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USAFIP - NL

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USAFIP-NL

NOTES ON THE BATTLE

OF BESSANG PASS

ILOCOS SUR

June 14, 1952

THE MANILA TIMES

USAFIP, North Luzon, celebrates fall of Bessang Pass



Southern view of Bessang Pass showing Buccual Ridge on the left and Escobar Hill on the right. Here element of the 3rd Bn. 121st Inf. (FA) held on tenaciously to every inch of the ground from April to June when the 15th and 66th Inf. regiments were committed for the final drive.

This was Bessang Pass

FROM the pages of the memoirs of General Walter Krueger, Commanding General of the U.S. 8th Army in the Philippine liberation campaign, is a description of the battle of Bessang Pass as "a very bloody operation". His official report is couched as follows: "The battle of Bessang Pass was one whose magnitude and decisiveness far surpasses the U.S. Army 32nd and 25th Infantry Division's battle for Villa Verde trail and Baleta Pass, respectively."

This operation was the high water mark of Colonel Russell W. Volckmann's USAFIP, NL, with the official casualty figures of the five composite regiments totalling 1441 killed, 84 missing, and 5475 wounded in action.

There is a two-way dirt road that links the Mountain Province and the coastal regions of Ilocos Sur and La Union, cutting through the Ilocos ranges from the town of Cerrantes in Surig. On a road map it is known as National Highway No. 4 and it is the only vehicular lane conveniently used to traverse the r-rud foothills from the rich Mankayan copper and gold mine to the seaport of San Fernando. This circuitous trail rises gradually to a maximum altitude of six thousand feet, finally nosing its way through a man-made defile which came to be known as BESSANG PASS. It is only a scant twenty air-miles away from historic TIRAD PASS of the incorrigible General del Pilar.

The road to Bessang Pass from both sides of the Ilocos range is a treacherous as any of the mountain trails. One side creeps dangerously close to a slope while the other side is a sheer drop into deep gorges thousands of feet below. Torrential rains and the inevitable landslides often render these lanes impassable even for foot troops. Fog and mist close in at noon and visibility hits zero in no time.

When the USAFIP, NL took the offensive against the enemy in January of 1945, the Japs had already started a series of strategic defense positions about Bessang Pass. They fortified both sides of the Pass with mountain artillery cleverly concealed in tunnels running through and through. To harass any attempt to scale these heights, they threw in two infantry regiments (the 73rd and 76th of the 19th TORA Division) in carefully prepared positions from Butac to the elaborate fortifications right on the Pass. The enemy had meant to keep General Yamashita's backdoor sealed tight and secure from land or from the air.

My battalion was the first unit to get engaged with the Japs along this vicinity. A platoon was sent as a feeler; this was gradually increased to the entire complement of Company "L" under Capt. Narcise. After the liberation of San Fernando, La Union by elements of the 121st Infantry, it became apparent that Bessang would bear

the brunt of the main effort of an entire regiment of infantry plus artillery and air support.

At this time, while Manila was passing through its first months of comparative quiet, USAFIP, NL as a unified divisional force, was unleashing its fury and fighting abreast with other American units under I Corps and later with XIV Corps. Volckmann's guerrilla force had grown up to a sizeable command with five seasoned regiments totalling close to twenty thousand in the combat echelon alone. Eight-hundred of these were in my battalion and they were made up mostly of officers and men who went through the ordeals of Bataan, the Death March, Casuar and from the ranks of the lowly bolomen of the hinterland. I still want to believe that these seasoned veterans and the ferocious Igorot lad, felt it in their blood to even up the score at this juncture of the war. Neither food nor hunger nor fatigue nor banzai charges kept them from the urge to finish with the enemy once the chance was theirs.

From February to June, 1945—five months of relentless fighting and hugging on to Highway No. 4—my battalion covered a meager stretch of 15 kilometers of soggy, slushy road until Company "K" under Capt. Esobar and Company "I" under Capt. Battad, scaled the heights of Barucal Ridge and Hill 99-W. Through dint of something tougher than courage, the men of Company "M" under Capt. Caciling and later on under Capt. Callejo, kept an incessant vigil over LOWER CaDSU which changed hands four times during these operations! My casualties were heavy and it was most painful to lose some of the fightingest men and officers in my outfit. There were times when we were isolated, cut off from communications with headquarters but we had carrier pigeons and handytalkies and C-rations! To top it all, we had air support—the very missing arm that spelt disaster for us somewhere in Bataan years ago.

It was my privilege to witness the day the boys of Com-

pany "L" storm'd the heights of Barucal Ridge to plant a hastily improvised flag which consisted of a dirty olive face towel to warn the artillery and the units below that Jap resistance there was over. It was equally my most heart-rending experience to witness, the mangled bodies of a dozen Igorot lads who made a valiant but futile attempt to reach a cleverly concealed Jap woodpecker the night before.

Colonel Sotomo Terau, Chief of Staff of the 19th TORA Division, when interrogated after surrendering to USAFIP, NL, gave this opinion of the fighting ability of our forces which attacked Bessang Pass:

"Your way of attacking was steady. Your mortar fires were most effective against our positions. Your troops were tenacious in holding on to captured grounds. We tried again and again to cut you off, but you had more food and ammunition than we had."

I quote from a letter of Col. R. P. Carlson, CO of the 122nd FA Bn (AUS), who may be regarded as an unbiased observer during these operations:

"Many of my officers and men have related incidents to me of remarkable battle achievements, individual and collective, all revealing the great personal bravery, spirit and fighting ability of the officers and men of the 121st, 15th, and 26th Infantry Regiments, and of the Provisional Units. I personally witnessed a number of similar incidents and instances during the course of the battle from BUTAC to KAYAN and LEPANTO. Those of my officers and men who were privileged to act in Liaison of Forward Observer Parties have been fulsome in their praise for and the highest respect and esteem of your Infantrymen. Never have we supported infantry more eager to close with the enemy in hand to hand combat than the men of the 15th Infantry and the 121st Infantry. We have never dared fire any closer overhead fire than was fired in front of the 3rd Battalion, 121st Infantry at the UPPER HOUSE, BESSANG. Nor has any other infantry followed our fire more closely, with more dash."—C. B. RIGOR

Historical Report

(From "The Philippine Liberation Campaign,"
Prepared by
Historical Section, Intelligence Division, AFP)

As in all battles, there were days and nights of lulls in the Bessang operation. At other times, however, there was no let-up in the firing, and on such nights and days enemy bullets and shells drained the manpower of the 121st; trench foot, malaria and intestinal diseases set in to claim a heavy toll; badly-needed food and ammunition could not reach the frontline troops due to difficulty in re-supply. It was a severe test to the fortitude and heroism of the men of Northern Luzon. The boys, determined to take Bessang as the enemy troops were to keep it, fought on. To them, the cracking of Bessang, barely 17 kilometers from the famous Tirad Pass, where Gregorio del Pilar and his stalwarts of 1899 fell, meant the vindication of Corregidor and Eatsan to the people for whom they were fighting, it meant the severance of the last link of three years of unbearable servitude. But even at this stage of the operation it was not easy to crack Bessang; Ozaki held a trump card and with it was now ready to reverse the situation.

That was in May and to start his move, Ozaki dispatched one battalion of the Japanese 78th Infantry to Butac, via Alliem, Ilocos Sur. The enemy's plan was not clear at the time but it was later on established that this enemy unit constituted an advance party with a mission to feel the possibility or reoccupying Butac and cut off the friendly troops fighting near Bessang and to probe the strength of the USAFIP, NL, at the rear. Elements of this enemy battalion crept in the darkness and attacking with telling effects, infiltrated into the very gun positions of Battery "C".

The MP Battalion of the USAFIP, NL, was rushed to intercept the enemy on its way from Alliem, and failing to make contact thereat, was ordered to strike the enemy's rear in the vicinity of Butac. Meanwhile, the Second Battalion, which was then in reserve, was committed. Sandwiched, the enemy force fought back furiously in a desperate attempt to squeeze itself out. In that attempt, it met its doom: it was annihilated almost to the last man.

Bessang in Fifteen Days
Towards the latter part of May, the 15th Infantry, USAFIP, NL, under Robert Arnold, a lieutenant colonel, AUS, having finished its operations in the Tangsadan and Abra; and the 66th Infantry, under a Filipino Major, Denna Molintas,

former governor of Mountain Province, having reverted into the USAFIP, NL, from attachment to the Sixth Army, were committed in the battle for Bessang; and soon thereafter, too, the remaining companies of the First Battalion of the 11th Infantry, under the command of Major Herbert Erick, were shifted into the picture.

More air strikes were now taking place in support of the USAFIP forces, and a little later, General Krueger, of the U.S. Sixth Army, ordered the attachment to the USAFIP, NL, of the 122nd Field Artillery Battalion and the First Battalion of the 123rd Infantry of the T Corps, 6th Army. Then June came and with it, an order from the Headquarters of the USAFIP, NL, signed by Maj. Gen. Calixto Duque, then a colonel and G-3 of the USAFIP, NL, the field order directed, in effect, the taking of Bessang Pass in 15 days!

The Big Push

Fervish preparations for the big push followed; huge mounds of 61-mm mortar shells were piled up in defiles along the highway, from Butac to the most forward positions; and on the 16th of the month, June, Bessang was no longer Bessang but an inferno. Enemy positions capitulated one after the other, and as they did, the USAFIP forces advanced steadily towards Bessang, until Mt. Buccual North of the now historic Pass, was almost within reach. At this point, the advancing units were held up: the enemy had decided to make another desperate stand.

Training their guns on this point, the 88-mm mortar sections of the Combat Company of the 121st Infantry, USAFIP, NL, and two mortar sections of the U.S. Army's 123rd Infantry, which were attached to the 121st Infantry, USAFIP, NL, opened up to the wee hours of 14 June. At 0700 hours on that day, Mt. Buccual was a ghastly mass of whitish smoke. An hour later, "L" company and "K" Company, under a Filipino captain, Pio Escobar, drove inward to assault the position. In a few more hours the entire Bessang area, where thousands of Filipino soldiers from the North had fallen, saw the American flag waving. Bessang had fallen; with its fall, the backdoor to Yamashita's much vaunted defense had been thrown wide open, sealing the fate of the Tiger of Malaya and his remaining fanatical defenders, who, to save their lives, were shortly thereafter to surrender.

UNRECORDED DOCUMENT

I, Lt Gen FUKUYAMA HISHIYAMA, Commanding General, 23d Division, Japanese Imperial Army in the Philippines, after receiving orders emanating from higher authorities, do hereby surrender unconditionally myself and my command to the Commanding Officer, United States Armed Forces in the Philippines, North Luzon, this 20th day of September 1945.

西山 拍太郎
 FUKUYAMA HISHIYAMA
 Lt General
 Commanding General, 23d Div
 Japanese Imperial Army
 in the Philippines

WITNESSES:

高津 利光

TOJIMITSU TAKAYASU
 Major General
 Chief of Staff, 23d Div
 Japanese Imperial Army

高橋 政一

MIYAHARA TAKEMASA, Lt Col, G-3

武高 次男

TAKANO TAKESHI, Lt Col, G-2

光 玉 泰 夫

MITSUO YODAMA, Major, G-2

UNRECORDED DOCUMENT

I, Rear Admiral KYUGORO SHIMAMOTO, Assistant Chief of Staff of the Imperial Japanese Navy in the Philippines after receiving orders emanating from higher authorities, do hereby surrender unconditionally myself and my command to the Commanding Officer, United States Armed Forces of the Philippines, North Luzon, this 18th day of September 1945.

Kyugoro Shimamoto
 KYUGORO SHIMAMOTO
 Rear Admiral
 Asst Chief of Staff
 Imperial Japanese Navy
 in the Philippines

WITNESSES:

K. Kiyofuji

KATSUJI KIYOFUJI
 Rear Admiral
 Chief Paymaster

T. Takurai

SAKURAI TONUCHI
 Rear Admiral
 Chief Doctor

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Salient facts & figures

I. Casualties: (4 Jan. to 17 Oct. 45)		B. The enemy:	
A. Japanese: POW	32001	KIA/strength enemy	.. 61.22%
KIA	52033	Captured (POW) 38.08%
	84034	Ratio of KIA, USAFIP NL/	KIA of enemy—1:36
estimated Japanese army		Casualties—enemy:	
strength of forces facing the		Japanese:	
USAFIP NL during the whole		POW—32001; other nationals,	1010; total, 33011
campaign.		KIA—52033	
Other nationals (aliens)		84034—14th army, I.J.F.	(Yamashita)
Taiwans (Formosans)	809	Casualties—USAFIP, NL	
Koreans	144	KIA 1441
Japanese	57	WIA 3475
Total	1010	MIA 84
	84034		5000
Total Japs and aliens	83044	Strength of USAFIP—20,664	casualty — 25% of division
B. USAFIP, NL:			strength.
KIA	1441	In this campaign, the USAFIP,	
WIA	3475	NL killed 52,033 Japs and cap-	
MIA	84	tured a total of 32,001 POW as	
Total casualties	5000	of October 1945. Losses on our	
II. Strength of the USAFIP,		side were heavy, casualties to-	
NL:		talling 1441 KIA, 3475 WIA and	
A. Present strength	20,664	84 MIA. The losses suffered by	
B. Total casualties	5,000	the five regiments are as fol-	
total strength against Japs.	25,664	lows:	
III. Evaluation of data:		Units	KIA WIA MIA Total
A. Our casualties:		121st Inf.	622 1786 34 2442
KIA/strength, USAFIP,		15th Inf.	2,83 825 7 770
NL	6.52%	66th Inf.	2,80 568 6 854
WIA/strength, USAFIP,		11th Inf.	145 310 12 467
NL	15.72%	14th Inf.	110 196 1 320
MIA/strength, USAFIP,		Totals	1395 3385 73 4853
NL	0.38%	This does not include 46 KIA	
Total casualties/all-over		90 WIA, 11 MIA on other smaller	
strength, USAFIP, NL—22.52%.			

Volckmann greets former comrades

Colonel Russel W. Volckmann, former overall commander of the USAFIP, NL, who is now on duty with the office of the Chief of Psychological Warfare, Pentagon, Washington, D. C., sent a letter to his former comrades on the occasion of USAFIP, NL, Day. Quoted hereunder is the full text of his letter.

"Ladies and Gentlemen:

"Nine years ago this month the fate of events thrust upon me a challenge and a responsibility—to command and direct the resistance forces of North Luzon against a tyrannical, inhuman and hated war, an invasion of the Philippines, Bataan, Corregidor, a Death March, prison camps and a cruel occupation. Our mission was: to keep ever alive a flame of determined resistance; to organize and prepare to deal the enemy a crushing defeat in the liberation of the Philippines:

"Time . . . strong conditioner. To those who now look back and to those who were not personally acquainted with condi-

tions that existed in June 1943, the mission and the problems that confronted us undoubtedly seem trivial or academic. However, to me and I am certain also to the civilians, officers and men of the North Luzon USAFIP, NL mission and problems of June 1943 are still very realistic and vivid.

"The underlying factors that contributed to the success of USAFIP, NL can be directly attributed to the courage and stamina of the people and their ability to withstand privations, endure hardships and face imminent death while fighting against innumerable odds. With the same spirit that marks the history of the Filipino people, you are steadfast in your determination to destroy a cruel and despotic enemy so that once more the people of the Philippines might enjoy the free and democratic way of life. To this end you pledged your hearts and souls.

"With such courageous spirit as the motivating for a behind USAFIP, NL, together with wholehearted cooperation and willingness on the part of the officers and men of USAFIP, NL to undergo sacrifices and hardships, the seemingly unsurmountable obstacles through the dark days of the Japanese occupation were overcome. Your devotion to duty to the Cause, to your Country, and to the United States of America has rightly been blessed with commendations of the highest order.

"Again as we celebrate USAFIP, NL Day, the Seventh Anniversary of the Fall of Bessang Pass, I join you in prayer and pay tribute to our comrades in arms who paid the supreme sacrifice on the field of battle. They died an honorable death, fighting so that we might continue to enjoy and cherish the rights of free men. I serve and march with you now as in years gone by, to ever advance the Causes for which they died. As in the past not one of us shall falter; to do so would make their deaths appear in vain.

"On this occasion I again wish to express my sincere and deep appreciation to you for keeping alive the magnificent spirit of USAFIP, NL. I feel it my privilege to have served with you and I shall always cherish your devoted thoughtfulness and friendship.

Best Regards and Good Luck—
 (sgd) R. W. VOLCKMANN
 Colonel, Inf, USA

Osmeras grateful to USAFIP, NL

In a letter to Majos General Calixto Duque, AFP Chief of Staff, Governor Sergio Osmeña Jr. of Cebu reiterated the gratitude of the Osmeña family to the USAFIP, NL, "for having saved our lives" during the last war.

Members of the Osmeña family, who were then escaping to the North Luzon mountains, included the former First Lady of the Land, Rosie Osmeña Valencia, Ramon Osmeña, Victor Osmeña and Sergio Osmeña Jr.

In his letter, Osmeña especially mentioned Sgt. Fred Tagger and Cpl. Odolon Espina (RIA), who acted as liaison be-

tween Col. Volckmann, Commanding Officer of the USAFIP, NL, and himself; Capt. Telesforo Pulido, CO of the Hq. Co. of the 68th Infantry, who escorted the Osmeña family from the Naguilian Road to Camp Valhalla, mountain headquarters of the USAFIP, NL; Capt. Bado Dangwa, Supply Officer at Camp Utopia in North Luzon; and Capt. Alejandro Darjo, Commanding Officer of the 1st Hospital Company at Camp Lon-oy.

