

UNIT HISTORIES

20th Pursuit Squadron

21ST PURSUIT SQUADRON

34TH PURSUIT SQUADRON

5TH INTERCEPTOR COMMAND COMBAT UNIT 1

12TH INFANTRY PA

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20th Pursuit Squadron
Story by Lt. Fulks

Capt. Joseph Moore, Commanding Officer, Capt. Garretts, adjutant, Lts. Roberts and Shelton, administration 36 officers - five 1st Lts 34 second Lts. 7 got out to Australia. 2d Lt James W. Fulks one of pilots.

Dec. 8- 2d Lt James Drake's plane hit by bomb in air just after he had taken off. Dec. 10 - Lt. McCowan came in, hit hole, took off again but hit tree. Died later. Limb crashed down and hit Alder and killed him. A limb bruised, Fulks.

20th had 21 planes at start. 18 destroyed Dec. 8. Thereafter the pilots alternated with the 17th in flying missions in 17th planes 2 officers, MIA Dec. 8. 1 left on hospital ship, 20 e. m. casualties for whole war; 9 MIA. Lts. Louch, Laker, Drake, Mulcahy MIA. Reconnaissance and strafing missions after Dec. 8th.

Dec. 24 - ordered to Batana. Spent one day in bivouac near Bahanga, thence to bivouac near Pilar 3-4 days, then to Mariveles out-off for rest of war. All Pursuit Squadrons organized under 5th Intercepted Command and rotated on 18 planes.

Early in January Lt. Marshall Anderson got in dog fight, shot down 2 Jap planes. His own plane set afire. As he parachuted down Japs riddled his chute with bullets so that he plummeted to death. When his body was found it had no bullets but the chute was filled with holes.

Jan 21 - Ordered to 3d Pursuit position on beach. At 10:30 pm ran into Jap on road; Fulks MIA multiple bullet wounds in right leg. He was only casualty of Pucot hill in the 20th FS.

Capt. Moore flew missions to Cebu and Del Monte to bring medicine back. (Carried radiograms out).

Participated in Subic raid in which Lt. Crellin MIA. (Possey's story). 20th FS given Mariveles field and stood by for planes. Some pilots were on training table. None got to Corregidor on surrender. 145 e. m. started war; 57 died in prison up to July 1943. 17 others missing (probably died or killed on hike.) 3 officers died in prison.

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21st Pursuit Squadron
Story by Lt. Parcher

Arrived Nov. 20, 1941 with 18 officers & 210 e.m. 21 P-40E's for them were already in P.I. Capt. William E. Dyess, c.o. (went to Davao & escaped & got back to US), Capt. W.R. Brenner, MG, 1st Lts. H.H. Bell & Lawrence W. Parcher, 2d Lts. R.D. Clark (KIA 12191417; J.P. Cole (went south); L.A. Coleman, J. V.B. Donaldson, L.B. Golden Jr., S.C. Grashio (to Australia), R.S. Ibold, B.S. Irvin, Harold Johnson, J.E. May (KIA Agloloma); J.L. McGown, L.L. Schramski, A.F. Williams (south). Leo Bolens (south), J.P. Burns (KIA Mindanao 4/42).
Dec. 8-at home station, Nichols. Flew to Clark that night.
Dec. 9-4 planes cracked up on take off at dawn. Clark killed when he hit B-17 parked on field. Dust, holes & darkness caused troubles.
Dec. 10-Nichols bombed & strafed. 4 em KIA
Q Dec. 15 or 20- to Lubao to build field. Jan. 3-to KP 184. 7 west side as mobile reserve.
Q Jan. 29-1 platoon sent to Quinsuan Pt. Next day rest of squadron went. 1st Platoon-Lt. Bell; 2d plat-Parcher; 3d Schramski (all had infantry training).
1 Co. 803d Engrs. on at of line.
1 man KIA, 1 WIA first day in 21st.

Quinsuan Pt.
Parcher's plat.
on rt. bent out when
Japs hit center & left
him alone.

