

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 337, April 16, 1941]

**PROMULGATING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE
ORGANIZATION AND TRADING OF VOLUNTEER GUARDS**

Upon the recommendation of the National Emergency Commission, I, MANUEL L. QUEZON, President of the Philippines, acting under and by virtue of the powers in me vested by Commonwealth Act No. 600, do hereby promulgate the following rules and regulations for the organization and training of VOLUNTEER GUARDS:

1. The Mayor of each chartered city, municipality or municipal district shall organize a VOLUNTEER GUARD in his respective chartered city, municipality or municipal district. The VOLUNTEER GUARD is empowered to assist in the suppression of espionage and sabotage; in emergencies to assist in the Maintenance of peace and order; to safeguard public utilities, bridges and manufacturing plants engaged in essential industries; to succor, aid and assist the populace in emergencies caused by fire, flood, earthquake, typhoon, epidemics, air raids or other forms of local or national disaster in order that injury to persons and property may be prevented. The use of the VOLUNTEER GUARD for any other purpose is prohibited.
2. The organization of the VOLUNTEER GUARD units shall be as prescribed herein.
3. The training of the units of the VOLUNTEER GUARD shall be conducted under the general supervision and direction of the Chief of the Philippine Constabulary and in strict accordance with the program of instruction to be prescribed herein.
4. The mayor of each chartered city, municipality or municipal district is responsible for the training of the members of the VOLUNTEER GUARD units organized within its respective chartered city, municipality or municipal district in accordance with the program of instruction prescribed by the Chief of the Philippine Constabulary and for the discipline and proper performances of duty by the members thereof.
5. The mayor of each chartered city, municipality or municipal district is charged with the duty of, and is responsible for, the recruiting of an adequate number of men to form at full strength the units of the VOLUNTEER GUARD prescribed for his respective chartered city, municipality or municipal district.
6. Enrolment in the VOLUNTEER GUARD shall be on a voluntary basis.
7. (a) Any able-bodied Filipino or American citizen, except as noted in (b) below, of not less than eighteen (18) years and not more than sixty (60) years of age, is eligible for enrollment in the VOLUNTEER GUARD.

(b) The following persons are not eligible for enrollment in the VOLUNTEER GUARD.

(1) Officers, warrant officers and enlisted men of the Philippine scouts.

(2) Officers, warrant officers and enlisted men of the regular force and of the reserve forces carried on the rolls or reserve units of the Philippine Army, including Officers and enlisted men of the Philippine Constabulary.

(3) Members of all regularly organized police forces in provinces, chartered cities, municipalities and municipal districts.

(4) Members of all regularly organized fire departments in chartered cities, municipalities and municipal districts.

(5) Field employees of the Bureau of Health, including District Health Officers, Presidents of Sanitary Divisions, Sanitary Inspectors and Assistant Sanitary Inspectors.

(6) Employees of the Bureau of Posts.

(7) Field employees of the Weather Bureau.

(8) Personnel of the Coast Guard, Revenue Cutter and Lighthouse Inspection Services.

(9) Physicians, nurses and attendants regularly employed in hospitals.

(10) Employees of public utilities, including employees of water supply, electric and telephone systems, and railroad, bus and steamship companies.

8. Members of the VOLUNTEER GUARD shall serve without compensation. They shall, however, be entitled to free transportation when such is required in the performance of their duties when called into active service and to free subsistence during such period or periods of active service. Such transportation and subsistence shall be paid for by the chartered city, municipality or municipal district to which the active service was rendered.

9. Enrollment in the VOLUNTEER GUARD shall be for a period of two (2) years from the date of such enrollment.

10. At the time of enrollment, each member of the VOLUNTEER GUARD shall subscribe to the "oath of Enrollment" and be given a physical examination. The forms for the oath of enrollment and the recordation of the results of the physical examination will be such as may be prescribed by the Chief of the Philippine Constabulary.

11. In chartered cities and provincial capitals, the organization of the VOLUNTEER GUARD shall be as follows:

(a) POLICE, TRAFFIC CONTROL AND GUARD DUTY UNIT.

This unit is charged with the duty, in the proper cases of assisting the local police force and Constabulary, under the supervision of the Chief of the Philippine Constabulary or his representative, in maintaining law and order and controlling traffic during an emergency, and in safe guarding from sabotage public utilities,