

# JAPANESE OCCUPATION OF THE PHILIPPINES WORLD WAR 2 (WW2)



# MEET THE GROUP


Trixia

Bonbon

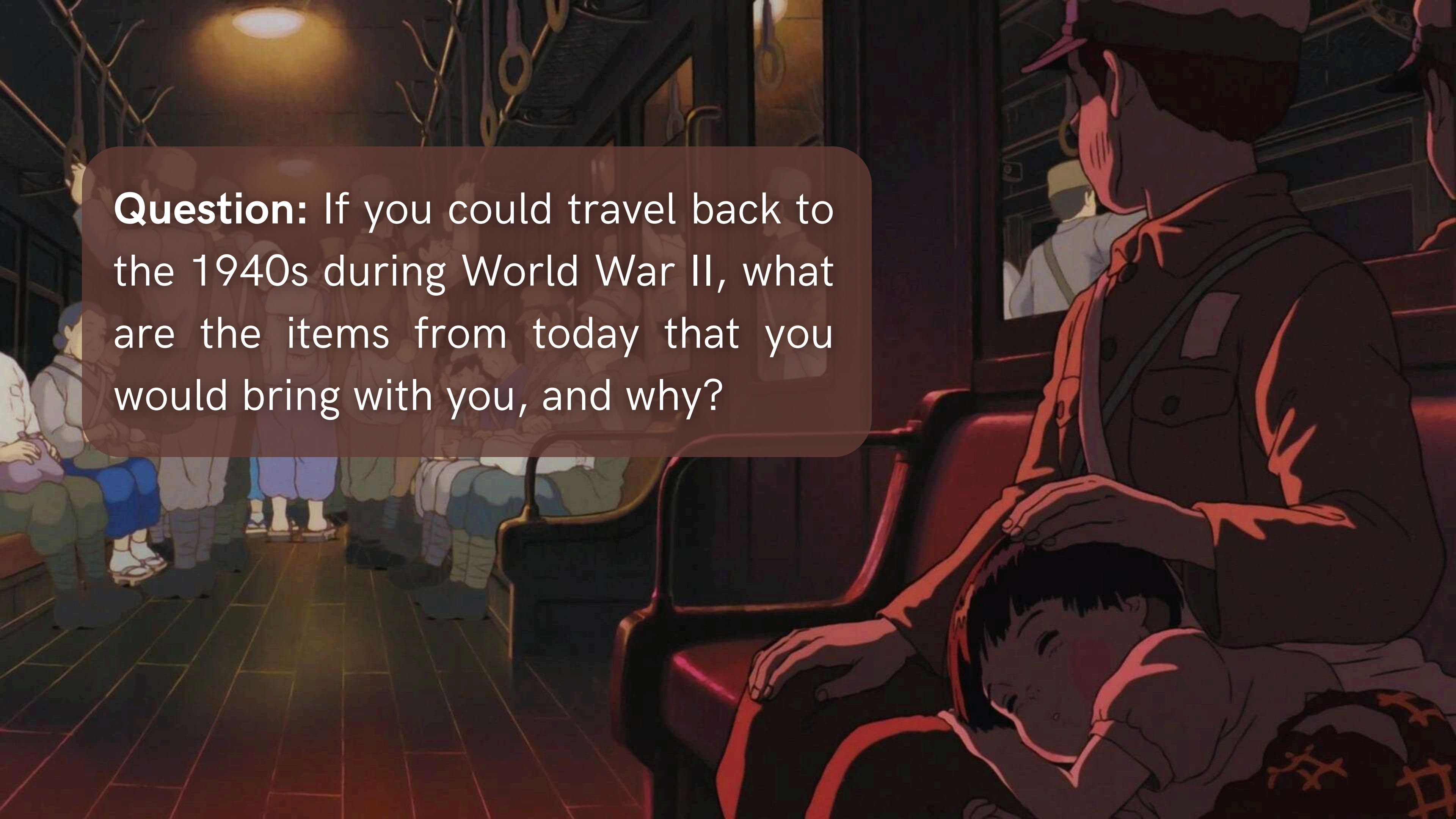
Rosie

Bobbi






**ICE BREAKER:  
BACK TO THE 1940'S**



**Question:** If you could travel back to the 1940s during World War II, what are the items from today that you would bring with you, and why?



# EXCERPT FROM 1941 REPORT OF THE PHILIPPINE HIGH COMMISSION

# EXCERPT FROM 1941 REPORT OF THE PHILIPPINE HIGH COMMISSION

## Pre-War Preparedness in the Philippines

- Before the Japanese occupation, the government prepared communities for wartime emergencies.
- Plans focused on public safety, medical response, and disaster relief.
- Instructions were given to both armed forces and civilian volunteers.
- Communities were organized to respond to bombings, injuries, and chemical attacks.