"To these gallant men of the USAFIP, NL, and particularly to Col. Russell W. Volckmann," Osmeña Jr. said, "we owe our eternal gratitude."

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Bontoc, Bontoc, Mt. Prov. P. I.
June 12, 1943

Subject: Surrender to Imperial Japanese Army.
To: Lt. Col. Gregorio Hermilo,
Major Ralph Frazier, and
all U.S.A.F.P.E. officers and men
still at large on Luzon.

1. On June 2, 1943, Lt. Col. A. K. Noble and I surrendered to Forces of the Imperial Japanese Army near a Barrio in Kalings where we had stopped in order to get food and rest preparatory to go to Bontoc to surrender ourselves to the Commanding Officer at that place. This lasted over a year of running and hiding since our escape from Bataan on April 9, 1942.
2. As you well know, one of the principal reasons why you and I and all of the rest of our U.S.A.F.P.E. forces especially Americans, did not surrender earlier was due to our fear of being maltreated, tortured and killed by the Imperial Japanese Army if we did surrender or if we were captured. We thought that by hiding we had some hope of surviving but that if we fell into the hands of the Japanese, then all hope was lost.
3. I am writing you this letter of my own free will and with absolutely no force or direction by the army authorities at this place in order to tell you how greatly mistaken you and I were about the treatment of war prisoners in the P. I., and also to advise you, as your Commanding Officer, to surrender to the nearest Imperial Japanese Army Garrison and bring to an end your futile and useless running and hiding.
4. I am your commanding officer and I know you respect me and will believe my word in what I tell you, and I sincerely hope that you will follow my advise in what I tell you to do. ~~SURRENDER NOW~~ without and without any fear what so ever about your treatment as a war prisoner or about your future. The army authorities have assured me that as in the case of Lt. Col. Noble and myself, you will receive kind and generous treatment, you will receive proper medical attention, you will receive three good, big meals each day and, what is equally important, you will have plenty of opportunity to rest and recover from the terrible hardships and privations that we have all endured.
5. After Lt. Noble and I surrendered, you can imagine how gratified we were when, instead of being maltreated or tortured by the Japanese Soldiers, we were given good food, all the "tailor made" cigarettes we could smoke, all the water we needed for drinking and bathing and were not made to do any work all but were allowed to rest and sleep all the time. Some of the Japanese Soldiers gave us some basi and some whiskey.
6. you must believe me when I tell you how mistaken all of us were about our fear of being war prisoners. For the first time in over a year I can go to sleep at night without fear of what will happen tomorrow. My mind is now, for the first time, perfectly at ease and relief from the constant hunger, running, hiding and all the other hardships I endured with you is truly wonderful. On my word of honor, I am glad I surrendered and even if I had an opportunity to escape, I would not do so. My way of living now is far, far superior for the way I lived for the past year.
7. The rainy season will soon be here, and all of you know the miseries and sickness it will bring to you who are hiding in the mountains, you have no medicine to combat sickness and in your rundown condition a few more weeks or months of your futile hiding may mean your death from disease.
8. Let me appeal to your reason and good sense. Practically all of our officers, soldiers, arms and ammunition have either been captured or have surrendered all over Luzon. There is nothing left and no hope of replacements from outside the P. I. If you surrender now you will receive all the benefits of being war prisoners as defined by International Law. Your life will be spared and eventually you will be with your loved ones again. In the past you have obeyed my orders without question. I implore you to obey this order I am going to give you now SURRENDER AT THE NEAREST POSSIBLE DATE AT THE NEAREST GARRISON OF THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE ARMY. All of you are my friends and if I did not honestly believe that the best thing to do is to surrender then I would not order you to do so. Also remember that I was not forced to write this letter but that I volunteered to do so.

Martin Moses
Martin Moses
Lt. Col. Infantry, U. S. Army
Commanding

Arthur K. Noble
Arthur K. Noble
Lt. Col. Infantry, U. S., Army
2nd in Command

Balanga, Bataan
4 July 1945Claims Service, USAFFE
7th Floor, Trade & Commerce Building
Manila, Philippines

Gentlemen:

I have the honor to present a claim for my automobile which was commandeered by Captain Walter M. Cushing, USA, at Lagangilang, Abra Province, Northern Luzon on December 26, 1941. The commandeering receipt which he issued to me was lost together with its registration papers when the Japanese Army forces invaded our headquarters at the Lagangilang Agricultural High School on January 22, 1942. When I applied for duplicate certificate of registration, I was informed by the Bureau of Public Works of the Commonwealth government that all their previous records have either been lost or destroyed. However, I am enclosing herewith the chattel mortgage contract in favor of the Manila Motor Company-wherefrom I purchased said car in 1938 - in which you will find that its description is as follows:

Make :	Studebaker
Model :	1938 Commander, Cruising Sedan
Motor No. :	H 31112
Factory No. :	5593139

The following is a narrative of the circumstances:

1. When war broke out on December 8, 1941, I was Division Superintendent of Schools for the Province of Abra, Northern Luzon. On Dec. 10, the Japanese landed in great force off Pandan, Vigan and Santa, Ilocos Sur Province, rapidly capturing the junction leading to Abra Province at Narvacan. All communication lines between Abra and points south (including Manila) were cut, and excepting by radio and by runners passing through unoccupied areas, Abra was unheard from.
2. The Philippine Constabulary force under Major Capayas retreated to the mountains, after having left their barracks in Bangued hurriedly. The Philippine Army trainees under Lieut. Vicente Diana, P.A. evacuated to Lagangilang whatever supplies they could carry with them. They were in disorganized groups.
3. In view of the proximity of the Japanese forces, they being only 30 kilometers from Bangued, my official station, I moved my family to the Lagangilang Agricultural High School on December 12. On December 16, 1941 in the morning, the Japs invaded Abra in force, freed all prisoners confined in the provincial jail, and lawlessness broke out, giving robbers and thieves opportunity to loot government and chinese property. They went as far as the south bank of the Abra River at Langangilang, turned back to Bangued and left for Vigan on the same day.

4. From December 10 to December 15, Captain Walter M. Cushing, operator and co-owner of the Rainbow Mines, Inc. with office and mines at Pattoc, Abra, together with William N. Arthur, his assistant, and four other volunteers crossed the mountains separating Abra and Ilocos Sur as patrols and scouts. They tried to observe enemy positions, supplies and movements. When they came back to Lagangilang, they tried to reorganize the disbanded trainees and recruit volunteer fighters against the Japs; As a start, they tried to accumulate all the scattered equipment and supplies of the Cadre.

5. On or about December 18, 1941, some 30 or more American soldiers, a detail of the signal Corps (Aircraft Detection Unit) stationed at Burgos, Ilocos Norte under 1st Lieut. Robert H. Arnold, U.S.A. arrived at La Paz, Abra. They had trekked over the mountains between Abra and Ilocos Norte Province in retreat from the Japanese who had invaded Ilocos Norte. When they arrived in Lagangilang, they were persuaded by Capt. Cushing, Lt. W. N. Authur, and Mr. Samuel Ordun (co-partner of Cushing in the Rainbow Mines at Pattoc, Abra) to stay in Abra in the meantime to get more organized to resist and fight against the Japs. Lt. Arnold had approximately 30 men, 2 machine guns, sidearms, some grenades, some BARS and over six miles of wire - all these painstakingly carried over the mountains, after they had abandoned most of their valuable equipment. Lt. Arnold agreed, after having learned that the route south had been blocked off by the Japs and that the only way to rejoin the USAFFE forces was through Mountain Province, a mountainous tortuous route.

6. Capt. Cushing and Lt. Arnold made Lagangilang Agricultural High School their headquarters, in view of the presence of many student and teacher cottages and the location - it being on the northeast side of the Abra River, which needed to be crossed if the Japs attempted to invade again.

7. To these Headquarters flocked Filipino soldiers who had been disbanded from the Abra Cadre; some who retreated from battles along Ilocos Sur and La Union coastline joined them. So with many other volunteers from the different towns of Abra, Captain Cushing and Lieut. Arnold called on me to help provide their men with food. As Superintendent of Schools, I arranged for food contributions all over the Province through my teachers. All the rice, chickens and food contributed were accumulated by the trucks of Cushing and Arnold and brought to Lagangilang.

8. When they felt themselves sufficiently reorganized, Captain Cushing laid the plans to move to Ilocos Sur to do ambush warfare against the Japs. They commandeered all the available trucks of the Northern Luzon Transportation Company and the Sambrano Transportation, and some automobiles, including his own private 1940 Chevrolet and my car. He gave me a commandeering receipt on December 26, 1941.

9. On December 26, he appointed me Lieutenant-Military Governor for the USAFFE for Abra Province in recognition of my humble service and willing, wholehearted cooperation. My job was to maintain peace and order, help take care of the sick soldiers, and to recover as many supplies for the United States Army as I could. Capt. Cushing dealt with looters and the Lawless

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elements in a decisive way. As an example to the others, he authorized me to form a jury to decide the guilt of one Filipino who had terrorized civilians in Dolores, Abra with his revolver. Having been found guilty, he was shot to death by Captain Cushing and Lt. Arnold's men.

10. Capt. Cushing and Lieut. Arnold left Lagangilang on or about December 29, 1941 for Candon, Ilocos Sur via Pilar, Abra. They had about 25 Americans and 200 Filipino soldiers with them. They were to ambush Jap supply trucks and troops which were moving south along the coast to La Union. Capt. Cushing instructed me to take over all the trucks, automobiles, jitneys, gasoline, and other supplies recovered; to stress on the maintenance of peace and order to the people; to dismantle all vehicles and render them useless in case the Japs invade in force. He left me Lt. William N. Arthur as Executive Officer, 3 other convalescing American soldiers, 3 Filipino officers and approximately 100 Filipino soldiers.

11. In accordance with Capt. Cushing's instructions, I also posted men to keep guard at the approaches to Abra from Ilocos Sur. I caused the Acting District Engineer of the Province, Mr. Reyes, to fill up the Tangadan Tunnel with rocks and earth. Capt. Cushing found it impossible to blast the place with the available explosives. Hills along the road were slid down to block the road and make the same impassable to motorized vehicles. The wreckage was such that when the Japanese invaded Abra again, they had to do so by rafts along the Abra river.

12. Food production among the people was stressed by my teachers and the mayors under me, because Abra province has never been self-sufficient in food. I was greatly helped in this program by the Principal of the Lagangilang Agricultural High School. I caused all government employees to be paid with P.N.B. checks.

13. My soldiers constantly went around the different towns to gather the rifles and ammunition available, as well as Army equipment. Some grenades and ammunition were sent to Captain Cushing and Lieut. Arnold in Candon.

14. Of the twelve malaria-stricken Americans under Lieut. Arnold, four were too weak to join him when he moved with Capt. Cushing to Candon. My teacher nurses took good care of these four. They were Sgt. Charles Knoll; Barnhouse; Shorty (?) (His name was Italian; I don't remember) and Heuser. Sgt. Knoll recovered and we motored him to Pilar after two weeks to rejoin Lt. Arnold's group.

15. I kept Capt. Cushing informed of our activities in Abra from day to day using runners. During the period of from January 1 to January 21, 1942, Captain Cushing and his men accomplished 2 ambushes at Candon and Baugen, Ilocos Sur, respectively. At Candon, he destroyed some ten truckloads of Japs and supplies.

16. As Lieut.-Military Governor, I caused the re-arrest of the prisoners who were freed from the provincial jail by the Japs. I designated policemen in the different towns and barrios to maintain peace and order, and help in

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the recovery of Army supplies. On January 22, 1942, approximately 600 Japanese fully equipped with machine guns and trench mortars were in Patuccanay, Bangued, 12 km. from our headquarters. They came from Ilocos Sur in rafts along the Abra River. With only 80 men with 20 rounds of 30 caliber each, I ordered a retreat. The Japs seized everything they could get hold of in the school premises, ransacked and wrecked our CP. There was an exchange of small arms fire at the river and 36 Japs were killed by eight of my men armed with BARS.

17. We fled to the mountains with our families and stayed there until Feb. 11 when an even greater force of Japs (approximately 2,000) came for mopping-up operations. Our families were suffering and two of my children had dysentery. My wife was nine months on the family way. On February 12, having been separated from my family and learning that my pregnant wife and one son, 9 years old were captured, I surrendered to the Jap commander. With the understanding of the Japs, I stayed with my family in the school premises until March 31, when, I was arrested in Bangued by Jap collaborators. On April 1, I succeeded in obtaining passes for me and my family to leave Abra for Risal, my home province.

18. When the Japs invaded on January 22, 1942, Lieut. Arthur had taken the precaution of dumping 100 bolts of 30 Cal. rifles, which we could not use for lack of ammunition. The Japs seized four (4) trucks, 2 automobiles, including mine. All papers in our headquarters were destroyed, including the commandeering receipt given me by Capt. Cushing, and the registration papers of the car.

19. Capt. Cushing and Lieut. Arnold's headquarters in Candon and Baugen were invaded by the Japs in force and their forces scattered. The last news I heard of Capt. Cushing was that he was killed somewhere in Isabela Province in 1943.

20. Lieut. Robert Arnold is reported to be alive and is the CO of the 15th Infantry USAFIP, Northern Luzon.

21. Many of the Americans were later taken prisoners by the Japs, and as far as I can remember, in 1943 I saw some of them in San Fernando, La Union province being transferred prison camp. Some of their names are: Mess Sgt. Murracoio, 1st Sgt. Quinley, Master Sgt. Snyder, Sgt. Knoll, Corporal Barhhouse, pfc, Heuser, Sgt. Zaeger, and Mr. Ordun. I tried to smuggle them some food. Likewise, Sgt. Herbert Krowitz.

22. Communications with Bontoc and Balbalasang, Abra were had by runners and messengers. Lt. Arthur told me that Col Horan at Bontoc, before it fell to the Japs, had knowledge of our activities. Two American Lieutenants (gold-miners, Bagulo) Stevens and Scholey passed Lagangilang first week of January to join some other guerrilla groups.

23. The men of Captain Cushing and Lieut. Arnold became the nucleus of the succeeding guerrilla groups which harrassed and wrought havoc on Japanese supply routes and up to the present are fighting with the Americans in the North.

24. Lieut. Arthur was taken by the Japanese Military Police and killed in 1944.

25. When the United States Army liberated the City of Manila, I reported to the Department of Public Instruction and Information of the Commonwealth Government. I have been assigned to the Province of Bataan, with official station at Balanga.

Two of my former teachers in Lagangilang, Abra can testify to the truth of the foregoing. They are:

Mr. Domingo Ignacio -- 237 Lipa, Sampaloc, Manila
c/o Bureau of Census & Statistics
Mrs. Dominga Ignacio - 237 Lipa, Sampaloc, Manila

I am enclosing some receipts which I signed or caused to be signed for meals which some members of my staff of officers ate while passing through Bangued, Abra on patrol work on various dates between Jan 1 and 22, 1942.

/s/ William A. Sheaffer
/t/ WILLIAM A. SHEAFFER
1st. Lt. FA
Investigating Officer

A TRUE COPY from original on file in Archive Section.

Copy of Col. Moran's Diary

- Dec. 8 At 6:05 am Major Speth phoned me that Pearl Harbor had been bombed. Turned the radio on and at 6:15 the news was confirmed. Called Capt. Calvert on the phone and told him to put into effect the 43rd Inf. WFO-3, calling for immediate movement to Zamortis. Radioed Gen. MacArthur as to whether to follow WFO3 or to remain to CJH. At eight oclock got official word that we were at war with Japan. Had an officers' call at eight oclock putting WFO3 in effect. All officers moved to put it in effect. At a quarter past eight received word from Hqrs. USAFFE to disregard WFO3 and to guard post installations. Sent word to each officer accordingly. At 8:25 Major Allen called me outside of Hqrs to see a perfect flight of planes away up in air, 17 of them. When overhead the leading plane dipped its wings and hell broke loose. Was hit on the head with a hunk of mud and ran inside. 128 bombs fell all around us but none of our groups was hurt. A few minutes later a messenger from the Mess said several there were killed. Went up right away. The Mess was a shambles. Collected several wounded and sent them to hosp. The Mess Sgt. was killed. Saw Mrs. lying in the road near Mess garage. Turned her over and found she was living and lying on her baby. Put them into Mess bus and sent them to hospital. Went up to Scout Hill. Co. A Nest end was badly damaged. Many killed and wounded. Sent them to hosp. Back end of 59 badly damaged and several killed and wounded. Sent them to hosp. Notified USAFFE. In afternoon went to hosp. and found eleven killed and 22 wounded, all sent to Notre Dame. Order Mess abandoned and Officers to eat at EMD. Ordered all guests to Country Club.
- Dec. 9 Major Allen repairing damaged post utilities. Lt. Bach injured the day before so put Capt. Starnes in charge of cleaning up Mess. Called Constab about collecting 45 dangerous Japs. Prepared the upper floor of Mess for them. Troops moved to near #9 Golf House.
- Dec. 10 Jap Internees moved into Mess. Allen cleaning up utilities. Lt. Worthington, Balatoc, offered to build dugout for radio. Put Fellows in charge. He functioned in fine shape.
- Dec. 11 Fellows phoned Suyoc and Lepanto to help Distr. Engrs. demolish roads north of Baguio per USAFFE instructions. He has been very level head. Moved the Japs to #6 Scout Hill and put up fence. Bombed again at 10:30 but no material damage. One empty QMG warehouse damaged and Sgt. Cook injured. Put Lt. Murphy on Naguillian road on outpost.
- Dec. 12 Mr. Hazlewood, Balatoc Mine, started real work on dug out tunnel. Also on road demolition near Murphy's position on Naguillian rd. Calvert and I inspected position and went out Mt. Trail to locate defensive positions there.
- Dec. 13 First sleep for five nights. Felt a wreck and mighty dopey. Feel better now. Can think.

