Department of Pediatrics for more than two decades. In 2005, when we visited the hospital, she was still doing



The Holy Ghost Children's Home was originally organized by Dr. Fe Del Mundo in a small Red Cross Building, but moved to the Holy Ghost College when it became overcrowded. Almost 400 young children left the overcrowded and disease ridden Santo Tomas for this healthier place, until they had to return in 1944.

research, and remained active until her death at age 99 in 2011.

Her awards and recognitions are too many to relate, but she was recognized for her public service by the government of the Philippines, was appointed a National Scientist of the Philippines, and received many international awards.

Those of us who were children in Santo Tomas have much reason to be grateful for her attention and care during those difficult years. If anyone should be recognized for “adulging” it is Dr. Fe del Mundo, who didn’t stop with the end of the war, but continued for her entire long lifetime.



Dr. Fe del Mundo

CPOW (formerly BACEPOW) 2021 Membership Form

Please join or renew your membership to CPOW if you would like to receive or continue receiving the newsletter (3 times per year). **Please fill out this form, and mail it along with your check for \$15 (per person) to:**

Cindie Leonard, 1675 S. Lake Crest Way, Eagle, ID 83616
Please make your check out to Civilian ex-POWs (CPOW)

Name(s): _____

Current Mailing Address: _____

Email Address (please print clearly): _____

Would you like to receive the CPOW newsletter by email rather than USPS? Yes No

Phone Number: _____

Please check the appropriate box indicating your connection to CPOW and provide the requested information below:

Ex-POW

Camp(s) Check all that apply: Santo Tomas Baguio/Bilibid Los Baños Other

Name in camp (if different than current name): _____

Relative or Descendant

What is your relationship to the ex-POW? Please share the name(s) of your relative or relatives -- including maiden names or any other names they may go by or have gone by in the past, along with their camp or camps.

Military Branch of Service _____

Friend or other _____

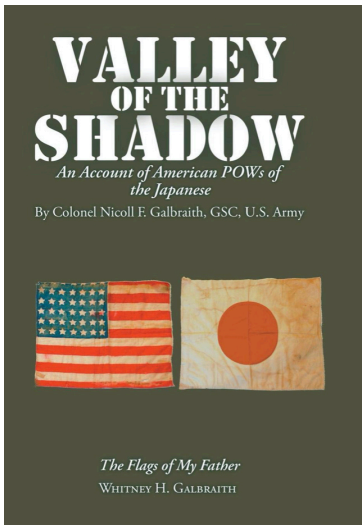
We are *considering* creating a members-only directory. Members would be able to choose what information they would like to share (e.g. camp, address, phone number, email...). Interested? Yes No

If you have any questions, please contact Cindie: cindieleonard@gmail.com 208-890-5694

Book Review
by Angus Lorenzen

Valley of the Shadow: An Account of American POWs of the Japanese

By Colonel Nicoll F. Galbraith | Xlibris, 2018



This is a true story about U.S. officers who were captured on Bataan and Corregidor in 1942 and held as POWs by the Japanese until the end of the war. The author felt that the things that some of these men did during their captivity did not reflect well on them, so he created a composite of his associates using pseudonyms for the characters in his book. But this is not a book of fiction as the narrative

reflects in detail his personal memories reinforced by his extensive diary that he was able to maintain while a prisoner, and which he used extensively as he wrote in the 1950s about his experience after his retirement from the Army.

After a brief description of the fighting on Bataan and Corregidor, the story jumps to the ship on which they were transported to Taiwan and the first of several POW camps where they were held. After arriving at a large harbor, the prisoners were transferred to a rusting hulk which transported them up the east coast of Taiwan to Karenko where the ship docked, and they were marched 5 kilometers to a compound that had originally been a Presbyterian mission surrounded by a high brick wall. Now started a continual harassment and deprivation. They were still wearing the summer uniforms, appropriate for the Philippine heat. But as winter came on, they were constantly cold, wrapping themselves in the thin blankets provided by the Japanese.

