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Process Paper

### **The Promise That Was Taken Away**

The 10th grade at Ronald Wilson Reagan College Preparatory High School is involved in National History Day and the theme is “Conflict and Compromise”. When I first heard about this event I felt excited because I was able to participate in my own history lesson without learning about history from a teacher. My first idea for National History Day fell through, it was about Victory Gardens during WWI and WWII, but that idea didn’t connect to the theme of Conflict and Compromise. Finally, I found of the perfect topic that I adored and wanted to learn more about. I found this topic because I was thinking about presidential promises. My first idea came from President Trump by making all these big promises but I knew his promises were occurring now instead of 20 years ago. Then, I thought about other presidents and researched if they made a promised that wasn’t completed. That’s when I found an online article called, *Surviving Veteran of Bataan Death March recalls horror 75 years later*, about Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman, and that’s where my research began that lead me to more in-depth information about the past of these two Presidents affecting other people’s lives.

My preliminary research began finding the online article *Surviving veteran of Bataan Death March recalls horror 75 years later*, then I researched more information when the article discussed WWII and the Philippines. I found an interest in this topic because I knew it was going to be a challenge because not even high school history books talk about Filipino history. I expanded my research beyond articles, President letters, primary sources/ photos and found Mrs. Cecilia Gaerlan, who helped me explore more about the Filipinos and their history. She provided numerous articles that helped me understand what happened to the Filipinos during WWII and also included information about American soldiers. Many articles like, *The*

*Significance of 1946 for Filipino Americans and Filipino World War II Veterans* offered additional information about what happened in the past.

Presentations need to cause a movement in their appearance and address the problem with multiple examples, I believed a website was able to supply that information. Comparing a website to the other exhibit categories I knew a website was going to present more for my topic because of the differences in the requirements between the 5 categories. The website I created called, *The Promise That Was Taken Away*, reflects my technology skills and how much I cared about this project. I put a lot of effort into this project because I believe this topic is extremely important to WWII history of both America and the Philippines. My topic relates to this year's theme of "Conflict and Compromise" because the Filipinos never got what they deserved after the promise by Roosevelt. This was a huge conflict that is only now being conveyed and resolved as a compromise.

**Word Count: 495**