

CHAPTER IX

THE LAND BATTLE OF MANILA, AUGUST 13, 1898

THE GENERAL SITUATION IN MANILA, JULY-AUGUST, 1898—ORGANIZATION OF 2ND DIVISION, 8TH ARMY CORPS—DUTY AT THE BREASTWORKS AND TRENCHES—THE "BATTLE IN THE RAIN"—AUGUST 1ST IN THE TRENCHES—NEGOTIATIONS FOR SURRENDER—NAVAL OPERATIONS OF AUGUST 13TH—GENERAL MERRITT'S ORDERS FOR THE ATTACK—THE LAND BATTLE OF MANILA—CAPTURE OF FORT MALATE—THE SURRENDER OF THE CITY—EVENTS IN MANILA AFTER SURRENDER.

Before proceeding to the narration of the stirring events in the history of the 1st Colorado Infantry Volunteers during the service in the Philippine Islands, it is appropriate at this time to give a brief resume of the situation in Manila prior to and immediately following the regiment's arrival.

Admiral Dewey defeated the Spanish fleet in Manila Bay on May 1st, 1898, and subsequent operations placed him in possession of the entire bay and of all the shore fortifications from Corregidor, inclusive, to Malate, exclusive. However it was very evident that to capture the city of Manila and its environs would require a considerable military force, and as a consequence it was determined to send an army corps of approximately 20,000 to Manila to reinforce Dewey and subjugate the Spanish garrison. The organization of the Eighth Army Corps, designated for service in the Philippine Islands, was begun on May 20th, and on May 25, 1898, the first expedition left San Francisco for Manila arriving at the latter place on June 30, 1898. The expedition was under the command of Brigadier General Thomas N. Anderson, and comprised 158 officers and 2,386 enlisted men.

General Anderson at once established camp (afterwards known as Camp Dewey) astride the Calle Real about twenty-one miles by wagon road northeast of Cavite, and proceeded to establish communications with the Filipino forces besieging Manila. The Spanish garrison, numbering about 13,000 men under Governor-General Augustin, occupied the city of Manila and a line of entrenchments and blockhouses entirely surrounding the city on the landward sides. These defensive lines started at Fort Malate (Fort San Antonio de Abad) on the shore south of the city and embraced the new as well as the old city of Manila to the water front on the north. The Filipino insurgents occupied the interior of the island of Luzon, and their entrenchments faced those of the Spaniards around Manila.

As noted in the preceding chapter, the second expedition (which included the 1st Colorado Infantry, U. S. Volunteers) under command of Brigadier General F. V. Greene, U. S. V., left San Francisco on June 15, 1898, and arrived at Manila on July 17, 1898. The third expedition, 198 officers and 4642 enlisted men, with Major General Wesley Merritt, U. S. A., in command, arrived on July 25, and soon all troops were debarked and encamped at Camp Dewey and near Cavite. General Merritt at once assumed command of all United States land forces in the Philippines, and on August 1, 1898, issued the following orders:

Headquarters Department of the Pacific
and Eighth Army Corps

Manila Bay, P. I., August 1, 1898.

General Orders, }
No. 2. }

I. The United States forces assembled at Cavite, Camp Dewey and in transports off Cavite are hereby organized as the 2d Division of the 8th Army Corps, composed of two brigades. Brigadier-General T. M. Anderson, U. S. V., is assigned to the command of the division:

The brigades are organized as follows:

FIRST BRIGADE—Brigadier-General Arthur MacArthur, U. S. V., commanding: 23d U. S. Inf., two battalions; 14th U. S. Inf., one battalion; 13th Minnesota Volunteer Inf.; 1st North Dakota Volunteer Inf., two battalions; 1st Idaho Volunteer Inf., two battalions; 1st Wyoming Volunteer Inf., one battalion; Astor Battery.

SECOND BRIGADE—Brigadier-General F. V. Greene, U. S. V., commanding; 18th U. S. Inf., two battalions; battalion four-foot batteries, 3d U. S. Art.; Company A, Battalion U. S. Engineers; 1st California Volunteer Inf.; 1st Colorado Volunteer Inf.; 1st Nebraska Volunteer Inf.; 10th Pennsylvania Volunteer Inf.; Light Battery A, Utah Volunteer Art.; Light Battery B, Utah Volunteer Art.

II. The 2d Oregon Volunteer Inf. and detachment of California Volunteer Heavy Artillery, now at Cavite, will remain at that place on their present duties, the commanding officers reporting direct to division commander.

III. The Signal Detachment will remain at Cavite, and will report to the chief signal officer at these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Merritt.