# EXCERPT FROM 1941 REPORT OF THE PHILIPPINE HIGH COMMISSION

## First-Aid Units

- One unit for every 3,000 people
- Organized and trained by the Philippine Red Cross
- Trained to treat injuries such as shock, hemorrhage, fractures, burns, and suffocation, as well as gas exposure

## Rescue Units

- Leader and eight men skilled in building trades
- Responsible for rescuing people trapped in collapsed buildings or debris

# EXCERPT FROM 1941 REPORT OF THE PHILIPPINE HIGH COMMISSION

## Demolition and Repair Units

- Cleared bomb debris and craters
- Repaired water, gas, sewer, and electric lines
- Assisted firefighters in controlling fires

## Decontamination Units

- Managed areas contaminated by poison gas
- Used methods such as earth, sand, water, chloride of lime, or burning vegetation to reduce contamination



# LETTER OF PRESIDENT QUEZON TO DOUGLAS MACARTHUR

FEBRUARY 20, 1942



# LETTER OF PRESIDENT QUEZON TO DOUGLAS MACARTHUR

- Written on February 20, 1942 during World War II after the Japanese invasion of the Philippines.
- At the time, Quezon and other Commonwealth officials were preparing to leave the Philippines to continue the government in exile.
- The letter was written at Fort Mills, where Allied forces were defending the country.
- Quezon had earlier issued Executive Order No. 1 (1942) appointing MacArthur as Military Adviser of the Philippine Commonwealth.
- The letter expresses both official recognition and personal gratitude to MacArthur and his officers.

A large, mechanical, insect-like creature with a wooden house on its back, standing in a field at sunset. The creature is composed of various mechanical parts, including gears, pipes, and a large, multi-segmented body. The house on its back has windows and a chimney. The creature is standing on a grassy field with purple flowers. The background shows a sunset over a mountain range.

# BATAAN HAS FALLEN

APRIL 9, 1942



# BATAAN HAS FALLEN

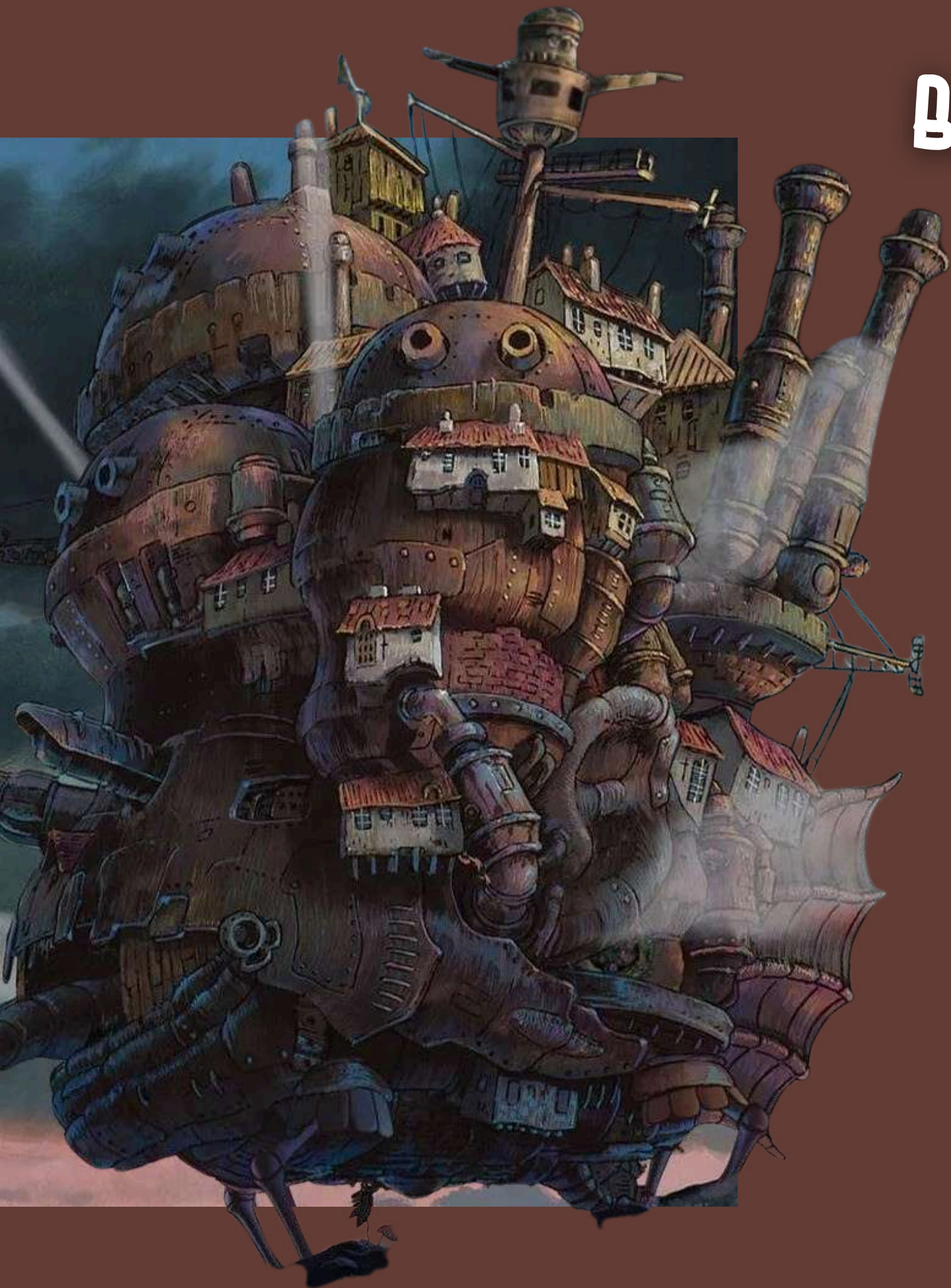
1. Filipino and American soldiers were defeated. After fighting for more than three months, the combined forces defending the Bataan Peninsula could no longer continue because they lacked food, medicine, weapons, and reinforcements.

