

EVACUEE REPORTS:

TUCKER, TRACY

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REPORT ON NORTH CENTRAL MINDANAO--T/SGT. TRACY TUCKER

1. The following is a report of interview 2 November 1943 by Lt. E. A. Williams with T/Sgt. Tracy Tucker, formerly with 19th Bomb Group, Luzon and 2nd Lt. with Fertig's guerrilla forces in Misamis Oriental--Bukidnon for nine months preceding his evacuation in September 1943.

2. Captain Magruder questioned Sgt. Tucker for possible information on enemy identifications but obtained no useful information.

Q. You had contact with the Japanese on Mindanao?

A. Yes sir. I was in command of a battalion of over 600 Filipinos defending the sector along the road south from Cagayan to Lumbia. I was there for about nine months.

Q. Then you should be able to give us some information about the Japanese in Cagayan.

A. Yes sir. I can probably best put it on a map of the city. There are no Japanese garrisons in the area from the town to the pier but there are several anti-aircraft guns. The pier has been reconstructed and is large enough for four inter-island vessels to dock at the same time. There are several Bodegas in the area south of the pier. These and the Bodegas in town are all full of stores. Every time the Japanese send out a raiding party, some Filipinos are in town stealing from these stores for the guerrillas. (For map of town and other enemy information of Cagayan, see Map No. 2. For locations, trails, etc. mentioned in this report, see Map No. 1).

Q. Is there a Jap garrison at Malaybalay?

A. About 100 who are dug in deep. Jap strength Cagayan to Malaybalay: Maluko 40, Impasugong 40, Kalasungay 7, Malaybalay 100, all isolated garrisons. The airport at Malaybalay is not used.

Q. Where do they get their supplies?

A. Dropped by planes. Malaybalay is where the US POW from Mindanao were kept.

Q. Are there any American POW at Malaybalay now?

A. They were evacuated to Cagayan and from there by boat. I don't know where they went.

Q. Where is the Del Monte Field? Do the Japs have use of it?

A. Del Monte is in guerrilla territory. They keep one plane at Cagayan. Incidentally, the Del Monte field should be East of the road, not as is shown on the map.

Q. Do they bring any more planes in once in a while?

A. Yes, but usually they never hit us. We shot one down near Bubung, Lanao. The Mores got the crew and sold them back to the Japs. Altogether we shot about 7 planes down with rifles. These planes came from the direction of Davao.

Q. Do they use planes very often?

A. Yes, two or three times a month, dive bombing. They strafe us too. We have two fields at Valencia and Maramag. There is a fighter field at Dalirig, which is where we made our last stand (before surrender of Mindanao).

Q. Have you seen any preparations by the Japs for gas?

A. Yes. We sunk a boat load of gas shells coming from Manila.

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- Q. How do you know?
A. One of our men in Cagayan said he saw a boat coming in which he understood was loaded with gas shells. The boat was sunk by gun fire and there was no explosion. I did not see this. The Japs sent men from Davao who told people in Cagayan that gas would be used if peace was not restored. This threat seemed to be aimed particularly at the Moros.
- Q. Have the Japs ever tried to move from Davao to Butuan on the Agusan River?
A. Yes, several times but they never get very far because you have got to have the natives on your side. The guerrilla organization extends the entire length of the river and makes it impossible for the Japs to get through here.
- Q. Have you heard anything about what the Japs in Cagayan know of the war?
A. Yes, they think they hold Alaska, California, Panama Canal and Australia.
- Q. How do you know?
A. They keep a map board posted with pins; one of the Filipinos stole one of these boards one day and brought it to us. There were Jap flags in those places.
- Q. Were there any wounded Japs from SWPA in Cagayan?
A. There were several thousand on Camiguin Id. Everybody knew they were there and knew they came from SWPA, but nobody heard more. The Japanese in Cagayan talked freely to some of the Filipinos. We get lots of information that way.
- Q. Do they ever try to fool you?
A. We don't think so. They aren't very cagey. Now, they are very resentful that no help for them has arrived for them. Every now and then they say something is expected, but it never comes. It used to be the policy to relieve the garrison frequently. The new garrison would attack the guerrillas once and never left Cagayan after the first attack. The present garrison has been there for over 8 months.
- Q. What about the guerrilla organization in your district?
A. I think I can tell you that on a map. (See Map No. 1).
- Q. What about the troops in W. Misamis Oriental?
A. This is the Western area, 109th Div. Their mission is to guard the coastline. They also maintain the defense line at Iponia, 4 km from Cagayan. The bridges are out on the coast road to Initao. (See Map No. 1 for reported location of units of 109th Div).
- Q. How about the coast NW of Cagayan? Any landing beaches?
A. All right. NW of Cagayan is all good beach. It is a very good landing spot, especially at El Salvador. It is sandy beach and is level back for 6 miles. You can land on any part of the beaches but there are reefs at Pangajaway and off the Sulauan point there is break water.
- Q. Any idea of strength for the divisional area (Western Misamis Or. and Bukidnon)?
A. About 7,000, only about one-half armed. There is an independent outfit at Claveria, Mis. Or. (under Maj. Woodruff).
- Q. What about strength in Agusan Valley?
A. There are about 12,000 to 15,000, mostly Army, in Agusan Valley. There is good food there. I'd say there are about 40,000 guerrillas on Mindanao.
- Q. What about the guerrilla organization in the upper Bukidnon Valley?