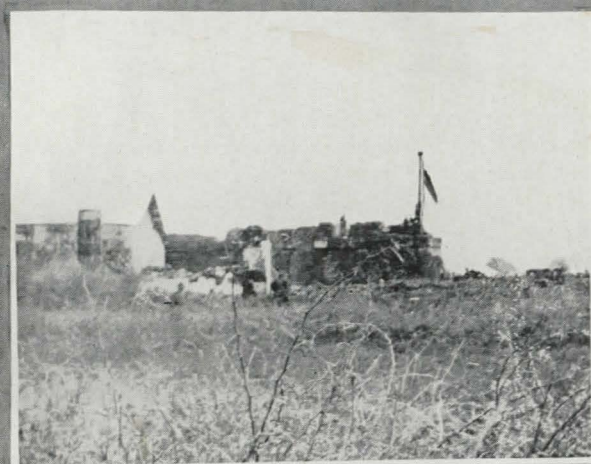
J. B. Babcock, Adjutant-General.

"It was a vigilant command during the six weeks intervening between the landing of the first expedition and the fall of Manila, and during this interim both the officers and rank and file, without murmur, endured the hardships and vicissitudes of campaign life in the trenches. The rainy season was at its height, and the downpour was almost incessant. Life in camp, aside from the exposures on duty, was almost intolerable. Resort was had to every device to provide some comfort in tent life, but to little avail. The ground was in an overflow, and the continued tramping to and fro made a mixture of mud which rendered passage almost impossible. To cook, eat and sleep, to live, to endure, put to the test all their fortitude. The work of the soldiers consisted, aside from the duties in camp, in doing service in the trenches, sometimes to fight, always under the enemy's aim and always in mud and rain. Usually the trench filled with water as it was dug, and often the upthrown dirt washed down as fast as placed. The trenches were held and the work there done in relays, the relays serving for twenty-four hours.

"It was to make more effective our own operations that a request was made of the insurgents to vacate their trenches, giving place to the Americans. This caused much parleying, the matter being referred to Aguinaldo, who then had his headquarters eleven miles inland, and whose consent was obtained, the condition being that the transaction should be put in written form. Our



American breastworks south of Manila prior to capture of city. Troops shown are part of the First Colorado Infantry Volunteers and the Battery B, Utah Vol. Light Arty..



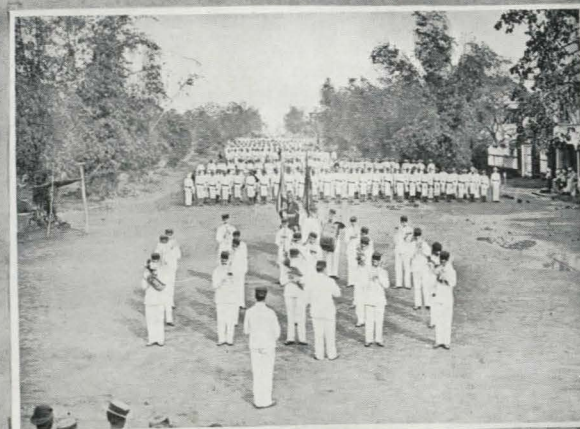
Lieut. McD. Brooks hoists the first American flag over Fort Malate immediately after its capture, August 13, 1898.

Two historic moments.

The 1st Colo. Inf. Volunteers entering Manila over the Bridge of Spain immediately after the surrender of the city, Aug. 13, 1898. Color guard & escort.



The colors and color guard 1st. Colo. Inf. Vol's in Manila after capture of the city.



"All dolled up". The 1st. Colo. Inf. Vol's parading in the Calle Iris, Manila, P.I., fall of 1898.

(Photos by A. C. Johnson)

THE FIRST COLORADO INFANTRY, U. S. V., IN AND NEAR MANILA, P. I., 1898.

troops occupied this insurgent trench the next morning. Express instructions were given by Gen. Merritt in this negotiation that no force should be used or threatened. This removed the whole insurgent force from the line desired to be occupied by the Americans. This was not the first instance in which the insurgents hesitated to comply with the requests of the American commanders. Soon after the arrival of the first troops, land transportation facilities were badly needed by the Americans. All of these facilities were in the hands of the insurgents, who refused to allow their use by the Americans upon any consideration. Gen. Anderson thereupon seized such animals and means as he required, but in all instances paid far more than worth. The treatment of the Spanish prisoners at Cavite by the insurgents was so barbarous that our general in command interfered and called the attention of the insurgent officers to the starving condition of their prisoners, and asked that they be accorded more humane treatment. This being refused, the prisoners were suitably furnished by our army.

