

EVACUEE REPORTS:

TUNHU,

ANTONIO LIM

~~SECRET~~

17 January 1945

SUMMARY: Interview with Antonio Lin Tanhu, Chinese merchant, of Vallehermoso, Negros Oriental.

1. Subject came to Tagloban, Leyte, from Bantayan Island, northwest of Cebu Island, on 16 January 1945, to call on President Sergio Osmeña and other members of the Philippine Commonwealth Government. (President Osmeña had departed for the United States shortly before subject's arrival in Tagloban.) He planned to return to Cebu after a week's stay in Tagloban. Subject came to Leyte by native sailboat, accompanied by two other Chinese, namely, H. C. Saw of Cebu City, Cebu, and Dr. Edward K. Lin, self-styled leader of the Chinese population in Free Philippines (unoccupied areas). Information about Lin and Saw is contained in separate reports.

2. Subject had close associations with the guerrillas in Negros Oriental to whom he claims to have made ~~monetary~~ contributions. He was acquainted with Cusiung Guillan, leader of the guerrillas in the Vallehermoso area, who was killed; and Lt. Col. Ernesto S. Mata, CO of the 72nd Division. According to subject, Guillan was murdered by one of his three common-law wives, the motive of the crime being jealousy. Following Guillan's death, Mata took command of the guerrillas in the Vallehermoso sector.

3. Subject was born in China and came to the Philippines when he was nine years old. He has lived on Negros Island for about 15 years and, as a merchant, has travelled extensively throughout the Visayan Islands, before and after the Japanese occupation. He is a member of the Chinese Association in Cebu. Subject is married to a Filipino. His wife and child are on Bantayan Island, which is used as an evacuation point for civilians from enemy-occupied territory in the Visayan Islands.

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