2. Japan had overwhelming power.

The Japanese army had more soldiers, better supplies, and stronger military support, which eventually forced the defenders to surrender.

3. The message was broadcast to inform the public. The speech titled "Bataan Has Fallen" was written by Salvador P. Lopez and delivered by Normando Ildefonso Reyes over the "Voice of Freedom" radio station from Malinta Tunnel.

# BATAAN HAS FALLEN



4. Purpose of the broadcast.

Even though the soldiers had surrendered, the speech emphasized:

- the bravery and sacrifice of the soldiers
- that their spirit and hope for freedom had not been defeated
- that the Philippines would eventually rise again and regain independence



# EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 40

# EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 40


## INITIATING A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE CULTIVATION OF IDLE LANDS TO PRODUCE FOOD CROPS

- Jorge B. Vargas
- Executive secretary of President Laurel during the Second Republic

### Objective of the Executive Order No.40

- Enforce local officials to produce food in idle land in the midst of food shortage brought by the war
- Cultivate short-time food crops to avert hunger and forestall famine throughout the land.
- Distribute uncultivated public and abandoned lands.





# WHAT IS ORDERED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.40?

1. That a nation-wide campaign for the cultivation of rice, corn, camote, cassava, gabi, cowpeas, soybeans, mongo and other short-time food crops suited to local conditions, be started at once under the joint sponsorship of the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.
2. That it shall be the duty of all city and municipal mayors to distribute uncultivated public lands within their respective jurisdictions among the citizens thereof preferably to those who are unemployed in order to enable them to plant food crops therein for a period of one agricultural year.

# WHAT IS ORDERED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.40?

3. That if for any reason the owner or the one in possession of any private land is unable to cultivate the same, it shall be the duty of the mayor of the city or municipality where such land is located to turn it over to the citizens of such city or municipality preferably to those who are unemployed for the same purposes and under the same conditions prescribed in the next preceding paragraph.



# WHAT IS ORDERED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.40?

4. That it shall be the duty of every person or persons to whom public or private land has been turned over for cultivation to carry into effect the national food production campaign by planting thereon the crops contemplated in paragraph 1 of this Order: Provided, That they may not alter or damage any permanent improvements existing thereon: And provided, further, That *kaiñgin* may not be resorted to without permission from the Director of Forestry and Fishery or of his representative in the locality. When a portion of public lands is found more suited for agricultural than for forest purposes, *kaiñgin* shall be allowed.



# WHAT IS ORDERED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.40?

5. That crops obtained on public and private lands distributed in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Order shall belong to the grower and no rent for the use of the land shall be collected: Provided, however, That a portion of the crops or so much thereof as may be necessary, not exceeding ten per centum, shall be set aside and the proceeds therefrom turned over to the Government as payment of the real estate tax corresponding to the year in which such crops are gathered or harvested.



# WHAT IS ORDERED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.40?

6. That it shall be the duty of all provincial governors personally or through the agricultural supervisors, to inspect the activities of the mayors in this food production campaign. The governors and city mayors shall also submit a monthly report to the Commissioner of the Interior and the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce on the progress of the campaign in their respective provinces and cities.



# WHAT IS ORDERED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.40?

7. That it shall be the duty of all provincial governors and city or municipal mayors who may receive seeds, seedlings, cuttings, shoots, or tubers from the Government in the furtherance of the national food production campaign to distribute such seeds, seedlings, cuttings, shoots, or tubers immediately to the farmers for planting, and it shall be unlawful for them to utilize the same for their own benefit, or to intentionally permit or give tacit consent to the diversion of the same for consumption purposes.





# WHAT IS ORDERED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.40?

8. That any person who neglects or fails to perform any duty enjoined by this Order, or who performs any act which defeats or tends to defeat its purposes, or who otherwise violates any provision thereof, shall upon conviction be punished with imprisonment not exceeding six months, or by fine not exceeding two hundred pesos, or by both such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.



