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| MORNING REPORT LOCATOR CARD | | REMARKS | |
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| 1. REPORTING OFFICER | 2. REPORTING OFFICER'S GRADE | 3. REPORTING OFFICER'S UNIT | 4. REPORTING OFFICER'S PHONE |
| 5. REPORTING OFFICER'S ADDRESS | 6. REPORTING OFFICER'S CITY | 7. REPORTING OFFICER'S STATE | 8. REPORTING OFFICER'S ZIP |
| 9. REPORTING OFFICER'S TITLE | 10. REPORTING OFFICER'S ORGANIZATION | 11. REPORTING OFFICER'S DEPARTMENT | 12. REPORTING OFFICER'S DIVISION |
| 13. REPORTING OFFICER'S BRANCH | 14. REPORTING OFFICER'S SECTION | 15. REPORTING OFFICER'S OFFICE | 16. REPORTING OFFICER'S ROOM |
| 17. REPORTING OFFICER'S PHONE | 18. REPORTING OFFICER'S EXTENSION | 19. REPORTING OFFICER'S FAX | 20. REPORTING OFFICER'S FAX EXTENSION |
| 21. REPORTING OFFICER'S E-MAIL | 22. REPORTING OFFICER'S E-MAIL EXTENSION | 23. REPORTING OFFICER'S E-MAIL ADDRESS | 24. REPORTING OFFICER'S E-MAIL EXTENSION |
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UNDERGROUND INTELLIGENCE RESISTANCE

NAME OF UNIT

FELIX BELLO

UNIT COMMANDING OFFICER

1. Complaints
2. Investigating Officer's Notes
3. NFC/DL ltr dtd 15 Mar 48

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REMARKS:



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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 RADIO CITE |
| G-3 File No. GSCPU 091 PI | DATE | 12 March 48 |
| SUBJECT: Recognition, request for | Type of Communication | |
| FROM: Felix Bello | Letter | |
| FOR ACTION BY: | CONCURRENCES | |
| (File Symbol Only: SUSPENSE DATE | File Symbol | Initial Date |
| GSCFU | | |
| OFFICER TAKING ACTION (and initials): | | |
| 1st Lt G. E. Kemper <i>G.E.K.</i> | | |
| Policy: Non-Policy: Recommending | | |
| Approval <i>[Signature]</i> | | APPROVED |
| (File Symbol) (Action) | | |
| TO: _____ | FOR: _____ | |
| _____ | _____ | |
| _____ | _____ | |

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Lt Col Wallace M. Hanes:

1. Basic, letter from Felix Bello to the AG PHILRYCOM, dated 15 Dec 47, requesting recognition of an alleged guerrilla unit in Siasi, Sulu, under his command and forwarding a history and roster of the unit.

2. A thorough search of the files of this headquarters has failed to reveal any record of a guerrilla unit listed either under the name of Underground Intelligence Resistance or Bolo Battalion. Mr. Bello is informed of the closing date of 15 March 46 for the acceptance by this headquarters of unit requests for recognition and his rosters are returned.

1st Lt George E. Kemper *[Signature]*

Concur: Capt E. R. Curtis
Chief, Units Branch

Concur: 1st Lt L. W. Pierce, Jr.
Chief, Records Section



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B
HEADQUARTERS
PHILIPPINES-RYUKYUS COMMAND

GSGFU 091 FI

AFO 707

15 MAR 1948

Mr. Felix Bello
Siasi, Sulu
Philippines

Dear Mr. Bello:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 15 December 1947, requesting recognition of an alleged guerrilla unit in Siasi, Sulu under your command and forwarding a roster and history of the unit.

A thorough search of the files of this headquarters has failed to reveal a request for recognition of a claimant guerrilla unit listed either under the name of the Underground Intelligence Resistance or the Bolo Battalion. It is desired to inform you that a special press release from the Public Relations Office, Headquarters, AFWESPAC, dated 1 February 1946, announced the closing date of 15 March 1946 for the acceptance by this headquarters of unit applications for recognition. Inasmuch as this closing date received wide dissemination throughout the Philippines by press, radio and municipal agencies, it is considered that all concerned had ample opportunity to prepare and submit unit applications prior to the announced closing date. Inasmuch as your request for recognition of your unit was made in your letter of 15 December 1947, it does not comply with the closing date of 15 March 1946 and therefore cannot be accepted.

Returned herewith are the rosters forwarded in your letter of 15 December 1947.

Sincerely,

1 Incl
Rosters forwarded by ltr dtd
15 Dec 47

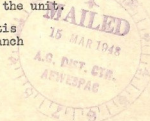
R. E. CANTRELL
Capt. AGD
Asst Adj Gen

Lt Col Wallace M. Hanes:

Basic, letter from Felix Bello to the AG PHILRYCOM, dated 15 Dec 47, requesting recognition of an alleged guerrilla unit in Siasi, Sulu, under his command and forwarding a history and roster of the unit.

