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Authority 883078

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Bacolod, Negros Occidental
28 September, 1946

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, BENJAMIN L. HOLLERO, hereby certify that the following statements are true and correct:

1. That I am a Filipino citizen, of legal age, married and a resident of Bacolod, Occ. Negros; that I am at present attached, unassigned to the 7th Military District, PA, Bacolod, Occ. Negros, holding the rank of Major, QMG; that before the Japanese invasion of Negros, I was a USARIF Officer, Negros Force; ; that when the Japanese invaded Negros on May 21, 1942, I did not surrender and I joined the resistance movement under the leadership of Lt.-Col. Salvador Abcede; that after the organization of the 7th Military District, USFIP, on 14 May, 1943, I was designated by Major Jesus Villamor on 19 May, 1943 as District Quartermaster and AC of S, G-4, 7MD, USFIP, and continued to act in such capacity until April 21, 1945, at which time I was relieved; that since the incipient stage of the guerilla organization until early in 1943, the resistance movement was carried on by numerous guerilla bands operating in various places in Negros, and during that time there was as yet no full centralization of power and control as to administration, tactical operations, procurement of supplies, etc.; that during those times no funds were available, except for cash donations and loans from loyal spirited civilians; that due to the fact that these funds were meager enough to cover payment of supplies needed, procurement by requisitioning was resorted to;

2. That as a former officer in the resistance movement, I am familiar with the manner of procurement of supplies done by guerilla units in Negros during the last few months of 1942 until about the middle of 1943, as follows:

That the units had to supply themselves; the supply system was not adequately organized, but in some other units the supply problems were being handled by officers assigned as S-4s or by procurement agents assisted by reliable civilians who acted as Quartermaster Procurement Agents; however, before the organization of the 7MD, USFIP, and before the appointment of DQM Agents, Lt.-Col. Salvador Abcede, who was then Island Commander of the Negros Guerilla Forces, issued a general authority for the procurement of supplies, articles, and/or services, etc., for use of all unit commanders, reproduced hereunder:

"ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
IV PHILIPPINE CORPS
(FREE NEGROS)
In The Field

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that _____ is authorized to purchase on credit or receive donations, all articles, supplies and other services for the use of the 72nd Division, 4th Philippine Corps, chargeable against the funds of the Army of the United States of America.

(SGD) SALVADOR ABCEDE
Lieut.Colonel, Infantry
Commanding"

This general authority was used by unit commanders in the field for the best interest of the cause and because of the exigencies of their units, they delegated this authority to their duly appointed procurement officers and/or agents and for that purpose the written authority of Lt.Col. Abcede was duly amended in the manner and form suitable to each particular unit, as follows:

"ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
IV PHILIPPINE CORPS
72ND DIVISION (FREE NEGROS)
HQ NORTH NEGROS SUB-SECTOR "C"
In The Field

1 Jan. '43

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that _____ is authorized to purchase on credit or receive donations, articles, supplies and other services for the use of the 72nd Division, IV Philippine Corps, chargeable against the funds of the United States Army.

(SGD) SALVADOR ABCEDE
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

s/ E. G. Bidan
By: E. G. BIDAN
Capt. Inf. C&P, Commanding Band I "

3. That since the early part of 1943 and until March 1945, procurement of foodstuffs and vital Army supplies was authorized and delegated by the District Commander to unit commanders in the field for the support of their troops. Unit Commanders however, were of course held responsible for the accounting of the supplies so procured.

4. That subsequent to the organization of the 7th Military District, USFIP, and after I was designated District Quartermaster and AC of S G-1, 7MD, USFIP, in order to accomplish our mission and pursuant to the order of Lt-Col. Abcede, CO, 7MD, USFIP, I issued District Quartermaster Bulletin No. 1 dated 26 July 1943, a true copy of which is attached, marked "Appendix A" and made an integral part hereof; that the system of procurement as outlined in the aforementioned DQM Bulletin No. 1 was complied with by all DQM Agents designated by the District Commander, 7MD, assigned to various units in the field; these DQM Agents were guided by memoranda and bulletins emanating from the District Headquarters issued from time to time, as to the procurement of supplies for the units assigned to each of them; however, in view of the distance of the District Headquarters which was located in Southern Negros, and because of the fact that there was no adequate means of communication, and that courier system (messengers travel by foot) was only used, units in Central and Northern Negros received at much later time District QM Bulletin No. 1 to be of use as guide in the manner of procurement, hence the old system or procedure of procurement done in 1942 and the early part of 1943 was followed even until late 1943 by some units who did not receive copies of said bulletin;

-3-

There were, however, exceptional cases in the procedure of procurement since the middle of 1943 and even until 1945 when units have to procure for themselves rather than through the DQM Agents of their respective areas, that is:

- a. When units were too far away from the Supply Depots of S-4 officers and/or DQM Agents, they were authorized to procure for themselves after having been authorized by the nearest DQM Agent, and to submit copies of their procurement receipts to the latter so that these accounts could either be paid or incorporated in the unpaid accounts of the DQM Agent concerned.
- b. During times of emergency like operations against the enemy or when the unit is cut off from the source of food supplies due to enemy pressure, unit commanders, Junior officers, or even enlisted men were authorized to procure food supplies within the zone of operation or within their immediate vicinity, and because they were outnumbered, out-equipped and out-maneuvered by the enemy, they had to do their best in order to survive. However, power of requisitioning was not delegated to enlisted men unless it was absolutely necessary.
- c. During such adverse circumstances or when the exigencies of the service demand, officers other than DQM Agents were allowed to procure vitally needed supplies to carry on the resistance movement. These exceptional cases prevailed most frequently in the early stage of the resistance movement.

5. Subsequent to the liberation of the island of Negros by American and by Guerilla Forces, procurement of foodstuffs and supplies by DQM Agents, Supply officers and unit commanders was stopped. All procurements after the liberation were not considered legal Army obligations unless they were duly authorized by the District Commander or by the District G-4.



BENJAMIN L. HOLLERO
Major, US (O-36696)
Attached-Unassigned, 7MD, PA

Secured by:

Juan B. Gonzalez
Colonel, Investigator

UNITED STATES FORCES IN THE PHILIPPINES
HEADQUARTERS, SEVENTH MILITARY DISTRICT
CPW-V

26 July 48

DISTRICT QUARTERMASTER BULLETIN NO. 1

1. GENERAL POLICY

It is the honest aim of this Office to supply the needs of the troops in the field in the 7th Military District in such a way and at such a time as to be of value in accomplishing our mission. To accomplish our aim, it is necessary to reduce red tape to the minimum and to push service to the maximum.

2. PROCUREMENT

The Office of the District Quartermaster will take charge of all Procurements. The DQM Agents to be designated by the District Commander will represent the District Quartermaster in their assigned areas. Only the District Quartermaster, the Asst. DQM's, and DQM Agents are authorized to make procurements. Other persons, unless specifically authorized by the District Quartermaster in writing, may not procure.

