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1st Cav Artillery Corps  
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BATTERY B, 91st CA (PS)

Official Record

U. S. Army

SIEGE of  
FORT MILLS

CORREGIDOR

P. I.

Dec. 1941 to May 1942

"B" - 91st C.A. (P.S.)

--- R O S T E R ---

Capt. W. H. Owen, Jr.	B.C.*	B.C.	Rp.
" B. H. Backstrom	Exec.	Emp.	Rp.
" A. E. Durie		B.C.	<del>Rp.</del> H.
1st Lt. D. M. Snell		M&R	Rp.
" " Schupp, C.C.		Emp.	H.
" " R. D. Minogue		Ex.	H.

Mjr. Pio Q. Caluya		Camp Murphy	
Capt. C. A. Bucher, Jr.	D.S.	P.A.	
1st Lt. Wandell, H.E.	D.S.	P.A. Mind.	
	D.S.	"C" 4/9	

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1st Sgt. Mealliza, Mateo	B.C.S.	Rp.
Sgt. Cruz, Antonio W. *		R. Rp.
Sgt. Diaz, Maximino C.		#1 Rp.
Sgt. Ragadio, Alipio E.	Camp Gonzales	
	(D.S. P.A.)	

Sgt. Rizal, Ildefonso	(D.S. P.A.)	301 FA
Sgt. Gica, Claudio B.		# 1 H
Sgt. Espos, Diego		R Rp.
Sgt. Lopez, Marceline		# 2 Rp.
Sgt. Hombro, Cosme	B.C.S.	Rp.
	S.D.	R.M.

Sgt. Nardo, Lucilo	M.	Rp.
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Corp. Ciquijor, Basilio	#2	H.
" Caceres, Florencio	R	H.
" Seludo, Francisco	R	Rp.
" dil Ayre, Cериaco *	#1	Rp.
" Bautista, Evaristo S.	P	
" Oriaz, Alipio "	#1	H
" Yambao, Fortunato	#1	Rp.
" Blacas, Meliton	#2	Rp.
" Masias, Victoriano	#2	Rp.
" Versosa, Tomas (S.D. Engr.)		
( " Masta Jo Mar. (trans. to 92nd as Pvt.)		

Pfc. Bautista, Calixto S.	R	H
" Fernandez, Hermengilde	R	H
" Ignacio, Sixto *	M	Rp.
" Caballero, Angel B. *	#1	Rp.
" Yambao, Marceline	R	Rp.
Pfc. Pait, Juan	R	Rp.
" Calipes, Euschio		

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Pfc.	Farala, Bartolome		Rp.
"	Biggayan, Lorenzo T.	R	Rp.
"	Agpaoa, Jesus	BCS	Rp.
"	Boac, Conrado P.	R	Rp.
"	Madayag, Ynocencio	#2	Rp.
"	Rosales, Esmeraldo (D.S.)	Ft.	Frank)
"	Alataya, Emilio	R	Rp.
"	Almosara, Felix	#2	Rp.
"	Puniestas, Teodorico	R	H
"	Mendaros, Laureano L.	F	
"	Pauli, Mariano V.	#1	Rp.
"	Rejuso, Antonio	#2	Rp.
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Pvt.	Pascual, Damaso	#2	Rp.
"	Pagulong, Martin	#2	Rp.
"	Pagulong, Pascual	#1	H
"	Baldonado, Abdon	#1	Rp.
"	Frivaldo, Lucians	#1	Rp.
"	Perez, Franciscoe (recruit)		Rp.
"	Perez, Jose	#2	Rp.
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Pvt.	Navarro, Leopolda V.	(Group 4 operator)	
"	Centino, Isabelo	(S.D. Q.M. School)	
PFC.	Camanyag, Mariano	B.C.S.	Rp.
PFC.	Lacar, Alfredo S.D.	Reg. Hq. Driver	
Pvt.	Lacaden, Victor S.D.	Reg. Hq. Driver	
"	Katipunan, Gandioso	R	Rp.
"	Cornistag, Antonio	R	Rp.
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PFC.	Yumul, Castor	#1	Rp.
Pvt.	Ramos, Alfredo	#2	Rp.
PFC.	Campomanes, Sulpicio	BCS	Rp.
PFC.	Divina, Julian	#1	H.
Pvt.	Dagsa, Luis (Killed 5/14/41)	#1	Rp.
Pvt.	Daguia, Gaudencio	#2	H.
PFC.	Fontanilla, Juan	#2	H
Pvt.	Distor, Domingo		Rp.
-----			
Pvt.	Apostel, Rafael		Rp.
"	Viray (trans. to "F") in Feb.		Rp.
PFC.	Zoibala, Norberto	#1	Rp.
Pvt.	Salanga, Alfredo R.		
Pvt.	Follett, Arturo	#1	Rp.
"	Grandeia, Nemesio	R	H.
"	Ravago, Justiniano	B.C.S.	Rp.

