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## **Research Note**

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# Research Note

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## American Jesuit Prisoners of War, 1942–1945

When the Japanese occupied the Philippines in the Second World War, they put enemy aliens, including American Jesuits, in prison camps in several places in the country. Published accounts provide only partial lists of American Jesuit internees. Here is provided complete lists of Jesuit internees in the prison camps at the University of Santo Tomas and in Los Baños. Also provided is the list of Jesuits who were never captured. The method used to compile the complete lists is given.

**KEYWORDS: SECOND WORLD WAR · AMERICANS IN THE PHILIPPINES · JESUITS**

Once I brought a visiting American scientist to the American military cemetery in Fort Bonifacio. As we walked between the rows of parallel slabs of marble into which were cut the names of 36,265 dead or missing, our eyes scanned the lists. When my companion stopped, I saw tears creeping down his cheeks. He was gazing at the name of his brother. I do not know what emotion, if any, will be evoked when one looks at the lists of American Jesuits who became prisoners of war. I do know why I compiled the lists. To paraphrase George Mallory's reply when asked why he was climbing Mount Everest, "Because the lists are not there." In reality some lists do exist, but these are partial, as I discuss below, and do not do historical justice to the prisoners.

On 26 December 1941 Manila was declared an open city and American military forces left the city. On 2 January 1942 Japanese forces occupied Manila. They ordered enemy civilians to remain in their homes until they could be registered. Over several days, the Japanese rounded up all enemy aliens and confined them in the campus of the University of Santo Tomas (UST) in Manila, a fenced compound 22 hectares in size. Clergy and religious were allowed house arrest as long as they did not engage in political activities.

On 7 December 1943 five Manila Jesuits were transferred from Fort Santiago to UST. Then in January 1944 eight Jesuits (priests and scholastics) were brought to the UST prison from various parts of Mindanao. On 8 July 1944 all Jesuits gathered in the Ateneo Padre Faura campus were brought to the prison camp in Los Baños, Laguna, 63 kilometers southeast of Manila.

The total number of prisoners in UST was about 4,000 and in Los Baños about 2,000. On 5 February 1945 the Japanese left UST. On 23 February 1945 the prisoners left Los Baños (fig. 1).

### Lists of American Jesuits in the Philippines

The lists of the American Jesuits imprisoned in UST and Los Baños can be seen in tables 1 and 2. Table 3 shows the list of those who were never captured in Mindanao. Table 4 presents summary data on the 115 American Jesuits present at that time in the Philippines, while table 5 lists the casualties of war. Table 6 presents information on the last two of the survivors who lived until they reached their nineties. In the next section is an explanation of how the lists were determined.

Not included in the tabular presentations is Bishop James Hayes, 53 years old in 1942, who had been assigned to Mindanao (fig. 2). He was initially sent to UST but was eventually held in house arrest at the Jesuit House in Santa Ana, Manila. Also not easy to categorize is Carl Hausmann, 44 years old in 1942, who was held in several prisons but not in UST and Los Baños (fig. 3). Hausmann is also not included in the tabulated lists. Finally the 25-year-old scholastic Edward McGinty, who was in Novaliches, was held as a prisoner in a small doctors' hospital in Malate and not sent to Los Baños (Ferriols 2012).

**Table 1. Members of the Society of Jesus who were imprisoned in the UST Prison Camp, 1942–1945**

	NAME	AGE IN 1942	JESUIT STATUS	MISSION AREA
1	Abrams, John	33	Brother	Padre Faura
2	Bauerlein, Edward	49	Brother	Balintawak
3	Behr, Joseph	26	Scholastic	Zamboanga
4	Brady, Thomas	27	Scholastic	Cagayan de Oro
5	Cervini, Andrew	39	Priest	Lanao
6	Daly, David	59	Priest	Cagayan de Oro
7	Doucette, Bernard	47	Priest	Padre Faura
8	Ewing, Franklin	37	Priest	Cagayan de Oro
9	Gehring, Ralph	28	Scholastic	Zamboanga
10	Keane, Anthony	40	Priest	Padre Faura
11	Kennally, Vincent	47	Priest	Novaliches
12	Thibault, Merlin	42	Priest	Lanao

