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1981 NOV 17 11 41 AM ESTERMAN

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30 January 1956

M/S KATIPUNAN

Re: AGAR-RJ 201 Morada, Esteban N.
D/B 28 Jul 95 (1 Nov 55)

Commanding Officer
Army Records Center, TAGO
9700 Page Boulevard
St. Louis 14, Missouri

Dear Colonel:

1. Under the Charterer Agreement, payment of wages to officers and crews were to be made by the Army Transport Service (War Dept.) in the Philippines as employees of the ATS. Circumstances beyond their control (no money) prevented the ATS carrying out these provisions of the Charter.
2. Provisions for officers and crew members were provided by the QM Depot, but in most cases no payment of salaries was made. Some Ships were paid in advance (ie Dona Mati - Dona Estaban) due to the nature of their voyage (Australia and return) but ships used on local runs were not generally paid.
3. I believe that the M/S Katipunan left Cebu with supplies for Mindanao when the Japanese invasion was imminent, she was destroyed on the 3rd day of May 1942 at Cagayan, Misamis.
4. I am not personally acquainted with Captain Morada or any member of his crew.

Sincerely yours,

John D. Cook
John D. Cook
Col. USA (Retd)
0-6160

CY IN MORADA FILE
STATUS APPROVED FOR
31 FEB 1956

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ARMY SERVICE FORCES

4607-7

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (if any)

PC

TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DON ESTEBAN

FILE NO. SPTPI-FB 201 Cunada, Melvin B.	SUBJECT Mr. Melvin B. Cunada	ALPHABETICAL ORDER
TO CG, ASF Attn: The Adjutant General, ASF, Casualty Branch, Status Review & Determination Section	FROM Chief of Transportation	DATE 2 APR 1946 COMMENT No. 1 Lt Col Buysse/73496

1. The inclosed self-explanatory letter of 23 January 1946 is forwarded as a matter pertaining to your office.

2. Information currently available to this office indicates that Mr. Cunada's name appears on a crew list submitted as an inclosure to letter of 31 October 1941, File QM 231-81-TW USAT "DON ESTEBAN", from Office of Superintendent, Army Transport Service, Manila, P.I., to The Quartermaster General, indicating that Mr. Cunada served in the capacity of C.O. Typist. A copy of same is inclosed herewith for your ready reference.

3. The position he occupied was authorized under the designation of C. O. Yeoman at the rate of \$360 per annum plus \$204 evaluated allowances.

FOR THE CHIEF OF TRANSPORTATION:

Earl C. Wilkes
EARL C. WILKES
Captain, TC
Assistant

3 Incls

1. Ltr dtd 23 Jan 46 w/1 incl
2. Cpy ltr dtd 31 Oct 41
w/1 incl
3. AG 201 file



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APR 2 2 02 PM '48
MAIL & REC'D
O. C. T
GRAN

D O N E S T E B A N

PERSONNEL. -- Commissioned personnel:

Major Edwin V. Kerr, FA - CO of troops 26 Oct 41 to 5 Jan 42 (Australia)
Capt J H Hinek QMC- Transport QM 26 Oct 41 to 27 Nov 41 (when he died at Cairns,/
1st Lt W. J. Buckhold, MC -- transport surgeon 26 Oct 41 to 14 Dec 41 (relieved
at his own request)
Lt. Goad, MC -- transport surgeon 15 Dec 41 to 5 Jan 42 (relieved at his own request)
Lt W. J. Wilson, QMC -- CO of troops 5 Jan 42 to 1 Mar 42 (also acted as transport QM)

Enlisted Personnel

Mr Sgt W. J. Wilson, QMC -- QMC sergeant; major 26 Oct 41 to 7 Feb 42 (commissioned)
St Sgt L. J. Johnson, MD. medical detachment 26 Oct 41 to 7 Feb 42 (relieved)
St Sgt Gentry, MD medical detachment 8 Feb 42 to 1 Mar 42
Sgt G. T. Holmes, Inf, personnel sergeant major 26 Oct 41 to 1 Mar 42
Sgt Weiss, SC, 26 Oct 41 to 1 Mar 42
Pvt 1 cl Rurick, 26 Oct 41 to 1 Mar 42
Pvt 1 cl Chmelowski, SC, 26 Oct 41 to 1 Mar 42
Pvt Schur, AC, _____ to _____.
Pvt Vandal, __, _____ to 7 Feb 42.

DESCRIPTION:--Speed 18 knots; length 278'; overall 260' perpendicular;
beam 38'4", depth of forward hold __; depth of aft hold 22½'; water __; Diesel fuel
approximately 190 tons (80 tons additional in forward hold); draft (light-loaded)
14½' forward, 16¼' aft; draft (heavy loaded) 16½' forward, 17' aft; two hatches;
three holds (2 hold forward, one hold aft). 247 third class accommodations; 200
second class accommodations; 26 first-class accommodations; bar and lounge, 47
passengers full capacity; dining saloon to capacity, 26 per sitting; chartered
\$21,000. per month; Lloyd's evaluation, \$750,000.00; ship built 1935 in Germany;
twin screw operated; equipped with heat-generating plant, refrigeration plant,
2 auxiliary engines, 1460 life-preservers, 5 ships boats (four 55-passenger capacity
and one 26 passenger capacity; amateur net call signals WUWU; J54 boat aboard; one
jeep aboard; one bicycle; one motorcycle. Five deck officers, four engineer officers,
two stewards, 27 seamen (deck), 22 firemen, steward's department 33 men (including
two PX).

VOYAGE 1. -- Left Manila 12:00 noon 4 Nov 41; arrived Zamboanga 11:10 PM 5 Nov 41
Water taken aboard at Zamboanga. Left Zamboanga 3:15 AM 6 Nov 41; arrived Good Island
9 Nov 41. Left Good Island same day; arrived Thursday Island at approximately 8:00 PM
9 Nov 41 to take on pilot for passage through Torres Strait. Arrived at Port Moresby,
New Guinea, 11 Nov 41. Five troop-class passengers disembarked 9:00 AM, 11 Nov 41 and
approximately tons of cargo discharged. Left Port Moresby 13 Nov 41 and took on
pilot for return trip through Torres Strait. Arrived Thursday Island 15 Nov 41,
dropped pilot, proceeded to Port Darwin, Australia; arrived Darwin 16 Nov 41. Five
troop-class passengers disembarked; also about tons of cargo discharged. Left
Port Darwin 3:00 PM 21 Nov 41 with hold empty and one first class through-passenger
left on board. Arrived Thursday Island 22 Nov 41 for pilot for Torres Strait, also
to go to Cairns, Australia; arrived Cairns 26 Nov 41. Twenty four passengers (English
passengers by order of Gen Brereton, AC), cargo loaded for Port Moresby approximately
tons.

Capt John H. Hinck, QMC, died of heart attack 7:50 AM 27 Nov 41. Maj Kerr took over as transport QM. Left Cairns 10:00 AM 27 Nov 41 with body of Capt Hinck aboard; arrived Port Moresby 28 Nov 41 and all hold cargo discharged. The USAT "Liberty" was also at Port Moresby on route to Darwin. The "Don Esteban" left Port Moresby with hold empty at 5:00PM 2 Dec 41; arrived Manila 10 Dec 41 at 10:00 AM. The "President Harrison" was passed en route to Manila ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ on the 7th or 8th Dec 41. En route to Manila Dutch Air Forceplanes were overhead constantly, acting as an escort. Water was taken on at the following points (inbound): Port Moresby, Port Darwin (approximately tons). Fuel taken on at Darwin 124 barrels. No change of personnel other than Capt Hincks death. Nautical miles covered 3530. Pilot's fee round trip (Z140).

At Darwin there was one pier, L-shaped 350' one way by 190' the other way; three sets of railroad tracks; 36' of water at pier.

At Cairns one pier 850' long, railroad tracks and a shed.

Port Moresby: a T-shaped pier, 400' long, with railroad tracks.

VOYAGE II. -- From 11 Dec 41 to 16 Dec 41 regular scheduled trips to Corregidor with miscellaneous cargo. Nothing happened on any of these trips with the exception of bombings. No personnel injured on any of the above trips. Several changes were made in the crew. No change in officer of enlisted personnel on these voyages. Approximately 300 nautical miles. All supplies for servicing the ship were taken on at Pier 1, Manila. (Towing of lighters from Piers #1, #3, #5 and #7, Manila to Corregidor.)

VOYAGE III--Departed Manila the night of 16 Dec 41 with cargo and 3 first-class passengers; arrived San Carlos Sugar Central, Negros, cargo not removed (some foodstuffs were taken off?). All passengers disembarked and proceeded to Cebu City. Reason for disembarking was that on a radio pick-up message enemy warships were headed north in direction of port. No confirmation of above message. Few foodstuffs removed from the ship were reloaded and ship proceeded on its mission. Arrived at Bugo, Mindanao 18 Dec 41. Cargo discharged by enlisted men of 440th Ord Co. tons unloaded. Left Bugo 19 Dec 41, arriving Manila 22 Dec 41. All supplies for servicing the ship were loaded at Pier 1, Manila. No change in the officers and enlisted men on this trip. Some new crew members were taken on after the voyage. Nautical miles approximately 1000.

VOYAGE IV.-- Between 23 Dec 41 and 31 Dec 41 many trips were made between Manila and Corregidor. Gen MacArthur and party embarked for Corregidor 7:00PM 24 Dec 41. Also complete enlisted personnel for his headquarters. Miscellaneous cargo. Some changes were made in the crew. No change in officer or enlisted personnel. All supplies for servicing ship were taken on at Pier #1, Manila. Bombings were numerous during above times. Nautical miles traveled 300.

VOYAGE V.-- Lt Wilson, CO of troops 5 Jan 42. Left Corregidor 2:30 AM 22 Feb 42. Special party taken aboard. Intermediate stops were made during daylight hours en route to destination. Arrived at Iloilo, Panay, about 7:00 PM 23 Feb 42. Special party disembarked and proceeded aboard "Princess of Negros" 7:30 PM. "Princess of Negros" disregarded the blackout and was completely illuminated. Transport left for destination and arrived 8:00 AM 24 Feb 42. Cargo taken aboard approximately tons (rice, beef, canned foodstuffs, poultry, ~~cement~~ cement, aviation gasoline). Transport left for Corregidor. Last stop Paluan Bay, Mindoro, 1 Mar 42. At 10:00 AM enemy planes spotted the transport. At 10:30 AM enemy planes bombed and strafed her. At 2:30 PM enemy planes returned, bombed and strafed again setting afire. At 3:00 PM enemy cruiser or destroyer entered Paluan Bay and saw the "Don Esteban" on ~~fire~~ fire. Crew brought ashore to Barrio of Bauin (?) and remained there all night. Mar 2 1942 enemy warship left Paluan Bay. There were several changes in crew. Stops: Paluan Bay; Pan-

doracan Bay, Antique, ~~May~~; Port of Entry, Iloilo; Cebu City, Cebu, 2 Days (24 & 25 Feb); Pandoracan Bay, Antique, Panay; last stop Paluan Bay. Nautical miles 375. Crew paid up until March 31, 1942. Prior to 1 Feb 42 payroll \$1525.00; after 1 Feb 42 payroll \$3050.00.