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- A. This is the district belonging to the 117th Regt. of the 109th Div. with headquarters at Mailag. This is under the control of Major Gabatini. The area used to belong to Pendatun but he was moved to Cotabato with the More Division in that Province.
- Q. What about the Moros in Lanao?
- A. That is all under Col. Hedges. We have a lot of Moros on our side there. They don't help us much but they fight the pro-Jap Moros so the pro-Jap Moros are not much of a bother. These guerrilla Moros are called the MMF (Maranao Military Forces).
- Q. Are the cattle herds being built up?
- A. No, we get meat from only a few chickens and pigs; eat caribao meat once in a while. Herds of cattle can't be built up. There is a nucleus of a herd owned by Dr. Fortich at Lurugan. I think he has around two or three hundred head, which used to be around 12,000. The natives shot the cattle indiscriminately before order was restored. Troops who go into Mindanao can be supplied with coffee and beans in a large quantity. The Del Monte cannery has been blown up by Japanese and guerrillas, mostly by gun fire and our dynamite. We were low on dynamite which was used for demolition.
- Q. Where are the big pineapple fields?
- A. West of Sayre Highway, between the Sayre Highway and the Cagayan-Imbatug road. The Japs don't use it. The fields have been kept up by us. Main trouble is getting new plants. I gave more of this information to Dr. Hayden. Now about Mirayon, it's the highest place on Mindanao. Mirayon is where we get our supply of potatoes, coffee, white beans and onions. Coffee is as good as Brazilian coffee.
- Q. Do they ship these things anywhere?
- A. A little is shipped but we use most of it ourselves. This is the only place where potatoes are grown on Mindanao. This area in here is our last stand. We've made a large store area and some reserve positions there. There is a landing field site at Mirayon. It is an emergency field now. The Japs don't know about it.
- Q. How about ammo supplies?
- A. We fire the Jap bullets in our rifles. We also make our own powder from bat droppings. We found out 11 different caves in Agusan-Surigao border mountains, where the deposits are large. A chemist is working on that now.
- Q. Is the road from Cagayan to Malaybalay open?
- A. Yes, not to the Japs but we don't have all of it.
- Q. What are the conditions along the Sayre Highway and the country it goes through?
- A. Lapanan is the last Jap entrenchment outside of Cagayan on this road. The Japs were kicked out of Bugo cannery. The old bridge at Cagayan is out but the Japs built a new one down stream so that the wreckage of the old bridge would protect the new one from demolition charges floated down stream.
- Q. The road to Malaybalay - do you keep it in good condition?
- A. It is in good condition, gravel surface. There is a gravel pit two kilometers south of Bugo. Camp 12 is Del Monte Camp. That is Major Philip's area. On the side road from Del Monte to Santa Fe and Libona, the bridges are out. The road is good from Cagayan to the Cotabato border including the bridges. It is all gravel. It is the best highway in the Island.
- Q. What about the Sayre Highway from Mailag to Cotabato?
- A. The road is in good condition and winds up and down steep and deep canyons, hair-pinning up and down the sides. It is an easy road to

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close to motor traffic because guns on the hilltop can stop everything. There are 15 trucks and some cars belonging to the guerrillas here but they aren't used very much, only for most essential purposes. It takes 3-1/2 hours hard driving from Mailag to the Cotabato border.