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- Dec. 14 Seven planes came overhead but dropped no bombs. Inspected Murphy's position again. Well located.
- Dec. 15 Nothing much doing. A lot of radios. Civilian Engrs, doing a lot of damage up north.
- Dec. 16 Visited outposts. All well. Had expected only 45 Jap internees. Have over three hundred. Hayakawa, Yamamoto and Nagatomi in Charge. Good men.
- Dec. 17 No change. Moved Mess to log cabin, # 56.
- Dec. 18 Japs reported at many places along west coast. Placed all of Co A on Naguillian rd. and part of Co. B on Kennon rd.
- Dec. 19 Japs reported moving south from Vigan. Major Moses and Noble have bns at Bacnotan to meet them.
- Dec. 20 Things not going well near Bacnotan. Troops reported surrounded by Japs and reinforcements reported coming up Kennon rd. to move down Naguillian.
- Dec. 21 86 Jap transports visible in Lingayen Gulf. Took USAFFE orders down to Naguillian to Col. Bonnett to have him withdraw all troops to join USAFFE. Bombed again but no damage. Moved Mess to #14. Had a hectic night. Informed USAFFE that Japs were at Kennon rd but was informed that I had "been misinformed as to the situation" Went down the Kennon rd. at midnight on PR to find out. I was right. The gate was blocked by Japs per information from PA Engr officer and PA trainee det. Six of their 16 trucks had been captured.
- Dec. 22 Upon return to camp at 7:00 AM learned that Maj. Fellows had heard that parachute troops had landed at Trinidad. He ordered the post evacuated and all communications installations destroyed. Also code books. Post was uninhabited when I got back. Brought the troops back from Itogan at night. Radioed the USAFFE by Bureau of Posts radio in the clear but no answer.
- Dec. 23 Radioed the USAFFE several times but no answer.
- Dec. 24 Received word from USAFFE to "Save your command. Take to Mt. Trails" Ordered Col. Bonnett to take all PA troops with him to Bobok by motor, thence over the easy ten percent old Spanish trail to Aritao where buses would meet him. He should have arrived there by the 27th. Hope he made it. I personally took the CJH personnel to Itogan and thence down to the Agno River and up the Mt. to the Jorgensen saw mill on Mt. Lus od. I sent the American officers and enlisted men ahead and waited for the 43rd to come in from the Kennon rd and Naguillian trails. When Co. A was ready and Co. B distributing their loads I started off with Lt. Gasperini. The trail was not bad as far as the Agno. Then it was sure hell. Straight up an old Igorote trail. There was a ten per cent easy new trail

but it was pitch dark and we could not find it. Our group hiked until 6:00 AM when we reached the first piers of the cable way from Station D, Heald Lumber Co. Here we found Maj. Fellows, Lt. Simpson, and Lt. Jensen. They had been sleeping since midnight. They went on and our group spent an hour or two sleeping.

- Dec. 25 At seven o'clock Lt. Gasperini and I started for the top of the Mt. The worst hiking I have ever done. Several times I was just all in. The old pump just would not work. Finally I sent Gasparini on. Told him to leave me and take care of himself. Ten minutes, short of Jorgensons I was gave up. Layed on the trail an hour when Capt. Jacobs and two men came down to meet me. Was somewhat rested and went on to Jorgensons, just seven and a half minutes away. Was just all in. Realized that I was no longer a young man. Upon arriving there I found that I was nearly the first one of the 43rd there. The others were the Amer. QMC det and WPPS boys. Maj. Fellows Lt. Simpson, Lt. Jensen went on right away with fourteen Americans. I told all American officers and enlisted men to go on ahead and I would stay with the PS det. The next morning Major Allen, Capt. Jacobs and most of the Amer EM went on. Had Christmas dinner with Jorgensons that night, also Miss Bradley, Miss Chambers, Capt Praeger and Lt. Jones. We slept on the ground that night as we did the night before.
- Dec. 26 The 43rd Inf began to come in during the day, completely tired out. It was night before they all got in. We slept in a native shack near the sawmill. All the troops except the 43rd had gone on ahead.
- Dec. 27 Mr. Jorgensen put us on the trail but gave us the wrong one. He sent us to Dyaca inward old Kyappa now called Pampang. Instead of toward Kyappa Proper. By doing this we lost two days and failed to go to Imugan on the 27th as we should have. He even gave us the harder route to Dyaca. It surely was hell. Even had to cut a new route from the trail we were on the correct one to Dyaca.
- Dec. 28 Slept at Dyaca mine. The other Americans had gone on ahead the preceding day. Leaving Dyaca we went up hill on an easy ten percent trail for two hours when we hit the trail of Col. Bonnets men, but two days later. Took this trail to old Kyappa now called Pampang. Were told how to get to our proper route to Kyappa proper. Met many PA men on their way back north. Said that Belate Pass was in the hands of the Japs and that Majors Moses and Noble had disbanded their units and had gone on by horseback as civilians. Met so many of them and they all told the same story so guess it is true. We kept on to Pampang, too. Lt. Justo and one Amer EM asked permission to go on, granted it.
- Dec. 29 Capt Praeger said his men were too tired to take the hard trail so let him follow Bonnet's route to Aritao. We continued on toward Imugan where our trucks were supposed to meet us. Surely was a terrible route. The worst I have ever taken. Got as far as Bonnett River where we spent the night.

- Dec. 30 Left early for Imugan. The first four hours were very hard. Then it got easier. Arrived at Imugan about three. Found a note from Major Fellows dated the 27th. Said the Japs were rapidly approaching San Jose and that he was going on with his men. We left a lot of the older men at Imugan to go home as they could not keep up. Made 46k Km forced marched, in 24 hrs. Left Imugan at half past six at night after two hours rest. Hiked to Santa Fe where we found our trucks all dismantled. Kept on up over Belete Pass. Capt. Gitter, Capt Starness Pvt. Marshall and I acted as a point. Hiked until daylight, then slept until ten. Then hiked to Digdig Gat. Here we learned that the Japs had taken San Jose on the 28th.
- Dec. 31 Turned east for Carranglan, hoping to be able to move around the Jap flank and join the USAFFE. Learned that four Jap tanks were astride the road just north of Functon, north of San Jose. Arrived at Carranglan at about six thirty. Capt. Gitter, Capt Starnes, Pvt. Marshall two hours later. Here we listened to the 8:30 KGEI program over the Judge's radio. Heard that the Japs had made a 100 km motorized movement from San Jose to Rizal, to Bongabong, to Cabanatuan, to Gapan and that there was heavy fighting there. Spent the New Years Eve at Carranglan.
- Jan. 1 Had the hardest decision in my life to make, whether to keep on trying to get around the outer edge of the Jap swinging door and get to join the USAFFE or to turn back. Here the WD had been paying my salary for twenty-four years to have me available for use when wanted. But it looked like a hopeless task to keep on. There was a good trail ahead thru Pantabangan to Rizal. But it was reported that there were 4000 Japs there. Evacuees from there said the town was full of Japs. It was reported that there were no north and south trails at the western edge of the Mts, no food and little water. We would have to go up and down many parallel east-west ridges to Papaya about 100 kms away to get around the enemy flank. If we did not make it at Papaya we would have to go clear around the edge of the Candaba swamp and come in at SF Pan. Figured we could not do it. Decided to run back as there were a lot of low flying aircraft around. It might have been possible to get thru by ones or twos but not with 150 men of two companies. Capt. Calvert, Lt. Murphy and two civilian Engrs. asked permission to try it. Granted. Justo had already been given permission. I offered a hundred pesos to anyone who would furnish transportation for us back over Belete Pass to Bagabag. Two cars were furnished. Paid \$110.00 for both. We got to aritao and had to walk to Bambang. Here we met Capt Praeger and his troops which fed us. Slept there that night in a large house the whole Bn together. (Calvert and Murphy never made it See later entry).
- Jan. 2 Left Bambang by truck, Sgt. Bowen driving. His foot was to bad for him to go to Imugan with us so he went with Praeger. Three miles out we came to a damaged bridge. Walked three miles to the destroyed bridge over the Magat, a six span bridge completely demolished. Ferried the stream. Got to Bayambang by noon. Had lunch here and the Constabulary took us to Lamut River. We forded this and spent the night on the west side. Had to decide tonight

- whether to stay in the Cagayan valley or move Bontoc and Co B from men from Ifugao I decided to enter the Mts. If the worst came to the worst, they could be near home.
- Jan. 3 Moved on to Ibalao gate 33 Km away. Here the men were fet by a detachment from the Kiangan constabulary.
- Jan. 4 Arrived at Kiangan after two hours hike. Moved into the PG bks. Lt. Estrerra, PG, and Capt Gitter made arrangements for messing and quartering together. There was a lot of room. Here I met Miss Metzger and Miss Spessard, with who Mrs. Moran and I stayed upon a previous visit to Kiangan. Capt. Gitter made arrangements for us officers to eat and sleep at the Catholic mission. Magshell and Marshall (pvt) to have a special mess and a PG officers house.
- Jan. 5 Made arrangements to attach our men to PG patrols to reconnoiter the mountain areas.
- Jan. 6 Col. Green, PG, arrived and ordered us to keep going, he did not care where. Said he had never been sworn into Federal service and did not intend to take orders from me. Tried to reason with him. Said we could not stay at either Banaue or Kiangan. Said he had had to leave Bontoc as there was no food there. I asked his advice as to where to go. He said he did not know nor care. I refused to move and said we would stay if I had to declare martial law and take over the place. He then calmed down but was not cooperative. Did not interferred further. Am sorry, but am afraid I have made a bad enemy. Just could not help it tho, had no other recourse. He had repaired all the roads from Bontoc to Ibalao gate that Gen MacArthur had ordered demolished, -this in or er to bring his family of eight from Bontoc to Kiangan. Hope we have no further contacts as I am afraid that he will inconvenience me if he can.
- Jan. 7 Looked over the area with a view of defending it when and if the Japs should come.
- Jan. 8 Two civilians, mining engineers, named Ordun and Sauter came in today. Wish I could have asked them in with us at the Padres'. But we were guests there. Like them both. Ordun has a mine with a Mr. Cushing at Baay. Sauter had had a job at Batang Buhay near Lubuagan. Wish they were both officers. I could use men like that. Ordun is a natural leader, Sauter a diamond in the rough. They moved in with Marshall and Maginelli, -they have the money for food, the pvt. will do the work.
- Jan. 9 Ordun and Sauter do not think much of Maginelli. Say he is too lazy, that he will not even help wash the dishes after the food is eaten. Marshall is OK tho, a happy-go-lucky type, somewhat inclined to looking upon the wine when it is red. But not a lazy bone in his body. We all like him but do not dare let him know it.

- Jan. 10 Maginelli has been trying to get us all in Dutch by talking too much. He can lie as fast as a horse can trot. Told the civilians he carried me 30 kms on his back, -Lamut to Ibalao. Imagine that, my 200 lbs. Told high tales as to his fighting at Bacnotan. Never was in a fight. Sauter and Ordun are about to put him out.
- Jan. 11 The PA radio that was at Baguio, later set up at Bontoc, was brought in by PA and PC personnel for use here. But our power is only 32 and it takes 110. Advised them to take it to Bayabong where I understand Capt. Enriquez, PA, has a group of men. He was cut off by the Japs and brought a group of men up thru the Belete Pass, He is a fine type of Filipino officer. Wish I had a few like him.
- Jan. 12 Had quite a talk today with Capt. Manalo, PC. He seems to be a chap with a lot of initiative. Said he understood that the PC at Bontoc was not going to try to resist any Jap advance up the Mt. Trail. Said he would like to take me there to talk it over. Said I would go.
- Jan. 13 Am going to turn the unit over to Capt. Giitter and going to Bontoc to see Gov. Peredo and Maj Esquijo about the defense of Bontoc if the Japs should come up. Giitter and Starness will hold the fort. Had dinner tonight with Miss Metzger of the Ifugao Academy. Starness is down at Bayabong to send messages over Enriquez's radio. Understand that Major Warner is assembling all Filipino trainees who were cut off from their units in the lowlands. Good idea. Since many of them are from Occidental Negros they would have a hard time getting food and cannot return home.
- Jan. 15 Left Kiangang this morning with Capt. Manalo. Took a car eight kms to Ibalao. Then had to undress and ford the river, it was four feet deep. A constabulary car met us on the north side and took us to the BC bks at Banaue, Manlo's hqrs. Had dinner here and we continued to Bontoc. Met the Governor and had a conference with him and Maj. Esquijo. Do not believe the Major will fight. He looks scared to death. Slept in the Governors house.
- Jan. 16 Heard a lot about a Major and Capt from CJH being at Km 73. Wonder if it is Allen and B. Went to Sagada where I met the Kluges who are staying at the Sagada Mission. Also was introduced to the Grays who run the place, the Schaeffers from Brent School and a couple of other school teachers. They are still running the school just as if there was no war on. Only hope and pray that the Japs do not come up and spoil things. Mr. Kluge said he understood that the Americans at Km 73 were Sgt. O'Brien of the EM Dorm and Mr. Ziegler of the CJH QMC Civilian mechanics dept.
- Jan. 17 Left Bontoc at 7:15 this morning by car for Sabangan and 4 kms south thereof enroute to Km 73. Met a chap by the name of Bauguan, said to be a fifth columnist. Since I was all alone and he had four cargadores I walked on with him. It was almost all up hill, about 25 kms. Arriving at Mt. Data gate I telephoned the Greers who are living at the lodge. They were very pleased to hear an

American voice. Was unable to take the time to walk to their lodge 2 Kms off the main road. Telephoned Lepanto Mess. Sgt. O'Brien answered the phone. Was not at all surprised to hear me as the news of my presence had preceded me. Told me to move south across the demolished road to Km 96 where he would pick me up in a Car. He picked me up an hour later at the lime kiln and took me to Lepanto mine. Here I met a fine lot of mining engineers, Peryan, Joals, Nicholson, Sika, Elliott, Foster and maybe a couple of others. Also Zeigler. Boy, what a dinner we had, the best since leaving GJH.

- Jan. 18 Sunday, there being no church services was a heathen and just read. Surely do have wonderful meals here.
- Jan. 19 Mr. Klugue and I took a car to the Buguyan Saw Mill and hiked down to Burgos and Kabayan. The chief reasons were to talk to the councilors and get them to get their people back into the rice fields and normal life. If no one plants any rice this year there will be no harvest. That would mean starvation for the people and maybe for us. Spent the night at the Presidencia at Kabayan. The next morning went to Adoway to locate a defensive position in case the Japs should try to come north that way. Then back the way we came to Buguyan at the Heald Lumber Co. saw mill.
- Jan. 21 On the way back to Lepanto we stopped off at the Suyoc Mine where I met several more mining engineers, Mr. Heinrich I had met at Kiangan. He had also tried to get around the Jap east flank at Carranglan the day after we had. But he met the Japs at Pantabangan and had hurriedly withdrawn. This is proof that we could not have made it. If one man could not, certainly 150 could not. Also met Harrison, Crowe and Simms, engrs. Back to Lepanto in the afternoon.
- Jan. 22 Mr. Scholey and Mr. Stephens, two Lepanto men, came in from a long trip they had made to Bontoc-Labuagan-Baay-Lagangilang-Angaki-Gervantes-Lepanto. Had been gone several weeks. All they could talk about was a Mr. Cushin from the Rainbow Mine near Baay and what he was doing with a lot of PA trinees scattered from their outfits. I then decided it would be a good thing to organize these trainees into fighting units. Appoint the Americans as officers and be in a fine position to give Gen MacArthur a lot of good help when he was ready to push out of Bataan. So I swore a lot of them in as officers. Of course it was illegal, but I was out of contact with Hqrs. At least it was better to do something than to just sit on my tail with the 43rd until war was over.
- Jan. 23 Went over to Suyoc this afternoon and swore the bunch in over there. Had another fine dinner.
- Jan. 24 Had my shoes tapped, they were almost gone. Also had a haircut in a real barber chair.