# WHAT IS ORDERED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.40?

- 
9. That the provincial governors and city or municipal mayors who infringe the provisions of this Order shall, in addition to the criminal responsibility to which they may be subject, also be liable to suspension or removal from office.
10. This Executive Order shall be printed in Japanese, English, and in the principal dialects of the Philippines for distribution in all cities and municipalities.

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Manila, Philippines, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous buildings and green spaces. In the background, there are large, forested mountains under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. A prominent building in the center has a red sign that reads "KAYROSA".

# 1943 CONSTITUTION OF THE PHILIPPINES

# 1943 CONSTITUTION OF THE PHILIPPINES IS/HAD.....



INDEPENDENT

OR

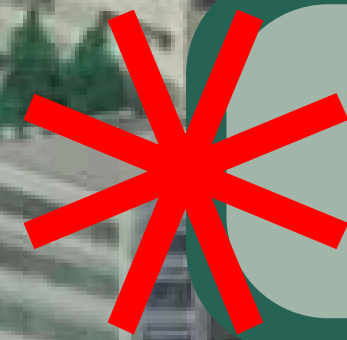
JAPANESE SPONSORED  
GOVERNMENT



POWERFUL EXECUTIVE  
BRANCH

OR

BILL OF RIGHTS



UNICAMERAL

OR

DEMOCRATIC





# 1943 CONSTITUTION OF THE PHILIPPINES IS/HAD.....



**INDEPENDENT**

**OR**

**JAPANESE SPONSORED  
GOVERNMENT**



**POWERFUL EXECUTIVE  
BRANCH**

**OR**

**BILL OF RIGHTS**



**UNICAMERAL**

**OR**

**DEMOCRATIC**





# 1943 CONSTITUTION OF THE PHILIPPINES IS/HAD.....



**INDEPENDENT**

**OR**

**JAPANESE SPONSORED  
GOVERNMENT**



**POWERFUL EXECUTIVE  
BRANCH**

**OR**

**BILL OF RIGHTS**



**UNICAMERAL**

**OR**

**DEMOCRATIC**





# 1943 CONSTITUTION OF THE PHILIPPINES IS/HAD.....



**INDEPENDENT**

**OR**

**JAPANESE SPONSORED  
GOVERNMENT**



**POWERFUL EXECUTIVE  
BRANCH**

**OR**

**BILL OF RIGHTS**



**UNICAMERAL**

**OR**

**DEMOCRATIC**



At the outset of the occupation, the Japanese government formed the Philippine Executive Commission which was composed mainly of political leaders of the Commonwealth government. They also organized the KALIBAPI.

## WHAT IS KALIBAPI?

On June 16, 1943, Japanese Prime Minister Hideki Tojo promised to grant the Philippines its independence. The KALIBAPI then formed the Preparatory Committee on Philippine Independence (PCPI) which was tasked to draft a new Constitution for the Philippines. The PCPI approved the new Constitution on September 4, 1943 and was ratified by the KALIBAPI Convention on September 7, 1943.

The 1943 Constitution adopted 12 of the Articles from the 1935 Constitution with a powerful executive branch vested in the President who is to be elected by a majority of the members of the National Assembly. One notable characteristic of the 1943 Constitution is the absence of the Bill of Rights.



**1943  
CONSTITUTION**

**PREAMBLE**

**ARTICLE I: THE REPUBLIC OF THE  
PHILIPPINES**

**ARTICLE II: THE EXECUTIVE**

**ARTICLE III: THE LEGISLATURE**

**ARTICLE IV: THE JUDICIARY**

**ARTICLE V: IMPEACHMENT**

**ARTICLE VI: CITIZENSHIP**

**ARTICLE VII: DUTIES AND RIGHTS OF  
THE CITIZEN**

**ARTICLE VIII: CONSERVATION AND  
UTILIZATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

**ARTICLE IX: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS**

**ARTICLE XI**

**ARTICLE XII: SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Manila, Philippines, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous buildings and green spaces. In the background, there are large, forested mountains under a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent teal banner.

# EXCERPT FROM REPORT OF PHILIPPINE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION

# EXCERPT FROM REPORT OF PHILIPPINE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION

- A government employees institute was created for the purpose of giving spiritual and intellectual orientations to ranking employees from different offices.
- Spread the idea of the wider imperial vision of Japan, the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere to Filipinos.
- To supplement the regular classroom instruction there was provided a series of lectures by prominent and distinguished Nipponese and Filipino government officials and scholars, moving pictures shows consisting of both recreational and instructional files

# EXCERPT FROM REPORT OF PHILIPPINE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION

- The curriculum of instruction approved for the Institute and consisting of the following studies was carefully followed:
  - General Information Concerning Japan
  - Public Service Administration
  - Japanese Language
  - Philippine Culture
  - Music Japanese and Filipino songs
  - Physical culture
  - Lectures on various topics to the New Order, the intentions of Nippon in waging the Greater East Asia War, the development of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, the establishment of the New Philippines, and others.

