

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

MINNESOTA ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD



OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

VETERANS SERVICE B

STATE OF MINNESOTA

20 WEST 12TH STREET

September 2, 1997

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 5

The Adjutant General

Ms. Nancy Stark, Executive Secretary
Capitol Area Architectural & Planning Board
204 Administration, 50 Sherburne Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Ms. Stark:

Dr. Arthur Adiarti of the Philippine Study Group has asked the Minnesota National Guard to write a letter supporting his organization's intent to correct historical inaccuracies in a plaque located in the State Capitol rotunda commemorating the 13th Minnesota Volunteer Infantry who fought in the Philippines during the Spanish American War (1898-1899.) A copy of his request is attached.

The historical facts of the Spanish-American War cannot be decided by the Minnesota National Guard. At the time the plaque honoring the 13th Minnesota Infantry was commissioned, I am sure it was believed to be historically accurate. The board, perhaps with the assistance of the Minnesota Historical Society, must decide what language a new plaque should use and ensure that the information is historically accurate and honors all Minnesotans.

The Minnesota National Guard supports the accurate portrayal of historic events. I encourage the board to work with Dr. Adiarti, the Philippine Study Group and the Historical Society to resolve this situation in a way that provides an accurate history and honors all Minnesotans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eugene R. Andreotti".

Eugene R. Andreotti
Major General, Minnesota Air
National Guard
The Adjutant General

Enclosures

Copies Furnished:

Dr. Arthur L. Adiarti, President, Philippine Study Group