Penciled notation: Maj Kerr rel'd 4 Jan 42 and went to Bataan as Artillery Officer I Corps
X Cook -FC on 4/1

foregoing ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

The ~~above~~ information taken from Project J Archive folder 500-21
Title: "History of ATS activities in Manila and Cebu"

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DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES RENDERED

CAPTAIN WILLIAM J. WILSON, R-128 286; O-277 544

1. Captain Wilson served with the National Guard for two years (1912-1914) before becoming an enlisted man in the Regular Army. As a cook with the Quartermaster Corps assigned to the Twelfth Field Artillery, Captain Wilson served in four of the toughest campaigns of World War I: Catigny, Chateau-Thierry, Aisne-Marne and Soissons. During the succeeding years he served as a Master Sergeant, and in 1930 was appointed a second lieutenant in the Quartermaster Reserve Corps. He was reappointed to this rank in 1935 and in 1940.

2. In October of 1941, Captain Wilson was serving as a Master Sergeant on the Army Transport Don Esteban, which was then plying the waters of the Southwest Pacific. On 7 December, when the ship was returning from New Guinea, it received word that all ships north of the equator were to report to the Philippines. As the Don Esteban rode at anchor in Manila Bay a few days later, its crew witnessed the first bombs to fall on Manila. Hurried preparations were made to evacuate all gold, securities and precious cargo to Corregidor, thirty miles across the bay. It was also on this ship that General Douglas MacArthur and his family were carried to the safety of "The Rock".

3. The bombing and strafing which the ship received on this trip resulted in the death of several of the crew and Captain Wilson was placed in complete command of this army transport. He became a first lieutenant on 5 January 1942. His first orders were to dispatch the vessel from Bataan and set sail for Cebu in the southern islands, which was then serving as the major port of entry for the Philippine Theater. Here was the all-important and vital mission of procuring supplies for the beleaguered garrison on Bataan -- supplies which never reached the gallant defenders. For off the coast of Minoro, Japanese planes strafed and bombed the Don Esteban. The crew tried valiantly to save the doomed craft but with heart-breaking results, and the Don Esteban went down under Pacific waters. Fortunately, however, the entire crew of fifty-five Filipinos, six enlisted men and Captain Wilson escaped this disaster to begin one of the most gruelling and terrifying experience recorded in the history of this theatre.

4. Cebu lay 450 miles to the southeast. About half that distance had to be covered over water. With practically no supplies, ammunition or promise of assistance from any quarter, the band of sixty-two set out to negotiate the distance. Much is to be said for the inspirational leadership that was given them by Captain Wilson, and the resourceful in-

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genuity he displayed in guiding his men through the challenging terrain of Panay and the waters of the Tablas Strait and the Visayan Sea. Horsecart, auto, train, native bearers and even oxen were used as means of conveyance. Twelve harrowing days later the entire group weak from hunger and loss of sleep, arrived at their destination; one month later the Japanese invaded. There have been few examples of improvisation and native cunning in the field which can rival that displayed by Captain Wilson in the above episode.

5. Captain Wilson's group attempted to aid the Cebu command, but shortly thereafter met with others at a rendezvous in the mountains to hear that their commanding officer had received an ultimatum from the Japanese demanding surrender, with the stipulation that if refused, reprisals would be taken against the civilian populace. It was decided to yield. However, it was further decided that any officers who wished to choose attempted escape in the stead of surrender could do so. Captain Wilson chose this latter and more daring course. His twenty years of experience in the Philippines gave him a broader knowledge of how he might possibly live off the land, avoid capture and hope for ultimate liberation. So he took to the hills. Between him and the Headquarters on Negros Island to the west, the Japanese were strongly entrenched. By carefully infiltrating enemy lines and crossing Tanon Strait under cover of darkness, Captain Wilson reached these Headquarters, and reported to Colonel Roger Hillsman, Infantry, offering his services there in any capacity. Almost immediately, however, the Japanese invaded Negros Island and the same terms of surrender were submitted, and again the officer personnel were given the same opportunity of escape into the hills.

6. For the next three months Captain Wilson led the life of a hunted animal. Forever on the alert against the Japanese, guarding against the quivering few, barely existing on berries and herbs, he lived a life of solitary hiding. He was finally taken in by one of the constabulary and nursed back to health under the most secretive conditions. Regaining his strength and faculties, he undertook to organize a resistance force from among the inhabitants of the island. Such a task was extremely difficult and discouraging in the extreme. Eventually, a force of 250 men armed with rifles, three machine guns and four automatic rifles, plus a group of 1500 bolo-men was organized.

7. The problems of food, administration, discipline and civil government afforded tremendous barriers to the effective operation of this force. None of the men were paid, their spirit for fighting the Japanese wavered continually, and discipline was almost impossible. Captain Wilson discovered that the greatest disciplinary measure was to take a man's rifle away from him. It is a great wonder that any such guerilla group could remain in existence, much less become an effective weapon against the enemy. That it did is a great tribute to the talents and character of Captain Wilson.

8. Captain Wilson located his guerrilla headquarters less than three miles from the Jap-occupied city of Habayso, and raiding parties continually made life miserable for their foe. Captain Wilson, himself, made several rides into town in his automobile, which was pieced together from many abandoned machines and propelled with a fuel made by distilling alcohol from tubs (juice of the cocconut palm). Finances for this underground movement were contributed in part by the Japanese themselves. Members of the movement maintained gaming places in the city of Habayso, and the winnings taken from Japanese officers and men were used to purchase supplies and equipment from various sources.

9. Messenger service provided constant liaison with allied commands, and Captain Wilson's raiders accrued strength figures of Jap forces on the various southern islands. Japanese propaganda was combatted with counter-propaganda. Throughout this period as a leader of the guerrilla band, Captain Wilson kept himself informed on all events by a radio receiving set rigged up from spare parts and powered by a battery. The battery was charged by a makeshift generator which was turned by a crude but workable system of paddle wheels under a waterfall. Station KGEI, San Francisco, supplied him with the daily progress of United States Forces as counter intelligence to Jap claims that the Western portion of the United States had been conquered.

10. It is difficult to evaluate the actual value of this guerrilla warfare which Captain Wilson maintained for so many months. He never took any prisoners; most of the wounded became fatalities. At the peak of his activities, he commanded a force of 2000 men who were engaged in harassing, confusing and killing Japs at the ratio of 60 to 1. It is a fact that 11,000 Japanese troops were maintained on the Island of Negros throughout the war; troops which might have been of definite value in fighting our forces in another theatre. Captain Wilson became such a thorn in the side of the enemy that they placed a reward of \$5000 on his head, and he became known as "White Eagle", the leader and avenger of the beleaguered forces in the Philippine Islands.

11. Captain Wilson's tour of duty while serving as an enlisted man and officer of a ship of my command were continually marked by devotion to duty and leadership of an exceptional nature. His willingness to serve beyond the call of his assignment -- his intimate knowledge of the Philippines -- his fidelity to the Army and the men whom he served -- these qualities provided a constant inspiration to all who knew him. Yet the truly glorious chapter he was to write came after our forces had surrendered in this theatre. For Captain Wilson continued to carry the battle to the enemy. Without once questioning the futility of his activities nor the final outcome of our endeavors in the Pacific, he knew that so long as both he and the Japanese lived he would continue fighting them. Few men have carried on so gallantly in the face of such i

imponderable obstacles. None have reflected the spirited traditions of America's fighting men more vividly. He was previously recommended for a Silver Star Medal by the late Lieutenant Colonel E. J. Kerr, Field Artillery, but no action was taken. I deem it a very sincere pleasure to recommend Captain Wilson for the recognition he so highly deserves.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Simon S. Santero, 41 years old, widower,
Barrio Igoado, Dao
residing at Antigue, Pampanga, hereby declare that I
understand my rights under the Constitution and Laws of the Philippines;
that I also understand that my statements will be used to prove material
facts in support of a claim for veterans benefits from the United States
Government, and that I make these statements voluntarily and freely:

That I was formerly a crew member of the USAF "Don Esteban" in the
capacity of Sailor at the outbreak of the war with Japan up until 2 March
1942, date when the vessel was bombed and burned by the Japanese.

That I know Juan Saragena, who was also a crew member in the same
vessel in the capacity of "Sailor". That I know that Juan Saragena
together with Hiraclao Lucas, Francisco Gayte and Teodorico Sagumlian
were not with the vessel at the time it was bombed and burned on 2 March
1942 because they voluntarily remained in Cebu City prior to that date,
on 26 February 1942.

That among those who remained on duty with me up to the time when
the vessel was bombed were the following personnel:

1. Juan Afable - Captain
 2. Jose Aldeguer - 1st Officer
 3. Jose Castillo - 3rd Mate
 4. Zacarias Amante - Quartermaster
 5. Juan Damsco - Quartermaster
 6. Juan Sardon - Sailor
 7. Zacarias Palmas - Sailor
 8. Baldomero Moraca - ~~Quartermaster~~ *Quartermaster SS*
 9. Esteban Dilao - Sailor
 10. Jose Monoso - Carpenter
 11. Manuel Torre - 2nd Officer
- hit at Cavendish, hit by machine gun bullets*

AFFIDAVIT

"M/S DON ESTEBAN"

I, Fernando Quidato, Oiler of M/S Don Esteban, do hereby certify that the following statements are true and complete to the best of my knowledge:

That I was inducted into USAFFE about 30 October 1941. That the vessel was taken over about 15 October 1941.

We were paid for month of February 1942, at San Jose, Mindoro by Lt. Wm. Wilson, American officer, who was in Charge of supplies.

Said vessel operated between the ports of Manila, Darwin, Morseby and Mindanao carrying ammunitions, bombs and guns.

That on 1 March 1942 said vessel was in Palawan Bay Mindoro where it was attacked by two enemy planes, but not sunk. The planes returned again, this time machine gunning and bombing and we received one incendiary bomb hit, which started the ship a fire. We then lowered the life boats and abandoned the ship.

After ship was abandoned we assembled at P.A. Hq. at San Jose, Mindoro. Here we were paid and ordered to report to Cebu, which we did about 10 March 1942. I waited there until 1 April 1942 when I was assigned to the M/L Brunswick, where I served until the enemy landed on 9 April 1942, when the army scuttled the vessel at Opon, Cebu. From there I proceeded to P. A. Hq. at Negros Occidental where I was attached as Casual until 22 May 1942 when the enemy landed. I then fled to mountains and there went to Cauayan, to live with my relatives on a farm, where I stayed until 18 June 1945 when I went to La Carlota, on another farm.

The following is a list of the men who worked with me aboard at the time when the ship was sunk:

Major Kerr	CO 2
Capt. Juan Afable	Skipper
Capt. Robert Haines	CO 1
Capt. Ennis	
Lt. William Wilson	CO 3
Sgt. Johnson	
1st Mate Jose Aleduer	

2nd Mate	Torre
3rd Mate	Castillo
4th Mate	Hernandez
Chief Engineer	Raymundo Olaes
2nd Engineer	Sailing
3rd Engineer	Lacson
Machinist	Lazaro Regalado
Tool Keeper	Felipe Espino
Oiler	Macario Afable
"	Felipe Sevillano
"	Paquito Claveria
"	Hipolito Olaes
"	Aldanese
Electrician	Cruz
Asst. "	Gorgonio Empadrado

Fernando Quidato

FERNANDO QUIDATO
Oiler M/S Don Esteban

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of
November, 1945, at the City of Iloilo, Philippines.

Warren A. Vick

WARREN A. VICK
Capt., Inf.

