

G-2 INFORMATION
BULLETIN-

GUERRILLA RESISTANCE
MOVEMENT ON NEGROS,

18 DECEMBER 1944

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G-2 INFORMATION BULLETIN

THE GUERRILLA RESISTANCE MOVEMENT ON NEGROS

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ACCOMPANYING INCLOSURE

MAP: Negros Guerrilla Organization

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THE GUERRILLA RESISTANCE MOVEMENT ON NEGROS
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I. GENERAL BACKGROUND :

The growth of the guerrilla organization on Negros is the story of the birth of small units, struggle for island command and the final emergence of Lt. Col. Salvador ABCEDE as the accepted and recognized commander. The struggle over the island command was bitter and prolonged. It was not settled completely until late 1943 but since the quarrels have been almost forgotten.

The terrain of Negros has not lent itself well to maintaining a coherent organization. The island is a fertile horseshoe plain around a rough interior and south coast of mountains. The Japanese occupied this plain and the guerrillas were driven to the interior into three separate areas, north, central (east and west coasts) and the south. Supplies were poor and communications between areas were disrupted almost entirely by mountains and absence of radios. Thus limited and immobilized, the guerrillas suffered proportionately more from Japanese terror raids and destructive attacks than they did on Panay, Mindanao, Samar or even Luzon.

Recognition of the organization under Lt. Col. ABCEDE and the shipment of supplies and radios has enabled a fairly well knit organization to be built up in spite of those difficulties.

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II. HISTORY OF GUERRILLA UNITS:

ABCEDE: This guerrilla unit was organized in the central and southern Negros Occidental area in July 1942 under command of Lt. Col. (then Capt) Salvador ABCEDE, O-1520, PA. ABCEDE had been a battalion commander in the area under Col. HILSMAN at time of surrender and this battalion formed the nucleus of the guerrilla unit centered in the vicinity of Kabankalan. Major (then Capt) Enrique TORRES, one of the best fighting commanders on Negros, organized another unit in the vicinity of Binalbagan under ABCEDE. Much USAFFE equipment was saved and the unit, with 600 rifles, was the best armed of the original guerrilla groups, and the largest. Many of the officers and men came from the plantations in the vicinity and the unit never wanted supplies. When the guerrillas were forced back into the hills, many of those families evacuated with them but maintained contact with supply sources in the lowlands. The first engagement of the unit with the Japanese took place at Buenavista in early August 1942.

ABCEDE was a classmate of Col. PERALTA, guerrilla commander on Panay, and the two were friends. When PERALTA commanded organization of his IVth Philippine Corps in November 1942, ABCEDE joined and was appointed commander of Negros and promoted to Lt. Col. by PERALTA. ABCEDE's force then totalled 7,000 men. ABCEDE tried to extend PERALTA's influence and may have enlisted the support of Lt. Col. MATA in northern Negros. ABCEDE also attempted to contact AUSEJO in southern Negros for the same purpose. AUSEJO had already joined FERTIG on Mindanao, and negotiations were further discouraged by the difficult overland communications between Oriental and Occidental Negros. ABCEDE's association with the IVth Philippine Corps ended with the dissolution of the Corps in January 1943 and PERALTA then began to back ABCEDE as 7th MD commander. Differences later developed between the two and PERALTA is believed to have transferred his support to MATA.

In the meantime, Japanese pressure increased in the Kabankalan-Binalbagan area and ABCEDE and his men moved further south into the hills and finally to the south coast. Maj. VILLAMOR arrived in that area in January 1943 from SWPA and ABCEDE became one of his chief supporters, throwing his entire organization to the disposal of Maj. VILLAMOR for the accomplishment of his mission.

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ABCEDE is about 31 years old, born in Zambales; father a machinist in the Olongapo naval yards, and ABCEDE came early under American influence. He graduated from the University of the Philippines in 1936 and held a reserve commission; was commissioned in the PA in 1939, and was ROTC commandant at Silliman University for two years before war broke out. ABCEDE is young, well trained and competent. He organized his force early after surrender and has always led his men into the attack. He is aggressive and often given to snap judgments but is never afraid to admit mistakes. He is hearty and frank and well liked throughout Negros since his appointment to District Commander in 1943. His travels about the island have been extensive, and have enabled him to keep close touch with the guerrillas. He has kept himself free from politics. His men respect him, and being a strong disciplinarian he deals directly and decisively with trouble when it arises. He was appointed Acting Commander 7th MD in July 1943 and the appointment confirmed in March 1944; promoted to Lt. Col. in October 1944.

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MATA: The guerrillas in northern Negros were organized in mid 1942 by Lt. Col. (then Capt) Ernesto S. MATA, C-1550, PA. MATA is about 29 years old, graduated PMA 1937 and was Battalion Commander in northern Negros under Col. HILSMAN at the time of surrender. He reorganized the Battalion after surrender and this formed the base of his unit. Next to ABCEDE this was the best armed force in Negros. He is believed to be a good officer, is young, brave and believed to be well liked. He is reported to be a good organizer, but has been hampered by want of competent junior officers and the efficiency of the organization was never excellent as a result. MATA has been always aware of this and has constantly changed and tried new officers to improve his organization.

In the early history of the Negros guerrillas, MATA was associated with PERALTA on Panay, in connection with the IVth Philippine Corps, and probably also with Lt. Col. ABCEDE in southern Negros Occidental. MATA seems to have been very difficult to become acquainted with and kept information on his organization fairly close. This and tenuous communications with southern Negros where SWPA contact was maintained has tended to isolate the organization and little has been known of its activities except that it did inflict much damage on Japanese installations in the Bacolod area and near Fabrica and was a large factor in the failure of Japanese plans to grow food and cotton in northern Negros. Maj. Uldarico BACLAGON and Maj. Luis BAYLON were prominent early leaders in MATA's guerrilla force.

MATA kept aloof from the southern Negros command disputes and it appears he did not immediately join ABCEDE's command of the 7th MD in 1943. Some misunderstandings over decorations given ABCEDE and not including MATA are reported to have been partially responsible for this. It is also believed PERALTA backed MATA as Commander 7th MD before ABCEDE was appointed and MATA probably himself had aspirations in this connection. MATA was finally persuaded to join the 7th MD Command and was appointed Commander of the 72nd Division, which originally comprised all Negros guerrillas under the 7th MD Command. Later the 73rd Provisional Division was organized in Negros Oriental and MATA was made Chief of Staff in the District Headquarters and has been continuing duties as CO 72nd Division until a replacement is found.