- Q. Are the bridges all out on the Cagayan-Talakag road?
A. No, they are in except at Ugiaban--just south of Mambuaya. The Japs just can't get through. On this side of the river (West) is where we stop. There is swamp east of the Cagayan River to the road and north from Lumbia.
- Q. What kind of country from Cagayan to Talakag?
A. Road thru to Talakag is a crushed coral road, rising to the plateau at Lumbia. From there back to Mambuaya follow the canyon of the Cagayan River. From Ugiaban, the road slopes back up to the mountains in the interior. All rivers are deep canyons and are really rough to cross.
- Q. Is country grass or jungle?
A. It is mostly grass covered hills south of Cagayan but you can't go anywhere except on trails. There are many swamps and jungle patches. The Japs don't get through. Country is covered with cogon grass, head high. Tracks are cut through it. You don't go anywhere off the track. There is a road going from Cagayan to Imbatug through Indahag.
- Q. Does the road go on to Imbatug?
A. All the way.
- Q. Passable for motor transport?
A. It can be
- Q. Is surface gravel or mud?
A. Hard coral but you'd have to clear the grass from the surface. Right now it's mostly cleared for a trail. Another road branches from Cabula and goes to Imbatug.
- Q. Is there a bridge over the Cagayan River here? (Cabula).
A. No, the only way across is to swim. That's where one defense line is. From Mambuaya to Lumbia is all blocked. The road has been blasted and barricaded with trees and sections blocked out. The present headquarters is at a place called Tignapalaon, that is the 1st Bn., 109 Div. There is an airfield position that the Japs have not discovered. It is all pretty rough country. There is wooded mountains West of the Cagayan River. I haven't been in these very much - no one has. The coastal hills are pretty well known, however.
- Q. Is the river usable for anything?
A. No, it is not navigable. There is a road from Talakag to Cosina.
- Q. What kind of road is it?
A. It is a dirt road, kept up by the guerrillas and used by trucks and Wagons.
- Q. Any more roads in this district suitable for MT that are not shown?
A. No more roads. There is a road over here (Sayre Highway) from Alanib to Lanibo. It is a first class road. From Talakag to Alanib there is a trail of about 134 km, 64 km from Alanib to Mirayon, 70 km from Mirayon to Talakag.
- Q. Did you carry any pack when you traveled this route?
A. Yes, a blanket, ammunitions, and a gun, etc. You can figure on two days travel--one from Talakag to Mirayon and a day beyond to Alanib. Horses can go over it in the dry season but in the wet season only caribao can go over it.

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Q. Is the track located so it can be drained?

A. No, it goes through deep jungle.

Q. Can the road be widened for MT? What kind of country does it pass through?

A. I think so. It has been cleared for cars now. Plenty of manpower is available. It is a steep climb along the canyon of the Cagayan River from Cocina to Mirayon. From Mirayon to Alanib you go down into a thick jungle and it is all mud. From Alanib to Kataon, it is practically the same.

Q. Have you been in this country here? (Bukidnon-Agusan border)

A. On the Bukidnon-Agusan border, it is all high mountains and jungles and can't be used for anything. There is a trail from Mailag to Davao. This is the trail that the Filipino civilians took when evacuating from Davao and it is the one I took also. The Japanese have never been over this trail, but they know it is there. The people friendly to the Japs at Davao know about it, too. From Lumbuyao to Davao is ten days walking. It is very rough. I was as far as Malagos near Davao on this trail with a patrol when we thought the Japs might come up from Davao. Trail not much used because of roughness. Another trail went to Bungalum. We met a Jap patrol at Malagos. That's as far as the Japs have been.

There are two trails from the Sayre Highway to the Agusan Valley. One trail goes to Nannam to Sto. Tomas. It follows the river canyons part of the way. I have been over it. Sto. Tomas is where we first got our supply of salt. It is a fourteen day trip. The other trail goes west from Novale and to the north of Mt. Bahaoan into the Pulangi River Valley and then to Nannam. I haven't been on that one.