# MEMORANDUM IN WAR MEMOIRS



# GUESS THE PHRASE



 Gmail

Shopee



Result of dispute resolution for return  
# [REDACTED]

Hi

Our Dispute Resolution Team has looked into your case # [REDACTED] thoroughly and the result is:

- Your request for a refund has been approved.

[ARCHIVE](#)

[REPLY](#)

# MEMORANDUM IN WAR MEMOIRS



# MEMORANDUM IN WAR MEMOIRS



**JOSE P. LAUREL**

*3rd President of the  
Philippines*

# MEMORANDUM IN WAR MEMOIRS

- The "Memorandum" in the War Memoirs of Dr. Jose P. Laurel is a firsthand historical account written by Laurel himself to document and defend his actions before and during the Japanese occupation of the Philippines.
- He wrote this memoir between September 15 and November 16, 1945, while he was confined in Sugamo Prison in the outskirts of Tokyo after Japan's surrender.
- The memorandum serves as Laurel's personal testimony and justification for his role in the Japanese-sponsored government.
- It meticulously outlines that his collaboration was not born out of loyalty to Japan, but rather from strict instructions left by President Manuel L. Quezon and General Douglas MacArthur to protect the civilian population without taking an oath of allegiance to Japan.

# TIMELINE

1936

LAUREL'S APPOINTMENT TO SC

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1941

APPOINTMENT AS JUSTICE SECRETARY

DECEMBER 8, 1941

BOMBING OF BAGUIO

DECEMBER 22–24, 1941

EVACUATION TO CORREGIDOR

JANUARY 2, 1942

JAPANESE LANDING IN MANILA

JANUARY 23, 1942

CREATION OF AN EXECUTIVE COMMISSION

# TIMELINE

DECEMBER 1942

KALIBAPI AS SOLE POLITICAL PARTY

JUNE 5, 1943

ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT TO LAUREL

SEPTEMBER 29 – OCTOBER 1943

PRESSURING PH ON WAGING WAR WITH THE US

OCTOBER 14, 1943

LAUREL BECOMES PRESIDENT

SEPTEMBER 15 – NOVEMBER 16, 1945

SURRENDER OF JAPAN, WRITING OF THE MEMOIR

# MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT OSMEÑA TO SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER DOUGLAS MACARTHUR



# TWO PRESIDENTS IN ONE STONE?



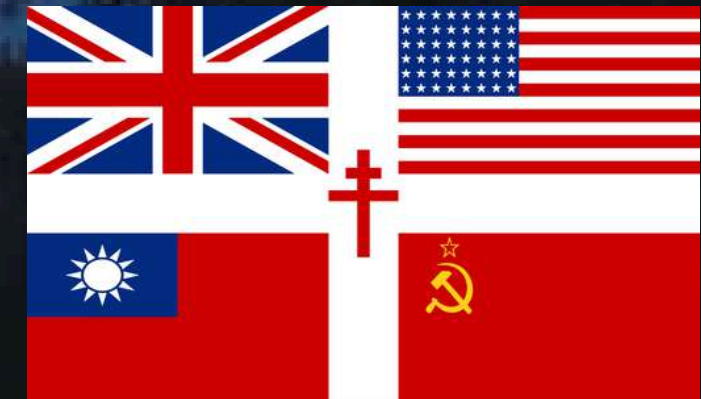
**JOSE P. LAUREL**  
*3rd President of the  
Philippines*

**OCT 14, 1943 – AUG 15, 1945**



**SERGIO OSMEÑA**  
*4th President of the  
Philippines*

**AUG 1, 1944 – MAY 28, 1946**



# MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT OSMEÑA TO SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER DOUGLAS MACARTHUR