*unauthorized
copy in section
about here
Lepanto*

*Jan. 23
included at
Suyoc*

- Jan. 24 Went thru the mill and machine shops. Quite interesting. Was measured for a new shirt and trousers. The ones I left CJH in were the only ones I had and were quite ragged. Sent to Kiangang for Co B, 43rd.
- Jan. 25 Several of us went down to Cervantes to talk to the councilors and to the local people about the general lawlessness. Told them that it had to stop. That I was sending a detail from the 43rd under an officer (Mr Ziegler) to restore law and order. They all seemed pleased to have some one take charge since the La Union Constabulary would not. Got back in time for dinner (supper).
- Jan. 26 Went to Km 95 to the stores to get some underwear as I was almost out. None in stock my size so had to order it made to order.
- Jan. 27 Went over to Suyoc again to talk over probable officer details. Find group of fellows. They all seemed to be much more cheerful than when I first saw them. They had been about ready to go to Baguio to turn in at the internment camp. It shows that it pays to meet people when one is discouraged. They are all quite enthused now.
- Jan. 28 Capt. Cushing (as everyone calls him) came in tonight from Cervantes, to see me. He was afraid that he was to be called down for his previous actions. But I soon assured him that I was glad to see someone take charge of things. He had picked up a group of Award Service men (Lt Arnold and 29 EM caught at Burgos when the Japs came in) He had organized them and had already fought several engagements. I swore him in as a Capt. A real live wire with plenty of guts. A good organizer. Will be a valuable man in the field when USAFFE starts pushing out.
- at Suyoc*
bank
- Jan. 29 Capt. Joels, Capt. Johnson, Capt. Stephens and I left this morning with two radio operators (Pennington and Arneo) for Bontoc. In was a long walk for Pennington as he had been shot thru the leg by the Japs in the scrap at Gandon. We spent the night at the Governor's home in Bontoc. Joels then went to Kiangang to report to Co. A. After Gitter has his leg broken in he is to take over the Co. and Gitter is to go to Lepanto to meet the new officers and get a little relaxation. He is taking things too seriously and I am afraid will break. The rest of us kept on toward Lubuagan 70 kms. the north. At Besao gate we were met by a car and rode the last 40 kms. We spent the nights of the 29th & 30th in Bontoc.
- at Bontoc*
24 & 30
- Jan. 31 Reported in to Batan Buhay, a mine I had often wanted to see. Spent three nights here. Met Mr. Brown, the Supt. A fine fellow, quite and reserved. Had come up here to swear him and Mr. Needham his predecessor into service.
- Feb. 1 Sunday, but no church. Just read.
- Feb. 2 Still resting, a beautiful, quiet place, fine pine trees everywhere. Only wish I could just stay here until the darned war is over.
- Feb. 3 Back in Lubuagan. Am trying to contact USAFFE by the local radio.

- Feb. 4 Met Mr. Needham, a good live wire.
- Feb. 5 We are staying with Mr. and Mrs. Nagle. He is the head of the Kalinga Academy. They are fine folks. He is as cheerful a chap under adverse conditions as one can find. She is as bright as a whip, a neat little lady and a natural friend.
- Feb. 6 Johnson, Stephens, Sgt Bowen and I went down the road toward Bontoc to law out delaying positions in case the enemy should come up this way. When we left BB on the 3rd we were going back to Bontoc. But upon arriving at Lubuagan learned that the Japs had come in thru Cervantes and were now entering Bontoc. So we did not go down. Also learned that the Japs were coming north on the Mt. Trail opposed by Co. B with Lt. Sika, and that the Japs were coming from Bagabag toward Ibalao opposed by Co. A.
- Feb. 7 Reports from Co. B show that the Co. was broken into small groups when surrounded by the Japs on three sides and told to reassemble to Bontoc on call, their addresses having been taken. Also reports from Co. A show it to have been driven back from Ibalao toward Muyaoyao. Too bad, but our troops had neither enough men nor ammunition. And the "Old Man" was 100 kms away. Little did I think when I left Bontoc that the Japs were even thinking of coming in. Everything was so quiet and peaceful.
- Feb. 8 Our forces have been preparing the Bontoc-Lubuagan road for defense. Went to church this morning, Sunday.
- Feb. 9 Another inspection tour. Lt. Sika brought part of Co. B to Lubuagan.
- Feb. 10 Still at Lubuagan.
- Feb. 11 Rumors that the Japs are leaving the Ibalao valley area and Bontoc as there is insufficient food. Also they did not like the sniping our boys gave them. They burned part of Kiangan, and a lot of Bontoc.
- Feb. 12 Contacted USAFFE. Lt. Col. Scheerer, with whom I used to ride a lot in Hawaii in 1920-24 recognized my name over the radio. We proved our identity mentioning events of twenty years ago. Surely was glad to contact Gen MacArthur as we had been out of contact since Dec 24th.
- Feb. 13 Still at BB. Sent USAFFE a lot of dope.
- Feb. 14 Back to Lubuagan. Sent GM a long St. Valentine's Day letter. Gave it to (x) to mail when the proper time comes. About the tenth letter I have written since leaving CJH. Feb. 15-16-17 Lubuagan.
- Feb. 18 Left with Lt. Walden for Salecseg. Walked 25 kms, mostly up hill.
- Feb. 19 Arrived at Balbalasang. Had often wanted to come here to see this beautiful place, an Episcopal mission. It met my expectations. Met Father and Mrs. Griffith and the nurse Miss Taverner. We stayed at the Griffiths house as they were out in the Mts. But we ate

- with Miss Taverner. Mr. and Mrs. Morris of the Baay Mine were there awaiting the stork. All fine people.
- Feb. 20 Had a conference with the councilors of the village about defense plans should the enemy come in from Abra. Went in swimming in a fine clear cold stream. It was too cold to stay in long. Water over 20 ft. deep.
- Feb. 21 Returned to Saococog.
- Feb. 22 Returned to Lubuagan, dirty and tired.
- Feb. 23 Out to Batang Buhay
- Feb 24 Still resting
- Feb. 25 Left BB at eleven o'clock. Had a 3:30 lunch with the Nagles. Then picked up a cargo fore and left for Lubuagan, or rather Bontoc. Picked up two Constabulary men as guards. Slept at the Monogat Gate. Somewhat dangerous, but we were not molested.
- Indonesian at Bontoc*
Feb. 26 Arrived at Bontoc. Purpose of visit to swear in the officers legally as Gen. MacArthur had approved their appointments. None above Capt. Slept in the Governor's house.
- Besao*
Feb. 27 Went out to Besao where I was quartered in the school bldg. Met Father and Mrs. Gowen of the Episcopal Mission. Fine folks as one can find. They have a beautiful new stone church. Its beauty is its simplicity, or vice versa. Sent messages to a lot of officers. Met Capt. Heinrich at the Presidentia at Sagada. His junior officers were at Mainit. He sent for them to join us and to be sworn in.
- Basco*
Feb. 28 Still waiting for Harrison, Crowe and Simais. Heinrich and I went to a native wedding canao. Got tired of it by noon.
- Basco*
Mar. 1 Swore Harrison, Crowe and Simais in as 1st Lts. They surely were pleased as their Suyoc pay had stopped.
- Basco*
Mar. 2 Capt. Heinrich went in to Bontoc this morning. I am still waiting for word from Cervantes as to the other officers.
- Bontoc*
Mar. 3 Lt. O'Brien went me word that the officers were scattered all the way from Kabayan to Lagangilang. So I went back to Bontoc.
- Kiangan*
Mar. 4 Left this morning for Kiangan, by car to Ibalao. Then crossed the stream and hiked to Kiangan. Mighty tired when I got there. The place looked deserted. But finally a few people recognized me and came out. The Japs had come in on the 1st and 6th. On the 6th they burned the Presidentia and the Catholic High School. Since the PC had been disbanded when the Japs approached there was no one to guard the town when the Japs left. The town had been thoroughly looted. There was no law nor order. Everyone was afraid. I rounded up several PC EM and two officers and put them back on the job. Promised an American in charge soon.

Planned to
Muyao-yao

Mar. 5 Left Kiangan early with Capt. Manriques of the PC. Got our car at Ibalao and rode to Banaue. Here the Japs had burned every building except the Convent in retaliation for the deaths Co. A had caused. It was a very desolate sight. We picked up several PS soldiers and took them with us. Spent the night at Ducligen, half way to Muyao-yao where I was going to see Co. A and Col. Green. Spent the night in a poor type rest house.

Muyao-yao

Mar. 6 The boys of Co A surely were glad to see me when I arrived at Muyao-yao. But Col. Green had gone on to Isabela. Capt. Glitter had taken 12 men for Natunin to restore order there. Tribal warfare had broken out.

Ducligen, 1/2 way
to PC Bontoc

Mar. 7 Took Capt. Joels, Sgt. Fuxman, Capt Manriques and two other PC officers I found there with me and left for Ducligen where we spent the night.

Mar. 8 Hiked on to Banaue where I sent Joels and Fuxman, to Kiangan to take charge. He took Lt. Carlos, PC, with him. I took Manriques with me back to Bontoc to take over the PC there.

Mar. 9 Still in Bontoc having conference with Gov.

Mar. 10 Everything going OK here. Have placed Capt Heinrich in charge with Cpts. Johnson and Stephens to help him.

Mar. 11 Rode to the first demolition at Km 3, then hiked one km. Then caught a BPW car to km 21. Had to hike from here for the next 16 kms where Sgt. Bowen met me at the Basao gate and took me to Lubuangan. Then Mr. Eagle took me to BB.

Mar. 12 Have about two dozen messages for USAFFE.

Mar. 13 Nothing new. Waiting for answers.

Mar. 14 Same

Mar. 15 Ditto

Mar. 16 Feet beginning to itch, want to move on.

Mar. 17 Plan on leaving for Lubuangan tomorrow.

Mar. 18 Radio reports Gen MacArthur and Dick Sutherland flew to Australia. MacArthur to take command of all the allied forces on land, sea and air.

Mar. 19 Important radio from USAFFE. They will radio my future actions tomorrow. Wonder what they will be.

Authorized
to enlist all 20
units since 1/2 way

Mar. 20 Authorized to enlist all Filipinos who have been with any of our units any time since Jan 1st. This helps us a lot as a lot of our men have been in action without officially enlisting. They thought

- they were in legally, but the officers did not know.
- Mar. 20 Back in Lubuagan making arrangements for our organization. Gen. MacArthur now in Australia to command all allied forces in the Far East. Gen. Wainwright in command at Bataan. Mr. and Mrs. Green from Mt. Data and Klondykes arrived at Lubuagan. Staying with Nagels.
- Mar. 21 No change.
- Mar. 21 Japanese back in Lepanto and Guyoc. But we have destroyed concentrate by sluicing it down the river. Burned power house and generators.
- Mar. 22 No change.
- Mar. 23 No change.
- Mar. 24 No change.
- Mar. 25 To BB to arrange reorganization.
- Mar. 26 Back to Lubuagan. Ready for general reorganization.
- Mar. 27 Rode by auto to Besao. Then hiked 15 kms to kms 21. They by car to Bontoc. Had quite a conference with Caps. Heinrich, Johnson and Stevens. Sending Johnson and Stephens to Jones with some captured documents. Also to get Warner's organization. Chief reason for trip. Broke off a tooth and will have to have it pulled at Sagada. The only dentist around.
- Mar. 28 Drove over to Tolubin to see Co. A with Gitter and Starnes. Found them both low in morale. They figured they had been forgotten. Made arrangements for Co. A to move to Lubuagan area. Back to Bontoc.
- Mar. 29 Drove to Bauko to see Co. B. Harrison is doing a fine job. The morale is quite high. Had a fine dinner too.
- Mar. 30 Went out to Sagada this morning. Dropped in the hospital to see the dentist. He is not a dentist, just a tooth puller. He wanted to smooth off my broken tooth with a rat tail file and a triangular file, small size of course. I told him I would be back after dinner. I hardly wanted him working on my tooth with those tools. No drills, or anything but extraction tools. Had dinner with the Grays. Then back to the dentist. He pulled the tooth without much trouble. But slightly loosened adjacent teeth. Hardly hurt at all.
- Mar. 31 Harris, Ellett, Bucey and Crosby (all Suyoc miners) came in from the lowlands yesterday. They had to stick to the back trails because of the Japs.

- April 1 Back to Lubuagan.
- April 2 Still no orders from Bataan Back to BB.
- April 3 Still waiting.
- April 4 Additional dope wanted by Gen W.
- April 5 Still waiting. Rather monotonous.
- April 6 Nothing new.
- April 7 Received my Colonelcy today. No more pay, tho.
- April 8 Still waiting.
- April 9 Gitter, Harris, OBrien, Nagel and Greer came up this afternoon. Had a large crowd for dinner.
- April 10 Here it is. Received word from Gen. Wainwright authorizing me to assemble our PA trainees into the 121st Infantry PA. This gives me something definite to work on. Leave tomorrow for Lubuagan to meet my new Bn Cmdrs. to give them their instructions. Hope they get there.
- April 10 Contd. Bad news. Almost upon receipt of orders to organize the 121st Inf. came the news of the fall of Bataan. Had we only had a few weeks of intensive training for the rgt. we might have had a fine outfit for the USAFFE big push. But now it looks as if there might be no help for us for a long time. As long as Bataan held out we had hopes of a relief expedition. But now Luzon has no tactical nor strategical value until we can gradually work north from Australia. This will take a long time. But we will still try to organize the units to be ready when the time comes, i.e., if the enemy will let us alone.
- April 11 Back to Lubuagan. Phoned Capt. Heinrich with the forward echelon at Bontoc to get the Bn Cmdrs. together as I would come down immediately to make arrangements for the final organization.
- April 12 Back to Bontoc. Had a conference with Heinrich, Stephens and Johnson about the organization. Johnson takes the 1st Bn. in the Southern part of the Mr. Prov. Stephens has the 3rd Bn. around Langangilang. Peryan will have the 2nd Bn. around Angaki. Will probably raise only the Hqrs and Serv Co. in Kalinga, with Capt. Brown in charge.
- April 13 Capt. Stephens left this morning for Angaki to give the dope to Capt. Peryan and then on to Langangilang to organize his own unit.
- April 14 Made final arrangements for Heinrich to carry on with the forward echelon. Have a lot of messages I want to send to USPIP.

- April 15 Back to Labuagan. The road is in very bad shape. There have been a lot of slides that were only partially removed. As soon as the rainy season starts this road will be well blocked. Hope it starts soon.
- April 16 Back to Bubong Buhay.
- April 17 Keep rather busy send the dope to the General.
- April 18 Gen. Wainwright says to carry on with our organization and to hamper the enemy all we can either by direct attack, by destroying transportation routes or just by harassing threats.
- April 19 Nagel, Ziegler, McPhail, Bowen, OBrien, Ziaga, Harris, Crosby, Ellet and Bucey were made 2d Lts. A great many of the Airwarn Co. were made Sgts. and Cpls.
- April 20 Capt. Calvert and Lt. Murphy are reported to have escaped from with the enemy lines and are now enroute north to join us. Thank heavens they were neither captured nor killed. I could never look Rilla Calvert in the face again if I felt that I was even indirectly the cause of the Capt's death by letting him try to get thru the lines to the USAFFE. Capt. Jacobs and two Amer. soldiers reported in on the 10th at Jones. He has been directed to report to me as our Surgeon. Maj. Fellows, Lt. Simpson and eleven WFFS boys are believed to have gotten thru to USAFFE. So are Lt. Jensen, Lt. Gasperini and five Amer. Soldiers. Nothing has been heard from Major Allen and his fourteen Amer. MC soldiers. Nor from Lt. Justo and his one Amer. soldiers. All the rest are accounted for. Heard over the radio that an American force near Natividad, Pang., had attacked the Japanese in that area. Am trying to finish my work here today.
- April 21 Tues. Finished my work at BS and back to Labuagan. Brought a dandy cook book with me to help out in the Mess. Sgt. Brazelton came down with me for overnight. First time out since three months ago.
- April 22 Radio announces somewhat ominously "Corregidor still holds". Sounds somewhat dubious as if they expect soon to fall. Brazelton back to the Mts.
- April 23 Chaplain Nagel and I went down to Besao to spend the night in conference with Major Gitter. He had heard that Lt. Col. Warner had left Jones and wanted to go over to take over the cmd.
- April 24 Gitter and I had a lot to talk about as to future plan of operation. He went back to Bontoc and I came on here. Received a radio from Gen. Wainwright that Lt. Col. Warner had pulled out and had left for parts unknown. His departure was unauthorized. He was sent for by runner, but failed to return. The General's radio sounded somewhat peeved at him. It is understood that Capt. Scholey, Lt. Nicholson and all Americans had gone over to the east coast. Nakar has been promoted to Lt. Col. and has taken over command. Radio says that American planes have bombed Manila, Cebu and Clark Field.

- April 25 Everyone seems rather optimistic over conditions. American planes have bombed Tokyo and several other cities in Japan.
- April 26 Sunday again. Mr. Magal preached a fine sermon this morning. Quite a few people present including many Americans. Had a dandy dinner. The new cook is worth his weight in gold.
- April 27 Word received that the enemy is pushing north over, Belete Pass enroute into the Cagayan Valley. Hope he stays there.
- April 28 This is the Emperor's birthday. The Japs at km 102 Mt. Trail attacked our force at Mt. Data. Still holding. Big victory parade in Manila. Japs promise to immediately occupy all of Luzon. That is probably why they are attacking at Mt. Data.
- April 29 Our outpost at Mt. Data has been forced back to Mabay Gate, km 111. Major Heinrich lost his personal files at the lodge. So the Japs probably know all out our organization and plans. Too bad, but I still think a lot of him. Just hard luck. Word received that the enemy is moving east from Tagudin over Del Pilar pass, and advance detail going ahead and a large road crew following and repairing the highway for auto traffic. Guess they decided the demolition at Mt. Data was too hard to repair.
- April 30 Our troops at Mabaay Gate still holding. Tagudin force now reported at Cervantes. The bridge here is out so they will have to build a ferry, but that is easy. The Japs are the best carpenters and road builders in the world. The public officials at Bontoc are evacuating to Lubuagan. Guess it won't be long now. We all feel that the Japanese were somewhat forced into this thing by a few of our diplomats. But now that we are in it we will have to fight it out to a finish. They have won the initial rounds and will have things their own way for two more months. But after that we will have our innings.
- May 1 This is a heck of a May day. Last night we learned that a large Japanese force was moving east from Lagangilang toward Balbalasang, probably got there yesterday. This is only about 36 miles from here. With one half of Co A, 43rd Inf. (PS) at Nanning and one half at Balbalan we will probably not be able to hold them back so very long. It is not rumors that worry us so much as it is our woeful lack of ammunition. Guess we will have to take the 43rd Inf. to the hills and try to hole in for there in any season. The 121st organization is so scattered that I will have very little control over what it does. That will be up to each of the Bn. or Co. Cmdrs. Do not know whether or not I will ever make another entry in the diary, or whether I can keep it.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority MCD 3 5 30 28

Bontoc, Mt. Prov.
April 13, 1942

To whom it may concern:

This is to indicate that I have received from Colonel J. P. Horan five hundred pesos (P500.00), in the form of Mountain Province War notes. I further certify that I have turned over to Captain C. S. Starnes, Commander of Company H, 43rd Infantry, three hundred pesos (P300.00). The difference of two hundred pesos was used by me in purchasing supplies for the Officers Mess in Lubuagan, Kalinga, Mountain Province.