"The trench vacated by the Filipinos was occupied by one battalion 18th Regulars, one battalion 1st Colorado Inf. and four guns, two from each of the Utah Batteries. Owing to defects in profile and location, it was determined to remove the trench to a new location, which would better command the Spanish position and could be better strengthened and extended so as to cover the whole line of the Spanish trenches. Lieutenant-Colonel McCoy surveyed the ground and determined upon the location and character of the trench, and it was placed under his direction. The construction of this trench went on for two days and nights, and during this time the change of occupants had apparently not been noticed by the Spaniards. The first day, the 18th Inf. and Colorado Inf. were relieved by two battalions of California Inf., and on the next morning, being 31st, the two California battalions were relieved by two battalions of the 10th Pennsylvania Volunteers, one of the Nebraska Volunteers, and by 200 of the 3d Regular Artillery as infantry. During this day there was occasional picket firing. The trench at this time had been built to and from the Capuchin chapel, a total distance of about 300 yards, extending from the beach to the Calle Real, and was nearly completed. It had a height averaging about seven feet.

"* * * During the day there had been slight desultory firing by the Spaniards, but not sufficient to materially interfere with the construction of the trench. It was seen, however, that the Spaniards had become extremely watchful of the work going on. The insurgents in the trenches had a habit, prior to this, of a "hit-or-miss" fashion of firing, as the spirit caught them. One or several would elevate their guns and blaze away, without any aim and no special object. The Spaniards seemed to have a like faculty of random firing, but seemingly always firing high. As a result, the insurgents in the trenches were not in danger, but our troops occupying positions in their rear were exposed. Gen. Merritt had requested Aguinaldo to stop firing and, after much persuasion, they desisted.

"The particular danger to our troops occupying these trenches, in consequence of the Spanish high firing, was not so much in the trench as in going to and from it. It is indisputable that had our troops in the trenches paid no heed to this firing, it would have been an accident if any loss of life had occurred prior to August 13th, and even then there would have been no loss had the program, as arranged, been strictly followed. It was Admiral Dewey's desire and plan to effect the capture of Manila without the loss of a single man. But our soldiers could not resist the temptation, although against orders.

to now and then take a shot. It was always the case, if they kept quiet behind the trenches, that the Spaniards would fire a few shots or volleys and then subside.²¹

Such, then, was the situation in and around Manila soon after the 1st Colorado Infantry Volunteers had arrived at Manila.

Duty in the trenches, interspersed with spells in camp, was the chief occupation of the regiment at this time, and while returning to camp from the trenches on July 30th Private Sterling of Company "K" was wounded by a Mauser bullet through the fleshy part of one of his arms. He was the first American soldier to be wounded in the Manila campaign. On the night of July 31st there occurred what has since become known as the "Battle in the Rain," and during a terrific tropical storm the 10th Pennsylvania Infantry Volunteers, who happened to be occupying the trenches at this time, experienced a lively engagement with the Spanish forces occupying the opposing trenches. Just what precipitated the engagement is not entirely clear, probably the usual sniping combined with a feeling of tenseness occasioned by the storm, but whatever may have been the cause the firing soon became general on both sides, and the rattle of musketry, interspersed with the roar of artillery from the guns at Fort Malate, soon aroused the entire American camp. The Colorado troops were promptly assembled, and moved toward the trenches; however before reaching there the battle subsided, and the regiment was held in reserve in rear of the line until about 3:00 A. M. "The men stood in soaking, shivering rows while the rain beat mercilessly down, without a murmur. Back to camp they went for scarcely two hours rest, then to be called into the trench to serve the next twenty-four hours".

The American losses during this engagement were ten killed and forty-three wounded; the enemy's losses are unknown, and although this was nothing but an unimportant skirmish nevertheless the conditions under which it was fought were such as to severely try the discipline and courage of green troops. That they behaved so well in their first engagement augured well for the future.

Quoting again from Private Johnson's memoirs:

"The night of Monday, August 1st, was most trying for the Coloradans and especially for the battalions commanded by Maj. Cassius M. Moses and Lieut. Col. McCoy. These battalions held the main trenches and during the heavy rains of the night the Spaniards poured in perfect hells of shrapnel and Mauser bullets. At three different times during the night the shooting from both sides was terrific.

"The 1st and 2d Battalions, which were on the line, were especially harassed by the volleys of Spanish bullets and the bursting shells, and Maj. Anderson's Battalion, the 3d, which was in reserve, was forced to throw up entrenchments to protect itself from the missiles which sped high over the heads of the men in the trenches and spent themselves in the rear.

"In the engagement of August 1st the Colorado Volunteers lost one man, Fred E. Springstead of Company D, who was shot through the head, and one man wounded, Private Zachary of Company G. The latter received a bullet through the right thigh. It was never learned how many Spanish fell, but it was ascertained that several of their sharpshooters were dislodged."

²¹ "Campaigning in the Philippines"—Faust, page 86 to 89.

Active operations against the Spanish forces in Manila were about to begin, and the plan of campaign contemplated, first, the capture of the entrenchments and strongholds south and eastward of the walled city, many of which, owing to the obstacles shutting them from view of the fleet and other causes, could not be bombarded successfully, and second, the capture of the walled city.

