

FROM THE FRONT

Filipinos declared independence six...

PAGE A1

If we trace the history of the Philippines, independence had been declared more than once. June 12, of course, is the most popular one.

Some historians say the first proclamation took place at the Pamitinan Cave in Montalban, Rizal, on April 12, 1895. It was Holy Week when Andres Bonifacio, Emilio Jacinto, Guillermo Masangkay, Aurelio Tolentino and other Katipuneros went to the cave to initiate new members of the Katipunan and plan their fight against the Spaniards. Bonifacio wrote on the cave wall *Viva la Independencia Filipina*.

The Katipuneros chose the Pamitinan Cave because they believed it represented purity of purpose in achieving independence. Bonifacio had plunged into a vigorous campaign to propagate the ideals of the secret society.

Informal affair

However, the event in Pamitinan was considered informal as only a handful of Katipuneros witnessed it.

The second declaration of national emancipation was on Aug. 23, 1896, a few days after the discovery of the Katipunan. Bonifacio called his people to a meeting in Balintawak to discuss the steps to be taken to address the crisis. They proceeded to Pugadlawin.

The following day, in the yard of Juan Ramos, the son of Melchora Aquino, Bonifacio asked his

men to fight for independence and tore their cedulas with great fervor symbolizing their disinterest from the Iberian rule. They shouted, "Long live the Philippine Independence."

This is popularly known as the Cry of Pugadlawin. But then again, this proclamation of our independence was not committed to writing.

Kawit declarations

The third instance was in Kawit, Cavite, on Oct. 31, 1896, when Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo issued his first two manifestos. One was titled "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity," in which he defined the aim of the revolution as the attainment of independence. Another announced the formation of a central revolutionary committee for the government of towns under the revolutionary government.

According to De Ocampo, this event lacks solemnity and force, for the decrees mentioned by Aguinaldo were aimed principally at exhorting the Filipinos to fight the Spanish forces until independence was won.

The fourth proclamation was also made in Kawit on June 12, 1898. This is the date that most Filipinos have been commemorating since 1962 when President Diosdado Macapagal changed the date of independence from July 4 to June 12 through Republic Act No. 4166.

True meaning of freedom

In this momentous event, the Act of Declaration

of Philippine Independence was read by Ambrosio Rianzares Bautista in front of many Filipinos. Our forefathers also witnessed the unfurling of our national flag and the playing of our National Anthem.

Indeed, this event symbolizes the true meaning of our freedom—a declaration led by Filipinos. The Philippine flag and the National Anthem are two primary prerequisites in proclaiming a nation's independence.

The fifth declaration of independence was announced in Manila on Oct. 14, 1943, when the Philippines was occupied by the Japanese. This was also the inauguration of the Japanese-sponsored Republic of the Philippines with Jose P. Laurel as president.

According to the decree, "The Filipino people, through the Preparatory Commission for Philippine Independence, invoking the aid of Divine Providence, and the hallowed spirits of Filipino patriots and martyrs who gave their lives for the freedom of their fatherland, hereby proclaim to the world that they are, as of right they ought to be, a free and independent nation;

"That they no longer owe allegiance to any foreign nation; that henceforth they shall exercise all the powers and enjoy all the privileges to which they are entitled as a free and independent state; and that for the defense of their territorial integrity and the preservation of their independent

existence, they pledge their fortune, their lives, and their sacred honor."

This declaration was not taken seriously by the majority of Filipinos.

US 'grant'

The last declaration of our freedom against the colonizers was on July 4, 1946, at Luneta, Manila. This date was observed as Independence Day every year until 1961. The date, similar to that of Independence Day of the United States, was the moment that they "granted the independence to the Philippines." The Americans were the ones who chose July 4, not the Filipinos.

But among the many declarations, it has been June 12 that we commemorate permanently and wholeheartedly.

June 12, 1898, was not an overnight event. According to Teodoro Agoncillo, "the first week of June 1898, General Aguinaldo had been convinced of the wisdom of declaring Philippine independence." Aguinaldo believed that this event would be a big boost for the Filipinos to fight harder against the Spaniards.

Solemn

In addition, June 12 was made in the most solemn manner: Asking for the Lord's divine guidance and protection after winning battles after battles.