Signed

/s/ Lt. E. J. Nagel 121st Inf
/t/ Lieutenant E. J. NAGEL
Lubuagan, Kalinga, Mt. Prov.

I certify that the above amount of three hundred pesos has been received by me Signed

/s/ C. S. Starnes
/t/ Captain C. S. Starnes

Received about March 20, 1942

To whom it may concern:

This is to indicate that I have received from Colonel J. P. Horan five hundred pesos (P500.00) in the form of Mountain Province notes. I further certify that I have turned over to Captain C. C. Heinrich, Executive Officer, Bontoc Mountain Province, two hundred pesos (P200.00). The difference of three hundred pesos having been used for the Officers Mess in Lubuagan, Kalinga, Mountain Kalinga.

Signed

/s/ Lt. E. J. Nagel 121st Inf
/t/ Lieutenant E. J. Nagel
Lubuagan, Kalinga, Mt. Prov.

I certify that the above amount of two hundred pesos has been received by me Signed

Captain C. C. Heinrich

I certify that all of the above transactions are correct.

Signed

/s/ John P. Horan
/t/ Colonel J. P. Horan

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *AN/D35 3078*

FROM COL. HORAN'S DIARY

A TRUE COPY:

JHmeller

H. MEHLER
WO USA
Asst Adj

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: AFD 5 20 78

HEADQUARTERS U. S. F. NORTH LUZON
IN THE FIELD

February 10, 1943

SUBJECT: Orders from MacArthur
TO: All Guerrilla Leaders

1. General Policy of USAFIPS in PI is to limit hostilities and contact with enemy to minimum amount necessary for safety. Concentration of perfecting organization and on development of intelligence net, reporting promptly names of superior officers, and other items of military of military intelligence.
2. Offensive activities are premature and will only result in increased enemy pressure and probable retaliation against innocent people. Therefore, until ammunitions and supplies can be sent, which will take some months your missions as intelligence units can be currently of the utmost value.
3. "Nothing is surer than our ultimate victory. I cannot just tell when it will happen but you can be assured that it is inevitable. Keep your courage and patience. An Almighty God will guide us to success."

(SIGNED) 777

SIGNED) 666

TUR COPY
16 Nov 45/Sa-

NOTE:

666 is the code name of Colonel MARTIN MOSES
777 is the code name of Colonel ARTHUR K NOBLE

TRUE COPY:

s/t/ PARKER CALVERT
COLONEL, INF, AUS
Infantry Commander

Exhibit "PP"

A TRUE COPY:

J Amellen
T. H. MEHLER
CWO, USA
Asst Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS USFIP
North Luzon

March 20, 1943

SUBJECT: Supplementary Instructions

TO : All Guerilla Leaders

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *NND 833078*

1. Send your men out to all barries in your territory and search for a "ham" or amateur radio operator who is capable of constructing a transmitter that will carry 300-400 miles. Try and get him all the spare parts you can to construct the transmitter as well as a power unit and generator. Induct him into the U.S. Army. Place set on highest mountain in your vicinity. You are authorized to sign vouchers for all materials necessary to build this set. Also procure one rebular commercial battery radio set in order to receive short wave messages. Make every effort to get this in operation by May 1st. A special secret messenger will arrive at your Headquarters prior to May 1st giving you the proper call letters, frequency and hour of daily contact.

2. Orders from Gen. MacArthur are definitely to "lay low" and gather information. This is imperative.

3. Send your men out to various places in all provinces nearby as well as your own; to Manila; to the Pacific (East) Coast; to Lingayen Gulf and the China Sea. If possible sen men in the provinces around and south of Manila such as Bulacan, Bataan, Zambales, Rizal, Laguna, Batangas, Cavite, Tayabas and the Bicol Pincensula. Have your men question all travellers, peddlers and municipal officers about Jap troops as follows:

- a. Every town or barrio now permanently garrisoned by Japs.
- b. Number of Japs in that town of barrio.
- c. Find out regiment or division **they** belong to.
- d. Find out name of commanding officer of Japs.
- e. Do Japs have tanks, artillery pieces, air-planes, ammunition, supply or food dumps nearby.
- f. How many trucks do Japs have at that place.
- g. Do the Japs have a radio transmitter there?
- h. Are the telephone and telegraph lines working to and from that place.
- i. Have Japs dug fox holes or entrenched at that place.
- j. Condition of roads running to the place

DECLASSIFIED
Authority U/D 8 5307

4. The following information desired from the seacoast (both China Sea and Pacific Ocean) but particularly Lingayen Gulf, Subic Bay, Manila and Batangas Bay.

- a. What seacoast towns are occupied permanently by Japs the number and CO of Japs there?
- b. Amount and kind of Jap shipping that enters and leaves the port, Cargo, Transport or war vessels.
- c. Have any Jap troops landed or embarked the past three months. How many? Their destination or where they arrive from.
- d. Do Japs have motor boats patrolling the coast line?
- e. Any Jap seaplanes or submarines observed and when?
- f. Have Japs prepared barricades or fox holes along beach?
- g. Any big guns along the beach, the number and where located.

5. The following information is desired from the vicinity of Manila.

- a. Number of Japs in and around Manila and their places.
- b. Names of high ranking Japanese officers and their unit number.
- c. Number and type of Jap airplanes at Neilson Airport and Nichols Field.
- d. Jap activity around Port Area, Cavite and Manila Bay.
- e. Number and place of tanks, armored cars or trucks.
- f. Where is Jap Headquarters in Manila?
- g. Where are Jap "Military Zone" in Manila?
- h. Are there any Japs in Ft. Wm. MacKinley?
- i. General conditions in Manila; food supply, attitude of people, how many are gone pro-Jap, any secret organizations formed, whereabouts of Gen. Roxas, large number of Jap troops entering or leaving Manila Bay when, where destination and date.

6. The following information required relative to American and British Civilian Concentration camps at Camp Holmes Trinidad Benguet and University of Santos Tomas, Manila.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 11/03/83

- a. Number of people concentrated there.
- b. Food conditions - where do they receive food - how much.
- c. Are they given any money by Japs to buy food?
- d. Do they have sufficient clothing - are they warmly dressed?
- e. Get names of those who have died and how many.
- f. Are people above 50 yrs of age released?
- g. (Note) Have agents try and contact people who have been released and question them about condition in the camp.
- h. Are civilian concentrated any other place besides Camp Nichols Holmes, Trinidad and University of Santo Tomas, Manila?
- i. Are camps sanitary, clean and do they have medicine and doctors available?
- j. Have any Americans been taken out of the Philippines?

7. Following information is desired from the following provinces: Zambales, Tarlac, Nueva Ecija, Bataan, Pampanga, Bulacan, Tayabas, Rizal, Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Albay and Sorsogon, relative to guerrilla units that are opposing the Japanese.

- a. Where is the guerilla unit located?
- b. How many men do they have?
- c. Who is their leader?
- d. How many arms and how much ammunition do they have?
- e. Do they have a radio transmitter and where is it located?
- f. Are they part of a larger unit or are they independent?

8. The following information is requested from all Americans, civilian or Army, on the Island of Luzon.

- a. Complete first and last name.
- b. Occupation and where they are located.
- c. If in the Army their Army Serial Number and organization.
- d. Do they belong to any guerilla unit?

9. Information is also desired as to the whereabouts and activities of any of the following listed American Officers last heard of around in the mountains West of Fort Stotsenburg, Pampanga.

Col. Merrill
Lt.-Col. Calyer
Lt.-Col. Thorpe
Capt. Lajo
Capt. Barker

Capt. Crane
Lt. Ramsey
Lt. Maguire

60 American in mountains west of Florida
Blanca, Pampanga

10. From the foregoing it will be observed that your mission now is:

- a. To construct transmitter 300-400 miles radius.
- b. Get enemy information from your and neighboring provinces and seacoast.
- c. Get enemy information from Lingayen Gulf, Manila Bay and Batangas Bay.
- d. Get enemy information from Manila.
- e. Get information about concentration camps at Camp Holmes and University of Santo Tomas.
- f. Get information about other guerilla units in southern provinces of Luzon
- g. Get information about Americans on Island of Luzon.
- h. Get information about given list of Americans in Zambales Mountains.

You are hereby authorized to induct as privates in the U. S. Armed Forces two (2) civilians of your own selection who are intelligent, smart and have Jap passes. In addition to your own men, these men can be sent by bus or train to the Bicol Peninsula of Manila for the purpose of gathering the information listed above. In addition, it is necessary that you send your own men two or three in a group in civilian clothes and without arms, out to get this necessary information even by boat, across mountains or in enemy occupied territory. Each guerilla leader will at once send out to gather information at least three-fourths of his units. Try and pick out men who are from the Bicol Peninsula, or Batangas or Cavite, or Manila or at least those who have relatives there. Send patrols to Palanan, Casiguran, Balera, Infanta, Antimonan, Mauban, on the East Coast - to Agoo, Aringay, Damortis, Bauang and San Fernando on the West Coast. Send men all over the Island of Luzon to get the information listed herein. Make every attempt to get this information back to this Headquarters by May 1st. We need information particularly from the Bicol Peninsula, the provinces south of Manila and Manila. Make lists of the information we need from this letter and give it to your patrols. Make sure your

your arms and ammunition are well hidden. We have direct authority from Australia to act as we think best and without any restraint. All our inductions have been approved by MacArthur.

11. It will only be a short time until will be able to really do something. Our stuff is about ready to come and you will be surprised (as well the Japs) as to its directions and strength.

Regards

(Sgd.) M & N

A TRUE COPY:

(Sgd) M-2
Captain, Inf., U.S.A.
Executive Officer

A TRUE COPY:

s/t/ RESTITUTO FELIPE
2nd Lt., Inf., PA

NOTE:

M is the code name of Colonel MARTIN MOSES
N is the code name of Colonel ARTHUR K NOBLE
M-2 is believed to be the code name of Captain MANALO

A TRUE COPY:

J Ameller

Exhibit "QQ"

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *11/13/85*

Rec'd. 4/23/45
4:00 PM.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
USAFIP NORTH LUZON
CAMP SPENCER

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *NND 85 3078*

15 April 1945

Subject: Revocation of Order Prohibiting the Requisitioning
of Foodstuffs by the Army

To : All Military Mayors Concerned

1. The order of this Headquarters, dated 4 April 1945, authenticated by Captain D. J. Sumabat prohibiting the requisitioning of foodstuffs from the civilians by the USAFIP, NL, is hereby revoked. You will direct the people of your municipality to furnish the Army foodstuffs that it may, from time to time, requisition.

2. You will enjoin all citizens to furnish labor willingly when required and to render the Army their full cooperation in order that the complete liberation of the homeland may be achieved at the earliest possible time. It is common knowledge that the joint efforts of the Army and the people have enabled this country to pull through during the most critical period in its history, and it is essential that now, more than ever, assistance must be offered ungrudgingly by the loyal civilians whenever and wherever they are called upon by the Army.

3. It is well to remember that a soldier fights on his stomach, and it would be disastrous to allow our victories to be nullified for mere lack of civilian support. It goes without saying that without the valor and patriotism of our soldiers, our civilians would not now be enjoying the comforts of normal living and the benefits of civil liberty. Surely, no one would prefer to return to the erstwhile Japanese domination in place of the present state of affairs -- the current normalcy. A little more sacrifice and patience will go a long way in our onward march to complete and final victory.

BY ORDER OF COL. VOLCKMANN:

(SGD) S. R. REYES
Colonel GSC
G-5

TRUE COPY / acv

A TRUE COPY:

S. Meehler
T. W. MEHLER
CWO, USA
Asst Adjutant

UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES
IN THE PHILIPPINES

In the Field, La Union
May 20, 1942

SUBJECT: Confiscation of Licensed Firearms
and Ammunitions.

TO: Sgt. Romualdo Opena
In the Field, La Union

DECLASSIFIED
Authority ND 53078

1. You are hereby ordered to confiscate all licensed and service firearms and ammunitions found in the possession of any person or persons found within the territory of which you In-Charge.
2. On confiscating said firearms and ammunitions, you are to issue corresponding receipts done in triplicate, the original to be given to the licensee or official having possession of the same, the duplicate to be forwarded to the Headquarters and the triplicate to remain in your file.
3. All firearms and ammunitions confiscated pursuant to this order must be kept in your custody until orders.
4. Expedite.

(SGD) G. M. BARNETT
Capt., 2nd Bn., 121st Inf
Provincial Commander
La Union

Romualdo O. Opena
M/Sgt. Inf. PA

NOTE: Signature has been removed
for signature card file.

s/ Pacita Hernandez
Claims Inves. Jr.

HEADQUARTERS USFIP
NORTH LUZON

June 15, 1943.

SUBJECT: Misc. Instructions.

TO : All Guerrilla Leaders. (Make copies and forward to Adjacent Units)

1. Ref. Gen. Policy, dated 10 Feb. and Supp. Instr., dated 20 March.
 - a. With the exceptions as listed herein the intr. and orders contained in the above mentioned Ref. will continue in force.
 - b. Until further orders the following information will not be sent from one unit Hq. to another.

- (1) Par. 7 Supp. Instr. (No information will be given concerning guerrilla units. This information should be collected by unit leaders, kept in a safe place but not forwarded until called for.

- (2) Par. 8 Spp. Instr. (No information concerning Americans, civilians or Army, will be forwarded. This information should be collected, kept in a safe place but not forwarded until called for.

- (3) Par. 9 Supp. Instr. (Same as (2) above)

2. For the information of all concerned, it is believed that all codes to date have fallen into the hands of the Japs. In this connection, unit leaders should safeguard records in such a manner that they will not fall into enemy hands even though your Hq. is raided. Many civilians who were helping our cause have suffered due to records falling into the hands of the Japs.

3. Promotions, enlisted men - In order to comply with Par 1. above, unit commanders will make promotions within their commands as they deem necessary stating on such promotions, "Subject to approval by higher Hq. "Unit Commanders are cautioned to use good judgment and discretion in the number of NCOs. They carry in their organizations.

4. Promotions of Officers - In order to comply with Par. 1 above, unit leaders will inform their officers that although they may be deserving of promotion, it is dangerous to communicate such matters at the present time. The work of those deserving will not be overlooked when the proper time comes, and I will do everything in my power to see that these promotions are dated back to the proper time.

5. Each unit Hqs. will make every effort to exchange information with adjacent units at frequent intervals.

6. Let me urge each and every officer and man not to be discouraged due to any recent events. These unfortunate happenings should only make us all the more determined to carry out our mission and do our part in assisting in that ultimate VICTORY which is sure to be ours in the near future.

7. Ref. Supp. Instr., dated 20 March 43.

- a. Information required by the following par. is still lacking: Par. 4, par. 5, and par. 3 as pertaining to the areas south of Manila.

- b. In general more information is desired concerning all sea coast.

- c. Unit leaders are also cautioned that it is important to report changes in information that they have submitted in previous reports.

8. Unit commanders are reminded that although gathering information is our main mission at present, plans for active operations against enemy communications, supply dumps, and ambushing are not to be neglected. Due to slow communications, commanders will not wait on orders from higher Hq., but will commence action when he has assured himself that aid has reached the Philippines.

BY ORDER OF THE C.O. USFIP, NORTH LUZON:

A TRUE COPY:

s/t/ MANUEL P. BYDES
Capt. Inf, PA
Asst Adj Gen

R. W. VOLCKMANN
Major U.S. ARMY
COMMANDING

EXHIBIT "RR"

A TRUE COPY:

CWO. USA
Asst Adjutant

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: ANDS 53078

HEADQUARTERS
USAFIP NORTH LUZON

DECLASSIFIED
Authority A/NDBS 3078

SPECIAL ORDER }
NO. 93 }

7 October 1944

EXTRACT

XX XX XX XX

1. Effective this date the following Table of Organization for Medical Companies and Hospital Companies will be adopted in all Districts, USAFIP, NL. There will be one Medical Company for each Regiment as authorized by T.O., PA, and one Hospital Company for each District under the command of respective District Commanders, but independent and separate from Regimental Medical Companies.