The DQM Agents will, upon being designated by the District Commander, ascertain immediately the needs of the units stationed in their respective areas to provide for a reserve of six months, especially as regards food supplies. An inventory of stock on hand will then be made. The calculated needs of the Units for six months minus the stock on hand will represent the amount of supply to be procured.

The DQM Agents will at once proceed to procure the supplies needed with the help and cooperation of civil authorities. Procurement receipt (Form No. P-1), a sample of which is herewith attached, for the guidance of the DQM Agents, must at once be sent to the owners of the supplies procured. A report will at once be sent by the DQM Agents to the office of the District Quartermaster stating:

1. Strength of units in the area;
2. calculated reserve for six months on food supplies;
3. stock on hand;
4. amount to be procured;
5. excess if any.

The DQM Agents will be responsible for the issuance, accounting, storage, handling, distribution, and security of stocks. It is desired that DQM Agents use tact and foresight in the warehousing of Army supplies.

The S-4 of the units will requisition from the DQM Agents who will approve the requisition for issue if supplies are available and if the requisition is reasonable.

Special supplies such as those used by the Signal Corps, Ordnance and other specialized branches, especially those consisting of heavy machinery, will be procured by the DQM or his specially authorized agents.

3. REPLACEMENT

From time to time, the DQM Agents will make replacement of supplies in such a way that there will always be a six months reserve following the same method of procurement.

4. PAYMENTS

The Office of the District Finance Officer will issue circulars and bulletins pertaining to payments.

5. SPECIAL AND PERIODIC REPORTS

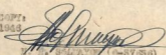
The present practice of Regimental G-4 and G-6 reports will continue. These reports should be sent to the Office of the District Quartermaster monthly.

It is desired that all DQM Agents and Asst. DQs render a monthly report of their activities stating among other things stock on hand, supplies procured for the period, supplies issued, source of supply, quantity of supplies available for procurement, calculated deficit or calculated excess, and such other data as they may deem necessary. There will be no objection to special reports if the Agents deem it necessary for the good of the military service.

By Order of Lt-Col. ANGELO:

/s/ BIRWAN L. HELLER
Captain, QMS
AC of S, G-4 and DQM

A TRUE COPY:
29 May 1949



W. H. SOLWAY (G-87656)

2nd Lieutenant, FS
Records Officer, Fin Sec 7th Det (Pa)

From file copy of Property Section, 7th ID Det.

(CERTIFIED TRUE COPY OF A TRUE COPY)

FRANK G. SMITH
Legal Investigator
CLAIMS SERVICE AFWE/PAC

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED
MAY 29 1949
FBI - WASHINGTON
This document is available for release under E.O. 13526

UNITED STATES FORCES IN THE PHILIPPINES
SEVENTH MILITARY DISTRICT

FORM: P-1

PROCUREMENT RECEIPT
(NO. _____)

DATE: _____
PLACE: _____

I hereby certify to have received from Mr. _____
_____, the following for the use of the 7th Military District,
chargeable against the USFIP funds:

DATE	QTY	UNIT	NAME & DESCRIPTION	U/PRICE	T/PRICE
:	:	:	:	:	:
:	:	:	:	:	:
:	:	:	:	:	:
:	:	:	:	:	:
:	:	:	:	:	:
Total				-----	-----

FOR THE DISTRICT QUARTERMASTER:

CEFERINO SANTANDER
1st Lieut., Infantry
DQM Agent B-M-T Area

WITNESSES:

1. _____
2. _____

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:
28 September 1946

Frank C. Smith
FRANK C. SMITH
Legal Investigator
Claims Service, AFWESPAC

JBG/ann

ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
IV PHILIPPINE CORPS
72ND DIVISION (FREE NEGRO'S)
HQ NORTH NEGRO'S SUB-SECTOR "G"
"In the Field"

1 January '43

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that Capt E. G. BIDAN is authorized to purchase on credit of receive donations, articles, supplies and other services for the use of the 72nd. Division, IV Philippine Corps, chargeable against the funds of the United States Army.

/s/ E. G. Bidan
By: E. G. BIDAN
Capt. Inf-OSF, Commanding Band I

(SGD) SALVADOR ABCEDE
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

TRUE COPY:
24 December 45

[Signature]
L. V. MOLES (0-36865)
2nd. Lieut., QMS (PA)
Asst. O-in-Charge, Property Section
7th Military District Detachment (PA)

BENJAMIN L. HOLLERU
MAJOR, QMS (036696A)
Attached - Unassigned, 7MD, PA

ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
----- (BAGTUK) -----
CPE

To WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

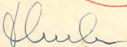
ORIGINAL ✓

This is to certify that Lieut., N. M. Ellorin is authorized to purchase on credit or receive donations of articles, supplies and other services for the use of the 72nd Division, IV Philippine Corps, chargeable against the funds of the Army of the United States of America.

By:
(SGD) M. V. GANABAN
Major, Infantry
Commanding

SALVADOR ASCEDA
Lieut., Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:
27 December 1945


L. V. MOLES (O-36865)
2nd. Lieut., QMS (PA)
Asst C-in-Charge, Property Section
7th Military District Detachment (PA)

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

883078

COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES
PHILIPPINE ARMY
SEVENTH MILITARY DISTRICT
BACLOD CITY

ASN/zbd

16 April 1946

Subject: Deadline in the Submission of Reports and
Liquidation of Accounts


To : All Accountable and/or Responsible Officers
Concerned

1. In view of impending demobilization which requires the closing of all accounts of the 7th Military District (Recognized Guerilla), it is desired that all unrendered reports and accountabilities be submitted or liquidated not later than 15 May 1946.

2. No account REPEAT no account will be entertained after 15 May 1946. Any account unsettled after this date shall be charged to officer or enlisted man concerned.

s/ Fidel Soliven, Jr
t/ FIDEL SOLIVEN, JR
Major, OSP
Acting District Commander

A TRUE COPY:


RICHARD KYLE
Chief, Checking Section

77 AD, Sec

A F F I D A V I T

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, Gregorio Pura, who after being duly sworn upon oath deposes and states:

That I am a filipino citizen and a resident of Bacoled City, Negros Occidental;

That at the present time I am the Actg. Asst. Provincial Treasurer of Negros Occidental, I assumed the duties of this office on October 18, 1945;

That during the war, I was on the hills when the mountain government was organized. During January 1943, Colonel Abcede, the Commanding Officer of the Guerrilla Forces of Negros Occidental, Alfredo Montelibano as Military Governor of Negros Occidental. On May 1, 1943, Governor Montelibano appointed me Asst. Provincial Treasurer, a position which I held in the government until April 25, 1945 when I returned to Bacoled City and became Actg. Provincial Treasurer of the PCAU Government;

That I have in my personal files all of these Executive Orders issued by the Mountain Governor at the time of his appointment until the mountain government was suspended;