MERCADO: Maj. Hernanegildo MERCADO commanded guerrilla activities in the area Guihulngan and northwards in Negros Oriental in May or June 1942 and was thus one of the first guerrilla leaders on Negros. He joined forces with GADOR's command about September 1942 but withdrew with his men the next month over some unknown dispute and thereafter was at odds with GADOR. MERCADO remained independent of other Negros commands until late 1943, though he is believed to have had some association with guerrillas in northern Negros Occidental. He is reported to have remained aloof from the 7th MD Command hoping for a better position than was offered him. In September-October 1943, MERCADO joined the 7th MD Command and is now CO of the 72nd FA Regt (East Negros sector), 72nd Division.

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MERCADO is about 30 years old, was classmate of Col. PERALTA (Panay) in the Infantry School and was for a time instructor in the PA Military Academy.

PURING: This is a lawless band in the hills to the west of Vallehermoso, Negros Oriental, and San Carlos, Negros Occidental. There seems to have been two brothers leading the unit, one a former Pfc in the Philippine Army who was known as PURING (Casiong GEMILLAN?) and the other an illiterate ex-convict by the name of Margarito GEMILLAN. PURING is reported to have been killed by ABCEDE's men. Margarito GEMILLAN has been reported since by several sources as the present commander of the unit. Other persons attached to this unit are Torribio TRASMONTE, attorney, now surrendered and puppet mayor of Guihulngan; Capt. W. W. WILSON, former US Army Sgt, was second in command, now evacuated to the USA; LISONDRA, identity unknown; and Mr. Manuel P. TRINIDAD, pre-war attorney, surrendered to the Japanese in January 1944.

The size of the unit is unknown but there were approximately 50 weapons in their possession, captured from a USAFFE truck before surrender. They have attacked the Japanese and have also interfered with nearby guerrilla activity and molested civilians in the vicinity. This is at present the only guerrilla unit which has not joined the 7th MD Command but they are believed to be short of ammunition and supplies and the 7th MD Command is ignoring them as long as no trouble is made by them. The PURING guerrillas may at one time have had some connections with GADOR's men in central Negros Oriental.

GADOR: This guerrilla organization controlled the area between Concepcion and Libertad, Negros Oriental, and was under Lt. Col. Gabriel GADOR, C-1050, PA. GADOR was Assistant Inspector General of the PA just prior to the war; was District Commander 7th MD (Negros and Siquijor) when war broke out; is now 50 years old.

It appears that General SHARP, USAFFE Commander at Dansalan, Lanac, removed GADOR from Command 7th MD because of difficulties with his junior officers, but retained him on his staff in Mindanao. GADOR claimed later that General SHARP gave him written orders to return to the Visayas to organize guerrilla operations there. He returned to Negros in June 1942 but stayed in the Negros hills until other guerrilla organizations began to grow up in August-September 1942. GADOR then set himself up in central Negros Oriental; Capt MERCADO in northern Negros offered GADOR command of his unit about this time. GADOR gladly accepted and shortly his organization became well established. By virtue of his location GADOR was able to and did obstruct and interfere with surrounding organizations seriously. He took advantage of disagreements in these organizations by offering attractive appointments in his organization, and by assigning his men to commands in these neighboring areas. The original commands were thus forced into open conflict with GADOR's men in order to maintain their integrity.

The internal discipline and organization in the area seems to have been fairly good. There were training schools, which taught mostly marksmanship. Defences and communications were organized and the people in the area appeared to be loyal to GADOR's civil government. There is record of little actual engagement with the enemy; rather, most armed activity seems to have been directed against neighboring guerrilla units over selfish and petty matters to further GADOR's ambitions. The strength of the unit may have been as high as 2,000 but they were poorly armed.

PELL in southern Negros offered GADOR command of Negros in 1942 but GADOR refused. Like PELL, Lt. Col. ABCEDE, then commanding in Negros Occidental, asked GADOR to take command of Negros. GADOR refused in both instances on the grounds that he did not want to be responsible for previous incidents among guerrillas. He stated he would take command only on the orders of the War Department or SWPA. Then when Lt. Col. ABCEDE attempted to unite



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the Negros guerrillas in November-December 1942 under PERALTA's IVth Philippine Corps, GADOR issued a memorandum (11 December 1942) assuming command of Negros, predicated on the supposed orders of General SHARP. His purposes were not clear on this matter, and his duplicity at once antagonized other guerrilla leaders.

A letter was then received by GADOR from Lt. Col. W. W. FERTIG, on Mindanao, in January 1943, in which FERTIG announced himself as commander of Mindanao and Visayan guerrillas and asked GADOR to come to Mindanao to discuss his part in this organization. GADOR, since he was senior to FERTIG, immediately appointed himself commander of the Philippines, with rank of Major General. GADOR informed FERTIG and all Negros guerrilla leaders that he was assuming this command but all ignored him since they knew he had no authority from higher headquarters.

About this time GADOR began to place relatives and close friends, with little or no training, in positions above his good officers. This, with GADOR's ambitions, began to arouse a feeling of resentment and opposition among his officers. MERCADO had already withdrawn his men from GADOR's organization in October 1942.

On 7 April 1943 Maj. VILLAMOR, then in southern Negros, on a special mission from SWPA, sent a message to all guerrilla leaders on Negros appealing for cooperation among the various leaders. GADOR refused to believe that VILLAMOR had authority and did not reply but reiterated his claims to command by virtue of his seniority. This decision further antagonized his officers, who were anxious to be members of a recognized organization.

Maj. VILLAMOR was appointed temporary CO of the 7th MD on 14 May 1943, and later in May called a conference of Negros leaders. After much pressure from his officers, GADOR went but took his entire staff and a large number of guards with him, forming a procession that attracted much attention and whose movements were actually publicized by him. On 26 June, shortly after GADOR arrived at VILLAMOR's headquarters, the Japanese landed in the immediate vicinity and penetrated into security areas. GADOR and most of his men fled without assisting in the local defenses though he had a position assigned. At the conference GADOR accepted the post of Executive Officer in the 7th MD headquarters but resigned when he fled, and resumed his opposition activities.

