

EVACUEE REPORTS:

WOOSTER,

JOHN B.

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RETURN

G-3 Opns, P.S.D.

LAT/wlb

G-3

Adv G-2

29 October 1944

1. Information as requested relative to John B. WOOSTER as follows:

Born: 25 September 1900 in San Francisco, California.

Education: High school 1913-1917. Sunyat Sen University,
Canton, China in 1933 studying languages.

Service: Served 18 months with guerrilla forces on NEGROS as
1st Lieutenant.

In Philippine Islands since 1939.

2. Wooster has spent the past 22 years in the Far East. Reliable
evacuees reported that he is a "dead-beat" and subject to nefarious practices.
He is considered as unreliable and highly undependable. Reference is made
to Philippine Evacuee Report No. 352 dated 9 August 1944.

S-I-C.



Return to G-3 OPERATIONS

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20 AUG. 75

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION GENERAL STAFF

APO 500
9 August 1944

Philippine Evacuee Report #352

Subject : NEGROS
From : John Benjamin WOOSTER

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.....
Name : John Benjamin Wooster
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California
Education : High School (Military Academy), 1913-17;
Sunyat Sen University, Canton, China in
1933, studying languages
Service : Served 18 months with guerrilla forces
on Negros as 1st Lieutenant
Assignment : Propaganda Officer
In PI : Since 1939

Interrogated by G-2 GHQ SWPA

.....
Wooster has spent the past 22 years in the Far East. Reli-
able evacuees have reported that he is a "dead-beat" and should
be evacuated so that his nefarious practices would be stopped.
The information submitted by him is passed on for what it is
worth.

* * *

CHRONOLOGY

- 7 Dec 41 - In Cebu City acting as Captain of Volunteer Guards, also writing for Cebu City papers.
- 10 Apr 42 - Japanese invasion of Cebu.
- 1 Jun 42 - Escaped to Negros.
- 1 Aug 42 - Joined Captain ANTONIO's guerrilla forces as propaganda officer.
- 15 Dec 42 - Reported to Colonel MATA's Headquarters.
- 13 Feb 43 - Commissioned 1st Lt and appointed propaganda officer for the 72nd Division.
- Feb - Aug 43 - Carried on propaganda work in the San Carlos and Bacolod areas.
- Sep 43 - Established own CP in the San Carlos area.
- Oct 43-Jan 44 - Continued propaganda work, investigated Jap atrocities and reported on enemy air and naval activity in San Carlos area.
- 2 Feb 44 - Ordered to District Headquarters, delivered lectures en route.
- 25 Mar 44 - Arrived at District Headquarters and placed in charge of printing press and propaganda work.
- 20 Jun 44 - Evacuated because Colonel ABCEDA believed that he could do the guerrilla cause more good in GHQ than in Negros.

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Japanese Intentions Recently, the Japanese on Negros commenced digging fox holes, reinforcing garrisons, improving the air fields, and bringing in vast amounts of ammunition, food, gasoline, bombs, planes, machines and motors.

Threats have been made to use gas on the guerrillas. In the past two months over 1000 tanks of gas have been stored in Bacolod and Dumaguete.

Planes have been seen in Bacolod with the American colors painted on the under side of the wings.

Air raid shelters are being constructed in all of the occupied towns. The civilians are required to construct shelters under their houses.

Guerrilla Organization The guerrilla army is doing a splendid job in preventing the enemy from exploiting the resources of the island to a greater degree.

Many officers are unfit for command duty, some are lazy, some are cowardly and some downright dishonest. This condition has been made possible by following the "family" system which permits every member of the family becoming an officer when one member holds a high rank in the army.

The percentage of officers to men is greatly out of proportion.

PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS : American officers are badly needed. The Filipino officers do not want them, but the men do.

COLONEL ABCEDA : He is a fearless and capable leader.

COLONEL MATA : A fearless and well trained leader.

MAJOR RUDOLFO REYES ✓ : He is the DIO. He works day and night and has proved his ability.

MAJOR BACLAGON ✓ : The CO of the North Negros Sector. He is an honor graduate of Baguio Military Academy.

CAPTAIN LORENZO TEVES ✓ : A mis-fit and does not have much ability. He does not cooperate as he should.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT : The officials cause almost as much trouble as the enemy. It is run by professional politicians who hold personal interests above the welfare of the people. Disputes continually exist between the army and the government. The officials have had their relatives appointed officers in the army.

ALFREDO MONTILIBANO : Governor of Negros. He is a no good politician. His control of money has resulted in chaos and inflation. He is playing politics with the future in mind.

BENEDICTO ✓ : Deputy Governor of Negros. He is playing politics, has his eye on the future, and has had all of his no good relatives appointed officers in the army. The only one being any good in Major Roberto BENEDICTO.

DON PEDRO ELIZALDE ✓ : Provisional Treasurer. He is a man of proven integrity. He is at logger-heads with the Montelibano clique because he demands receipts for all money passed out.

DON "FURBYRE" : Deputy Governor of East Negros Sector. Though a politician, he is honest, loyal, and intelligent.

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Japanese Atrocities In Ayongan, in March, 1944, small children were roasted and civilian prisoners were made to eat the bodies, even the private organs. The Japanese soldiers ate most of the bodies themselves.

Captured guerrilla personnel are usually slowly skinned alive, starting at the head and working down. Many are beaten to death, others are burned to death, while others have been buried alive.

In two cases, young babies were torn from their mothers' arms, hurled into the air and caught on the point of the bayonets.

In the Cadiz area, the enemy, enraged because adult civilians had escaped, cut off the toes and two inches of the feet from some eight or nine small kids and left them to bleed to death.

INDEPENDENCE : The average Filipino wants independence without knowing what the word actually means. Though they want to run their own government, they want the protection of the United States.

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