



# PHILIPPINE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Philippine Social Science Council, Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City

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## RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE HEROISM OF MAGDALENA LEONES

WHEREAS, the Philippine Historical Association, the honor and professional association of historians of the Philippines, had been heralding heroism by teaching the deeds of great Filipinos in the daily work of our board of governors and members.

WHEREAS, Magdalena Leones, who recently passed away last 16 June 2016 at the age of 95, despite being a true patriot during the Pacific War, is hitherto unknown to many of her countrymen, partly because of her humility.

WHEREAS, Magdalena Leones, exchanged intelligence among resistance leaders and procured medical supplies, under the nose of Japanese checkpoints all too present. She even obtained information on enemy installations and dispositions from Manila to San Fernando, La Union. She went as far as Bicol to get radio parts and technicians. She became known as the "Lioness of Filipino Guerilla Agents."

WHEREAS, Magdalena Leones, was already caught by the Japanese three times before the age of 25, with convicting evidence against her. Through quick thinking and calmness, she was able to walk away free three times as well.

WHEREAS, Magdalena Leones, as USAFIP-NL was nearing its victory against General Tomoyuki Yamashita, was personally recommended by Colonel Volckmann to receive the United States' third highest military decoration, the US Silver Star, "For gallantry in action at Luzon, Philippine Islands, from 27 February to 26 September 1944." The citation read, "Through her intrepidity and skill as a special agent, Corporal Leones contributed materially to the early liberation of the Philippines." She was the fifth female to be awarded the said recognition, the only Asian woman to receive it.

WHEREAS, Magdalena Leones, exhibited the big role of women in defending our freedoms. A role highlighted by the association in a documentary we produced with the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office entitled "Mapalad ang Inyong Mga Apo: Sulat Para Kay

Lolo at Lola Beterano" in which her name was memorialized.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, by the PHILIPPINE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, to recognize the heroism of Magdalena Leones, and to proliferate her life and deeds among its membership composed of teachers and historians. And in doing so, they may be able to teach her inspiring story to the younger generation and to restore her as one of the known heroes of our nation.

BE IT RESOLVED, FURTHER, that the association extends its condolences to the family and loved ones of the late Magdalena Leones.

BE IT RESOLVED FINALLY, that the text of this Resolution be uploaded to the official websites of the association and be proliferated through mainstream and social media for the information of the public and for its wide dissemination.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED by the BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE PHILIPPINE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, this 12th day of July, in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

  
**EMMANUEL FRANCO CALAIRO (Ph.D.)**  
**President**

Attested:

  
**JONATHAN CAPULAS BALSAMO**  
**Secretary**