

#2-520

To General Douglas MacArthur

July 26, 1941 Telegram Washington, D.C.

Secret

Effective this date there is hereby constituted a command designated as the United States Army Forces in the Far East. This command will include the Philippine Department, forces of the government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines called and ordered into the service of the armed forces of the United States for the period of the existing emergency, and such other forces as may be assigned to it. Headquarters United States Army Forces in the Far East will be established in Manila Philippine Islands. You are hereby designated as the commanding general United States Army Forces in the Far East. You are also designated as the general officer United States Army referred to in a military order calling into the service of the armed forces of the United States the organized military forces of the government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines dated July 26, 1941. Orders calling you to active duty are being issued effective July 26, 1941. Report assumption of command by radio.¹

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1. MacArthur radioed the next day of his assumption of command. (MacArthur to TAG, July 27, 1941, NA/RG 407 [201, USAFFE].) He later sent a message to General Marshall in which he extended his thanks to the chief of staff, to Secretary Stimson, and to President Roosevelt for his return to active duty, and expressed his “appreciation for the confidence indicated by my assignment to this command. I would like to assure you that I am confident of the successful accomplishment of the assigned mission.” (MacArthur to Marshall, Telegram, July 30, 1941, GCMRL/G. C. Marshall Papers [Pentagon Office, Selected].)

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