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Philippine Society During the Japanese Occupation

Review Author: Josefa M. Sanieel

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respective topics. But this is precisely where the book fails, for the six essays in the book do not uniformly come up to this expectation.

How this book is regarded by educated Filipinos may be illustrated by two remarks. One was made by a well-known columnist in Manila. "This book is completely out of proportion", he said.

The other was a remark made by an equally well-known book-seller. I visited his office one day and saw on his table some fifteen or twenty copies of this book. "What do you think of the book?" I asked. His reply was immediate: "It is a non-book."

Well, there it is. I would not have used the term myself; but perhaps it hits the nail on the head: it is a non-book.

MIGUEL A. BERNAD

PHILIPPINE SOCIETY DURING THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION

THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION OF THE PHILIPPINES by A. V. H. Hartendorp. Manila: Bookmark, 1967. Vol. I, xvi, 662 pp.; Vol. II, vii, 682 pp.

When a *Colliers* magazine writer interviewed General D. MacArthur in October 1941, the General confidentially told him in the presence of Hartendorp, the author of this book, that "If war does not break out before April, we shall be ready. If it comes sooner than that, all we will be able to do is put up a good fight." (Vol. I, pp. 250-251.) The war did come sooner. And until American forces, with Filipino cooperation, liberated the country from the Japanese in 1945, the Filipinos carried on a good fight for survival. Also set free early that year at the University of Santo Tomas (U.S.T.) internment camp were internees of varying nationalities, mainly Americans.

Totalling 1,367 pages, this two-volume book is a rich source of detailed information on what took place from day to day at the U.S.T. camp which was recorded by the author who was appointed the camp's historian. In between accounts on camp activities, Hartendorp describes developments outside the camp based on the *Manila Tribune*, printed Japanese propaganda materials, news from the camp's secret radio receiver, stories from, and interviews with, internees returning to camp after a home leave as well as those who were brought to U.S.T. from internment camps located in other parts of the Philippines.

Japanese policy in administering internment camps in the Philippines varied. But one who lived through and read other sources on the Japanese occupation period in the Philippines, is struck by the comparative freedom enjoyed by the governing body at the U.S.T. Camp — the Executive Committee composed of selected internees — in undertaking their functions until it was abolished early in 1944 when the Japanese army took over the camp's administration (Vol. II, p. 148). The daily food ration of the internees, although subject to change and very much less than their "peace-time" normal intake, was far more substantial than what most Filipinos could have. Furthermore, unlike Filipinos, the internees remained unmolested and were protected in camps. Despite deaths caused by malnutrition, in May 1944, Mr. Komatsu of the U.S.T. camp advised Mr. Earl Carroll, member of the Internee's Committee, that the camp "was reported to have the highest standard of living of any internment camp in the Far East..." (Vol II, p. 226.)

A journalist and publisher-editor of the *Philippine Magazine* which covered pre-war Japanese activities in the country, the author vividly describes what he saw in the U.S.T. camp. Among them are: how the Executive Committee, working under the camp's Japanese Commandant and counselled by an Advisory Committee, managed to coordinate its work with the Operating Committee, the Finance and Supplies Committee as well as the Council of Monitors; how the "package line," which the author indicated as a manifestation of Filipino loyalty to, and friendship with Americans, supplied many internees with food and other necessities as well as news; how some internees managed to provide for their families who lived outside the camp; how, like most communities, some internees behaved in different ways — some of them landing in the camp's jail for violations of camp regulations; how they entertained themselves to make more than three years of camp life bearable; how, in May 1943, they decided the problem of selecting those who were to move to Los Baños internment camp; how an American military contingent liberated U.S.T. camp soon ending the internees' community life there; in short, how the internees lived together at U.S.T. camp and met each crisis that faced them.

While developments outside U.S.T. camp, which the book touches on, are discussed in other post-war accounts on the Japanese occupation of the Philippines, there are interesting aspects of this period which Hartendorp was in a better position to narrate because the data came from internees directly involved with them. For example, the stories dealing with the oil companies, the telephone company, the electric company (Vol. I, pp. 249-258) and the sugar, tobacco, coconut oil as well as hemp industries (Vol. I, pp. 347-358). Hartendorp's data on the internment camps in different parts of the Phil-

ippines came from those who lived there until they were transferred to Manila. In certain instances, these internees' stories included information on pre-war Japanese living in the place they were first interned and the roles these Japanese played after the Philippines was occupied by enemy military forces. Certain internees engaged in church work were among the author's sources of information on the Japanese plan of using the church as a channel of Japanese war-time propaganda.

Other parts of the account should be of interest to Filipinos today. Among them, the Japanese attempts of establishing a model farm in the Philippines (Vol. I, p. 193); of transferring Philippine economic dependence from the United States to Japan (Vol. I, pp. 207-211); of insisting that the Philippines remain essentially an agricultural country (Vol. I, p. 497) and of establishing an independent Philippines within Japan's Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere (Vol. I, p. 446).

Because Hartendorp alternated his narrative between the chapters on the U.S.T. internment camp and what he referred to as the "country chapters," it is sometimes difficult to follow the chronological sequence of events without turning back to the preceding pages. The account is at times repetitious but, written by an expert in journalistic reporting, it presents a moving picture of Philippine society during more than three years of Japanese occupation.

JOSEFA M. SANIEL

SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL: VALUES IN RELIGIOUS LIFE

THE ONE BRIDE: The Church and Consecrated Virginity. By Sister Mary Jane Klimisch, O.S.B. New York: Sheed and Ward, 1965. 235 pp.

The purpose of this book is to afford new insights into the meaning of consecrated virginity by re-appraising in the light of the Second Vatican Council the value set that underlies religious profession.

This aim is followed up by exposing the broader and deeper structures into which consecrated virginity has always been inserted but which have become obscured by an overgrowth of individualistic attitudes and practices. The keystone is set within the framework of biblical orientation: the covenantal reality of God's presence among His People is only the prototype of God's invitation to