The prisoners were crowded in barrack-style facilities. They were required to fall in for rollcall several times a day at the whim of the Japanese commandant, where they were informed of new rules. One of these was that they were to work in the fields as laborers using hand tools. When they informed the Japanese commandant that under the Geneva Convention, POWs weren't to be used as labor, the commandant replied that the Geneva Convention did not apply to them because Japan never signed it. Then he added, "No work, no eat". That set the daily routine of marching into the fields with their hand tools to carry out their labor with the least effort that they could get away with. The guards took every opportunity to hassle them,

slapping their faces, hitting them with the butt of their rifles, and on occasion stabbing them with their bayonets.

After about a year in Karenko, the prisoners were loaded on board a ship and transported up the coast, where they were disembarked on a beach, then marched to a railroad station and loaded aboard a train. Offloaded, they were taken in cars to Shirakawa camp, which was more tropical and was known as a malarial swamp. The Japanese harassment continued, but now they had to contend with bouts of malaria.

After a period, they were again loaded into a rail car, taken to a port, and loaded onto the Oryoku Maru. (This ship was later sunk by American naval aviators in Subic Bay while loaded with American POWs.) They spent several days on shelves in the crowded hold while the ship made several abortive tries to leave port. The POWs surmised that they would return to port when the presence of American submarines were detected. And while in the harbor, they heard action that indicated American air raids were underway. For many days in the harbor, then a few at sea, the prisoners were restricted to the hold with little opportunity for activity. When they finally arrived in Japan, they were physically debilitated and found it difficult to mount the ladder from the hold and then down the gangplank to shore. They were now in Japan and were moved to another port where they were loaded on a ferry and crossed the straits to Korea, where they were loaded on a train and headed north. The air became progressively colder as they traveled. They finally stopped in Manchuria (Manchukuo) and were taken to a barracks building at Camp Hoten near Mukden where POWs were employed in factories.

The officers felt that they needed to know what was happening in the war because they speculated that the Japanese guards would wipe out their prisoners if the war was to end with their loss. They developed a plan to get a copy of a local newspaper from a Chinese worker in their factory. The newspaper would give them advance warning if the war was ending, and this would give them time to prepare to defend themselves and attack the guards if necessary.

Then one day, a strange aircraft was seen near the camp. They could not tell what it was, but shortly five large parachutes opened below it accompanied by many smaller parachutes. The POWs were confused and prepared to act in case it was a signal that the Japanese would soon try to annihilate the camp. And then a truck approached the gate and several men exited and went into the camp office. It was after dark when one of the POWs made a foray to see

(Valley of the Shadow, continued on page 6)

(Valley of the Shadow, continued from page 5)

into the office, and discovered five white men, not Russians, wearing armament and seeming to be giving instructions to the Japanese.

The next morning a jeep with three Russian officers arrived and when the POWs assembled, one of them raised his hand and said, "By order of the commander of the Russian Red Army, I declare you from this moment freeeee!"

Over the next few days, food was brought in and letters from home arrived, though confusion reigned as firing was heard outside the camp as Russians and Chinese Nationalist and Chinese Reds and Japanese ran afoul of each other. One of the ex-POWs from the camp was assigned to coordinate with the Russians who occupied Mukden, but American transport aircraft were bringing in supplies. Eventually, through the confusion, the POWs made their way to a harbor where, to their surprise, they encountered an American hospital ship ready to board them and carry them home.

This book describes the harsh treatment of POWs and how they tried to mitigate the harm it caused them. It was written in the 1950s in a flow of consciousness from the author after he retired from the Army as a Colonel. It was edited and published in 2018 by his son Whitney H.

Galbraith. The book has no chapters or breaks as it relays a continuous living hell, which makes it difficult to read, and it is long with 460 pages of text and 70-pages of Appendices with photos and documents. But it contributes to the documentation of the treatment of prisoners by the Japanese and the reaction of the prisoners, both good and bad.

Share Your Stories

We'd like this newsletter to be interactive, so we invite you to share memories and stories for inclusion, either in whole or in part, in future newsletters. Do you have a story, photo or other content you'd like us to consider for Beyond the Wire?

To share anecdotes with our members, please email to our editor, Angus Lorenzen, at bacepow@earthlink.net or Sally Meadows, Commander@cpow.org.