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FILE NO. \_\_124\_\_\_

UNIT Basilan Guerrilla Forces

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	DARKAN GUDDDIIIA BODCEC
	BASILAN GUERRILLA FORCES NAME OF UNIT
	GEORGE E. GAWLEY
	UNIT COMMANDING OFFICER
1. Compla	Inte I Har Har Man
2. Invest	igating Officer's Notes
3. Reques	t for Evaluation of Accompanying Initial Memo ltr
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G-3 File No: GSC_ 201	George Cawley	not	Date 7 Max	
SUBJECT: Request for FROM : George Cawl	recognition ey	1	Type of Com	munication_
CROSS REFERENCES:			(2) 1411	6.
FOR ACTION BY: (file symbol only)	SUSPENSE DATE	File Symbol	CONCURRENCES  Initials No. 19	No Date
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TO: M/C	FOR: Sugar.	1 All		
		Lt.	Col. H. L. S.	haftoe
MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD Lt. Col. H. L.				
1. The u	nit did not servo semblance of a roup.	re in the military	field, as an a unit, but so	armed forc lely as an

APO 707

1 3 MAY 1946 gay

Mr. George B. Cawley Lamitan, Basilan Mindanao, P. I.

Dear Mr. Cawley:

The "Basilan Guerrilla Forces, Lamitan, Basilan," purporting to be a guerrilla organization under your nominal control, has not been favorably considered for recognition as an element of the Philippine Army.

A set of general requirements for guerrilla recognition, established by General MacArthur during the liberation of the Philippines, has been used as a guide in considering the record of this unit. After careful investigation and full consideration of all available substantiating records and testimony of witnesses having pertinent knowledge, recognition of this guerrilla unit is not deemed to be warranted because of reasons mentioned below:

a. The unit was not maintained satisfactorily in the field in opposition to the enemy, during the occupation.

b. Activities of the unit did not contribute materially to the eventual defeat of the enemy.

c. Many members apparently lived at home, supporting their families by means of farming or other civilian pursuits, and assisted the guerrilla unit on a part time basis only.

d. Record of service was not established by sufficient acceptable evidence.

It is requested that you comply with the provisions of Executive order No. 68, by the President of the Philippines, dated 26 September 1945, copy attacked.

Sincerely yours,

W. P. MOORE Lt. Col., AGD Ass't Adj Gen



1 Incl: Executive Order No. 68.

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Authority MND883078

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Lt. Col. H. L. Shaftoe:

1. The unit did not serve in the field, as an armed force.
2. Had no semblance of a military unit, but solely as an intelligence group.
3. The unit never functioned as a fighting unit before or after the arrival of the Liberating Forces.
4. The unit is not recommended by its over-all commander.

TIV!

Manila, 2 April 1946

SUBJECT: Basilan Guerrilla Force, C.O. Cartagina, A.

TO : GUERRILLA AFFAIRS SECTION, G-3, AFWESPAC, APO 707

Reference: Sequence No. 87-53

The recognition of this unit was discussed with me by George Cawley in January 1946. A copy of my reply should be in your files. The Island of Basilan was so unfriendly toward the USFIP Guerrillas that all attempts to organize other than intelligence cells was absendened. Since the people resisted all our advances prior to the Leyte landing, and at no time was the island garrizoned by more than 200 Japs, it is unjust to those who fought for two years in Zamboanga to allow this group to gain recognition for doing only their patriotic duty after living quietly with the enemy. The total number of Japs on Basilan as shown in the final intelligence report of the AC of S G-2 41st Div. on 7 March 1945, was 170 on the whole island.

Recommendation - It is recommended that this request be disapproved.

Colonel, CE.



tuth



5 January 1946

SUBJECT: Evaluation of Accompanying Initial Memorandum re BASILAN GUERRILLA FORCE (BGF) to Determine if Case Merits further Investigation, Request

for

: The Chief, Guerrilla Affairs Section AFWESPAC, APO 707 TO

1. Submitted herewith is a Memorandum Report, Subject: BASILAN QUERRILLA FORCE (BGF) dated 5 Jan. 1946.

- 2. Request that case be reviewed on the basis of this initial report, and the writer granted an interview to report other aspects and details of confidential nature.
- 3. If action is favorable, the undersigned will request a furlough to gather all pertinent information in Zamboanga, and prepare a final Memorandum Report.
- 4. Members of the BGF are unaware of this effort towards government recognition of the unit, although many members possess letters of commendation as a recognition of their individual efforts. These men undertook the job as their patriotic duty and such recognition will make them more conscious of the good work they had done.