On 8 July 1943, Lt. Col. ABCEDE was appointed Acting Commander of the 7th MD, and when he called a conference in early September 1943 to develop a plan of organization satisfactory to all leaders on Negros, and particularly to reach a more amicable solution on the seniority problem, GADOR refused to attend but continued obstructive tactics and expansion of his opposition organization. In December 1943, rumors of mass attacks on GADOR reached his ears and then Lt. Col. ASPILLA, GADOR's former Chief of Staff, executed a coup and replaced GADOR. GADOR fled to Bohol with a few officers and men, and ASPILLA brought the remaining organization under the 7th MD Command. The guerrilla unit on Bohol was under the command of Maj. Israel P. INGINIERO, who had formerly been a junior officer under GADOR and who had recognized GADOR as commander of Negros Oriental.

When GADOR arrived on Bohol he received a letter sent from SWPA in October 1943 directing him to report to SWPA through 7th MD radio. He replied by radio through the Bohol command that he had come to Bohol after receiving the SWPA letter on Negros, and that he was awaiting further instructions. No reply was sent from SWPA, and GADOR has not been heard from since the Japanese landed in strength on Bohol late in June 1944.

Throughout the history of his organization, GADOR showed himself to be unreasonable and unwilling to meet any other guerrilla leader on an equitable working basis. He demanded respect and authority without recognizing the claims of others, and was unscrupulous in seeking his own ends.



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His behaviour earned him the ridicule of guerrillas throughout the Visayas and ultimately cost him the loyalty of most of his officers.

Personnel known to have been in the organization are as follows:

ANTONIO, Major Eugenio

Former Mayor of San Carlos; now with the 7th MD as Bn CO of the 7th Prov Regt.

ASIS, Sgt do

Constabulary Clerk; leader of an early guerrilla band around Tanjay and an unscrupulous killer; reported to have left GADOR before this organization collapsed.

ASPILLA, Lt. Col. Julian C.

Former Chief of Staff for GADOR, revolted and brought the unit under command of the 7th MD; now Chief of Staff, 73rd Division. GADOR relative and commissioned by him, no military training; was clerk in Dist Engr office before war. Was GADOR's G-4.

BAVERLA, Capt.

Relative of GADOR; was G-2 and possibly fled to Bohol with him, believed to be possibly executed.

DIONALDO, Maj. Luis

Former teacher at Silliman University, was for a time GADOR's second in command; joined ASIS for a time; present activities unknown.

ESTACION, Capt.

Now with G-2, 7th MD.

GORDON, 1st Lt. Alexander
KAYANAN, Maj. Corsino C.

Came from Negros Occidental to join GADOR in July 1943; GADOR Regt Commander in Libertad area; went to Bohol.

MARIAS, Maj. Alejandro las
MERCADO, Capt. Harmonogildo

Now with 7th MD.

SALAZAR, Maj. Jose

Left GADOR in October 1943 and now a commander under ABCEDE.

SY, Capt. Antollano P.

GADOR's Signal Officer; now 7th MD Signal Officer.

TEVES, Capt. Ibar

GADOR's Adjutant General, joined ABCEDE in February 1944, present activities unknown. Brother of the former Mayor of Tanjay, G-2 for GADOR; present activities unknown, (has brother in ABCEDE's organization)?

South Negros Guerrillas: On 26 May 1942 the Japanese landed at Dumaguete, capital of Negros Oriental. This was the last province to be occupied. During hostilities elsewhere most of the facilities and equipment from the town and from Silliman University in Dumaguete had been moved to the hills, and after the Japanese landing at Dumaguete, many university staff members took positions in the free government and guerrilla groups, and Silliman students and graduates were collecting into the nuclei of guerrilla Bolo Battalions. The Silliman University influence in the area was, in fact, largely responsible for the growth of a successful resistance movement in the south Negros region.

In the early stages of the Japanese occupation there was no organization among the guerrillas, although the desire of the people to resist was high; much equipment was available; and many unsurrendered soldiers were in the area. These soldiers wandered about and gradually drifted into the several Bolo Battalions then forming or went to Mr. DELL's camp at Malabo, west of Dumaguete. The main Bolo Battalion leaders were Maj. E. N. VILORIA, a former Silliman student and ROTC instructor at Silliman, and escaped USAFFE lieutenant from Mindanao with an organization in the Malabo area; Capt. Felix ESTRADA, PA Reserve Officer and high school teacher in Dumaguete; Capt. Loon FLORES, former school teacher in Dumaguete, PA Reserve officer, with an organization to the north of Dumaguete; Victor JORNALLES, escaped Mindanao USAFFE officer (??) and former Silliman student; and Sgt. David CIRILO, PC, escaped Mindanao USAFFE soldier. One by one those leaders also went to Mr. DELL seeking leadership.

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Mr. Honry Roy BELL was a well known and well liked American who had been on the Silliman University Staff since 1921 as Professor of Physics and for a time Athletic Director. It was he who organized evacuation of university equipment. When the Japanese occupied Dumaguete Mr. BELL and his family and other Silliman staff members evacuated to Malabon and Lake Balinsasayao and assisted civil and guerrilla affairs in south Negros. It was natural that Silliman University graduates and students now in the guerrilla movement should come to Mr. BELL for assistance and on 20 August 1942 the guerrilla leaders in the area unanimously elected Mr. BELL to organize their forces. Mr. BELL devoted much time in establishing an organization among them and also enlisted the support of Manuel SY CIP, Chinese merchant in Dumaguete, in obtaining supplies for the guerrillas.

After completing the initial stages of the organization, Mr. BELL sought a military officer of sufficient rank to command the unit. He first contacted Lt. Col. GADOR, then in central Negros Oriental and so far as is known not very active at that time. GADOR refused and Mr. BELL contacted Maj. Placido AUSEJO who accepted the command and formed the 75th Regiment with headquarters at Malabon in October 1942. There were 1,000 men in the Regiment in early 1943.

