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Leyte

9th M.O.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 883078

Leyte Area Command
Operations & Reports

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Authority: ND 883078

Gala Leyte

127

HEADQUARTERS
PHILIPPINE CIVIL AFFAIRS UNIT 4
APO 442

6 December 1944

TO : Mr. Tio Tin

1. It has been determined in the proper manner that the use of property hereinafter described is needed for the furtherance of military operations and used by the Alamo Scouts.

2. 6 pieces of lumber 6 x 6 x 18, 1 piece of lumber 4 x 12 x 18 owned or possessed by Mr. Tio Tin of the barrio of Sto. Nino in the municipality of Abuyog, Leyte.

3. This to certify that the United States Army has this day taken possession of such property for the purpose above specified.

ned in Abuyog. I was one of the
Outfit, and I had on many occasions,
his signature.

Herold Lee

*Julius L. Klein
Capt. Inf.*

La.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that I have carefully examined the signature of Captain Julius L. Klein Inf. US Army, Philippine Civil Affairs Unit Number 4, and believe to the best of my knowledge, that the signature appearing therein is his genuine signature.

Captain Julius L. Klein, Inf., was detailed in the Philippine Civil Affairs Unit Number 4 stationed in Abuyog from November 1944 to January 1945, and he was at times frequenting the Headquarters of the "I" Co. 94th Infantry Regiment, 92nd Division (PA), a Unit stationed in Abuyog. I was one of the Junior Officers of the said Outfit, and I had on many occasions, the opportunity of witnessing his signature.

Marcelo C. Lee

MARCELO C. LEE
2nd Lt. Inf., (PA)

Claims Service Investigating Officer

Signed in my presence this 9th day of May 1946 at the
AFWESPAC
Claims Service Office, /Branch Office, Base K, APO 72.

Luis C. Dumlao

LUIS C. DUMLAO
2nd Lt. Inf., (PA)

Claims Service Investigating Officer

OBSERVATIONS ON L. A. C. CLAIMS

These cases now under investigation of the L. A. C. as supported by Ramos, Pamanian and Balderian and their unauthenticated account book -

It will be seen that the claims, 18 in number, supported by Balderian, Ramos and Pamanian, seem to be all made at same time and in same manner of preparation, filed near enough to deadline date of March 31, 1948 to also seem to indicate mass production as to the similarity of typewriter used on receipts from the fact that all have supporting affidavits by Balderian, Ramos, and Pamanian and are all notarized by Eduardo Bugho as Municipal Mayor. Also noted is similarity of items procured and amounts of these items.

Pamanian as Regimental S-4 has submitted an account book alleged to be authentic of Sgt. Ramos' procurement record which lists 89 claimants. But of these 89, 18 claimants have cases now pending investigation. The amounts of these procurements both in account book and the 18 claims under present investigation are for sums ranging as low as ₱300.00 to as high as ₱30,000.00. Of the 18 claims filed and now under investigation, 5 are under ₱1,000.00.

Interrogations of Sgt. Ramos and F. Pamanian were conducted and statements taken by this office. From reading the statements in question and answer form, it appears that these two men have contradicted themselves and they appear to know little of important points as to how many men they were feeding, and as questions became more specific, their answers became more vague, finally resulting in a hostile attitude and non-cooperation.

The undersigned interviewed two employees of this office who were with the L. A. C., Mr. Borneo formerly of Regt'l Hqs, 94th Inf Regt and Mr. Tagpis of the 1st Bn, 95th Inf Regt. The story of the general supply situation of the L. A. C. is substantially different from that told by Pamanian and Ramos. As told by Mr. Borneo and Mr. Tagpis, units were widely scattered throughout the mountains of NE Leyte. No clothing was issued except some abaca cloth. They know of no one receiving underwear, rubber shoes, canned foods, socks, hats; in fact, sometime in Aug 1943 men of the 94th Regiment were given money in script as clothing allowances. Units fed themselves and did not receive supplies from Regimental headquarters. They foraged off the country side and commandeered from civilians not from Regt'l hqs. Tagpis tells of one incident when men of his battalion were called to 95th Inf Regt'l Hqs for meeting and had to bring their own mess equipment which consisted of coconut shells and native expedients and also their own food. This was in 1944 and should indicate that Regt'l Hqs of the 95th did not supply units. As to the 94th Inf Regt, the Regimental S-4 did not supply field units and the hauling of supplies to Regt'l Hqs and then distribution to units in the 95th Regt seems unlikely to these men who were there. Also unlikely is the story that the S-4 first made contact with donors, then later sent back receipt as units were scattered. Also noted was fact that they know of no cattle which was not immediately slaughtered other than tethered and kept alive in pasture till needed. As far as known no promises of future payment were made when Tagpis commandeered food for his unit, and no orders were issued that receipts had to be made out; procedure was usually just to commandeer and most people did not want incriminating receipts. Tagpis did, however, receive some root crops from Regt'l Hqs. The men went barefooted and used their own clothing. In other words, the S-4 of the Regiment did not control supply and procurement of units of Regiment. Farms of Leyte of this sector where the 94th and the 95th operated were not large and amounts taken according to them are excessive. Pamanian makes the statement that he did not know of Claims Service prior to Jan 47, and that all receipts were entered in account book and typed receipts issued by his office. In claim of Ciriaco Tagpis, G-9-133,385 for one carabao paid we see a legitimate receipts in ink with different heading signed by Lt. Racabo who was assisting the Regimental S-4, but never mentioned by Pamanian or Ramos in which the form is very much different that the 18 cases supported by Pamanian and Ramos and which is also not in account book. In this claim is found a statement of Pamanian expressly made by him at claimant's request before

presentation of claim dated 24 March 1946. As per statement of Mr. Borneo, it is highly improbable that as late as 1943, the merchants in the town of Loyte had such large stocks of cloth, and canned goods on hand. It is also unlikely that such large inventories were on hand even prior to the war. The use of copra by the guerrillas was negligible and the extraction of oil from it would be difficult without special equipment and it was inconsistent with facts that copra would be taken to prevent its falling in Japanese hands as large stocks were available in southern Loyte which were not taken by the Japanese.