**Table 2. Members of the Society of Jesus who were imprisoned in the Prison Camp at Los Baños, 1942–1945**

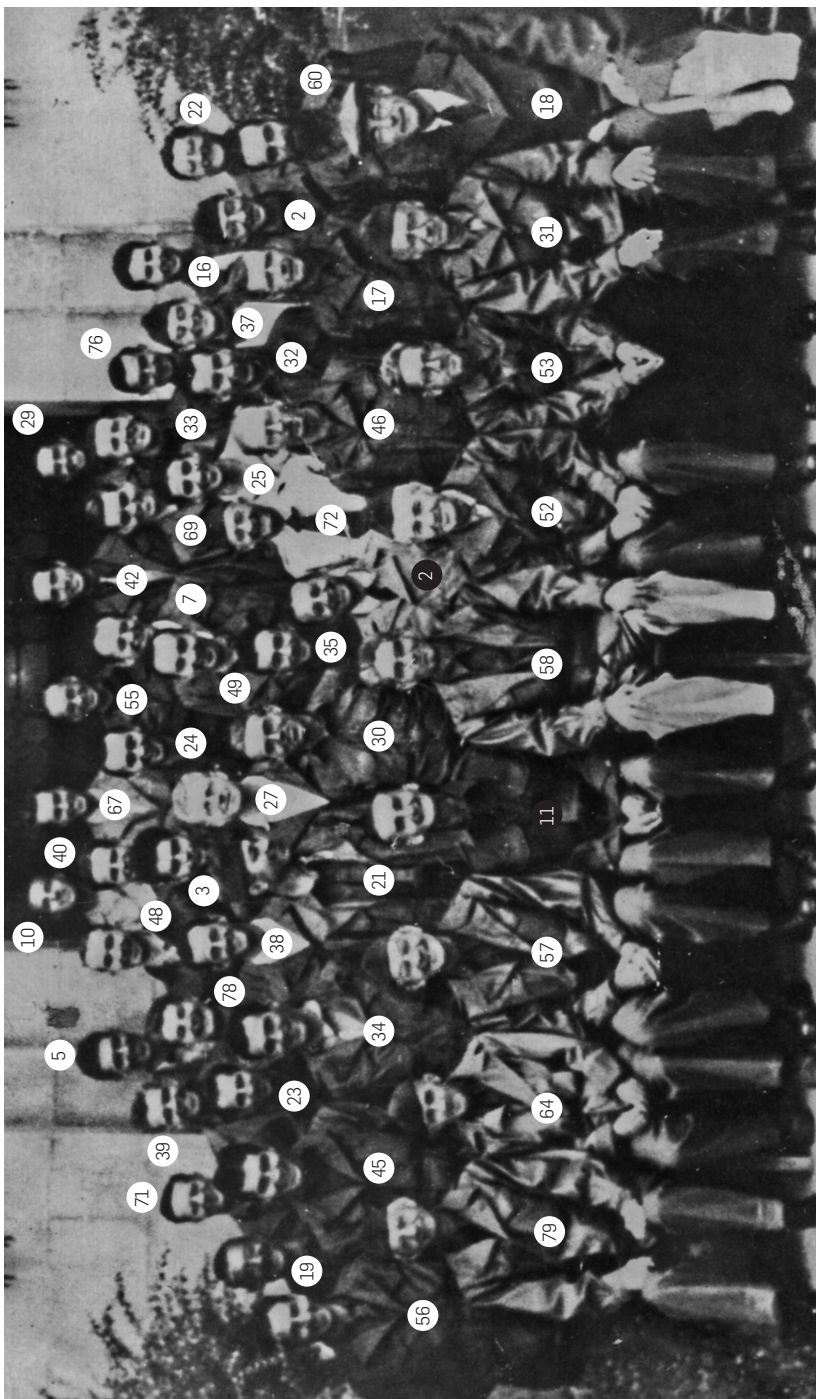
	NAME	AGE IN 1942	JESUIT STATUS	MISSION AREA
1	Avery, Henry	59	Priest	Novaliches
2	Bittner, Joseph	37	Priest	Naga
3	Boyle, Philip	27	Scholastic	Novaliches
4	Burns, Francis	38	Priest	Naga
5	Cashman, Michael	25	Scholastic	Novaliches
6	Coffey, Henry	66 (oldest)	Priest	Novaliches
7	Corbett, Daniel	22	Scholastic	Balintawak
8	Cullum, Leo	41	Priest	Balintawak
9	Deppermann, Charles	53	Priest	Padre Faura