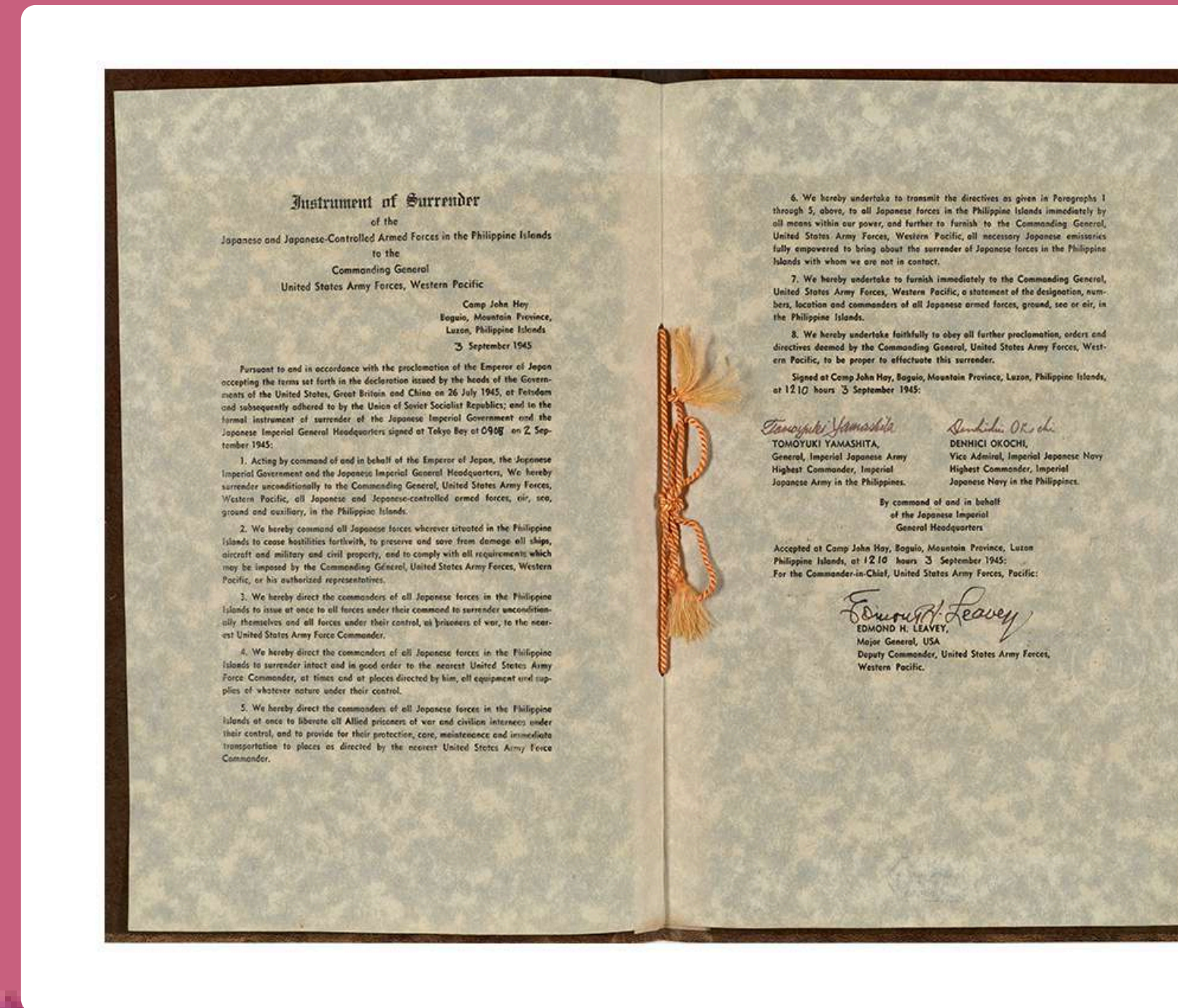
- Osmena acknowledged the formal surrender of the Japanese Empire on the same day, September 2, 1945.
- He emphasized that the Filipino people, along with the Americans, must rebuild and reconstruct the glory of the foundations in the country.
- Moreover, the preparation of the long-awaited independence of the then Commonwealth of the Philippines is recognized in the letter to be conducted in the soonest.



# INSTRUMENT OF SURRENDER OF THE JAPANESE AND THE JAPANESE-CONTROLLED ARMED FORCES

# INSTRUMENT OF SURRENDER OF THE JAPANESE AND THE JAPANESE-CONTROLLED ARMED FORCES

- The document was published a day after the surrender of mainland Japan.
- It made all of the Imperial Japanese forces and its assets to back down, stop the hostilities, and surrender to the nearest United States Forces Commander.
- It acknowledges the surrender set forth with and agreed upon by the United States and the Japanese Emperor at that time.



# REFLECTION



**JOSE P. LAUREL**  
*3rd President of the  
Philippines*

Philippine Star  
March 9 at 07:00 · 🌐

On this day in 1891, Jose P. Laurel was born in Tanauan City, Batangas. He served as president of the Philippines during Japanese occupation in World War II.

**PHILIPPINE STAR**

**JOSE P. LAUREL**  
3<sup>RD</sup> PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES  
135<sup>TH</sup> BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

Jep Dishey  
Happy birthday, Puppet 🤖

1w Like Reply 4 🤔

Marc Devera  
Lapdog/Dummy Prez of the Imperial Japan

1w Like Reply

John Daniel A. Munar  
One of the most misunderstood president of the Philippines, Jose Paciano Laurel Sr. ...

Happy birthday, President Laurel!!!

6d Like Reply 2 🇵🇭

# REFLECTION

DO YOU THINK HE IS A TRAITOR?



