

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 883078



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FILE NO 86 *je*

NAME USAFI INTELLIGENCE UNIT
and JAPANESE COUNTER-PROPAGANDA

SIGNATURE : DATE

:

:

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DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 883078

USAFI INTELLIGENCE UNIT and JAPANESE COUNTER-PROPAGANDA
FILE NO. 86

DECLASSIFIED

Authority **NND 883078**

FILE NO 86

je

NAME USAFFE INTELLIGENCE UNIT
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STATUS	NAME	SERIAL NUMBER	GRADE	ARMY SERVICE	BRANCH	ORGANIZATION NAME	STATION NAME	REMARKS
MORNING REPORT LOCATOR CARD								
GAINS A PRESENT - assigned & joined. B ABSENT - assigned not yet joined. C PRESENT - arrival & assignment, from other theaters, or in cont. US from outside cont. US. D PRESENT - to military control from dropped as AWOL. E PRESENT - arrival & assignment from the cont. US. LOSSES G TRANSFER - within cont. US or within theaters. I TRANSFER - cont. US to outside cont. US/inter theater. M SEPARATION - battle casualty; missing/captured/death. N SEPARATION - other than by death or battle casualty. O SEPARATION - all deaths except killed in action. P SEPARATION - dropped from rolls as AWOL. Q TRANSFER to the cont. US from outside cont. US. DETACHED SERVICE R PRESENT, NOT ASSIGNED - arrival in cont. US. S DEPARTED - relief from assignment.								
OTHERS 1 ABSENT - from duty in ARMC. 2 PRESENT - return to duty from AWOL. 3 PRESENT - arrival at new station, transfer of an intact unit within the cont. US/theaters. 4 ABSENT - sick. 5 PRESENT - from; not yet joined/absent sick. 6 ABSENT - departure on TD/OS from cont. US to theaters, or between theaters. 7 PRESENT - returned from TD/OS. 8 ABSENT - departure on OS within cont. US or within theaters. 9 ABSENT - departure on TD/OS to the cont. US from outside the cont. US.								
NOTE - "Theaters" includes bases & departments.								
NAME	SERIAL NUMBER	GRADE	DATE OF CHG	ARM OR SERVICE	MRU OR SCU	ORGANIZATION NAME	STATION NAME OR SHIPMENT NO. OR A.P.O. NO.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	
57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	
65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	
73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	

W.D. A.S.O. FORM NO. 302 1 NOVEMBER 1944

FORM 730663

LICENSED FOR USE UNDER PATENT 1,712,287

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Authority **NND 883078**

MPRO INTEROFFICE FORM

SEE 201 FILE OF ROMAN F. LAVADIA
WHICH CONTAINS CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE
TO SAID INDIVIDUAL'S CURRENT CLAIM FOR
RECOGNITION OF UNIT NAMED HEREIN.

G. Wachtel
CC-1
RPRB
5 Jan 54

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Authority **NND 883078****MPRC INTEROFFICE FORM**

TO

 CHIEF
 CHIEF CLERK
 COMMANDING OFFICER

FILE

FE

ACTION NR

SUBJECT

 HQ, MPRC REC PERS REC BR,

SE

 COMPT BR,

SEC

 SPECIAL ACTIONS BR,

SE

 CIV PERS BR,

SEC

 WW I BR,

SE

 WW II BR,

SEC

 SERVICE BR,

SE

- NOTE AND RETURN.
 FOR NECESSARY ACTION. RETURN THROUGH THIS OFFICE.
 FOR (COMMENT) (CONCURRENCE).
 FOR DISPOSITION.
 REQUEST SEARCH FOR RECORDS OF (PRIOR) (SUBSEQUENT) SERVICE.
 RECORDS NOT LOCATED IN THIS SECTION. RECORDS CHARGED TO _____ ON _____.
 REQUESTED RECORDS ATTACHED.
 CHANGE CHARGE CARD TO _____ (WW II) (PW II).
 FILE CONTAINS PAPERS WHICH MAY REQUIRE REGRADING.
 FILE CONTAINS NO CLASSIFIED MATERIAL.
 FORWARD CLASSIFIED MATERIAL REFERRED TO IN INDEX SHEET(S).
 RETURN RECORDS WITH LIVE CASE TO THIS SECTION UPON COMPLETION OF YOUR CASE.

