# THE FULL STORY OF AGUINALDO'S CAPTURE OF THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

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The Full Story of Aguinaldo's Capture of the Expeditionary Force by L. Segovia & Frank de Thoma

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## L. SEGOVIA & FRANK DE THOMA

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## THE

## FULL STORY

# Aguinaldo's Capture

BY

L. ȘEGOVIA.

OF

### THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

(Translated from the original Spanish Mss).

by

Frank de Thoma.

MANILA, P. I.

1902

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Mr. L. Segovia, the author of the book, whom I have the pleasure to know personally, was born in Madrid, the capital of Spain, December 18, 1878, and at the age of fifteen had already received the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

As it was his desire to enter the military career and not having sufficient funds for such studies he took advantage of the professional educational facilities offerred in such cases by the government and enlisted as a volunteer in one of the regiments garrisoning Madrid. Being yet too young to enter the Military Academy, he was enabled, thanks to the generous protection of the field officers of his regiment, to pursue his studies in a private college.

When difficulties began to brew in Cuba, the government retired the privileges. He was recalled to his company. Made a corporal, but not drafted for Cuba. Knowing of the existence of a Military Academy in the Philippines, which was not yet closed, he petitioned the Secretary of War for his transfer to these Island and his request was granted by a Royal Decree, dated April 15, 1895. On his arrival in Manila he was attached to one of the native regiments.

Unfortunately, about a year afterwards, the first insurrection broke out, he had to relinquish his studies again, joined his regiment and took part with it during the one and a half years campaign, in the fights in the provinces of Laguna, Batangas, Cavite, Manila, Bulacan and Nueva Ecija, and was seven times decorated with the Red Cross for gallant conduct.

At the time hostilities were declared between the United States and Spain he was at Manila, where he capitulated with the rest of

the troops on August 13th, 1898.

Owing to the favoritism then prevailing among the Spanish military authorities, which made it impossible for a sergeant, without powerful influence, to advance, and his time of military service having expired, he decided not to return to Spain. Impelled by his love for adventures he cast his lot in October of the same year with the Philippines in arms, with whom he remained until May 1900, when he voluntarily and unconditionally surrendered to General Funston.

The General soon recognized that Mr. Segovia had not followed the banner of the rising Sun out of love for the Philippine revolutionary ideal, but from an inborn spirit of adventure and an inherent liking for danger. Aware of his intimate knowledge of the country, he entrusted Segovia with several important, and numberless minor missions during the 18 months he was attached to his head-quarters. The most important of these missions was the one connected with the expedition resulting in the capture of Aguinaldo and of wich this narrative treats.

Brigadier General, Frederick Funston, U. S. A., was highly pleased with Mr. Segovia's service and publicly acknowledged them in his official report to the Secretary of War, published in the Army and Navy Journal, July 20.1901, wherein he spoke of Segovia as the first figure of the expedition.

The Translator.

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### DEDICATORY.

## Brigadier General, FREDERICK FUNSTON, U. S. A. GENERAL:

In proof of my esteem and most sincere friendship, I beg of You, General and of the four valiant officers, whose names are familiar to AMERICAN HISTORY, to accept this short narrative of the most daring act recorded in the annals of the PHILIPPINE CAMPAIGN and performed by you gentlemen.

L. Segovia.

Manila, P. I., February 1902.