AFFIDAVIT

M/V "DON ESTEBAN"

I, Cirilo Sioson, Captain's Boy, do hereby certify that the following statements are true and complete to the best of my knowledge:

That said vessel was inducted into the service of USAFFE on 30 October 1941. That the ship and crew inducted by Captain ~~HYANES~~ ~~PORT OFFICER~~ ship. That we were inducted into the USAFFE, because I had my inductions papers which I hid in an air raid shelter. But since have been unable to procure;

That at time Capt. Hyanes was port officer;

That said vessel was engaged in transporting Bombs, Ammunitions, and personnel, between Manila, Port Moresby, Port Darwin, South Queensland and Corregidor.

That during the days 16, 17, 18, and 19 of December 1941 the harbor of Manila was subjected to severe bombings, and at each warning the ship would pull out to sea to avoid being hit. I lived at my brother's home, and when coming back on the morning of 20 December 1941, the ship had left;

The last I saw of said vessel was on 19 December 1941, likewise that was my last day of work;

That I stayed at my brother's house until April 1942, then returned to Iloilo where I engaged in buying and selling foodstuffs until May of 1943, when I began work as a house boy of Mr. Ysmael, where I am still employed.

The following is a partial list of men who worked with aboard the M/V Don Esteban:

1.	Juan Afable	Skipper of the Ship
2.	Jose Aldeguer	Chief Mate
3.	Manuel Torre	2nd Mate
4.	Hernandez	3rd Mate
5.	Major Kerr	Commanding Officer
6.	Capt. Porter	
7.	Capt. Hinck	
8.	Capt. Wood	
9.	Lt. Buckhold	Medical
10.	Sgt. Holmes	Steward
11.	Sgt. Johnson	Medical
12.	Sgt. Wess	Radio Operator

- 13. Sgt. Wenewiski. Asst. Radio Operator
- 14. Margarito Peralta Chief Steward
- 15. Mr. Garcia Purser
- 16. Zacarias Juanco 1st Cabin boy
- 17.

X Cirilo Esteban
CIRILO ESTEBAN
Captain's Boy
M/V Don Esteban

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of
November, 1945, at the City of Iloilo, Philippines.

Warren A. Vick
WARREN A. VICK
Capt., Inf.

WAR SHIPPING ADMINISTRATION
RECRUITMENT & MANNING ORGANIZATION

Sept. 7, 1945

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that PAULINO L. SECRETARIA was employed on the United States Army Transport, "Don Esteban" on October 30, 1941, as Pantry Assistant. That in February, 1942, he was transferred with nine other crew members of the Don Esteban to Corregidor detailed to work with A. T. S., QMC, under Major Robert H. Ennis and subsequently surrendered to the Japanese at the fall of Corregidor and was sent to Camp O'Donnell, Capas, Tarlac.

Felix F. Garcia, Jr.

FELIX F. GARCIA, JR.
Q.M. Jr. Clerk (Ex-Purser)
U.S.A.T. "Don Esteban"

FFG/avb

Felix F. Garcia, Jr.

Felix F. Garcia, Jr.
c/o Recruitment & Manning Organization
U. S. War Shipping Administration
APO 707



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7 September 1945

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that the bearer Paulino L. Secretaria is personally known to me and that he served as an Assistant pantry man on board of the U.S.A.T.S. M/S Don Esteban from Oct. 30, 1941, and was sent to Corigedor on February 1942 to work with the A.T.S.Q.M.C. under Major Robert H. Ennis until the surrender of Corigedor on May 7, 1942, and was sent to Camp O'Donnell, Capas, Tarlac, as a prisoner of war.

Very respectfully yours



JUAN D. AFABLE
EX-Master U.S.A.T.S.
~~to~~ Don Esteban
Harbor Pilot
Pilot Section

CERTIFICATE

I, Rosendo Barnuevo, do hereby certify that the following named men were serving as ship's officers aboard the U.S.A.T. "Don Esteban" at the time of induction into service with the U.S. Army Transport Service, and held the position indicated:

I further certify that though Capt. Herbert Ennis was one of the ship's officers he was permanently stationed at Port Q. M. in Manila.

OFFICERS OF THE U.S.A.T. DON ESTEBAN

1. Capt. Juan Afable	Ship Captain
2. Major Kerr	Commander in Charge
3. Capt. Herbert Ennis	Port Quartermaster
4. Capt. Hing	Quartermaster
5. Capt. Porter	Incharge of E.M. Passengers
6. Lieut. Buckford	Hospital Doctor
7. William Wilson	Master Sergeant
8. Sgt. Major Holms	
9. Staff Sergeant Johnson	Nurse
10. Pfc. Swiss	Chief Radio Operator
11. Pvt. Shlowmesky	Assistant
12. " Rerick	Second Assistant

Rosendo Barnuevo

ROSENDO BARNUEVO

First Class Boy

U.S.A.T. Don Esteban

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3rd day of November, 1945, at the City of Iloilo, Philippines, affiant with Residence Certificate No. A-13339, issued at Iloilo City, on June 4, 1945.

Gustavo C. Boesch, Jr.

GUSTAVE C. BOESCH, Jr.
1st Lieut., Infantry

Name - Rosendo Barnuevo
Ship - U.S. Army Transport *M/V* DON ESTEBAN
Designation - First Class Boy

AFFIDAVIT

I, Rosendo Barnuevo, of legal age, married and residing at Barrio Li-onc, Lustugan, Capiz P.I., swear as follows:

That on October 30, 1941, the *M/V* DON ESTEBAN of the De la Rama Steamship Co., Inc. was inducted into the U. S. Army, making it as U.S.A.T.S. and I was one of the crew who was inducted also. Beginning that time we were put into active service. We do the transporting of bombshells and other ammunition to Port Moresby in New Guinea and Port Darwin in Australia. We reached Moresby in New Guinea and Port Darwin in Australia. We reached Port Darwin on the second week of November, 1941. From that place we proceeded to Cairns, one of the City of Australia via Thursday Island to take building materials and stone crushers. When we reached there it happened that Captain King of the Quartermaster Corp died. We proceeded to Port Moresby carrying the corpse with us. After unloading our cargoes at Port Moresby, we proceeded to Manila via Thursday Island bringing the dead body with us. We had not reached Manila when the radio broadcast from Manila announced that Pearl Harbor was bombed by the Japanese airforce. We proceeded our way because we were already in the water of Tablas Strait. We reached Manila Bay that night but we were not able to anchor alongside the pier due to black out. We had to wait the following day. The dead body was unloaded. Staying there for few days, we were again loaded with bombshells and ammunition for Bogo, Mindanao. After unloading, we went back to Manila and waited for orders. Beginning that time Japanese planes got busy bombing Manila city and the ships that lay anchor at Manila Bay and in the Pasig River. Several ships were hit and damaged. Some were sunk almost immediately, others capized. Our ship and her crew were lucky as she was not hit with the other ships. Then came the memorable night of December 24, 1941. That was Christmas Eve and our ship was used by General McArthur Headquarter in evacuating from Manila to Corregidor the General himself, his wife and son, Aid-de-Camp Manuel Roxas and some other Generals. The members of his office staff and all the important papers and their subsistence. We reached Corregidor at about 2:00 o'clock the following morning. We stayed in Corregidor. When air raid comes we seek shelter in the power house or inside the main tunnel. When Manila was captured during the first week of January, 1942, we were already in Corregidor waiting for orders. We, the crew went ashore in Bata-an to hide from the continuous bombing. We used to leave the ship with guards only but returning to the ship at night. When we received the order that we will evacuate President Quezon's household to the Visayas. President Quezon and his family took the submarine. They all disembarked in Iloilo and we proceeded to Cebu to take reinforcement for Corregidor. After we were fully loaded in Cebu with food and gasoline, we started for

Dec 24
Dec 24

Corregidor passing Bohol Strait, down to Tanon Strait to Jintolo Channel down to the southern coast of Mindoro. We reached Paluan Bay, Mindoro, at day break on the second week of March, 1942. At about 9:00 o'clock in the morning, two enemy patrol planes saw us. They attacked us with machine gun for five minutes and went away. This gave us time to lower our lifeboats and go ashore. The lifeboat where I was riding was so badly damaged by machine gun bullets that we were not able to reach the shore before she began to sink. We then swam towards the other lifeboat because the distance of the shore was still very far about one kilometer. We were just on time to reach the shore and hide when the two planes appeared again. They began to machine gun again the ship and the shore where we were hiding until the ship was in fire. Luckily enough only one of our companion was hit by the shrapnel of the hand-grenade while we were still in the ship. This was our fourth Officer Bernardes.

We were all taken under the care of the Municipal Mayor of Paluan including the 7 Americans who managed the ship. The Mayor arranged our journey to San Jose, the southern town of Mindoro, to Cebu where our Headquarter was. I returned home on April 2, 1942 after we were cleared in Cebu as there was no ship for us to man because most of them were wrecked by the enemy. In connection to this I swear before God, to my country, to U.S. and to my fellow citizens that during my stay home I never collaborated with the Japanese Army. I spend my time tilling the soil in order to support my 3 children and my wife, I did not join the guerilla because it is not my line of duty.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand in the City of Iloilo, Philippines, this 3rd day of November, 1945.

Rosendo Barnuevo

ROSENDO BARNUEVO
First Class Boy

U.S. Army Transport M/V Don Esteban

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3rd day of November, 1945, at the City of Iloilo, Philippines, affiant with Residence Certificate No. A-13339, issued at Iloilo City, on June 4, 1945.

Gustave C. Boesch, Jr.

GUSTAVE C. BOESCH, Jr.
1st Lieut., Infantry

18 Oct. 45

AFFIDAVIT

I, FELIPE ESPINO, residente of Sta. Barbara, ^{Iloilo} after having sworn to according to law depose and say the following voluntarily:

"That I was a member of the crew of the U.S.T.S aboard M/S DON ESTEBAN, SS Gen J. H. HYDE, SS Tug Boat Kissweck and SS YUSANG.

That I had duly sworn to Allegiance to serve in U.S.T.S from 30th Oct. 1941 until six months after terminal of war.

That I served the U.S.T.S. until 6 May 1942, the fall of of Corregidor.

Felipe J. Espino
(Signature)

(Rank & Br. of Serv)

SUBSCRIBED & SWORN to ^{before me} this 18th day of Oct 1945 at the 6th Repl. Bn

WITNESSES:

Baldomero Murata R.M.

Arnelio Espino
2d Lt. I +
(Rank & Br. of Serv.)

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Authority AND 883078

No. 28

DECLASSIFIED

Authority AND 883078

AFFIDAVIT

18 Oct. 45

I. HERACLEO MOCAS of legal age, resident of Bo. TALA@OTAC, SAN JOAQUIN, ILOILO, after having sworn to according to law despose and say the following voluntarily:

"That I was a member of the crew of M/S DON ESTEBAN of the U.S.A.T.S since 30 Oct. 1941 up to 1 March 1942, the time when the said ship was bombed and sunk by the Japanese."

"That I swore an oath of allegiance to U.S.A.T.S and to serve 6 months after the termination of hostilities."

In witness whereof, I have auto sign this AFFIDAVIT on DECLARATION this 18th day of Oct. 1945 in the presence of two witnesses:

Heracleo Mocas
HERACLEO MOCAS

Subscribed & sworn to before me this 18 day of Oct 1945 at the 6th Repl. B.

Aradio Lotada
ARADIO LOTADA
2d Lt., Inf

WITNESSES:

Gorgonio Empedrado
Asst Sec. M/S Don Esteban

Member, Processing Board
6th Repl. B.

