

EVACUEE REPORTS:

DE VRIES, MARVIN

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION GENERAL STAFF

AFD 500
19 August 1944

Philippine Evacuee Report #210

SUBJECT : MINDANAO

From : Marvin De VRIES, 1st Class Seaman, USN 2233218

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Name : Marvin De Vries
Born : In 1916.
Service : Enlisted in the Navy in 1936.
Assignment : PT Boat Squadron.
In P.I. : Since 1941.

Interrogated by G-2, GHQ SWPA

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De Vries was connected with the guerrilla organization from December, 1942, to the time of his evacuation. The information submitted by him is considered fairly reliable.

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CHRONOLOGY

- 8 Dec 41 - Stationed on Mindanao.
- 10 May 42 - Escaped into the mountains near Iligan at the time of the surrender.
- May - Nov 42 - Lived in evacuation near Iligan, Lanao.
- Nov 42 - Reported to Col FERTIG in Misamis Occidental.
- 16 Dec 42 - Commissioned a 2d Lieutenant by Col Fertig and placed in charge of motor launches hauling food and supplies.
- Jan 43 - Transferred to radio station at Headquarters in Misamis for coding and decoding work under Lt KONKO.
- Apr 43 - Transferred to radio station at Sindangan, Zamboanga, serving under Lt Com WORCESTER.
- Jun 43 - Transferred to radio located in the jungle 12 kilometers south of Liangan, Lanao, serving under Lt Com WILSON and Lt Col HEDGES, who has with him at this time 3 Australians, BLOW, GILSON and McCLAIN.
- 21 Dec 43 - Japanese attack in the Liangan area failed to capture the radio station.
- Jan 44 - Because of Japanese pressure the Iligan radio station was moved to Baroy, Lanao where it is still located though not in operation due to lack of power.
- Mar 44 - Evacuated to Australia.

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JAPANESE RAID ON BAROY : In January, 1944, the Japanese landed at several points near Baroy. They were apparently in desperate need of food. During this raid Capt BOWLENS was killed by a Jap sniper. Lt WELBON was killed on the trail by machine gun fire. Lt KNUDSEN escaped with slight wounds. It was believed that the Japs knew the location of the guerrilla Para Project 5 kilometers back of Baroy. A Filipino named SOLOS was suspected of acting as a guide for the Japs. He was carried to Headquarters for questioning and investigation.

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General Information

Discipline is not too good in the guerrilla organization. There is room for considerable improvement. In many sections guerrillas are in need of food. Those contacted by De Vries had weapons and ammunition. At Liangan, they not only had rifles but also "tommy" guns, one .50 calibre machine gun, and one mortar.

The troops and civilians need medicines to combat malaria and dysentery.

The guerrillas are paid as regularly as the transportation facilities will permit. There is a lack of small change. Little Japanese currency was in circulation.

In the fertile Sandangan Valley the natives have gardens and grow vegetables and rice. There are also pigs and chickens. Even though the natives are lazy, there is no lack of food in this area.

INDEPENDENCE : The farm class of Filipino does not want independence; however, the politically minded individuals want it in the interest of selfish gains.



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