INCL

 ENL REC
 201 FILE

NAME

USAFFE INTELLIGENCE UNIT and JAPANESE COUNTER-PROPAGANDA
NAME OF UNIT

Alvin O. Lesala
UNIT COMMANDING OFFICER

1. Complaints
2. Investigating Officer's Notes
3. Request for Recognition, ltr, dated 10 March 1947, w/supporting papers
4. NFC/DL ltr, Hq philrycom, dated 1 April 1947
5. Acknowledgement to ltr, dated, 28 July 1947, and also NFC/DL Hq. Philrycom, dated 5 Sept. 1947

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



REMARKS :

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 883078

5

#1023

G-3 Form : 2 HEADQUARTERS : SEQUENCE NO
 No. 2 : PHILIPPINES-RYUKYU COMMAND :
 : OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-3 : RADIO CITE
 : OFFICE RETAINED RECORD

G-3 File No. GSCP U : Date: 4 Sept'47

SUBJECT: Recognition, Request for : Type of Communication
 FROM : Alvin O. Lasala : Letter

GROSS PREFERENCES

FOR ACTION BY:	SUSPENSE	CONCURRENCES
(File symbol only):	DATE	File : Initial: Date
GSCPU		Symbol : : : : : : : : :

OFFICER TAKING ACTION (and initials):
 2nd Lt William D. MacMillan *WDM*

Policy : Non-Policy:	Recommending	Approval
(File Symbol)	(Action)	APPROVED
	<i>WDM</i>	<i>WDM</i>

TO: _____ FOR: _____

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Lt Col Wallace M. Hanes:

Basic, ltrsr Mr. Alvin D. Lasala, dtd 28 July '47 to CG PHILRYCOM, requesting recon of the USAFFE Intelligence Unit and Japanes Counter* Propaganda.

WDM
 2nd Lt William D. MacMillan

Concur: Major D. C. Murray *DCM*
 Chief, Unit Branch



DECLASSIFIED

Authority **NND 883078**

HEADQUARTERS
PHILIPPINES-HYUKYUS COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

OSOFU 091 PI

AF0 707

5 SEP 1947

Mr. Alvin D. Lasala
1004 D. Jakosalem Street
Cebu City, Cebu
Philippines

Dear Mr. Lasala:

This will acknowledge receipt of two letters, dated 28 July 1947, requesting recognition of the USAFFE Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter-Propaganda.

As you were informed in our letter of 1 April 1947, your initial request was not accepted for consideration as it did not comply with the closing date for acceptance of unit requests for recognition, 15 March 1946. In view of the fact that no extension of this closing date has been made, neither can your request dated 28 July 1947 be accepted.

It is suggested, in order to prevent further unnecessary action on your part, that you defer the action anticipated in your letter of 28 July 1947 regarding the rosters of your unit inasmuch as they can receive no consideration by this headquarters.

The documents submitted with your letters of 28 July 1947 are returned herewith.

Sincerely,

1 Incl
Documents of unit.

THOMAS J. BROWN
CWO, USAF
ASST ADJ GEN

Lt Col Wallace H. Hanson:

Basic, ltr fr Mr. Alvin D. Lasala, dtd 28 July '47 to CG PHILTCOM, requesting recog of the USAFFE Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter-Propaganda.

2nd Lt William D. MacMillan

Concur: Major D. C. Murray
Chief, Unit Branch

OSOFU Comeback copy

4 Sept '47

RMH/jm

Tel: R330



DECLASSIFIED

Authority **NND 883078**

1004 D. Jakosalem St.
Cebu City
July 28, 1947

The Commanding General,
Headquarters, PHILRYCOM
Manila, APO 707


S i r :

The undersigned respectfully submits herewith a chronological history of the USAFFE Intelligence and Japanese Counter-Propaganda Unit of Cebu City together with a list of all personnel working for and doing service with said unit of which the undersigned was the Executive Officer by virtue of appointment of its organizer, Capt. Guillermo Monfort.

The enclosed list of the Unit's personnel will be more treated with detail with the submittal of the roster of the Unit under preparation and which will be sent to that Office immediately following its completion.