An examination of the alleged account book kept by the 95th Regt S-4 on procurements shows the following:

- 1) It is a composition book.
- 2) It has 154 pages.
- 3) From page 125 to 154 the paper is composition form found in this type of book.
- 4) Pages 1 to 124 are bookkeeping form papers not found in composition book.
- 5) Book has been rebound as per observation and statement of Ramos.
- 6) The 1st page of book contains an explanation of the account book the tenure of which appears to me to have been made later than account book and the explanation directed to this office.
- 7) All entries are in ink, about three different colors used.
- 8) Although no conclusive evidence of age of writing, the following tests were made:

Ink from several intra-unit receipts assumed to be authentic (see observation on intra-unit receipts) and dated Sept 43 dissolved upon application of a re-agent each in one minute. Ink on page one of account book dissolved in 27 seconds. Ink on page ten (bottom) dissolved in 20 seconds. Ink on page 129 dissolved in 30 seconds. Ink dissolving in less time is assumed (by this test) to be written later than ink having a longer dissolving period.

- 9) A break-down in chart form of this account book has been made showing items, amounts, and dates.

OBSERVATIONS ON INTRA-UNIT RECEIPTS AND REQUISITIONS

1. Ninety-nine percent of documents are in pencil or ink; few typewritten in comparison with receipts to claimants which are all typed.
2. All are on scraps of many varied kinds of papers as compared with receipts issued claimants which are all on same paper.
3. Form is quite inconsistent as compared with receipts issued claimants where form is 100% consistent.
4. Ninety-five percent of documents carry money values for items requisitioned from S-4 or headquarters. This is unusual for intra-unit practice. Why should money values enter into transaction?
5. Several documents have notations "Paid" or "_____ officer will pay for items" or "Receipts attached" altho no receipts attached are found. Question as to what these notations mean.
6. Some documents show requisitions from S-4 or Headquarters for sub-units which have - according to claims filed - made requisitions themselves from claimants.
7. Few documents are signed by Baldorian in same or similar green ink as found on claimants receipts.
8. Baldorian invariably signs as "Major, Inf" "Co, 95th Inf Regt", but on receipts of claimants he signs as "Major, Infantry" "Commanding".

9. Cursory examination of typewriters used on intra-unit documents appears different than the one used to make claimants receipts.

10. Items requisitioned from S-4 or Headquarters are similar to items claimed but most requisitions are for small amounts and to units which might be close to headquarters such as Signal and Medical.

CONCLUSIONS ON CLAIMS OF L. A. C. SUPPORTED BY BALDERIAN,
RAMOS AND PANAMANIAN

That the claims were deliberately prepared by same parties using same witnesses (Alcobar, Trocino) and same Municipal treasurer as Notary, prepared about the same time.

That receipts are not authentic.

That account books are not authentic.

That commandeering is excessive.

That circumstances surrounding commandeering are not as stated in claim.

That control of supplies was not in hands of Regt'l S-4.

That alleged supplies commandeered did not reach the Bns of the 95th Inf Regt.

That intra-unit receipts are authentic (their form can be used to compare with form on claim documents).

That all claims having same manner of preparation and supported by individuals involved herein be denied.

RICHARD KYLE
Claims Examiner

29 November 1948

Colonel Horace W. Foster
Chief, Claims Service
HQ PHILCOM, APO 707

S i r :

This morning I appeared at your office in accordance with an arrangement between Mr. Glerum and Captain Felix M. Pamanian, ex-regimental S-4, 95th Inf. Regt., 92nd Div., Leyte Area Command. I understand that the purpose of my appearance was for clarification of the procurement procedure of the Regiment as regards the supplies requisitioned from various residents of Leyte during the resistance movement and how the considerable procurements were disposed of by the regiment.

However, I was questioned rigidly on entries and discrepancies on the record which I made four or five years ago. At the time of the interrogation, all I remembered was that our regimental procurement record was composed of one hundred fifty four pages and nothing more. This number I can very well remember because I was the very one who wrote that number at the last page of the notebook in order to close the procurement record as ordered by Major Alejandro Balderian so that no additional unauthorized procurement could be made. Furthermore, I had made several true copies of this procurement record since the 6th and 8th Army requested copies in January and February 1945, and when Major Balderian made an appeal to Washington, I again made several copies on or about June 1948.

The interrogation was what can be called a partial or biased one because all our records were in the possession of your office while I was depending absolutely on memory. Among the questions propounded to me in the interrogation by Mr. Riceboto was regarding several instances wherein dates on receipts do not tally with dates on the procurement record. Perhaps it is needless for me to request Mr. Riceboto to project his views back to those hectic days when there were many occasions that I had to sneak out with this procurement record after a certain procurement has been contracted by me and suppliers because of unexpected Japanese raids in vicinities near our headquarters.

I must also confess that due to pressure of work there might be minor errors as to dates. If I had only foreseen that this record will be the subject of minute investigation at that time I could have indicated the exact date, the exact place and the exact time of incident, the number, names and residences of civilians used in hauling said supplies, the amount consumed by the civilians on the way and other impertinent or mostly irrelevant questions propounded to me by Mr. Riceboto. However, Mr. Riceboto assured me that those questions were necessary to determine the merits of the claims being presented by the residents of Leyte. I told him that the record will speak for itself because these are the very records from where copies furnished to the 6th and 8th Army in 1945, at a time I believe that your office has not yet been concieved.

Foster

Reg # 21187

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Another point raised in the interrogation was the portion of the supplies fed to the civilians who were engaged by the 95th Inf. Regt., 92nd Div., LAC in essential services such as intelligence, sabotage work, hauling, construction, runners, grinding corn, pounding rice, and other indispensable services. Mr. Riceboto seems to question the legality of those supplies furnished these civilians. In this connection I remember that some time in the middle part of 1947 an article was published in the papers that SCAP, Far East Command, has ordered payment of claims arising out of activities of recognized guerrilla units and among those claims payable I remember was supplies or equipment, currency, and services. In view of the fact during the time involved in our procurement we have no cash to pay the services, the humane thing for us to do was to feed these civilians whenever they were required to work or engaged in any essential services for the prosecution of the war. This point has been thoroly covered on page 4 of Captain's Felix M. Pamanian's letter to you, sir, on November 20, 1948, through the Secretary of National Defense, Honorable Ruperto K. Kangleon. However, if your office will still doubt the merit of the portions of supplies paid in kind to civilians, as stated above, I wish to request your office to suspend final action on these claims pending a clarification from the office of General MacArthur, who is familiar with the activities of the Leyte Area Command and also as a source of authority on the payment of these claims.