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Authority AND 883079

18 Oct. 45

AFFIDAVIT

I, JUAN SARAJINA, of legal age, resident of San Joaquin Iloilo, after having sworn to according to law depose and say the following voluntarily:

"That I was a member of the crew of M/S DON ESTEBAN of the U.S.A.T.S since 30 October 1941 up to 1 March 1941 the time when the said ship was sunk."

"That I had sworn an oath of Allegiance to the U.S.A.T.S and to serve 6 months after the termination of hostilities"

In witness whereof, I hereunto signed this AFFIDAVIT of DECLARATION this 18th Day of Oct. 1945 in the two witnesses.

Juan Sarajina

JUAN SARAJINA

SUBSCRIBED & SWORN to before me, this 18th day of Oct. 1945 at the 6th Repl. Ba.

WITNESSES:

Heraldo Mocos

Salvador Monte

Aradio Yokada
ARADIO YOKADA
2d Lt., I-1

Member, Processing Team
6th Repl. B-

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Authority *NND 883078*

United States of America
Commonwealth of the P.I. Ss.
City of Iloilo
X-----X

AFFIDAVIT

I, GORGONIO EMPEDRADO, of legal age, filipino, married and resident of Iloilo City, after being duly sworn to according to law, depose and say:

That I was formerly an Assistant Electrician of the U.S. Army Transport "M/S Don Esteban" earning \$100.00 a month;

That said M/S Don Esteban was inducted into the U.S. Army Transport service on October 30, 1941, in Manila;

That on November 4, 1941, we sailed for Australia loaded with bombs and other war ammunitions. After seven days we reached Port Darwin where we unloaded some of our bombs and ammunitions. Then we proceeded to Port Moresby. From there, we sailed again for Cairns City where we stayed for a few days. From said City we returned to Manila;

We reached Manila on December 8, 1941, from which date we were not anymore able to go out of Philippine waters. All we did was just to carry war materials from Manila to Corregidor during night time as air raid then could be expected any moment;

That our services from Manila to Corregidor ended until the Japs occupied Manila. We stayed in Corregidor for about one and half months;

That on February 25, 1942, we went out for the Visayas carrying President Quezon and party;

That on March 2, 1942, two Japs planes attacked us in Palawan Bay;

That we reported at Fort Quartermaster in Cebu where we stayed for one month until the Japs landed in the City. Therein, we returned to our home town.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand in the City of Iloilo, on October 15, 1945.

Gorgonio Empedrado
GORGONIO EMPEDRADO

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of October, 1945, at Iloilo City. Affiant exhibited his Res. Cert. No. AP210776 issued at Iloilo City on April 17, 1945.

Doc. No. _____; Page No. _____; NOTARY PUBLIC
Book No. _____; Series, 1945. Until December 31, 1946

Witnesses:

Sejido Saibles
Papa Espino

DECEASED
Authority AND 88307P

No. 35

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Authority *AWP 883079*

A F F I D A V I T

I, Gorgonio Empedrado Asst Elec (OM)
 (Name) (rank & br of Ser) (ASN)

married and resident of Rizal St Iloilo after having been duly sworn in accordance to law, depose and say:

THAT I am married to Dolores Dubouzet, having been legally married to her on 13 April 1974 at Iloilo city;

THAT I am not divorced nor am I living separately from my wife:

THAT my wife and (3) Three are not furnished any Government (No. of children) quarter in any kind at present.

Gorgonio Empedrado
 Name
 Gorgonio Empedrado
 Asst. Elect (OM)

SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

Guillermo Villalobos
 Dupico Villalobos - 02629
 and of 3rd fl.

Rank & Br of Serv

Capt. Paul A. ...
 2nd Lt. 105p-1000

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME this 18th day of Oct 1945 at 1696th Kp Br.

[Signature] 0-2711
 (Administering Officer)

[Signature]
 Rank & Branch of Service

HEADQUARTERS
FOURTH REPLACEMENT DEPOT
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN THE FAR EAST
AFG 703

30 January 1945

A F F I D A V I T

I, WILLIAM JEROME WILSON, 39 years of age, resident of Washington, D. C., after having been duly sworn, according to law, depose and say that the following information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

1. WILSON WILLIAM JUDSON
(Last name) (First name) (Middle name)
2. 711 F San Marcelino St., Manila, Philippines
(Last legal residence)
3. Whitestone, Long Island, N. Y. 16 July 1895
(Birthplace) (Day) (Month) (Year)
4. United States of America
(Citizen of)

5. _____
(If not a citizen by birth, what year, court, and place naturalized)
6. 5' 4 1/2" 135 lbs Gray Bonds Ruddy
(Height) (Weight) (Color eyes) (Color hair) (Complexion)
7. Two years High School
(Highest education received)
8. G.I. left shoulder Tattoo, number, left forearm
(Identification marks)

9. Married one
(Marital status) (Number of dependents)

10. Dependents:

Name	Relationship	Age	Present or last known Location
<u>Flora A. Wilson</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>711 F San Marcelino, Manila, P.I.</u>

11. Parents (if living):

Name	Relationship	Age	Present or last known Location
<u>None</u>			

12. Military service (from start of war, or shortly before, until surrender of unit:

Organization	Grade and Duty Performed	Location	Dates	Comd. Off.
	<u>1/Sgt</u>	<u>Camp John Hay</u>	<u>23 Oct 1935</u>	
<u>Quartermaster Corps</u>	<u>Chief Clerk</u>	<u>Philippines</u>	<u>23 Oct 1941</u>	<u>M. P. Moran</u>
	<u>1/Sgt</u>	<u>U.S.A.F.</u>	<u>24 Oct 1941</u>	<u>Major</u>
	<u>1st Lieut.</u>	<u>Don Estaban</u>	<u>5 Jan 1942</u>	<u>Major Kerr</u>
	<u>1st Lieut.</u>	<u>U.S.A.F.</u>	<u>6 Jan 1942</u>	
	<u>1st Lieut.</u>	<u>Don Estaban</u>	<u>13 Mar 1942</u>	<u>Col. F. Arnold</u>
	<u>1st Lieut.</u>	<u>Cebu, P. I.</u>	<u>10 Apr 1942</u>	<u>Col. J.D. Cook</u>
	<u>1st Lieut.</u>	<u>Sedion</u>	<u>11 Apr 1942</u>	<u>Brig. Gen.</u>
	<u>1st Lieut.</u>	<u>Cebu, P. I.</u>	<u>13 May 1942</u>	<u>Chenoweth</u>

* Transport sick, N. W. Coast Mindoro 1st March 1942, proceeded to Cebu, Philippines, nearest outpost, arrived 12 March 1942.

EXTRACTED FROM

- (Philippine Constabulary)
13. Army or (Philippine Coast-) serial number 0-57744
(Philippine Army-)
14. Financial remarks (who received partial payments, by whom paid, dates, and amounts) not paid in full in discharge to account on 18 Jan 1945 on Corregidor, Manila Terr Agent '70 for PO USAFFE, Fort Hills, P. I.
- 4 December 1944 - Partial Payment \$150.00 by G. A. WEISMAN, Major, PD.
3 January 1945 - Partial Payment \$300.00 by G. A. WEISMAN, Major, PD.
23 January 1945 - Partial Payment \$100.00 by G. A. WEISMAN, Major, PD.
15. Type allotments (class E or B, and including deductions for Class F family allowances) Class "X" Insurance \$10.00
Unable to make family allotment because my family was caught behind Japanese lines.
16. Insurance status \$10,000.00 applied for at Fort Hills, P. I. After receiving commission. Status unknown.
17. (Inducted) (USAFFE)
(Called to active duty) into (AAS-) on 6 January 1942
(Relieved) (RA)
18. Activities between 7 Dec. 1941, and surrender of unit. (Include full data on promotions, and conduct which merit awards)

On December 7, 1941, I was JM Agent on U.S.A.T. Don Esteban. I was returning from Cairns, Australia, and Fort Morseby, N. G., and was passing Zamboanga, P. I. Ships north of Equator ordered into Manila, P. I. December 15 to 22, 1941 made trip to, San Carlos Occ Negros, Rago, Mindanao, and Iloilo, Iloilo, P. I., with bombs and arms. December 23, 1941 to January 1, 1942 made nightly trips from Manila to Corregidor, evacuating valuable supplies, etc. Evacuated General MacArthur and his family during this period. From January 1st, 1942 to about February 18th, 1942 at anchor off Cabacaban Bataan awaiting orders. January 5th, 1942 discharged to accept commission. January 6th relieved Major Edwin Kerr, PA, as Commanding Officer U.S.A.T. Don Esteban. January 12th promoted to 1st Lieutenant. About February 18th, 1942 ordered to evacuate Manuel Quezon, President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and his party from Corregidor. Mission accomplished about February 22nd discharging the party at Iloilo, Iloilo, P. I. Ordered to Cebu, Cebu, February 24th, 1942 loading subsistence supplies for Corregidor. High test gasoline placed on deck against my protest. Gasoline in five gallon cans. February 27th cleared Cebu for Corregidor, loaded 7 inches above water line cargo limit. Traveled at night only anchoring in best available security cove during daylight. March 1st, 1942 anchored in Palosa Bay, Mindoro, about 6:30 A.M. At about 8:30 two enemy planes came in from the west flying at only 200 feet. They dropped 3 bombs each making a close hit. They circled the ship six times at almost water level and machine gunned continuously. All portholes knocked out and gasoline cans punctured causing fumes to fill the ship. About 9:15 they departed. During attack I was in the Radio Room with Sergeant Weiss. I broke seal on radio and contacted Navy Department on Corregidor, informing them of my plight. When planes circled forward it was necessary to lie on deck as bullets were passing through the radio room, which seemed to be a known target to the enemy. Going to gasoline fumes and danger of fire I ordered the ship to be abandoned about 9:45 A.M. Life boat in which I left ship sank about a 100 yards from ship because it was riddled with machine gun bullets. I was picked up 30 minutes later by another boat. Only casualty was the third officer who received a bullet in the hip. We assembled about 1 mile from the beach - 55 members of the crew (Filipinos) and 6 enlisted men (Americans). About 2:30 P.M. I returned to the beach alone, trying to decide what action would be advisable, i. e. run to Corregidor or scuttle the ship. At 2:45 P.M. the two enemy planes returned and began to machine gun the ship. They did not bomb it. They saw the life boat on the beach a short distance from me and in circling strafed the beach, where I was in a small natural fox hole. About the third time around the ship a bullet must have caused a spark. The fumes from the gasoline ignited and in a few minutes the entire ship was in flames.

