

EVACUEE REPORTS:

LORING,

FREDERICK A.

~~SECRET~~

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION GENERAL STAFF

APO 500
8 June 1944

Philippine Evacuee Report #259

Subject : Guerrilla Finances on PANAY
From : Frederick A LORING

.....
Name : Frederick A Loring ✓
Born : 1910 in Iloilo (American citizen)
Education : Graduated 1933 in Civil Engineering at Manhattan
College, New York City
Occupation: Retail Manager for Hoskyn and Company Department Store
in Iloilo 1933 - 1941
Service : Captain QMS 61st Division USAFFE, 1942.
1st Lt QMS 6th Military District 1943 - 1944

Interrogated by G-2 GHQ SWPA
.....

Loring has lived almost all his life in the Philippines and knows Panay well. He is quiet and not particularly communicative. Information given below is thought to be reliable.

CHRONOLOGY

10 Dec 1941 : Civilian employee of USAFFE under Major (later Lt Col) D.W. DETERS, Medical Corps. Located supplies of food and clothing for the army.
10 Apr 1942 : Commissioned Captain QMS and attached to 1st BN 64th Inf., 61st Division, as Assistant S-2 in the regimental security area.
30 May 1942 : Surrender of 61st Division. Joined Mr Ford in his evacuation camp near Tapaz.
September 1942 : Received message from Colonel PERALTA saying he was not needed as yet for the army.
4 Apr 1943 : Reported for duty with 6th Military District. Assigned as 1st Lt Quartermaster to 5th Air Base Squadron at Sara. Acted as Depot Supply Officer procuring machines and equipment, gasoline and oil to equip airfield. Made partial payments and receipts for the balance for this equipment.
30 Sep 1943 : His services requested by Lt Col GEMPERLE, 6th MD Finance Officer. Worked on 6th MD press printing money.
18 Feb 1944 : Started for evacuation to Australia.

Guerrilla Currency Press Presses for printing emergency currency are operated by the 6th MD under Lt Col Gemperle, District Finance Officer and District Quartermaster. The press is in the Mt Baloy area and is shifted around from place to place for security. The press runs 24 hours a day, all three shifts printing as much money as possible. The army is authorized to issue only a certain amount each month, and the excess is used to build up a reserve. In March 1944 there was a three million peso reserve. Lt Col Gemperle is aiming for an eight million peso reserve, which he figures is a six months' reserve.

DECLASSIFIED PER AR 386-5

DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LMR ON
20 AUG 78



~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Lt.Col. Gemperle decides what denominations and what quantities of bills are to be printed, according to the need and the availability of paper. When paper is scarce bills of large denominations are printed and a certain amount of inflation results. Once when ink ran out Sherwin-Williams House Paint was used with fair results.

A representative of the Philippine National Bank, stationed at the press, takes custody of the money when it has been printed, records the amounts and serial numbers, and then issues it all to the army. The army then turns some of it over to the civil government. A representative of Governor CONFESOR'S Auditor is also stationed at the press and records amounts of currency printed.

There has been some counterfeiting of 10 peso and 20 peso bills, emergency currency. This is not done by the Japanese but by Filipino civilians and is not harmful to any great extent.

A second press was run by Deputy Governor GRENO for the civil government south of Lambunao, Iloilo. It was captured by the Japanese in January 1944.

LT COL WILLIAM F GEMPERLE ✓: Quartermaster and Finance Officer for 6th MD. Was also Assistant District Executive Officer under Lt Col RELUNIA.

LT COL FRANCIA ✓: District Signal Officer. Stays at the radio station at Peralta's Command Post.

MAJOR ROCES ✓ Formerly District C-4. Captured by the Japanese at Sara in September 1943. Reported now training BCs for the Japanese.

LT MELENDEZ ✓: Spanish, works on the press.

LT VOLODKIN ✓ Works on the press.

GOVERNOR CARAM ✓: Puppet Governor of Iloilo for the Japanese. Sent word to the guerrillas one month beforehand of the coming Japanese penetration at Sara in September 1943.

GREGORY MANUEL LORING ✓: Son of former American Consul, in the Spanish days, and father of Loring. Evacuated with his wife to Passi at the Japanese invasion of Panay. His daughter went to Ford's evacuation camp at the same time. In June 1942 all three went down to Iloilo and were concentrated by the Japanese. In November 1943 it was reported that they had been moved to Manila.

DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR ON
20 AUG. 75



~~SECRET~~