

# DUTY TO COUNTRY

DutyToCountry.org



A story of brave soldiers who served under the American flag during WWII, only to be forgotten by the U.S. government after the war.

*Duty to Country* is an online educational project produced by the Filipino Veterans Recognition and Education Project. It tells the important, but little-known story of brave soldiers who served under the American flag during WWII, only to be forgotten by the U.S. government after the war.

The project includes an online exhibition and state of the art fully-free educational programs accessible to the public. It showcases compelling historical accounts, oral histories, primary sources, lesson plans, teaching activities, and custom artwork depicting the legacy of the Filipinos and Americans who fought in World War II in the Philippines.

“It would be a miscarriage of justice not to acknowledge and give importance to the role, the service, that these Filipino veterans played during the war.”

Major General (Ret) Tony Taguba  
Chairman of the Filipino Veterans Recognition and Education Project



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THE FILIPINO VETERANS RECOGNITION  
AND EDUCATION PROJECT

The Filipino Veterans Recognition and Education Project is a 501(c)(3), tax exempt, nonprofit, community based, all volunteer, charitable and educational organization. It is committed to educating and raising awareness of the national recognition of Filipino and American World War II soldiers across the United States and the Philippines for their wartime service to the US and the Philippines.

# PROJECT COMPONENTS

## UNDER ONE FLAG

This **online exhibition** explores the untold story of two nations—the United States and the Philippines—fighting together under the U.S. Flag. Across a century of history, *Under One Flag* features first-hand accounts of living veterans, historians, and community advocates. It showcases archival photographs, films, and historical documents, and is designed to work hand in hand with FilVetREP’s free curriculum.

*Under One Flag* sections include:

**The Story:** Explore the story chapter by chapter, starting with the Colonial period, continuing to World War II and concluding with the civil rights struggles for recognition that came after.

**Animations:** Experience the stories of veterans and activists brought to life through short animations, ranging from firefights in the jungle to protests in Congress.

**Illustrations:** Witness significant moments across this history brought to life through the richly detailed illustrations crafted by artist Aria Villafranca.

**Profile Cards:** Explore the roles played by key people in this story by browsing their profile cards, featuring illustrated portraits and short biographies.



## ORAL HISTORIES

With **20+ hours of video interviews**, *Duty to Country* showcases a rich archive of compelling first-hand stories. The archive provides access to topic-based short compilations, highlight clips, full interviews and searchable transcripts. This timely effort captures stories told by the last of the living veterans of World War II, their families, activists and historians. Clips range from 30 second highlights to full interviews.



## EDUCATOR RESOURCES

*Duty to Country*'s **free online educational resources** include:

**10 Detailed Lesson Plans:** The lesson plans (designed for middle and high schoolers) incorporate primary and secondary sources and contextualize media and content from the *Under One Flag* exhibition and oral histories. They aid teachers and students interested in learning about the Filipino experience during World War II, American colonialism, and 20th Century social justice.

**14 explainer Activities:** Explainer activities engage students directly with primary documents, archival photographs, oral histories, videos, profile cards and include maps and infographics. Lesson plans and activities are aligned with curriculum standards for ease-of-use.

## GRAPHIC NOVEL (FALL 2023)

*In the Shadow of Giants* is an **upcoming graphic novel** commissioned by the *Duty To Country* project to engage the next generation of Americans in this rich history. This work of historical fiction tells the story of a young Filipino American who discovers that her grandmother lived a secret life as a Guerrilla during World War II. It recounts her life during the Japanese Occupation and the lasting impact of the war and its aftermath on Filipino Americans today.

Written by *Duty to Country* producer Matthew Fisher and illustrated by *Under One Flag* artist Aria Villafranca, the story is inspired by the real-world experiences of veterans and their descendants as captured through the *Duty To Country* oral history project. *In the Shadow of Giants* is expected to be released in Fall of 2023.



## MEDIA BUZZ

“The rich content of the curriculum tackles some of the biggest questions in world and U.S. history – war, empire, colonization, military service, racism, immigration, civil rights, and fight for racial justice.”

Inquirer.net