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Maj. Placido A. AUSEJO, O-1213, PA, is about 51 years old; is a graduate of Silliman University; went to the Constabulary Academy in 1922 and was in southern Negros or Misamis Occidental (Mindanao) at the time of USAFFE surrender. He is diplomatic, mature in judgment and a good organizer, all excellent assets in stabilizing a guerrilla movement about to go wild. He was liked by the civilians and soldiers, and the 75th Regiment soon became well established and disciplined under his guidance. Later when Lt. Col. ABCEDE (then Capt. and junior to AUSEJO) was appointed 7th MD Commander, AUSEJO accepted the appointment without complaint, and has since done good service with the 7th MD Command as District G-3.

VILORIA became AUSEJO's Executive Officer, BELL became Civil Administrator for south Negros and the mayors and officials of towns were persuaded to resume their posts. Dr. Jose GARCIA of Dumaguete was performing valuable medical service and became 75th Regiment Medical Officer. An orderly state of affairs existed at the time. Though the south Negros area was without money and had only poor sources of food, both of these were to be had on Mindanao, where Col. FERTIG was developing a guerrilla organization at the time. Mr. BELL went to Col. FERTIG in late 1942 and arranged for supplies of food and Mindanao Emergency Currency to be sent to Negros together with some military supplies, and the 75th Regiment was attached to Col. FERTIG's command where it remained until Maj. VILLAMOR was appointed temporary CO, 7th MD, in May 1943.

The Japanese were confined to Dumaguete, Bais and Tanjay at this time and comparative peace reigned until trouble began to develop with GADOR's ambitions and methods of attaining his ends, control of neighboring areas. He interfered particularly with communications which had to pass through his area to all parts of Negros and Cebu. This dispute was the main bother to the 75th Regiment until the collapse of GADOR's organization in late 1943.

Since mid 1942 BELL had been attempting to contact the United States or Australia with the radio he had brought from Silliman University. He was assisted by a Lt. Louis VAIL, an American mestizo from northern Negros. VAIL had had considerable radio experience before the war and had been commissioned 2nd Lt. by USAFFE before surrender. VAIL escaped to the hills from Fabriera, Negros Occidental, after surrender and joined the guerrillas there in June 1942. When he heard of Mr. BELL's activities in south Negros, VAIL and several others gathered salvaged radio equipment and went to Mr. BELL's headquarters through numerous Japanese patrols on Negros and Cebu and in Tanon Strait. VAIL and BELL worked tirelessly to build a satisfactory radio and to develop contact. Their constant calls went unheeded or unheard; their supplies were

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low and they were about to give up after six months' efforts. Guerrilla morale was also dropping since there seemed no hope of outside contact and encouragement. Contact was unexpectedly established in January 1943. This, together with the arrival of Maj. VILLAMOR in southern Negros on a special mission from SWPA, revitalized the organization. Mr. BELL subsequently became part of Maj. VILLAMOR's organization as a Major. VAIL later became 73rd Division Signal Officer.

Mr. BELL's spirit, originality and organizing ability were the guiding strength in the development of the guerrilla organization in this area and later in the establishment of the Negros Command, as Civil Affairs Director and finally as Chairman of the 7th MD Research Board. He commanded the respect of soldiers and civilians alike; his work was widely known and appreciated. The Japanese burned his camp in June 1943 and again in November 1943, when he narrowly escaped capture. BELL and his family and other members of the Silliman staff, many of whom had been instrumental in the development of order in southern Negros, were evacuated to Australia in early 1944.

Siquijor: The guerrillas on Siquijor were originally two battalions under the command of Maj. Denito CUNANAN, retired M/S, Philippine Scouts. These guerrillas drove off Japanese landings several times beginning in August 1942 and killed the Japanese-appointed Governor. There were no Japanese troops on Siquijor from August 1942 until late June 1943. The transport, then bringing troops to Larena, Siquijor, struck a mine that CUNANAN had captured and placed in the channel. The vessel sank and many troops drowned. Other Japanese landed and the guerrilla organization dispersed.

When Maj. AUSEJO organized the 75th Regiment, in October 1942, CUNANAN was contacted and his unit became the 4th Provisional Battalion of the 75th Regiment, with CUNANAN as Battalion Commander. He held this post until June 1943 when Lt. Col. Luis P. MORGAN, FERTIG's Chief of Staff on Mindanao, contacted him while on a mission to extend FERTIG's influence in the Visayas. This was just prior to the Japanese invasion of June 1943. MORGAN appointed CUNANAN commander of the 8th MD (Cebu and Bohol) for FERTIG, without authority from FERTIG. CUNANAN went to Cebu and some misunderstanding between Cebu and the 10th MD developed. The matter was ironed out and CUNANAN left Cebu. He is now HQ Commandant, Headquarters 7th MD.

2nd Lt. Eduardo CORNELIA is the present commander of the reorganized Siquijor guerrillas which are designated "M" Co, 75th Regiment, 73rd Division.

III. MAJOR VILLAMOR AND THE DISTRICT COMMAND:

Major Jesus A. VILLAMOR, O-1568, PA, 30 years old, was sent to the Philippines from SWPA on a special mission and arrived on southern Negros in January 1943. VILLAMOR had achieved fame in air combat during the Philippine Campaign in 1942 and was evacuated to Australia before the USAFFE surrender. He had had considerable training in the United States, was well educated and well connected in the Philippines. Although he was young and lacked experience, Major VILLAMOR was capable and moved by intensely patriotic motives.

Among VILLAMOR's instructions when he was sent to the Philippines was advice to maintain aloofness from guerrilla affairs and to report objectively on guerrilla personalities and organizations for use in SWPA decisions. He arrived in Negros at the time the organizations of ABCEDE, AUSEJO and GADOR were full blown and PERALTA and FERTIG were attempting to gain control of Negros guerrilla affairs. He therefore came into close contact with AUSEJO and ABCEDE and received cordial support from both and they came to him for advice on conduct of their affairs. VILLAMOR reported

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conditions carefully and advanced recommendations on the solution of local problems, particularly on the command situations, on supplies being sent the guerrillas, on his being given some authority to deal with some problems, and on dealing with GADOR firmly. On none of these recommendations was action taken at this time. GADOR took advantage of the absence of affirmation of VILLAMOR's authority and became more defiant of local attempts to secure his cooperation in the settlement of the command question. His activities eventually threatened to disrupt AUSEJO's organization and intelligence communications with Cebu; undermined VILLAMOR's prestige and his ability to carry out SWPA instructions; and delayed the appointment of a commander on Negros unnecessarily. To prevent open hostilities between GADOR and other guerrillas, VILLAMOR suggested that he himself be appointed temporary commander of the district. This was done in May 1943.