I wish to say that for only one guerrilla activities, that is, the operation of a concentration camp for Japanese spies and collaborators our regiment had to provide considerable quantities of foodstuffs, clothing and other necessary supplies for prisoners of war. We had strict orders not to kill any prisoner and maintenance of these prisoners naturally entails consistent supply of subsistence. Among our prisoners at that time, which numbered about 200 were the following: Lt. Colonel E. Abay, presently being active duty with headquarters and headquarters company, Camp Murphy, Major Fidel Fernandez, presently, Judge of the Court of First Instance, Samar, Philippine; Mr. Eduardo R. Bugho, present Mayor of Burauen, Leyte, and Col. Juan Causing, presently district commander of Cebu. Your office is at liberty to inquire information from these people.

In conclusion I wish to state that I am commercial graduate of Silliman University, had had 14 years experience as a high school and supervising teacher in the Division of Leyte, the chief clerk of the Provincial Assessor's Office of Leyte for several years and had been likewise a supervisor in the census work in the same province. In spite of these qualifications I was recognized only as a sergeant as compared to illiterate, irresponsible and backpay liberation guerrillas of Luzon who were commissioned not below the ranks of Majors and Colonels. With modesty aside, the guerrilla activities of Leyte Area Command can be compared with a regular organized army.

I am not financially interested in any of these claims but I feel that it is our moral obligation to see to it that these claimants are adequately compensated for their valuable assistance during the darkest history of the United States of America and the Philippine Islands. Prior to the outbreak of the war which was a war of the United States and which the Philippines was unfortunately involved, I was a business man operating sawmills in Leyte with a sizeable working capital. After the liberation of Leyte I again engage in the same business and presently is capitalized at more than P 75,000.00.

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I would highly appreciate if you will intercede in behalf of the loyal residents of Leyte for a favorable consideration of their claims.

Very respectfully,

Jose Ramos
JOSE RAMOS

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Authority NND 883078

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078

I would highly appreciate if you will intercede in behalf
of the loyal residents of Lafayette for a favorable consideration
of their claims.

Very respectfully,

John R. Ralston
JOHN RALSTON

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RECEIVED
14 JUL 1954
ADJUSTMENT SECTION
MAIL ROOM
NO. 040

November 20, 1948

Colonel Horace W. Forster
Chief, Claims Service
HQ, PHILCOM, APO 707

THRU: The Secretary of National Defense
the Honorable Ruperto K. Kangleon

Sir:

Relative to the claims of the Leyte residents for supplies requisitioned by the 95th Infantry Regiment, 92nd Division, Leyte Area Command, I wish to give the following statement.

Pursuant to a letter signed by the Assistant Adjutant General, CWO Norman L. Quigg, dated October 26, 1948, a copy of which is enclosed for ready reference, I reported to Mr. Neil R. Glerum, Claims Service, with the records of Procurements and disposition of procurements made by the 95th Infantry Regiment, 92nd Division, Leyte Area Command. Before I appeared in the office of Mr. Glerum I had the impression that all I have to do was to submit the requested records for examination. However, I was subjected to rigid interrogation on the entries in the record and the individual claims which have occurred about 4 to 5 years ago. Because of the big lapse of time, it is obvious that I was not prepared to answer most of the questions in a detailed manner and in this respect I wish to challenge Mr. Glerum if he himself could testify to remember facts about individual claims he has handled even a month ago unless he has an extraordinary memory as to the names of the claimants and the dates involved. As a matter of fact I do not know the majority of the claimants from whom we procured the supplies. I cannot remember now how much was taken from each of the individual claimant, the quantity and type of supplies we actually requisitioned from them. The fact remains that we made a record of all the procurements to the best of our ability and also made records of disposition of these procurements as per order of our Commanding Officer. This record have been submitted now with the office of Claims Service. The fact also remains that in January 1945 the Headquarters of the Sixth Army of the United States, required me as Regimental S-4 of the 95th Infantry Regiment to submit certified true copy of the original record. Later about February 1945, the Headquarters of the Eighth Army requested the same report of procurement activities of the Regiment, the original of which is now with Claims Service. My Chief Clerk, S/Sergeant Ramos, in each case prepared the certified true copy and signed by me as Regimental S-4. If there is any doubt as to the above statement, it is felt that your office should make investigations on the Sixth and Eighth Army records.

Major Balderian and myself have been constantly molested by claimants and threatened to be sued unless these claims are settled once and for all. It has been becoming a nuisance on myself and on the part of Major Balderian that we made direct appeal to higher authorities in Washington and the Far East Command and also with the American Embassy in Manila. In view of the fact that the claimants contributed to a large measure in the success of the resistance movement which paved way for the liberation of the whole Philippines, I believe it is our moral obligation at this time to see to it that these claimants are properly repaid.

In connection with these claims I therefore give the following statement to the best of my recollection:

Prior to the outbreak of the war in December 1941, I was a Technical Sergeant of the Quartermaster Corps, Philippine Army, under Captain Luis J. Larena, QMS, 9th Military District which later the 9th Military District became the Leyte Provisional Regiment.

Immediately after the surrender of Leyte I went home to Capoccan, Leyte, my hometown and organized an independent guerrilla organization known as the Northwestern Leyte Guerrilla Forces. Said guerrilla unit existed only until June 19, 1942 when it was unified with the guerrilla units of Major Alejandro Balderian which became the Northern and Eastern Leyte Guerrilla Forces under the over-all command of Major Alejandro Balderian. The Northern and Eastern Leyte Guerrilla Forces only existed from June 20, 1942 to April 20, 1943 because on April 21, 1943 there was the unification of all the guerrilla forces in Leyte under the over-all command of Colonel Ruperto K. Kangleon, which was then known as the Leyte Area Command and our guerrilla unit, the Northern and Eastern Leyte Guerrilla Forces, became the 95th Infantry Regiment, 92nd Division, Leyte Area Command.

As Commanding Officer of the Northwestern Leyte Guerrilla Forces, I authorized my Supply Officer to contact loyal citizens who could afford to give us foodstuffs for the use of the organization payable if funds are available and to receive voluntary contributions in kind to be receipted in triplicate for my verification and checking and to keep all records of supplies procured in the most accurate manner. These procured supplies were carefully distributed under my orders in conformity with the strength of the requisitioning unit, the distribution sheets of which were recorded and carefully taken care of.

