

The *American Historical Collection* (AHC) which established in 1950, consists of about 13,000 books, 18,000 photographs, and other materials related to the American experience in the Philippines and to the relationship of the two countries. With the possible exception of the holdings of the *Library of Congress*, the AHC is the largest, most diverse and most complete in the world.

Ambassador *Myron Cowen* (1949-1951), who saw the devastation wrought by the war on many things including the memory of the times preceding it, encouraged the American community to donate books and other materials pertaining to the first half of the 20th century. His initiative was responsible for the early phase of the collection.

The AHC was housed first at the U.S. Embassy, then at the *Thomas Jefferson Center* at Makati. It is now kept at the *Rizal Library of the Ateneo de Manila University*. The *Rizal Library* is committed to preserve the collection following the high standards it uses when conserving its own holdings. Further-more, it is committed to facilitate the research of scholars.

The *American Historical Collection Foundation, Inc.* aids and supports the AHC.

Ownership of the AHC is in trust with the *American Association of the Philippines*.

Filipinos and Americans are encouraged to donate appropriate books toward the development of this great collection.



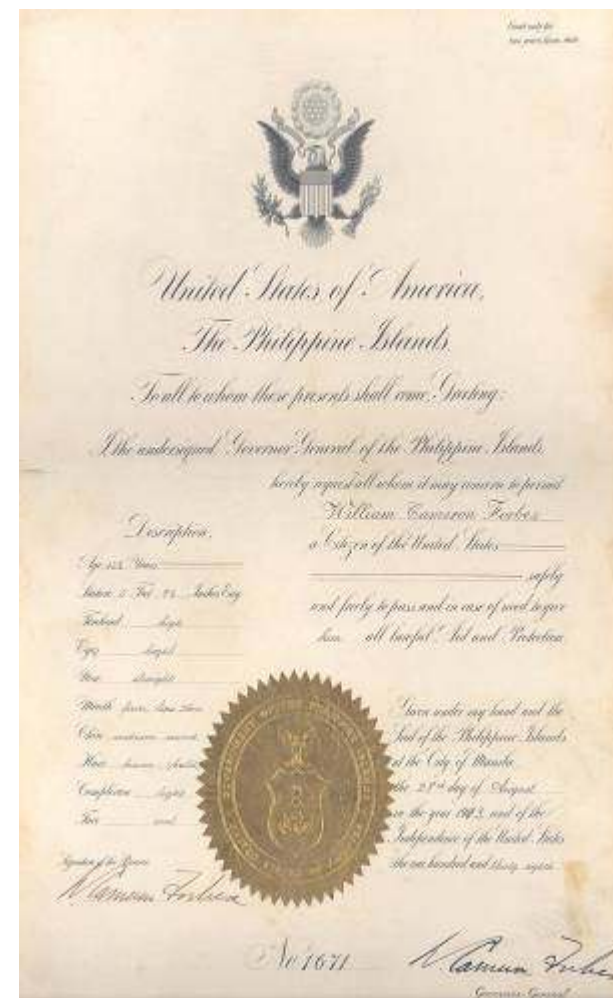
American Historical Collection

Memorabilia: Special Collections

3rd Floor - Rizal Library Annex
 Ateneo de Manila University
 Loyola Heights, Quezon City
 1108 Philippines
 Telefax :(632) 426-6001 ext. 5567
 E-mail: ahc@admu.edu.ph
 Website: <http://rizal.lib.admu.edu.ph/ahc>

Library Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 nn.





Instrument of surrender of the Japanese Armed Forces to the U. S. Army Forces

By no means do all the treasures of the American Historical Collection sit on the library's bookshelves. Many of the most interesting and poignant items are in the Special Collections: photographs, audiovisual materials microfilms, and memorabilia.

country. There are also extensive files on Filipino heroes of the Revolution and politicians, entrepreneurs, educators, academicians and other personages of the U. S. era.

They greatly extend the scope of the Collection and, because quite a number of them - both the photos and other materials are personal, they also help to humanize it. The U. S. era in the Philippines were not just government documents and military dispatches, but also personal mementos, souvenir photos, diaries, and memoirs, testifying to individual's delight, satisfaction, progress, commitment, complacency, disaster, oppression, tragedy, vindication and joy.

The AHC also includes numerous documents on audio tapes, videotape, motion picture film, microfilm, and microfiche.

The audio and video materials include interviews with American diplomats and Filipino political and historical figures, vintage footage of the Philippines before World War II, microfilm documents on the country's non-ethnic-Filipino tribes people.

The 18,000-plus photographs of the American Historical Collection are the most comprehensive compilation of such materials anywhere in the Philippines covering U. S. personnel and activities during the entire period of the American presence in this

And on microfiche, a trove of documents in Spanish and English from the early days of U. S. hegemony and many documents from World War II when U. S. citizens were interned in such locations as Los Banos and Manila's University of Santo Tomas campus.



Filipino liberation shirt embroidered with 201 American soldiers names



Arm band worn by internees recovered at Sto. Tomas