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Pvt.	Padilla, Elpidio	#	1	Rp.
"	Penamante, Leandro	#	2	Rp.
"	Alarilla, Julio P.	#	1	Rp.
"	Bayas, Carlos	#	2	Rp.
"	Murillo, Carlos B.			
Pvt.	Pascual, Eduardo	M		Rp.



## L E G E N D

B. C.	Battery Commander
Exec.	Executive Officer
Emp.	Emplacement Officer
D. S.	Detached Service
P. A.	Philippine Army
R	Range Section
M	Mess
S	Supply
Rp.	Rock Point
H.	Hanna
P.	Personnel, Reg.
#1 or #2	Gun Section
G-4	Group IV.
BCS	Battery Comdr's. Section
J-Bty.	James

## "B" - 1st C.A. (P.A.)

Capt. W. H. Owen, Jr.	B. C. Supervisor
1st Lt. Amadeo Garcia	BC J
3rd Lt. De Gusseman	Ex J
3rd Lt. Salvador	R J

RECORD of EVENTS  
Btry. "B" 91st. C. A. (PS)  
Nov. 28, 1941 to May 7, 1942

On the afternoon of Nov. 28, 1941, the Harbor Defences of Manila and Cubic Bays were ordered to quietly man all alert positions. This same status was the same date by forces of the U. S. and Great Britain from Hawaii to Singapore. This battery was ordered out effective at noon Saturday Nov. 29, 1941. The movement was carried out under the direction of 1st. Lt. J. H. Davis Jr.; Capt. Owen being on duty as Field O. D. 2nd. Lt. R. D. Miogue, and 8 enlisted men, under Sgt. Cica manned Btry. "James"; 11 enlisted men under Sgt. Lopex continued their alert manning of James Ravine O. P. and Beach Defences; 1st. Lt. Davis with 12 enlisted men manned Btry. "Hanna"; and the remaining men, available for battery duty, numbering 40 manned Btry. "Rock Point" under Capt. Owen, with 1st. Lt. D. M. Snell as Range Officer. The personnel was bivouaced in the immediate vicinity of the guns which they placed in readiness to fire and then began to dig themselves in. The kitchen was set up on North Shore Road at Grubbs Ravine for Btrys. "Rock Point" and "Hanna" while a secondary kitchen was established in James Ravine for the detail there and at Btry. "James."

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On Dec. 3rd Btry. "B" 1st. CA (PA) commanded by 1st. Lt. Am deo Garcia was attached to the Battery for supervision of artillery training and administration. They were assigned quarters in the Battery's barra cks just vacated, and divided among the four battery positions.

The evening of Dec. 4th., the Btry. received an order stating that "Enemy aircraft had been positively identified over Zambales and the planes of central Luzon. Our interceptors are standing by with orders to shoot", and later another; "The identifying signal for friendly aircraft tonight is a red light, repeat, red light. All aircraft not showing this signal will be fired upon." All antiaircraft machine-guns of the Btry. were manned continuously beginning that date. At 3:00 AM Dec 8th. the Battery Commander received a message that, "Hostilities between the United States and Japan commenced this morning." All armament was manned. During that day enemy aircraft was fired upon by the antiaircraft of Ft. Mills. On Dec. 12th. Btry. "B" 1st. CA(PA) moved into bivouac at Btry. "James", taking over the manning of that emplacement, Lt. Minogue and his detail going to Btry. "Hanna" to augment Lt. Davis' detail there, while 3 and 22 enlisted men of the P.A. remained at "Rock Point" and "Hanna". 1st. Lt. Davis was promoted to Captain on Dec. 19th. Btry. placed on  $\frac{1}{2}$  rations Dec. 15. H. D. order. Aerial activity by the enemy continued daily out of range of the Harbor Defences until 11:55 AM, Dec. 29th. when some 75 planes heavily bombed the island fortresses in a 3 hour raid. Btry Rock Point" and "Hanna" were strafed and in return, engaged low