XX XX XX XX

- b. (1) Hospital Company: Officers as available 12; 64 EM.
- (a) 1-Medical Officer ----- Company Commander
 - (b) 1-Medical Officer-Hospital Surgeon & J.O.
 - (c) 3-Medical Officers --- Physicians
 - (d) 1-Dental Officer ----- Dental Surgeon
 - (e) 6-Nurses ----- (1 Chief Nurse;
4 Head Nurses.)
 - (f) 1-Technical Sergeant-- F/A Instructor and
Surgical Asst.
 - (g) 1-Staff Sergeant ----- Supply Sergeant
 - (h) 1-Sergeant ----- Mess Sergeant
 - (i) 1-Corporal ----- Clerk 7 Recorder
 - (j) 6-Pfc ----- } Hosp Ward Attendants
12 Privts. ----- }
 - (k) 1-Pfc ----- }
1-Private ----- } Cooks
 - (l) 2-Privates ----- Runners & Messengers
 - (m) 1-Private ----- Dispensary Attendant
- (2) Collecting Platoon: 37 EM.
- (a) 1-Sergeant----- Platoon Leader
 - (b) 2-Pfc ----- Contact men to locate Bn &
2-Privates ----- Reg. Aid Sta. especially
during combat.
 - (c) 2-Corporals ----- }
6-Pfc. ----- } Stretcher or litter
24-Privates ----- } bearers

REMARKS:

1. There will be no female personnel in Medical Companies.
2. When the situation or condition demand, the C. O. Hospital Company will establish or cause to be established one or more sub-hospitals in his district. He will assign officers and enlisted personnel from his company to run and manage these sub-hospitals. Subhospitals will be established in such places as to bring medical assistance to the combatant units as near as possible.

and to avoid unnecessary transportation of the sick and injured thru long distances.

3. Collecting Platoons will function under Hospital Companies.

4. Instructions re functions of Medical Companies and Hospital Companies will be issued later.

BY ORDER OF MAJOR R. W. VOLCKMANN:

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 11/1/83 308

/s/t/ FROILAN M MAGLAYA
Major, 12th Inf., PA
G-1

OFFICIAL:

/s/t/ PARKER CALVERT
Major, Inf., US Army
Executive Officer

A TRUE EXTRACT COPY:
n6Nov

/s/t/ G P SALAZAR
1st Lt FS PA
Asst Adj Gen

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

s/t/ RESSTITUTO FELIPE

Exhibit "HH"

A TRUE COPY:

T. H. Mehler

T. H. MEHLER
CWO, USA
Asst Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS, USFIP
NORTH LUZON

NOVEMBER 4, 1943

GENERAL ORDER
NO. 6

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NINDS 3078

1. The Provinces of Nueva Viscaya and Isabela are hereby designated as the FIFTH DISTRICT, USFIP, N.L.
2. Commander of the FIFTH DISTRICT, USFIP, N.L.; C.O., 14th INFANTRY.
3. The following units are assigned to the FIFTH DIST., USFIP, N.L.
 - a. The 14th INFANTRY, USFIP, NL.
 - b. All other same as par. 3 sub par. b G.O. #4, USAFIP, N.L.
 - c. The C.O. FIFTH DIST same as par 3. sub par. c G. O. #4, USFIP, N.L.
4. M x DAY MISSION:
 - a. Destroy enemy lines of communications throughout area (bridges, roads, telephone lines etc.) The initials main effort of the FIFTH DIST. will be made in (1) Ba-lete PASS AREA (2) AREA BAGABAG- SANTIAGO
 - b. Destroy enemy supply Dumps.
 - c. Destroy or harass enemy troop and supply movements.
 - d. Destroy enemy outposts and troop concentrations.
 - e. Restore peace and order throughout area.
5. The C.O. FIFTH DISTRICT will be responsible to coordinate his efforts in the BALETE PASS AREA with the efforts of the SIXTH DISTRICT (Pangasinan) in this area.

BY ORDER OF, C.O., USFIP, NL

Copies furnished:
14th Inf. Msg Center, North
Chanuyan
C.O. FIRST DIST.

A TRUE COPY:
31 Oct 45

s/t/ DEMETRIO A. LUIS
Capt., Inf., PA,
Regimental Adj

Exhibit "MM"

A TRUE COPY:

T. H. Wehler
T. H. WEHLER
CWO, USA
Asst Adjutant

USAFIP-12

HEADQUARTERS
1st DISTRICT, USFIP, NL
In the Field

November 7, 1945

SUBJECT: Financial Regulations
TO: All Battalion Commanders

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *ANDS 3308*

1. Battalion commanders are hereby authorized to issue receipts for cash, foodstuffs and other articles necessary for the supply and subsistence of troops under their command and of themselves and for the carrying on of necessary activities. They are authorized to delegate this authority to officers and men of their commands.
2. All battalion commanders are hereby charged with the responsibility that receipts are issued and cash expended by their command only for proper purposes and that proper records are kept regarding same. By "proper" is meant expenditures for the purposes outlined in Par. 1 above and of which examples are given in Pars. 5 and 8 below.
3. All receipts issued will bear a serial number, and a record will be kept by serial numbers of all receipts issued, showing the date of issue, purpose of issue, amount of issue and initials of person to whom issued. This record may be kept either in the form of duplicate receipts or a record book. It is suggested that either blocks or prefix letters (to be placed before the serial number) be assigned to sub-units authorized to issue receipts. All receipts issued will bear the proper letterhead of the organization issuing the receipt.
4. Each battalion commander will keep in a safe place a record of all persons whom he has authorized to issue receipts together with a sample of each such person's official signature.
5. A monthly record, or records, of all cash received and expended will be kept. Food, Tobacco & Matches, Soap, Medical Supplies, Quartermaster Supplies, Toilet Articles for EM, Personal Items for Officers, Administration and Military Mission Expenses will each be treated as separate items.
6. Battalion commanders will be prepared to furnish this hqrs. upon request a report of the monthly expense (each plus receipts) of maintaining their units.
7. A receipt will be given upon request to any person from whom cash, food or other articles is obtained or commandeered. In cases where an agreement as to price cannot be reached, the receipt will state both the offered and the asked price. Battalion commanders will remind all men of their commands that forcibly taking food, cash or other articles without giving a receipt, signed by an authorized person, is looting-punishable during wartime by death.
8. When sufficient cash is available, without hindering military activities, battalion commanders may make cash advances to members of their commands, not to exceed Twenty Pesos (P20.00) for each month of service since the man was last regularly paid. In each such case a witnessed receipt will be obtained from the man authorizing the

a witnessed receipt will be obtained from the man authorizing the Finance Officer, USAFFE, to make a corresponding deduction from the man's accrued pay. Each receipt will also contain a statement as to when the man was last regularly paid.

9. Such records will be kept as will enable officers to be properly billed for subsistence and other items not furnished to officers by the U. S. Army. They should be charged with a pro-rata share of general cash and receipt expenses in which they share the proceeds plus for such cash or receipt purchases made for them as individuals.

(Signed) 113
(Typed) 113
Commanding

OFFICIAL:

(Signed) 1213
(Typed) 1213
Adjutant

Distribution:

C.O., USAFIP, NL
C.O., Each Bn.
File

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND853078

A TRUE COPY:

s/t/ PARKER CALVERT
Colonel, Infantry, AUS
Infantry Commander, USAFIP, NL

NOTE:

113 is the code name of Colonel PARKER CALVERT
1213 is the code name of Colonel ARTHUR P MURPHY

Exhibit "SS"

A TRUE COPY:

HEADQUARTERS
USAFIP NORTH LUZON
CAMP SPENCER

USAFIP 544
DECLASSIFIED
Authority U/VDSS 3078

27 November 1943

C E R T I F I C A T E

1. I certify that about December 5th, 1944, the Commanding Officer, 66th Infantry (Composite), was ordered to organize the following units of the 66th Infantry (Composite):

- a. 1st 81 MM Platoon
- b. 2nd 81 MM Platoon
- c. 1st MG Platoon (50 caliber)
- d. 2nd MG Platoon (50 caliber)

2. I further certify that the written orders covering the organization of the above mentioned units are apparently lost and can not be found at this time.

3. At the time of issuance of the above mentioned order I was Chief of Staff, USAFIP, North Luzon, and therefore in a position to know that the abovementioned orders were issued.

s/t/ PARKER CALVERT
Colonel, Infantry, AUS
Inf Condr, USAFIP, NL

EXHIBIT "NN"

A TRUE COPY:

T. H. Mebler

T. H. MEHLER
CWO, USA
Asst Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS
7-11-112

22 December 44

SUBJECT: Horses & Saddles
TO : 7-12-112 (Hq-112) C.O., Service Co.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *NND853078*

1. I have noticed that our horses are not receiving the proper care and management now as usual. They have been left astray for so long a time and some of them are lost, especially during the raid of your Headquarters at Doliwog.

2. As a brother Officer, I wish to remind you about this matter for you to fix it up with Lieut. Angco, knowing that this job is one of your responsibilities. For your information I wish you to understand that all the horses and other material used for mounting were indorsed to the Service Company just before the Major left for Cagayan. You know for sure that our horses are needed any time most especially for use of runners. I believe it would be good idea, in the absence of your Junior Officer, if you mobilize your men now to locate and take the horses that were left in places where you and any of your men left them; after which proper accounting will be made.

3. I think some of the saddles, reins, and saddle pads, were evacuated by the stable men detailed by Lieut. Angco during the raid of the Japs. Investigate these stable men and ask from them where these things are kept.

4. To enhance the proper care and management of our horses, I believe it would be a good idea to detail permantly stable men without any other job but to take good care and make proper accounting of our horses, saddles, reins, and also the repair of same when necessary. These stable men should be under one responsible NCO. to be sure that everything would be done all right in this job.

5. Please understand that I am not making any incursions in your responsibility but I am only reminding about these things for your personal advantage and benefit.

s/ 7-11-112 (113)
S-4

A TRUE COPY

This a true copy of my letter sent to Lt. D. Barbero former C.O. Hq. Serv. Co. 11th Inf.

s/ (Illegible)

A TRUE COPY:

T. H. MEHLER
T. H. MEHLER
CWO, USA
Asst Adjutant

The following is an extract from a manuscript titled "NORTHERN ILOCOS GUERRILLA WARFARE AND GOVERNOR ROQUE B. ABLAN'S COMMONWEALTH GOVT. - - A BRIEF HISTORY, submitted to AFMESPAC by Vicente W. Erista, Captain, Infantry, Adjutant of the ABLAN'S GUERRILLA.

CONTACT WITH OTHER GUERRILLA UNITS

x x x x x x x x Agents of the different underground movements in the Philippines frequently came to Laoag for conference or to get intelligence information from their comrades in Laoag, Ilocos Norte. Among these underground agents who frequented this place were Capt. Jose Alborno of the Pansy Guerrillas under Brigadier General Macario Peralta, Jr., Lt. Nick Martin of the Hunters ROTC Guerrillas, agents of the 121st Infantry under Colonel Barnett, agents from the so-called Sixth Military District, FLA (Free Luzon Area) and Capt. Fernin Bueno of the reservists and Bataan survivors group. Atty Primo Lazaro, one of the leaders in Ilocos Norte, attended conference on the underground at Manila Hotel. The underground of Ilocos Norte was carrying on in the name of Governor Ablan. Surrendered or captured but released men of Ablan formed the nucleus of the organization. (Page 24)

BACK TO THE FIELD

In 1944 most of the released men of Ablan reorganized themselves and continued operations in the field this time under the able command of Capt. Fernin Bueno, an ex-USAFPE and Bataan survivor. He contacted all ex-service men in Ilocos Norte and fused them with the remnants of the Ablan outfit. By August, 1944, this organization counted with a membership of more than 2,000 officers and men all ready to take the field as soon as arms could be secured. A unit was organized in every town and placed under the command of trained soldiers of proven merit and worth. The new organization was called First Ilocos Norte Regiment. Governor Ablan was not forgotten. The position of commanding officer was reserved for him in case he should decide to show up. The place formerly occupied by Major Feliciano Madamba was taken then by Capt. Fernin Bueno because Madamba was then believed to have been executed by the Japs in San Fernando, La Union on July 17, 1944. He was re-arrested on July 7, 1944 in Laoag when he was beginning to reorganize the Ablan's Forces. That was the last we saw of him. (Page 24 & 25)

CONTACT WITH AN ALLIED LANDING PARTY

In the month of August, 1944, the First Ilocos Norte Regiment, through Capt. Primo Lazaro, first met the landing party reconnaissance

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

D-20

group, US Army, in Bangal, headed by Lt. Jose Valera. The arrival of the landing party gave tremendous encouragement to the guerrilla forces. They place in it their hopes for securing the sorely needed arms and ammunitions so armed operations can again be started against the enemy. So Capt. Bueno, Capt. Lazaro, Capt. Segundino Valasco, Lt. Benjamin Enrique and others went to meet members of the landing party for conference and to receive instructions, if any. Lt. Jose Valera, head of the landing party, expressed the desire of meeting Governor Ablan himself as there were gifts for him from friends and sympathizers abroad, including one from General Douglas MacArthur himself. Lt. Valera instructed them to organize as soon as possible and to get ready to receive arms and ammunitions as soon as they can arrive by submarine. He also advised them to "lie low for the time being until the final signal to rise is given." Capt. Bueno and his men waited as instructed. Capt. Bueno furnished guards for the landing party and maintained close contact with it by runners. (Page 26)

LAST ENCOUNTER WITH THE ENEMY

The last armed operation of the Ablan's Guerrilla Forces as an independent unit occurred at about 1400 hours, 14 January 1945 in the barrio of Sta. Maria, Laocag, Ilocos Norte. At 1400 hours, 14 January 1945, a Jap military unit sponsored by the Bureau of Constabulary went to barrio Sta. Maria, Laocag, western part of Laocag, thus encountering our men. (Lt Dionisio Bonosan and two of his men were killed in action. Sgt. Antonio Flor, Constante Guerrero, Guillermo Santos, Enrique Manuel, Jose Manuel and Eloy Pasion, were captured and latter executed. Major Varias, M/Sgt. Antonio Guerrero and Lt. Gaudencio Martin and Ireneo Manuel escaped but Lt Gaudencio Martin was seriously wounded in this encounter.)

After this encounter with the enemy, the Ablan's Guerrilla Forces ceased to operate as an independent unit. Most of its members joined the 16th Infantry (PA) USAFIP NL, some joined the PA BN, USAFIP NL, and some joined the MP BN, USAFIP NL.

It is unfortunate for Ilocos Norte that before the First Ilocos Norte Regiment (which counted with the support of the people) could receive the much needed arms which the landing party promised them, Ilocos Norte was invaded by a strong band of armed men styling themselves as guerrillas under John P. O'Day and others. They may have been genuine guerrillas but their ruthless methods and acts of terrorism made them fiercely hated by the people. Mass murder, mass rapes and acts of sadism

and incendiarism like the burning of the houses of innocent civilians were laid at their door. And what is more they did not want any rival guerrilla unit in the province and those not in their organization were considered their enemies by the harmless civilians or other guerrillas like themselves - the First Ilocos Norte Regiment. They overpowered our poorly armed forces and killed their leaders most of whom were ex-USAFPE men. The most prominent of these was Capt Fermin Bueno himself who was murdered by them in Piddig on December 19, 1944. (After raiding his headquarters at Barrio Cataban, Laoag, on December 16, 1944). These armed invaders from nowhere in September 1944 were composed mostly of illiterates from Bontoc, Mt Province, Ilocos Sur and La Union. Their leaders were afflicted with megalomania and so drunk with power that like the men in Shakespeare's play who "clothed with a little brief authority make much fantastic tricks before High Heaven as make the angels weep." These group of men who knew no codes and laws, were able to surround and capture Lt Jose Valera and his party and thus went up in smoke the hopes of the Ablan's forces to be rearmed.

(Page 25 & 26)

UNIFICATION OF ALL GUERRILLA UNITS

0-222
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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE } S. S.
MUNICIPALITY OF LAOAG }

I, SEGUNDO P. VELASCO, O-1674, Captain, FA, (PA), married and a resident of Laoag, Ilocos Norte, after having been duly sworn to according to law depose and say:

That I was the Adjutant and S-1 of the 1st Ilocos Norte Infantry, 34th Guerrilla Division, and at present on duty with the office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Army of the Philippines.

That I have known the late Captain Fermin G. Bueno, ASN-Unknown, PC (USAFFS), because of the following circumstances:

a. Captain Bueno was one of the head organizers of the 1st Ilocos Norte Infantry on or about December 1943 to January 1944.

b. Captain Bueno was the Commanding Officer of the 1st Ilocos Norte Infantry, 34th Guerrilla Division.

That the cause or causes surrounding the death of Captain Fermin G. Bueno are:

a. That when a unit of the 121st Infantry entered Ilocos Norte, under the O'Day-Dona-Soria-Sagad group, the presence of another unit in Ilocos Norte was to them an stumbling block in their lust for power and considered other resistance organizations in the province as unauthorized, unlawful and unrecognized.

b. That on December 16, 1944, the said unit raided our headquarters in Barrio Cataban, Laoag, Ilocos Norte where I was also present at the time and captured Capt. Fermin G. Bueno.

c. That Capt. Fermin G. Bueno, was killed by the said unit at Barrio Barut, Piddig, Ilocos Norte on or about December 19, 1944.

Further affiant sayeth not.

Done this 14th day of March, 1947 at Laoag, Ilocos Norte.

Segundo P. Velasco
SEGUNDO P. VELASCO, O-1674
Captain, FA, (PA),

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of March, 1947 at Laoag, Ilocos Norte.

Eulalio Sillan
EULALIO SILLAN
Mayor

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 53078

APPENDIX

I, MARCELINO S. BUSTOS, C-1424, FA, married and resident of Bacarra, Ilocos Norte, after having been duly sworn to in accordance to law depose and say:

That I was the Sergeant 3-3 of the 1st Ilocos Norte Infantry, 34th General Division, and at present 3-3, 24th FA Reg, FA.

