**FilVetREP Registry Application**

**VETERAN**

NAME: (First)      (Initial)      (Last)      

Living or Deceased: (LIVING) (DECEASED)

Military Service Number:      

Date of Birth:      

Branch of Service:      

Unit Specific Name:      

Dates of Service:       to      

Location of Service:      

Physical Status:      

Retired: (YES) (NO)

Prisoner of War: (YES) (NO)

Received VA Benefits: (YES) (NO)

Received Filipino Veterans

Equity Compensation: (YES) (NO) (APPEAL)

Contact Information:

Street:      

City:       State:

Zip Code:      Telephone Number:(     )      -

Email Address:      

**NEXT OF KIN**

NAME: (First)       (Initial)       (Last)      

Relationship to Veteran:      

Contact Information:

Street:      

City:       State:

Zip Code:       Telephone Number:(     )      -

Email Address:      

**COMMENTS:**      

See the**FilVetREP Registry Application Instructions**for instructionson submitting your application.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Region Certified | National Certified |
|  |  |

**FilVetREPRegional Points of Contact**

Send your application along with supporting documentation to the Region Director for the state in which the Living Veteran or Deceased Veteran’s Next of Kin resides. The Region Director will review your application and supporting documentation and notify you if additional information is required before the Veteran’s name can be added to the National Filipino Veterans of WWII Registry.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Regional Coverage** | **Region Director** | **Email Address** |
| **Region 1:**Connecticut (CT), Maine (ME), Massachusetts (MA), New Hampshire (NH), New Jersey (NJ), New York (NY), Pennsylvania (PA), Rhode Island (RI), Vermont (VT) | Sonny Busa | sonnybusa@yahoo.com |
| **Region 2:**Delaware (DE), District of Columbia (DC), Maryland (MD), Virginia (VA), West Virginia (WV) | Jay Cabacar | [jaycabacar@gmail.com](mailto:jaycabacar@gmail.com) |
| **Region 3:**Illinois (IL), Minnesota (MN), Missouri (MO), Nebraska (NE), Wisconsin (WI) | Edward Brotonel | ebrotonel@aol.com |
| **Region 4:**Indiana (IN), Iowa (IA), Kentucky (KY), Michigan (MI), Ohio (OH) | Jon Melegrito | jdmelegrito@gmail.com |
| **Region 5:** Alabama (AL), Florida (FL), Georgia (GA), Mississippi (MS), North Carolina (NC), South Carolina (SC), Tennessee (TN), Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands | Bryan Ramos | bryan@ramoslawfirm.com |
| **Region 6:** Colorado (CO), Kansas (KS), Montana (MT), North Dakota (ND), South Dakota (SD), Wyoming (WY) | Michael Simbre | mdsimbre@msn.com |
| **Region 7:** Arkansas (AR), Louisiana (LA), New Mexico (NM), Oklahoma (OK), Texas (TX) | Christy Panis Poisot;  Nonie Cabana | [christypoisot@gmail.com](mailto:christypoisot@gmail.com)  nonie.cabana@gmail.com |
| **Region 8:** Alaska (AK), Idaho (ID), Oregon (OR), Washington (WA) | Oscar Hilman;  Thelma Sevilla;  Zenaida Crisostomo Slemp | [oscarhilman1@gmail.com](mailto:oscarhilman1@gmail.com);  [tsevilla46@msn.com](mailto:tsevilla46@msn.com);  [zenaida2u@gmail.com](mailto:zenaida2u@gmail.com) |
| **Region 9:** Northern / Southern California (CA) | Luisa Antonio  Joe Garbanzos | [cgm@sfbec.org](mailto:cgm@sfbec.org).  [j3garb@gmail.com](mailto:j3garb@gmail.com) |
| **Region 10:** Arizona (AZ), Nevada (NV), Utah (UT) | Leo Belmonte  Leo Fortuno | [leobelmonte08@yahoo.com](mailto:leobelmonte08@yahoo.com)  [fortunoleonard32@gmai.com](mailto:fortunoleonard32@gmai.com) |
| **Region 11:** Hawaii (HI), Guam (GU), American Samoa, Marianas Islands | Wilfredo Tungol | [tungolw@gmail.com](mailto:tungolw@gmail.com) |
| Philippines and Overseas Embassies | Gian Mayo | [pvaoresearch@gmail.com](mailto:pvaoresearch@gmail.com) |

**FilVetREP Registry Application and CGM Eligibility Policy**

The Filipino Veterans Recognition and Education Project (FilVetREP) is building a registry of living and deceased Filipino and American veterans of World War II as part of its work to ensure the lasting legacy of their service and its role in U.S. history. To be included in this registry, living Veterans, or the designated Next of Kin of deceased veterans, must fill out the**FilVetREP Registry Application**. Veterans, who are approved and entered into the FilVetREP Registry, are eligible to receive a Congressional Gold Medal replica at a FilVetREP sponsored Regional Presentation. To date, almost 1,000 medals have been presented to veterans or surviving family members at one of over two dozen Regional Presentations from Washington, DC to Hawaii.

All applicants (Living Veterans and Deceased Veteran’s Next of Kin) must completely fill out the **FilVetREP Registry Application** form and provide supporting documents to prove wartime service from July 26, 1941 to December 31, 1946. Acceptable documents from applicants include:

* DD 214 Form,
* Enlistment records,
* Award certificates,
* Affidavits of service from National Personnel Records Center or Philippine Veterans Affairs of Office, or
* Other authenticated documents reflecting service in the Philippines.