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flying aircraft and dive-bombers with matching gun fire. No damage nor casualties were suffered at the positions; however, the Btry's. barracks sustained a direct hit by a large bomb in the supply room, and was completely destroyed in the resulting fire. In spite of heroic efforts by members of the Btry., under the directions of Lts. Snell and Minogue, much property was lost. Capt. Owen, who in addition to his other duties was in command of the North Subsector of the West Sector, was relieved on Dec. 30th. by Lt. Col. Anderson when the 4th Marines took over the beach ~~and~~ defences. The aerial attack of Dec. 29th. was not repeated with the same intensity until Jan. 2nd. It was a regular noon day occurrence then until the 8th, when the enemy were obviously driven off by our A. A. Guns, not to return until March 24th., except for a short attack on Jan. 14th. During this period Rock Point suffered 3 attacks by high flying bombers resulting in no casualties and with damages limited to tentage and individual equipment. Personnel of the Battery, as well as members of Btry. "B", 1st. CA(PA) conducted themselves admirably under their baptism of fire, and earned the citation awarded them, with other units of the Harbor Defenses, by the War Dept. for the galant conduct of the defence of Manila and Cubic Bays, during that period.

About Jan. 8th. Manuel Quezon, Pres. of the Commonwealth, accompanied by his staff inspected and greeted Btry. "James" and its personnel. A regular Christmas party was

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held at the main Btry. Mess, which was beautifly decorated with palms, flowers and ferns. An excellent chow was provided and a small gift was presented to each member of the Btry. The latter part of Jan. Sgt. Lopez and his detail which had remained at James Ravine, returned for duty at "Rock Point" and "Hanna". On Feb. 7th. Capt. Davis was transferred to "F" Btry. at Ft. Frank, to replace the battery commander who had been seriously wounded, and Capt. A. E. Durie was transferred in from Btry. "G" to replace him at "Hanna". The 19th of the same month Btry. "B", 1st. CA(PA), less the details at Btrys. "Rock Point" and "Hanna" was placed under the supervision of Major R. F. Haggerty, 91st. CA(PS), who had just recently returned from Philippine Dept. Engineers. The Battery commander and all our enlisted men enjoyed their association with, and respected the courage of Lt. Garcia and his men; with whom a close and intimate contact was maintained in a personal way until the end of the siege. During the early part of March the Btry. lost 2 men by transfer; Pvt. Mastjo to the 22nd. CA(PS), who had and Pvt. Viray to Btry. "F", 91st. at the request of Capt. Davis. At about the same time 5 men were attached from Hqrs. Btry. and assigned to Btry. "Hanna" and 2 men were newly enlisted, Baldandato and Perez. Corp. Masias, who was on special duty as antiaircraft machine gunner aboard the Harbor Boat "Neptune", was wounded March 8th. when that craft was shelled and sunk at Ft. Frank, by enemy batteries on the Cavite Shore. Capt. Owen

went to Bataan on the 12th of March, visiting the front lines and artillery positions. About the middle of the month Sup-  
ply Sgt. Hombre was placed on Special Duty with the Harbor Defence Q. M., and Corp. Oriaz, recently promoted, took over his duties. On the 26th, 1st. Lt. Snell went to Bataan with Corp. Ciquijor and a detail to obtain bamboo for improving the fortifications and bivouac area.