(18 cont'd)

About 3:30 PM a Japanese Cruiser and Destroyer came in and fired one salvo into the engine room, but did not sink the ship. I believe they were disappointed, as the planes did not bomb the second trip. It may have been that they thought they could capture it. The enemy warships anchored about 2 miles further up the bay and remained until 9:00 AM the following morning. On March 3rd I decided to try to report to Cebu by nearest outpost as no help seemed to come from Corregidor, in answer to my Radio. It was necessary to leave the third officer behind because of his wound. We traveled at night, resting by day. The Japanese had landed in Calapan Mindoro, and had control of the only road across the island. It was necessary to go through their lines, which was accomplished at night by small groups in small boats off shore. Travel was by foot, boat, and horse back. On arrival at San Jose Mindoro, the same Cruiser and Destroyer were in the harbor. They had control of the inter-island ship Regolino. A Constabulary Officer and an American Engineer Officer in charge of the Air Port insisted I abandon my plans to go to Cebu as it would be impossible. They wanted me to take my men to the mountains in Mindoro. I refused and after much trouble and delay chartered a sail boat for Panay. Arrived in Union Antique and proceeded to Capiz, Capiz,

(18 cont'd)

where I met an old friend Colonel Rafael Garcia. My trip from there to Cebu was made easy by Colonel Garcia. I arrived in Cebu with all of my men except the third officer on March 12th, 1942 and reported to Colonel John D. Cook for duty. I discharged my crew and paid them in full. Colonel Cook told me he had forwarded a letter citing my leadership in the trip which I had just successfully completed. I was placed as Officer in charge, Cebu advance 3rd Depot. On April 10th, 1942 the Japanese invaded Cebu. We proceeded to the Sudlon to prearranged points, and as a base Officer I remained until May 13th, 1942. On May 8th, 1942 I was promoted to Captain by orders of Brig. Gen. Chenyorth, in recognition of services rendered in the field. On May 12th, 1942 the General received an ultimatum from the Japanese Commander to surrender. On May 13th the General issued a field order in which he gave each officer a chance to decide for himself, i.e. surrender, hide or leave the island of Cebu. I decided to leave the island and go to Negros, as the Japanese had not occupied that island yet. The Sudlon was surrounded but I was able to pass through their lines at night. I arrived on Negros May 14th, 1942 and reported to Colonel Hillman, while flags of surrender were then flying in all of the towns of Negros. Colonel Hillman told me he would surrender without a fight. I told him I had the General's permission to escape if I could and would not surrender. I left Colonel Hillman the evening of May 14th and never saw him again. I proceeded to Bacolod Occ Negros, and then to Dumagetti Or Negros, where I met Major Sabare, C.O. Or Negros Constabulary Co. On May 22nd, 1942 Japanese warships entered the harbor of Dumagetti. Major Sabare ordered his unit to evacuate. I proceeded north with him and his men to Guinhelungon Or Negros. On the way north a motor cycle carrier met us with the surrender order of Colonel Hillman. The surrender was to be completed before sundown that day. After reading the order to his men and consultation with his other officer, Captain Santiago and myself we decided to go to the mountains, hide our arms, disband and when the proper time came reorganize a Guerrilla band. On May 25th, 1942 I separated from Major Sabare at Mabudlos, Guinhelungon, Oriental Negros, Philippines and went into hiding alone.

21. occupations: (give dates, places, duties, authorities and names: _____)

May 25th to August 13th, 1942 in solitary hiding at Mabudlos, Guinhelungon, Or. Negros. Japanese learned of an American Officer hiding in that area and had Filipino spies in the area continuously. Mr. Anastacio Aliviado who prepared my food deserves credit for his loyalty. Also a few other natives who knew where I was but kept their mouths shut. August 13th, 1942, called on by Lieut. Colonel Gabriel Gador, P.O., to organize a Quartermaster Service in Oriental Negros. Several guerrilla bands were at that time operating. About the 20th of October 1942 Lieut. Mercado (calling himself a Captain), a leader of a small guerrilla band in Guinhelungon came to my quarters and told me he was going to break with Colonel Gador. Colonel Gador as far as I could find out was the highest ranking officer who did not surrender. Therefore the break looked like mutiny to me. Another organization headed by Corporal Francisco Gamiligan in Vallehermosa Or. Negros was reorganizing Colonel Gador. About the 27th of October Japanese in force were reported at Panibigan Or. Negros headed for Guinhelungon where I had my office. Corp. Gamiligan sent men to

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in command of the island of Negros by Major Villamor. About November 1943 Col Gador was forced to leave Negros. Lieut Col Aspillo, Gador's former adjutant, who had joined Abcede brought the pressure to bear which forced Gador out. In April 1944 Col Mata attacked Gemillan from the north and Mercado from the south. They had plenty of new carbines and the force was too great. Gemillan was short of ammunition. It was civil war, and I could do nothing to stop it. Gemillan and all of his men escaped to Cebu. His organization was the first organized in the Visayas Jun 1942, and had continually harrassed the Japanese. The organization deserves a great deal of credit. I remained on Negros as I was not a member of Gemillans band but was known to be a Gador supporter. Mercado's men treated me as a prisoner. My property was looted, my horses stolen, my side arm and rifle taken from me. About August 1944 I sent a letter to Col Abcede explaining the way I was being treated, and asked for an explanation. He sent word to Mercado to treat me as an American Army Officer should be treated. He also ordered him to return my property. This was never done. Col Abcede sent me word if I wished to get out to come and see him. I made the 200 Kilometer hike to his headquarters. I was treated fine there. He was trying hard to do what was best for his country. It was the units in the field that were not disciplined, and which caused all the trouble. I was informed by Major Vallejo that Col Abcede did not order the attack on Gemillan. It was personal ambitions of Col Mata who wanted to control the Vallehenrosa area. On October 20th, 1944 at 1:00 AM I left Negros, arriving in Brisbane, Australia November 2nd, 1944.

get me and take me to the mountains in his sector for safety. As Mercado had broke with Gador I took the only step I believed right and followed the men who still seemed to be loyal to Gador. The organization of a G.M. Service failed for lack of funds, cooperation and interest. I became a military advisor to Corp'l. Camillian and Camillian was accidentally shot and killed by his sweetheart about the middle of November 1942. His brother Margarito assumed command. December 31st, 1942 I returned to the beach at Tinducan. About the middle of January 1943 after many border clashes between Camillians men and men of Capt Mata (who had promoted himself to a Lieut Col) I contacted Mata in Sudaud Occidental Negros. This contact stopped all clashes until June 1943. The end of January 1943 Mercado's men attacked Colonel Gador at Payabon. Many atrocities were committed in addition to murder. Colonel Gador can explain this attack. I went to Payabon stopped the conflict and peace reigned between these units until August 1943. On March 1st, 1943 I went to Cebu to procure ammunition from Larry Feintin (Lieut Feintin) the leader there. He gave me nothing but asked for corn grain from Negros to avoid a seizure. I had frozen grain on Negros since August 1942. I released 2000 ~~carabos~~ ^{carabos} of corn on my return. Mercado released a like quantity. About October 27th, 1942 Colonel Gador promoted me to Major. The latter part of January 1943 he transferred me to the Infantry and promoted me to Lieut. Col. The first part of February he promoted me to Colonel and ordered me to organize the 72nd Division. I contacted all guerrilla leaders but their personal ambitions were far in advance of the best interests of the country and the civilians. They wanted fame and fortune in their own names, if any were to come. They refused to consolidate in a military organization and back me. I relinquished the command I could not consolidate. Colonel Gador appointed me liaison officer and military adviser to the Vallehermoso Regiment headed by Margarito Camillian. About June 1943 Colonel Gador requested me to accompany him to southern Negros to meet Major Villamor, General MacArthur's personal representative. My feet were swollen, I could not put my shoes on, so it was impossible for me to make a 200 kilometer trip over the mountains. Col Gador went and can give information on what happened. Lieut Col Abcede who had been commanding Occidental Negros and junior to Col Gador was placed

22. Wounds received (physical location, cause, geographical location, date, by whom treated, when and where, disabilities claimed if any): _____

Hit by piece of concrete January 5th, 1942 in old boiler room at cold storage plant Corregidor when a bomb made a direct hit. The ceiling was 10 feet high. No wound but bruised. Taped in hospital tunnel Corregidor. Still troubles me.

23. Illnesses (nature of illness, geographical location in which incurred, dates, by whom treated, when and where, disability claimed, if any): _____

Feet swollen from June 1943 to April 1944. A Philippine doctor diagnosed it as kidney trouble, but had no medicine. Taped in hospital tunnel Corregidor. Still troubles me.

24. Decorations, citations, awards: _____

Two citations - Purple Heart - 1 bars
 entitled to - Army of Philippines Medal - 1 bar
 and other from above information.

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25. Service in the Bureau of Constabulary (location, rank held, and circumstances of service):

26. Employed by the Japanese in any capacity (location, dates, by whom employed, other circumstances):

27. I am re-enlisting in the AUS voluntarily

28. Vital statistics regarding other Service Personnel or American Citizens:

I had only two Americans with me. Mr. Crane a civilian came out when I did and is now in the United States. W/Sgt William Williams who when I left was with Colonel Cushing, Guerrilla leader on Cebu.

29. (For American Personnel Only)

Having had the choice of remaining in this theater or of returning to the United States by first available transportation in accordance with War Department Circular 58, 1944, I choose to ~~remain in this theater~~ (return to the United States) on ~~the next available opportunity~~ and return to this theater.

William J. Wilson
(Signature)
WILLIAM J. WILSON O-277544
Seaside, Ore.
(Grade) (Branch of Service)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this _____ day of _____ 19____
at Headquarters, Fourth Replacement Depot, APO SCS.

J. H. Zide
(Signature)
JOS. H. ZIDE
1st Lt., AUS, Adjutant
(Grade) (Branch of Service)

(Title)

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Authority *AWD 883078*

EXTRACTED FROM REPORT OF
WM. J. JASON WILSON, 370 30 J 45

About February 18th, 1942 ordered to evacuate Manuel Quezon, President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and his party from Corregidor. Mission accomplished about February 22nd discharging the party at Iloilo, Iloilo, P. I. Ordered to Cebu, Cebu, February 24th, 1942 loading subsistence supplies for Corregidor. High test gasoline placed on deck against my protest. Gasoline in five gallon cans. February 27th cleared Cebu for Corregidor, loaded 8 inches above water line cargo limit. Traveled at night only anchoring in best available security cove during daylight. March 1st, 1942 anchored in Palcan Bay, Mindoro, about 6:30 A.M. At about 8:30 two enemy planes came in from the west flying at only 200 feet. They dropped 3 bombs each making a close hit. They circled the ship six times at almost water level and machine gunned continuously. All port holes knocked out and gasoline cans punctured causing fumes to fill the ship. About 9:15 they departed. During attack I was in the Radio Room with Sergeant Weiss. I broke seal on radio and contacted Navy Department on Corregidor, informing them of my plight. When planes circled forward it was necessary to lie on deck as bullets were passing through the radio room, which seemed to be a known target to the enemy. Owing to gasoline fumes and danger of fire I ordered the ship to be abandoned about 9:45 A.M. Life boat in which I left ship sank about a 100 yards from ship because it was riddled with machine gun bullets. I was picked up 30 minutes later by another boat. Only casualty was the third officer who received a bullet in the hip. We assembled about 1 mile from the beach - 55 members of the crew (Filipinos) and 6 enlisted men (Americans). About 2:30 P.M. I returned to the beach alone, trying to decide what action would be advisable, i. e. run to Corregidor or scuttle the ship. At 2:45 P.M. the two enemy planes returned and began to machine gun the ship. They did not bomb it. They saw the life boat on the beach a short distance from me and in circling strafed the beach, where I was in a small natural fox hole. About the third time around the ship a bullet must have caused a spark. The fumes from the gasoline ignited and in a few minutes the entire ship was in flames. About 3:30 PM a Japanese Cruiser and Destroyer came in and fired one salvo into the engine room, but did not sink the ship. I believe they were disappointed, as the planes did not bomb the second trip. It may have been that they thought they could capture it. The enemy warships anchored about 2 miles further up the bay and remained until 9:00 AM the following morning. On March 3rd I decided to try to report to Cebu my nearest outpost as no help seemed to come from Corregidor, in answer to my Radio. It was necessary to leave the third officer behind because of his wound. We traveled at night, resting by day. The Japanese had landed in Calapan Mindoro, and had control of the only road across the island. It was necessary to go through their lines, which was accomplished at night by small groups in small boats off shore. Travel was by foot, boat, and horse back. On arrival at San Jose Mindoro, the same Cruiser and Destroyer were in the harbor. They had control of the inter-island ship Reguloc. A Constabular Officer and an American Engineer Officer in charge of the Air Port insisted I abandon my plans to go to Cebu as it would be impossible. They wanted me to take my men to the mountains in Mindoro. I refused and after much trouble and delay chartered a sail boat for Panay. Arrive in Union Antique and proceeded to Capiz, Capiz, where I met an old friend Colonel Rafael Garcia. My trip from there to Cebu was made easy by

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Colonel Garcia. I arrived in Cebu with all of my men except the third officer on March 12th, 1942 and reported to Colonel John D. Cook for duty. I discharged my crew and paid them in full.

