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Title: American Casualties in Cobabato Raid, Information Re -
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Dates: 10 Sep 44
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UNITED STATES PHILIPPINE ISLANDS FORCES
10th MD, "A" Corps WM
HEADQUARTERS, 119TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

18 September 1944

Subject: AMERICAN CASUALTIES IN COTABATO RAID

To: Commanding Officer
106th Division, USPIF

File for grave location B

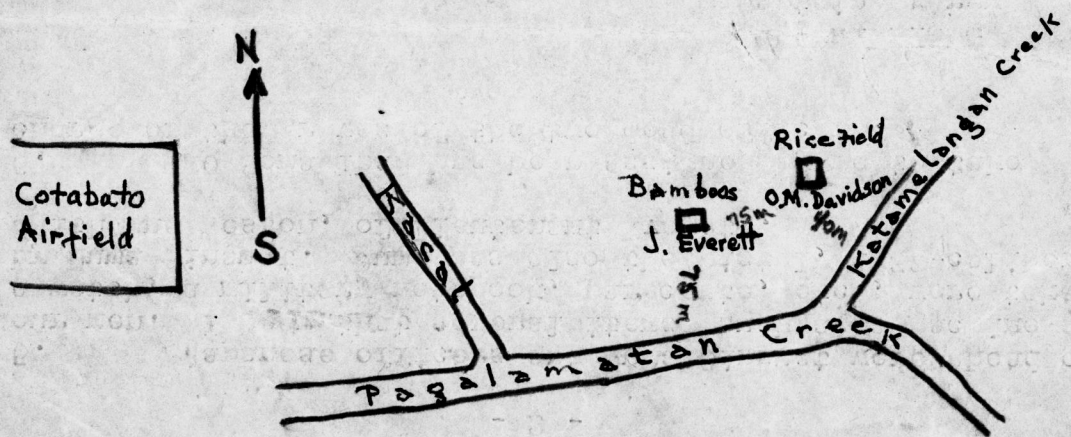
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1. The two American casualties during the Allied raid on Cotabato on Sunday morning, 10 September 1944, were Lt. Odis McRee Davidson (300-93-73 USN), Pilot, and Lt. James Everett (326093 USNR).

2. Their plane, No. 1306, probably an "Avenger", leading four others, dived after a Japanese air-transport (TOPSY) which tried to take off the airfield and literally "fed the enemy with bombs and bullets" at arm-length to use the Moro description of their bravery. The plane crashed to the ground and burnt from a very low altitude. Everett bailed out at an altitude of only about twenty meters and plunged head first to the ground, while Davidson, pilot, remained in the plane. There is a belief, however, that Davidson tried to go out of the plane too, judging from the fact that his two legs were out.

3. AO Sema Ibad of our "G" Company, as well as others, arrived at the scene of the disaster at about five o'clock in the afternoon on the day of the raid. He and his companions found the wreck still burning and machine gun cartridges exploding, and managed to get the identifications of the two dead officers despite the danger. AO Sema Ibad also removed the corpse of Lt. Everett from the marshy rice field and carried it to a high ground about seventy-five meters away and buried it. The remains of Lt. Davidson could not be removed from the burning plane, but whatever is left could be retrieved.

4. Below is a sketch showing the locations of the remains of Lieutenants Everett and Davidson:



5. Japanese officers and Duma Sinsuat were ahead of our men. I hear that several items, such as a machine gun, a watch, a military notebook, parachute, etc., were taken by Duma Sinsuat. Duma has also the pistol, a 38-caliber Smith and Wesson, of Lieutenant Everett.

6. AO Sema Ibad has been assigned by me to take charge of the graves of the two dead officers.

[Handwritten Signature]
GUMBAY PIANG
Captain, PArmy
Commanding

1st Ind

HQ 106" DIV, GPC, USFIP. 30 Sept 44. To: CO, "A" Corps, WM

Further details or information regarding American casualties will be reported as soon as available.

For and in the absence of the Commanding Officer:

[Handwritten Signature]
NICOLAS GABUTINA
Major, Infantry
Chief of Staff

NG:D