**YES**

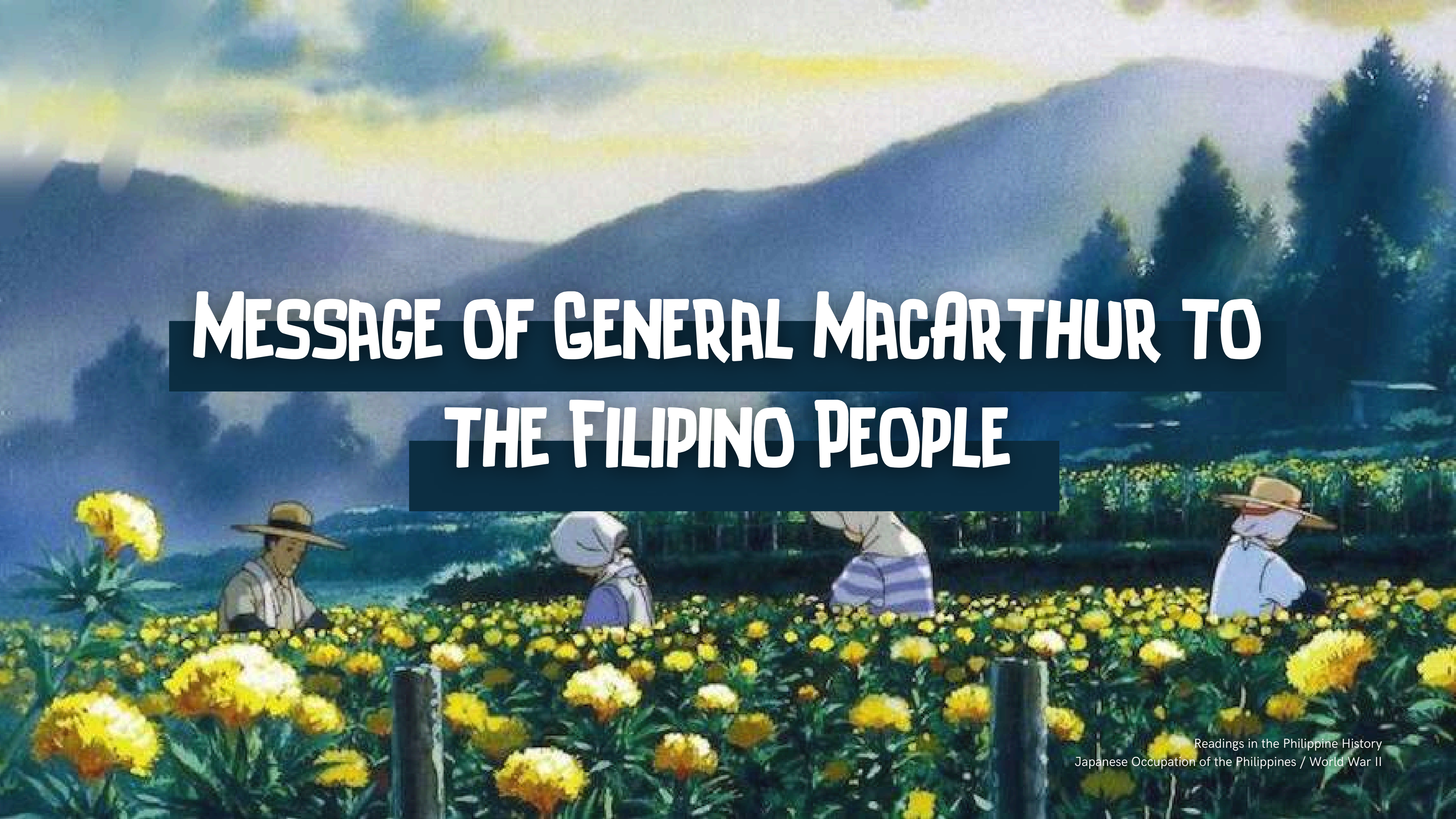


**JOSE P. LAUREL**

*3rd President of the  
Philippines*



**NO**

A painting of a rural landscape. In the foreground, a field of vibrant yellow flowers is in full bloom. Several workers, wearing wide-brimmed hats and light-colored clothing, are seen tending to the plants. The middle ground shows a line of tall, dark evergreen trees. In the background, a range of mountains is visible under a sky with soft, white clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and depicts agricultural activity.

# MESSAGE OF GENERAL MACARTHUR TO THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

# MESSAGE OF GENERAL MACARTHUR TO THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

## Douglas MacArthur

- He was the head of the United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFFE) from 1941 to 1946.
- During World War II, President Quezon appointed MacArthur as the Military Adviser of the Commonwealth of the Philippines.
- He led the defense of the Philippines at the start of the Pacific War in 1941.
- Escaped the Philippines after early defeats in 1942, and continued defending Allied forces in the Asia-Pacific.
- In July 1944, he returned to the Philippines during the landing in Leyte Gulf, where he famously declared "I have returned."
- This return was part of his promise to liberate the Philippines from Japanese forces.

# MESSAGE OF GENERAL MACARTHUR TO THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

Message  
of  
General Douglas MacArthur  
Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers  
To the Filipino People

[Released on January 1, 1946]

Tokyo, 1946

*To the Filipino People:*

With the dawn of a new year—a year of peace following the ravage of war—I send you from Tokyo a message of my enduring affection. I can never forget the courage, the determination and the unity with which you fought your way to victory.