For some time before this, however, negotiations had been going on to effect a surrender of the Spanish garrison of Manila without the loss of property or life, and on August 12, 1898, arrangements were concluded between Admiral Dewey, General Merritt and Captain General Jaudenes for the surrender of Manila after a demonstration by the combined American forces which would satisfy the Spanish tradition of requiring defeat before surrender. Details were arranged for the movements of the fleet and troops, the amount of firing to be done, and the exact time when the flag of surrender was to be raised. Accordingly at nine o'clock on the morning of the 13th, the fleet commenced to maneuver into position for attack. Firing commenced at 9:30 A. M. on Fort Malate, the heavy guns of the Olympia, Raleigh and Petrel doing considerable damage. The firing continued until 10:30 A. M., when the order to cease firing was given the fleet, and the pre-arranged surrender signal shown to the Spaniards on shore. After a little delay the white flag was shown at the appointed place, and negotiations opened for actual surrender.

Meantime let us see what the land forces were doing at this time. On the afternoon of August 12, 1898, Major General Merritt issued a field order, extracts from which are as follows:

"A combined land and naval attack will be made on the enemy's works tomorrow, the 13th inst., at noon.

"It will consist of a naval and artillery attack. Our lines will make no advance, but will hold the trenches, the infantry covering the artillery.

"The 1st Brigade will hold the right of the line, operating on the Manila-Pasai Road, have for its immediate objective the Spanish block-house No. 14 and adjoining trenches.

"The 2d Brigade will hold the left of the line, operating along the beach and the trenches adjoining.

"The 1st Brigade will put eight battalions in the firing line, and hold three in reserve. The 2d Brigade will put three in the firing line, and hold eight in reserve. The reserves of both brigades will be held in column of battalions in the open field to the west of Camino Real and 500 rods south of the intersection of the Camino Real and the road to Pasai. The reserves will be under the general direction of the division commander, whose position will be on the Camino Real near the reserves.

"The men will take one day's cooked rations, canteens filled with water, and a minimum of 100 rounds of ammunition for the Springfield rifle and 150 for the Krag-Jorgensen. The reserve ammunition will be held with the reserves.

"Brigade commanders will distribute necessary entrenching tools among the several organizations.

"The general hospital will remain in camp. Ambulance stations will be established on the beach in the rear of the left, one at Pasai, in the rear of the right, and one on the Camino Real, near the reserves.

"All positions should be taken up by 9 A. M., the 13th inst., except the reserves, which will take position at 11 A. M. Our line will not advance except under orders of the commanding general in the field."

This order, explicit enough in most of its provisions, was not fully complied with, and as a consequence the negotiations and plans of the high commands of the day previous went somewhat awry.

The orders discouraged a determined assault, although the troops were equipped for such an eventuality, and instructions were later issued for conservation of ammunition.

The narrow front on which the attack was to be made considerably hampered the brigade commanders in the dispositions of their brigades, and almost entirely precluded any attempt at maneuver. It was to be an outright frontal attack, and if the hostile resistance was in any way as determined as might be expected heavy losses would certainly occur. In compliance with the order above quoted the 2d Brigade deployed on the left of the line; its right rested on the road immediately west of the Manila-Pasai road, and the left was on the beach. The left unit of the brigade was the 1st Colorado Infantry Volunteers, and Lieutenant Colonel McCoy's battalion of the regiment was designated to lead the assault if such was ordered.

Early on the morning of August 13th, Colonel Hale, commanding the 1st Colorado Infantry Volunteers issued the following order:

Headquarters First Regiment Colorado
Infantry, U. S. Volunteers.

Camp Dewey, Near Manila, August 13, 1898.