**Table 2. (continued)**

	NAME	AGE IN 1942	JESUIT STATUS	MISSION AREA
10	Dincher, Frederick	28	Scholastic	Balintawak
11	Dow, Wiliam	46	Priest	Padre Faura
12	Dowd, Austin	44	Priest	Padre Faura
13	Dowling, Richard	36	Priest	Padre Faura
14	Duffy, John	64	Brother	Padre Faura
15	Fasy, Carroll	42	Priest	Novaliches
16	Fox, Frederick	30	Priest	Padre Faura
17	Gampp, Anthony	51	Priest	Culion
18	Gisel, Eugene	44	Priest	Padre Faura
19	Grau, Albert	28	Scholastic	Naga
20	Greer, Henry	40	Priest	Intramuros
21	Guicheteau, Armand	36	Priest	Padre Faura
22	Hacker, Leonard	28	Priest	Novaliches
23	Hartnett, Ernest	38	Priest	Padre Faura
24	Healy, Gerald	24	Scholastic	Novaliches
25	Horgan, Gregory	29	Scholastic	Naga
26	Hurley, John	50	Priest	Intramuros
27	Hyland, Walter	41	Priest	Novaliches
28	Irwin, Henry	50	Priest	Padre Faura
29	Kavanagh, Joseph	27	Scholastic	Padre Faura
30	Kerr, Joseph	38	Priest	Novaliches
31	Kiente, Alfred	51	Priest	Padre Faura
32	Kinn, Leo	40	Priest	Padre Faura
33	Klippert, Edward	29	Scholastic	Padre Faura
34	Leary, Paul	23	Scholastic	Padre Faura
35	Lochboehler, Bernard	37	Priest	Balintawak
36	Lucas, Joseph	52	Priest	Padre Faura
37	Madigan, Francis	25	Scholastic	Novaliches
38	Martin, Clarence	24	Scholastic	Novaliches
39	Martin, Edgar	33	Scholastic	Padre Faura
40	Maxcy, Joseph	28	Scholastic	Padre Faura
41	McCaffray, Arthur	66	Priest	Padre Faura
42	McCann, James	26	Scholastic	Padre Faura
43	McCullough, Henry	51	Priest	Novaliches
44	McGovern, Leo	39	Priest	Padre Faura

**Table 2. (continued)**

	NAME	AGE IN 1942	JESUIT STATUS	MISSION AREA
45	McMahon, James	26	Scholastic	Novaliches
46	McManus, Ambrose	36	Priest	Balintawak
47	McNicholas, John	36	Priest	Intramuros
48	McSorley, Richard	28	Scholastic	Naga
49	Mitchell, Thomas	28	Scholastic	Novaliches
50	Monaghan, Forbes	34	Priest	Padre Faura
51	Moran, James	44	Priest	Balintawak
52	Morning, John	62	Priest	Padre Faura
53	Mudd, Maurice	52	Priest	Padre Faura
54	Mulry, Joseph	53	Priest	Padre Faura
55	Nicholson, John	28	Scholastic	Naga
56	Nicholson, William	27	Scholastic	Novaliches
57	Nuttall, Edmund	43	Priest	Padre Faura
58	O'Beirne, Vincent	43	Priest	Padre Faura
59	O'Shaughnessy, Martin	52	Priest	Intramuros
60	Pangborn, Wallace	39	Priest	Balintawak
61	Priestner, Joseph	39	Priest	Padre Faura
62	Quinn, Grant	32	Scholastic	Padre Faura
63	Reardon, Francis	44	Priest	Padre Faura
64	Reilly, Matthew	42	Priest	Naga
65	Repetti, William	60	Priest	Padre Faura
66	Reuter, James	26	Scholastic	Padre Faura
67	Riley, Charles	23	Scholastic	Novaliches
68	Rively, William	25	Scholastic	Novaliches
69	Ruane, John	22	Scholastic	Novaliches
70	Shanahan, Thomas	47	Priest	Padre Faura
71	Sullivan, Edward	27	Scholastic	Naga
72	Sullivan, Russell	46	Priest	Padre Faura
73	Treubig, John	45	Priest	Padre Faura
74	Tuite, Thomas	37	Priest	Balintawak
75	Welch, Leo	35	Priest	Padre Faura
76	Wiley, Samuel	23	Scholastic	Novaliches
77	Willmann, George	45	Priest	Padre Faura
78	Wolf, Charles	22 (youngest)	Scholastic	Novaliches
79	Zillig, Martin	62	Priest	Balintawak