In the meantime, PERALTA actively backed MATA, FERTIG backed AU-SEJO, VILLAMOR backed ABCEDE and GADOR loudly proclaimed himself for recognition as permanent District Commander. VILLAMOR managed to bring together MATA, ABCEDE and AUSEJO under his command at the time, however, and secured GADOR's cooperation for a few days. GADOR withdrew his support shortly but many of his men became disaffected and later rejoined the District Command. VILLAMOR organized the District Headquarters, appointed a Negros Civil Administrator (Mr. BELL); organized a Research Board; and secured authority for a civil government for free Negros under Alfredo MONTELIBANO, pre-war governor of Negros Occidental. In all this he received very little outside support and was relieved in July 1943 when ABCEDE was appointed temporary Commander. ABCEDE was supplied late in 1943 but his command was not confirmed until March 1944. He achieved complete command of Negros units by December 1943 when GADOR fled.

Alfredo MONTELIBANO is about 46 years of age, Spanish mestizo, and believed to be a wealthy planter in North Negros. He is a politician, interested in power and self-willed. There have been reports that his personal likes and dislikes influence his policy and that he has installed members of his family in well paid positions in the free government. Other sources report that he has cooperated with the guerrilla army and has organized a satisfactory free government. The Negros Treasurer, Pedro ELIZALDE, has had numerous quarrels with MONTELIBANO, in attempting to restrict the issue of money and use of funds.

Major VILLAMOR was evacuated to Australia in October 1943 and Lt. Col. Edwin ANDREWS, O-1313, PA, took his place as special mission representative, and was assigned to the 7th MD for control. Lt. Col. ANDREWS is an American mestizo, 39 years of age; graduated PC Academy 1927; sent by Commonwealth Government to the United States in 1929 to study investigation, works and handwriting analysis with the Secret Service, Treasury Department, Washington. He returned to the Philippines and was assigned to the Intelligence Section, PC; became air pilot in 1937; and was CO Zablan Field at outbreak of war. In December 1941, ANDREWS was transferred to Malaybalay, Bukidnon; took to the hills after surrender and joined guerrillas as Chief of Staff, Bukidnon-Cotabato Force until Col. FERTIG, CO Mindanao guerrillas, called him to Misamis in mid 1943. Shortly after, he crossed to Negros to join Maj. VILLAMOR as Camp Commandant. ANDREWS has been well trained and has had experience. He has been close to American influence and is appreciative of the treatment he received while in the United States. He is sensitive to his mixed blood and when things are not going to his personal tastes, often jumps to the conclusion that he is being discriminated against because of this. Since his assignment to ABCEDE, ANDREWS has continued the work commenced by VILLAMOR and acts as Lt. Col. ABCEDE's forwarding agent for 7th MD intelligence. It is believed he is still located in the vicinity of Tolong, Negros Oriental.

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IV. CURRENT SITUATION:

ABCEDE continued the development of the organization and the policies established by VILLAMOR, always striving to improve its efficiency and stature and to increase its usefulness to SWPA in the planning and execution of the war.

After ABCEDE took command in July 1943 Japanese raids and patrols became seriously active on the south coast from Dumaguete to Sipalay for the first time. This was the last unmolested area on the island, and what with heavy raids in food producing areas of central Negros Occidental and Oriental, and penetrating terror attacks on guerrillas in northern Negros, it seemed for a while that effective guerrilla organization would cease. The resourcefulness and tenacity of the leaders and the people along made their continued existence possible, and the organization has apparently now enjoyed relative freedom from Japanese attacks for several months.

ABCEDE has surrounded himself with the ablest officers he could find. Also, he consults with them and is not afraid to delegate authority to them, the result being that he has a staff which functions normally, and he has found no necessity to build up a one man show. He has been well aware of the limitations of his own organization, and has admitted realistically that the Japanese can do anything they want to on Negros. He has therefore conserved his forces and has sought to maintain the proper balance between a sufficient amount of action to keep up morale of officers, men and loyal civilians, and over-aggressiveness which might invite strong retaliatory measures. He has dispersed organization and supplies as much as possible, has set up an efficient warning service for Japanese raids and has been careful to develop as great a secrecy discipline as possible. ABCEDE has paid a great deal of attention to development of the intelligence network on Negros, and has provided good coverage on current activities. His men have also assisted numerous crashed Allied pilots to safety. Friendly relations have been maintained with the civilians and the free civil government under Alfredo MONTE-LIRANO has been cooperative with the guerrilla organization.

American civilian personnel were of considerable assistance in establishing the organization, but their evacuation in 1943 and early 1944 has left the organization an almost entirely Filipino enterprise. The chief shortcoming of the 7th MD is lack of competent and reliable officers. This was particularly true in the north but the situation exists throughout Negros. Politics are rife and many of the officers are not above appropriation of army supplies for their own purchases and aggrandizement of their positions for after the war.

STRENGTH AND PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS 7TH MD

Resume District Strength:		Officers EM		
7th Military District Headquarters		CO: Lt Col ABCEDE (0-1520)	217	1193
72nd Division:		CO: Lt Col MATA (0-1550)	531	8663
Division Headquarters		190 Off	2237	EM
74th Infantry		148	1945	
76th Infantry		111	2259	
72nd FA Regt		82	2222	
73rd Division (Prov):		CC: Maj C. GALVEZ (0-1547)	175	2338
Division Headquarters		37 Off	27	EM
75th Infantry		83	1586	
7th Prov Regt		55	725	
GRAND TOTAL				

923 12-193

Personnel Assignments:

District Headquarters, Kabankalan, Negros Occidental:
CO: Lt. Col. Salvador ABCEDE, 0-1520, PA
C/S: Lt. Col. Ernesto S. MATA, 0-1550, PA
Adj: Maj. Fidel SOLIVEN, 0-1042, PA

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Personnel Assignments: (cont'd)

G-1: Capt. Gregorio LAROT
G-2: Maj. Rodolpho REYES
G-3: Lt. Col. Placido A. AUSEJO, O-1213, PA (Major)
G-4: Maj. Benjamin HOLLERO
Dist FD: Lt. Col. Romeo A. INTENGAN, O-1537, PA
Dist SO: Maj. Joso SALAZAR
Dist FI: Maj. Rito E. DOMINADO
CO Dist
Hq trps: Maj. Enrique L. TORRES, JR.