Very respectfully,

Incls: As stated.


ALVIN O. LASALA

Page: 14 of 14



2 JAN 1988

The following information was obtained from the records of the National Archives and Records Administration regarding the activities of the [redacted] and [redacted] during the period [redacted] to [redacted]. The information was obtained from the records of the [redacted] and [redacted] and is being furnished to you for your information. The information was obtained from the records of the [redacted] and [redacted] and is being furnished to you for your information. The information was obtained from the records of the [redacted] and [redacted] and is being furnished to you for your information.

FOR THE DIRECTOR
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540

DATE: 2 JAN 1988
TIME: 10:00 AM
BY: [redacted]

1004 D. Jakosalem St.
City of Cebu
July 28, 1947

The Commanding General
Headquarters, PHILRYCOM
Manila, APO 707

S i r :

This is a prayer that the USAFPE Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter-Propaganda be daily recognized.

The USAFFE Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter-Propaganda was an actual intelligence band, in real and positive operation in the City of Cebu during the greater part of the Japanese occupation. Under the direct supervision and control of Captain Guillermo Monfort, Inf., S-2, MP Regiment, USAFFE, now dead, who was assisted by Captain Dionisio Sebial, now supposed to be in Manila, assigned to the Guerrilla Section, APWESPAC, this unit was born early as the later part of June, 1942, scarcely three months after the Japanese invaders set foot on the shores of the Province of Cebu on 10 April 1942.

This secret intelligence clique may be said to have had its beginning at a conference in June, 1942, to which I was called by Captain Guillermo Monfort who informed me that he had had instructions from General Chenowett, commanding the USAFFE Visayas Forces, when both the former and the latter were prisoners of the Japs at the Cebu Provincial Jail, to organize an intelligence unit to operate in Cebu. Forthwith, I appointed, by direction and consent of Capt. Monfort, 6 operatives who, together with Capt. Monfort himself, Capt. Dionisio Sebial, and me, formed the nucleus of the intelligence clique. The nuclear members then were: Captain Guillermo Monfort, Capt. Dionisio Sebial, Alvin O. Lasala, Sebastian Augusto, now 2d Lt., SC, MPC, Cebu City, Roman Lavadia, Juan Tagle, Genaro Vismamos, Benjamin C. Merca, and Orlando S. Ruiz. This group began actual operation in the first week of July, 1942, when I, together with Sebastian Augusto, Genaro Vismamos, Juan Tagle, Roman Lavadia, and Orlando S. Ruiz, brought my member operatives in a conference for the purpose of establishing an underground paper intended to disseminate Allied news to loyal civilians and to keep up their morale and maintain the hope of Allied ultimate victory. This paper we designated DOD - "Defenders of Democracy" - which, at the suggestion of Harry Fenton whom we had contacted, was changed to TRUTH.

This intelligence unit, thereafter, continually performed the following duties: furnished Allied news to American prisoners of war concentrated at the University of the Philippines Junior College, Cebu, among whom were: Mr. Lawrence of the Procter and Gamble, Mr. Sanders, now manager of the CALTEX, Cebu, and Mr. Brink, through the ingenious device of inserting bits of paper containing news in various fruits which were ostensibly sold to the American prisoners; disseminated and circulated news, in the face of Japanese soldiers and Japanese Filipino spies, throughout the City of Cebu; published and distributed bills and leaflets intended to keep the people posted on the development of the war; secretly operated radio receiving sets and installed radios in different sections of the City so that fresh news from KBEI and William Winters could be had by loyal civilians; and, above all, furnished reports, diagrams, and maps to the Cebu Guerrillas in the hills on Japanese emplacements, troop movements, strength, dispositions of garrisons, positions, etc.

