EVACUEE REPORTS: KING, MARGIT



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS SCUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION GENERAL STAFF



DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR OF 20 AUG. 75

APO 500. 12 June 1944

Philippine Evacues Report #257

Evacuation in the Mountains of Central PANAY

From Mrs Albert W KING

> : Mergit King (nee GANS) Name:

: 1913, at Negykanisza, Hungary, of Austrian parents Born

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Married: 1939. at Menila, to Albert Washington KING Jr

: Since 1938 In PI

Interrogeted by G-2 GHQ SWPA

Mrs King has been in evacuation in the mountains above the Aklan and Panay Rivers since the first bombings of Iloilo in December 1941, and has little information. She is high strung and moody and has been hospitalized since her arrival in SWPA. She is intelligent but strongly imaginative and an emotional thinker, which colors her judgments on personalities and motives. Details of chronology and locations were difficult to develop, and may not be accurate. The information is given here for what it may be worth.

CHRONOLOGY

17 Oct 1943

Subject

: Living in Vienna, pupil at the Art Academy, and wrote for newspapers. Made trips to Italy as a student.

: Came to Siam as companion for an elderly Italian lady. 1938

1938 : Arrived in the Philippines.

: Married to Albert Washington King Jr. American citizen, sales April 1939 manager for Goodyear Tire Company in Negros and Cebu. Lost

Austrian citizenship on marriage.

1941 : Husband employed by G-2 US Army, through Colonel LYNCH. Made reports on Negros and Paney to Major EVANS and Major RAYMOND in Manila. Mrs King translated German. Italian and Slavic

languages for them. early Dec 1961: At outbreak of the war husband volunteered for duty.

late Dec 19/1 : Evacuated with husband and child to the mountains.

1942 : Husband made repeated efforts to join the guerrilla army, but

was not accepted.

June 1943 : Husband received letter from Lt LOOT. G-2 officer under Lt Col CHAVEZ, saying that General MacArthur wanted all Americans to

a commission and was told he was not qualified.

: Husband commissioned 2nd Lt Inf at 6th MD headquarters at Sara. 25 Aug 1943

and assigned to District Engineers under Major FERTIC.

join the guerrilla army. Husband wrote to FERALTA applying for

September 1943: Japanese penetration at Sara. Major Fertig sent husband on a

mission to the Malinao-Banga area in the Aklan.

: Met husband at Malinao. Japanese reiders in the area.

Evacuated with husband and child to the mountains. November 1943 : In the mountains behind Calinog. Captain MIJARES (mestizo)

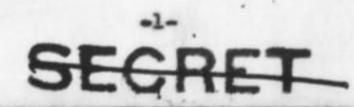
and family joined them.

late Nov 1943 : In evacuation in a barrio in the Malineo area with Captain GCMRZ

and his wife Captain Gomez hospitable and friendly.

December 1943 : Captain Gomez suggested King go to Capataga to get a list of men surrendered to the Japanese there - of whom one was Lt

Pedro GOMEZ.



SECRET

: Husband left for Capetage to find out about rifles which Lt 3 Dec 1943 Pedro Gomez had come back to claim after his surrender to the Japanese. : Gomez suggested Mrs King go away. Became inhospitable. 5 Dec 1943 : TOMI, the barrio teniente, said he had seen 36 Japanese 6 Dec 1943 approaching and that they were in Capataga. Gomez prevented Mrs King from sending a note to her husband. : Husband captured by the Japanese at Capataga. 7 Dec 1943 : Husband killed by the Japanese at Tepaz, 18 Dec 1943 Mrs Hing mistreated by Gomez and in ignorance of her husband's whereabouts. : Gomez called to Malinao by the army. 15 Jan 1944 : A Lieutenent brought Mrs King and her boy to other Americans 28 Feb 19hh for evacuation to Australia.

Captain Aurelio Gomez Medical Corps officer, about 34 years of age, the organizer of guerrilla resistance in the Malinac area. Ambitious, sensitive, and cruel. Exetematically mistreated Mrs Ming in December 1943 and January 1944 while she was staying in his berrio. He allowed her and her child only a starvation diet, and terrorized the civilians who wanted to help her. Told the civilians that she was a thief and anti-Filipino. Would not let them carry her child when they were forced to move. Took over an excellent rifle her husband had left with her for protection, and would not return it, falsely saying that it was his on a trade he had made with King. When she demanded a receipt, gave her one with a falsified serial number. On his departure he told the civilians of the berrio to work Mrs King hard and give her only enough food to keep alive.

Has a reputation for cruelty to children and animals and double dealing. Living above Malineo with a "wife" from Iloilo although he had a wife already in Manila.

Ford's Camp near Tapez

Politics and personality clashes were rife in the camp maintained by Mr FORD (evacuee #245) on the Paney River above Tapez. Many people in the camp seemed to be of doubtful loyalty. Although Manuel GARCIA. Ford's brother-in-law, had been under Japenese control and was on the guerrilla black list, he was not molested by the army at the Ford camp. LORING (evacuee #259) and ARONSON (evacuee #236) were friends who stayed at the Ford camp; they had once been investigated in Iloilo for running an unauthorized radio station.

then the Japanese penetrated to the missionary camp on the Panay River in December 1943, they passed within 100 yards of the Ford camp but never molested it.

Dr CULLEN/: An old men, ren the Custom House in Iloilo, believed captured.

ISMAEL /: Lewyer in Ilcilo, decidedly pro-Jepanese. Believed now in Ilcilo under the Japanese.

GALATA V: Foremost pro-Jap in Moilo. Gave shelter to a sister of Loring. when she left the Ford camp and surrendered during 1943.



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