On April 25, 1943 I was appointed by the Regimental Commander, Major Alejandro Balderian as Regimental Supply Officer due to my pre-war experience on the Quartermaster Service. I began to perform my work on April 26, 1943 as Supply Officer. Each Battalion had a Supply Officer to take charge of the supplies, assisted by the Company Mess Officers. The Battalion Supply Officer was only authorized to draw their supplies from me. But during intensive enemy mopping up operations when there were no possible chances for the Battalion Supply Officer and his assistants to contact me to draw their supplies, the Battalion Supply Officer were temporarily authorized to procure their needed supplies in small scale with the understanding that all procurements made should be reported to me for accounting purposes. We had bodegas built in strategical places. It was in these bodegas that requisitioned supplies were stored for future use. I made it a point to have in store at least three months reserve supply because I felt my responsibility of feeding the entire regiment and we did not know when the supplies and goods of merchants who hid them in the mountains

would be sold or consumed by them. During those days there were many Chinese and Filipino businessmen who engaged in large scale merchandising and we made it a point to detect where their goods were hidden which were always discovered by my personnel. Aside from the supplies stored in the bodegas, shipments for weekly requisition by patrols or reserve units were made to their temporary headquarters. I remembered that there were occasions when these hideouts were raided and burned by the enemies like in Taltal, Cagañon, Abuyogon, Catagbakan, Tambis, Hibonawan, Dajora, Patag, Cabalawan, all of these places were of Burauen, Leyte. Likewise, in Busay, Patok, San Jose, Victoria, Sirab, Buntay, Camanbanan, Malinagan, Hiyabañgan, Ganincan, Caboñgan, all of them are in the Municipality of Dagami, Leyte; in Gañgat, Gabitojan, Madadarag, Catigajan, Binaha-an, all in the Municipality of Jaro, Leyte; in Maicon, Hibonawon and Tiñgib of Pastrana, Leyte, where considerable food supplies and procurement and distribution records were taken by the enemy. The procurement was carried in this manner: The procurement officer would report locations of merchants and farmers who had considerable goods and food supplies. Then he would be ordered either by me or by Major Balderian to effect the procurement. He was to issue a temporary procurement receipt listing all the goods taken. The procurement officer would report to me where the merchandise procured would be stored. Naturally, I would go to the bodega to officially witness the delivery of the food-stuffs and see that the entries on the temporary receipts were accurate, or sometimes I would send a representative from my office to do the checking for me.

After checking the accuracy of the temporary receipt either I or my Chief Clerk will prepare a typewritten receipt in triplicate to be issued to the claimant. The receipt was signed by the procurement officer approved either by myself or by Major Balderian. A copy is retained by me for my personal file, one copy filed with the Headquarters, and the original is delivered to the owner. When a merchant had plenty of stocks which were procured regularly at the time when he had no more stocks, it was the order of our Commanding Officer, Major Balderian, to issue a consolidated receipt for all the supplies. The purpose of which was for checking and verification of all supplies procured from every owner. When the place where requisitioning occurred is far from our Headquarters, I sent my personnel to check the supplies requisitioned. Upon receipt of the report from my representative it was the time I would issue the corresponding receipt indicating the date when the procurement was made. All procurements were recorded and entered in our records as soon as practicable.

To give Mr. Glerum an idea how this large quantities of supplies were consumed I am going to outline the personnel strength that took part in subsisting on the supplies. The over-all strength of the 95th Infantry Regiment to the best of my recollection 1,839 men comprising the Combat troops, Signal Corps, Medical Company, Quartermaster Company, Headquarters Company, Finance Service and Concentration Camp Personnel. The 95th Infantry Regiment was operated strictly on Army Regulations. Our two Concentration Camps had around 200 prisoners who are Filipino collaborators, Japanese guides and Philippine Constabulary of the Japanese. The Concentration Camps were under the command of Col. Quintero and Capt. Dadula.

During the time I was the Regimental Supply Officer, I had four big bodegas wherein stock of supplies were kept and guarded by civilian guards who were attached to us for service. These civilians attached were the previous members of our Guerrilla Division (Northern and Eastern Leyte Guerrilla Forces) which was reduced to a regiment during the unification of all guerrilla forces in Leyte East April 21, 1943, in which our Guerrilla Unit became the 95th Infantry Regiment, 92nd Division, Leyte Area Command. These civilians attached were the excess personnel of which in Northeastern Leyte we had approximately 3,000 civilians attached; 6,000 in Central Leyte or Burauen which was then called 4th Guerrilla Brigade. These civilians attached to the Regiment were used in hauling, guarding, runners or as couriers. Some of them were used as carpenters in the construction of huts and temporary sheds in the mountains, grinding corn, pounding rice and sabotage work. In connection with this sabotage work, they have destroyed during the combat activities approximately 14 bridges throughout our sector. Aside from these bridges, they were ordered to burn school houses being used by the Japanese and to perform other sabotage work. While engaged in this activities, these civilians attached were supported by combat troops of the 95th Infantry Regiment which were always deployed near the places where the sabotage work was being conducted. All these activities were reported to the G-2 of the Sixth Army and the Eighth Army and are in our regimental journal furnished said headquarters. These civilians attached to the 95th Infantry Regiment applied for recognition for their meritorious activities in the resistance movements. I wish to point out that these civilians were not fed by the 95th Infantry Regiment all the time. They were only given reasonable rations whenever they were ordered to work. No payment in cash was made to them. If we had available cash at the time, they should have been paid their salaries as these civilians are authorized. The accomplishments of these civilians attached to us were all recognized activities of a recognized guerrilla unit and it is on the basis of these guerrilla activities that the 95th Infantry Regiment was recognized as an element of the United States Armed Forces. General MacArthur ordered the recognition of the guerrilla not because they were guerrillas but because their activities warranted recognition and these recognized activities included the above. The supplies consumed by these civilians were during the activities of a recognized guerrilla unit essential for the prosecution of the war.