(See map on the following page)

Jan. 30-45th 3d Bn. arrived. 21st w/d for week to bivouac area.
Feb. 6-21st returned to help strengthen gaps in line. Parcher's plat. on rt. relieved Co. L, 45th which had 15 PS left on line. Tanks came in to help next day. They cleared resistance & 21st followed them in. Walkie talkies used. 5 KIA; 1 an offer-Lt. May killed by Jap who stayed under tank & fired when it passed over him at May following it. 27 WIA. Next day reached beach on right & fired at swimming Japs. Later 16 men went in 2 shore boats towed by armored tugs. Dyess in charge of 1 section after firing at remnants on shore they landed with Lewis guns & asbestos gloves to clean up resistance. Dive bombers attacked. 1 projectile landed on Trail. One of the 2 men Parcher sent for water caught & upper half of him blown away. A Scout Peering from behind tree, had half his face blown off. At dusk that day the 21st pulled out to bivouac.

Feb.-- Parcher & 80 men to Cabcaban; rest to Bataan field & remained as AC till war ended. Parcher & a few men reached Corregidor via skiff & the Harrison. Lost his musette bag in skiff told to leave gear & get it in morning. Parcher assigned to Marinas at Middleside with Capt. Schafner 1 who escaped from Devao).

Results of war: 4 officers killed or died; 107 dead e.u. 2 unknown.

(Source: These records were recovered from Cabanatuan POW Camp #1 on 29 Apr 46 by Archives Sec, RFD.)

34th PURSUIT SQUADRON
Story by Lt. Paulger

Arrived Nov. 20, 1941. 1st Lt. S.H. Maret, c.o. 2d Lt. B.S. Brown, operations officer. 14 pilots 2 administrators- 2d Lts. Fogel, McDaniel, Hall, Knockstedt; Baker, Robb, Crossland, Hicol, Paulger, Coleman, Bryant. 1 Pilot per squad. Not organized into platoons.

Dec.8-at Del Carmen sugar central. 22 planes-P-35s. 218 am. At noon, heard bombing of Clark, 9 or 12 planes & took off & saw some Jap at 4,000 ft. Fired few rounds but Japs left. Patrolled an hour.

Dec.9-ordered to San Marcelino. 6 planes went & landed just as B-17s began to land also.

Dec.10-returned to Del Carmen ordered to go to Vigan & strafe everything on the water. Fired on barges, small boats & transport which exploded, blowing right wing off Maret's plane & killing him. Lt. Houseman's (stcd from 20th) engines quit, baled out, reached squadron again in 4 days. (4 planes had to return to field because of engine trouble & Paulger's wouldn't even leave field.) At noon 6 or 11 Japs strafed their field, burned a gas trailer & all but 5 planes. A P-40, who heard of the action, arrived over the field in time to shoot down 1 Jap. That night the squadron moved into town & afterward just watched the planes go over.

Dec.25-to Orani field from which they flew recon, alternating with 17th & 20th. 2 flights daily-dawn & sunset. 9 planes in operation at Orani & 9 at Bataan field-the extent of the US air force. 18 P40s. Only accident was when Paulger hit soft spot & used brakes. Turned upside down & wrecked plane but did not hurt himself.

g Jan. 4-ambitious plan to ambush some bombers. Planes from both fields were to rendezvous over China sea & attack as Japs came in. Communications bad, they failed to take off together. Missed Japs. 1 flight went on to Mindanao as ordered, the rest of P40's returned to the field on Bataan. After this the 34th PS moved to Little Baguio & thence to beach defense g Jan. 8 at Agloloma. Had 6 50 cal. air-cooled mgs, Springfield rifles, no beyonets.

Jan. 23-Japs landed at Quinanan. 1 AG gun position there but crew evidently asleep. The operation awoke them & they crept back to their CP. Japs evidently had stocked the position with food & material ahead of time.

(See the map on the following page)

Each pilot had a squad of g 25 men. PA cadets were there on defense & they had six 30 cal. mgs.

34th attacked enemy. Asked Gen. Selleck for mortar second day & got it.

Jan. 24-Paulger was leading patrol to relieve night shift. Firing opened up; he hit ground, bullet struck his left hand & right shoulder. g 8-10 a.m. KIA, g 12 WIA. No officers KIA; 2 WIA (Jennings & Paulger). 1st Lt. Bob Wray became c.o. at Crani. Hall & Baker DS to fly from Bataan field. Hall MIA on a flight. Coleman, Robb & Brown to Australia April 8. McDaniel & Groslin reached Mindanao. McDaniel KIA there; Groslin ranked out of his eat for Australia. Bryant went to Corregidor with AA. Erickson, Groslin & _____ flew 3 P40's up from Mindanao.