Eligible military service in the Philippines includes:

* U.S. Army Force in the Far East (USAFFE),
* US Marine Corps,
* US Navy,
* US Coast Guard, or
* Recognized Guerrillas Forces.

Eligible military service shall have taken place during the period of July 26, 1941 to December 31, 1946; or from July 26, 1941 to beyond December 31, 1946 showing extended service up to retirement from U.S. military service; or at any time before July 1941 up to December 1946.

Unacceptable documents include:

* Photographs,
* Photo burial headstone,
* Newspaper articles,
* Forged documents,
* Unreadable service records and documents, and
* Service records not reflecting wartime service of July 26, 1941 to December 31, 1946.

Acceptable documents can be copies of original records obtained from service records of the veterans, from the National Personnel Records Center in St Louis, Missouri; from the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office in Quezon City, Philippines; Army Center of Military History; or the Library of Congress.

**FilVetREP Registry Application Instructions**

1. Download the **FilVetREP Registry Application**at <https://www.filvetrep.org/application>and completely fill out the application.
2. Assemble and digitally scan supporting documents that provide evidence of the Veteran’s eligibility for the Congressional Gold Medal (See **Eligibilityof Applicants to Receive Congressional Gold Medal**below).
3. Email the **FilVetREP Registry Application**and the scanned copies of supporting documents to the Region Director of the state in which the Living Veteran or Deceased Veteran’s Next of Kin resides. ***Submit only COPIES of your supporting documents; DO NOT submit ORIGINAL documents.***(See the**FilVetREP Regional Points of Contact**for the email address of the appropriate Region Director.)
4. The Region Director will review your **FilVetREP Registry Application** and supporting documents, and will then contact you to follow up and CERTIFY the Veteran’s eligibility for the Congressional Gold Medal.
5. If you don’t have supporting documents, refer to the **Resource Links for Veterans Documentation** to request the Veteran’s information. Be aware that the process for ordering/requesting records may take time, so it is important for you to request copies of records as soon as possible.

NOTE: There are no costs to apply for the Congressional Gold Medal. Processing of the**Congressional Gold Medal Application** is **FREE**.

**Eligibility of Applicants to Receive Congressional Gold Medal in the United States** (during Regional Presentations sponsored by the Filipino Veterans Recognition and Education Project)**:**

* Living Veterans who reside in the United States.
* Next of Kin of deceased veterans, but resides in the United States.
* Next of Kin of deceased veterans interred in the Philippines, but reside in the United States.
* Next of Kin of deceased veterans interred in the United States, but reside in Canada, Europe, Australia, South America, South Korea, or anywhere in the world (will be evaluated on a case by case basis and granted an exemption).
* Other exceptions on eligibility will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

**Eligibility of Applicants to Receive Congressional Gold Medal in the Philippines:**

* Living Veterans who reside in the Philippines.
* Next of Kin of deceased veterans, but resides in the Philippines.
* Next of Kin of deceased veterans interred in the Philippines, but reside in the Philippines.
* Other exception on eligibility will be determined on a case by case basis by the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO).

**Resource Links for Veterans Documentation**

**United States**

**National Archives**

<https://www.archives.gov/veterans>

**National Personnel Records Center**

<https://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/about-ompfs.html>

<https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>

<https://www.archives.gov/research/military/ww2/navy-casualties/us-territories.html>

**Access to Archival Database**

<https://aad.archives.gov/aad/index.jsp>

<https://aad.archives.gov/aad/series-list.jsp?cat=GP24>

<https://aad.archives.gov/aad/series-list.jsp?cat=WR26>

**US Veteran Affairs Records**

<https://www.va.gov/directory/guide/facility.asp?ID=5380>

**Philippines**

**Philippines Veterans Affairs Office**

Contact Military Records atCamp Aguinaldo to obtain an AGO 23

**Foreign Countries**

**Philippine Embassy**

<https://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-of/philippines>

**About**

The Filipino Veterans Recognition and Education Project is a nonpartisan, community-based, all-volunteer national initiative whose mission is to raise awareness through academic research and public information and obtain national recognition of Filipino and Filipino-American WWII Soldiers across the United States and Philippines for their wartime service to the U.S. and the Philippines from July 1941 to December 1946.

**Purpose**

CONDUCT A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO:

* Seek act of U.S. Congress to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the Filipino American World War II soldiers. MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!
* Initiate conclusive academic research on the Filipino American Soldiers experience during World War II including the Philippine Scouts, Philippine Commonwealth Army, Recognized Guerillas, New Philippine Scouts, 1st Filipino Infantry Regiment, 2d Filipino Infantry Battalion (Sep), And 1st Recon Battalion.
* Raise national awareness and public education/information on their wartime service and sacrifice in defending the Philippines and United States.

FACTORS TO SUPPORT RECOGNITION

* President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued a Military Order on July 26, 1941 directing the Philippine Commonwealth Army, Philippine Scouts, and Philippine Constabulary to be under the command of the Commander, U.S. Army Forces Far East (USAFFE) to defend the Philippines and United States.
* Over 260,000 Filipino soldiers fought in WWII. An estimated 16,000 to 18,000 soldiers remain in the U.S. and Philippines.
* The fall of Bataan in April 1942, and Corregidor in May 1942 led to the capture of over 72,000 American and Filipino troops.
* USAFFE forces and Filipino civilians organized into Recognized Guerilla Units led by U.S. and Philippine Army Officers.
* The 1st Filipino Infantry Regiment, 2d Filipino Infantry Battalion (Sep), organized in California, and 1st Recon Battalion participated in the Philippine Liberation in 1945-46.