One of the questions asked by Mr. Glerum was how the 450 cavans of corn and rice requisitioned from one of the claimants, whom I do not recall, were hauled. He seems to doubt that such a big amount of rice and corn could be hauled easily. I wish to point out that somewhere in July 1944, US Submarine, if I am not mistaken the "Nautilus" landed at San Roque with approximately seven tons of arms, ammunitions and other supplies. It is a historical fact that the seven tons were unloaded and transported to the mountains in one night, utilizing some 2,000 laborers. This fact seems to be doubted but it is a historical fact. The services of these civilians attached to the 95th Infantry Regiment, 92nd Division, Leyte Area Command were so indispensable to us. Were the services of these civilians compensable and were these services essential on the prosecution of the war? Certainly they are. Were the services of these civilians paid by the 95th Infantry Regiment? No payments were made except indispensable food rationed to them during the secret operation. Was

there a need for a ready reserve of civilians for labor? The answer is definitely yes, because, if we are going to pick men at random during the landing of the submarine or during the sabotage work, we can never be sure who are Jap spies among the civilians that will be taken at random. 26 Oct 1948

As a conclusion, I wish to compare the accomplishments of the Leyte Guerrillas with any other guerrillas of any island in the Philippines. During the landing of the American Liberation Forces in Leyte, there were about 40,000 Japanese against only three regiments of the 92nd Division, Leyte Area Command. Later, the Japanese troops were reinforced with an increase of 350,000 men. Leyte as you know was a beachhead of the American invasion forces and there is no need for me to go into detail about the accomplishments of the Leyte Area Command because General MacArthur has fully recognized our signal achievements.

The 95th Infantry Regiment subsisted on locally commandeered supplies for three years. No supplies were provided by the United States or the Philippine Governments. And without the cooperation of the suppliers this guerrilla unit could not have existed. The 95th Infantry Regiment has no obligation in form of cash loans AS COMPARED WITH OTHER UNITS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES WHO MADE CASH LOANS REQUISITIONED BY THE MILLIONS. In this connection I wish to state that I still remember Major Balderian ordered that anybody caught procuring cash loans will pay such loans with his neck.

In view of the fact that Mr. Glerum seems to doubt the merits of the claims as reported in our procurement records and the disapproval of these claims may result in civil case that will be eventually filed by the claimants, I as one of the accountable officers is determined to bring this case to higher authorities. I therefore earnestly request the Chief of Claims Service that I be furnished a copy of the transcription of the interrogation made on November 18, 1948 which will be send as part of my probable complain to Washington, to SCAP and to authorities on the higher level.

FELIX M. PAMANIAN
Captain, Leyte.

FELIX M. PAMANIAN
Ex-Captain, Regt' 1 S-4
95th Inf Regt, 92nd Div.
Leyte Area Command.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078

PHILIPPINES COMMAND

GSY

AFPO 707
26 Oct 1948

Captain Felix Pamanian
Poblacion Capoccan
Burauen, Leyte

Dear Captain Pamanian:

This office has on file an alleged "true copy" of a list of outstanding accounts certified by you of food-stuffs and properties requisitioned by the 95th Infantry of the 92nd Division, Leyte Area Command, during the Japanese occupation in the Philippine Islands.

On the basis of this report there are a number of claims presently under processing which claims appear in the accounts abovementioned.


Before final action can be taken on these claims, it is necessary to inspect these original records. Therefore, it is requested that you bring these records to the Adjustment Section, PHILCOM, Adjutant General Records Depository Area, Building No. 86, and ask for Mr. Neil R. Glerum, a Commissioner handling these claims.

Please bring this letter with you in order to facilitate entrance at the gate.

Sincerely,

s/ Norman L. Quigg
t/ NORMAN L. QUIGG
CWO, USA
Asst Adf Gen

A TRUE COPY:


FELIX M. PAMANIAN
Capoccan, Leyte.

DECLASSIFIED

COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES
ARMY HEADQUARTERS
APO 75

movements, and... in fight against
the enemy. ... had been killed in action,
wounded and ... during the American operations
on Leyte. ... as guides and
...
7 May 1946

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: -

I hereby certify that I was appointed CO, 92nd
Division, Leyte Area Command, by General of the Army,
Douglas MacArthur. That the 92nd Division, LAC, was
inactivated in the early part of 1945 and made the
41st Infantry Regt, PA.

That in 1943 and 1944 Major Gordan A. Lang, USN,
acting QM Major Thomas Jurika, Acting QM, and Major
I. D. Richardson, USN, Acting Chief of Staff, had com-
mandeered, as far as I remember, a launch, radio
receivers, generator, and some clothings of small
value from the civilians for the command. That few
of the items referred to above could not be returned
to the owners as they were lost to the enemy or des-
troyed in order to use the parts for our radio trans-
mitter and receiver that were out of order; that one
Lt. Graciano Capili had commandeered a sailboat costing
Two Hundred Fifty pesos from a civilian for courier
use from Leyte to Mindanao; that that boat was caught
and burned by the Japs at Panaon Island in 1944; that
during February-March, 1945, three companies of the
96th Inf. Regt, 92nd Division, LAC were isolated and
surrounded by the enemy in the mountains east of Villava,
Leyte; that the supply officers of these units got few
sacks of corn and rice and salted fish for the subsis-
tence of the units.

That all guerrilla groups on Leyte were unified
under my command except that of Lt. Blas Miranda;
that about 70% of Miranda's unit surrendered to the
Japs in January 1944; 20% joined the 92nd Division,
LAC, and 10% remained at large. That officers and men
under my command were recognized. However, there were
certain groups of Volunteer Guard who were not enlisted
and included in our roster of troops for lack of weapons;
those Volunteer guards were used in carrying supplies,
messages and directives, guarding and detecting enemy

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Charles T. Boyle
CHARLES T. BOYLE
Capt.,
Inf.

- 2 -

movements, and many had participated in fight against the enemy. Consequently many had been killed in action, wounded and crippled even during the American operations on Leyte. The American forces used them as guides and cargadores of ammo and supplies.

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

/s/ Ruperto K. Kangleon
/t/ RUPERTO K. KANGLEON
Colonel, Infantry
Chairman, Review Board

s/ Robert L. Morton
t/ ROBERT L. MORTON
1st Lt. ORD

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY OF a certified true copy

Charles T. Boyle
CHARLES T. BOYLE
Capt., Inf.

Re-opening Claims

Carigara, Leyte
January 25, 1949 ✓

The Commanding General
The Philippines Command
Manila

S i r :

In the name of the good people of the Philippines and particularly of Leyte province whose guerrilla exploits were known thruout the United Nations, we wish to bring to your attention one of the most serious rackets of a group of men to rob the United States government and the Philippines of money.

