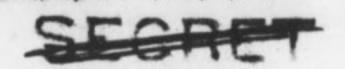
EVACUEE REPORTS: SNELL, JAY R.



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION GENERAL STAFF

APO 500 13 June 1944

Philippine Evacuee Peport #294

Subject: MEXIROS and CEBU

From : Pvt. Jey Russell SMELL

Name : Pvt. Jay Russell Snell

Born : 1916 at Brockport. New York

Education : High School

Service : Enlisted U.S. Army. Rochester, New York, 1940
Assignment : Sternberg General Hospital, Memila, PI (Bataan)

In PI since : 21 May 1940

Interrogated by G-2 GHQ

Small is intelligent and more alert than the average enlisted man, has a good memory, and tells a straight forward story of his experiences and observations. His information is considered reliable.

CH WNOLOGY

9 April 1942 - Taken a prisoner of war at Bataun. Taken to Cabenatuan.
21 May 1942 - Moved to Bacolod with 9 other Americans to drive American

- Moved to Becolog with 9 other Americans to drive American made trucks for the Japanese. Town surrendered without any

May 1942 to - Drove trucks all over

July 1943 - Drove trucks all over the coastal reads in Northern Negros.

Frobably embushed more than a hundred times by guerrilles.

Sometimes two or three Japs killed and a few wounded.

Sept. 1942 - Guerrillas ambushed two trucks and killed about 20 Japs.
Oct. 1942 - Guerrillas, armed only with bolos, burned two trucks and

4 July 1943 - Escaped in truck with 6 other Americans and joined Col.

Mata's unit in the mountains. Was not permitted to go

25 Nov. 1943 - Accompanied Col. Cushing to Cebu

Feb-March 1944 - 11 day Japanese campaign against guerrilles. Reported by eivilians that 500 to 600 Japs were killed. Few casualties among guerrilles.

1 May 1944 - Returned to Megros to deliver papers for Col. Cushing.

Treatment at Cabanatuan There were several hundred American soldiers merched together from Bataan to Cabanatuan. Many were sick and fell by the road side from exhaustion. The Jap soldier kicked them in the ditch and left them to die. At the concentration camp, the Jap guards would hit the prisoners with their hands, beyonets, or guns without any provocation. They were not given enough food and no medicine. Small said that he was treated better them most of the others because he was put to work driving trucks. The prisoners who worked were given the same rations of the Japanese soldiers and were given some medical care.

DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR OB
20 AUG. 75

SECHET

3



Treatment at Bacolod Because the Japs could not seem to be able to drive the big American made trucks, they had Smell and his nine companions drive. At first the treatment was pretty good. After the guerrillas became active, the Japs became crueler in their treatment of the prisoners and the civilians living in the occupied towns. The prisoners were permitted to buy food and cook it in their rooms. At first they were paid 80 centeros a day for working. This was reduced to 10 centavos. This was sugmented by steeling truck parts and having the shine boys smurle them out to sell or trade for food.

Rad Cross Supplies One shipment of Red Cross supplies was brought into Bacolod but everything was kept by the Japanese soldiers. For several months the Japa were smoking American eigerettes and using American toilet articles. Filipino sailors on the Jap boats reported that the same thing occurred in Manila and other places.

Japanese Supplies in Bacolod During the first few months at Bacolod, the Japanese were receiving supplies from the outside. Beer, can goods, cigarettes. toilet articles and other items were received to supplement the supplies which were taken from the people on the Island. This was discontinued about the 1st of 1943 and the Japanese soldiers were dependent entirely upon what was taken from the civilians. Tires and gasoline were becoming scarce. Mostly alcohol is being burned in the cars.

. Lt. Col. NATA: Very hostile to whites. Saparated Smell and his compenions. Refused to pormit thom to go south to talk to Col. Abcode. Regards Col. Mata as a good organizer but a poor soldier. Says that he has three hiding places in the mountains and was the first to run and hide when it was reported that the Japs were coming into the mountains.

CIVIL SOVERMENT: In Negros Occidental the Government is running the Army. It is better respected by the people than the Army, which is regarded as a group of bandits operating as an Army for the purpose of doing legalized looting without giving any protection to the civilians.

Conditions in Cebu The situation existing in Cebu is exactly opposite to that in Negros. There are no cliques or politics. The organization of the army is more along Army lines, which results in better discipline and more dependability on the part of the soldiers. The Officers demand and receive respect from their men. Laxity on thepart of the soldiers who act as guards results in a court martial. Because of this practice, which is well understood by the soldiers, it is solden that the Japanese are able to surprise the guerrilla forces.

Lt. Col. CUSHING: Highly thought of by people and practically worshiped by the soldiers. Receives complete cooperation from the civilians. Personally plens all attacks against the Japanese. The brave for his our good, apparently having no regard for his own welfare.

FOOD: The food situation is really acute in Cebu. The civilians share whatever they have with the soldiers. This usually consists of some corn, dried fish, and boiled bunanas. Most of the food has been donated, though, lately Col. Cushing has been paying for some of it with script money from Negros and counterfeit Japaness money sent to him by GHQ.

MEDICINES; Since there is practically no malaria on the Island of Cebu, it is thought that the different forms of sulfa drugs and other medicines used in treating wounds and infections are needed most. As a whole, health conditions are good.

Frisoners of Mar Snell stated that at the time he was removed from Canbanatuan to Bacolod, 21 May 1942, the following American soldiers were still living and apparently were in fair shape:

Captain Harold W. Keschner James J. O'Keefe Caylord Shores Almas Polk

Harry R. Browning Michael A. Sedlock George G. Sadler





SECRET

Prisoners The Receped From Bacolod & July 1943

Jay Russell Snell Jemos Fred Dyer Joseph R. Jenson Floyd Reynolds Howard Tom Chrisco Robert Lewis Young Trwin V. Joseph

Prisoners Remaining at Besolod

Gevin White Remon Corone

Joseph R. Jenson. Irwin V. Joseph. and Floyd Reynolds are presently in Negroe or Mindanco. Joseph was sent by Col. Cushing from Cebu to Mindanco with the but refused. Joseph was sent by Col. Cushing from Cebu to Mindanco with the Cerman Prisoner. It was thought that a submerine was going to land in Mindanco.

DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR OF

SEARTHUS -