That one of the above-mentioned Executive Orders provides for the requisitioning of 20% of all corn, rice, tobacco and other large crops grown by the farmers. 15% of this quantity to be requisitioned was to go to the Army and 5% to the Civil Government. This order was published on the 22nd day of July 1943 and bears Executive Order No. 4. It was later amended by Executive Order No. 7 dated August 13, 1943. In addition to these Executive Orders providing for the requisitioning of these crops an additional Executive Order was published to set the price to be paid for the crops so requisitioned. This latter order is Executive Order No. 30 dated 6 September 1944.

s/ Gregorio Pura
t/ GREGORIO PURA

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of February 1946 at Bacoled City, Negros Occidental.

s/ Wilbert F. Higgins
t/ WILBERT F. HIGGINS
1st Lt., Ord. Dept.
Investigating Officer
Claims Service, AFWSBAC

A TRUE COPY:

Frank C. Smith
FRANK C. SMITH
Legal Investigator
Claims Service, AFWSBAC

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 883078

Gen. Info - Negros +
Siquijor Islands

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES
NEGROS AND SIBUJON ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 4

In order to provide for the welfare of the inhabitants of the Islands of Negros and Siquijor, to attend to their needs and ameliorate their difficulties in view of the present emergency and for a better and more effective government, the following rules and regulations are issued and promulgated;

Sec. I - An amount of equivalent to twenty percentum (20%) of the gross production of each harvest season of all palay, corn, beans, tobacco, fish and other products of any parcel of land, farm, plantation or fish-pond, as the case may be, shall hereafter be considered requisitioned, set aside and reserved by the Civil Government for the following purposes:

a) - To provide for the maintenance of the Army and the running expenses of the Civil Government;

x	x	x
x	x	x

Sec. III - In each sitio, Sitio Delegates and Sitio Secretary-Treasurers shall take charge of collecting the government tax or levy aforesaid from the planter, his agent or representative they shall issue temporary acknowledgements for the products so requisitioned from the planter's premises. They shall leave same as on deposit, the planter to give a counter-receipt evidencing the deposit and shall be turned over to the Municipal Treasurer who in turn, shall issue an official receipt to the planter in exchange for the temporary acknowledgment previously issued by the Sitio Delegates and/or Sitio Secretary-Treasurers.

x	x	x
x	x	x

Done in the Field, this 22nd of July, 1943.

(Sgd.) ALFREDO MONTUJIBANO
Governor

CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT COPY
21 November 1946

Frank C. Smith
FRANK C. SMITH
Legal Investigator
Claims Service, AFWSFAC

201 - Alfredo Montelibano

I-N-T-E-R-R-O-C-A-T-I-O-N

Let the records show that this is a hearing before Mr. Victor L. Shumaker, Investigation Section, Adjustment Division, AGSD, APO 900, on 16 May 1949 for the purpose of securing the testimony of Mr. Alfredo Montelibano regarding the claim of Mr. Manuel Galatas.

- Q: Governor, will you tell in your own words the circumstances surrounding the procurement of funds from Mr. Galatas on letters of credit, and the disposition of those funds?
- A: Before the actual landing of the Japanese Forces in Negros Island on May 21, 1942, I made arrangements already with then Major Ernest Mata, commander of the central sector of Negros Occidental with headquarters in my own farm at Murcia, Negros Occidental, that resistance to the enemy should be continued and the forces under his command, as well as those of other sectors more particularly those belonging to then Major Salvador Abcede, upon landing of the enemy will retreat to the outskirts of the mountains and we civilians who are sympathetic to the cause will stay in the lowlands and do our best for their maintenance. With that in mind, I contacted most of my more intimate friends with regard to material and financial help that they could afford to give to the resistance forces for their maintenance. Mr. Galatas, being one of my classmates since my boyhood, and knowing him of possessing means that we could make use of, was one of those people from whom I requested support. This was around September or October 1942 when he and the brothers Fernando and Eugenio Lopez passed Bacolod on their way to Iloilo. I also advised the Lopez brothers of this plan. I remember very well the date because by that time instead of living in the usual place at Murcia, I was forced by the Japanese to live inside the city of Bacolod as they were suspecting of our movements for the simple reason that most of the farmers or sugar cane planters of the whole province were leaving their farms and stayed inside the towns. I was one of the very few who con-

timed to stay or live in our farm. Then around by the month of November, 1942 when I was advised by Major Mata that it was time for me to come up to the mountains and join them and take care of the civilian side of the movement because the IV Philippine Corps under Col. Feralta, then Major, had been able to contact Australia and more activities in the resistance movement will be undertaken. Then exactly on November, 24 I went up and joined Col. Mata and met Col. Abeede. Before the end of, or around 15 December 1942 when I arrived in the island of Negros coming directly from the island of Panay after discussing the whole set-up with Feralta, we did not have any means of raising funds except by using our own limited funds and we began discussing the ways to maintain the organization. By around May 1943, Major Mata and Abeede received an authorization from the IV Philippine Corps to print emergency or circulating notes for the amount of ₱500,000.00, but before that, on January 12, 1943, Major Villamor landed in the southern part of the island of Negros, and I went down to see him during the end of the month of February. We believed that he had come from Australia with definite and specific instructions coming from General MacArthur as I said during our long discussion with Villamor and Abeede, one of the most important topic was about the matter of raising funds. I advised them that since I came up by the end of 1942 up to that time, practically it was already impossible to get or raise any funds from people actually staying outside of the controlled areas because most of them need their own funds, or they have left in the lowlands their jewels and other means. As I said before, by May the Army was authorized to print emergency money. The difficulty lies in the fact that people did not want to accept these emergency notes unless done by pressure or threat. The money issued by the Army after the commander was authorized to print was not widely known in the island of Negros, but around the month of July or August, 1943, having been duly appointed governor of the island of Negros and Siquijor by President Quezon, instead of acting as I have been doing before up to that time as military governor under the appointment of first by Col. Abeede, then by Colonel Villamor, who was acting district

commander at that time, we advised Australia that it should be better if a board similar to that created by Pres. Quason before the occupation of the southern island by the Japanese be organized, composed of people known personally in the island of Negros, for we believed that in that way, better acceptance of the notes printed will be achieved. Colonel Villamor at that time organized different or several intelligence units. One of them was that of the then Capt. Roberto Benedicto. I was authorized to organize my own unit and as I have known Higinio Uriarte, he was one of the members of another unit almost directly representing or under Colonel Villamor. As the records of the Civil Government shows in the books handed to the Government and now in the possession of the Auditor of the province of Occidental Negros, since I was appointed governor of the island of Negros, I have been helping Colonel Villamor in facilitating his funds for the operation of the intelligence units under him. Sometime during the year 1943, up to tenths of thousands of pesos, we used to help Major Villamor, Colonel Nata, and Abeoede acquire them from the funds in the possession of the Army as well as some genuine money that the Civil Government had in their possession coming from market collection, because we had expressed order that all genuine money collected from the market fees of the free areas not be disposed of, but sent to the Central Government - to my office - as we have particular needs of that kind of money. But even if we tried our best we can, it was very hard for us to procure enough funds to meet the requirements of the intelligence units. Then I was advised by Col. Abeoede that I was authorized to issue letters of credit so as to be able to secure funds from people living in the unoccupied areas. When Mr. Uriarte was sent by Villamor to me to help them procure funds through the exchange of letters of credit, knowing that Uriarte is a Spaniard and very well known to Mr. Galatas, I advised Mr. Uriarte to contact Mr. Galatas and secure the funds from him through the exchange of these letters of credit. As far as I could remember, there were three of these letters of credit exchanged from Mr. Galatas. Two of them after the liberation;