That Captain Fernando S. Bustos was transferred into the 1st Ilocos Norte Infantry at Linao, Ilocos Norte by Major Priso Lazaro, ASB-Uncosca, Inf, on January 15, 1944.

That Captain Fernando S. Bustos was one of the organizers of the 1st Ilocos Norte Infantry, and

That he served as Executive Officer of the Regiment from January 16, 1944 to September 14, 1944, inclusive, and as Regimental Commander from September 15, 1944 to December 14, 1944, inclusive.

That Captain Fernando S. Bustos was promoted to the rank of Major by Major Priso Lazaro on 1 February 1944.

That Captain Fernando S. Bustos assumed command of the 1st Ilocos Norte Infantry on 15 September 1944.

That on 16 December 1944, the O'Day-Saine-Jurie-Dumabnon group raided the headquarters of Captain Bustos and captured him.

That Captain Fernando S. Bustos was killed by the above-named group on or about December 20, 1944, according to information.

Further affidavits await act.

I, JAMES KIRKUP, I Depose and certify by signature this 21st day of March 1946 at Linao, La Union.

Marcelino S. Bustos
MARCELINO S. BUSTOS, C-1424
Captain, FA

SWORN TO and SUBSCRIBED to before me this 21st day of March 1946 at Linao, La Union.

Jose I. Resurreccion
JOSE I. RESURRECCION
2nd Lieut, FA
Act. Adjutant

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 53028

1-22

5

AFFIDAVIT

I, MELCHIOR A. ACOSTA, O-1683, Inf (PA), married and resident of Ilocos Norte, after having been duly sworn to in accordance to last deposit and act.

That I was the Sergeant 3-4 of the 1st Ilocos Norte Infantry, 24th Guerrilla Division.

That I knew Captain Fermín S. Buzo, Executive Officer of the 1st Ilocos Norte Infantry from 14 January 1944 to 14 September 1944, and later Commanding Officer of the new Unit from 15 September 1944 to 20 December 1944.

That Captain Fermín S. Buzo headed a party of which I was a member, to meet the Intelligence Seeking Party headed by Lt Jose Volera (alias Capt Jose) in Baitang, Mangal, Ilocos Norte, on 29 September 1944.

That Captain Fermín S. Buzo was raided in our headquarters in the Field (at Cataban, Jacan, Ilocos Norte) on 16 December 1944 by the O'Day-Dona-Solis-etc group.

That Captain Fermín S. Buzo was inducted into the 1st Ilocos Norte Infantry, a military Guerrilla unit that was organized by Major Prisco Delano, Captain Gerardo P. Velasco and himself, (Capt F. G. Buzo).

That, according to information gathered, Captain Fermín S. Buzo was killed by the same group that raided our headquarters on or about 20 December 1944.

Further affiant says not.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of March 1946 at Ilocos Norte, La Union.

Melchior A. Acosta
MELCHIOR A. ACOSTA, O-1683
2nd Lt, Inf (PA)

ATTESTED AND SUBSCRIBED before me this 21st day of March 1946 at Ilocos Norte, La Union.

Jesse S. Chapman
Jesse S. Chapman
2nd Lt, Inf, PA
Actg Adjutant

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 85308

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE } S. S.
MUNICIPALITY OF LACAG }

I, JULIAN FERMIN, 160364, 1st sergeant assigned to the 35th MPC (AP) stationed at Lacag, Ilocos Norte, married, and residing at Lacag, after having been duly sworn to according to law depose and say:

That I was 1st Lt. Commanding the A Co., First Bn. of the Ilocos Norte Infantry, 34th Guerrilla Division, under the over-all command of Capt. Fernan U. Buena an ex-USAPFE andataan survivor.

That on or about the middle of 1944 a unit of the 121st Infantry under the command of O'Day - Dona - Sorio - Macobar group invaded Ilocos Norte terrorizing the province, committing atrocities, raping women, killing and looting innocent civilians, and burning private houses and public buildings.

That the above-mentioned group resorted to barbarous acts, chicanery, fraud and deceit in imposing their will over the innocent civilians and in attaining their objective of eliminating any other existing resistance organization resulting in the torture and death of our men among whom were Lts. Angel Acasio, Jovenelo Suguitan, Caster Felix, Liberato Juan, Juan Pinaoate, Antolin Asis, Silverio Quevedo, Benigno Afon and many others most of whom were USAPFE officers and enlisted men.

That the above-mentioned group of murderers boasted that their group was the only authorized guerrilla unit and all others were illegal and unauthorized branding the Ilocos Norte Infantry as a bogus organization and Capt. Fernan U. Buena as a bogus officer.

That due to personal motive and lust for power and jealousy of said group against Capt. Buena and his outfit, they treacherously raided Capt. Buena's headquarters in the field at Barrio Cataban, Lacag, on 16 December 1944 killing about 70 persons, capturing Capt. Buena and subsequently killing him at Barrio Sarut, Piddig, Ilocos Norte on or about December 19, 1944.

Further Affiant sayeth not.

Dona at Lacag, Ilocos Norte this 13th day of March 1947.

JULIAN FERMIN

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of March, 1947,
at Lacag, Ilocos Norte.

EULALIO SIAMIN
Mayor

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AWD 5 30 78

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE } S. S.
MUNICIPALITY OF LAOAG

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority 688/085 53078

I, JUAN C. BALANDA, ASN - 98321, Corporal assigned to Headquarters Ilocos Norte Province, MPC (AP), Laoag, married and residing at Laoag, Ilocos Norte, after having been duly sworn to according to law depose and say:

That I was 2nd Lt. in the Ilocos Norte Infantry, 34th Guerrilla Division under the over-all command of Capt Fermín U. Bueno.

That I was at our Headquarters in the field at Cataban, Laoag, with Capt Bueno, Capt Segundo Velasco, Lt Crisanto Varas, Capt Dominador Hernando and many others when the O'Bay-Dona-Soria group raided our headquarters on the early morning of December 18, 1944.

That as a result of the raid about 70 persons were killed, civilians were looted by the raiders and several houses were burned by them. Capt Bueno was captured by them and brought to Barrio Barut, Piddig, Ilocos Norte where they executed him on or about December 19, 1944.

That the O'Bay-Dona-Soria group which terrorized the province, due to personal motive and jealousy against the Ilocos Norte Infantry, an organization composed mostly of reservists and ex-USAFPE men, resorted to barbarous acts in eliminating any resistance organization in the province.

further affiant sayeth not.

Done this 14th day of March, 1947, at Laoag, Ilocos Norte.

Juan C. Balanda
JUAN C. BALANDA

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14th day of March, 1947, at Laoag, Ilocos Norte.

Eulalio Sirzon
EULALIO SIRZON
Mayor

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES } S. S.
PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE

AFFIDAVIT

I, PRIMO LAZARO, married and resident of Laoag, Ilocos Norte, after having been duly sworn to in accordance with law, depose and say:

That on 16 July 1943, I was commissioned Provincial Operative Commander under the 6th Military District by Col. Maximo Foralta, Jr.

That on 16 July 1943, I contacted Captain Fernin G. Buena ASM-Dickson, PC and appointed him as my Agent.

That I have known Capt. Fernin G. Buena from childhood and as a Sabahan survivor.

That I, together with Captain Fernin G. Buena and Capt. Segundo P. Velasco O-1674 PA (PA), organized the First Ilocos Norte Infantry, 34th Guerrilla Division.

That I inducted Capt. Fernin G. Buena and assigned him Executive Officer of the 1st Ilocos Norte Infantry from 16 January 1944 to 14 September 1944 and later Commanding Officer of the same unit from 15 September 1944 to 20 December 1944.

That I promoted Capt. Fernin G. Buena to the rank of Major effective 1 February 1944 signing Special Orders No. 5 with pseudonym, GO TAMBI.

That Capt. Fernin G. Buena headed a party composed of himself, Capt. Segundo P. Velasco S-1 First Ilocos Norte Infantry and at present Executive Officer 24th PA Bn (PA) 2nd Infantry Division, and 2nd Lt. Melchor A. Acosta S-4 of the First Ilocos Norte Infantry and at present 2nd Lt. Inf. (PA) that made contact with the Intelligence Landing Party headed by Lt. Jose Valera WMI, at Badwang, Pangui, Ilocos Norte, on or about 29 September 1944.

That Lt. Valera authorized Capt. Buena to carry on the operations of the First Ilocos Norte Infantry and told him to stand by for arms and munitions for said unit.

That on 16 December 1944, the O'Day-Lona-Soria-Sumatsung gang of murderers treacherously raided the Headquarters of Capt. Buena at Catalan, Laoag, Ilocos Norte killing about 70 people including innocent civilians and capturing Capt. Buena.

That the above-mentioned group was responsible in the killing of Captain Buena on or about 20 December 1944 at Barrio Barut, Piedig, Ilocos Norte.

That after the death of Capt. Fernin G. Buena, I assumed Command of the unit.

Further affiant saith not.

Done this 26th day of March 1946, at Laoag, Ilocos Norte.

PRIMO LAZARO

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26th day of March 1946 at Laoag, Ilocos Norte.

VICENTE G. BRICIA

Notary Public

My commission expires December 31, 1946

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Siac ni Francisco Sahagun, nataengan, naasawaan, naed iti ili a Laoag, Barrio Pasagui, Provincia ti Ilocos Norte, calipasan ti panagsapatac cas ituyang ti linteg, palawagec dagiti sumaganad:

Idi bulan ti Septiembre 1944, nagcuartel dagiti sumaganad nga soldados ni Capt. Fermin Bueno ditoy barrion ket ni Apo Bueno nagyan iti balay dayti catalonanda ditoy Pasagui. Nagyan dat ditoy iti dandani dua nga bulan ta idi 30 ti mabilang ti Octubre 1944, ismalis ti cuartel generalda. Cabayanan ti panagnaed ni Capt. Bueno ken buyotna ditoy napaliwco ti cababalinda nangruna ken ni Apo Bueno nga nasayaatda nga tattao ta awan rinarangas, ginagamrud, pinagpapatay, ken pinagilipilit iti babbai nga inararamidda no saan ket a panangioanawa iti biag ken lukwa dagiti agtagibario ti inararamidda. Dagiti canen a masapul dagiti soldados maiyeg ditoy barrio nga idanon dagiti 3-4 da nga puesto dita ili; ket no dagiti nateng ken dadduma pay nga masapul da, gatanenda ditoy barrio. Cas teniente ti barrio, iyofreecer co pay ken Capitan Bueno ti panagracion ti agtagibarrion nga cas iti aramid dagiti dadduma nga adda iti ruar, ngem ti kuna ni Capitan isu daytoy: "Agyamanac iti casta nga nakenyo ngem ammenyo nga siac ken ti organizacion no saan nga cas cadagiti dadduma nga adda iti ruar nga unay mamabantoy iti saasaden ti agtagibarrion no di ket iti mangpalagan cadacayo. No adda mabalinyo nga iyaragat nasayaat unay ngem saan nga incapilitan." No mamiansan ipilitoc ti mangted cadacuada dagiti soldados ti aniaman a mabalincio nga isagut ta agyamanac unay iti daytoy a barrion ta bayat ti caaddada awan ti talingawid dagiti agtagibarrion nga agallipuspus ket makapanda makapaglaco iti natnategda dita ili. Maysa pay nga nangpaydayawak ken ni Capitan Bueno isu ti saan na nga panangaramat cadagiti babbai nga agserbi ibi WAS, ket daytoy a barrion tiawan pacasaritaanna nga dagiti babbai natulawan werno nangasangaria ta iparit ni Capitan Bueno ti pannacataganatda nga agserbida nga casta.

Idin ta ismalis ti "headquarters" ni Capt. Bueno, imay ditoy ni Pablo Marcos ken Yakudana nga pasurot dagiti agpapatay nga teniente Perfecto Doña, Estanislao Sorio, Manuel Borja, Escobar, Bumbong, Cirilo Balen, Melchor Miguel, teniente Marcelo, ken Pablo pay, ket unay dacan kigkigotoc nga camarian camarian nga agracion cadacuada ket agkicam aniaman puoran cano. Maysa pay, ma-trafic can ti barrion. Adu nga kigkigotoc ti inaramid da abio Marcos cadacuada ta iranta da pay nga puoran ti barrion no dicam usabuloy ti cayatda ta espia cam cano.

Fakapnekan ti daytoy, firmase daytoy a sinurat, ita 15 ti Junio 1945 ditoy ili a Laoag, Ilocos Norte.

Francisco Sahagun
FRANCISCO SAHAGUN

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 15 of June 1945, in the municipality of Laoag, Province of Ilocos Norte.

V. Bricta
Military Mayor

COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES)
PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE) s. s.
MUNICIPALITY OF PIDDIG)

I, JULIAN T. BAYAG, 1st Lieutenant, E Company, 2nd Battalion, 15th Infantry, USAPIF, now stationed at Luna, La Union, of legal age, married and resident of Piddig, province of Ilocos Norte, after having been duly sworn to according to law, hereby depose and say:

That on or about the middle of December 1944, I was the Officer of the Day at Barrio Barut, No. 19, Piddig, Ilocos Norte, in the Regimental Headquarters of the 15th Infantry under Colonel JOHN P. O'DAY, then Captain.

That on that date Captain Fermin G. Bueno, USAFFE, head of the First Ilocos Norte Infantry, an organized guerrilla under him and composed mostly of Ex-Servicemen was brought to camp by Captain Perfecto B. Dona, then 1st Lieutenant, with his hands tied behind his back with a rope connected around his neck, showing signs of extreme violence and maltreatment.

That Captain Bueno, immediately upon his arrival under the custody of said Captain Dona, was presented to Captain John P. O'Day. After a few minutes' questioning by Captain O'Day and Lieut. Pedro F. Alviar, then S-2 of said organization, said Captain O'Day ordered his men to bring said Captain Bueno down with the order "tad-tadenyo", meaning "chop him to pieces". He was brought down as ordered and was maltreated by Sgt. Oducayen and his men. He was bolded, clubbed and bayoneted to death at about 4:00 P. M. that same day. He was buried with some others who were killed in the same manner at about 40 meters north of the said Headquarters.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affix my signature, this 11th day of October, 1945, at Piddig, Ilocos Norte.

s/ Julian T. Bayag
t/ JULIAN T. BAYAG
1st. Lieut. E Co., 2nd Bn., 15th Inf.
Commanding

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of October ber, 1945, at the municipality of Piddig, province of Ilocos Norte.

s/ Pedro L. Valentin
t/ PEDRO L. VALENTIN
M a y o r
Piddig, Ilocos Norte

A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL WHICH HAD BEEN FILED WITH THE HQD,
HEADQUARTERS PHILIPPINE ARMY.

EULALIO SILEA
Mayor

COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES)
PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE
MUNICIPALITY OF PIDDIG) s. s.

I, JOSE A. OLIVAR, of legal age, married and resident of Piddig, province of Ilocos Norte, after having been duly sworn to according to law, depose and say:

On December 19, 1944, I was called by Lieut. Julian T. Bayag, then Officer of the Day of the Regimental Headquarters under Captain John P. O'Day, located at Barrio Barut of this municipality. Upon my arrival at said place I saw a man tied with a rope and suffering with serious injuries in the different parts of his body and closely guarded by armed men. I found later that the man in question was Captain Fermin G. Bueno who was brought to the place by Captain Perfecto Dona who headed the raiders of Captain Bueno at Barrio Cataban in the municipality of Laoag on December 16, 1944.

While I was there, Captain Dona asked Captain Bueno if he had permission from higher headquarters to organize guerrilla units in Ilocos Norte. Captain Bueno answered in the affirmative but Captain Dona kicked him on the stomach and on the face several times telling Captain Bueno that he is a bogus officer without any organization back of him. The brutal punishment inflicted on Captain Bueno and his presence in the camp spread like wild fire to the rest of the men and officers in the camp. The crowd was shouting jubilantly while others demanded an investigation. Captain O'Day who has just come down from the Headquarters approached the place where Captain Bueno dripping with blood, was seated. Captain O'Day in a ferocious manner asked the tied person who he was and Captain Bueno answered that he was Captain Bueno an army officer, and who like them, was fighting for the cause. They were fighting for - - - the liberation of the Philippines. Captain O'Day said in return: "You are a bogus officer and I do not need you in the army." Whereupon O'Day kicked him several times on the stomach, on the face and at the back. When he was through administering these punishment, he ordered his men to drag Captain Bueno upstairs for further investigation. A few minutes later he was brought down guarded by several soldiers headed by Sergeant Pedro Oducayen now connected with the N Co, 2nd Bn, 15th Inf, stationed at Luna, La Union. About fifteen (15) meters from the headquarters, Oducayen and his men clubbed, boled and bayoneted Captain Bueno to death. I heard him sob and agonize from the terrific beatings inflicted in him. The last word I heard from him was in Ilocano: DIAC TRAIIDOR; NASAYAAATAC NGA TAO (I am not a traitor; I am an honest fellow).