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Authority *UND. 88307P*

STATEMENT OF SERVICE

I, Romualdo Sartaguda, 33 years of age, single and resident of San Joaquin, Iloilo depose and say:

That on December 12, 1941 I served as Winchman on board the U.S.A.T. DON ESTEBAN with the monthly compensation of THIRTY PESOS and no/100 (P30.00).

That on the second week of December 1941 we transported bombs from Maraviles to Bogo, Mindanao and returned to Manila on December 25, 1941.

That on February 1942 the increase of salary was doubled thus my monthly compensation was SIXTY PESOS and no/100 (P60.00).

From this date up to February 29, 1942 we have done an active service.

That on March 1, 1942 the boat was burned due to the enemy interception.

Romualdo Sartaguda
ROMUALDO SARTAGUDA
Winchman

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

WITNESSES:

Baldomero Demata

Conchavis Teina

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Authority *ND 883078*

No. 61

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *AND 88307P*

OCT-30 1941

Army Vessel Service

Identification Credential

339

QUARTERMASTER CORPS

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS THAT
MATEO SEDANO

(Name in full)

IS OFFICIALLY CONNECTED WITH THE ARMY VESSEL
SERVICE IN CAPACITY OF

Sailor "DON ESTEBAN"

(Title and vessel or office)

(SGD) ROBERT HAYES ENNIS

(Signature of officer in charge)

Captain, QMC

Quartermaster

A TRUE COPY
19 Oct 45

Sebastian A. Arboleda
SEBASTIAN A. ARBOLEDA
2nd Lieut., Inf
Member Processing Board
6th Regt Bn.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AND 883078

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Authority AND 883078

Born: Month Sept., Day 22, Year 1915, Married? No.
American Citizen: By Birth F11, Naturalized _____
Foreigner of _____
Nationality, Residence in U. S. _____
Years. Citizenship Applied For? _____
Height 5 Ft. 5 Ins, weight 145 Lbs Color Black
Complexion Brown Hair Black Eyes Black
Dependent's Name: Aurelia Sedano
Address, San Joaquin, Iloilo
Employer's Signature: Mato Sedano (Sgd) MATRO SEDANO



OCT 30 1941

ARMY VESSEL SERVICE

Identification Credential

343

QUARTERMASTER CORPS

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS THAT

AMBROSIO SEISA
(Name in full)

IS OFFICIALLY CONNECTED WITH THE ARMY VESSEL
SERVICE IN CAPACITY OF

Sailor "DON ESTEBAN"
(Title and vessel of office)

(SDG). ROBERT HAYES ENNIS
(Signature of Officer in charge)

Captain, QMC Quartermaster

△ TRUE COPY :
19 Oct 45

S Arboleda
SEBASTIAN A. ARBOLEDA
2nd Lieut, Inf
Member, Processing Board
6th Repl Bn.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AWD 883078

No. 3

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AWD 883078

Born: Month _____, Day 12, Year 1921, Married? No _____

American Citizen: By Birth ELL, Naturalized _____

Foreigner of _____ Nationality, Residence in U.S. _____

Years. Citizenship Applied for? _____

Height 5 Ft, 6 Ins, Weight 154 Lbs., Color Black _____

Complexion Brown Hair Black Eyes Black _____

Dependent's Name: ~~MARTIN~~ MARTIN ~~MARTIN~~ _____

Address: San Joaquin, Illinois _____

Employee's Signature: (SGD) AMBROSIO SISA _____

ARMY TRANSPORT SERVICE,
Office of Superintendent

Manila, P.I.

QM 231,81-T/
USAT "DON ESTEBAN"

Crew List, USAT "DON ESTEBAN"

October 31, 1941

The Quartermaster General
Washington, D. C.

1. Referring to your radio T 887 WT and our radio T 869 W, enclosed is list of crew and annual pay for U.S.A.T. "DON ESTEBAN", which was chartered on October 30, 1941.

2. Verbal agreement between owners and Army Transport Service provided that we take over such members of the former crew as we deemed necessary for proper operation of ship, at substantially the cash wages they were paid by owners. They are now employed, and will be retained subject to proper performance of their duties.

3. The Wages paid are considerably below Army Transport Service scale, and it is contemplated that some increases in the deck and engine departments will be requested after the first voyage.

1-Incl
(Crew List in dupl.)

F. A. WARD,
Lieut. Colonel, QMC,
Superintendent, ATS.

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Incl 2

CREW LIST, USAT "DON ESTEBAN"

-00-

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>CASH PAY</u> <u>PER YEAR</u>	<u>RATIONS</u> <u>PER YEAR</u>	<u>QUARTERS</u> <u>PER YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MONTHLY</u> <u>PAY CASH</u>
<u>Deck Department</u>							
1.	Afable, Juan D.	Master	\$3300	\$270	\$200	\$3770	\$275.00
2.	Aldaguer, Jose	1st Officer	1380	270	200	1850	115.00
3.	Torre, Manuel E.	2nd Officer	1020	270	200	1490	85.00
4.	Castillo, Jose P.	3rd Officer	720	270	200	1190	60.00
5.	Hernandez, Amador	Jr. 3rd. Off.	660	144	60	864	55.00
6.	Noblesa, Manuel	Boatswain	360	144	60	564	30.00
7.	Monoso, Jose	Carpenter	300	144	60	504	25.00
8.	Murata, Baldomero	Quartermaster	240	144	60	444	20.00
9.	Amante, Zacarias	Quartermaster	240	144	60	444	20.00
10.	Dingcong, Eliseo	Quartermaster	240	144	60	444	20.00
11.	Mocas, Heracleo	Winchman	180	144	60	384	15.00
12.	Mondragon, Marcelino	Winchman	180	144	60	384	15.00
13.	Sedigo, Sergio	Storekeeper	180	144	60	384	15.00
14.	Sampollo, Serafin	Watchman	180	144	60	384	15.00
15.	Palmos, Matias	Sailor	180	144	60	384	15.00
16.	Santero, Simson	Sailor	180	144	60	384	15.00
17.	Saragena, Juan	Sailor	150	144	60	354	12.50
18.	Gayte, Francisco	Sailor	150	144	60	354	12.50
19.	Delao, Esteban	Sailor	180	144	60	384	15.00
20.	Segumalian, Teodorico	Sailor	150	144	60	354	12.50
21.	Sedano, Mateo	Sailor	150	144	60	354	12.50
22.	Sardon, Juan	Sailor	150	144	60	354	12.50
23.	Sedil, David	Sailor	180	144	60	384	15.00
24.	Seisa, Ambrosio	Sailor	150	144	60	354	12.50
<u>Engine Department</u>							
25.	Olaes, Raymundo	Ch. Engineer	2700	270	200	3170	225.00
26.	Janelino, Arsenio	1st Asst. Engr.	1380	270	200	1850	115.00
27.	Sailing, Delfin	2nd Asst. Engr.	1020	270	200	1490	85.00
28.	Lacson, Lucio	3rd Asst. Engr.	660	270	200	1130	55.00
29.	Del Rosario, Fidel G.	4th Asst. Engr.	540	270	200	1010	45.00
30.	De La Cruz, Hilarion	Ch. Elect.	840	270	200	1310	70.00
31.	Empedrado, Gorgonio	Asst. Elect.	300	144	60	504	25.00
32.	Regulado, Lazaro	Machinist	480	144	60	684	40.00
33.	Espine, Felipe	Tool Keeper	300	144	60	504	25.00
34.	Afable, Macario	Oiler	300	144	60	504	25.00
35.	King, Lope	Oiler	300	144	60	504	25.00
36.	Sevillano, Felipe	Oiler	210	144	60	414	17.50
37.	Quidato, Fernando	Oiler	300	144	60	504	25.00
38.	Aldanese, Santos	Oiler	210	144	60	414	17.50
39.	Claveria, Paquito	Oiler	210	144	60	414	17.50
40.	Marasigan, Antonio	Oiler	180	144	60	384	15.00
41.	Olaes, Hipolito	Oiler	180	144	60	384	15.00
42.	Panganoron, Isidro	Oiler	180	144	60	384	15.00

LIST, U.S.A.T. "DON ESTEBAN" (Continued)

STEWARD DEPARTMENT

43.	Peralta, Margerite	Ch. Steward	780	270	200	1250	65.00
44.	Fanero, Conrado	2nd Steward	300	270	120	690	25.00
45.	Eusebio, Lazaro	Chief Cook	660	144	60	864	55.00
46.	Carredo, Fidel	Asst. Cook	420	144	60	624	35.00
47.	Fiel, Catalino	Asst. Cook	420	144	60	624	35.00
48.	Andrade, Federico	Cook Helper	180	144	60	384	15.00
49.	Andrade, Florido	Cook Helper	180	144	60	384	15.00
50.	Bardoquillo, Diego	Ch. Pantryman	300	144	60	504	25.00
51.	Dasmarias, Felix	2nd Pantryman	240	144	60	444	20.00
52.	Juaner, Moises	Army Boy	360	144	60	564	30.00
53.	Cesar, Benjamin	Storekeeper	360	144	60	564	30.00
54.	Ladera, Marcelo	Butcher	300	144	60	504	25.00
55.	Sloson, Cirilo	Captain Boy	300	144	60	504	25.00
56.	Juanco, Zacarias	Asst. Army Boy	300	144	60	504	25.00
57.	Acedo, Antonio	1st Cl. Boy	270	144	60	474	22.50
58.	Barnuevo, Rosendo	1st Cl. Boy	270	144	60	474	22.50
59.	Hermosicima, Timoteo	1st Cl. Boy	270	144	60	474	22.50
60.	Fernandes, Pacifico	1st Cl. Boy	270	144	60	474	22.50
61.	Diana, Apolonio	1st Cl. Boy	270	144	60	474	22.50
62.	Bautista, Susano	1st Cl. Boy	270	144	60	474	22.50
63.	Tagle, Arturo	Troop Boy	180	144	60	384	15.00
64.	Laurel, Antonio	Troop Boy	180	144	60	384	15.00
65.	Barredo, Roberto	Crew Boy	120	144	60	324	10.00
66.	Secretaria, Paulino	Crew Boy	180	144	60	384	15.00
67.	Montalban, Felix	Crew Boy	180	144	60	384	15.00
68.	Boger, Tirso	Crew Boy	120	144	60	324	10.00
69.	Amorés Rafael	Kitchen Boy	120	144	60	324	10.00
70.	Gregorio, Miguel	Ch. Laundryman	360	144	60	564	30.00
71.	Gangka, Vicente	Asst. Laundryman	180	144	60	384	15.00
72.	Miaga, Benjamin	Asst. Laundryman	180	144	60	384	15.00
73.	Paredes, Benjamin	Kitchen Boy	180	144	60	384	15.00
74.	Celerio, Sergio	Kitchen Boy	180	144	60	384	15.00
75.	Fronteras, Eugenio	Kitchen Boy	180	144	60	384	15.00