-2-

In the meanwhile, the membership of the nuclear group had grown, and the scope of our activities correspondingly increased and widened. Additions to the group were:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. Frank Chew | 2. Gonzalo del Villar |
| 3. Jose del Villar | 4. Jose Oquifena |
| 5. Mr. Abdul Hassan | 6. Strates Banes |
| 7. Mr. Pascual Garcia | 8. Mr. Filemon Canasura |
| 9. Mr. Vicente Causing | 10. Lt. Luis Reyes |
| 11. Mr. Genaro Acha | 12. Atty. Vicente Jayme |
| 13. Atty. Efrain Palaez | 14. Ex-Representative
& Atty. Tomas Alonso |
| 15. Engineer Agustin Jereza | 16. Mr. Ramon Rodriguez |
| 17. Mr. Florencio Rodriguez | 18. Mr. Jose Bana, deceased |
| 19. Judge Clementino Diez | 20. Mr. Arturo Vallejo |
| 21. Mr. Jose Martin | 22. Engineer Rodrigo Diaz |
| 23. Lt. Sancho Jusco | 24. Sgt. Ramon Cimafranca |
| 25. Alfredo Sulatan | 26. Mr. Jesus Avila |
| 27. Mr. Manuel Rodriguez | 28. Mr. Zacarías Luna |
| 29. Mr. Emilio Oquifena | 30. Lt. Lionel Atiga |
| 31. Lt. Pat. Tenchavez | 32. Mr. Catalino Abellana |
| 33. Mr. Sabino Villaluz | 34. Mrs. Severiana S. Saberon |
| 35. Mrs. Nena C. de Natividad | 36. Mr. Serafin Duterte |
| 37. Bonifacio Sevilla | 38. Judge Sofronio Savellon |
| 39. Jesus Crescencio | 40. Carmen Rodriguez |

With the foregoing persons, the activities, in early 1943, of the intelligence unit under Captain Monfort, expanded to include regular transmission of reports and maps on enemy activities to the 110th US Army at Mindanao under Colonel Wendell Fertig; frequent contacts with Colonel Kangleon's outfit in Leyte through Captain Cabiling; and contacts with the Negros and Bohol commands; securing of radio receiving sets, telephone apparatuses, radio spare parts, typewriting machines, and other supplies essential militarily which were delivered to the Cebu Guerrillas.

As could be expected, our activities exacted a toll in the lives of some of the members: John Tagle was caught by the Japanese Kempeitai, tortured, but came through the ordeal alive; Roman Lavadia, imprisoned by the Japs kempeitai for 96 days, famished, tortured-alive; Frank Chew, confined six months at Cebu Kempeitai, tortured, slapped, kicked, maltreated-alive; Ramon Cimafranca, caught and tortured-alive; Lt. Luis Reyes, caught and killed; Mr. Hassan, captured and killed; Mr. Jose Oquifena, caught and killed; Mr. Alfredo Sulatan, caught and imprisoned for 34 days; Ramon Rodriguez, ~~caught~~ caught and imprisoned for 60 days; Atty. Efrain Palaez, caught, imprisoned, and brought to Manila, and jailed at the Fort Santiago; Atty. Tomas Alonso caught and imprisoned at Muntinglupa, Manila, and liberated by Americans; Jose del Villar, caught and brought to Manila, imprisoned at Muntinglupa and liberated by the Americans; Gonzalo del Villar, brought to Manila, imprisoned in Muntinglupa, and liberated by Americans, and later died after liberation; Capt. Guillermo Monfort, and Capt. Dionisio Sebial, caught, brought to Manila, but escaped from Muntinglupa and joined the ROTC Hunters Guerrilla during the latter part of 1944; Amelando S. Ruiz, caught, imprisoned for 7 days and tortured; I myself escaped and brought all records of our unit to Northern Cebu where I was attached to the 2d Battalion, 88th Infantry Regiment, Cebu Area Command, as operative and operator of radio receiving set, together with Mr. Francisco Garcia, disseminating radio news in the Northern towns of Cebu to bolster the morale of loyal civilians.

-3-

The members of the intelligence unit, both the living and the dead, performed faithful service to the Great Cause of Freedom continuously until the later part of 1944 when the enemy sadism had reached its apex. Not a moment did they waver in their hope and conviction that somehow, someday, the Great Cause would ultimately triumph and emerge into a new land cleansed by the blood of our brothers, purified by the sweat of the laboring hands, sanctified by the cries and tears of widows and orphans. This faith they held high before them like a beacon light in the heart of gloom. They risked, like all patriots, everything. Nothing was so dear that they did not give--nothing so precious that they did not offer--nothing so beloved that they did not sacrifice in the name of the Great Cause. I have been always with them and I have seen, even in their eyes, a defiant spirit, a formidable determination, an unquenchable resolve to do or die. We were only a group of limited membership, but our work was constant, continuous, effective, coordinated.