General Orders, }
No. 17. }

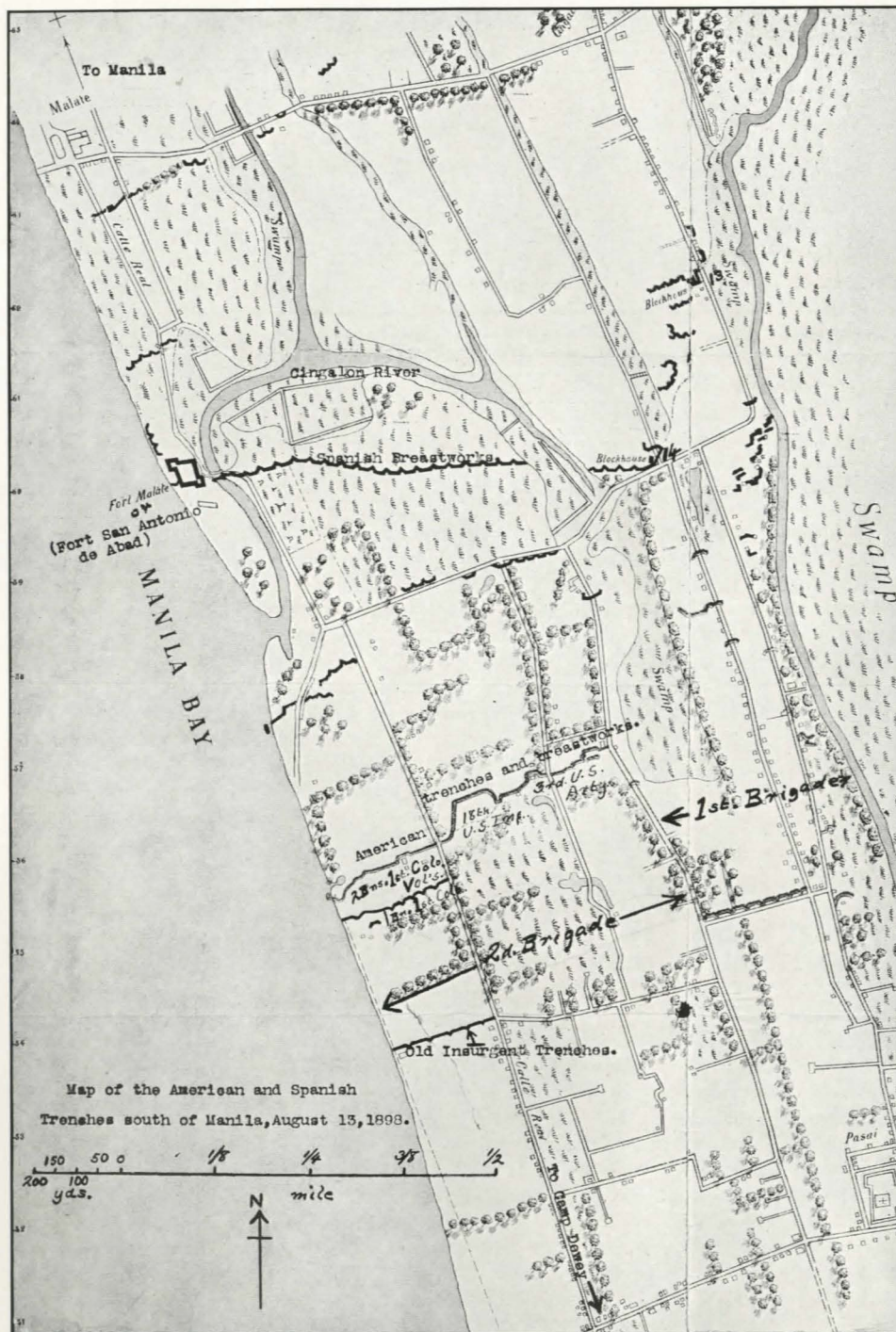
The Commanding Officer desires, on the morning of the battle for the capture of Manila, to express his high appreciation of the conduct of the Regiment during the four weeks of preparatory work,—landing troops and stores through the surf at night; camp routine under trying conditions; making dangerous reconnaissances; repairing roads; building intrenchments in the face of the enemy, guarding them in mud and rain and defending them with the least possible expenditure of ammunition; and all under the most disagreeable and unhealthful climatic conditions. Every duty has been performed and every hardship borne with untiring energy and fortitude.

He desires to especially thank the following officers and enlisted men:

Captain Grove, for laborious, painstaking and courageous work, obtaining information and making maps of country between camp and the enemy's lines, requiring coolness and good judgement.

Lieutenant Means and Sergeant Clotworthy, for their daring reconnaissance of ground and river in front of right flank of enemy's intrenchments up to 150 yards of their works.

Captain Stewart, Lieutenant Means and special detail of 120 picked non-commissioned officers and privates for their hard work yesterday afternoon and nearly all of last night, cutting a passage through jungle along beach for moving troops to front under cover, building auxiliary trenches for advance line 470 yards in front of our main intrenchments and removing brush and barbed wire up to 200 yards of Spanish lines.



Map of the American and Spanish positions South of Manila, Philippine Islands, immediately preceding the land battle of Manila, August 13, 1898. (Surveyed and drawn under supervision of 1st Lieut. C. P. Echols, Co. A, Battalion of Engineers.

It is confidently expected that whatever work we may have to do today, the First Colorado Regiment will do its duty and sustain its reputation.

By Order of Colonel Hale

(Signed) A. McD. Brooks,

1st. Lieut. 1st Regt. Colorado Inftry. U. S. V.
Adjutant.