taking into account my intervention in their exchange, I advised Mr. Salatas to exchange them from Army funds so as not to have any trouble in their collection, and as a matter of fact, two of them were exchanged with the emergency notes issued under my Committee of which I was chairman. But the first one, Mr. Galatas told me that he purposely destroyed it because he was afraid to be caught by the Japanese when he evacuated in Baguio, and he requested me to help him exchange that one also, knowing that I know of its existence. But I advised Mr. Salatas that I can not do it because there were no supporting papers, and as he did not have the letter of credit with him, there was no way to meet the requirement of the physical exchange. I was the one who advised him the best way for him to do and that is to file a claim for that one that he destroyed. For the first two, I merely helped Mr. Galatas through Mr. Uriarte for their exchange for ₱100,000.00 of guerrilla emergency notes and for which I could state that I have personal and intimate knowledge about this letter of credit claimed for by Mr. Galatas. As far as I know, the funds - product of these letters of credit - were usually turned in to Major Villamor for their final disposal. As far as I know, usually they were being distributed to other units with different assignments. For sure some of them, if not most of them, were used in the same island of Negros because there was no other way to send our intelligence units even inside the occupied territories or those other islands, except if you had them genuine currency. There were so many guerrilla emergency notes issued that except in the places where they were issued, it was very hard to have them receive in other places because they have also their own guerrilla notes.

- Q (Mr. Galatas) You mentioned that at the time in 1943 when this money was given, covered by this letter of credit, your operations were only in Negros and Siquijor, and at that time you did not have any activities in Manila.
- A: As far as I know, once in a while we had our conferences during that time in 1943, and most of the intelligence units were operating only

in the island of Negros itself because it was important later on that we begin establishing part of the unit in the island of Luzon with the main purpose of maintaining radio transmitting stations. It was already in 1944 when we were establishing those radio stations. More or less, as far as I was informed and I know, it was only around that time of the invasion of Saipan (July 1944) that the intelligence units, with the proper equipment, was being tried to be established in the southern part of Luzon. Before, as far as I could remember, we did not have any procurement set-up in the island of Luzon. I happened to know this because we have a working agreement with the Army that we can use their own means of communication - I am referring to the Civil Government. I think it is better to state here that in the island of Negros as well as in the island of Panay, we established Civil Government responsibility directly under President Quezon through General MacArthur, independent of the Army that was in the same area. We were not under the Army. Our contact with the Army was facilitating them the funds because we were the ones issuing the emergency notes and consolidating the work with regard to the fight against the enemy. I want to state here that I am making all these statements because I feel in some way responsible to the exchange of these letters of credit by Mr. Galatas, as I believe he has agreed to furnish these funds due to my request to him and the assurances I have given him through Mr. Oscar Ledesma, whom we were using as our contact man in Manila, and that all the funds and help that they could extend in due time will be properly repaid. I remember when he advised me. The reason why I know about the general and particular details of the movements of Mr. Uriarte is due to the fact that Mr. Uriarte, in going north of the island of Negros because Villamor was there, he always stayed in my own quarters and I was always the one helping him acquire passes and all that through our operatives down for his movements. After going to Manila and in coming back he always passed my quarters because I myself have also information that I requested him to gather, or through him I was contacting General Roxas and other cabinet members of the puppet government because my contact through Alunan was done through Uriarte and Ledesma.

I know that he got the money from Mr. Galatas in passing and that he was able to exchange the letters of credit. What he has done with the money I do not know. I know only that in coming to Manila he was able to get some money from Mr. Galatas. I am not exactly sure, but I think this is more or less the same or during the same period that Mr. Salvador Benedicto was through procuring from private persons who have handed also to one of the units of Major Villamor Philippine currency, more or less, ₱10,000.00.

Q: (Mr. Brady) Why was it necessary to secure genuine Philippine money for intelligence activities?

A: It was not only necessary, but it was the only means to operate the intelligence units, simply because the agents were travelling in free areas not under immediate and effective control by the Japanese. In those areas, Japanese currency is hardly being accepted. If you bring these guerrilla notes there, as there were no money in the Island, the people had no faith in them. They considered them as worthless as the Japanese money. And not only that, the agents could travel in any place, occupied or unoccupied, for with the Philippine currency you could do anything. For example, our emergency notes - you bring them here in Manila, no one will receive it.

Q: Did the Negro guerrilla notes have any acceptance in Luzon?

A: As far as I know, no.

Q: (Mr. Brady) Do you know whether any part of the ₱50,000.00 was used by unrecognized unit in Luzon?

A: As far as I know, all money handled by responsible members of the different units were the ones actually and directly using the funds. We were never supposed to furnish unrecognized guerrilla units.

Q: I show you this affidavit allegedly subscribed and sworn to by you before a Notary Public in the city of Bacolod dated 12 September 1948, and ask you whether the signatures on the left hand margin of the first page and the signature on the second page are yours.

A: Yes.

- Q3 (Mr. Brady) I direct your attention to the fourth paragraph of page 1 of this affidavit that reads as follows: That as Governor of Negros and Siquijor islands and intelligence agent, I came to know that negotiable letters of credit in various denominations were issued by Lt. Col. Salvador Abcede, countersigned by Col. Edwin D. Andrews and endorsed to Capt. Higinio Uriarte which the latter negotiated in the city of Manila in order to finance the expenses of these intelligence agents then operating in that city and in the island of Luzon; that these letters of credit were issued pursuant to radiographic instructions of General MacArthur to Lt. Col. Salvador Abcede then District Commander, 7th MD. Now, I ask you in connection with the paragraph to explain to this Commission just exactly what you meant by negotiated in the city of Manila in order to finance the expenses of these intelligence units operating in that city and in the island of Luzon.
- A4 It means that I was fully cognizant that Uriarte was operating a unit belonging or under the direct control of Andrews and Villamor, making contacts in the islands of Luzon and in Negros itself, because at least we have sent Uriarte in the occupied areas of Negros itself to get vital information. As far as I understand, the funds used by Uriarte was spent by him in connection with his work and not that he first handed the funds to any other unit.
- Q4 Governor, isn't it a known fact that the Japanese money had already acceptance throughout Luzon almost immediately after it was first issued by the Japanese? (Mr. Brady)
- A4 Yes.
- Q4 And there was no need of using genuine Philippine money in Luzon for any activities? (Mr. Brady)
- A4 From the island of Negros on the first months or year of the Japanese occupation, the Japanese money was already accepted anywhere in the island, but since the beginning of the turning of the battle in the Pacific in favor of the allies, people were already reluctant to receive Japanese money.
- Q4 What date was this money used?

