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FIRST PHILIPPINE FUND INC
Form DEFA14A
September 25, 2002

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A
INFORMATION

PROXY STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 14(A) OF THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (AMENDMENT NO.)

Filed by the Registrant Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
 CONFIDENTIAL, FOR USE OF THE COMMISSION ONLY (AS PERMITTED BY
RULE 14A-6(E)(2))
 Definitive Proxy Statement
 Definitive Additional Materials
 Soliciting Material Pursuant to ss.230.14a-12

THE FIRST PHILIPPINE FUND INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
 Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed
pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the
filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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 Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule
0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid
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the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

1) Amount Previously Paid:

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2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

3) Filing Party:

4) Date Filed:

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[THE FIRST PHILIPPINE FUND INC. LETTERHEAD]

September 30, 2002

Dear Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "Annual Meeting") of The First Philippine Fund Inc. (the "Fund") to be held on Thursday, October 31, 2002 at 9:30 A.M., New York time, at the offices of Clemente Capital, Inc., 152 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019.

The attached Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement describe the formal business to be transacted at the Annual Meeting. During the meeting, we will also report on the operations of the Fund, and directors and officers will be present to respond to any questions you may have.

You will be asked to vote on three proposals: (1) election of three Class III Directors to serve for terms expiring on the date of the Annual Meeting of Stockholders in 2005; (2) ratification of the selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Fund's independent public accountants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003; and (3) consideration of a proposal to liquidate all the assets of the Fund and dissolve the Fund.

The Board of Directors of the Fund is recommending a vote AGAINST liquidation, as more fully set forth in the Proxy Statement. This proposal and the reasons the Fund believes the proposal is not in stockholders' best interests are set forth in the attached Proxy Statement.

In order to be sure your shares are voted at the Annual Meeting if you cannot attend, please complete, sign and return the enclosed proxy card as soon as possible.

On behalf of your Board of Directors, thank you for your continued interest and support. We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

Leopoldo M. Clemente, Jr.
Executive Vice President and
Managing Director