As I write this, I am not motivated in the least by any selfish desire for compensation or reward for duty done; it is rather the thought of the helpless orphans and widows of the members of our unit who have been rendered without support by the loss of their beloved ones who used to win their daily bread. These are the people--- the victims--in whose name I appeal, as head of the intelligence unit, that this unit be recognized so that justice can be given where justice is due.

The information given above should have been furnished by Capt. Guillermo Monfort or by Capt. D. Sebial, but since Capt. Monfort is now dead and Capt. Sebial, who was second in command to Capt. Monfort, could not be contacted in spite of efforts on my part exerted to that end, and since, the date of expiration for the recognition of any underground movement is drawing near, I, in my capacity as Executive Officer to Capt. Monfort, have voluntarily assumed the responsibility in bringing up this matter to your attention. It may be stated that I submitted a report covering our unit's activities enumerated above to Capt. McColl of the 459th CIC Detachment, APO 72, Tacloban, Leyte, on January 31, 1945, together with some of the records I had managed to salvage.

In this connection, we wish to state that, pending final determination of the status of our intelligence unit and due recognition thereof, we, the surviving members, with the widows of members now dead, will submit ourselves for processing by the 8th Military District, FA, Cebu City, Processing Team.

In the fervent hope that this matter will merit your fair hearing and just consideration, I remain

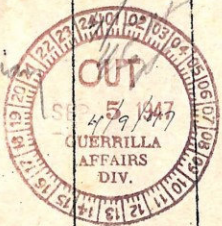
Very respectfully yours,


ALVIN C. LASALA
Former G-2 Agent 55, USAFFE
Visayas Force

G-3, GUERRILLA AFFAIRS DIVISION

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1. For Approval | 6. Note | 11. Carrier Note |
| 2. Remarks | 7. Return | 12. Draft |
| 3. Recommendation | 8. Signature | 13. Memorandum |
| 4. Information | 9. Initials | 14. Indorsement |
| 5. Necessary Action | 10. Letter | 15. Add'l Copies |

TO	DATE	REMARKS
Units	AUG 4 1947 4/5	_____ <i>dc</i>
Sgt M -	4/8	Do we have a unit of this name? Status? - <i>wd</i>
Lt MacMillan	5/8/47	This unit is NFC/DL 1 APR 47 _____ <i>dup</i>
T -	26/8	10 _____ <i>W.H.</i>
Lt Kemper		18 _____ <i>BK</i>
May Munn		_____ <i>ccm</i>
Ch. Hance		1st for dispatch Din - H



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G-3 Form No. 2	HEADQUARTERS PHILIPPINES-RYUKYUS COMMAND OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-3 OFFICE RETAINED RECORD	SEQUENCE NO. 286 MIC FILE
G-3 File No. GSCP II 091 PI	Date:	29 March 47
SUBJECT: Request for Recgn of Grla Unit	FROM: Alvin O. Lasala	Type of Communication Letter
GROSS REFERENCES		
FOR ACTION BY:	SUSPENSE DATE	CONCURRENCES
(file symbol only)		1961 ddy I
GSCPU	File Symbol	Initial: L O 38
OFFICER TAKING ACTION (and initials)		
1st Lt George E. Kemper		
Policy	Non-Policy	Recommending
		Approval
(File Symbol)	(Action)	APPROVED
TO: <i>AK</i>	FOR: <i>Quinn</i>	<i>31 Mar 47</i> 63

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Colonel Gerald F. Lillard:

Basic, ltr fr Alvin O. Lasala to CG, PHILRYCOM, dtd 10 March 1947, forwarding petition dtd 10 March 47, requesting recgn of the USAFEB Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter-Propaganda.

George E. Kemper
1st Lt George E. Kemper

Concur: *C. H. Wentzell*
Maj C. H. Wentzell
Actg Chief, Unit Branch

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1023

**HEADQUARTERS
PHILIPPINES-RYUKYUS COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL**

GSCPU 091 FI /604

APO 707

1 APR 1947

Mr. Alvin O. Lasala
1004 D Jakosalen Street
Cebu City, Philippines

Dear Mr. Lasala:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 10 March 1947, in which you forwarded a petition requesting recognition of the USAFFE Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter Propaganda.

