

Making A Mason At Sight

(From the Annual Message of M.W. Bro. Samuel F. Hawthorne, Grand Master, at the 24th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of the Philippines, at Manila, on January 28, 1936.)

On the 17th of this month, I exercised the privilege of making a Mason at sight to honor the illustrious son of an illustrious father, Major General Douglas MacArthur, son of Major General Arthur MacArthur, who was Military Governor of these Islands from May 1900 to July 1901. Brother Douglas MacArthur's brilliant achievements during the World War, his fine record as Commanding General of the Philippine Department, and his present splendid services to the Government of the Philippines as military adviser, but most of all the evidence that he has given of possessing a Masonic heart and his earnest desire to become a Mason like his father, prompted me to confer this distinction upon him. Over six hundred Master Masons representing 27 Grand Jurisdictions besides our own, crowded the hall and witnessed the conferring of the degrees in abbreviated form by Past Grand Masters of our Grand Lodge. I was never as proud of anything in my life as of the remarkable showing made by these Brethren, who are all busy men and-most of whom have not done active ritualistic work in Lodge for many years. The entire ceremony was carried through smoothly and the work was rendered in a practically perfect and impressive manner.

I am confident that Brother MacArthur will take a deep interest in Masonry and that he will become a true and faithful brother among us.

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GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR . . . (From page 372)

degree and last degree. He became later a useful and active member of the Supreme Council of Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Philippines occupying the high office of Grand Orator.

As a Christian and as a Mason he demonstrated the catholicity of his interest and the universality of his concept. As a good Mason, of course, he was committed to the principle of the brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of God. Both as a Mason and as a Christian, he served friends and former enemies alike in the domain of peace during the postwar epoch.

I gladly join those who honor General MacArthur as a servant of freedom and a benefactor of democracy in the domain of war and in the field of peace.