At daybreak on the morning of August 13th the regiment was assembled, and after a short prayer by Chaplain Fleming was marched to its position in the line for the attack. In compliance with orders the First Colorado Infantry Volunteers took position in the advanced American trenches between the Calle Real and the shore of Manila harbor. The 18th U. S. Infantry was on the right of the Colorado regiment, the boundary between them being the Calle Real and the 3rd U. S. Artillery, acting as infantry, was on the right of the 18th Infantry. The First Brigade (MacArthur's), extended the line to the east (see map on page 129). Quoting now from Colonel Hale's report to the brigade commander (General Greene) on the operations of the Colorado regiment during the battle:

"August 13.—On the 12th having been notified that the Colorado regiment would make the attack from main intrenchments between beach and the Camino Real, I obtained authority from General Greene to have a detail from the regiment cut a road through the bamboo thicket along the beach, leaving a fringe of trees as a screen, so that troops could be marched in column under cover about 300 yards forward of works; also to clear away fallen trees, brush, and barbed wire forward of abandoned Spanish trenches, 300 and 470 yards in front of our line. The road was cut during the afternoon and the obstacles removed during the night, with the aid of an accurate reconnaissance to within 200 yards of Spanish intrenchments made during afternoon by myself and the officers of the detail, Captain Stewart and Lieutenant Means. The forward abandoned Spanish trench was also extended across the beach.

"The regiment left Camp Dewey at 6:30 A. M. Saturday, August 13, for intrenchments about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles north of camp, and were posted between beach and Camino Real, the First Battalion in left half (next to beach) of main intrenchments, Second Battalion in right half of same (next to road), Third Battalion 100 yards in rear in abandoned Philippine intrenchments, which they strengthened and drained. The combined attack by Navy and Utah Batteries A and B began about 10 A. M. and lasted about fifteen to twenty minutes. Immediately after they ceased firing the First Battalion, First Colorado, advanced Companies C and D in line of skirmishers through field on right, and thence through brush field (which had been partially cleared by a detachment from regiment during preceding night) to the second line of abandoned Spanish trenches, about 470 yards in front of our main intrenchments; Companies I and K in column along road cut the previous day through bamboo jungle along beach, where they were fully covered, to a point opposite C and D companies, where they deployed to left as skirmishers. Companies C and D then fired volleys by platoons on part of Spanish lines in their front, while Companies I and K rushed forward, forded river at mouth (water waist to breast deep), and advanced on further side toward fort, firing to keep the enemy, if still there, behind his parapet. The Second Battalion moved out in practically the same way, F and G companies reinforcing C and D on right and A and E Companies reinforcing I and K on left. The Third Battalion fol-

lowed in similar formation, B and H on right, L and M on left.² Company A took the place of I, which moved out into bay around right of Spanish line to take it in flank and rear. All of the companies then pressed forward by alternate rushes and, meeting no opposition, entered the works, finding them deserted, except for a few wounded left behind. The Spanish flag on fort was at once pulled down and United States flag raised.³ The troops were immediately placed in an interior trench and behind a second line of parapet, so as to resist any attack from trees and buildings in rear and right, which came in a few minutes and was continued at intervals whenever our troops exposed themselves in moving from place to place in works. This fire was soon silenced by return in general direction from which it came. During this firing, and while raising flag on house in rear of works, Private Phoenix, Company I, was seriously wounded in neck. The regiment then moved on into Malate, taking possession of plaza, occupying adjacent buildings, and throwing out patrols. There was considerable firing from front, during which Private Frank Smith, Company H, was wounded in the neck. Thence the march was resumed past Old Manila (the walled city) into New Manila. * * *



THE GENESIS OF THE REGIMENTAL MARCH OF THE 157TH (1ST COLO.) INF. Band, 1st Colorado Infantry Volunteers, playing "A Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight" on the beach of Manila Bay as the regiment, a few hundred yards ahead, attacks Fort San Antonio Abad and the defenses of Manila, August 13, 1898.
(From an actual photograph taken at the time.)

Shortly after the capture of Fort San Antonio de Abad and during the attack on Malate the regiment was astonished to hear the sound of a band playing, apparently on the beach just south of the fort. What was happening, let the Band leader, Chief Musician Harry T. Irvine tell: "The band was left in the trenches to await orders, but on looking up the beach I saw them (the regiment) charging the Spanish and could not stand it longer, so ordered the

² The battalions of the regiment were organized as follows during the battle of Manila:

1st Battalion: Companies C, D, I and K, Lieut.-Col. McCoy commanding.

2d Battalion: Companies A, E, F and G. Major Cassius Moses commanding.

3d Battalion: Companies B, H, L and M. Maj. Chas. Anderson commanding.