Special press release from Public Relations Office, AFWESPAC, dated 1 February 1946, stated that no applications for recognition of guerrilla units would be accepted by this headquarters after 15 March 1946. Your request for recognition of the USAFFE Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter Propaganda was received at this headquarters in your letter dated 10 March 1947, and does not meet the deadline referred to above. The recent press release from Public Relations Office, PHILRYCOM announced the closing date of 15 March 1947 for the submission of individual non-casualty applications for recognition.

It is generally considered that all concerned have had ample opportunity to prepare applications for recognition. In the opinion of this headquarters, your request for an extension of the time limit mentioned above is not adequately justified and therefore, is not favorably considered.

This decision does not preclude individual request for casualty recognition by injured personnel or their heirs. Upon request from interested individuals, appropriate casualty forms will be forwarded.

Returned herewith is the petition submitted in your letter of 10 March 1947.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. BROWN
CWO, USA
ASST ADJ GEN

G-3 Comeback Copy

31 March 47

GSK/ppm

Tel U 330

Colonel Gerald F. Lillard:

WASH DC
CMO
1 MAR 47

Ref: Basic, ltr fr Alvin O. Lasala to CG, PHILRYCON, dtd 10 March 1947, forwarding petition dtd 10 March 47, requesting recon of the USAFFE Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter-Propaganda.

SECRET

1st Lt George H. Kempfer

Referred herein to the petition submitted to you

Concur: Maj C. H. Wentzell

Chief, Unit Branch
When received from interested parties' appropriate counter-espionage recommendations of this character are made.

This petition does not describe in detail the organization and structure to be established and does not indicate the extent of the time and personnel to be employed in the execution of such recommendations. Such recommendations are not considered in the absence of such details.

In view of the fact that the organization and structure of the proposed unit is not described in detail, it is recommended that the proposed unit be established on a temporary basis to determine the feasibility of such a unit. The proposed unit should be established on a temporary basis for a period of six months to determine the feasibility of such a unit.

Recommendation of the USAFFE Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter-Propaganda Unit is hereby recommended for your information.

Very truly yours,
Gerald F. Lillard
Colonel, USAFFE

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
FIFTH AIR FORCE
HONOLULU

30 Mar 47
31 Mar 47
31 Mar 47
31 Mar 47

1 MAR 47

101

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 883078

G-3
Unit

1004 D. Jackson St.
Cebu City
March 10, 1947

The Chief
Processing Team
8th Military District
Cebu City

Sir:

Unit

I have the honor to submit herewith a petition for the recognition of the USAFPE Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter-Propaganda which is self-explanatory.

Very respectfully yours,

Alver C. Lasala
ALVER C. LASALA
Former G-2 Agent 55 USAFPE
Visayas Force

Incl: As stated.

1st Ind

PROC SEC RPD HQ 8TH MIL (AP) Cebu City 12 March 1947
TO: The Commanding General, PHILRYGOM, APO 707
(Attn: G-3 Sec, Grla Affairs Br, Phil. Affairs
Division)

1. Forwarded together with all appendices.

Pueblo L. Domingo
PUEBLO L. DOMINGO
2nd Lt., PA, Inf
Processing Officer

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Authority **NND 883078**

1004 D. Jakosalem Street
City of Cebu
March 10, 1947

The Chief
Guerrilla Section, PHILRYGOM,
Manila, APO 707

S i r :

This is a prayer that the USAFFE Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter-Propaganda be duly recognized.

The USAFFE Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter-Propaganda was an actual intelligence band, in real and positive operation in the City of Cebu during the greater part of the Japanese occupation. Under the direct supervision and control of Captain Guillermo Monfort, Inf., 3-S MP Regiment, USAFFE, now dead, who was assisted by Captain Dionisio Sebial, now supposed to be in Manila, assigned to the Guerrilla Section, AFWESPAC, this unit was born as early as the later part of June, 1942, scarcely three months after the Japanese invaders set foot on the shores of the Province of Cebu on 10 April 1942.