Q. What about the walking time from Mailag, Bukidnon to Sto. Tomas, Agusan?

A. Mailag to Lumbuyao - 3 hours. Lumbuyao is a deserted Manobo village. From Lumbuyao to Nannam - 1 1/2 days (72 km), from Nannam to Sto. Tomas 10 days, or 14 days with carriers and pack. I have been over that route. It is all through very rough country and dense jungle. The track is not much used because it passed through the Ata (Itta) Negrito head hunters territory. White men can get through with Manobo carriers and a knowledge of local language. The track follows rivers where possible, passing through several narrow canyons. At Sto. Tomas the guerrillas used to get their salt supply. There were salt springs there--much sun and little rain. The Manobos are Malayan; the Bukidnon tribe lives near Mirayon. These tribes sometimes fight among themselves and seldom leave their own territories. There is a guerrilla organization in most of these tribes helping the 10th MD guerrilla organization. There are plenty of carriers. To get them, a white man merely has to see the head man of the tribe the day before the carriers are needed. At dawn the next day, carriers are ready; no pay is required. There is usually little food along most of these trails. On the Nannam-Sto. Tomas trail it is possible to get samotes. The natives there eat nothing else. In the Agusan swamp especially around Sto. Tomas, rice is grown. They used to produce a good deal which was floated down the Agusan river to Butuan and shipped to other parts of the islands. I don't think they are producing as much as they used to.

Q. What about transportation on the Agusan River?

A. The river is wide and deep with slow current at least from St. Tomas onwards. Mostly the natives use barotos, a very light boat woven of reeds. One man can carry a baroto for 12 men. They frequently use the 50 foot bancas with out-riggers with 12 or 15 men rowing. These carry 50 to 100 sacks of palay. There are 8 motor launches in the 110 Div., 3 in the 109th. They don't use these as much as barotos and said boats because of fuel shortage.

Q. How are the guerrillas for sail cloth?

A. They still have a little but they make new cloth out of abaca. If they are careful and weave the fibers closely, it makes a very good sail.

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- Q. Is there any gasoline storage that you know of?
A. I think enough could be gathered for a return trip of one plane. There was some with Gen. Sharp's headquarters. This has not all been used. There was also a secret buried storage of gasoline in the hills East of Del Monte airfield. I believe that is still there. Dr. Fortich (Lurugan, Bukid) was allowed to keep his supply because he used to supply the Japs in Malaybalay with beef. This fuel is used for only the most essential motor transport in upper Bukidnon Valley.
- Q. What about pests, insects and diseases in the jungle?
A. There are plenty of mosquitoes, leeches; there are no lice and almost no VD. One infected girl came from Cagayan and was isolated immediately. Only one case is known among the guerrillas and this was apparently an outbreak of a previous infection. Fertig sent him out with us.
- Q. What about malaria?
A. We do need atabrine because that is the only thing that relieves attacks of cerebral malaria. They have malaria pretty well under control now. The mosquitoes are in certain districts and do not move about very much. What Fertig has done is to evacuate all personnel from malarial areas. This has reduced the cases very much. Another thing, they could use some medical personnel. There is a lot of cases that need assistance. Sometimes it is hard to get people to go to a doctor. They seem to prefer their native "quack" remedies. At Kataon, Bukidnon, is where we get our quinine. There is a cinchona plantation there. There is about 50,000 pounds of powder there. About one-third pound of bark will furnish enough quinine for about ten or fifteen ten-grain tablets. They are working all the time there.
- Q. Do they keep the plantation cleared out?
A. Yes. They have taken bark off the trees for about three or four years.
- Q. How much machinery there?
A. Not a great deal of machinery up there. All they are doing is get the bark from the trees, powder it, then sack it and send it to the hospitals.
- Q. Then the hospitals do the extracting?
A. Yes.
- Q. Are they building up reserves of powder in case of emergency?
A. Yes, each hospital has a reserve supply. We had a reserve of about ten sacks. One sack will last about a month.
- Q. What would happen if American Filipinos were sent into Mindanao?
A. I don't think it would be a good idea; there would probably be trouble because the new Filipino would begin bragging and there would be internal rivalry. The Mindanao guerrillas have not had much and would resent the probable attitude of new arrivals. There is quite a difference between the high class Filipino and the lower class as seen on Mindanao and the two don't mix.
- Q. Supposing we were to replace any of the key officers now there.
A. None could be replaced permanently but all would appreciate a little leave. It takes a lot of patience and knowledge of the Filipino and Oriental customs to get along with these people and it might take a new man six months or more to begin to fit in. The Americans there know too much to be replaced. It is funny, the Filipino seems to look up to an American and the responsibility of an American under such conditions, is heavy. The Filipino is very loyal to the American officers in the organization. This is probably due to Fertig's wise handling of the organization and dealings with the civilians. It is very likely that without him, American prestige would be lost in the Philippines. Incidentally, no one wants to leave there.
- Q. You'd like to go back?
A. Yes.