1st Lt George E. Kemper Concur: Capt E. R. Curtis
Chief, Unit Branch

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Siasi, Sulu, Philippines
December 15, 1947

SUBJECT: RECONSIDERATION of Recognition of Guerrilla Unit

TO: The Adjutant General, PHILRYCOM, Apo 707, Manila

ATTN: G-3 GHD, PHILRYCOM, Apo 707, Manila

1. I request reconsideration that the Guerrilla Unit under my command, composing of persons whose names and addresses are shown in the attached roster, be given recognition. This request is made after hearing no information relative to our former request coursed through the Military Police Command at Mindanao Zone to the Guerrilla Affair Section of the Philippine Army. This request of reconsideration of the recognition of the Guerrilla Unit under my command is based on the following grounds:

(a) This Guerrilla Unit was organized in the month of July, 1942, at Siasi, Sulu, Philippines. The organization was then called UIR (Underground Intelligence Resistance), that time when our resistance was merely passive. Later, when active resistance was no longer detrimental and disastrous to the populace, the name was changed to BOLO BATTALION.

(b) Believing and having full knowledge that we were fighting for a just and good cause, not only for our country and for our mother country, the United States, but also for the whole world and mankind who believe that governments are created of the people, for the people, and by the people, we banded ourselves and formed a body, even though how small and powerless it was, to spy, molest, harass, and oppose the enemy, and to enliven the spirit of democracy and keep the morale of the people regarding the sure and ultimate victory of the United States.

Matured and level minded persons who believed that right is might composed the nucleus of our organization. These belonged to the intelligent class as most were teachers and students.

(c) Knowing fully well that the outcome would be fatal if our organization was ever detected and known by the enemy, secrecy and passive resistance were observed by us. We used cautiousness and tact in trying to further and accomplish our aim. In spite of our cautiousness, still some of us, especially myself, were suspected as still having at heart and siding the "Americans"; and, as a consequence, our properties were confiscated by the enemy.

A member of our organization, in the person of Mr. Miralam C. Tillah, was apprehended, arrested, tortured, and was about to be killed by the enemy when he was reported by traitors of having firearm and of being a member of a secret subversive organization which the traitors failed to substantiate to the enemy of its existence.

During the movement, we told the people not to lose hope in the ultimate victory of the United States as evidenced by her victory in the Naval Battle of the Coral Sea in May, 1942, and other places. We advised the people not to give aid nor comfort to the enemy. We did our best to protect the lives and properties of the people. We helped evacuees and shared them with the only comfort and food we had. We preached to the people the excellence of the United States and the bene-

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fits we got and what we shall get from her. We illustrated to them the advantages of having a democratic form of government based upon that of the United States of America. We made them aware of and pictured to them the disadvantages and their deplorable conditions, not only to themselves, but also to their children and great-grandchildren, once the Japanese people would fully control the running of our Government. We explained to them that because the United States has that form of government that is of the people, for the people, and by the people, the people constituting that Government are happy, well-to-do, and contented. Whereas, because the Japanese people do not have a government of the people, for the people, and by the people, they are unhappy, miserable, and discontented. We sowed to the people that feeling of distrust and detestation towards the Japanese. As a true Filipino, born and/or reared under the flag of the United States, we urged them to remain loyal and true to our mother country, to persevere and to forbear; but to be ready to raise arms and fight the enemy once the opportune time comes.

We protected the lives and properties of the families of some of those Guerrillas who joined the Guerrilla Unit under the command of Lt. Col. Alejandro Suarez. These Guerrillas left their families and joined Lt. Col. Suarez in the jungles and wilderness of Tawi-Tawi Island where they were safe, free, and away from the clutches of the enemy.

Part of our Guerrilla Unit stayed at the Lapak Agricultural School and guarded the source of food supply for the Guerrillas.

Considering the time and whereabouts we were in, we followed the old (but never out of date) saying, "the pen is mightier than the sword", that most of us learned from our American teachers during our school days. We used our intellectual powers, our brains, as these were the best and soundest means of resisting and opposing the enemy then.

It may not be amiss to mention that the house of my assistant, Mr. Miralam C. Tillah, was a secret radio station from where we gathered war news broadcasted from different Allied stations. Two members of our Unit, Abdul-Hamid Bello and Plummer Tillah, were assigned by me to take notes of the war news. These in turn were disseminated by our Guerrilla Unit to people living within the area that we covered, with instructions that these same people spread the good news wherever they were and wheresoever they went.