This is about the claims of the following persons who in connivance and collusions with some guerilla officers, and persons holding important positions in the Claim Sections, Philcom have filed fictitious claims. These persons are:

RICARDO ORDONA - whose claim is more than ₱20,000.00
SANTIAGO TONLETE - who claims about ₱10,000.00
Mrs. TARCELA ACERDEN - who claims ₱10,000.00
GERARDO MERELOS of Capoccan, Leyte who claims more than ₱25,000.00.

The first three people are from Carigara, Leyte whose economic situation do not and could not have made possible their claim that they supported or given supplies to the guerrilla forces in Leyte. The record of the Provincial treasurer or municipal treasurer would show that these people (except Mrs. Acerden) do not have a piece of land to their names during the occupation period. As a matter of fact these people were just dependent upon their friends for their food during the occupation period. Ricardo Ordonas was as a matter of fact having a racket of going around the moneyed people asking help in cash and kind which he alleged was for the guerrillas need. Santiago Tonlete was also dependent upon his brother and friends for the maintenance of his daily subsistence for he has a big family - with six children. Mrs. Acerden has some properties, it is true but she is a miser and has not given any help to the guerrillas. The man from Capoccan, Merelos, has given some fish but would not even amount to ₱1,000.00 during the whole period of the occupation.

This claim is made possible and was inspired by two people in the Claims Section. These two persons who are already secretly rich (due to this racket) are Mr. Refuerzo and Mr. Saño. These two people are from Leyte province, who made possible thru connivance and combination the procurement of the signatures of Major Balderrian and Captain Pamanian, and Lt. Granados to support the ~~xx~~ claims of

Saño was an S-5 Clerk in ARRD - known to have built a home in Manila, purchased a new Lincoln automobile, and purchased rice land.

-2-

the above claimants. These claimants were assured by Messrs. Refuerzo and Saño that thru their influence they will get the approval of the American officer on condition that one half (50%) of their total claim will go to them. But since they do not entertain a claim that is less than ₱20,000.00, they convinced the claimants to exaggerate their claims so that it will total no less ~~₱~~ ₱40,000.00/

When some good people in Carigara and Capoocan Leyte knew this claim, they felt alarming disgust over the wickedness of these people including the officers of the guerrilla forces who in order to enrich themselves made fictitious affidavits. These people did not have the shame to defend themselves by saying that what do you care, we are not robbing the Philippine government, but the United States government.

So in the name of the noble and good people of Carigara and Capoocan Leyte, especially Mr. Briccio Aguilos chief of the intelligence section of the northern Leyte guerrilla who did not sign affidavits to support the claim of the above claimants, it is my noble duty to inform you this anomalous and fictitious claims. Many people in these two municipalities can testify that these claims are fictitious.

Very respectfully yours,
Restituto Dacoycoy
RESTITUTO DACOYCOY

Copies furnished:

Charge de Affairs
American Embassy
Manila

The Secretary of War
United States of America

OVERALL GENERALIZATION ON
THE LEYTE CLAIMS NOW ON HAND

From the charts showing break-downs of units month by month, it will be seen that procurements are highly excessive not only for unit strength but on point of subsequent hauling, storage and inventory on hand in Chinese stores or from farms.

We have (if we are to believe the statements of officers) the Regiment commandeering for all its men; then in other cases Bn commanders under same Regiment, commandeered for their units and then Company C.O.s under them say they had to feed their men. This is so especially for the 95th Inf Regt and its units.

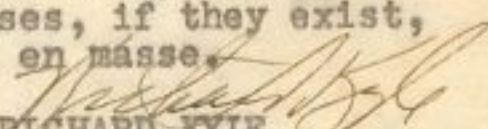
To the best of my recollection few Leyte claims in comparison with other units, have been filed with this office until of course around the deadline date which is time when most of these were filed.

Claims Service had a team in Tacloban processing claims from 1945 until around July 1947. It is my impression that the bulk of claims were settled during that period which is supported by the fact that few cases have been filed since and very few reconsideration asked except on this group now on hand which is a six months accumulation and involves mostly cases filed the March 31, 1948 deadline.

As told by men in the L.A.C. receipt headings did not usually carry L.A.C. as a heading. Very few receipts were issued, Promises of future payment rare and most procurements of a voluntary nature. Guerrilla units also fed volunteer guards sometimes numbering more than the using unit on big operations such as the sub landing at San Roque and about 3,000 were present 70% of which were guards or civilians.

I believe that most of this group were made and did not exist or if these procurements took place they were of much smaller amounts and no or few receipts were issued. Some of these officers have since become police characters as A.T. Cinco and I. Centino, and statements of Regt officers on procurements are quite different in explaining procurement procedure than statements of Bn and Co officers, making it difficult to believe any of them.

Evidence presented is unreliable in my opinion to be able to extract any payable cases, if they exist, from the groups presented for denial en masse.


RICHARD KYLE
Claims Examiner, Adjustment Div
Claims Service Branch

OBSERVATIONS ON L. A. C. CLAIMS

These cases now under investigation of the L. A. C. as supported by Ramos, Pamanian and Balderian and their unauthenticated account book -

It will be seen that the claims, 18 in number, supported by Balderian, Ramos and Pamanian, seem to be all made at same time and in same manner of preparation, filed near enough to deadline date of March 31, 1948 to also seem to indicate mass production as to the similarity of typewriter used on receipts from the fact that all have supporting affidavits by Balderian, Ramos, and Pamanian and are all notarized by Eduardo Bughe as Municipal Mayor. Also noted is similarity of items procured and amounts of these items.

Pamanian as Regimental S-4 has submitted an account book alleged to be authentic of Sgt. Ramos' procurement record which lists 89 claimants. But of these 89, 18 claimants have cases now pending investigation. The amounts of these procurements both in account book and the 18 claims under present investigation are for sums ranging as low as $\text{P}300.00$ to as high as $\text{P}30,000.00$. Of the 18 claims filed and now under investigation, 5 are under $\text{P}1,000.00$.

Interrogations of Sgt. Ramos and F. Pamanian were conducted and statements taken by this office. From reading the statements in question and answer form, it appears that these two men have contradicted themselves and they appear to know little of important points as to how many men they were feeding, and as questions became more specific, their answers became more vague, finally resulting in a hostile attitude and non-cooperation.