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- Q. What sort of equipment do you need now?
A. We need mostly ammunition, .30, .45 and .50 cal.; .50 cal MGs, mortars and ammo.
- Q. What are the particular medical needs?
A. We need plenty of sulfathiazole, sulfanil amide, aspirin, anti-gas gangrene (we have lost a lot from bullet wounds for lack of this); sulphaguanadine for dysentery and zinc oxides; bandages, cotton gauze, adhesive plaster, iodine and atabrine.

Information from Sgt. Tucker on American personnel on Mindanao not previously reported (additional information on previously reported personnel noted on Who's Who cards)

McVICKERS, Waldo, 1st Lt., American mestizo with 103rd Inf at Talakag.

MERCHANT, Leonard L., S/Sgt., formerly with 19th Bomb Group. One of the finest automotive mechanics in the organization; very sick; now located at Mirayon Bukid. Still a S/Sgt with 19th Bomb Group.

TAYLOR, Fred, Cpl. - was and still is a Cpl with 19th Bomb Group. Is at Tuburan, Zamboanga; radio man.

WOOD, John M. - was and still is a T/Sgt.; formerly Medical Corps; now at Tuburan with radio set.

LONG, was Pvt. OMC; now 1st Lieut., Regtl CO near Surigao; is a very capable officer.

MANNERS, Clayton A., Cpl. 19th Bomb Group; still Cpl; at Tuburan with radio set.

DEFRON, Lincoln - was and still is a Sgt; with 19th Bomb Group at Lala, Lanao; with WAM.

BUJANCUSKI, Anthony - was and still is Sgt. from 19th Bomb Group; now Sumilao, Bukidnon; a motor mechanic.

BROWNING - was Pvt. AC; now 2nd Lt. Signal Officer; at Talakag, Bukidnon.

DOUGLAS - no additional information, but alive Sept. 1943.

HOWARD - was and still is a Cpl with 19th Bomb Group; now at Malayhalay.

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TUCKER, Tracy Sgt. 19018176

STATEMENT TO DR. J. R. HAYDEN. 2 NOVEMBER 1943.

Sgt. TUCKER was a link trainer operator in the 19th Bombardment Group. He left Bataan on 26 February 1942 and arrived in Mindanao 1 March. He was in the guerilla army from its beginning, traveled extensively in Misamis Oriental, Agusan, Bukidnon and Lanao, not only in the coastal regions, but also through the interior. He was evacuated at the end of September, 1943. He stated that during a considerable period of his guerilla service he commanded the 1st. Battalion, 111th Regiment, with headquarters at Talakan.

Sgt. TUCKER had excellent sources of information concerning the questions asked him. His credibility, however, cannot be given a high rating. Upon his evacuation, Col. FERTIG made the following notation concerning him: "outright fabricator and menace to security." In questioning him I found that he occasionally made positive statements concerning matters of which he could have had no first hand knowledge. His statements should be evaluated accordingly. On the other hand, TUCKER is obviously intelligent, he held an important command, learned to speak Visayan, and apparently was well acquainted with the Filipinos in his area and on excellent terms with them.

FOOD

When TUCKER left the Talakan area there was food enough, in storage and in the fields, to support the population, including the guerrillas, for 9 months. Corn, camotes, chickens, pigs, potatoes, onions and other vegetables, fruits, coffee, and salt were available. The Del Monte Plantation was kept going. Pineapples were planted according to schedule so the stand would not be ruined, - under the direction of the plantation foreman who served under Major PHILIPPS before the war. A part of the plantation fields were also put under corn.

There are many "ghost barrios" from which the people have fled. New barrios in the hills where they are now living are named after the old ones. Many of the old fields are under cultivation, often under compulsion, the people going to work them by day and returning to their shaks in the woods at night. Also a great deal of new land has been opened up. Northern Mindanao will develop rapidly after the war. The new fields are very fertile.