**Table 3. Members of the Society of Jesus who were free in northwest Mindanao, 1942–1945**

	NAME	AGE IN 1942	JESUIT STATUS	MISSION AREA
1	Daigler, Theodore	38	Priest	Cagayan de Oro
2	Doino, Francis	44	Priest	Linabo, Bukidnon
3	Doyle, John	48	Brother	Iligan, Lanao
4	Haggerty, J. Edward	39	Priest	Cagayan de Oro
5	Hamilton, Walter	48	Priest	Iligan, Lanao
6	Henfling, Alfred	51	Priest	Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental
7	Kennedy, Hugh	34	Priest	Cagayan de Oro
8	Kirchgessner, George	41	Priest	Cagayan de Oro
9	McFadden, John	37	Priest	Cagayan de Oro
10	McKeaney, John	34	Priest	Cagayan de Oro
11	Murphy, Harold	42	Priest	Jasaan, Misamis Oriental
12	O'Byrne, Edward	37	Priest	Salay, Misamis Oriental
13	O'Connell, John	46	Priest	Talisayan, Misamis Oriental
14	O'Keefe, Eugene	39	Priest	El Salvador, Misamis Oriental
15	O'Neill, James	51	Priest	Cagayan de Oro
16	Pollock, John	48	Priest	Mambajao, Misamis Oriental
17	Reith, Joseph	48	Priest	Dansalan, Lanao
18	Risacher, Clement	61	Priest	Balingasag, Misamis Oriental
19	Rocks, Thomas	37	Priest	Cagayan de Oro
20	Shea, Arthur	36	Priest	Mambajao, Misamis Oriental
21	Wasil, Edward	35	Priest	Talakag, Bukidnon

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Fig. 1. American Jesuits in the Philippine Mission, still wearing army clothes, in Los Angeles, 5 May 1945, for a brief rest on their way to the East Coast after surviving the Japanese occupation of the Philippines. The other Jesuits came in separate ships. The numbers in this photograph correspond to the numbers in the list shown in table 2, with the following exceptions (in black circles): No. 2, Francis Doino in table 3; and No. 11, Vincent Kennally in table 1.





Fig. 2. James Hayes, Bishop of Cagayan de Oro

**Table 4. Summary data on American Jesuits in the Philippines, 1942–1945**

STATUS	NUMBER
UST Prison Camp	12
Los Baños Prison Camp	79
Several prisons	1
House arrest	1
Hospital arrest	1
Total in Prison	94
Free in Mindanao	21
<b>Total American Jesuits in the Philippines</b>	<b>115</b>

**Table 5. American Jesuits who became casualties of the Second World War**

	NAME	AGE IN 1942	DATE OF DEATH	CAUSE OF DEATH
1	Thomas Rocks	37	4 June 1942	Killed by armed thieves
2	Edward McGinty	25, Scholastic	1 January 1945	Illness
3	Joseph Mulry	53	15 January 1945	Illness
4	Carl Hausmann	44	20 January 1945	Starvation
5	Daly David	59	10 February 1945	Shell shrapnel

**Table 6. The last two American Jesuits who died from among the 115 members of the Society of Jesus who were in the Philippines from 1942 to 1945**

	NAME	DATE OF DEATH	AGE AT DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH
1	John Ruane	5 May 2012	92 years old	Jersey City
2	James Reuter	31 December 2012	96 years old	Parañaque, Metro Manila