(Source: These records were recovered from Cabanatuan POW Camp #1 on 29 Apr 46 by Archives Sec, RPD.)

5th Interceptor Command Combat Unit #1

Late in January, 1941 about 150 men from Far East Air Force Headquarters Squadron & some SG men from Aircraft Warning Co. were formed into two platoons of infantry for the Agloloma affair. Capt. Horace Greeley, pilot. c.o.; Capt. Whitfield, pilot, administrative ofers. 1st Lt. Emanuel "Boots" Engle, John A. Goodpasture, Brown, 3d Lt. Woodrow Lackey, pilot; Lts. Whitcomb & Wolfe. Jan. 24-moved to bivouac near 91st div. CP. Jan. 25-to Agloloma. Bombed en route & 2 WIA. Jan. 27-replaced the line mixedly composed of 803d Engineers 21st Pursuit Squadron & a PG unit (whose ex was a Maj. Sperry). The Japs had landed there g Jan. 23. The

line extended across Quinsuan Pt. from Agloloma Bay to other side. AC went in on rt. flank of PC & formed rt. of line. Stayed for 24 hrs. & were replaced by 3d Bn. 45th Inf. Co. B, 57th Inf. came in later. AC had no contact. Then split into two units to protect the flanks of MBR occupied by 45th. Joined PC on rt. & 34th Pursuit Squadron (under Capt. Wray) on left. Wentford had 1 plst. on left, Greeley the other on rt. Once backed up the 45th line & suffered casualties. (Had heavy 30's two 50's Springfields (some men picked up garands but couldn't use them very well. Later ordered turn them in after battle.)

Lt. Hay, tank platoon comdr., brought down tanks Feb. 2. They turned back immediately because of anti-tank guns. (Learned later they had been out of action.)

Lt. Brown assisted Croon in firing mortar. One time had only 2 live rounds out of 25.

Maj. Sam Jones drove his command car up to front line. KIA Feb. 6 - returned to 5th Interceptor Command Hq. at Little Baguio, Feb 4 Capt. Ed Dyess had brought in 21st Pursuit Squadron for final push.

Feb. 12 - organization was reformed as the 5th Interceptor Command Combat Unit #1. It had Cos. A & B 1st Lt. Mitchler, A & Lt. Presburg, B. Other ofers - 1st Lt. Leslie Pop Holmes, ex., Greeley, c.o., Lt. Barker & Whitcomb & Johnson, & Maj. Philipps, Med. C.

Sent to replace a PC anti-tank unit, under Maj. Cepeda, at Longoskayan from Bian bay to Maklee point. Attached to 71st div. & remained there to end of war.

(Source: These records were recovered from Cabanatuan POW Camp #1 on 29 April 46 by Archives Sec, RPD).

12TH INFANTRY (PA)

Story by Capt. Wayne C. Liles

Lt. Col. Martin Moses, c.o., Maj. John R. ^Rrimrose, 1st Bn., Capts Wayne C. Liles, 1st Bn., Felix H. Porter 2d & 3d; Shelby Neuman, Hq & 3d; 1st Lt. Eric F. Davis, 2d & 3d, KIA, Hannel Fisher, 3d MIA Alvin C. Hadley, -Hetrick, 3d, (accidentally shot in Zamboales mts. Capt. Blackburn, Hq. Bn. became div. Signal ofcr. 2d Lt. Winbon D. Youngblood, Combat bn. Commissioned 2d Lt. - Sgt. Monico, 1st Bn. Cpl. Mills, 1st; Sgt Himmerson, Cpl. Myers, Sgt. Mazerick 3d (died beriberi in Zamboales? or another Lt?) Cpl. Wise 3d Bn.

Assembled Oct. 27, 1941; mobilized Nov. 1; inducted Nov 2 at Laoag. Hq Bn - Trinidad; 1st Bn less Co. Det Laoag; Co D Aperri; 2d Bn less H at Vigan; H at Bangued; 3d Bn. in Cagayan valley at Echague (less Cos. G & M. Co. N at Camu, L at Tuguegarao. Dec. 5 - 1st & 2d & Hq. Bn. to regtl training area at Umingan. Dec. to Mansoag.