If the Japanese came in force and occupied the coastal areas the main shortages would be in sugar and salt. The plan is to split the guerilla forces up and center each group in an area where food is cached and grown. At Marayan on the trail to Malaybalay many people are working on crops, - probably the highest barrio in Mindanao. Grow corn, onions, potatoes. When a job of cultivation or planting is to be done, the Filipinos of a whole neighborhood do the work in a day or so and enjoy it. (a regular Filipino custom)

Cattle, as a food supply, are practically nil. What cattle there are left have not been looked after and are wild.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Roads open. Worked on by civilians under direction of district engineer in many cases. New roads and trails opened up. Often two trails, one for carabao trains and one for foot traffic. Carabao traffic makes troughs and holes which make a trail dangerous to follow at night. Carabao trains of 50 - 60 animals carry goods from station to station, finally to the lowlands. Take down corn and other foodstuffs, bring back sugar and salt. Transportation by civilian volunteers.

A telephone system connecting all units of the Division. Barbed wire unwound and the barbs removed; new phones; excellent service. Maintenance trails are maintained and crews are under direction of regular barrio Lieutenants.

CLOTHING

Situation bad. Abaca cloth uncomfortable, but much in use. Everyone barefoot. TUCKER's feet so tough that he could walk barefoot on a coral road. "People don't seem to mind so much." Mosquito nets of abaca cloth. All soldiers have them. Made by civilian women.

MONEY

Operated without it for a long time. Old currency preferred to new, ratio of 12 to 20, more or less. Prices high. Control, however, as in exchange between guerilla country in the hills and the coast. The traders who come up from the coast are sold corn and other foodstuffs at reasonable prices. When they sell they are only allowed a fair profit.

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MOROS

Many Americans were killed and some Filipino towns raided in the early period. FERTIG now has them pretty well in hand. Many of them armed with soldiers' rifles, however, some soldiers bartered guns for food. They were forced to do so. In this area, the guerillas maintained a line against the Moros just as against the Japs. The people are more afraid of the former than of the latter. They will go into the fields to work, within the line.

HEALTH

Malaria. About 75% of the Americans have it. Has been treated with extract of cinchona bark. Boil down bark, dry, and powder. A spoonful is reckoned as 20 grains. Dissolve and drink 3 glasses per day for 20 days. They have not lost a man for months in his district. The treatment lasts about 3 months, then they come down again, especially if exhausted from lack of sleep, malnutrition, fighting etc.

Dysentery, Very little.

Ulcers. Lots of them. Sulfathyzol fixes them.

Colds. Infrequent.

Everyone noticeably under normal weight.

No epidemics.

Over a period of time the reduction in health and strength, malaria and other diseases, malnutrition and physical fatigue will have a serious effect upon the guerilla movement.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Provincial and municipal governments are operating in cooperation with the military forces. In general, the military keep clear of civil affairs that do not affect them, except where force is requested by the civil officials. In areas which were occupied by the Japs some officials continued in office under them, others fled or refused to continue. Those who cooperated were thrown out when the Japs left. Governor ARTADI, for example. At first he cooperated then tried to "come out". Would not have him. Provincial officials often furnished military escorts.

Sanitary inspectors are still functioning, but have few supplies except what the Army gives them. The Japanese put out a call for them. A few went in, but most of them hid.



In some districts the people have evacuated to the hills many times. When the Japs leave, they return and laugh about it.

The courts are operating, but apparently most of the police work is done by the Army, under the direction of the provost marshal. Civilian offenders are turned over to him and in conference with the fiscal and other judicial officials it is decided what shall be done with them. Many cases are tried in the ordinary civil courts and fines and penalties are levied. In cases of serious crime the evidence is compiled, deposited with the fiscal and after this the accused is placed in the detention camp for the duration.

PROPAGANDA

Radio. Could hear radio at any time. Had two sets himself. KGEI is the best station and is the only one listened to regularly. The radios are in Army hands.

Five o'clock is the great radio hour.

Believes 6 to 7 would secure the most listeners for a new program.

Usually only news is listened to, but occasionally half an hour of music is given the Filipino listeners. This to save batteries. However, the guerillas have charging facilities and would listen longer if the programs were good enough.

In his area, at various points, a daily paper is published in typewritten form. The news is taken down in English, translated into Visayan and posted all over in both languages. The papers are posted and handed out at 9 a.m. Sometimes hundreds are waiting. The news is read out to those who cannot read or do not have copies of the paper.

It is not necessary to give part of the program in Visayan. Most of the people listening understand some English. They pass the news on to their followers.

