

# Charles E. Deppermann S. J.: Philippine Scientist

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**B**Y COMMAND OF GENERAL MACARTHUR: in March 1945 in the Philippines, papers which concluded with that phrase were given immediate attention. To Father Deppermann, just freed from the concentration camp of Los Baños, a set of papers ending with that phrase was handed which gave him priority on a plane which was to take him to Washington D.C., there to attend meetings at the Pentagon.<sup>1</sup> Why was this priest, broken down in health by the starvation diet of the internment camp presented with "telegraphic invitational travel orders" to Washington? His travel papers gave the answer: for "consultation in connection with weather matters." Father Deppermann had so contributed to the science of tropical meteorology that his opinions on Far East weather were considered important. He was flown to Washington almost as soon as he could stand the strain of the travel.

On the eighth of May this year (1957) just as certainly a war casualty (though years after the event) as any victim of a blockbuster, he died piously in the Lord and ended his scientific work at Manila. The mere enumeration of his publications

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<sup>1</sup> Travel papers of Father Deppermann in the Manila Observatory archives.