³ Immediately after the capture of Fort San Antonio de Abad (Fort Malate), Lieut.-Col. McCoy and Lieut. R. B. Lister hauled down the Spanish flag that was flying over the fort and Lieut. A. McD. Brooks at once raised the Stars and Stripes on the same staff, the first American flag to fly over any part of Manila after its capture. Later, as noted in Col. Hale's report, Color Sgt. Holmes with the color bearers and guards raised the National and regimental colors over a house in the suburb of Malate. It was here that Pvt. Phoenix was wounded.

band forward. We passed up the beach playing 'Hail Columbia'. * * * We forded the river (Cingalon). While in the center of same we played, 'There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight.'⁴ Subsequently the Colorado band had the honor of playing the "Star Spangled Banner" as the United States flag was formally raised over the city of Manila after the official surrender by the Spanish commander.

Continuing now with Colonel Hale's report:

"After dark the regiment was sent to San Sebastian to guard roads in San Paloc district against insurgents who were reported by the Spanish to be flanking them and driving them back. On conferring with Spanish officers at San Sebastian it was found that they were greatly alarmed about the insurgents, and wanted to have our entire regiment posted at once in their trenches so that their men could retire. I told them that this was out of the question, but that we would guard the road to prevent armed insurgents coming in, and would send officers to confer with the insurgent general and induce him to suspend firing in this direction, and prevent his men crossing the Pasig river with arms. * * * The next day I endeavored to have a personal interview with General Pio del Pilar (insurgent leader) but found him still absent, so sent him a formal note to the effect that, by instructions from General Green, I desired to inform him that the American troops now held Manila and suburbs and were guarding the roads, and that he should instruct his men not to fire towards Manila nor cross the Pasig river with arms. * * *."

On the following day, August 14th, a Filipino force attacked a small outpost of the regiment under the assumption that they were Spanish troops. The outpost was reinforced and the insurgent force captured. Later they were released after their arms had been confiscated as a lesson not to trifle with the American troops.

The operations of the First Brigade (MacArthur's) during the land battle of Manila have only an indirect bearing on the history of the 157th (1st Colorado) Infantry, but in order to make the picture complete it might be well to outline briefly the movements of this brigade up to the occupation of the city. The First Brigade commenced its advance within its assigned sector shortly after the 1st Colorado Infantry had made its initial "jump-off" in the sector of the Second Brigade, and moving by way of the Pasai-Manila road encountered its first opposition at Blockhouse No. 14. This it captured without much trouble, but encountered considerable resistance at Blockhouse 13 and Cingalon. With a loss of five killed and forty-three wounded it succeeded in driving the enemy before it, however, and reached the Pasig river. Here it re-organized, and proceeded to carry out its assigned duties of guarding the approaches to the city from Paco.

Referring now to the alleged arrangement made between General Merritt, Admiral Dewey, and Captain General Jaudenes for the surrender of the city, mention of which was made earlier in this chapter, it is difficult to reconcile the actual course of events with the supposition that the program entered into was to provide for the surrender of Manila without loss of life; unless it be that some of the subordinate Spanish commanders were not advised of the arrangement, and that they resisted under a misapprehension. Certain it is there was enough real action in the operations of the day to disabuse anyone's mind that the fight was a mere "sham" battle or a "show" to satisfy Spanish honor.

⁴ In commemoration of this incident the regimental march of the 157th (1st Colo.) Infantry is, and has been since the Spanish American War, "There'll be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight".

Immediately after the raising of the white flag over Manila, Merritt and Dewey sent their aides ashore to confer with the Governor-General. General Merritt soon afterwards went in person to the government building in the walled city, and there arranged preliminary terms of capitulation with the Spanish authorities. On August 14, 1898, General Merritt established his headquarters in the Ayuntamiento, Walled City, and issued a proclamation to the Filipinos in which he announced an American Military Government established in the Philippine Islands, and explained to them their privileges and restrictions under that government. An agreement was made with General Aguinaldo whereby his troops were not to approach nearer Manila than a certain line, which was approximately the same as the Spanish outpost line. This restriction placed upon the Filipino troops became a bone of contention which later led to the Philippine Insurrection.

The capture of Manila resulted in the surrender to the Americans of about 13,000 prisoners, 22,000 arms, and about \$900,000.00 in currency in the Spanish treasury. The capture of the city was also the final blow which broke forever the power of Spain in the Far East.

The part played by the 1st Colorado Infantry Volunteers in the battle of Manila was a gallant one, and Brigadier General F. V. Greene, U. S. V., in a report to the Adjutant General of the Army dated November 12, 1898, said in part: "The Colorado Regiment, in particular, was extremely anxious to go to Manila, was always *eager for duty*,⁵ and performed enthusiastically whatever was required of them. They led the assault on August 13, and were justly proud of being the first to enter the Spanish works."