This secret intelligence clique may be said to have had its beginning at a conference in June, 1942, to which I was called by Captain Guillermo Monfort who informed me that he had had instructions from General Chenowett, Commanding the USAFFE Visayas Forces, when both the former and the latter were prisoners of the Japs at the Cebu Provincial Jail, to organize an intelligence unit to operate in Cebu. Forthwith, I appointed, by direction and consent of Capt. Monfort, 6 operatives who, together with Capt. Monfort himself, Capt. Dionisio Sebial, and me, formed the nucleus of the intelligence clique. The nuclear members then were: Captain Guillermo Monfort, Capt. Dionisio Sebial, Alvin Ol Lasala, Sebastian Augusto, now 2d Lt., SC, MFC, Cebu City, Roman Lavadia, Juan Tagle, Genaro Vismancos, Benjamin Calderon, and Orlando S. Ruiz. This group began actual operation in the first week of July, 1942, when I, together with Sebastian Augusto, Genaro Vismancos, Juan Tagle, Roman Lavadia, and Orlando S. Ruiz, brought my member operatives in a conference for the purpose of establishing an underground paper intended to disseminate Allied news to loyal civilians and to keep up their morale and maintain the hope of Allied ultimate victory. This paper we designated DCD - "Defenders of Democracy" - which, at the suggestion of Harry Fenton whom we had contacted, was changed to TRUTH.

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12 766 141

SEARCHED

troop movements, strength, dispositions of garrisons, positions, etc.

In the meanwhile, the membership of the nuclear group had grown, and the scope of our activities correspondingly increased and widened. Additions to the group were:

1. Frank Chew
3. Jose del Villar
5. Mr. Hassan
7. Mr. Pascual Garcia
9. Mr. Vicente Causing
11. Mr. Gonzalo Acha
13. Atty. Efrain Pelaez
15. Engineer Agustin Jereza
17. Mr. Florencio Rodriguez
19. Judge Clementino Diaz
21. Mr. Joe Martin
23. Lt. Sancho Juse
25. Alfredo Sulatan
27. Mr. Manuel Rodriguez
29. Mr. Emilio Oquiflana
31. Lt. Pat. Tanchavez
33. Mr. Sabino Villaluz
35. Mrs. Nena G. de Natividad
37. Mr. Quibilan
39. Jesus Crescencio
8. Gonzalo del Villar
4. Jose Oquiflana
6. Strates Barnes
8. Mr. Filamon Camasura
10. Lt. Luis Reyes
12. Atty. Vicente Jayme
14. Ex-Representative & Atty. Tomas Alonso
16. Mr. Ramon Rodriguez
18. Mr. Jose Basa
20. Mr. Arturo Vallejo
22. Engineer Rodrigo Diaz
24. Sgt. Ramon Gimfranca
26. Mr. Jesus Avila
28. Mr. Zacarias Oquiflana
30. Lt. O. Atiga
32. Mr. Lindy Abellana
34. Mrs. Severiano S. Saberon
36. Mr. Serafin Duterte
38. Judge Sofronio Savallon

With the foregoing persons, the activities, in early 1943, of the intelligence unit under Captain Monfort, expanded to include regular transmission of reports and maps on enemy activities to the 110th US Army at Mindanao under Colonel Wendell Fertig; frequent contacts with Colonel Kangleon's outfit in Leyte through Captain Cabiling; and contacts with the Negroes and Bohol commands; securing of radio receiving sets, telephone apparatuses, radio spare parts, typewriting machines, and other supplies essential militarily which were delivered to the Cebu Guerrillas.