The Filipino listeners are most keenly interested in news about the Philippines, the Southwest Pacific, and this part of the world in general. Like to hear American appreciation of "fighting Filipinos". Music should be of a Filipino character. Filipino songs with stringed accompaniment; or Spanish music. The Filipinos sing and play a great deal themselves and do not care for American jazz or swing. Dictation programs "fine".



Non-radio propaganda. Japanese propaganda is mostly by leaflets distributed by patrols or dropped by planes. The leaflets show pictures of youth in Manila drilling, school children at athletic exercises, and other pictures showing good conditions in the occupied areas. The Japs say, "Luzon is cooperating, why not you?"

Manila "Tribune" and "Davao Times" are received in the area.

What the Filipinos appreciate most is evidence that the Americans are coming back. An American cigarette is shown all over the place because it must have come from "outside".

MISCELLANEOUS

President QUEZON. In the beginning the feeling against him was "pretty bitter." The Filipinos felt that he had deserted them. The situation, however, was explained by the Americans. He went back to cooperate with the American President in taking the Islands Back from the Japanese. The feeling is now very much better.

ROXAS is the national hero. Word has been passed around that he told the Japs that he would rather be a prisoner than President of the Philippines under them.

The puppets are hated. This is also true in Luzon. People go back and forth and the word comes down to Mindanao.

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STATEMENT TO DR. J. R. HAYDEN. 2 NOVEMBER 1943.

Sgt. TUCKER was a link trainer operator in the 19th Bombardment Group. He left Bataan on 26 February 1942 and arrived in Mindanao 1 March. He was in the guerrilla army from its beginning, traveled extensively in Misamis Oriental, Agusan, Bukidnon and Lanao, not only in the coastal regions, but also through the interior. He was evacuated at the end of September, 1943. He stated that during a considerable period of his guerrilla service he commanded the 1st. Battalion, 111th Regiment, with headquarters at Talakan.

Sgt. TUCKER had excellent sources of information concerning the questions asked him. His credibility, however, cannot be given a high rating. Upon his evacuation, Col. FERTIG made the following notation concerning him: "outright fabricator and menace to security." In questioning him I found that he occasionally made positive statements concerning matters of which he could have had no first hand knowledge. His statements should be evaluated accordingly. On the other hand, TUCKER is obviously intelligent, he held an important command, learned to speak Visayan, and apparently was well acquainted with the Filipinos in his area and on excellent terms with them.

FOOD

When TUCKER left the Talakan area there was food enough, in storage and in the fields, to support the population, including the guerrillas, for 9 months. Corn, coconuts, chickens, pigs, potatoes, onions and other vegetables, fruits, coffee, and salt were available. The Del Monte Plantation was kept going. Pineapples were planted according to schedule so the stand would not be ruined, - under the direction of the plantation foreman who served under Major PHILIPPS before the war. A part of the plantation fields were also put under corn.

There are many "ghost barriers" from which the people have fled. New barriers in the hills where they are now living are named after the old ones. Many of the old fields are under cultivation, often under compulsion, the people going to work them by day and returning to their shacks in the woods at night. Also a great deal of new land has been opened up. Northern Mindanao will develop rapidly after the war. The new fields are very fertile.

If the Japanese came in force and occupied the coastal areas the main shortages would be in sugar and salt. The plan is to split the guerilla forces up and center each group in an area where food is cashed and grown. At Marayan on the trail to Malaybalay many people are working on crops, - probably the highest barrier in Mindanao. Grow corn, onions, potatoes. When a job of cultivation or planting is to be done, the Filipinos of a whole neighborhood do the work in a day or so and enjoy it. (a regular Filipino custom)

Cattle, as a food supply, are practically nil. What cattle there are left have not been looked after and are wild.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Roads open. Worked on by civilians under direction of district engineer in many cases. New roads and trails opened up. Often two trails, one for carabao trains and one for foot traffic. Carabao traffic makes troughs and holes which make a trail dangerous to follow at night. Carabao trains of 50 - 60 animals carry goods from station to station, finally to the lowlands. Take down corn and other foodstuffs, bring back sugar and salt. Transportation by civilian volunteers.

A telephone system connecting all units of the Division. Barbed wire unwound and the barbs removed; new phones; excellent service. Maintenance trails are maintained and crews are under direction of regular barrier Lieutenants.

CLOTHING

Situation bad. Abaca cloth uncomfortable, but much in use. Everyone barefoot. TUCKER's feet so tough that he could walk barefoot on a coral road. "People don't seem to mind so much." Mosquito nets of abaca cloth. All soldiers have them. Made by civilian women.