The undersigned interviewed two employees of this office who were with the L. A. C., Mr. Borneo formerly of Regt'l Hqs, 94th Inf Regt and Mr. Tagpis of the 1st Bn, 95th Inf Regt. The story of the general supply situation of the L. A. C. is substantially different from that told by Pamanian and Ramos. As told by Mr. Borneo and Mr. Tagpis, units were widely scattered throughout the mountains of NE Leyte. No clothing was issued except some abaca cloth. They know of no one receiving underwear, rubber shoes, canned foods, socks, hats; in fact, sometime in Aug 1943 men of the 94th Regiment were given money in script as clothing allowances. Units fed themselves and did not receive supplies from Regimental headquarters. They foraged off the country side and commandeered from civilians not from Regt'l hqds. Tagpis tells of one incident when men of his battalion were called to 95th Inf Regt'l Hqs for meeting and had to bring their own mess equipment which consisted of coconut shells and native expedients and also their own food. This was in 1944 and should indicate that Regt'l Hqs of the 95th did not supply units. As to the 94th Inf Regt, the Regimental S-4 did not supply field units and the hauling of supplies to Regt'l Hqs and then distribution to units in the 95th Regt seems unlikely to those men who were there. Also unlikely is the story that the S-4 first made contact with donors, then later sent back receipt as units were scattered. Also noted was fact that they know of no cattle which was not immediately slaughtered other than tethered and kept alive in pasture till needed. As far as known no promises of future payment were made when Tagpis commandeered food for his unit, and no orders were issued that receipts had to be made out; procedure was usually just to commandeer and most people did not want incriminating receipts. Tagpis did, however, receive some root crops from Regt'l Hqs. The men went barefooted and used their own clothing. In other words, the S-4 of the Regiment did not control supply and procurement of units of Regiment. Farms of Leyte of this sector where the 94th and the 95th operated were not large and amounts taken according to them are excessive. Pamanian makes the statement that he did not know of Claims Service prior to Jan 47, and that all receipts were entered in account book and typed receipts issued by his office. In claim of Ciriaco Tagpis, G-9-133,385 for one carabao paid we see a legitimate receipts in ink with different heading signed by Lt. Racabo who was assisting the Regimental S-4, but never mentioned by Pamanian or Ramos in which the form is very much different that the 18 cases supported by Pamanian and Ramos and which is also not in account book. In this claim is found a statement of Pamanian expressly made by him at claimant's request before

presentation of claim dated 24 March 1946. As per statement of Mr. Borneo, it is highly improbable that as late as 1943, the merchants in the town of Loyte had such large stocks of cloth, and canned goods on hand. It is also unlikely that such large inventories were on hand even prior to the war. The use of copra by the guerrillas was negligible and the extraction of oil from it would be difficult without special equipment and it was inconsistent with facts that copra would be taken to prevent its falling in Japanese hands as large stocks were available in southern Loyte which were not taken by the Japanese.

An examination of the alleged account book kept by the 95th Regt S-4 on procurements shows the following:

- 1) It is a composition book.
- 2) It has 154 pages.
- 3) From page 125 to 154 the paper is composition form found in this type of book.
- 4) Pages 1 to 124 are bookkeeping form papers not found in composition book.
- 5) Book has been rebound as per observation and statement of Ramos.
- 6) The 1st page of book contains an explanation of the account book the tenure of which appears to me to have been made later than account book and the explanation directed to this office.
- 7) All entries are in ink, about three different colors used.
- 8) Although no conclusive evidence of age of writing, the following tests were made:

Ink from several intra-unit receipts assumed to be authentic (see observation on intra-unit receipts) and dated Sept 43 dissolved upon application of a re-agent each in one minute. Ink on page one of account book dissolved in 27 seconds. Ink on page ten (bottom) dissolved in 20 seconds. Ink on page 129 dissolved in 30 seconds. Ink dissolving in less time is assumed (by this test) to be written later than ink having a longer dissolving period.

- 9) A break-down in chart form of this account book has been made showing items, amounts, and dates.

OBSERVATIONS ON INTRA-UNIT RECEIPTS AND REQUISITIONS

1. Ninety-nine percent of documents are in pencil or ink; few typewritten in comparison with receipts to claimants which are all typed.
2. All are on scraps of many varied kinds of papers as compared with receipts issued claimants which are all on same paper.
3. Form is quite inconsistent as compared with receipts issued claimants where form is 100% consistent.
4. Ninety-five percent of documents carry money values for items requisitioned from S-4 or headquarters. This is unusual for intra-unit practice. Why should money values enter into transaction?
5. Several documents have notations "Paid" or "_____ officer will pay for items" or "Receipts attached" altho no receipts attached are found. Question as to what these notations mean.
6. Some documents show requisitions from S-4 or Headquarters for sub-units which have - according to claims filed - made requisitions themselves from claimants.
7. Few documents are signed by Balderian in same or similar green ink as found on claimants receipts.
8. Balderian invariably signs as "Major, Inf" "Co, 95th Inf Regt", but on receipts of claimants he signs as "Major, Infantry" "Commanding".

9. Cursory examination of typewriters used on intra-unit documents appears different than the one used to make claimants receipts.

10. Items requisitioned from S-4 or Headquarters are similar to items claimed but most requisitions are for small amounts and to units which might be close to headquarters such as Signal and Medical.

CONCLUSIONS ON CLAIMS OF L. A. C. SUPPORTED BY BALDERIAN,
RAMOS AND PAMANIAN

That the claims were deliberately prepared by same parties using same witnesses (Alcobar, Trocino) and same Municipal treasurer as Notary, prepared about the same time.

That receipts are not authentic.

That account books are not authentic.

That commandeering is excessive.

That circumstances surrounding commandeering are not as stated in claim.

That control of supplies was not in hands of Regt'l S-4.

That alleged supplies commandeered did not reach the Bns of the 95th Inf Regt.

That intra-unit receipts are authentic (their form can be used to compare with form on claim documents).

That all claims having same manner of preparation and supported by individuals involved herein be denied.

RICHARD KYLE
Claims Examiner

OBSERVATIONS OF L. A. C. CLAIMS SUPPORTED BY
CAPT. FILEMON PABILONA

This group of approximately 22 claims, with very few exceptions have characteristics of preparation which are so similar thru-out to lead me to believe that they are mass-produced and very questionable.

All of them are supported by Capt. Filemon Pabilona with several other officers.