Confronted with the pressing problems of building anew amid the ruins left in war's wake, and at the same time entering upon your destiny as a member of the Nations of the World, you face a task the magnitude of which demands the dedication of all of your faith and all of your strength as a people.

Move forward to meet this challenge of the future as magnificently as you met that of the past. With continued help of Almighty God, in this noble purpose, I know you will not fail.

DOUGLAS MACARTHUR

# MESSAGE OF GENERAL MACARTHUR TO THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

MacArthur expressed his admiration and gratitude for the Filipino people, praising their courage, unity, and determination during World War II. He acknowledged the destruction and difficulties left by the Japanese Occupation. He encouraged Filipinos to rebuild their nation and face the future with strength, faith, and perseverance. MacArthur expressed confidence that, with unity and guidance from God, the Filipino People would successfully restore their country.



# EXCERPTS FROM RECTO'S THREE YEARS OF ENEMY OCCUPATION

# EXCERPTS FROM RECTO'S THREE YEARS OF ENEMY OCCUPATION

## Claro M. Recto

- Held positions under the Laurel administration during the Japanese occupation
- Was the commissioner on Education, Health, and Public Welfare from 1942-1943
- And the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs from 1943-1944`.

After the war, Recto was arrested and went under a trial for collaboration with the Japanese.

- In 1946, he wrote a book Three Years of Enemy Occupation to explain and defend his actions during World War II, revealing what Filipinos did that time and why.
- Popular for his academic intelligence and nationalist ideas, he faced his trial and was later found not guilty.`

# EXCERPTS FROM RECTO'S THREE YEARS OF ENEMY OCCUPATION

## Suffering of Filipinos During Japanese Occupation

- During the three and a half (3.5) years of Japanese Rule, Filipinos experienced hunger, famine, fear, and death.
- A lot of civilians died in internment camps, prisons, and even on the streets.
- Cities such as Manila were heavily destroyed during the war.
- In spite of suffering, Filipinos stood by with the United States and hoped for liberation.

# EXCERPTS FROM RECTO'S THREE YEARS OF ENEMY OCCUPATION

## Post-War Accusations and National Division

- After liberation, Filipinos began accusing one another for collaboration.
- Political conflict and division took place in the country because of these accusations.
- To avoid worsening tension between Filipinos, some leaders chose to remain silent.
- Recto believed that what is most important is unity rather than political blame.

# EXCERPTS FROM RECTO'S THREE YEARS OF ENEMY OCCUPATION

## Who Has The Right to Judge The Collaboration?

- Recto argues that only people who directly experienced Japanese occupation can judge the collaborators.
- These include average Filipino citizens, guerrilla fighters, government workers, and prisoners of war.
- The people who stayed should not be judged by those who chose to escape by flying abroad or hiding during the occupation.

# EXCERPTS FROM RECTO'S THREE YEARS OF ENEMY OCCUPATION

## The American Point of View

- Americans were not directly experiencing what was happening in the Philippines.
- They could not completely understand the suffering and danger that Filipinos experienced.
- Because of this, their judgment about collaboration was only formed outside and based on observations only.
- The United States mainly focused on its strategy to win the war.

# EXCERPTS FROM RECTO'S THREE YEARS OF ENEMY OCCUPATION

## The Filipino Point of View

- Filipino leaders had to manage the country even though it was under Japanese control.
- They sometimes acted as if they were cooperating with the Japanese.
- Their goal was to protect the Filipinos and stop Japan from completely controlling the country.
- They also had to consider the risks of guerilla actions and the punishments the Japanese might give to civilians.

# EXCERPTS FROM RECTO'S THREE YEARS OF ENEMY OCCUPATION

## Collaboration Should Not Be Judged By Post-War Standards

- Decisions during wartime were made in confusion, fear, and uncertainty.
- All that time. Leaders were unsure how long Japan would control the country.
- It is unfair to judge them after the war because people finally know the outcome.

# EXCERPTS FROM RECTO'S THREE YEARS OF ENEMY OCCUPATION

## Hypothetical Comparison: What Would The Americans Do?

- Recto asks what would the Americans do if their own country were occupied by an enemy.
- Would they choose to resist completely or negotiate with them to survive?
- He argues that self-preservation is a natural human instinct.

# EXCERPTS FROM RECTO'S THREE YEARS OF ENEMY OCCUPATION

## Double Standards in Judging Filipinos

- American soldiers who surrendered were treated as heroes, while Filipinos who cooperated with the Japanese were labeled as traitors.
- Both groups were acting under the pressure of their enemy,
- Filipinos actually faced greater pressure because their refusal could mean torture or death.

A vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a red biplane flying through a bright blue sky filled with fluffy white clouds. The biplane is shown from a low angle, emphasizing its size and speed. A pilot wearing a green helmet and goggles is visible in the cockpit. The background features several small, green, rocky islands scattered across the horizon. The overall scene is dynamic and cheerful.

SEE YOU AROUND!

THANK YOU!