Dec. 11 - to Masartis less Co. E (G & H to Balete Pass).

Dec. 13 or 14 - to Banang (Hq & 1st Bn)

Dec.20-night 1st Bn. to Bacnotan on Pubero river. Contact @
10-10:30 pm.

(See the map on the following page)

Fought all night and morning of Dec.21. Japs tried flanking movement as shown after hitting PA on road. PA w/d but Liles not informed in gap with Co. A. Co. C came up during night from Bauang but dispersed. Only 3 men ever showed up. Liles forced w/d after holding Japs down in paddies with searing fire. Pulled out at noon with 18 men of Co. A but almost all of Co. B was intact not having got much into fight the Liles needed support. Liles went all way to Bauang. Col. Gensahl with SPM's started up with I2 Bn. but disorganized by dive bombers. 71st Inf. came up to attack northward but were stopped by orders at Bauang. Moses & Noble had been cut off at Bacnotan so Primrose in command.

Dec.22-Japs landed from San Fernando to Danortins-At Bauang, Agoo, Aringay.

(See the map on the following page)

Lt. Youngblood had combat co. on beach. 13 Jap ships; 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers, 9 transports & 10,000 tons appearing during nite of 21st. He sent PA Lt. to GP at Bauang with message 9 pm. Lt failed to return. 3 am. he sent scout sgt. and he failed to return. Japs started landing 7 a.m. 13-15 barges. Shelled regt GP once from sea but not troops. Landed above & below him & got into Bauang so he tried hiding-northeast to join 1st Bn. Had to cross open space on run. 3d Lt. Maximo led 1st platoon aftershaking hands with Youngblood. Maximo KIA as was nearly all plat. Youngblood w/d a little & circled his men for night. Decided make break. 3d Lt. Bonivan captured & several men but some escaped. Youngblood came to beach road but many Japs. Threw stick down one side & while sentry went to investigate he ran across road. Hungry, he hiked & 15 km south of Bauang. Was capture by guard on road who saw him before he saw Jap. Fed him nite of 23d, then took him to G Pat Bauang next day. A Jap Colonel interviewed him. Youngblood said. "I'm at your mercy, yet I expect to be treated as an officer. You already know all I know so I can tell you nothing." He was questioned at length & finally asked, "Who is the supreme commander?" "Why, don't you know that?" Then Jap beat him badly & pointed pistol at his head as he lay exhausted & resigned on floor. "Go ahead & shoot me", he plead. Then he apologized & was given cigarettes, but no food. Later tied up for 2 weeks with 4 PA officers & 165 men. Fed on fried, dough. Nearly lost use of hands because ropes so tight. Slept sitting up or on side because hands behind back. Later stockaded at Baguio & Stotsenburg where he worked. Brought to Camp 1 in June,

1941. Had good food before but that food here caused him to go almost blind.

Primrose asked 71st Inf. for reinforcement but Col. Bennett, realizing they were cut off decided w/d up Maguilian road. Left 9 a.m. on Dec. 22, about 1 pm ordered from Maguilian to Baguio where they arrived 7 pm. I intended to go down Kenyon road. These made trips: 1 Bn. 71st, 1 Bn. 13th, 1 Bn 12th & some H2. riflemen. Had lost many men. Were to defend at Maguilian but orders changed after new man had reconnoitered position. (12th had only 1 mg & it failed to fire. 1 fifty cal. knocked out by Jap barge. Stokes mortar used by 71st. Japs coming down from Vigan & from Gulf at same time. Some men ran off. 12th's strength in Baguio g 200-300 men.

Dec. 23-at 3 a.m. left Baguio on orders of Bennett for KP 21, thence to Bakod to Bobok Sawmill.

Dec. 24-called back to depend Baguio on request of Moran. Moses had arrived after mountain hike & assumed command of 12th & 13th Inf. 4 pm. arrived at KP 21 en route to Baguio but USAFFE ordered them to return to Bobok. Rode trucks and buses on these jaunts.

Dec. 25-dumped ammunition, buses & equipment over cliff. 1 pm. hiked to Kayana for night. Dec. 26-to Tingpin 4 pm. At 5 pm. left for Aritao when they arrived 11 pm.

