
Document 15650

Legazpi—Letter from Fr. Urdaneta to the King, dated Navidad 20 November 1564

Sources: AGI 60-2-16; Col. Ultramar ii, doc. 25, pp. 213-215; summarized in B&R 2:103-104 as follows.

Summary by Robertson

On 20 November, Urdaneta writes to the King somewhat to the same effect, enumerating the vessels, men, etc. Besides himself there are four other religious, “and the other... God has taken to himself in this port.”¹ They will set out the following day, all being well. He praises Legazpi, and requests the King to keep him in his remembrance. Urdaneta’s nephew, Andrés de Mirandaola, is the Royal Factor of the fleet, and the former begs favor for him. “Also since the religious of the order of our Father St. Augustine are the first to embark in this undertaking, and to undergo so many hardships for the service of God and Your Majesty, I beg Your Majesty to grant them favors.”

¹ Ed. note: He refers to a sixth Augustinian missionary, Fr. Lorenzo Jiménez de S. Estéban who had just died in October, according to Fr. Pérez’ Catálogo cited earlier.



Legazpi on the deck of the flagship San Pedro. Lithograph by C. W. Andrews. (From *Ilustración Filipina*, Manila, vol. 2, n° 2, p. 134, 15 June 1860)