



*The Philippines: Colonialism, Collaboration, and*

*Resistance!* is an admirable work by William J.

Pomeroy. It was written as Pomeroy was living in the

Philippines after the second World War. He fought

for the United States, and presents his opinion about

how the U.S. treated the Filipinos. It describes the

important stages in Filipino history since the United

States occupied the Philippines. There are 9

chapters, each providing a great deal of information.

The first chapter is called *Suppressing a nation*. It

was a brilliant start to the book because it is filled

with good descriptions of the U.S occupation. One example of this, is when Pomeroy

states “To mask imperialistic intentions and methods, the slogan of ‘education for self rule’ was projected as the alleged aim of U.S. rule” (7). This quote previews the

descriptive language throughout the book. After discussing the suppression of the

Philippines, Pomeroy goes on to how the U.S. and the Philippines collaborated. The

second chapter, *Collaboration, Root, and Branch*, mentions the Filipino-American

partnership with the fight against the Spanish. The next chapter, *Undying Resistance*, is

about the importance of the Filipino rebels never giving in the imperialists constantly

occupying the Philippines. On page 45 when Pomeroy stated “There have been a

consistent strand of revolutionary opposition to foreign domination and of working-class

against Filipino landlords and capitalists. Filipino historians point to over 200 recorded episodes of armed uprisings -some brief, some of long duration”, it displayed how the Filipino fighting spirit does not die. Next, Pomeroy takes another chapter to discuss which side benefited from the Philippine independence. The next section of the book discusses the Philippines in WWII and how they reacted to the Japanese occupation. Pomeroy did a superb job explaining how many Filipinos who lived in Japan felt very awkward returning to the Philippines as enemies instead of heroes for driving the U.S. out. After Japan was driven out of the Philippines, Pomeroy speaks about how the United States takes back the Philippines once again and does not change at all. The last chapter of the book is about the neo-colonial economy of the Philippines and the U.S. influence is pervasive. All in all, this is a great book for doing research. There is a lot of information per page, and with 40 pages per chapter you will have an abundance of material to write a paper with.