

# The American Flag Must Be Displayed with Full Honor on Veterans' Day and Other Flag Days - MabuhayR

Written by Col. Frank B. Quesada (Ret.)  
Sunday, 11 November 2007 04:37 -

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The American banner is not only to be displayed on June 14, which is Flag Day in the United States of America, but also on 18 other dates (the so-called &quot;Flag Holidays&quot;). The display with full honor of the American colors during the Flag Holidays this year is doubly significant because the United States is at war. It is a very precious possession of every American, especially the war veterans who have shed blood or died fighting for our national flag.

During these 19 holidays, the flag is displayed the whole day:

New Years Day – January 1

Inauguration Day – January 20

Lincoln's Birthday – February 12

Washington's Birthday – Third Monday of February

Easter Sunday – Variable Date

Mother's Day – Second Sunday In May

Armed Forces Day – Third Saturday of May

Memorial Day – Last Monday of May

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Flag Day – June 14

Father's Day – Third Sunday of June

Independence Day – July 4

Labor Day – First Monday of September

Patriot's Day – September 11

Constitution Day – September 17

Columbus Day – Second Monday of October

Navy Day - October 27

Veterans' Day – November 11

Thanksgiving Day – Fourth Thursday of November, and

Christmas Day – December 25.

Along with the display of the "Star and Stripes" is a solemn oath of allegiance to the Republic for which it stands.

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## Reverence to the Flag

To honor the flag, with the pledge, everyone must face the flag in attention, remain silent, with the military salute by veterans and servicemen, and the right hand over their hearts by civilians and/or veterans.

Editor's Note: This article was featured earlier in several other publications on the request of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP) and the (Ad Hoc) National Advisory Council of the Fil-Am WW-II Veterans Leaders. The author, Col. (Ret. US) Frank B. Quesada, is a former United States Senate Committee Secretary for Veterans and Military Pensions and an Associate, Philippine Military Academy, 1944 Class. This article, as edited, will begin a series of articles by Colonel Quesada in this online publication and which will be maintained for as long as this web site is operational.

## The Pledge

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

The "Star and Stripes" represents all of us in this alive country, which is emblematic for our respect and national pride for this nation.

## The Filipino-American War Veterans

We, the Filipino-American citizens and immigrants, who reached this country not in slave ships, or not in chains, but lawfully accorded the right to be citizens by virtue of their active military wartime services in American's war in World War II in the Philippines and the Pacific War of the United States. They lawfully earned it to be Americans.

As Americans, we are entitled to all Rights and Privileges as anyone. As a matter of fact,

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Filipino Americans are legitimate members of the US Armed Forces as US servicemen, as ruled by the US Supreme Court. Therefore, the US flag is the symbol for which Fil-Am veterans offered their lives in the altar of freedom like their comrades in the U.S Armed Forces that defend the US flag and American interests abroad.

## The Flag is Our National Identity

The "Star and Stripes" is our national emblem as a symbol of this country, as God's crucible (of his own faith), regardless of anyone's origin, race, persuasion or religious beliefs.

Our birthright is reflected in the Flag. Our heritage is inconspicuously etched in this banner, which reflects our standing as one of the founding countries of the United Nations that stands for equality, peace and understanding.

## Constitution Follows the Flag

We all owe reverence and respect , for this symbol which represents our highest ideals of citizens's individual liberty, and justice for each citizen that seeks equally opportunity for every American without exception.

Never shall anyone trample this flag, or desecrate the principles of Democracy which all free men died for peace and contentment of free men that believe in his on God, regardless of his religion and persuasion.

## Display of the Flag

It has been a universal custom to display the fag from sunrise to sunset on buildings and flagstaffs in the open.

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It is hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously. It must not touch the ground. And should not be displayed during inclement weather, except when an all-weather flag is used.

It is also displayed in all designated polling places during election day. It is to be displayed in all government and school buildings.

It should be displayed above all other pennants or flags, or the right-side of other flags to show superior prominence in honoring it. When displayed with other flags, it should be prominently placed in the center of all other flags.

When the US flag is displayed with other national flags, they should all be in separate flagstuffs of the same height.

Inside all churches, it should be on the right side on a flagstaff facing the audience. Likewise nothing should be placed above it, or be displayed with the union facing the ground of upside down.

## Parades and Ceremonies

When carried during processions, with other flags, it should be on the marching right side. It should never be put on floats in any way except if displayed on a flagstaff.

No disrespect for the flag and never dipped as a mark of honor for anything.

## Salute to the Flag.

When the flag is being lowered, or in a passing parade, or in review, persons present except those dressed in military uniform, should face the flag and stand in attention with the right hand

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placed over the heart . Those in military uniform should render a military salute.

Civilians should remove their hats, while aliens should merely stand on attention.

## War Veteran's Instinct

Look around you and see how veterans war – no matter if they are disabled or handicapped – strive to stand erect and honor the flag they fought with during Wars and Conflicts.

## National Anthem

During rendition of the national anthem – with the presence of the flag on displayed – those who are not in uniform should remove their headdress and place their right hand over their hearts, Those in uniform render the military singing of the anthem when it is played.

## Flag on Half-Staff

When the flag is to be on half-staff, it should be first be hoisted until it reaches the top pf the flagstaff and then lowered to half-staff position.

When lowering the flag at the end of the day, it is first hoisted again and then lowered. The flag is on half-staff also on the following days:

Peace Officer's Memorial Day on May 15 ,

Korean War Memorial Armistice Day on July 27,

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Patriots Day on September 11,

Pearl Harbor Day on December 7.

By order of the President, the flag shall be flown at half-mast upon the death of any principal figure of the United States government and the Governor of a State territory or possession as a mark of respect to their memory .

Other Occasions

In the event of death of other officials or foreign dignitaries, the flag is to be displayed at half-mast in accordance to Presidential instructions or orders in accordance to accepted and recognized practices or are consistent with laws. # # #

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