SOLIVEN: 58 years old, graduate Ilocano University, Vigan in 1906; was Chief of Police in Bacolod before surrender. Joined guerrillas soon after surrender and had radio station in the Northwest Negros Sector in 1943. Is now District Adjutant 7th MD.

REYES: Was a former lawyer in Bacolod. He is efficient, exacting in his demands and picks and trains his intelligence personnel himself. He goes about Negros impacting intelligence officers unexpectedly and sometimes incognito. He gives all possible attention to intelligence instructions and to improving the efficiency of the 7th MD intelligence organization. Is now 7th MD G-2.

INTENGAN: 30 years old; graduated University of the Philippines in 1936 and went to the special army school in Baguio; permanent commission in 1939. He was active in the early Negros Occidental guerrillas and was carried by FERALTA on the rolls of the IVth Philippine Corps in January 1943. Now 7th MD Finance Officer.

SALAZAR: Was signal officer with GADOR organization; became dissatisfied in mid 1943 and left to join the 7th MD Command. Was made District Signal Officer.

DOMINADO: 22 years old; great courage, was the best officer in the 7th Rgt under Lt. Col. AUSEJO. He went into combat with his men, had a good head and was well liked. He is a reserve PA officer and now District Field Inspector.

TORRES: Former civilian in Negros Occidental, organized a guerrilla group in the vicinity of Binalbagan in mid 1942 and joined ABCEDE's command. He is one of the best fighting commanders in Negros and when ABCEDE moved his headquarters to the south coast TORRES and his unit were moved along to protect the District Headquarters and security areas. In this capacity TORRES and his men engaged in several sharp engagements with Japanese patrols and were instrumental in preserving the safety of supplies, papers and personnel on several occasions. Is completely reliable.

72nd Division Headquarters, Canlaon Volcano area, Negros Occidental:

CO: Lt. Col. Ernesto S. MATA, O-1530, PA
C/S: Maj. Uldarico BACLAGON, O-1687, PA
D C/S: Maj. Luis DAYLON
Adj: Maj. Joso JOMALESA
G-1: Maj. Gregorio CAFE
G-2: Capt. Miriano S. ABAYGAR
G-3: 1st Lt. Emilio BORROMEO, O-1801, PA
G-4: Maj. Jaime C. DACANAY

Northeast Negros Sector: *

CO: Maj. Manuel G. JALANDO-QN
Ex CO: Capt. Charles SMITH
Adj: 2nd Lt. Jesus A. SEMERANO
S-2: 2nd Lt. Tomas A. AGAPUYAN
S-3: 2nd Lt. Luis YULO
S-4: 2nd Lt. Nemesio S. VALDERRAMA

* This sector is shown on organization maps and 7th MD Station List but no strength report for the area is available.



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74th Infantry, Northwest Negros Sector:

CO: Maj. Luis BAYLON
Ex CO: Capt. Rubin ABAO
Adj: Capt. Melchor INFANTE
S-2 & 3: Capt. Sarafin P. ALOVA
S-4: Capt. Loon MOYA

76th Infantry, Central Negros Sector:

CO: Maj. Abenir BORNALES, O-1691, PA
Ex CO: Capt. Joaquin VELARDE
Adj: Capt. Emilio GENOSA
S-2: Capt. Quirino BATOG
S-3: --
S-4: Capt. Manuel C. CORDERO

72nd Field Arty Regt, East Negros Sector:

CO: Maj. H. Y. MERCADO
Ex CO: Capt. Rustico PARALEJAS
Adj: 2nd Lt. Geriniano M. ELECCION
S-2: 3rd Lt. Salustinao PALINGHE
S-3: 1st Lt. Porfirio ALFORQUE
S-4: 1st Lt. Palagio YMALAY

LACLAGON: 26 years old, graduated PMA 1940. He is very well liked by the civilians and soldiers and is active in fighting the Japanese with his soldiers. Now C/S, 72nd Division; trustworthy.

BAYLON: 30 years old, has been active in north Negros guerrillas since 1942, was Adjutant 72nd Division, now D G/S, 72nd Division and CO, 74th Infantry.

BORROMEO: Young but has seen action and shown much originality. He was in Luzon at the time of surrender of USAFFE and became associated with the remnants of NAKAR's 14th Infantry in Central Luzon in 1942. BORROMEO was in Manila in January 1944 when the intelligence organization members of those remnants were being captured en masse and he escaped to Negros. He was also attached to the Fil-American Guerrilla Troops in the Manila area, as signal officer. He seems to have been a friend of either Maj. VILLAMOR or Lt. Col. ANDREWS who superseded VILLAMOR. Is now G-3, 72nd Division.

JALANDO-ON: He was CO of the 72nd Engineering Corps and went to considerable trouble attempting to improve that organization. He is military, active and hard working; is now CO of the Northeast Negros Sector.

SMITH: An American mestizo and branch manager of the International Harvester Co. in Bacolod before the surrender. Joined guerrillas soon after surrender and has been active since; now Executive Officer, Northeast Negros Sector.

BORNALES: 28 years old, graduated PMA 1940. He is capable, aggressive, most loyal and is well liked by his men. Now CO 76th Infantry in Negros Occidental.

73rd Provisional Division Headquarters, west of Dumaguete:

CO: Maj. Ceferino R. GALVEZ, O-1547, PA
C/S: Lt. Col. Julian C. ASPILLA, O-1324, PA
Adj: Capt. Iluminado D. TALE
G-2: Capt. Galicano L. SIBALA
G-3: Capt. Jose GUILLANO
G-4: Capt. Timoteo S. ORACION
Div
SO: Capt. Louis N. VAIL
Div
MD: Capt. Jose S. GARCIA

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75th Infantry, South Negros Sector:
(Headquarters in vicinity of Zamboanguita)

CO: Maj. Folipo LUBATON
Ex CO: Maj. Juan DOMINADO
Adj: 2nd Lt. Cesario TULAT
S-2: 2nd Lt. Apolonia E. DIPUITADO
S-3: Capt. Francisco SARROSA
S-4: 2nd Lt. Modesto GOMEZ

7th Provisional Regiment:

CO: Lt. Col. Julian C. ASPILLA, O-1324, PA
Ex CO: Capt. Joaquin FONDA
Adj: 2nd Lt. Venancio BANDOQUILLO
S-2 & 3: 1st Lt. Francisco CANARES
S-4: 2nd Lt. Ramon RIVERA

GALVEZ: 33 years old, graduate FMA 1937 and of Camp Murphy Infantry School in 1940; regular commission 1939. At the outbreak of the war he was a 1st Lt. was captured by the Japanese and later placed in the Bureau of Constabulary. He escaped in late 1943 and joined the Negros guerrillas. Now commander 73rd Provisional Division in Negros Oriental.