The occupation of the city of Manila by the American troops was fully accomplished by August 14th, and the 1st Division (Major General T. M. Anderson, commanding), was assigned the area from the bay south of Manila to the Pasig River, exclusive; the 2nd Division (Major General Arthur MacArthur, commanding), held from Pasig River, inclusive, to the bay north of Manila. The gunboat, Laguna de Bay, covered the Pasig River. The 1st Colorado Infantry was quartered in some twelve or thirteen old Spanish residences in the San Sebastian and Sampaloc districts, with outposts facing the Filipino lines, and here they remained until November, 1898, when they were assigned to duty as prison guard at Bilibid Prison.

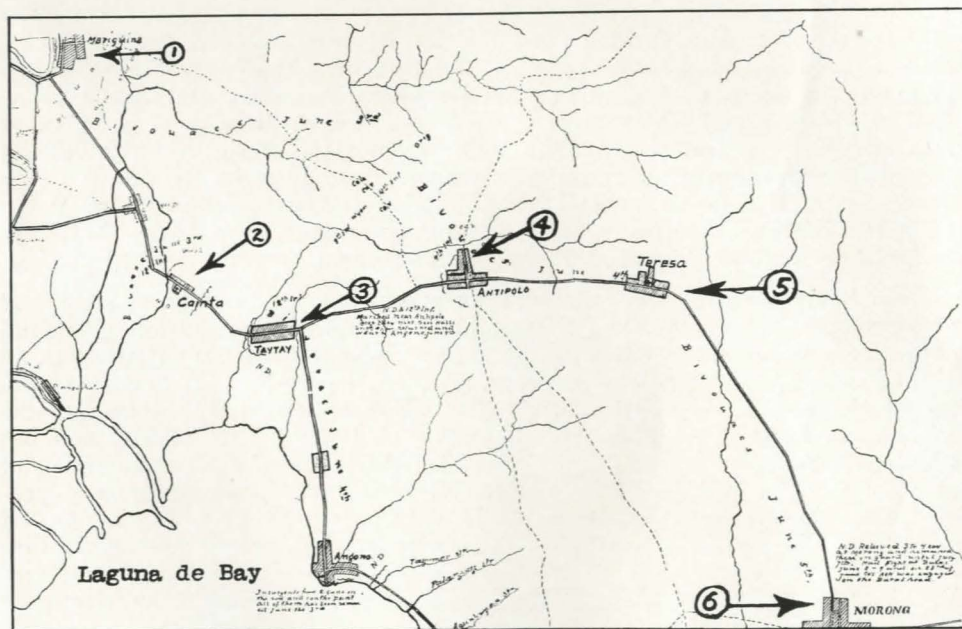
On September 3, 1898, Colonel Hale was promoted to Brigadier General of Volunteers, with rank from August 13, 1898, and was assigned to command of the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, 8th Army Corps. Lieutenant Colonel H. B. McCoy assumed command of the regiment on September 7th and was promoted Colonel on September 20th, 1898. Major Cassius M. Moses became Lieutenant Colonel, Captain W. R. Grove of Company I, Major, and 1st Lieutenant A. McD. Brooks, Captain, taking Major Grove's place in command of Company I. 2nd Lieutenant Rice W. Means of Company E was promoted 1st Lieutenant, and Sergeant H. L. Clotworthy of Company I, 2nd Lieutenant, in recognition of their meritorious work preceding the capture of Manila. 1st Lieutenant W. Sweeney was made regimental adjutant, vice Brooks, and 2nd Lieutenant Zollars was transferred from Company I to Company E.

Recruits for the regiment arrived in Manila on September 1 and November 25, bringing the total strength of the command up to 1,254 enlisted men on the latter date. The month of October, 1898, was a trying one for the 1st

⁵ The phrase "Eager for duty" is now the regimental motto of the 157th (1st Colorado) Infantry.

Colorado Infantry. Smallpox made its appearance, and there was much sickness among the enlisted men. Corrective measures were immediately applied, principally a change to a more suitable diet, and a regimental canteen established to afford the men a chance of purchasing articles of food, etc. from a more sanitary source. The situation soon improved, and on November 19, the regiment held a field day of athletic events that as a morale booster could not be surpassed.

In December the attitude of the Filipino forces surrounding Manila became very threatening, and the regiment was relieved from duty at Bilibid prison and assigned to duty in the line in the vicinity of the Balic-Balic road with outposts near the Balic-Balic Cemetery. Immediately opposite the regimental outpost were Blockhouses 5 and 6 occupied by the Filipino troops. Two companies of the regiment were on outpost duty daily, and for the next few weeks nothing of importance occurred. However, the Philippine Insurrection was about to begin, and the regiment's part therein will be reserved for another chapter.



(1) Mariquina

(2) Cainta

(3) Taytay

(4) Antipolo

(5) Teresa

(6) Morong