SPECIAL REPORT OF THE UNITED STATES BOARD OF GEOGRAPHIC NAMES RELATING TO THE GEOGRAPHIC NAMES ...

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Special Report of the United States Board of Geographic Names Relating to the Geographic Names ... by Henry Gannett

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HENRY GANNETT

SPECIAL REPORT OF THE UNITED STATES BOARD OF GEOGRAPHIC NAMES RELATING TO THE GEOGRAPHIC NAMES ...

Trieste

SPECIAL REPORT

OF THE

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UNITED STATES BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

RELATING TO

THE GEOGRAPHIC NAMES IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.



WASHINGTON: GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE. May, 1901.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, February 28, 1901.

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Resoluci, That there be printed fifteen thousand copies of the special report of the United States Board on Geographic Names relating to geographic names in the Philippine Islands, transmitted to Congress by the President February twenty-first, nineteen hundred and one; three thousand copies of which shall be for the use of the Senate, five thousand copies for the use of the House of Representatives, and seven thousand copies for distribution by said board among the Government Departments, public libraries, and other suitable depositories.

> CHARLES G. BENNETT, Secretary.

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Attest:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmit herewith for the information of the Congress and with a view to its publication in suitable form, if such action is deemed desirable, a special report of the United States Board on Geographic Names, relating to geographic names in the Philippine Islands, and invite attention to the recommendation of the board:

"That in addition to the usual number there be printed 15,000 copies; 2,000 copies for the use of the Senate; 3,000 copies for the use of the House of Representatives, and 10,000 copies for distribution by the board to the Executive Departments and the public."

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

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EXECUTIVE MANSION,

February 21, 1901.

LIST OF COASTWISE NAMES, PHILIPPINE ARCHIPELAGO, AS COMPILED IN THE U. S. HYDROGRPHIC OFFICE, 1901.

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To the PRESIDENT:

I have the honor to lay before you a special report of the United States Board on Geographic Names relative to geographic names in the Philippine Islands. It consists of a list showing the approved spelling of about 4,000 coastwise names in the Philippine Archipelago, and its printing and distribution is urgently needed by the Executive Departments.

The board respectfully recommends:

That in addition to the usual number there be printed 15,000 copies; 2,000 copies for the use of the Senate, 3,000 copies for the use of the House of Representatives, and 10,000 copies for distribution by the board to the Executive Departments and to the public.

Respectfully submitted.

HENRY GANNETT,

Chairman.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., February 21, 1901.

NAMES OF COASTWISE FEATURES IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

INTRODUCTION.

Upon the acquisition of the Philippine Islands by the United States in 1898, the Hydrographic Office was promptly called upon for charts, sailing directions, etc., of these new possessions. To meet this demand it at once began their preparation. At the outset it met much difficulty with the names. Existing charts, books, maps, and publications disagreed, both as to names and their spelling. Spanish charts contained either all Spanish names or Spanish names and also Malay names written according to Spanish metbods. On English charts the spelling of some of the Malay names had been altered to conform to English and American methods of writing native names. In doing this, errors and confusion had arisen.

In this confusion the Hydrographic Office appealed to the Board on Geographic Names and asked for advice. The Board considered the general question at some length, and then recommended that the names in current use and their spelling, as shown on the best Spanish official maps and charts, should be followed. The Hydrographic Office followed this advice, and under the direction of Capt. C. C. Todd, hydrographer, U. S. N., prepared, chiefly from Spanish official charts, the following list of about 4,000 coastwise names.

Meanwhile another list of about 6,000 Philippine geographic names had been prepared in Manila, and in Washington, D. C., under the direction of Rev. José Algue, S. J., director of the Jesuit Observatory at Manila. Those names, arranged in three groups and accompanied by 30 maps, were submitted to the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, and have recently been printed by that Survey as an introduction to its Special Publication No. 3, Atlas of the Philippine Islands. While this Coast Survey publication was going through the press, Father Algue was in Washington and read the proof. Several hundred of the names contained in it are also contained in this list. On the other hand, this list is much fuller for coastwise names, containing about 2,600 names not found in the Coast Survey atlas. After Father Algue had read and corrected the proofs of the names in the Coast Survey atlas, he kindly undertook to revise the manuscript of this list, and thus to bring the two into harmony. In such revision, only 33 differences of spelling were detected, and these for the most part trifling. In this list the spelling of those 33 names has been made to agree with the Coast Survey atlas, and accordingly the spelling of names in that atlas and in this list are, errors excepted, the same.

Pronunciation is not considered in this report, which was prepared as a reference list for spelling only. Therefore all accents and diacritical marks, since they relate to pronunciation only, are here omitted.