The persons I know who were present during the execution of Captain Bueno are the following: (1) Captain Sillona (2) Captain Johnny Dugas (3) Major Simeon Valdez (4) Lieut. Melchor Miguel (5) Julian Bayag (6) Capt. Pedro Bitanga (7) Lieut. Pedro P. Alviar all connected in the USAPIB, NL.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affix my signature, this 11th day of October, 1945, at Piddig, Ilocos Norte.

s/ Jose A. Oliver
t/ JOSE A. OLIVAR

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of October, 1945 at the municipality of Piddig, province of Ilocos Norte.

s/ Pedro L. Valentin
t/ PEDRO L. VALENTIN

A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL WHICH HAD BEEN FILED WITH THE
RPD, HEADQUARTERS PHILIPPINE ARMY.

s/ Vicente Erieta
t/ VICENTE ERICETA

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *NVDG 5 30*

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND PUBLIC WELFARE
BUREAU OF HEALTH
Office of the District Health Officer
Laoag, Ilocos Norte

June 18, 1946

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that Capt. Fermin Buano, of legal age, married and resident of Laoag, Ilocos Norte, was killed by some guerrilla forces on or about December 19, 1944 in Piddig, Ilocos Norte. His remains were excoavated on June 11, 1946 and reburied in the Roman Catholic Cemetery of Laoag, Ilocos Norte, on June 16, 1946.

MARIANO G. LEGASPI
Acting District Health Officer

/s/.

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UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN THE PHILIPPINES
HEADQUARTERS, FIRST ILOCOS NORTE INFANTRY
LAGAO, ILOCOS NORTE

5 June 1945

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
FIRST ILOCOS NORTE INFANTRY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority ANDB 53078

Pursuant to the authority given to Atty. Primo Lazaro by General Manuel Roxas, thru his contact man, Marcelino Florentino, and also by Colonel Macario Paralta Jr, thru his contact man, Captain Andres Ebralin, to conduct intelligence work in Ilocos Norte and to prepare the province for the American invasion, he made contact with USAFFE men in every municipality of the province. As there was still a big portion of the Japanese forces in the province at the time 1943-1944, it was very risky to undertake such a job. It was also very difficult for the USAFFE men and the reservists to make a move to pool themselves together because during these days one would look at another as a spy. This is due to the fact that some of the USAFFE officers and men who joined the Japanese government either as members of the Constabulary or as civilian officers had shown and proved themselves to be Japanese collaborators and traitors to the cause; as a matter of fact people believed them to be more than JAPS. Nevertheless, with all these handicaps, by October 1943, he was able to organize contact men in every town of the province. He instructed all the contact men to submit to him a list of all USAFFE men and reservists who were in sympathy with the cause without their knowledge, and after receiving their reports

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *UUDS 53078*

he conferred with the USAFFE officers one by one. During these days, he was one of the few public officials of the province at the outbreak of the war who did not lose the confidence of the people, so much so that altho the people were tongue-tied they could tell to him freely their feelings. He did not therefore find hardships in getting the help of the USAFFE officers and men in conducting intelligence work in the province and in organizing a guerrilla unit for Ilocos Norte.

After a series of conferences with the officers of the United States Armed Forces in the Philippines who were in this province, he was able to organize a regiment named the "First ILOCOS NORTE INFANTRY", with the roster duly prepared by the USAFFE officers; but inasmuch as most of the officers and men were under Governor Ablan since the outbreak of the war, they agreed to make this organization a continuation of the Unit of Governor Ablan in Ilocos Norte. The First Ilocos Norte Infantry was completely organized on January 16, 1944. Altho the authority was in his name the organization was put under the command of USAFFE officers with Captain Fermin G. Buena as the Regimental Commander. He told the officers that according to his contact men, there would be arms to be furnished to our organization thru an advance landing unit from Australia. Thus we were prepared and were waiting only for the opportune time. It was agreed that pending the receipt of arms, the officers and men of the First Ilocos Norte Infantry would do intelligence work inside and outside the province. Each commanding officer should lead his men in doing this work and the commanding officers should report to their highest commander who in turn would report to

him for transmission to the contact men of General Roxas and Colonel Peralta. We always gave report in this way so that if one lost his copy the other might still have the other copy for transmittal to the highest authority. The intelligence work was then under his direct command and control. The First Ilocos Norte Infantry had no arms at the time because the arms in Ilocos Norte were surrendered to the Japs at the insistence of the Filipino officials of the Japanese government who were continuously threatening the officers and men who surrendered in this province. Because of fear, they surrendered their arms. During those days whenever an officer or a soldier is caught with arms such officer or soldier is subject to severe punishment, sometimes death is meted out to him. At this time besides the regular spies appointed by the Japanese and by the Filipino puppet officials, some of the ranking puppet officials acted also as spies.

With the help of his contact men in every town and later on by the entire force of the First Ilocos Norte Infantry, the following were among those accomplished by us in our intelligence work:

1- Before the end of October 1943, Atty Lazaro was required to answer a set of questionnaires referring among others to the conduct of the civilian officials of the Japanese government from the governor to the lowest municipal employes; how they run their government; how they cooperated with the Japanese for their attitude to the cause and to the people, how the puppet officials taxed the people to raise funds for their government; and how the puppet officials worked together to maintain the

Japanese forces by giving them ration.

2 - On November 1943, we were required to report and we submitted the number of Japanese forces in the province, the garrisons occupied by them and the arms that they had.

3 - About the end of December 1943, Mr Marcelino Florentino and Captain Andres Biralin, contact men of General Roxas and Col Feralta respectively, requested Atty Lazaro to secure the map of GABU AIRPORT drawn to scale, showing all the military objectives. At this time we had then sufficient men, as we were then about to complete the organization of the Ilocos Norte Infantry. Laoag was then heavily guarded, and we was Gabu Airport. Filipino laborers were however required to work in Gabu. We took advantage of the situation by sending some of our men to work in Gabu and sometimes we ourselves went there to work as laborers and gather information at the same time. Inasmuch as it was very difficult to get a map of the Gabu airport drawn to scale with the military objectives, we encouraged Engineer Trinidad Aurelio, a local civil engineer, to work in Gabu. He was employed as survey man and later on was made to draft the map. He furnished us the map of Gabu airport drawn to scale with all the military objectives. After taking the map, Atty Lazaro came to Manila about the middle of January 1944. He gave the map to the men of Mr. Florentino. He also gave one copy to the men of Col. Feralta.

4 - About the middle of February 1944, Mr Florentino upon his request was furnished with maps of the different garrisons in Ilocos Norte, showing a building or visible sign such as trees that may easily identify them, and to indicate the preparations

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that they made for their defense. He was also given a map of Ilocos Norte, showing the latest trails connecting the province with the neighboring provinces.

5 - About the end of February 1944, Mr Florentino sent a man to ask Atty Lazaro to locate a bay in Ilocos Norte, whereby a submarine could land a transmitter. We had to do our best. We looked at the map of Ilocos Norte and after a careful deliberation decided to investigate the Caunayan Bay of Bangui, Ilocos Norte. He sent therefore, Dominador Erieta, now Asst Military Provincial Treasurer of Ilocos Norte, Gregorio Flores now Military Mayor of Bangui, and Hermogenes Antiporda to go to Caunayan to sound the bay, and to find out if a submarine could land there. This place is far from the guard-house of the Japanese along the coast of Bangui. After seeing that Caunayan bay may be used for landing, he secured the map of Bangui alone from the District Engineer of Ilocos Norte, Mr Leon Ines. Again, he came to Manila on March 1944, to deliver the map of Bangui.

6 - The entire force of the First Ilocos Norte Infantry conducted the propaganda work with Lt Pedro Alviar as head of our propaganda corps. The organization had an organ called the VOICE OF ILOCANDIA managed and edited by the head of the propaganda corps, who is responsible in giving out information taken by him thru his radio receiving set operated by means of battery. The VOICE OF ILOCANDIA contains exactly what is heard thru the radio. This is the way we kept the people know what what was going on thruout the world. Thru the VOICE OF ILOCANDIA we were able to maintain the morale of the people despite the strong propaganda of the Japanese and their propaganda corps composed of

Filipino collaborators to the effect that the Americans cannot come back to the Philippines anymore.

7 - The officers and men of the First Ilocos Norte Infantry made it a point to help the people in every possible way. Some of the officers and men of the organization were assigned to watch the people in the barrios especially in strategic places so that they can be guided as to what they should do in case of emergency. With the existence of the organization the abuses of the Japanese puppet officials and their subordinates were minimized.

8 - The organization conducted propaganda against the Japanese puppet officials and their subordinates and with our propaganda work against them, some were able to change their attitude to the people.

The only guerrilla unit found in this province after the unit organized by Governor Ablan at the outbreak of the war was disbanded because of the incessant mopping operations against them is the 1ST ILOCOS NORTE INFANTRY. A small group however, sprung up in July 16, 1944, when the Llanes brothers, Jose and Emilio, refugees to this place from Manila, organized a branch of the 121st Infantry. In their initial meeting, he was invited to attend. In that meeting, he told them that he could not join the organization which they proposed to form because he (Atty Lazaro) was already a member of an existing organization. INASMUCH as they were bent on organizing a branch of the 121st Infantry which they claimed to be under the command of Major Barnett, they agreed that they would cooperate their

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work and coordinate and mutually help each other to the best they could since both organizations were fighting for the same cause. He showed his cooperation so that so that when they asked him to help collect contributions to finance their organization, he voluntarily contributed the sum of P1,150.00. He told them that it was hard to ask contributions from many people because that would only propagate the existence of the organization. They never listened to him but kept on collecting contributions from the barrio people and from those in the towns. Besides the food supplies which the barrio people gave them, they still collected contributions in cash. Plenty of people knew of their presence in the barrio and some spies knew of their headquarters. However, because of our cooperation, whenever the First Ilocos Norte Infantry knew that a mopping operation would be made in their hide-out, we always gave out notice so that they could move to other places. We consulted and helped each other, until they severed their relations with us, for reasons which will be shown later in this report and in confidential reports which will be submitted afterwards.

On August 28, 1944, a landing unit from Australia, landed at Caunayan Bay of the municipality of Bangui, Ilocos Norte, the bay we reported for a submarine to land. They were all Filipinos, numbering 15 and at the head is Capt. Jose Valera. On Sept 6, 1944, Captain Valera sent Miguel Garvida to Lacag to call for Atty Lazaro because when he learned from the people of Bangui, upon inquiry conducted by him, that Atty Lazaro was the confidential and right-hand man of Governor Ablan in Ilocos

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Norte, he wanted to confer with him. Of this notice we were exceedingly happy not because we were asked to contact him, but because we saw the result of our work in sounding Caunayan bay. In their conference, Capt Valera asked what preparations had been made in Ilocos Norte. Atty Lazaro told him that under authority given to him by General Roxas and also by Colonel Macario Peralta, he had organized a regiment in Ilocos Norte under the command of officers of the United States Armed Forces in the Philippines. At that time he carried with him the written authority from Col Peralta. When Atty Lazaro questioned Capt Valera of the extent of that authority, Capt Valera told him to go ahead with the organization. Atty Lazaro reported to him also the existence of a branch of the 121st Infantry of Major Barnett in Ilocos Norte under the command of Jose Llanes. Capt Valera told him to forget everything about the 121st Infantry saying that Major Barnett had no authority to organize a Unit. He requested Atty Lazaro to help him, to send 15 men from our organization to guard his place; to give him sulfuric acid and alcohol for his transmitter, and to send him one radio technician. His request was complied with immediately. Atty Lazaro also gave orders to his men in Bangui to help them secure their food provisions. At this time there were some Japanese soldiers in Bangui so that people were not free to move from one place to another. Nevertheless we did our best to help them and to see to it that nobody knew of their presence except our confidential men in Bangui who used to visit them to find out their needs. During all the time that they stayed in Bangui, they were never molested at all by the Japanese or by the spies.

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Capt Valera in the conference requested Atty Lazaro that we do the best we could to locate Governor Ablan in order that the gift and the letter of General MacArthur may be delivered to him. All efforts were exerted to locate him but we could not find him.

Capt Valera

A week later, ~~Atty Lazaro~~ called the members of the staff of the First Ilocos Norte Infantry to a conference wherein he gave definite orders as to what should be the course of action to be followed by the organization. In the conference he requested us to lay low and not to provoke the enemy until we received sufficient arms and equipment. He requested us to gather all the necessary information about the strength of the enemy, the arms and equipments they had, giving most emphasis on the enemy air corps. We gave all the information and data that he desired, including a map of Gabu airport as enlarged, drawn to scale, showing all military objectives, and a map of the entire town of Laoag, showing all military objectives and gun emplacements. In this conference Capt Valera promised to arm and equip our unit. He further instructed our staff to put up headquarters in the field promising to give us arms to defend it. We did so but he failed to give us the arms. During those days, there was no more transportation between Ilocos Norte and Manila; so all our data were submitted to Capt. Valera directly. After Atty Lazaro left Capt Valera, five (5) men of Jose Llanes went to confer with him. When he learned that they were men of Jose Llanes of the 121st Infantry, he told them to forget their 121st Infantry. He advised them to see me if they desired to join an authorized unit. He gave the five boys

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a note to Atty Lazaro whereby Capt Valera asked him to get them in the organization. He got the boys into the outfit; as a matter of fact, three of them were among the 15 men sent to Capt Valera upon his request. Emilio Llanes who was then in charge of their group in the absence of his brother, Jose Llanes, wrote to Atty Lazaro asking that their unit be incorporated to ours. He acceded to his request and requested them to submit their roster so that they could be incorporated. At this time we decided to increase our strength in Ilocos Norte. Later on Jose Llanes went to see Capt. Valera personally in their hide-out in Bangui. There he attacked Atty Lazaro personally saying that he (Atty Lazaro) ought not to meddle in any military organization because he was not a military man. He said that he only organized our unit to further his political aspirations and that our organization was composed of politicians and lawyers. The charges however, were all false. In truth, the First Infantry Ilocos Norte Infantry was composed of the CREAM of the Army in Ilocos Norte. Investigation showed that if Llanes went to that extent it was because of his desire to be over and above all in the province by the true officers and men of the US Armed Forces who are in the province would not want to place themselves under him because he himself, is not a military man. He was only a civilian refugee from Manila. In the organization, altho Atty Lazaro was the father continuing the work of Governor Ablan, he was not their commander for he was only designated as member of the Judge Advocate and at the same time liaison officer of the regiment. However, he had the confidence of the entire organization. That desire for military superiority became worse when Llanes ordered his men to

kill Atty Lazaro if they caught him on the way to Bangui to meet Capt Valera. He did not only make the order but he uttered that personally in front of the men of our organization when he went to Bangui.

Capt Valera ordered Llanes to join us. Emilio Llanes arranged for our meeting. In that meeting, the Llanes brothers who were leading the 121st Infantry in Ilocos Norte, and the staff of our organization including Capt Fermín Buzo, commander of our Unit, were present. The Llanes brothers agreed to join the FIRST ILOCOS NORTH INFANTRY, and submitted their roster. During those days, the members of the 121st Infantry from La Union, Ilocos Sur, Abra and Mt. Province under the command of Capt O'Day with Dora, Doris, and Escobar as his right-hand men, were arriving. They began to terrorize the province by ^{killing} constabulary soldiers, employees of the puppet government, innocent civilians, and officers and men of the USAFFE who surrendered by command of their Commander-in-Chief. They burned private houses, public buildings, looted the people, raped women and committed many other forms of atrocities.

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They learned of the existence of our organization and our contact with Capt Valera thru Jose Llanes, and being jealous of the contact we had we had with Capt Valera, they began killing our officers and men, claiming among other things that no organization except theirs was authorized and that such organizations must be extinguished. To attain their objective of extinguishing another existing organization, they canvassed all USAFFE men and called them to a conference in places indicated by them. In that

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conference, they were asked to what organization they belonged and if they told them that they belonged to our Unit, they were tortured and killed. Some of the victims are Lieuts. Angel Acasio, Jovenio Sugitan, Castor Felix, Liberato Juan, Juan Pinacate, Antolin Asis, Silverio Quevedo and Benjamin Afog, and some USAFFE enlisted men.

After the killing of some of our men, they happened to apprehend Capt. ^{John} Duque whom they pressed to lead the way to the hide-out of Capt. Valera. To save his neck and under such circumstances he accompanied them up to Bangui where Jose Llanes met them and actually led them to the hide-out of Capt. Valera. From this time on, contact was lost with Capt. Valera (Oct 16, 1944). He tried his best to contact Capt. Valera but in vain. He (Atty Lazaro) tried to make negotiations with those who came from the south but his attempt was cut short when he was captured by the Jap Military Police. He was arrested on Nov 6, 1944 and stayed in jail for about 15 days. There he was severely tortured so that he did not expect to outlive the tortures and hardships that he was confronted with. After he was released, he was confined with all the members of his family to a house in front of the military police building until January 14, 1945 the date when he escaped from the custody of the Japanese with all the members of his family.

Before he was captured by the Japanese Military Police, Capt. Fermin Bueno and himself ordered the men of the organization especially those who were out of town of Laoag to do their best to save their lives. They were ordered to join the Domang gang if that was the only way to save their lives. At this time

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whenever they learned that a man belonged to our organization they tortured and killed him. They were determined to extinguish our organization and to push their aim, they raided the headquarters of Capt Formin Bueno. The raid resulted in the death of some of our officers and men and in the capture of Capt Formin Bueno, who was afterwards tortured and killed by them. His death, however did not terminate the organization. Immediately upon the death of Capt Bueno, his adjutant, Capt S. Velasco assumed command of the organization with the consent of all the officers. We decided to carry on the organization in order that our men would be guided whenever they were transferred to another Unit. Capt Velasco remained in command of the FIRST ILOSOS NORTE INFANTRY until all our men had joined other units. Most of our officers and men are now fighting in the Mt Province.

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