Our Guerrilla Unit did not follow the behaviors and ways of other Guerrillas who entirely absconded to a safe place far away from the enemy. We stayed where we could be of advantage and watched closely the activities and movements of the enemy.

Lt. Col. Suarez was informed now and then by our Guerrilla Unit of whatever activity and/or movement the enemy took that was of military importance to the Allied Cause. It was Mr. Miralam C. Tillah, who was my assistant at the incipency of our organization and, later, my 1st Lieutenant, and who was a reserve officer of the Philippine Army before the outbreak of the war, to whom we gave vital military intelligence information regarding the activities and movements of the enemy for transmittal to the Headquarters of the 125th Regiment, 10th Military District, under the command of Lt. Col. Suarez. Lt. Col. Suarez received the informations our Unit sent him as

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evidenced by his acknowledgments and thanks to Mr. Miralam C. Tillah, which copies of acknowledgments and thanks will be forwarded to the Commanding General, U.S. Army, if required to do so.

During the liberation, our Guerrilla Unit was co-operating with the Guerrillas of Lt. Col. Suarez under the command of Captain Sabtal Usman. We were in charge of the peace and order of the civilians within the guerrilla occupied area, food procurement for all the Guerrillas, intelligence work, ammunition carrying, transportation and hauling of supplies, construction of sheds, making dugouts, and miscellaneous work incident to the guerrilla movement.

Even though only equipped with blade weapons and spears, we harassed the enemy. Some of us were actually in the front line fighting the enemy together with the Guerrillas of Lt. Col. Suarez under the command of Captain Sabtal Usman.

Some Guerrillas of our Unit, under the command of Mr. Hadjirul Taup, met some Japanese riding on a vinta between Tapaan Island and Kinapusan Island. My men, pretending to be fishermen, were able to get near and, without any mishap on their part, killed the enemy with only bolos as their weapons.

Our Chaplain, an Imam (priest) of the Mohammedan faith and a public school teacher, Mr. Salih L. Arpa, preached now and then the gospels of Mohammedanism among members of our Unit. This activity on his part was instrumental in the righteous conduct and behavior of all members of our force during those dark and trying days. Whenever a member got ill, he was always there beside him giving aid, encouragement, and cheer. Our Chaplain, together with Imam Mana Taup, also served as our medical man. They know how to treat and give relief to ailments by the use of herbs and roots.

(d) Inasmuch as the resistance movement that we had was underground and merely passive, as active resistance was thought of and considered by us as detrimental and disastrous to our people as a whole and inopportune because the American Armed Forces were yet far, besides our being few and having no arms, except blade weapons and a few spears, and our proximity to the enemy, we did not inform Lt. Col. Suarez about the existence of our organization for precautionary reasons until that time when secrecy and passive resistance were no longer essential for the good of the organization and the populace.

As to whether or not Lt. Col. Suarez knew of our organization it did not concern us then because our purpose was not for vanity; our goal was not for self-aggrandizement; our services were not for pecuniary consideration nor speculation. We formed our Guerrilla Unit with no other purpose and motive than to do our bit in a sane way we could towards the ultimate victory of the United States--the triumph of democracy. We intended to render our services for the Allied Cause.

We informed Lt. Col. Suarez of our existence in January, 1945, that time when we were side by side with the Guerrillas under the command of Captain Sabtal Usman, on Lepak Island, Sulu. Lt. Col. Suarez did not include us in his roster for reasons we do not know--but we believe that our exclusion was personal on his part.

Inasmuch as Lt. Col. Suarez was far away from us then, we failed to see him personally for our inclusion in his roster. Nevertheless, his not taking us up in his organization and consequently his not including us in his roster were

immaterial to us because our organization was formed through our own initiative and existed as a separate and independent Guerrilla Unit.

2. It is prayed that this request be given favorable consideration and that our Guerrilla Unit be recognized by the Government of the United States of America.

Felix Bello

FELIX BELLO
Captain
Commanding Officer

Attached:
As stated.

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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 | FEB 17 1948 | 5 ————— m/c |
| Sgt M | 17 | Co. Felix Baldo - Underground Philippine Resistance Seaman, Sulu, PT |
| Lt Kemper | 18 | No record of this unit — See D/L |
| Mrs M | 9 | T-10 ————— K |
| Lt Kemper | 12/3/48 | 1-8 ————— Oon |
| Capt Cates | 12/3/48 | 1-2 ————— R |
| Mrs M | 12/3/48 | Put St Pierre concurrence on M/R |
| Capt Cates | 12/3/48 | completed with. ————— Oon |
| St Pierre | 12/3/48 | 8 and fuel to Col Hanes E/L |
| Lt Col Hanes | 12/3/48 | 1+5 ————— Dub |



Di *[Signature]*

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