

PRESS RELEASE

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CFO CHAIRMAN DANTE ANG VISITS SAN FRANCISCO TO MEET FILIPINO COMMUNITY



Chairman Dante Ang (seated, 3rd L) meets Filipino WWII veterans during the consultation meeting at the Philippine Center. Accompanying the Chairman and the veterans is Consul General Maria Rowena Mendoza Sanchez (seated, 2nd L).

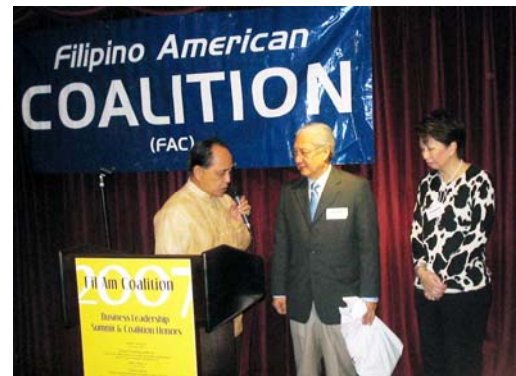
16 February 2007 — Consul General Maria Rowena Mendoza Sanchez of the Philippine Consulate General in San Francisco, USA reported to the Department of Foreign Affairs that Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) Chairman Dante A. Ang recently visited the San Francisco Bay Area to meet with Filipino WWII Veterans and members of the Filipino-American community to address various issues and concerns affecting overseas Filipinos and promote stronger collaboration between the Philippines and Filipinos in the United States.

The official visit included consultations with Filipino WWII Veterans and other local organizations supporting veterans issues, like the San Francisco Veterans Equity Center and the National Veterans Equity Movement. The meeting with the Filipino veterans was held at the Philippine Center in San Francisco.

Chairman Ang reiterated the Philippine government's renewed campaign for equity rights of Filipino WWII veterans. Assuring everyone that the government supports full equity for veterans, he said, "this is about honor and justice." Prior to San Francisco, Chairman Ang met with similar groups in Chicago to initiate broad consultations with veterans and Filipino-American groups in order to arrive at an action plan that will produce immediate and tangible results.

Chairman Ang also met with members of the Filipino-American community, where he gave a briefing on existing CFO projects and other initiatives by the Philippine Government for overseas Filipinos. These initiatives include the recent National Council of Licensure Examination for Nurses (NCLEX) initiative, where the Philippines was selected to be an international site for testing in Southeast Asia as approved by its US-based NCLEX, the organization of US nursing boards which administers the test. "This welcome development is a clear indication of the growing confidence in our nursing schools and the top-caliber nurses that we have been producing," said Chairman Ang.

Chairman Ang also addressed the Business Leadership Summit organized by the Filipino American Coalition (FAC) held in the City of Colma. In his remarks, he emphasized the important role that overseas Filipinos, especially Filipino-Americans, play in the progress and development of the Philippines. END



Chairman Ang (center) receives a token of appreciation during the Filipino American Coalition Business Leadership Summit from Mr. Mario Panoringan and Colma City Councilwoman Joanne del Rosario.