Respectfully,

Encls/Memorandum Report and exhibits.

3rd CIC Detachment c/o AC of S, G-2 HPA, APO 501



5 January 1946

# MEMORANDUM FOR THE REVIEWING OFFICER:

SUBJECT: HQ Unit, BASILAN GUERRIILA FORCE (BGF)
Tamitan, Basilan, Zemboanga, Philippines

The writer herein endeavors to make a brief account of his background, and the organization and accomplishments of the above mentioned Subject.

# I. Personal Background.

The writer was a senior agriculturel student at the College of Agriculture, University of the Philippines when hostilities commenced on 8 December 1941. He volunteered and was inducted into the USAFFE with the rank of 1st Sergeant on 28 December 1941; saw action in Batsan with the 2nd Anti-Tank Battalion which was cited twice. He surrendered with the rest on 11 April 1942 and was taken prisoner; conditionally released because of illness in August 1942; and, later, worked with the Bureau of Plant Industry in Manila in order to get an appointment which would take him and a sister back to Zamboanga, Mindanac.

While agricultural inspector for Zamboanga, the writer found his agricultural survey trips a good pretext and a rare opportunity to conduct free lance undercover work. People were badly misinformed of the war's progress and had as their only sources of information, the Japanese newspapers and an occasional wild rumor. The doubtful were kept under surveillance, and those who were proven loyal were acquainted with the latest developments of the war. The job was full time and risky, but this was a job that had to be done.

In June 1944 the writer, in order to quit his job, feigned abdominal pains and underwent a totally unnecessary appendectomy operation. Forthwith he went to Basilan Island to stay with the rest of the family and to recuperate.

It was then that he was more determined than ever to join the guerrillas actively under Capt. Donald LeCouvre in Free Zamboanga. Objections, however, were plentiful and well founded. The Japs would certainly



construe my absence to mean that I had joined the guer-rillas and would certainly seek reprisels on the remein-ing family members and relations. The family was under surveillance after my father was taken to the concentration camp and when the Japs got wind that three of my brothers were in the States, one in the U.S. Navy. I was forced to act, therefore, with great caution, and decided that I could serve my country and family best by remeining in the place and secretly forming an organized underground resistance movement.

II. Formation of the Ho Unit BASILAN GUERRILLA FORCE.

The first man taken into confidence was Lt. Adriano Cartagena, a good friend of the writer and a USAFFE officer. Lt. Cartagena wholeheartedly approved of the general idea, and the two set out together to plan future operations.

III. Plans and Purposes of the Organization.

a. To form a headquarters detachment to serve

as a nucleus for further expansion. b. To acquire its men by careful screening after they had been recommended fit for the job.

c. To dessiminate news and to acquaint the

people with the current developments.
d. To carvess end gather all firearms possible,
to be stored away until the opportune time.

e. To watch and keep record of all Jap activities. Shipping: Isabella harbor was fast becoming

a submarine and PT base. Gun Emplacements: Location and caliber of guns, and the number of troops and ammunition dumps.

Kaigun Jutai (Jap Special Police): Composed of Filipino who were terrorists.

3 \$

IV. Strength of the Unit.

The unit had a total strength of four (4) officers and twenty-one (21) enlisted men at the peak of operations on 16 March 1945.

Two (2) additional officers were inducted into . the unit during its period of activation:

3rd Lt. Ramon Garcia, USFIP Inducted Jan. 1945 1st Lt. Ricardo Sebastian, USAFFE " Feb. 1945



Two (2) outstanding men of the town were made advisers of the organization after they were found to be loyal and true to the cause. They were found to be loyal and true to the cause. They were Jose Pamaran and Capt. Ramon Camagay, a USAFFE officer who was forced to be mayor of the town. These two men assisted the organization in every way possible, and were of great help to the civilian population.

