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U.S. MILITARY AGREEMENT WITH P.I. MORE THAN FULFILLED

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Despite statements that the United States has not lived up to its military agreements with the Philippines, the U.S. Embassy today disclosed that more than 327 million pesos (\$163.5 million) worth of supplies and equipment had been turned over to the Philippine government. The Embassy made public the records which show that the United States not only has fulfilled its commitments under the 1947 agreement but has gone far beyond what the commitments called for.

Neither the Military Assistance Agreement of March 1947 nor Public Law 454 upon which it is based listed any specific quantity of equipment to be issued, nor the dollar valuation thereof; nor did either list any specific size of the armed forces for which equipment was to be provided. The Agreement did include three commitments:

(1) That the United States would furnish free of charge certain initial equipment, supplies and maintenance items in accordance with details to be mutually agreed upon (additional equipment desired by the Philippines not available from surplus stocks would have to be paid for by the Philippine Government.)

(2) That a Military Advisory Group would be provided.

(3) That the Philippine Government would be permitted to send selected students to designated schools of the Ground, Naval and Air services of the United States.

(more)

Add 1 - U.S. MILITARY AGREEMENT United States.

The Embassy pointed out in detail that, in accordance with these commitments made in the Agreement, the United States Government has furnished the Philippines with supplies and equipment valued at \$163,543,297.13. Bearing in mind the fact that there was no specific agreement at any time as to the size of the forces to be equipped, nevertheless, initial computations were based on a total Armed Force of 37,000 men. This was approximately the strength of troops transferred in July, 1946.

The value of equipment required to completely equip such a force has been computed at approximately \$37,300,000. The value of equipment and supplies actually issued to the Ground Forces of the Philippines has totalled over \$90 million. In addition, equipment and supplies have been issued to the Philippine Air Force which total in value over \$7,760,000 and equipment and supplies have been issued to the Philippine Naval Patrol which are valued at more than \$65,750,000.

Summarizing, the total value of supplies and equipment issued to the Philippine Government for its armed forces up to June 30, 1949 by the United States is in excess of 327 million pesos (\$163,500,000.) This of itself indicates that the U. S. far exceeded its agreement to supply free of charge initial equipment for the Philippine Armed Forces.

A Military Advisory Group has been provided, and has rendered continuing aid and assistance to the President of the Philippines in the organization and training of the National Defense Forces.

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Authority N 40 883078

Add 2 --- U.S. MILITARY AGREEMENT Forces.

In the matter of schooling in the U. S. for officers and enlisted men of the Philippine Army, Air Force and Naval Patrol, the following is of interest: During Fiscal Year 1947 a total of 51 students were sent to the U. S. This increased in Fiscal Year 1948 to a total of 278 students, and further increased in Fiscal Year 1949 to a total of 283 students. These came from all branches of the Philippine Defense Forces.

The second commitment made by the United States to the Philippines in a note dated April 15, 1947 addressed to the Secretary of Foreign Affairs by the American Charge d'Affaires which in effect implemented the Military Assistance Agreement, merely stated that under instructions from Washington, supplies and equipment provided would be within three categories, namely those items already delivered to the Philippine Government, those items retained by PHILRYCOM for the Philippine Armed Forces, and such other items as might become excess to the needs of the U. S. Armed Forces in the Philippines. This assistance has been included in the categories already enumerated.

Furthermore, although it was contemplated that the Philippine Armed Forces be completely self-supporting after 30 June, 1946, Public Law No. 663, 79th U. S. Congress, appropriated \$19,750,000 for food, fuel, clothing, ammunition and training aids for fiscal year 1947.

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Authority NO 883078

add 3 --- U. S. MILITARY AGREEMENT fiscal year 1947.

In the provisions of the initial equipment for 37,000 men, as contemplated by U. S. military authorities but not, in any wise, a specific commitment, it is recognized that there were some initial shortages. In some cases these shortages were filled with substitute items -- the same items the U. S. Army was using. Much of the equipment furnished was "used" -- so was equipment in the hands of U. S. troops. However, much new equipment was also furnished from excess war stocks. The best information available indicates that any shortages where substitutions were made were not serious and the excess value of supplies and equipment given far more than compensates for these minor shortages.

The accompanying table is a detailed breakdown showing monetary value of military assistance furnished the Philippine Army, Navy and Air Force on a non-reimbursable basis.

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U. S. ARMY	RETAINED BY PHIL. ARMY 4 July 1946	ISSUED FISCAL YEAR 1947	ISSUED FISCAL YEAR 1948	TOTAL SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT FURNISHED
CHEMICAL WARFARE SERVICE	\$ 98,466.11	\$ 137,618.05	\$ 13,758.35	\$ 249,842.51
CORPS OF ENGINEERS	2,554,500.00	73,214.31	358,428.04	2,986,142.35
MEDICAL CORPS	637,254.72	141,658.14	26,787.33	805,700.19
Q. M.	4,482,619.00	3,865,825.31	2,187,637.26	10,536,081.57
ORDNANCE	22,298,106.51	14,457,965.93	30,904,367.06	67,660,439.50
SIGNAL CORPS	2,969,984.36	528,705.76	1,248,535.90	4,747,226.02
TRANSPORTATION CORPS	2,816,881.64	4,126.20	--	2,821,007.84
ATHLETIC & RECREATIONAL	147,433.26	48,134.25	--	195,567.51
INFORMATION & EDUCATION	10,000.00	--	--	10,000.00
ADJUTANT GEN.	--	959.95	10,233.90	11,193.85
TOTAL ARMY	\$36,015,245.60	\$19,258,207.90	\$34,749,747.84	\$90,023,201.34

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U.S. NAVY	RETAINED BY PHIL. ARMY 4 July 1946	ISSUED FISCAL YEAR 1947	ISSUED FISCAL YEAR 1948	ISSUED FISCAL YEAR 1949	TOTAL SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT FURNISHED
VESSELS	--	--	\$62,518,900.00	--	62,518,300.00
SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT	--	--	3,239,820.50	--	3,239,820.50
TOTAL NAVY			\$65,758,120.50		\$65,758,120.50
U. S. AIR FORCE					
AIRCRAFT	--	--	\$ 3,746,529.00	\$ 684,375.00	\$ 4,430,904.00
EQUIPMENT	--	162,429.24	308,162.17	--	421,353.13
SUPPLIES	--	1,034,986.96	1,551,742.96	273,750.00	2,909,718.20
TOTAL AIR FORCE		1,197,416.20	5,606,434.13	958,125.00	7,761,975.33
GRAND TOTAL	\$36,015,245.60	\$20,455,624.10	\$106,114,302.47	\$958,125.00	\$163,543,297.17

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