Dec. 27-Liles reported to Bennett 7 a.m. and the Col. said USAFFE has abandoned us. I wired at 11 pm. last night for trucks. No word yet. They must be cut off down there. I guess we'll just scatter here for a while. Now there were 2 hrs. 71st, 1 Bn 13th & 1 Bn 12th c 300-400 men in 12th. Liles procured release from 71st attachment and called Moses in command of rear guard at Tingpin. Then Liles took his men 3 or 4 kms. west of Aritao & dismissed them from to service (the same made it to Bataan). Maj. Primrose, Liles, Sgt. Monico & Cpl. Mills returned to Tingpin. Col. Samahl called at 3 pm. and said trucks had arrived. Wanted them come back by 5 pm but extended it to 7 a.m. next day. (Jorgenson of Bobolo mill had told them they could hide out at one of his mills and he would supply them from his commissary with chow for 2 years supply. Liles and crew left for Aritao where they arrived 11 pm.

Dec. 28-they asked a white padre for breakfast little after midnight, got hard biscuits & syrup. (Lt. Hadley had brought up 75 cases of Type C and put them in charge of Padre who never even mentioned it. J.B. Hunt; later Capt., 121st Inf. passed thru on 29th with Itogan staff of 35 with 10 women & 12 children. Padre wouldn't even feed them! Hunt said he was German).

Dec. 29-left Aritao g 1 a.m. Loaded g 50 men on truck. 4 trucks were there under PG Cpl. g 15 km. north of Cabanatuan on Talavera (sp) river abridge was cut. A 91st div. man was flagging but not on job so American almost plunged. They waded river, hiked to Cabanatuan. Got a truck to San Fernando. Left their troops there & the 4 officers went to Manila & called home after getting permission of SG ofcer. who got it from Navy.

Dec.30--they went to Mexico, Pampanga to div. CP. Dec.31--to Mt. Arayat to regtl. CP. (nb. insert story of rest of regt. from Danortis back to SF by some other offer. There the Gama, Aparri & Bohague companies of volunteers, & cadres of PA & Cagayan PG, plus 3d Bn. of 12th (which had not seen action) were under the command of 12th. No contact but 11th Inf. saw action near Calumpit. Jan 3--to Lubao. San Fernando had been shelled just before they passed thru Liles put 1 Co. PG in Lubao. 1 Co. in Sexmoan & 1 Co. just north of Sexmoan. 3d Bn. on Guagua-Porac line. Rest of regt in bivouac in Lubao. Bombing & artillery. Jan.5--Japs hit PG which took off. Liles caught them near Dinaplupihan & hauled 4 trucks of them back. When he arrived the 12th had evacuated Lubao. Brougher ordered them to establish line at KP 91 to delay. (3d Bn. & 11th Inf. swung around Lubao-Florida Blanca-Guagua-San Jose) At midnight Japs holtered in Fagalog, "You're about to die!" Jan.6--w/d to barrio south of Balanga with 300-400 men. In a week had 800; in 10 days, 1200. Reconittered reorganized; promoted on Jan.18. Jan. 15--Replaced 51st Inf. on beach from Orion to Linsay with the 6 companies of the 12th. Jan. 25--moved 2 companies to new MER. Jan.26--2 more companies to go but orders changed & 3 were sent to HPD for Quinanan Pt.

(See the map on the following page)

g Feb. 4--Liles was on one side of tree & 3 Japs on other; move sequence of trying to shoot each other. Bullets thru fins of "white laurens." Finally both sides got away. Feb. 8--left Agloloma & bivouacked g KP 196. Feb.10--to P-Broad where the 3 companies were attached to 11th Inf on line. Rest in bivouac at div. CP. Feb.18--92nd & 13th joined. Then 13th Inf. became 1st Bn. of 12th with Liles c.o. Liles 3 companies plus 1 became 3d Bn 12th under Newman. 2d Bn in div. res. Patrol activity to end of war. April 9--fell back to div. CP. Deployed with orders not to fire, but became nervous at 5 pm. and shot at Japs coming down trail on other side of Pantingan. Next day, not having food, Liles gave ₱30 for cup of rice & ₱10 for 2 cans milk. At Bagac they were given 175 lbs. of rice & 16 cans pork and beans for 300 Americans. Japs offer made speech asking them to behave and "not to raise hell. Americans can really raise hell".

(Source: These records were recovered from Cabanatuan POW Camp #1 on 29 April 1946 by Archives Section, RPD.)

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