Certainly, the June 12 independence proclamation was an overwhelming expression of desire of many Filipinos for freedom. The document attesting to it was signed by 97 Filipinos who clamored for a true and meaningful freedom. ■



Wilshire Travel Center

WHOLESALE DISCOUNT CENTER

3580 WILSHIRE BLVD. SUITE. 132 LOS ANGELES, CA 90010
wilshiretravelcenter@yahoo.com CST # 2069326-40

CALL: (213) 380-2880

AUG 11 - NOV 27, 2009		3 DAYS/2 NIGHTS MANILA SPECIAL 2009	
EDSA Shangrila	\$132	Diamond Hotel	\$132
Dusit Hotel	\$132	Sofitel Hotel	\$132
Holiday Inn	\$132	*****	
Crown Plaza	\$132	Mabuhay Manor	\$ 55/night

Stimulus Package \$792.00

+FUEL & TAXES per Person

Package includes:
 *Roundtrip LAX-MNL-LAX
 *3D/2N Hotel(Shang/Sofitel)
 *Daily Breakfast
 *One Way Airport Transfer
 *On Korean Airlines
 (LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE)

Our Manila Office:
CITYTRAVEL CENTER INC.
 28 A. Tolentino St., Frisco, Quezon City, Philippines
 Tel: (02) 374-1846 Fax: (02) 412-3687
 Email: citytravelcenter_inc@yahoo.com

PAL	EVA	CATHAY	ASIANA	CHINA	KE	N.WEST	JAPAN
\$780	\$540	\$680	\$658	\$790	\$660	\$780	\$782

LOCAL TOURS		AVAILABLE !!!!!	
* Grand Canyon \$139	* Ensenada \$115	* PTA (MNL/LAX/MNL)	* Hawaii Packages
* San Francisco \$163	* Reno \$249	* Local/ Domestic Air Travel	

NOTE: Fuel Surcharge and Taxes NOT INCLUDED



HAIR REBONDING

Japanese Magic Straight Perm

You look better and feel better!

- No more curly or kinky hair
- Only Japanese products are used
- Keeps hair straight for 6 months or longer

ONLY
\$120!

(213) 503-2199

GINA KIM
Hair Designer

1032 Crenshaw Blvd., Suite D Los Angeles, CA 90019
(Take I-10 W, exit Crenshaw, turn right, proceed along Crenshaw and arrive on the right-side between Pico and Olympic)

FREEPHONE WIRELESS

WHERE THE BEST SERVICE START!!

"SAN GABRIEL"

1900 S DEL MAR AVE
SAN GABRIEL, CA 91776

TEL: (626) 573-1010

"VALLEY BRANCH"

14420 1/2 CHASE ST
PANORAMA CITY, CA 91402

TEL: (818) 892-9990

--PREMIER MOBILE--

"CERRITOS BRANCH"

11824 ARTESIA BLVD
ARTESIA, CA 90701

TEL: (562) 924-1101

FREE BLUETOOTH WITH EVERY NEW ACTIVATION MUST BRING IN AD

WWW.FREEHONEWIRELESS.ORG FREE ACCESSORIES (Car charger, Leather case, Cable, Battery, Ear Piece, and etc.)

Refer a friend and receive \$25.00 CASH!! Recieve \$50.00 CASH back with every new activation!

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FREE \$39.99/mo</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">TOUCHSCREEN</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">S800 BEHOLD N770 S5230 N910 COOKIE</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">SMART PHONES</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">8900* N95* W960 E7* SLIDE</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">HIGH "MP" CAMERA PHONES</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">N550 N730 G600 VIEWTY N79 N85</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE**</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">G1 BEHOLD</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE***</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">E71 N95</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE**</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">X1 GRAVITY</p>	
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE**</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">N96 S610</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE**</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">IPHONE 3G T-459</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE**</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">CURVE 8900</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FREE NOKIA N97 NEW**</p> 	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FREE HTC TOUCH DIAMOND 2 NEW**</p> 
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE**</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">N85 N79</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">BEHOLD BEHOLD</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE**</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">E63 E63</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FREE BLACKBERRY BOLD</p> 	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FREE SAMSUNG S8300 NEW**</p> 
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE***</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">S800 S800</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">VIEWTY VIEWTY</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">KC910 KC910</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FREE NOKIA N96</p> 	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FREE LG ARENA NEW**</p> 
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE**</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">E75 N95 8GB STORM OMNIA C905 BEHOLD</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE***</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">LX 09 MEMOIR 8900</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE**</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">DIAMOND 2 GRAVITY</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">PRADA PRADA 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">ARMANI ARMANI</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FAMILY \$69.99/mo FREE</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">ARENA 1680</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">\$29.99 IPHONE 3G</p> 	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FREE NOKIA E75 NEW**</p> 	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">\$79.99 HTC HD</p> 	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FREE SONY ERICSSON W955 NEW 8mp**</p> 
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FREE SONY ERICSSON X1</p> 	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FREE SIDEKICK LK 2009 NEW**</p> 			

PROMOTION: 06/10/09 - 06/17/09