- A: As far as I could remember, the whole year of 1942 up to the date of the conquest of Guadaluacan, Japanese money was received more or less anywhere. But since the reconquest of Guadaluacan, as the allies proceeded conquering island by island going towards the Philippines, its activities were diminishing and diminishing.
- Q: To your knowledge, what was the approximate date of the first authorized agents sent by Villamor and Andrews to the island of Luzon?
- A: I want to state here only the members of the unit I have known belonging to the units of Villamor and Andrews and that unit of Major Benedicto, that of Uriarte, and I am not sure if Avila was authorized to have his own unit, or he was just a member without any further authority. I remember it was around the time when the Japanese extended crop loans to sugarcane planters and which was, more or less, before my meeting with Rafael Alunan in August 1943. I remember that well because we even have to persuade Mr. Uriarte to come down in the lowlands and get the crop loan corresponding to their own farm at La Carlota because we needed the farms.
- Q: What date did Mr. Uriarte leave Negros to go to Luzon? The first trip.
- A: After August, 1943 because when I met Alunan, one of the things we discussed was that we were going to use Uriarte as our courier to Luzon with Alunan.
- Q: Was the money secured from Mr. Galatas prior to Lt. Uriarte's first trip to Luzon?
- A: No, as far as I could remember, it was precisely on his trip to Luzon.
- Q: Was it on his way to Luzon?
- A: Yes, because by that time, August, as far as I could remember, we have not yet agreed to the use of the letters of credit. Only, I think, it was around September or October, 1943 after seeing in actual practice that neither the Japanese currency was accepted at which time we have plenty received from the Sugar Planters' Association of the whole island of Negros because we got 20% of all the crop land. We got exactly 20% of all the money taken by the Sugar planters from the Japanese which was delivered to me in part by Alunan and before that, by Ildelfonso Coscoluella who was then acting president of the Sugar Planters

Confederation, of which I was the president.

Q: When did the intelligence units in Luzon start to operate?

A: It should be around between May and August 1944. Just a little before the landing in Leyte of Gen. MacArthur.

Q: Do you mean that there were no intelligence units operating in Luzon prior to May 1944?

A: What I mean it was not a permanent unit with transmitting equipment operating in Luzon. They were always going back to Negros as that was their permanent station. I do not know of any information regarding the movements of the intelligence directly under the control of Col. Abcede because I have no connection at all.

INTERROGATION ENDED.

Prob. Kopri A Hinigaran Neg. Sec.
 Manila P. I.
 Office of the Philbycom
 May 18, 1948

My dear Sirs,

Many people here in our town have claims there in your office. Many of these of more than four thousand pesos especially sign by Mr. Jose Presas are not true as Mr. was not a D.O.M. officer here in Hinigaran. The claim of Mrs. Julieta Vasquez Gordina, Mrs. Maria B. Yulo, is another fake one.

The claim of Mr. Gonzorcio Kapawan signed by Mr. Presas is of so false. I hope you folks will not throw America's dollar to racketeers.

Truly yours,
 The Detective.

P.S. The other names of racketeers are as follows:

- (1) Dr. Ruperto Angodong
- (2) Mr. Ramon Ramos
- (3) Maximo Mombay
- (4) Felix Borromeo

- (5) Ruperto Angodong.
- (6) Jeremias Agustina
- (7) Vicente Corudo.
8. Dr. Gustaquio Corudo.

The claims of these persons are more than twenty thousand pesos some are two hundred thousand pesos when in reality they not given the Army more than hundred Cavanes of corn & palay thru the Civil government. These persons are in conceivance with the officers who signed their claims.
Same.



7/23/48

General George Moore
PHILRYCOM COMMANDER
MANILA, PHILIPPINES

May 30, 1948

RE FAKE CLAIMS

Dear sir;

It is an open secret here in Bacolod and an open topic in Restaurants that there are many FAKE CLAIMS in the PHILRYCOM made by several persons in Bacolod, involving big sum and some are for hundred thousands of pesos. The scheme employed was thru connivance between local Agents, Claimants and some Officers in the office of the PHILRYCOM who divide among themselves the proceeds of the claims. FAKE DOCUMENTS NEWLY MADE ON SOME OLD PAPERS ARE SIGNED BY GUERRILLA OFFICERS. Some times these papers purposely stained by dirty water so that the papers will appear old. Then these FAKE DOCUMENTS are attached to the claims. Some of these cases are;

- Generoso Villanueva - approved and paid -
- Ercarnacion dela Rama - approved .
- Ramon Ramos - pending approval, - P
- Etc.

These practice is very damaging and adverse to small and genuine claimants whose claims are purpose delayed and in many cases disapproved because they can not meet the terms of the Agents. The benefit of the rehabilitation of the U.S. Congress does not justify its principal purpose if this despicable practice is tolerated.

In view of these anomalous practice, we appeal to you for justice and justification for the cause of many small and genuine claimants whose claims are pending since the early part of 1946. "nd at the same time anomalous and rampant FAKE CLAIMS SHOULD BE LOOKED INTO.

For reason of personal safty due to unsettled condition of peace and order, I beg to be excused to reveal my identity.

GENUINE CLAIMANT

Genuin

Rec'd OCS
4 June 48

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

8 June 1949

A. This report covers 22 claims filed by the Montilla family of Negros Occidental.
This claims are:

<u>NAME OF CLAIMANT</u>	<u>CLAIM NO.</u>	<u>AMOUNT CLAIMED</u>
1. Montilla, Mercedes Montilla Vda de	G-7-209,580	7450,550.00
2. Montilla, Mercedes M. Vda de	G-7-207,727	303,123.13
3. Montilla, Mercedes and Aurora By: Genaro Alvarez (Attorney-in-fact)	G-7-152,064	26,765.68
4. Montilla, Aurora	G-7-198,186	6,132.00
5. Montilla, Aurora	G-7-209,584	79,467.50
6. Montilla, Cecilia (Individually and on behalf of the heirs of Segundo Montilla) By: Mercedes M. Vda de Montilla	G-7-209,746	106,800.00
7. Montilla, Cecilia By: Mercedes M. Vda de Montilla	G-7-209,747	87,840.00
8. Montilla, Concepcion	G-7-209,748	78,610.00
9. Montilla, Concepcion	G-7-205,066	16,895.00
10. Montilla, Leonor Vda de Pena	G-7-196,640	49,482.30
11. Montilla, Leonor	G-7-199,700	27,275.00
12. Montilla, Marina	G-7-198,153	17,400.00
13. Garcia, Marina Montilla Vda de	G-7-209,583	73,600.00
14. Montilla, Lina	G-7-215,227	6,450.00
15. Montilla, Candido By: Montilla, Lina (Administratrix)	G-7-214,291	52,148.09
16. Montilla, Claudio	G-7-152,298	487.00
17. Montilla, Claudio	G-7-205,454	73,096.00
18. Gonzalez, Felix M.	G-7-152,299	1,470.00
19. Montilla, Jacinta L. Vda de	G-7-209,582	53,450.00
20. Montilla, Enrique J. C. By: Apolonio dela Cruz (Attorney-in-fact)	G-7-198,763	1,980.00
21. Montilla, Bonifacio J. C. By: Tomas M. Gonzalez	G-7-160,385	16,794.00
22. Montilla, Carlos J. A.	G-7-202,008	3,670.00

