Dear Sir:
I really thought maybe you could help me. My son, Luis A. Chavez of Los Jardin, was killed in the Philippines and was sent home in a box. I never heard from him. Is there any hope you can help me? This was his last address:
Mrs. Carolina M. Garcia Blanco, M. Mex.
Blanco, 200th, C.A. (AA)

Please, I would like to know if you have any information about my son. He is from New Mexico and he was killed in the Philippines. I would be very grateful for any information you can provide.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. Carolina M. Garcia

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War Department
Service of Supply
National Guard Bureau
Washington, D.C.

May 11, 1943.

Governor of New Mexico,
Santa Fe, New Mexico.

My dear Governor Miles:

Based upon operation reports received from the Philippines and on recommendations submitted by General Douglas MacArthur, the War Department has published in General Orders the following citation:

The 200th Coast Artillery, Anti-aircraft, United States Army Forces in the Far East, is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action. From December 11 to December 23, 1941, this regiment defended Clark Field, Pampanga, Philippines, against attack by overwhelming numbers of hostile medium and dive bombers. Although it suffered heavy casualties in personnel, the regiment, through magnificent courage and devotion to duty, combined to display outstanding technical ability and executed a heavy toll from the attacking forces, thus materially reducing the effectiveness of the hostile attack. When Clark Field was uncovered by the withdrawal of the North Luzon Forces, this regiment, displaying to the rear, successfully covered the retirement into the Bataan Peninsula, contributing in large measure to the successful execution of the difficult maneuver that made possible the prolonged defense of Bataan.

It is as much a source of pride and satisfaction to us as it must be to you that this National Guard unit from your State has so magnificently distinguished itself. Relatively recently converted from a cavalry regiment and serving in unfamiliar tropical terrain, its members deserve great credit for speedily adapting themselves to new conditions, conducting themselves admirably in their first engagement, and writing forever upon the Nation's roll of honor the name of their unit and of New Mexico.

Very truly yours,

John J. Williams
Chief, National Guard Bureau

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Death March survivor honored

Charles Ikeda, right, of Albuquerque, was honored by the National Guard Bureau for his service during World War II. He was a member of the Bataan Death March, which commemorated the capture of New Mexico's 200th Coast Artillery. Ikeda's son, Andy, is seated on the bench. Ikeda was one of the survivors of the march.

In 1943, Congress proclaimed April 9 as Bataan Day.

Right: National Guard Sgt. Yolanda Cardenas knows the white flag during the ceremony commemorating the 50th anniversary of the surrender.