The roster as it appeared on 14 March 1945 was as follows:

## OFFICERS:

1. 1st Lt. Cartagena, Adriano Commanding 2. 1st Lt. Sebastian, Ricardo Executive ( 3. 2nd Lt. Cawley, George Liaison & 4. 3rd Lt. Garcia, Ramon Supply Off: Executive Officer Liaison & Adjutant Supply Officer

# ENLISTED MEN:

1. 1st Sgt. Ani Maeng (Moro) 2. Staff Sgt. Leon Timul (Moro) 5. Sgt. Sahibul (Moro)
4. Cpl. Lumajah Timul (Moro)
5. Cpl. Navarro (Phil. Scout, 45rd Inf Regt) 5. Cpl. 6. Cpl. Paulino Mateo

7. Cpl. Juan (family name unknown) 8. Cpl. Hassim Ipno (Moro)

9. Pfc. Janiludin (Moro) 10. Pfc. Hussin (Moro)
11. Pvt. Habaget (Moro)
12. Pvt. El'le (Moro)
13. Pvt. Remon Reyes

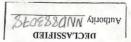
The names of the other ten (10), the writer was never able to ascertain because Moros usually go by their pet names and very seldom, if ever, use their given names.

### Equipment.

On 14 March 1945, two days before the American forces landed on the Island, the following equipment was in the possession of the unit:

## Firearms

4 repeating shotguns (6 shells - 12 gauge) # repeating shotgums (6 shells - 12 gauge)
5 Einfield rifles, Model 1917 (.30 caliber)
1 Springfield rifle, Model 1901 (.30 caliber)
2 singleshot shotgums (homemade)
1 Jap Lugger (.38 caliber)
1 Revolver (.45 caliber)



#### Ammunition

15 shells, shotgun 12 gauge 60 rounds, .30 caliber ammo 16 " ,.38 caliber ammo 9 " ,45 caliber ammo

Immediately after the landing, the unit was fully equipped with the addition of five carbines issued by let Lt show at the order of Brig. Gen. Richard Boyd. Two carbines and one gurand were retained when the American outlit was recalled to Zambounga mainland where unexpected enemy opposition required its presence. The BGF was given .30 caliber same and was designated as the local police and protective force against the Japanese who were dispersed but not destroyed. The writer was made Chief of Police with the recommendation and approval of the 41st CIC Detachment.

Later, the unit was again supplied with arms and was detailed as guides and points to accompany patrols of Company. MP, 182nd Inf. Regt. in their mopping-up operations. Upon disbandment on 30 April 1945, all arms became the property of the local police force except the 45 caliber revolver which the writer decided to keep as a momento, and the .36 caliber lugger which was exchanged by one of the officers with a cerbine during the early stage of the operations.

### VI. ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- discovered two days prior to the American landing on 16 Merch 1945 when it proceeded to disarm and arrest puppet officials and to evacuate people from places where landings were likely to be made.
- 2. Black and white lists of the town population were drawn up which sided the CIC in their work of restoring loyal officials to office, and detaining the collaborators.
- 3. Information on the locations of Jap mines, a baby submarine, 2 landing barges with torpedoes, a PT boat, and Jap gun emplacements on the Island, was brought personally by the writer to Admirel Berkey who was in commend of the Navel Task Force. The submarine and landing barges were very cumingly camouflaged with nips roofing to resemble More houses built over the water. It was only after supplying such information

that the Navy was able to destroy these objectives. The Navy was also werned about the only serviceshill spanese place whose pilot was overheard beasting that he would crash his place into one of the Ships. The Navy finelly shot it down just as it took off.

- 4. As lieison officer of the unit, the writer on the thorn 1985 contected Major Ames, G-E of the 41st Inf. Division, thru Capt. Sinclair, Havel Liaison Officer, at Zemboanga mainlend; gave him all intelligence reports concerning the Japs on the Island; on suggested that the landing take place at Kulaybeto point which was undefended, and where the civilians population had been previously told to execute. This was acknowledged by a letter of commendation addressed to the writer by Major Ames, a true copy of which is herewith attached, marked "Exhibit I".
- which on 14 March 1945 disarmed the town Chief of Police of his .45 caliber revolver. A .30 caliber Einfield rifle was wrested away from a Bioclano who was a member of the Jap special police and a terrorist. This Bioclano later managed to a scepe and fled to the hills with the retreeting caps. It. Cortages on the same day disarmed one Mr. Teofilo Savedre of the Jap Economic Folice of his .38 caliber Lugger and placed him under custody until he was turned over to the 41st CIO Detaiment.
- The unit prepared the town for the landing by evacuating the people to safety zones which were arranged with the G-2 of the 41st Inf. Division.
- 7. "Mejor" Saturnino Abrera, District Inspector of the dreaded Bureau of Constibultry, with his two sons, was apprehended by men of the BdF. They are still under detention at present, facing charges of treason.
- as guides, points or scouts. Opl. Remon Reyes was shot in the thigh while guiding a petrol of the List Inf. Regt., and died due to the lack of medical facilities.
- 9. On 18 March 1945, two days after the landing, the American outfit was recalled to Zamboanga mainland

