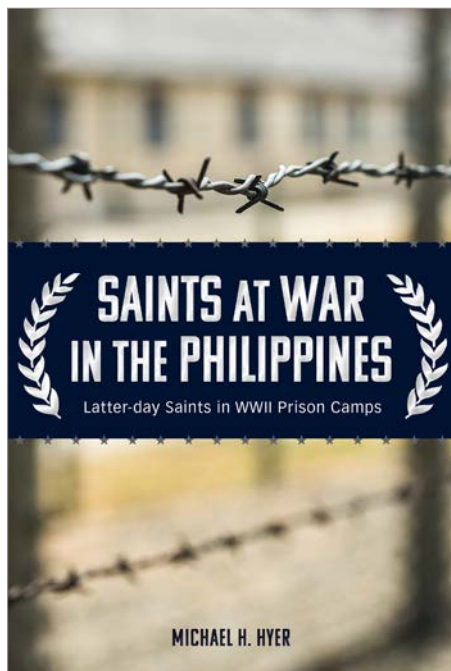


NEW FROM THE RELIGIOUS STUDIES CENTER

# SAINTS AT WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES

## Latter-day Saints in WWII Prison Camps



PROVO, UTAH, AND SALT LAKE CITY—Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints were among US soldiers in World War II who endured the atrocities of the Bataan Death March in the Philippines and the brutality of Japanese POW camps. These camps were places of cruelty, starvation, and sickness; a place where the prisoners, seemingly abandoned by their country, were despised, exploited, tortured, and at times savagely murdered by their captors. Yet, in one of the most infamous of these POW camps in the Philippines, a group of twenty-nine Latter-day Saint soldiers found hope and strength through their religion and each other.

This is the story, largely told through their personal accounts, of this group of Latter-day Saint POWs in the Philippines, the events that brought them together to form a band of brothers in an infamous POW camp—a remarkable event in the history of the Church—and the events that would later pull them apart—twelve to their liberation and seventeen to their death.

CONNECT WITH US [rsc.byu.edu](http://rsc.byu.edu)



“Of all the veteran wartime voices that yearn to be preserved—and there are many—none are more deserving than those who endured terrible experiences as prisoners of war. Michael Hyer is to be congratulated on doing just that—preserving voices in a way that honors their suffering and sacrifice—often their ultimate sacrifice. God bless these heroes.”

—Robert C. Freeman, Director of the Saints at War Project, Brigham Young University

*Saints at War in the Philippines: Latter-day Saints in WWII Prison Camps* was written by Michael H. Hyer and copublished by the Religious Studies Center at Brigham Young University and Deseret Book. Visit [rsc.byu.edu/book/saints-war-philippines](http://rsc.byu.edu/book/saints-war-philippines) for more information.

### DETAILS

Purchase at Deseret Book or online at [deseretbook.com](http://deseretbook.com)

Hardcover \$25.99

Pages: 288

Size: 6" x 9"

ISBN: 978-1-9503-0413-4

Published: RSC and Deseret Book, 2021

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

MICHAEL H. HYER is the author of several articles published in law journals and is the nephew of First Lieutenant George Robin (Bobby) Brown, one of the Latter-day Saint POWs who died in the sinking of the Japanese ship *Shinyo Maru*. He is a corporate attorney and retired vice president and general counsel of the North American arm of one of the world's largest multinational aggregates, cement, and concrete companies. Most recently, he served in the Church's Office of General Counsel as the associate area legal counsel in Lima, Peru. He is a graduate of the J. Reuben Clark Law School and of Brigham Young University with a degree in political science. He resides in Park City, Utah.

### MEDIA CONTACT

For more information, please contact

Project Editor: Devan Jensen

Marketing: Brent Nordgren

Social Media: Devan Jensen

801-422-9304, [devan\\_jensen@byu.edu](mailto:devan_jensen@byu.edu)

801-422-3293, [brent\\_nordgren@byu.edu](mailto:brent_nordgren@byu.edu)

801-422-9304, [devan\\_jensen@byu.edu](mailto:devan_jensen@byu.edu)

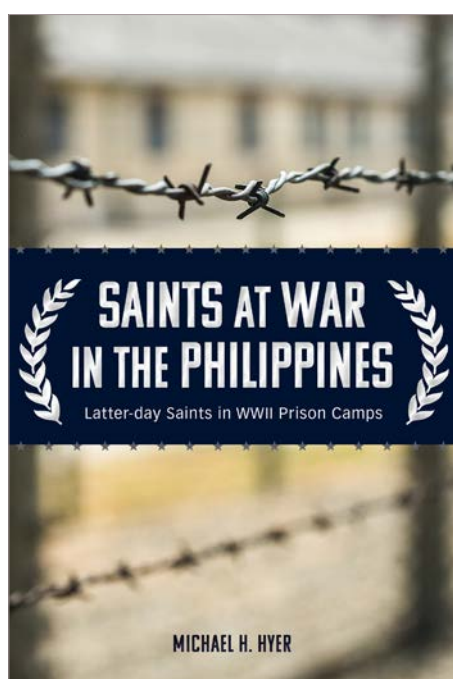


B Y U

Additional Praise for

# SAINTS AT WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES

## Latter-day Saints in WWII Prison Camps



“While the brutal treatment of POWs by the Japanese during World War II has received plenty of attention, what sets this book apart is that the tale is told from the perspective of a handful of captives who used their religion and belief in a higher power to see them through the darkest of days. All these years later, the positive attitudes of the Latter-day Saint soldiers held in captivity, and the way it shaped their behavior, shines through in their stories.”

—Lee Benson, columnist for the *Deseret News* and coauthor of *Soldier Slaves*

“Mike Hyer has written a thorough account of a small group of LDS servicemen who sailed to the Philippines in the fall of 1941, enthusiastically prepared to reinforce United States military capability in the face of unlikely but possible future problems with Japanese aggression. Hyer's exhaustive account of the post-Pearl Harbor lives of members of the LDS group is highlighted by his obvious interest in his uncle Bobby Brown, who died near the end of the war when the Japanese tried to transport him and other POWs from the Philippines to Japan, and Robert Davey, who survived it all and supplied much detail for Hyer's intriguing book. This is the intimate story of the heroic struggle of brave men and includes details that significantly supplement the more generalized published accounts of this terrible segment of WWII history.”

—David L. Clark, W. H. Twenhofel Professor Emeritus of the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Clark has published extensively on Church history, including “The Fate of the Davao Penal Colony #502 ‘Branch’ of the LDS Church, 1944,” *BYU Studies* 50, no. 4 (2011).

### DETAILS

Purchase at Deseret Book or online at [deseretbook.com](http://deseretbook.com)

Hardcover \$25.99

Pages: 288

Size: 6" x 9"

ISBN: 978-1-9503-0413-4

Published: RSC and Deseret Book, 2021

CONNECT WITH US [rsc.byu.edu](http://rsc.byu.edu)



## MEDIA CONTACT

For more information, please contact

Project Editor: Devan Jensen

Marketing: Brent Nordgren

Social Media: Devan Jensen

801-422-9304, [devan\\_jensen@byu.edu](mailto:devan_jensen@byu.edu)

801-422-3293, [brent\\_nordgren@byu.edu](mailto:brent_nordgren@byu.edu)

801-422-9304, [devan\\_jensen@byu.edu](mailto:devan_jensen@byu.edu)



BYU