



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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PHILIPPINE FISHERIES CHIEF THANKS F.W.S. FOR AID

Dr. Deogracias V. Villadolid, director of the Philippine Government's Bureau of Fisheries, today thanked Albert M. Day, director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, for U. S. assistance in restoring and enlarging the war-torn fishing industry of the Philippines.

Now in Washington as his country's delegate to the fourth session of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Dr. Villadolid will leave shortly for a seven-week tour of Fish and Wildlife Service facilities and fishing industry centers in the United States. He will return home in late January.

"It is with much gratitude that I acknowledge the cooperation extended to us through the Fish and Wildlife Service's Philippine Fishery Program," Dr. Villadolid stated.

As a result of the Program, he said that new fishing grounds have been located in the Philippines, new methods of fishing have been introduced to increase production, and the pond-fish industry is being expanded to increase the country's food supply. Under the program, Fish and Wildlife Service personnel act as technical advisers to the Philippine Government's Bureau of Fisheries.

"We are conducting extensive research in our fisheries to minimize the financial risk for our commercial fishermen," the Philippine fisheries chief said. "We want to be able to tell the fishermen where and when it will be most profitable for them to fish, and just how much of an industry can be sustained on our various fishing grounds. We also want to encourage businessmen to establish new fishery industries, after we have laid the groundwork through research."

The Fish and Wildlife Service's Philippine Fishery Program was established by the 79th Congress' Philippine Rehabilitation Act of 1946. Of the several rehabilitation plans set up by the Act for the new island republic, it is the only one concerned with the production of food. Operations under the Program are scheduled to end in June 1950. Hugh W. Terhune is the Program's administrator in Manila.

Dr. Villadolid is 52-years old and has B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of the Philippines and a Ph.D. in zoology from Stanford University.

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