MONEY

Operated without it for a long time. Old currency preferred to new, ratio of 12 to 20, more or less. Prices high. Control, however, as in exchange between guerilla country in the hills and the coast. The traders who come up from the coast are sold corn and other foodstuffs at reasonable prices. When they sell they are only allowed a fair profit.



MOROS

Many Americans were killed and some Filipino towns raided in the early period. FERTIG now has them pretty well in hand. Many of them armed with officers' rifles, however, some soldiers bartered guns for food. They were forced to do so. In this area, the guerillas maintained a line against the Moros just as against the Japs. The people are more afraid of the former than of the latter. They will go into the fields to work, within the line.

HEALTH

Malaria. About 75% of the Americans have it. Has been treated with extract of cinchona bark. Boil down bark, dry, and powder. A spoonful is reckoned as 20 grains. Dissolve and drink 3 glasses per day for 20 days. They have not lost a man for months in his district. The treatment lasts about 3 months, then they come down again, especially if exhausted from lack of sleep, malnutrition, fighting etc.

Dysentery. Very little.

Ulcers. Lots of them. Sulfathoxol fixes them.

Colds. Infrequent.

Everyone noticeably under normal weight.

No epidemics.

Over a period of time the reduction in health and strength, malaria and other diseases, malnutrition and physical fatigue will have a serious effect upon the guerilla movement.

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Provincial and municipal governments are operating in cooperation with the military forces. In general, the military keep clear of civil affairs that do not affect them, except where force is requested by the civil officials. In areas which were occupied by the Japs some officials continued in office under them, others fled or refused to continue. Those who cooperated were thrown out when the Japs left. Governor ARTADI, for example. At first he cooperated then tried to "come out". Would not have him. Provincial officials often furnished military escorts.

Sanitary inspectors are still functioning, but have few supplies except what the Army gives them. The Japanese put out a call for them. A few went in, but most of them hid.



In some districts the people have evacuated to the hills many times. When the Japs leave, they return and laugh about it.

The courts are operating, but apparently most of the police work is done by the Army, under the direction of the provost marshal. Civilian offenders are turned over to him and in conference with the fiscal and other judicial officials it is decided what shall be done with them. Many cases are tried in the ordinary civil courts and fines and penalties are levied. In cases of serious crime the evidence is compiled, deposited with the fiscal and after this the accused is placed in the detention camp for the duration.

PROPAGANDA

Radio. Could hear radio at any time. Had two sets himself. KGFI is the best station and is the only one listened to regularly. The radios are in Army hands.

Five o'clock is the great radio hour.

Believes 6 to 7 would secure the most listeners for a new program.

Usually only news is listened to, but occasionally half an hour of music is given the Filipino listeners. This to save batteries. However, the guerillas have charging facilities and would listen longer if the programs were good enough.

In his area, at various points, a daily paper is published in typewritten form. The news is taken down in English, translated into Visayan and posted all over in both languages. The papers are posted and handed out at 9 a.m. Sometimes hundreds are waiting. The news is read out to those who cannot read or do not have copies of the paper.

It is not necessary to give part of the program in Visayan. Most of the people listening understand some English. They pass the news on to their followers.

The Filipino listeners are most keenly interested in news about the Philippines, the Southwest Pacific, and this part of the world in general. Like to hear American appreciation of "fighting Filipinos". Music should be of a Filipino character. Filipino songs with stringed accompaniment; or Spanish music. The Filipinos sing and play a great deal themselves and do not care for American jazz or swing. Dictation programs "fine".



Non-radio propaganda. Japanese propoganda is mostly by leaflets distributed by patrols or dropped by planes. The leaflets show pictures of youth in Manila drilling, school children at athletic exercises, and other pictures showing good conditions in the occupied areas. The Japs say, "Luzon is cooperating, why not you?"

Manila "Tribune" and "Davao Times" are received in the area.

What the Filipinos appreciate most is evidence that the Americans are coming back. An American cigarette is shown all over the place because it must have come from "outside".

MISCELLANEOUS

President QUEZON. In the beginning the feeling against him was "pretty bitter." The Filipinos felt that he had deserted them. The situation, however, was explained by the Americans. He went back to cooperate with the American President in taking the Islands back from the Japanese. The feeling is now very much better.

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