The morning of Mar. 24th. the Harbor Defences were furiously attacked by high flying bombers. These attacks continued daily from high altitudes, developing into day long alerts, with a few ineffective night bombings. On the 27th. and again on the 30th., Btry. "Rock Point" was the target of these bombers; but again there were no casualties, and damage was limited to individual equipment. Capt. B. H. Blackstrom was transferred to the Btry. from Hqrs. Btry. on Mar. 28th. and assigned as executive at Btry. "Rock Point". The fall of Bataan on April 9th. was preceded by a lessening of aerial bombardment on Ft. Mills but signaled the beginning of artillery shelling of great intensity. On the morning of April 9th. Btry. "Hanna", fired several rounds across the bows of 3 friendly torpedo boats, escaping from Bataan, trying to make the open sea. That afternoon the observer at "Rock Point" reported a destroyer, to the westward followed by 8 smaller craft. At 6:00 PM, 8 landing-barges suddenly rounded Hornos Point, attempting to enter Maraveles Harbor. They were taken under fire by "Rock Point" and "Hanna" as well as Btry. "Sun-

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set". None of the enemy accomplished his mission, and three were probably sunk, of which Btry. "Rock Point" was credited with two. The first enemy shells from Bataan landed on Corregidor at 3:00 PM the 9th of April; and the next morning "Rock Point" was shelled without appreciable damage. That afternoon however, a heavier bombardment put No. 2 gun out of action, and did some damage to the fortifications and bivouac area. Harbor Defence Hqrs., on the morning of April 12th. recinded its orders, not to fire on Bataan because of the movements of our surrendered troops, and Btry. "Rock Point" fired 105 rounds with No. 1 gun, in counter battery. The concentration of enemy batteries in the vicinity of Cabcabin made it necessary to use No. 1 gun at "Rock Point" almost exclusively in that it was the only one capable of being traversed to that azimuth. The Battery was taken under fire by the enemy, without appreciable damage, and in the afternoon No. 2 gun section fired 88 rounds from No. 1 gun in counter-battery; to which the enemy replied. The next morning "Rock Point" fired 38 rounds at an enemy battery at Cabcabin, but was immediately subjected to heavy counter-battery and the gun knocked out. It was repaired that night and on the morning of the 14th opened up with 51 rounds in counter-battery, receiving commendation from the Seaward Defence Commander for the results obtained. In the afternoon 27 rounds were also fired. At 5:00 PM the enemy heavily shelled "Rock Point" causing considerable damage to the fortifications of No. 1 gun. As soon as the bombardment ceased all personnell

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fell to and cleared up the debris and were in the act of repairing the parapet when, at 8:00 PM the emplacement was suddenly engaged by several enemy batteries, which subjected it to a furious shelling; catching many of the men atop the fortifications and exposed all about. Pvt. Dagsa of the Btry. and Pvt. \_\_\_\_\_ of "B", 1st CA (PA), attached, were killed immediately; while Capt. Owen received shell splinters through the leg, Pfc. Pauli and Pvt. Zabala of the Btry., and Pvt. Nevarha of Hqrs. Btry. attached suffered slighter wounds. Capt. Backstrom assumed command of the Battery, with station at "Rock Point." The next morning No. 1 gun fired some 20 rounds at enemy batteries near Cabcabin, and again received enemy reply. It was decided to remove this gun to a less exposed position; and on the 19th it was emplaced on the Rifle Range. 1st Lt. Karl L. Ek of the 88th F.A. (P.S.) (escaped from Bataan) was assigned to the Btry. from March 15 to 22nd incl. He was in command of the gun at the Rifle Range when on the 21st it was given its first mission. There was heavy shelling in the area when the first round was fired. After the fourth was on the way, it was evident that the position was being adjusted upon. The gun section, however, continued to fire, getting off nine rounds in spite of enemy shells bursting about their gun. They then took cover only a couple of minutes before a direct hit put the gun completely out of action for the remainder of the siege. No. 2 gun was



knocked out for about a week by a direct hit, during a heavy artillery bombardment of the "Rock Point" area, which also destroyed the B.C. Station and Telephone dugout.