where unexpected enemy opposition required their help. The BSF, with five (5) remaining Signal Corps men, took over the defense of the town against a possible Jap attack. The Japs were scattered, not engaged in full scale combat operations, but they were apt to reorganize. The five (5) Signal Corps men left the following day and the BSF was the sole town protection for about a week until the lat platon, "B" Compuny, 16and Inf. Regt. engaged them in mopping-up operations.

10. The Jap garrison on the Island, composed of army, navy and marines numbering over 200, was neutralized before the end of April 1945 without the loss of a single American life.

11. Men of the town can testify as to how they were kept up to the times with the news and their morale boosted thru the efforts of the BGF spents.

NOTE: Letter of commendation regarding two patrols signed by Gast. Robert Garfield is herewith attached as "Exhibit II".

George & Cawley Agent CIC

Encls/2 Ltrs of Commendations marked "schibit I" and "Exhibit II".

HOS LIST INFAMENT DIVISION
A. P. O. Al

26 April 1945

SUBJECT: Letter Commendation, Ricardo F. Sebastian, George Cawley, Adriane B. Cartagena, Ramon Garcia.

TO : Whem It May Concern.

- 1. On April 12, 1945, I accompanied a small patrol into the the mountains on Basilan Island. This patrol was initiated by the above mentioned men, and had is its mission the capture or destruction of a known group of Jap Marines. Four Apricans and myself went with them to give more fire power.
- 2. After hiking all night ever rough mountain trails we were able to attack a group of about fifteen Japs just as day was breaking. In the encounter, three Japs were killed, a heavy machine gun, twe rifles, quantities of amaunitien, hand grenades, four efficer's sabers and all their elething and feed was captured. The excaping Japs taking only such articles as they had on their persons at the time.
- 3. On April 17, 1945, another night patrel was conducted with the purpose of ambushing a reperted group of sixteen Jape along a trail they had been reperted to be using. No actual encounter was made in this ambush but as we were moving out about eight o'clock the next merning, our advance guard picked up a Jap civilian who the Jap soldiers were using to steal food from the surrounding farms. On this patrelk only one American and myself accompanied the patrel. Later the same day, two other Jap civilians came in and surrendered, it being evident that they had learned of the treatment given the one captured.
- 4. The ability to ergamize these patrels, the manner in which they conducted their advance guards and provided all around security during halts, the courage shown when they attacked a superior enemy force, their coolness when the enemy returned the patrel's fire, all of which was done not for pay, but a desire to rid their country of the Japs, stamps these men as real seldiers and in my epinion are officer material.

5. It is personsenally recommended by me that the aforementioned men be given all possible consideration in their voluntarily professed desire to rejain the Army of the Philippines.

Robert E. Garfield, Captain, Cavalry Asgd to Dy with A.C. REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Authority NND883038

HEADQUARTERS AIST INFANTRY DIVISION Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
A.P.O. 41

A/hr 1 May 1945

Lamitan, Basilan, Mindanae.

Dear Mr Cawley,

Though belated. I new wish to express appreciation for your cooperation in the early part of this campaign. Your reporting to the A.C. of S., G-2 shortly after D-day and your efforts in supplying information of the enemy on Basilan Island contributed materially to the G-2 planning for the Basilan Island contributed materially to the G-2 planning for the Basilan Island landing. It has been reported to set that you have continued to assist in gaining intelligence of the enemy since the landing and that you have helped in many ways to bring about the destruction of the Japanese in this area.

I wish you success in continuing your military career in the Philippine Army.

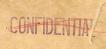
Very truly yours,

Flum Cam Glenn C. Ames,

Glenn C. Ames, Major, G.S.C., A.C. of S., G-2. utho







PART - 12% BASHIGH CURRILLS FORCES



