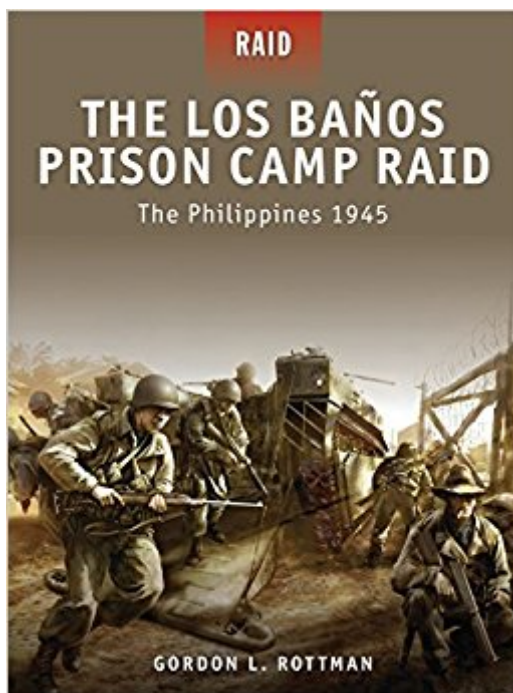


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# The Los Banos Prison Camp Raid: The Philippines 1945



## Synopsis

Learn the story of one of World War II's most masterfully executed raids. On the southwest shore of Laguna de Bay, near a village of the same name, stood the Los Banos Internment Camp. Held within were over 2,000 starving men, women, and children, guarded by 250 Japanese soldiers, and surrounded by several thousand more in the nearby countryside. As the desperate battle for Manila raged, it was feared that the prisoners would be executed or moved beyond the reach of the liberating armies. Only 130 Paratroopers could be spared for the rescue operation and this stunning triumph of courage and perfect timing in the face of overwhelming odds is rendered with riveting detail in this new Raid title. Author Gordon Rottman offers a bird's-eye-view from the origins of the conflict through the planning and execution of the raid and this in-depth analysis is backed by rare photographs and stunning artwork by Johnny Shumate. A nail-biter from beginning to end.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

âœ“...[the] moment-by-moment drama is captured in a blend of rare photos, artwork by Johnny Shumate, and a dramatic script by historian Gordon L. Rottman that keeps the action moving and lively from start to finish. Any serious, in-depth World War II collection needs this!âœ“  
âœ“This is an awe inspiring story about 130 Paratroopers against all odds ... The author presents an authentic view from the planning to the execution of the raid through in depth analysis, rare photos and fantastic artwork by Johnny Shumate.âœ“  
âœ“www.mataka.org (November 2010)âœ“  
It is an excellently written book in that the author makes you feel like you are part of the whole

experience.â • â •www.mataka.org (January 2011)

Gordon L. Rottman entered the US Army in 1967, volunteered for Special Forces and completed training as a weapons specialist. He served in the 5th Special Forces Group in Vietnam in 1969-70 and subsequently in airborne infantry, long-range patrol and intelligence assignments until retiring after 26 years. He was a Special Operations Forces scenario writer at the Joint Readiness Training Center for 12 years and is now a freelance writer, living in Texas. The author lives in Cypress, Texas.

A very good, condensed version describing the raid. With my mother and father, I was one of the POWs rescued on that day so long ago. I was 7 at the time of the raid and had my 8th birthday at New Bilibid before we were brought back to the U.S. on the USS Eberle from Manila to Long Beach, CA. Eternal thanks to the 11th Airborne; 511th PIR, the Amtrac Crews, the C-47 Crews, the Recon platoon, the Guerillas, Command Officers and many others who participated in that precise, magnificent and storied operation. Longer and more detailed books about the Los Banos rescue are available, but this publication is a very good, easy reading and factual summary account of events surrounding the 2-23-45 operation in the Philippines. (Note that 2-23-45 is also the day that the U.S. flag was raised on Iwo Jima, so Los Banos had less media coverage.)G.M. Rodgers, East Lansing, Michigan

Yet another book about a rescue from a Japanese internment camp in World War II Philippines, and the best summary so far of the rescue at the Los BaÃ os camp because of the many illustrations. The 80-page book is also commendable for the fairly decent credit given to Filipino guerilla fighters, and for at least the brief coverage of the horrible reprisals suffered by Filipino civilians in the area after the rescue. The author is expert about the U.S. military, and readers seeking information about operational details, equipment, and the officers involved will not be disappointed. My main criticism is the presence of various little geographic errors and confusion due to the author's unfamiliarity with the area.

I was not aware of this particular prison raid of 2100 civilians by the U.S. Army. Here is another heroic story about the brave men of our armed services, who parachuted into this camp to rescue these men and women. This book centers on this rescue as just one event of the war in the Pacific. Until I read this book, I was unaware of this story. Photographs are excellent giving the reader an

excellent perspective.

overall presentation, graphs, diagrams and pictures in color, actual wartime photos, listing of units - all contributed to the very pleasant read of the book. Only thing I missed was a little more detail in the analysis and conclusion area. Otherwise, an informative and pleasant read. >>

Very well researched. Presented in a personable way by highlighting specific persons involved in every part of the story...Japanese, internees, military. Love it !

my friend was part of the raid so this will be a keepsake for my family

Very similar to my Dad's letter after repatriation. . The rest of my family were in Santo Tomas.

Informative and detailed. Well-written with excellent background information.

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