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# Chinese American Citizens Alliance

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**National Lodge**  
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## **C.A.C.A. Recognizes Filipino American Contributions to the United States During Filipino American Heritage Month**

San Francisco, October 18, 2017—for the more than 3.4 million Americans of Philippine ancestry, October is Filipino American History Month recognized by the United States through passage of two congressional resolutions—House Resolution 780 and Senate Resolution 298—in November 2009. The Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.) joins in recognizing and celebrating the oldest Asian American community in the United States.

The origins of Filipinos in America date back 430 years ago on this day when on October 18, 1587, the first Filipinos, known as “Luzon Indios,” aboard a Spanish galleon, landed near Morro Bay, California. Their arrival predated more than three decades before Pilgrims from England arrived at Plymouth Rock.

Notable contributions of Filipinos were recognized by the U.S. two years ago with the passage of the Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2015. Signed by President Barack Obama, the law awards some 260,000 Filipino and Filipino-American veterans who served during World War II a collective Congressional Gold Medal, the United States’ highest civilian honor.

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance has organized efforts for similar recognition by the U.S. Government of Chinese American veterans who also served during World War II with a Congressional Gold Medal. Begun in December 2016, the Chinese American WWII Veterans Recognition Project seeks a Congressional Gold Medal for the estimated 20,000 servicemen and women who volunteered or were drafted when the Chinese Exclusion Act was still in place (repealed in 1943).

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Web: [www.CACAnational.org](http://www.CACAnational.org)  
Chinese American Citizens Alliance

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance, established in 1895, is among the oldest civil rights organizations in the United States. Headquartered in San Francisco with chapter/lodges in Albuquerque (NM), Boston (MA), Chicago (IL), Greater San Gabriel Valley (CA), Greater New York (NY), Houston (TX), Las Vegas (NV), Los Angeles (CA), Mississippi, Oakland (CA), Peninsula (CA), Portland (OR), Phoenix (AZ), Salinas (CA), San Antonio (TX), San Francisco (CA), Seattle (WA) and Washington, D.C., the Alliance addresses issues regarding voter education, political participation, racial discrimination and hate crimes, and supports youth leadership training programs and equal employment opportunities for all Chinese Americans.