B. Re-investigation of the above-enumerated claims uncovers the following:

1. Claim of Mercedes N. Yda de Montilla, G-7-209,580

a. Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 1948. No request for reconsideration in file.
- (2) Three receipts bear "7th Military District" as heading, on dates prior to Mar 1943. These receipts should have been headed with "72d Div, IV Philippine Corps" as it was only in March 1943 when the "7th Military District" was used. These receipts, therefore, are false.
- (3) Each receipt allegedly represents a procurement which appears outrageously excessive. For example, on 5 Dec 42, 2,000 cavans of palay and 1,000 cavans of corn were procured and covered by only one receipt. Also, on 1 Jan 43, 67 carabaos aging from 5 to 10 years, and 83 carabaos aging from 1 to 4 years allegedly were procured, and only one receipt was issued for all these carabaos. The ages of the carabaos were even noted in the receipt!
- (4) All receipts, which are for enormous quantities of supplies, were signed either by a corporal or a sergeant. It is not believed probable that a guerrilla sergeant or corporal would be authorized to procure such excessive quantities of supplies from the wife of a former Speaker of the House of Representatives; at least, a 3d Lt would have done the procurement, were there actually any procurement done.
- (5) Hacienda Flora belongs to a certain Severo Alajano (See Tax Declaration No. 167, as of 1948). Claimant claims she owns this hacienda but aforesaid document indicates otherwise.
- (6) Rodolfo Aurelio issued three receipts dated 5 Dec 42, 1 Jan 43, and 16 Mar 43, and signed these receipts as a "Corporal, QMS." His 201 file however indicates that he was a private from 22 Dec 41 to 19 June 45; his 201 file never shows he was ever a corporal.
- (7) Dominador Polines issued two receipts dated 24 Feb 43 and 15 Mar 43, and signed these receipts as a "Sergeant, QMS." His 201 file shows that he was inducted only on 19 May 43. He was a corporal on 21 Oct 43 and a sergeant on 13 Nov 43. Prior to 19 May 43, he was a "contact-man and civilian procurement agent." Also, he has been black-listed for having issued false and antedated receipts in the claim of Gloria Yulo de Varela, G-7-199,311.
- (8) Jose B. Fresas issued receipt dated 15 Dec 44 and signed thereon as "Sergeant QMS." However, Fresas was a 3d Lt beginning 26 July 44, a date about 6 months before he issued the receipt as a Sergeant. (Guerrilleros might call themselves officers, although they in fact they might be NCOs; but no guerrillero would want to denote themselves from an officer's rank to NCO's). His 201 file, moreover, indicates that he issued antedated receipts in the claim of Alfredo C. Yulo, G-7-209,789 and also in the claim of Gloria Yulo de Varela, G-7-199,311. More derogatory information may be found in confidential letter No. 16 in the possession of Capt George Philip, Jr.
- (9) Esteban Partidas issued receipt dated 10 Sep 44. His 201 file card indicates that he was sick of malaria from 1 Agu 44 to 30 Sep 44 and therefore could not have gone about procuring supplies.

b. Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.

2. Claim of Mercedes N. Yda de Montilla, G-7-207,727

a. Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 1948. No request for reconsideration in file.
- (2) Receipts in file are false. (Please see file and note notations below each receipt therein).
- (3) Francisco Brodith allegedly issued receipt dated 16 Dec 42 as "1st Sgt, Receiving Officer." This ~~signature~~ was not a "receiving officer" nor was he with the QMS as during that date he was with the "A" Co, 1st Bn, 76th Inf; later, with the "I" Co, 3d Bn, 76th Inf until he was killed on 10 Mar 45. His signature on the receipt in file appears to be a forged one.

(4) Pacifico Sabolboro's signature on the receipts in this file are forged signatures. (Please see signature specimen on 201 file card for comparison). This officer died on 23 Oct 44.

b. Recommendations:

For confirmation of denial.

3. Claim of Mercedes and Aurora Montilla by Genaro Alverez. G-7-152,064

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 29 June 48. No request for reconsideration has been submitted.
- (2) Pascual Tobongbanua issued two receipts dated 15 Dec 43 and 20 Mar 44 and signed his signature thereon with a ball pen. In 1943 and 1944, there was no ball pen in the Philippines.
- (3) F. Belrunse signed a receipt dated 14 Nov 42 as a 2d Lt. His 201 file card, however, indicates that he became 2d Lt only on 17 Nov 42. Also, he was signed as Asst G-4 when in fact he was Asst Regimental S-4.
- (4) Several of the receipts in this file have been signed by M. B. Villaroza who was the Acting Municipal Treasurer. His connection with the guerrilla has not been established.

(b) Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.

4. Claim of Aurora Montilla. G-7-108,186

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 29 May 48. No request for reconsideration was submitted.
- (2) Receipts in file xxxxxx are highly questionable. One receipt was dated Feb 1943, yet on the back thereof appears something dated 17 July 44 signed by another person. Other receipts bear notations which indicate that those receipts were issued on a much later date (1948) than what appear on the face of the receipts.
- (3) Juan P. Gonzalez issued three receipts all signed by him as a "Municipal Treasurer of Free Pontevedra." He has been found to have issued undated receipts in the claim of Manolita Tomas by Marino P. Martin, and in the claim of Leonor Montilla.
- (4) Carilo B. Celis issued receipt dated 8 Feb 44 and signed as a "1st Lt." He was not a 1st Lt until 1 Jan 45. Also he signed the receipt as a DQM agent ~~xxxx~~ for the 9d Bn, 76th Inf, yet on that date (8 Feb 44) he was not a DQM agent but was with the Engineer Detachment of the 1st Bn, Western Negro Sector. This officer has been black-listed for having issued false statements and undated receipts in the claims of Manolita Tomas by Marino P. Martin, Ignacio Donallo, Ignacio Crispolo, Alfonso Torre, Jesus Vasquez, Vicente Castro "and others." (See his 201 file card).
- (5) Gregisimo G. Soliguian's 201 file indicates that he issued undated receipts and false statements in the claim of Leonor Montilla.

(b) Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.

5. Claim of Aurora Montilla. G-7-209,584

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 48. No request for reconsideration has been submitted.
- (2) Two receipts which bear dates in Dec 42 bear as heading "7th Military District." The 7th Military District was used only in Mar 43.
- (3) Only two procurement agents are involved in this claim. They are Dominador Polines and Jose B. Perras whose military histories already have been discussed in the preceding claims. In this claim, we find Polines issuing receipts in 1942 and signing those receipts as a "sgt." Yet, in 1942 (prior to 19 May 43 on which date he was inducted) he was a "contact-man and civilian procurement agent."