ARMY DEPARTMENT

76.	Garcia, Felix Jr.	QM Jr Clerk	1500	144	60	1704	125.00
77.	Canada, Meliva	G.O. Typist	360	144	60	564	30.00
78.	Damasco, Federico	QM Typist	330	144	60	534	27.00

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CREW LIST, U.S.A.T. "DON ESTEBAN" (Continued)

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>R E C A P I T U L A T I O N</u>		<u>QUARTERS</u>		<u>MONTHLY</u>
		<u>CASH PAY</u>	<u>RATIONS</u>	<u>PER YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
1. Deck Department	24	\$10800	\$3960	\$2000	\$16760	\$900.00
2. Engine Department	18	10290	3348	1920	15558	857.50
3. Steward Department	33	9060	5004	2180	16244	755.00
4. Army Department	<u>3</u>	<u>2190</u>	<u>432</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>2802</u>	<u>182.50</u>
TOTAL CREW * - - - -	78	\$32340	\$12744	\$6260	\$51364	\$2695.00

C. O. TROOPS Major KERR

TRANSPORT QM Capt. HINCK

SURGEON

QM AGENT Metr. Sgt. WILSON

MED. ATTEND. Stf. Sgt. JOHNSON

SGT. MAJOR Sgt. HOLMES

RADIO OPERATOR Sgt. WEISS

RADIO OPERATOR Pvt. 1st Cl REARICK

RADIO OPERATOR Pvt. 1st Cl MIELEWSKI

PX STEWARD

PX STEWARD

M/S "Don Esteban" -

Ship bombed & burned on 2 MAR 42.

Ship engaged in transporting bombs, ammunition,
and personnel between Manila, Port Moresby,
Port Darwin, South Queensland, and Corregidor.
Ship sank at Palawan Bay, Mindoro.

M/S FLORA D.

Vessel abandoned on 10 APR 42.

No cargo or troops were carried.

Don Esteban- As reported by the Captain

Commandered Oct 31 - probably sunk on Mar 1- Mindoro
Men were supposed to report back to Cebu- those who did were paid
for Mar 31

- ✓ Jose Aldeguer- refused to accept more work- Chief Mate
- ✓ Juan D Afable- accepted assignment on another vessel Captain
- ✓ Manuel Torres 2nd mate- Refused another assignment
- Jose Castillo- 3rd mate- accepted another assignment with Captain
- Amador Hernandez- wounded in Mindoro by shrapnel
- Zacainan Amante 2 wheelman- disposition unknown
- Baldornero Merata - reported Cebu
- ✓ Serafin Sampollo - Seaman assigned with crew of Perle de Oriente
- ✓ Juan Monose- boatswain - didnt report to Cebu
- Simeon Santero- Seaman-reported Cebu
- R Sartaguda Wenchuan- Reported Cebu
- Marcelino Mondrago boatswain- Killed Corregidor- 15 Feb 42
- Gregorio Catalo - Carpenter- reported Cebu
- Matias Palmoq Seaman- reported Cebu
- Mateo Sedano- Seaman Taken to hospital Iloilo
- ✗ Ambrosio Seisa Seaman- Deserted Iloilo
- David Seidal Seaman- Deserted at Iloilo
- Francisco Gayte Seaman - Didnt report Cebu
- ✓ Juan Saragena Seaman - Deserted first trip to Cebu ✓
- Jose Cabrera Seaman- Reported Cebu
- Simeon Sison Seaman Reported Cebu
- Estaban Dilao Seaman Reported Cebu
- E Dincong QM Resigned in Manila

The following men were left behind at Corregidor as
they were needed by the Quattermaster. They were all paid
to include Feb 15.

Rafael Amores
A Tagle
E Bogor
Zacarias Juanco - died at camp O'Donnel
Apolonio Diana - " " 2 " "
Antonio Acido
Vidente Canke
Timoteo Hermocisina
Paulo Secretaria
A Laurel

these men were members of the Stewards dept
and were all mess boys

Don Esteban cont.

Raymundo Oloes chief Eng- refused to accept further Duty
Arsenio Janolino 1st asst eng- accepted another assignment
Delfin Bailing 2nd asst eng- ~~deserted~~ refused another assignment
Lucio Iacson 3rd asst eng.- deserted
E Del Rosario 4th asst eng. didnt report Cebu-deserted Manila
Conrado Peralta - didnt report Cebu
Hilarion De la Cruz Chief Elect. Stayed in Mindoro- sick with Malaria
Francisco Quindato Oiler- reported Cebu
Lozaro Nazario Machinest- reported Cebu
Macario Afable oiler - Reported Cebu
Antonio Marasigan - oiler- reported Cebu
Gregorio Empedrado- asst Elec. - Reported Cebu
Isidrp Panganora oiler- reported Cebu
Hipolito Oloes - oiler - reported Cebu
S Aldanese -oiler Tranfered to the Mc Hyde Dec 41 at Corregidor
P Espino - oiler- " " " " " " " "
Paguito Clavena oiler- deserted
S Sevillano Oiler- deserted
Tranquillo Zapanta oiler- reported Cebu
Leon Allo Oiler reported Cebu

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"DON ESTEBAN"

NAME	POSITION	DATE ON SHIP
1. Miaga, Bernardino	Asst. Laundryman	1 Nov 41- 28 Mar 42
2. Olas, Raymundo Alvarez	Chief Engineer	8 Dec 41- 30 Mar 42
3. King, Lope Cadera	Oiler	8 Dec 41- 10 Apr 42

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Radio
G. H. [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear]

Ring
Chief [unclear]
Signed on [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear]

Quartersmaster Clerk - Felix F. Garcia Jr
M/S Don Esteban

(Master) Juan B. Añable - Pilot, Pilot Sekt
Port' Command, Manila
S. S. Doctor

The "Don Esteban" ^{was} Commanded Oct 31, 1941,
from ~~the~~ Don De La Rama S. S. Co. -
Manila - Crew was seen in contact
& then proceeded to dry dock (Cebu?)
for painting & repairs.

2 Nov 41 - Australia - carried 500 bombs
at Keerua Australia, on quarters
master, John M. Hench, died.

Came back to Manila Dec 6-

Dec 6 - 21, made run between
Corregidor & Manila. & trip to Mindanao

1 Jan 42 - Feb 19 - tied at Corregidor

Feb 19 - Orders to Iloilo & then
Cebu.

Feb 27th (about) arrived Cebu - we
loaded provisions.

- Paluan Bay, Mindoro

Mar 1 (AM) Jap planes spied us - and
bombed + machine gunned us 9:AM
(Sunday). The crew left because boat
began burning. Late in afternoon
when they Japs returned - 2 plane
machine gunned the shore, and two
gun boats came in and shelled the
San Esteban. The crew then left for
Pan + Paluan. One week later ~~re-arranged~~
The crew (in different groups) reached San
Jose. The crew heard rumors that
the San Esteban was sunk.

At San Jose the 2nd. paid for the
crew for February.

We proceeded to Cebu - by Gloda, No. 102
+ then Cebu - by ~~boat~~ sail boat.

All who reported to Cebu - were
paid for March 31. The men
were asked whether they would
exit now in event another transport
come in - some signified they would
others did not.

Some even went home, some received

other assignments & those who were quartered
there went to Mountain after Apr 9, 1942
name of the crew (Filipino) was captured by
Japan that we know of.

Crew (Deck Dept)

Juan B. Afable - present address: Pilot,
1st. Mar 550 P/M Pilot Sect., Nat Command
So. Harbor, Manila
Last taken assignment ~~of another~~ as master of a
After Apr 9 - went Cebu, Cebu ^{small boat}

Jose Aldeguer - Chief Mate - declined
1st. Mar to resume duty - stayed in Cebu City

Manuel Torres - Second Mate - was on
1st. Mar lay home on Apr. 9 - had injuries &
unwillingness to resume duty.

Jose P. Castillo - 3rd Mate - took work
1st. Mar with the Captain on his new assignment

Amador Hernandez - received shrapnel wound
on Mar 1, 42 - remained on
1st. Feb. Mindanao.

Zacarias Amante - 2nd. Wheelman - ^{on 6d. when}
1st. Feb. ^{wounded} his foot in explosion - probably
remained in Manila to work for another boat.

Baldomero Murata - 2nd. - remained
with us in Cebu. 1st. Mar

Serafin Sampollo - Seaman - later 2nd M. -
Lived with crew in Cebu - was
assigned to "Perla de Oriente" as
sailor & watchman. 1st Man

Juan Monoso - Carpenter - then bos^{tain}
Remained behind in Mindoro - 1st
Feb

Jesus Santero - Seaman - Remained
with crew in Cebu. 1st Man

P. Sartaguda - Wrenchman - 1st Man
Remained with crew in Cebu

Marcelino Mondragon - Bos^{tain} - 1st Jan
Killed Corugoda - about 15 Feb 42.

Gregorio Catala - Seaman to Carpenter -
Remained with crew in Cebu -
was lost there. 1st Man

Matias Palmos - Seaman - remained
with crew in Cebu. 1st Man

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Mateo Sedano - Seaman - Sick in
Iloilo - taken to Mission Hospital there
(Feb. - trip to Cebu) pd. Jan.

Ambrosio Sessa - Seaman - in Cebu with
~~Feb.~~ ~~to Cebu~~ pd. Jan crew ^{records} Iloilo -

David Seidil - Seaman - ~~on~~ - took
(Feb trip) to Cebu ? (Amb. Sessa) to hospital -
failed to return ^{to ship} - could
have made it though hospital was some distance.
Also he could have joined crew in Cebu -
 knew ~~that~~ they were going there. ^{records} Iloilo
pd Jan

Francisco Gayte - Seaman -
(Feb trip to Cebu) - ^{during} ~~after~~ air raid
in Cebu ^{and} left ship - but Gayte did
not return) pd. ~~Jan~~ Jan Feb 15

Juan Saragena - Seaman
Feb trip to Cebu - during air raid
in Cebu all left ship - but Saragena did
not return. pd. Feb 15

Jose Cabrera - Seaman -
Signed on the ship in Feb 25
at Cebu - was replacement for ~~the~~ one
who did not return. Ended up Cebu. pd March
70 Mar

Severin Leon - Seaman - signed on in
Cebu (Feb 25) in replacement - Det. Cebu ^{pd} Maul

Estaban Ditas - Seaman - with crew in
Cebu. 1d Man

E. Sincang - QM - resigned Manila
in December - 10 Dec. 41 (about)
1d. Nov.

Left behind in Cuzido as needed
help in 2m - ~~seen~~ by request of
Maj. Robert H. Ennis -
member of Stewart Dept - mess boys

Rafael Amores

A. Tagle

T. Bogor

Jacuanas Juanco - det Sp. Donald,

Apolonio Siana

Antonio Acido

Vicente Canke

Triste Hermocima - ✓

Paulo Secretaria

A. Laurel

pd
Feb 45

(Engine Dept)

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Raymundo Olas - Chief Eng. -

With crew in Cebu - signified he
did not want to resume duty. 1st Dec

~~Arnelio~~

Arnelio Jandino - 1st Asst Engineer
with crew in Cebu - he was last
man to leave "Don Est." after shutting off
all water valves - Took another assign.
in Cebu. (Ch. Eng. "Kantoon") 2nd Dec

Del fin Saeling - Sec. Asst Eng.