### How Were These Lists Determined?

Some surviving prisoners published accounts of their ordeal. A. V. H. Hartendorp (1967), a journalist who was a prisoner in UST for thirty-seven months, kept a diary that he published eventually as a two-volume book, *The Japanese Occupation of the Philippines*. James Reuter and James McMahon (1945), who were both prisoners in Los Baños for eight months, shared their recollections in the article “Philippine Jesuits Under the Japanese” published in *Woodstock Letters*. For the chapter on “War Years in Mindanao and in UST,” Reuter and McMahon (1945) obtained the material from the Mindanao Jesuits Joseph Behr, Thomas Brady, and Ralph Gehring. Haggerty (1946), free in



Fig. 3. Carl Hausmann, Parish Priest of Sumilao, Bukidnon

Mindanao during the entire duration of the war, published his recollections in *Guerilla Padre*. Forbes Monaghan (1946) in *Under the Red Sun* wrote about resistance activities, but he provided useful data that helped in the compilation of these lists. Miguel Bernad (2006) wrote short biographies about Hausmann and Bishop Hayes in *Unusual and Ordinary*.

Who were in the UST prison? Who in the Los Baños prison? Who escaped capture? The published materials—particularly Reuter and McMahon (1945), Hartendorp (1967), and Haggerty (1946)—provided only partial lists. However, from these partial lists a pattern could be discerned. Those from Luzon and Culion ended up in Los Baños. Those in Mindanao escaped capture except for those sent to UST. Those in UST were from Manila and Mindanao. Thus, if one could determine who were sent to the UST prison camp, then one could complete the remaining two partial lists.

Reuter and McMahon (1945) explicitly stated that there were fourteen Jesuits in UST, consisting of two Brothers, three scholastics, and nine priests. They did not state how many were Mindanao Jesuits. Hartendorp (1967), for his part, stated that there were five Manila Jesuits and eight Mindanao Jesuits, for a total of thirteen. How can these statements be reconciled? Of the fourteen mentioned by Reuter and McMahon, one was Hurley, a Manila Jesuit. This number can be reduced to thirteen, since Hurley was transferred to Los Baños. Also among the fourteen was Bishop Hayes, who was also mentioned by Hartendorp. Hayes was removed from UST and placed under house arrest. Bishop Hayes was allowed to stay in La Ignaciana, a Jesuit house in Santa Ana, Manila. Hayes and Hurley were short-term prisoners in UST.

Thus the number of Jesuits in UST in the two accounts is twelve. The question has become, “How many Jesuits were in UST when it was liberated in February 1945?” Who were these twelve Jesuits? This question can be answered by combining the names supplied by Hartendorp (1967) and Reuter and McMahon (1945). Hartendorp gave the names of five Manila Jesuits—Abrams, Bauerlein, Doucette, Keane, and Kennally—and one from Mindanao, namely, Ewing. Reuter and McMahon (1945) gave the names Behr, Brady, Daly, Gehring, and Thibault. All these together can be sorted into categories. The Brothers were Abrams and Bauerlein. The scholastics were Behr, Brady, and Gehring. Daly, Doucette, Ewing, Keane, Kennally, and Thibault added to a total of six priests. Fr. José Arcilla (2014) supplied to me the seventh name. He reported that Andrew Cervini, a Mindanao Jesuit, had told him that he had lost his left leg after being hit by Japanese shell shrapnel when he was in UST.

To complete the partial list of those in Los Baños given by Reuter and McMahon (1945) and the partial list of Haggerty (1946), use was made of the *1942 Catalogus Missionae Philippinae* (Anon. 1941). This catalogue provided information on the residences and works of American Jesuits in the Philippines on the eve of Pearl Harbor, after which no American Jesuits were able to reach the Philippines. The prisoners in Los Baños were thus all those based in Luzon and Culion minus the prisoners in UST. The Jesuits who escaped capture were all in Mindanao minus the prisoners in UST.

Bernad (2006) provided data on Bishop Hayes and Hausmann who were not in the three lists. They were his close friends. Hausmann, a military chaplain, was captured and imprisoned in Davao, Bilibid, Cabanatuan, and Taiwan. He died of starvation in a POW ship from the

prison in Taiwan en route to Japan. He used to give his meager ration to the other prisoners on the ship. His captivity of thirty-two months was the longest of the American Jesuits.

Those who escaped capture were parish priests in Mindanao, protected by their Filipino parishioners. They did their best to avoid capture to be able to minister to the spiritual needs of their parishioners.

## Note

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