ASPILLA: 42 years old; graduated Constabulary Academy in 1928; believed to have been 1st Lt. when war broke out. Became associated with GADOR in Negros Oriental and was appointed his Chief of Staff. ASPILLA was one of the first to rebel against GADOR and began cooperating with the 7th MD command in July 1943, at least. He later is reported to have led an open coup and forced GADOR to leave Negros. He is now Chief of Staff, 73rd Provisional Division and provisional CO of the 7th Provisional Regiment in Central Negros Oriental.



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V. INDEX AND LIST OF PERSONALITIES

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ABAO, Capt Rubin	Formerly Bn CO, now Ex O, 74th Infantry, Northwest Negros Sector.	11
ABAS, Capt	Bn CO, 74th Infantry near Dacolod.	
ABAYGAR, Capt Mariano S.	G-2, 72nd Division, assigned Sep 43.	10
ADCEDE, Lt Col Salvador O-1520, PA	Commandor, 7th Military District. <i>loc passim</i>	
ABELARDE, Lt Hector M.	S-2 in 74th Infantry area.	
AGAFUYAN, 2nd Lt Tomas A.	S-2 of Northeast Negros Sector.	10
ALFORQUE, 1st Lt Porfirio	S-3, 72nd Field Arty Regt, East Negros Sector.	11
ALOVA, Capt Scrafin	S-2 and S-3, 74th Infantry, Northwest Negros Sector.	11
ALVIOLA, Capt Demetrio	3rd Lt FA Regt, now Bn CO, 75th Infantry. Friend of VILLAMOR, took his place when VILLAMOR evacuated to Australia in Oct 43.	8
ANDREWS, Lt Col Edwin O-1313, PA	Pre-war mayor of San Carlos; was with GADOR and now with 7th MD as Bn CO, 7th Prov. Regt.	5
ANTONIO, Maj Eugenio.	Wild guerrilla leader near Tanjay, Negros Or; possibly associated with GADOR at one time.	
ASIS, Sgt de	42 years old, graduate of CA, 1928; was Chief of Staff for GADOR, rebelled against him and is now Chief of Staff, 73rd Prov Div, and Prov CO of 7th Prov Regt in Central Negros Oriental.	5,11,12
ASPILLA, Lt Col Julian C. O-1324, PA	Original commander 75th Regt in southern Negros; now 7th MD G-3.	1,6,7,8,10
AUSEJO, Maj Placido A. O-1213, PA	Graduate of PMA 1940, now C/S, 72nd Div; can be trusted.	2,10,11
BACLAGON, Maj Uldarico O-1687, PA	Adj, 7th Prov Regt.	12
BANDOQUILLO, 2nd Lt Venancio	S-2, 76th Infantry, Central Negros Sector.	11
BATOG, Capt Quirino	CC under MERCADO.	
BAUTISTA, Capt Jesus	One of GADOR's relatives placed by him in his organization as G-4.	5
BAVERLA, Capt	30 years old, active with guerrillas in north Negros since 1942; was Adj but is now D C/S, 72nd Div and CO, 74th Inf.	2,10,11
BAYLON, Maj Luis	Silliman Univ Physics Professor active in establishing guerrillas in southern Negros Or.	3,5,6,7,8
BELL, Mr Henry Roy	Graduate of PMA 1940, now CO, 76th Inf in Negros Occ. central sector.	11
BORNALES, Maj Abenir O-1691, PA	In N. Luzon at time of surrender, was associated with NAKAR's 14th Inf in Con Luzon in 1942. Was Sig O attached to Fil-American Guerrilla troops in Manila, Jan 44. Now G-3, 72nd Div.	10,11
BORROME, 1st Lt Emilio O-1801, PA	G-1, 72nd Div.	10
CAFE, Maj Gregorio	S-2 and S-3, 7th Prov Regt.	12
CANARES, 1st Lt Francisco	Very good officer, Bn officer, 74th Inf near Saravia.	
CASTILLO, Lt	PC, escaped from Mindanao and became one of early guerrilla leaders in southern Negros.	5
CIRILO, Sgt David	S-4, 76th Inf, Central Negros Sector	11
CORDERO, Capt Manuel C.	Present command, Siquijor guerrillas.	7
CORNELIA, 2nd Lt Eduardo	45 years old, Sector CO, northern Negros.	7
CORTEZ, Maj	Formerly CO Siquijor guerrillas, now Hq Comdt, Hq 7th MD; retired M/Sgt, PS.	7
CUNANAN, Maj Benito	G-4, 72nd Div.	10
DACANAY, Maj Jaime C.		