As could be expected, our activities exacted a toll in the lives of some of the members: John Tagle was caught by the Japanese Kempetai, tortured, but came through the ordeal alive; Roman Lavadia, imprisoned by the Japs kempeis for 98 days, famished, tortured-alive; Frank Chew, confined six months at Cebu Kempetai, tortured, slapped-kicked, and treated-alive; Ramon Gimfranca, caught and tortured-alive; Lt. Luis Reyes, caught and killed; Mr. Alfredo Sulatan, caught and imprisoned for 5 months; Mr. Quibilan, caught and killed by the Japanese during the American bombing of Cebu; Lindy Abellana, in escaping to Bohol, was caught and killed in Inabanga, Bohol; Mr. Strates Barnes, caught and imprisoned for two months; Jesus Crescencio caught and imprisoned for 34 days; Ramon Rodriguez, caught and imprisoned for 60 days; Atty. Efrain Pelaez, caught, imprisoned, and brought to Manila, and jailed at the Fort Santiago; Atty. Tomas Alonso caught and imprisoned at Muntinglupa, Manila, and liberated by Americans; Jose del Villar, caught and brought to Manila, imprisoned at Muntinglupa and liberated by the Americans; Gonzalo del Villar, brought to Manila, imprisoned in Muntinglupa, and liberated by Americans, and later died after liberation; Capt. Guillermo Monfort, and Capt. Dionisio Sebial, caught, brought to Manila, but escaped from Muntinglupa and joined the ROTC Hunters Guerrilla during the later part of 1944; Orlando S. Ruiz, caught, imprisoned for 7 days and tortured; I myself escaped and brought all records of our unit to Northern Cebu where

I was attached to the 2d Battalion, 83th Infantry Regiment, Cebu Area Command, as operative and operator of radio receiving set, together with Mr. Francisco Garcia, disseminating radio news in the Northern towns of Cebu to bolster the morale of loyal civilians.

The members of the intelligence unit, both the living and the dead, performed faithful service to the Great Cause of Freedom continuously until the later part of 1944 when the enemy sadism had reached its apex. Not a moment did they waver in their hope and conviction that somehow, someday, the Great Cause would ultimately triumph and emerge into a new land cleansed by the blood of our brothers, purified by the sweat of the laboring hands, sanctified by the cries and tears of widows and orphans. This faith they held high before them like a beacon light in the heart of gloom. They risked, like all patriots, everything. Nothing was so dear that they did not give-- nothing so precious that they did not offer-- nothing so beloved that they did not sacrifice in the name of the Great Cause. I have been always with them and I have seen, even in their eyes, a defiant spirit, a formidable determination, an unquenchable resolve to do or die. We were only a group of limited membership, but our work was constant, continuous, effective, coordinated.


As I write this, I am not motivated in the least by any selfish desire for compensation or reward for duty done; it is rather the thought of the helpless orphans and widows of the members of our unit who have been rendered without support by the loss of their beloved ones who used to win their daily bread. These are the people-- the victims-- in whose name I appeal, as head of the intelligence unit, that this unit be recognized so that justice can be given where justice is due.

The information given above should have been furnished by Capt. Guillermo Monfort or by Capt. D. Sebial. But since Capt. Monfort is now dead and Capt. Sebial, who was second in command to Capt. Monfort, could not be contacted in spite of efforts on my part exerted to that end, and since, the date of expiration for the recognition of any underground movement is drawing near, I, in my capacity as Executive Assistant to Capt. Monfort, have voluntarily assumed the responsibility in bringing up this matter to your attention. It may be stated that I submitted a report covering our unit's activities enumerated above to Capt. McCall of the 459th CIC Detachment, APO 72, Tacloban, Leyte, on January 31, 1945, together with some of the records I had managed to salvage.

In this connection, we wish to state that, pending final determination of the status of our intelligence unit and due recognition thereof, we, the surviving members, with the widows of members now dead, will submit ourselves for processing by the 8th Military District, RA, Cebu City, Processing Team.

In the fervent hope that this matter will merit your fair hearing and just consideration, I remain

Very respectfully yours,


ALVIN G. LASALA
Former G-2 Agent 55, USAFFE,
Visayas Force

Copies furnished:

The Adjutant General, PHILRYOON,
Manila, APO 707
The Adjutant General,
Hq Philippine Army, Manila
✓ Processing Team, 8th MD RA,
Cebu City

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Authority **NND 883078**

1004 D. Jakosalem St.
Cebu City
March 10, 1947

The Adjutant General, PHILRYOOM,
Manila, APO 707

S i r :

I have the honor to transmit herewith a petition for the recognition of the USAFFE Intelligence Unit and Japanese Counter-Propaganda addressed to the Chief, Guerrilla Section, PHILRYOOM, Manila, which is self-explanatory.

Very respectfully yours,


ALVIN C. LASALA
Former C-2 Agent 55
USAFFE Visayas Force

Incl: As stated.

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