(b) Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.

6. Claim of Cecilia Montilla (Individually and on behalf of heirs of Segundo Montilla) by Mercedes H. Vda de Montilla,
* G-7-209,746

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 1948. No request for reconsideration has been submitted.
- (2) Receipts in file are false. Three receipts dated prior to Mar 43 bear the heading "7th Military District." This district designation was begun to be used only in Mar 43. Prior to this date the unit designation for the entire area was "IV Philippine Corps."
- (3) The receipts in this file have been issued either by Dominador Polines or Jose B. Fresas. Enough information has been given concerning these persons in the preceding paragraphs. Findings indicate that receipts they issued are antedated.
- (4) One cannot prevent raising quizzical eyebrows at noting extremely enormous quantities of supplies allegedly commandeered on each procurement.

(b) Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.

7. Claim of Cecilia Montilla, G-7-209,747

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 48. No request ~~inform~~ for reconsideration has been submitted.
- (2) Three receipts in this file are false. These receipts bear dates prior to Mar 43 yet bear the heading "7th Military District," which unit designation was not in use only after Mar 43.
- (3) All the 13 receipts in this file were issued by Polines ~~and~~ or Fresas whose habit of issuing antedated receipts or false statements has been discussed in preceding paragraphs. As in the other claims discussed above, these two persons again issued receipts and signed above ranks which they did not hold during the dates appearing on the receipts.

(b) Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.

8. Claim of Concepcion Montilla, G-7-209,748

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 48. No request for reconsideration has been submitted.
- (2) There are 3 receipts in this file, each dated prior to Mar 43 yet bearing as heading "7th Military District."
- (3) The ten receipts in this file were issued either by Polines ~~and~~ or Fresas - two "antedated" names. (Please see above discussions).

(b) Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.

9. Claim of Concepcion Montilla, G-7-205,066

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 48. No request for reconsideration has been submitted.
- (2) Receipts which bear dates in 1943, 1944, and 1945 bear notation "2/22/48" written by the procurement agent whose signature appears therein.
- (3) Juan P. Gonzalez was a Municipal Treasurer whose connection with the guerrilla has not been established. His SOI file card indicates he issued antedated receipts and false statements in the claims of Manelita Tomas by Marino F. Martin and Leonor Montilla.

(b) Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.

10. Claim of Leonor Montilla Vda de Pens, G-7-198,660

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 48. Request for reconsideration was received on 29 April 49.
- (2) Most of the receipts, bearing different dates, were written on halves of sheets of paper, which halves found their way to this claimant and now are in this file. These halves have been fitted together. One good example: receipts dated 20 Jan 43 and 5 Nov 43. These receipts came from one sheet of paper, and notwithstanding the ten-months period between the dates the receipts were issued, the two halves found each other in the possession of claimant - this time, as receipts.
- (3) Rufino Grande is known to have been with the 2d Bn, 65th Inf on 2 June 43. Yet, we find receipts issued by him beginning 20 Jan 43. That he was with the guerrilla prior to 2 June 43 is unknown. His signature on the receipts does not appear to be similar with his signature specimen on his 2GI file card.
- (4) Pablo A. Luessen was with the DQM, 76th Inf from 30 Aug 43 until 11 July 45. However, his receipts dated on various dates from 24 Nov 43 to 25 Dec 44 state that he was with the "B" Co, 1st Bn, 76th Inf. As is noted, his 2GI file card indicated otherwise.

(b) Recommendation:

Confirmation of denial for the reason that the "probative value of evidence in file is inadequate..."

11. Claim of Leonor Montilla, G-7-199,700

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 29 May 48. No request for reconsideration has been submitted.
- (2) This claimant is the same person mentioned in No. 10 above, only in this claim, she did not mention that she was "Vda de Ema."
- (3) The procuring agents in this claim are the same persons who also procured from the other Montilla claimants mentioned in preceding paragraphs. They are Pacifico Sabalboro, Jusp F. Gonzales, Gerilo B. Celis, and Graciano G. Soliguon. Enough information on these persons have been found to indicate that receipts bearing their signatures are questionable.
- (4) Discrepancies on receipts very glaring.

(b) Recommendation:

Confirmation of denial.

12. Claim of Marina Montilla, G-7-198,153

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 48. No letter of reconsideration in file.
- (2) The procuring agents in this file are the same as the procuring agents in No. 11 above. Receipts in file are false and attempt to defraud the gov't is apparent on the receipts.

(b) Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.

13. Claim of Marina Montilla Vda de Garcia, G-7-209,583

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 48. No letter of reconsideration has been submitted.
- (2) Claimant, whose family name here is "Garcia" is the same claimant in No. 12 above.
- (3) The 10 receipts in this file were issued either by Felines or by Fresus - two names standing for BRAUD. Their receipts in this file are false.

(b) Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.

14. Claim of Idna Montilla, G-7-215,227

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was received on 10 Nov 48. No action has been taken on this claim since then.
- (2) One receipt bears the date 22 Nov 41 - no war on P.I. yet. Another receipt dated 13 July 42 has something written on the back thereof bearing the date year "1943".
- (3) Lt Louis Casenave joined the 7th Military District on 17 Nov 42, yet we find a receipt issued by him as "Actg 3d Lt, Inf, Bn 8-4" dated 13 July 42. Besides, the 7th Military District was known to have existed only on 17 Nov 42, not earlier than that. Casenave has been black-listed for having issued false and antedated receipts in the claim of Florencio Becerra, G-7-195,767.
- (4) Jose B. Agas was a civilian prior to 15 Nov 42, yet we find a receipt signed by him as a 3d Lt on 11 Aug 42.
- (5) Ceferino Santander issued false statements in the claim of Purita Banares, G-7-136,330.
- (6) Norberto Taun signed as "Actg 3d Lt" on a receipt dated 26 July 43, yet his 201 file card indicates that he was promoted to 2d Lt on 24 Apr 43.
- (7) Nicolas T. Lacson issued antedated receipts and false statements in the claim of Ramon B. Lacson, G-7-193,151 and in the claim of Rodolfo Medel, 5-B-8977.

(b) Recommendation:
For Denial.

15. Claim of Claudio Montilla, G-7-214,291

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 1 June 48. No request for reconsideration has been submitted.
- (2) Most of the receipts in file are new and antedated. On these receipts is a notation made by the alleged procurement officer, which states: "Copied from my original receipt in my file." The procuring officer concerned (Narciso C. Dalumpines) have been found to have issued antedated receipts in the claim of Fernando Lopez, G-6-191,528. Also, there have been found questionable reports submitted by him - these reports are at present in our 7th MD procurement files. Unless the alleged "original receipts" are submitted, no favorable action on this claim is proper.

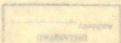
(b) Recommendation:
Confirmation of Denial.

