

PRESS RELEASE

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AMBASSADOR GAA MEETS WITH FILIPINO-AMERICAN COMMUNITY, BUSINESS LEADERS IN NORTH BAY & SACRAMENTO



(Left photo) Philippine Ambassador to the United States Willy C. Gaa thanks the crowd for the welcome reception tendered him in Vallejo. (Right photo) Various Assemblymen, Commissioners, Mayors from North Bay and Sacramento areas welcome Ambassador and Mrs. Willy C Gaa and Consul General Maria Rowena Mendoza Sanchez.

25 May 2007 — Consul General Maria Rowena Mendoza Sanchez of the Philippine Consulate General in San Francisco, USA reported to the Department of Foreign Affairs that the Filipino-American community groups from the North Bay and Sacramento areas hosted a welcome reception on 11 May 2007 at the Vallejo Filipino Community Center for Philippine Ambassador to the United States and Mrs. Willy C. Gaa.

Over 100 Filipino American community leaders, elected officials, and representatives from the various chambers of commerce attended the reception for Ambassador Gaa, including representatives from US Congressman George Miller and Congressman Mike Thomson's offices; State Senator Pat Wiggins and State Assemblywoman Noreen Evans; Solano County Supervisor Chairman of the Board Mike Raegan, Vallejo Vice Mayor Gary Cloutier, Suisin Mayor Pete Sanchez, American Canyon Mayor Leon Garcia and West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon along with other former and present public officials of Solano county.

Ambassador Gaa expressed his gratitude to the warm welcome he and his wife Mme. Erlinda Gaa received and the strong attendance from local government officials. He gave recognition to the elected Filipino American officials for keeping the interest of the Filipino-American communities, and called on them to address the challenges Filipino-Americans are facing, particularly the issue of the WWII veterans. He also honored the Filipino-American communities of North Bay and Sacramento, one of the oldest in the USA, for being one of the most politically influential in California. END