With crew in Cebu - did not wish
to accept another assignment 2nd Dec

Lucio Lason - 3rd Asst Eng.
Left ship San Carlos - trip to
Misamis (Dec. 1941) 1st Dec

E. del Rosario - 4th Asst Eng.

Joined ship in Manila 21st Dec.
He believed ship was leaving for
Cebu 15th Dec

Conrado Benalta - 4th Asst Eng. - promoted to
3rd
With crew ~~in Cebu~~ after
Don Est. sunk - went to Caloto Capias,
Manay.
Last rd. Feb.

~~4~~ Hilacion de la Cruz - Chief Electrician
With crew when on Est. ~~to~~ sunk
stayed in Mindoro - such work - in alawa
last part Feb.

Francisco Lindato - Oiler
With crew in Cebu - Pd. March

Lozano Nazario - Machinist
With crew in Cebu - Pd. March

Macano Apable - Oiler
With crew in Cebu - Pd. March

Antonio Macanogan - Oiler
With crew in Cebu - Pd. March

Gregorio Empedrado - Asst. Electr.
~~With crew in Cebu~~
With crew in Cebu - Pd. March

Isido Panganora - Oiler -
With crew in Cebu - Pd. March

Hipolito Alas - Oiler -

was crew on Cebu - Pd March

S. Aldanes - Oiler

Trip to M^o Hyde - sec. 41 - Compendo

Pd - (?) Dec 15

F. Espino - Oiler -

Trip to M^o Hyde sec 41 - Compendo

Pd. Dec 15 (?)

Paguito Clavina - Oiler

Left ship Cebu during air raid (Feb trip) did not return) Pd Feb 15

J. Sevillano - Oiler

Left ship Cebu during air raid (Feb trip) did not return. Pd Feb 15

Franquelinio Zapata - Oiler

Signed on Cebu Feb 25 - ended

on Cebu - Pd. March.

San Cello - Oiler

Signed on Cebu Feb 25 - ended
Cebu - Pd March.

Stewards kept

Marganto Peralta - Chief Steward -
On board ship sunk - but
didn't report Albu - Pd. Feb. Stayed
home Calibo, Capiz, Panay

Conrado Pañero - Sec. Steward.
On board ship when sunk - but
didn't report Albu - Pd. Feb. Stayed
home - Calibo, Capiz, Panay -

Lazaro Eusebio - Chief Cook -
Resigned Manila - 10 Dec 41 - (alms)
Pd. Pd. Nov. Pd. Jan.

Meliton Sacdan - Chief Cook
Replaced Eusebio - 10 Feb 41
Tefo. Corp. M/s Legaspi ~~Phil~~

Fidel Carredo - Sec. Cook - Promot. to
Chief Cook -
On board when ship sank Zambo -
rep. to Albu - Pd. Mar.

Diego Bardogulle - Chief Pantry man
Resigned 10 Dec. 41 (alms)
Pd. Nov

Salvador Carino - Chief Pettyman - replace
on board when ship bombed - event
Rep. Cebu - 14. Mar 4

Asst Pettyman

G. Indelecio - Left ~~ship~~ - ship Cebu - during
raid - & brought back by P.A. M.P.
on board when bombed - stayed Calibo Cape
Panay - 14. Feb

Gerónimo Panen - cook-helper -
left ship Feb 24 - on raid
Cebu - brought back by P.A. M.P.
on board when bombed - stayed Calibo
Cape, Panay - 14. Feb

Pacific Fernandez - Room boy - ~~same as~~
Walter - ~~same as~~ 14
left ship with intent to abandon ~~ship~~ Feb
Not sure whether returned

Medico Andrade - Crew Cook-helper
left ship with intent to abandon ~~ship~~ 14
to abandon - not sure whether Feb
returned

Florida Andrade - Crew Cook
left ship with intent to abandon
Not sure whether ret. 14 Feb

Morse Jeaner - Room boy -

~~Food~~ Left during air raid Cebu
Feb 25 - reported to Maj. Byrd after ship
pulled out - when ret. to Cebu we did not
pay him for Mar. 10. Feb

Manuel Ladera - butcher -

Bd during bombing - rep. Cebu -
Pd. Mar.

Leon Bautista - Room boy waiter

Bd during bombing, did not rep.
Cebu - went Calicut Capi - Pd. Feb

Felix Montalban - Room boy - promoted
to Captain boy

Bd when bombed. - Rep. Cebu - Pd Mar

Carlos Sison - Capt. boy -

left ship Manila - 10 Dec 41 (about) Pd Nov

Felix Brannan - Chief Pantry man -
15 Dec 41 Disch. w/p after trip to

Visayas - Dumb + cowardly

Pd - 15 Dec

Miguel Siguero - Cl. Laundryman -
Resigned 4th Manila after trip ^{pt}
to Misamis 15 Dec. 41 (about) Dec 15

Benjamin Meaga - asst Laundryman -
Pd. when bombed - Rep. Cebu - Pd. Man

Rosendo Barnuevo - Room boy waiter -
Pd. when bombed - didn't report
Cebu - Pd. Feb stayed Calibo -

Eugenio Tronteras - Room boy waiter -
~~Manila~~
Pd. when bombed - Rep. Cebu Pd. Man

Sergio Celeno - Dish washer -
Pd. when bombed - rep. Cebu - Pd. Man

Benj. Paredes - Dishwasher Pd.
when bombed - Rep. Cebu Pd. Man

Nicasio ~~Tronteras~~ - (First name unknown)
Cebu helper
Signed Cebu Feb 25
Pd. when bombed - Pd. Man

Mandeloff first name unknown - cook
- helper
Lives on Cebu - Feb 25 - -
13d when bombed - up Cebu 1st Mar

Elias Bachal - Room boy
Lives on Cebu Feb 25
13d when bombed - up Cebu 1st Mar

Benj. Cesar - Storekeeper -
On 13d when bombed - did not
Mort Cebu - rich man Malawi
Cebu - 1st Feb.

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clerk

Felix F. Sarna Jr. -

2nd Jr Clerk - O-66. rep. Cebu
pd. man

Melvin Cuenada - ^{Com. Off.} ~~1st~~ Typist

1st N/S Legaspi - Sec. Careg.

Captured in Mindao - wounded when
Legaspi bombed.

F. Samaco. 2nd Typist.

Res. Srilo. - ~~1st~~ ^{Sec} typ to Misamis

Resigned in December - to
join P.A. - recruit.

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U.S.A.S. "Don Esteban"

Chartered Prior to 7 Dec. 41

Owned by - De La Rama Steamship Co

Entered gov't service prior to 7 Dec 41 Place:

Bombed and burned at Palmar Bay, Mindoro on 28 Feb. 42

Crew

Escaped to Cebu.

List attached.

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Remarks: Info. from ATB Misc. Info. Folder #1

Name of ship: U.S.S. Don Esteban - Chartered - Prior 7 Nov. 41

Name of ship owning ship: De La Rama Steamship Co.

Date entered Govt service: Prior to 7 Nov. 41. Place:

Date sunk: 28 Feb. 42 (Enemy bombed) Place: Mindoro

	<u>name</u>	<u>List of Crew</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Pay rate</u>	<u>Dates of service</u>
1.	Aldeguer, Jose	-	Chief mate	-	
2.	Afable, Juan D.	-	Captain	-	
3.	Tam, Manuel	-	2 nd mate	-	
4.	Castillo, Jose	-	3 rd mate	-	
5.	Hernandez, Amador	-		-	
6.	Amante, Jacinto	-	2 nd wheelman	-	
7.	Merata, Baldomero	-		-	
8.	Sampulo, Sergio	-	Seaman	-	
9.	Manose, Juan	-	Boatswain	-	
10.	Santos, Simon	-	Seaman	-	
11.	Sartaqueta, R.	-	Wheelman	-	
12.	Mondrag, Marcelino	-	Boatswain	-	
13.	Catala, Gregorio	-	Carpenter	-	
14.	Palmar, Matias	-	Seaman	-	
15.	Sedano, Mateo	-	Seaman	-	

U.S.A.T. San Esteban
List of Crew - (cont)

16. Seisa, Ambrosio - Seaman -
17. Seidd, David - Seaman -
18. Gayte, Francisco - Seaman -
19. Saragena, Joan - Seaman - ✓
20. Cabeera, Jose - Seaman -
21. Lion, Simon - Seaman -
22. Dilao, Esteban - Seaman -
23. Biercoy, E. - " "

Falling men were left behind at Carregidos as they were needed by the G.M. They were paid to include Feb. 15.

24. Amasser, Rafael
25. Gayle, A
26. Bogar, J
27. Zaccarian, Juaco - died at Camp O'Connell
28. Apolonio Diana - " " " "
29. Antonio Acido
30. Vicente Canke
31. Timoteo Hermocima
32. Pauls Secretaria
33. G. Laurel.

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Remarks: Info for AFS Min. Info Form #1
List on San Esteban Folder.

Afable, Juan S.

M/s Don Esteban

Date entered gant service:

Date last paid:

Captain

Place:

By whom:

Aldeguer, Jose
M/s Don Esteban

Chief Mate

Date entered goods service

Place

Date last paid:

By whom:

James, Manuel

2nd Mate

M/s Don Esteban

Date entered gov's service:

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

Castillo, Jose

3rd mate

M/S Don Esteban

Date entered gov't service:

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

Arriante, Yacovina

2nd wheelman

M/S San Esteban

Date entered gov's service

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

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Sampello, Serafin
Wife Rosa Estor

Seaman

Date entered gov's service:

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

Morse, Juan

Lombardi

M/p. New Esteban

Date entered gov's service:

Place

Date last paid:

By whom:

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Santors, Lincoln

Seaman

M/2 Row Esteban

Date entered gov't service:

Place

Date last paid:

By whom:

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Sartaguda, R.

M/s San Esteban

How intend gov's service:

Date last paid:

Wardman

Place:

By whom:

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Mendoza, Marcelino

Postman

M/S San Esteban

Date entered gov service:

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

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Catalo, Augustis

Carpenter

M/p Low Estabms

Date entered gov't service:

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

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Palmer, Motiue

Swan

M/p Dan Estaban

Date entered govt service:

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

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Sakens, Matsuo

Shaman

M/a Bow Estlin

Date entered govt service:

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

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Leisa, Ambrose

M/S Dan Estlin

Date entered gov't service:

Date last paid:

Stamper

Place:

By whom:

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Liddal, David

Seaman

M/p. Son Estlin

Date entered gov't service:

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

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Gayte, Francis
M/S Don Esteban

Sumner

Date entered gov't service:

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

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Savagna, Juan

M/o La Estacion

Date entered gov't service:

Date last paid:

Seaman

Place:

By whom:

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Cabrera, Jose

Skinner

W.P. Don Estor

Date entered gov't service:

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

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Sierra, Simon

M/S Don Esteban

Date entered govt service:

Date last paid:

Simon

Place:

By whom:

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Dilas, Esteban

Seaman

M/S Don Esteban

Date entered gov't service:

Place:

Date last paid

By whom:

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Shimono, E.

M/S Row Estlan

Date entered govt service

Date last paid.

See on

Place:

By whom:

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USAT DON ESTEBAN

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