In all cases claimants lost receipts.

In all cases claimants and officers without records nor receipts can remember very specific dates, amounts and descriptions of items taken. Altho questionable in case of claimant it is impossible in case of officer who is supporting many claims from his memory or so it seems.

Commandeerings appear to be excessive in most cases.

One notary public appears in almost every claim.

Some witnesses and supporting officers appear again in almost all files.

Some witness are used as claimants or vice-versa.

In particular note claim of Juan Fla, who is also a procurement officer and witness in other L. A. C. claims.

I conclude that all cases supported by Pabilona having the above characteristics be denied as questionable.

Richard Kyle
RICHARD KYLE
Claims Examiner
Adj Div, Claims Sv Br

OBSERVATIONS ON L. A. C. CLAIMS SUPPORTED
BY CATALINO LANDIA

Approximately 6 cases involving Catalino Landia as procurement agent are among the groups of L. A. C. cases under investigation.

Amounts of each claim especially in walay, corn and shoes appear to me as excessive in view of other alleged procurements of the same unit. It is doubtful to me that claimants had such large inventories on hand that they could give the amounts indicated as storage would be known to Japanese or at least sold prior to 1943. It seems improbable that merchants would have such large supplies on hand when as I understand, Leyte was desperate for sufficient food.

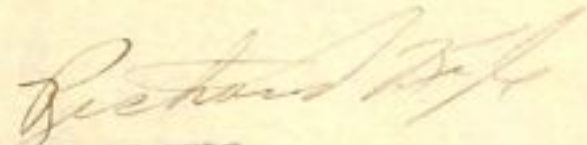
As told to me by one of the men of the 44th Infantry Regiment. Kangleon received Japanese War Notes by submarine in June 1944. For what purpose is not known. No evidence of authority for cash loans.

One Notary Public appears in almost all cases, i.e. E. Lopez.

201 file of Landia has statement by him that unit existed on voluntary donations of civilians.

"I" Co. of 94th after 4 November 1944, went into the 95th Infantry Regiment to replace "C" Co. of the 95th which would add the procurement of this unit and its stock on hand (if it had any) to 95th Infantry's stock of supplies.

Not having enough cases to compare, I cannot conclude that these cases are fraudulent but only questionable on the above mentioned points.


RICHARD KYLE
Claims Examiner
Investigation Section

OBSERVATIONS ON L.A.C.
CLAIMS SUPPORTED BY
JESUS OLMEDO

As C.O. of "L" Co of the 95th Inf Regt, Olmedo has supported and signed the receipts in this group of claims mostly from the vicinity of Abuyog.

The commandeering are highly excessive for a company and more so when we consider (if true) the commandeering, (also excessive) of the Bn Commander for his Bn, i.e., Antonio Cinco. Then there is Balderian procuring for the regiment?

Large amounts of rice and corn, shoes and cloth in the hands of Chinese merchants, as are a good portion of claimants, in 1943 and 1944 seem improbable, also hauling and subsequent storage of cereals entails a very large operation if it occurred.

Most cases are March 30, 1948 submissions.

Cash loan procurement authority is not shown.

Statements of Antonio Almadora, Francisco Pallorina and Rosalio M. Cortaga appear in many of the cases as on-the-spot witnesses.

Antero Brillo and Eliseo Lopez are notaries in practically all the cases.

As per "Green" book info the 95th Inf Regt in 1944 had 1,032 men and officers.

Receipts in files are not convincing mostly because of excessive ants.

Secondary evidence is weak and generalized.

Recommend that all be denied as excessive.

Richard Kyle
RICHARD KYLE
Claims Examiner

PRO-4010-GFI

C E R T I F I C A T E

This certificate is made in connection with 16 claims filed by residents of the Municipality of Abuyog, Leyte. It appears from the evidence of these claims that this municipality was within the territorial jurisdiction of the 95th Inf., Regt., LAC, during the resistance movement in that province. The 3rd Battalion of this Regiment under the command of one, Capt. Antonio Cinco, was stationed in this town. The members of this Battalion were supported by donations of town residents, although in some cases the members of the 94th Inf Regt., LAC, also procured supplies from this town. A general examination of these 16 claims has borne out adverse findings set forth below:

I

Majority of these claims do not have receipts to support its validity. In lieu thereof affidavits of witnesses and of the procuring officer were presented. In the absence of receipts these affidavits may be admitted as secondary evidence. However, it has been noted that all allegation contained therein are identical in nature, alleging that they were present at the time of procurement followed by enumeration of the exact quantity of items procured, this despite the lapse of several years.

II

Where receipts are attached, it has been observed that the paper and the writings thereon are new and fresh. For instance, in the claims of Gregorio Kanen (File #PRO 9-3971), and of Luis Moreno (File #PRO 9-3972 GFI) there was one receipt attached to each claim allegedly issued on 2 different dates. The receipt attached to the former claim was issued and signed by Capt. Antonio Cinco, and the receipt attached to the latter claim was issued and signed by Lt. Lionel Kanen, former member of the "I" Co., 3rd Bn., 95th Inf., Regt., LAC, under the command of Capt. A. Cinco. These 2 officers belonged to the same unit, but were stationed on 2 separate places. When these 2 receipts were put together it was discovered that they were made out of a single sheet of paper, an impossible coincidence in view of the attendant circumstances cited above. In the claim of Basilio Pacata (File #PRO 9-4046 GFI) there were 2 receipts presented allegedly issued on 29 Oct. 1943 and on 10 July 1944. Comparison of these receipts has shown that they were made at one time on the same kind of paper and with the same brand of pencil.

III

All these claims involves big quantity of supplies requisitioned at one time or on 2 occasions. There is not a single claim which involve less than a hundred cavans of palay or corn grains requisitioned at one time. All of the attesting officers, except Capt. A. Cinco, are presently residing at Abuyog, Leyte.

In view of these findings, it is recommended that all claims from this locality without receipts should be denied to forestall any possibility of fraud. Those with receipts should be properly examined. It is not denied that these claimants did not at all donated to the guerrillas, but the adverse findings tends to a reasonable conclusion that the items claimed are in excess of the actual quantity procured.

23 October 1947.

William F. Bujud
WILLIAM F. BUJUD
Claims Investigator
Branch Office, Claims Service
Cebu City, Cebu

ITEM No 6 - Exh. D

*Key to Area Command
Statements & Reports*

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