Heavy shelling of Ft. Mills continued throughout April until the surrender, "Batteries Rock Point and Hanna" receiving their proportionate share in the area bombardment. On three occasions Btry. "Hanna" was the target of enemy batteries, during one of which shellings No. 1 gun was put out of action for 2 days by a direct hit in the gun pit. No further damage, nor appreciable material damage was suffered by the Btry. 1st Lt. C.C. Shupp was transferred into the Battery the latter part of April from Btry. "A" and assigned to Btry. "Hanna."

The kitchen area, though ideally located, so far as circumstances permitted, and well protected was surrounded by important targets and many times daily was subjected to danger from flying shell or bomb splinters, as well as stones and debris from the enemy's shorts and overs. Throughout the entire siege the Btry. prepared and manned local beach defences, and on numerous occasions furnished patrols which searched the beaches for enemy agents engaged in signaling by means of lights and flares.

The enemy attack increased in fury the latter days of April, and at about 9:00 PM, May 5th a heavy artillery barrage was directed on Ft. Mills, covering the area from "Bottom Side" eastward, and maintained until after midnight. This barrage lifted off the beach at about 10:00 PM and the enemy

effected a landing at "North Point." A beach head was established and they slowly advanced, behind their devastating barrage; with very heavy losses. Early next morning a heavy attack was launched by high flying and dive bombers, strafing planes and artillery; while the enemy troops continued their slow but steady advance, now aided by tanks and flame throwers. At 11:00 AM. that memorable 6th of May, Capt. Backstrom received orders from Lt. Col. P.A. Mitchell, Group IV, Executive and Battalion Comm'dr., to destroy all military equipment of value before noon. This was done, and all firing from the Harbor Defences ceased. The enemy continued sporadic bombing, strafing and shelling throughout the afternoon and night. At 4:00 AM the next morning, May 7th, orders were received to proceed to "Stockade Level", clearing "Top Side" by 7:00 AM. The Btry. was assembled and marched down, being intercepted at "Middle Side" by Nipponese troops, who searched them. They proceeded under escort to "Malinta Tunnel," where no apparent notice was taken of them until well afternoon. At that time the battery was separated when all officers were ordered to go to the east end of the tunnel. The next day all prisoners of war were corraled in the 92nd Garage area, the Americans and Filipones segregated.

I certify that the above "Record of Events" contained in pages 12 to 27 incl. is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, TRUE AND CORRECT. Signed at American War Prisoners Camp No. 1, Cabanatuan P.I. Sept. 10, 1942.

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W. H. Owens, Jr., Capt. 91st C.A. (P.S.) Commdg. Btry "B"

David M. Snell, 1st Lt. 91st C.A. (P.S.) Range Officer

Raymond D. Mingle, 1st Lt. 91st CA (P.S) Exec. Off. "Hanna"

F. A. Mitchell

Philip \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Lt. Col. F. A. Mitchell, 91st CA (PS)

Capt. P. H. Lehr, 91st CA (PS)

Exec. Off. Group A.

Commdg. 1st Bn. 91st CA (PS)

Adjutant

DECORATIONS  
and  
CITATIONS

H. D. M. and S. B. (all units) for gallant  
conduct of defence. Period 12.29 to 2.28.

H. D. M. and S. B. (all units) for gallant  
conduct of defence, period.

(H. D. M. and S. B. 'all units')

Capt. Owen	- Silver Star G.O. 27 P.C.A.C.
	Purple Heart G.O. 24 PCAC
	4/20/42
	4/14/42
Sgt. Cruz	- Silver Star G.O. 22 P.C.A.C.
	4/20/42
Corp. Masias	- Purple Heart
P. F. C. Pauli	- Purple Heart
Pvt. Zabala	- Purple Heart
Pvt. Nevarha	- Purple Heart
	(Hq. Bty. Attacked)

RECOMMENDATIONS NOT ACTED ON BECAUSE OF SURRENDER.

Corp. Del Agre	- Silver Star
Pfc. Cabalerio	- Silver Star
Pfc. Ignaccio	- Silver Star
Sgt. Cruz-	- D. S. C.
Pfc. M. Yamboc	- Silver Star.

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1st Sgt Anthony Corp  
Anthony Corp

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