



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Upcoming UOG Press title unveils the untold stories of WWII on Guam**

The University of Guam Press is launching *A Borrowed Land* by master storyteller and CHamoru educator, Peter Onedera.

Through a series of 14 interviews spanning decades, *A Borrowed Land* brings to light the untold stories of World War II from the perspectives of Guam's Nikkei—people of Japanese descent.

"For the first time ever, you will get a glimpse of what Guam was like through the eyes of this forgotten group that was never given a chance to share their stories," says Onedera in the book's preface.

As the descendant of a first-generation Japanese immigrant, Onedera delves into the experiences of Guam's Nikkei, who were once respected and viewed as contributing members of the CHamoru community before World War II. Onedera offers an account that nuances the narratives of the Japanese occupation on Guam and highlights the humanity of a people who were caught between two opposing geopolitical forces, often against their will.

"Through their storytelling, I felt their renewed hope, the almighty father in Heaven, Sânta Marian Kâmalin, allegiance to Old Glory despite being of mixed emotions to their country of origin, but also to their newfound land, and a fervent belief that World War II wouldn't be forever," Onedera says.

UOG Press invites the community to attend the launch of *A Borrowed Land* at the Sinajana Mayor's Office Central Community Arts Hall on Fri., Oct. 11 from 5pm to 7pm. The event will include a book reading, author signing, a brief panel discussion and refreshments. The event is free to the public.

*A Borrowed Land* is available for pre-order for \$15 at [uogpress.com](http://uogpress.com). Patrons will be able to purchase the book or pick up their pre-orders at the event, and the book will be sold at local bookstores beginning the day after the launch.

**About University of Guam Press**

The University of Guam Press publishes an array of academic and literary books and journals with a specific focus on the unique history, environment, peoples, cultures, and languages of the islands that make up the Western Pacific region. Visit [uogpress.com](http://uogpress.com) to learn more about them and browse their wide selection of local art and literature.

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*Attachment – Event Flyer*