16. Claim of ~~Ernesto~~ Claudio Montilla, G-7-152,298

(a) Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 48. No request for reconsideration has been submitted. Claimant, however, submitted on 27 May 49 additional evidence. ~~His evidence consists of two receipts and two warrants.~~
- (2) Claimant has filed two claims in his name. The total amount of his claims is P73,583. Discussion on his other claim will be made immediately after this. (See No. 17 below). Insofar as this file is concerned, confirmation of denial is recommended in view of the fact that no sufficient evidence of commandeering has been submitted. No receipts are in file, and affidavits supporting commandeering are not credible for the reason that information stated are based on "beliefs" (Claimant in his other claim submitted questionable receipts.)

(b) Recommendation:
For confirmation of denial.



17. Claim of Gladis Montilla, G-7-205,454

a. Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 24 May 48. No request for reconsideration has been submitted. However, on 28 May 48, claimant submitted additional evidence upon which re-study of this claim has been based.
- (2) Claimant is the same person who submitted another claim discussed in No. 16 above. In that claim, he had no receipts.
- (3) Receipts in this file are obviously antedated. Receipts have writings on their backs which indicate that the dates appearing on the receipts are not the dates on which the alleged procurement actually was made. Likewise, entries in the receipts were made in ink while the signatures on the receipts were written in pencil. The receipts also appear to have been intentionally dirtied, especially on the entries.
- (4) All the 12 receipts in this file were issued either by Polines or by Pressas against whom derogatory information exist. Discussion on these persons have been made in preceding paragraphs.

b. Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.

18. Claim of Felix M. Gonzalez, G-7-152,200

a. Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 8 Apr 48. No Request for reconsideration was filed on 1 Nov 48.
- (2) Claimant is the husband of Carmen Montilla.
- (3) There is only one receipt in file which bears the date 10 June 46; a date during which no procurement was made or authorized. This receipt "certifies" that the procurement agent procured from the claimant supplies during the period from Oct 1943 to Mar 1944. Undoubtedly, this "receipt" was based on the alleged agent's memory.
- (4) The procurement agent, Pedro Amigon, who signed the "receipt" as "Supply Agent" was "missing" 1 Jan 43 to 7 June 45 (see his 201 file card). During the time he was "missing" he could not have been procuring. If he procured during the time he was "missing" the obligation incurred would be chargeable against his personal account - not against U.S. govt.

b. Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.

19. Claim of Jacinta E. Vda de Montilla, G-7-209,522

a. Findings:

- (1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 48. No request for reconsideration has been filed.
- (2) Receipts in file are questionable. Receipts were written on halves of sheets of paper, which halves found their way back to and not at the claimant's possession, in spite of the fact that these halves bear dates between which are periods of several months.
- (3) Receipts were signed either by Polines or Pressas.

b. Recommendation:

For confirmation of denial.



20. Claim of Enrique J. G. Montilla, by Apolonio dela Cruz, G-7-196,763

a. Findings:

(1) Claim was disapproved on 8 June 48. No request for reconsideration was filed.

(2) There is only one receipt in this file. This receipt covers 13 heads of carabao. Scrutiny of file does not reveal strong reasons for denying this claim. This claim, among all the other Montilla claims, may be approved. However, no request for reconsideration has been submitted for which reason no recommendation on this claim is being made; the claim being still considered as "closed records."

b. Recommendation:

Denial remains unchanged.

21. Claim of Bonifacio J. C. Montilla by Tomas M. Gonzales, G-7-160,383

a. Findings:

(1) Claim was disapproved on 30 June 48. No request for reconsideration has been filed.

(2) Five receipts bear dates prior to recognition date of 7th Military District (17 Nov 42).

(3) Ruperto O. Holido issued a receipt dated 22 Dec 42 and signed his name above the designation "CO, Mobile Unit 'A'". His 201 file card, however, indicates that on 22 Dec 42, he was with the Engineer Battalion of the 72nd Div.

(4) Albino Mpagay issued a receipt dated 4 Feb 44 above the designation "Aetg 3d Lt, JO 'D' Co." However, his 201 file indicates that effective 16 Sep 43, he was already a 3d Lt.

(5) Jose M. Carpintero issued a receipt on 16 Aug 44, during which time, per his records, his "unit was engaged in plans and training." Procurement work is not considered within "plans and training"

QM:G-3.

(6) Esperidion Mestre issued antedated receipts in the claims of Rafael Lason, G-7-151,965; claim of S. C. King, G-7-199,193; and claim of Fernando Kreneta, G-7-196,851.

(7) E. Macasa issued on 26 Oct 44 a receipt and signed above the rank of sergeant. Macasa reached a rank no higher than Pfc, which he got only on 1 Sep 44.

b. Recommendation:

Confirmation of denial.

22. Claim of Carlos J. A. Montilla, G-7-202,003

a. Findings:

Claim was disapproved on 30 June 1948. A request for reconsideration was filed on 2 Nov 48. Claim has no receipt; proof of commandeering and ownership insufficient to warrant payment of an award.

b. Recommendation:

Confirmation of denial.

B. From the above discussions, it is noted that most of the procurement agents involved in these claims have been black-listed for having issued false or antedated receipts and/or statements in other claims. Those who have no past bad records have been found to have issued antedated receipts in these claims. Such being the character of the procurement agents involved, no probative value can be given to evidences which make reference to these agents.

C. There have been duplications of proofs of ownership presented by these claimants. Attached as Inclosure No. 1 is a "Consolidated List of Declarations of Real Property Presented in Fourteen Montilla Claims." This list shows that same parcels of land have been used by several of these Montilla claimants as the source of the supplies allegedly given by them.

RESUME

Of these 22 claims filed by the Montilla family of Negro Occidental, only one (Claim of Enrique J. C. Montilla, by Apolonio dela Cruz, C-7-198,763) appears to be good. No favorable recommendation, however, is being made as this claim has not been reopened; claimant has not filed a request for reconsideration since this claim was disallowed.

Findings on the other 21 claims uncover false receipts and statements. These, with the claimants' knowledge of their falsity, constitutes an attempt to defraud the U. S. Government in violation of Section 172 of the Judicial Code (Act 3, March 1911, 36 Stat. 1141, 28 USC 279) SPJED 1944/D-21648; 23006 - 23013 inclusive 25 Feb 44.

Incl:
as stated

Santiago L. Cayton
SANTIAGO L. CAYTON
Claims Investigator, Sr.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
ARMY HEADQUARTERS
MANILA

6 July 1946

As District Commander, 7th Military District (Negros and Siquijor)(Recognized Guerrillas), I hereby state the following facts:

1. That all the units in my jurisdiction worthy of recognition as guerrilla organizations have been recognized.
2. That Civilian Volunteer Guards and other similar organizations in my area were organized and rendered valuable assistance and services to my organization. However, under the category of military units, these civilian organizations having been formed under civilian initiative and without any military semblance cannot be recognized as military guerrilla organizations.

s/ Salvador Abcede
t/ SALBADOR ABCEDE
Major, Inf

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

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

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M. J. H. D. v. 1
Statement & Report

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Attic. 0110, Mar 2016