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DIONALDO, Maj Luis	One of GADOR's relatives placed by him in his organization as G-4.	5
DIONISIO, Maj Bartolome	Was with G-2, 72nd Div, Dec 43.	
DIPUTADO, 2nd Lt Apolonia D.	S-2, 75th Inf, South Negros Sector.	12
DOMINADO, Maj Juan	25 years, law student and Res officer, Ex O, 75th Inf, South Negros Sector.	8,12
DOMINADO, Maj Rito	27 years; was the best officer in the 7th Regt under Lt Col AUSEJO, is Res PA officer and now District Field Inspector, 7th MD.	10
ELECCION, 2nd Lt Geminiano M.	Adj, 72nd Field Arty Regt, East Negros Sector.	11
ELIZALDE, Don Pedro	44 years old; Spanish mestizo; pre-war work in Bureau of Finance, now Treasurer Negros Island. Valuable man, not interested in political future.	8
ESTACION, Capt	Silliman instructor; was with de ASIS, then GADOR; present activities unknown.	5
ESTRADA, Capt Felix	45 years; former high school teacher, Dumaguete, Res Officer; early guerrilla leader in Negros Or; was Bn CO, 75th Inf; now in 7th MD Hq.	5
FERTIG, Col Wendell W.	Guerrilla commander Mindanao. 1,4,6,7,8	
FLORES, Maj Leon L.	Former Dumaguete school teacher, early guerrilla leader in southern Negros; now CO Hq Bn, 75th Inf.	5
FONDA, Capt Joaquin	27 years; Ex O, 7th Prov Regt; Silliman student.	12
GADOR, Lt Col Gabriel O-1050, PA	Leader of obstructionist guerrillas in Negros Or until late 1943 when he fled to Bohol.	2,3,4,6,7,8
GALVEZ, Maj Ceferino O-1547, PA	33 years; graduate PMA 1937; Camp Murphy Inf School, 1940; reg commission 1939. Captured by Japanese as 1st Lt and placed in BC. Escaped late 1943 and is now CO, 73rd Prov Div in Negros Or, CO near Tilayan, July 43, now 72nd Div FO.	9,11,12
GANABAN, Maj Marcus V.	37 years; pre-war doctor in Dumaguete	6,11
GARCIA, Dr. Jose	valuable service to guerrillas, now Capt and 73rd Prov Div MO; loyal, energetic and reliable.	
GEBUSSION, Capt Rafael	27 years; Res Officer, now assigned to G-3 7th MD Hq.	
GEMILLAN, Casiong	Original PURING?	
GEMILLAN, Margarito	Present CO PURING guerrillas, probably brother to PURING; was pre-war ex-convict.	3
GENOSA, Capt Emilio	Adj, 76th Inf, Central Negros Sector.	11
GHENT, George	US, with 7th MD Hq.	
GINSON, Capt	CO sub sector near Bacolod, one of most active commanders; conscientious and exceptionally honest.	
GOMEZ, 2nd Lt Modesto	S-4, 75th Inf, South Negros Sector.	12
GORDON, 1st Lt Alexander	Formerly with GADOR, now with G-2, 7th MD Hq.	5
GUILLANO, Capt Jose	38 years; Res Officer, now G-3, 73rd Prov Div, Negros Or.	11
HILSMAN, Col.	USAFFE commander at Fabrica, Negros Occ; surrendered.	1
HOLLERO, Maj Benjamin	42 years; G-4, District Hq, 7th MD; reported hoarding medical supplies received from SWPA.	10
INFANTE, Capt Melchor	Adj, 74th Inf, Northwest Negros Sector.	11

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	<u>Page</u>
INGINIERO, Maj Ismael	Commander Bohol Area, PC and once under Lt Col GADOR.
INTENGAN, Lt Col Romeo A. 0-1537, PA	30 years; graduate UP 1936; went to special army school in Baguio; permanent commission in 1939. Now District Finance Officer, 7th MD.
JALANDO-ON, Maj Manuel G.	Was CO of 72nd Engr Corps trying to improve it. Now CO of the Northeast Negros Sector.
JANTZEN, Arno P.	Danish, employee Insular Lumber Co, Fabrica; joined guerrillas in N. Negros.
JOMALESA, Maj Joso	Adj, 72nd Div.
JORNALES, Victor	Silliman student, joined AUSEJO in mid 1942.
KAYANAN, Maj Corsino C.	Left ADCEDDE to join GADOR; was GADOR Rogt CO near Tanjay and later fled to Bohol with GADOR.
LAROT, Capt Gregorio	42 years; Lt PA Res; teacher at Guihulngan, surrendered and escaped. G-1, District Hq, 7th MD.
LISONDRA	Reported atched to PURING guerrilla unit, further identity unknown.
LULATON, Maj Felipe	CO, 75th Inf, South Negros Sector.
MARIAS, Maj Alejandro Ias	Formerly with GADOR, now with 7th MD?
MATA, Lt Col Ernesto S. 0-1550, PA	Organized guerrillas in northern Negros; now acting CO, 72nd Div and is C/S in District Hq.
MERCADO, Maj Hermenegildo	Organized guerrillas in northern Negros Or; was for time with GADOR and now CO, 72nd FA Regt.
MONTELILANO, Alfredo	Governor of Freq Negros; pre-war governor of Negros Occ; well liked.
MORGAN, Lt Col Luis P.	FERTIG's C/S in mid 1943, went on trip to visayes to extend FERTIG's influence, met CUNANAN and VILLAMOR.
MOYA, Capt Leon	S-4, 74th Inf, Northwest Negros Sector.
ORACION, Capt Timoteo S.	G-4, 73rd Prov Div, Negros Or.
PALINGHE, 3rd Lt Salustinao	S-2, 72nd FA Regt, East Negros Sector.
PARALEJAS, Capt Rustico	Ex O, 72nd FA Regt, East Negros Sector.
PENIDA, Capt	CO, north of Bacolod.
PERILLA, Lt Col Macario	Commander 6th MD guerrillas.
PRESEYTERO, Maj	CO, Kabankalan area.
PURING	Name given to wild guerrilla group in mountains of east central Negros. Original CO this group also known as PURING, now killed.
RAMOS, Capt	CO, Canayan area.
REYES, Maj Rodolpho	Former lawyer in Bacolod, now G-2, District Hq, 7th MD.
RIDAD, Frederico	22 years; Silliman student; early guerrilla leader in Negros Or; was Dn CO, 75th Inf; now in 7th MD Hq.
RIVERA, 2nd Lt Ramon	S-4, 7th Prov Regt.
SALAZAR, Maj Jose	Formerly GADOR's Signal Officer, now 7th MD Signal Officer.
SAMPSON, Capt	CO in northern Negros.
SAHROSA, Capt Francisco	S-3, 75th Inf, South Negros Sector.
SEMIRANO, 2nd Lt Jesus A.	Adj of Northeast Negros Sector.
SHARP, General	USAFFE commander at Dansalan, Lanao, at time of surrender.
SIBALA, Capt Galicano L.	G-2, 73rd Prov Div, Negros Or.
SILLIMAN, Robert D.	Silliman Univ Prof of History, Deputy Gov of southern Negros Or under VILLAMOR 7th MD Command; evacuated early 1944.

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SMITH, Capt Charles H.	10,11
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7th MILITARY DISTRICT

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA
Military Intelligence Section

GUERRILLA ORGANIZATION
10 December 1944

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