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TITLE DIARY - BOOK #2 _ _ _ _ _

ORIGIN LT COL. ALBERT FIELDS _ _ _ _ _

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*Diary of
Lt. Col. Albert Fielder*

Book No. 2

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DIARY OF
Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS

Book # 2

Manila, 27 May '42

We are ~~herd~~^{herd}ed into Bilibid like cattle forced to abandon our foot lockers and are given a small amount of rice - 1.5 gal. Gasoline tin to feed fifty men and then to sleep on the unresiliant concrete. The prison is crowded with 6 or 7 thousands of American and Filipino prisoners mostly from Corregidor. We see many old friends and much war talk is indulged in. We are "Bangoed" every few hours for something or other, "Bangoed" is Japanese for roll call. The first night I loose most of my personal belonging - The Japanese guards made several trips during the night to be sure they had over looked every little. Several of our party lost considerable money. Sult in particular.

Each day group of prisoners are being sent out rumor has it to Cabantuan, Nueva Ecija Province. We are wondering when we will be next. Colonel Gillispie I am told has requested the Japanese to allow us as a Hospital Unit to set up a Hospital here in the Bilibid Prison. Later this was cancelled and in are given to understand us are to go to Cabantuan to set up a Hospital. Bilibid is hot and crowded, the food is rice and onion soup with a trail of meat we are "Bangoed" (counted) many times per day. Have often wondered how it would "feel" to be in jail? am surely finding out. We can see a little of Manila from the top floor of the Hospital Bldg. in this Jail but it is a most unsatisfactory way to see Manila. The Group whom we left at #2 with the Medical Detachment rejoined us today. Our former patients (about 1000) who had recovered at #2 was left there in a Concentration Camp they expect to join us soon.

May 28:

There are many sick and a section of the old Hospital has been converted into a "Ward" Very little medicine or supplies is available. The American "Trusties" of the permanent party in Bilibid are allowed to make purchases or the outside which they sell to us at exorbitant prices. Am glad I do not smoke - Cigarettes P5.00 per pack. Sugar 5.00 per kilo penny candies 8 for P1.00 Quinine and Sulphathisol are much in demand and some of our detachment have a private supply ^{of Quinine} ~~basins~~ they are trading at equally high rates. As much as a P1.00 per 3 Quinine tablets.

May 29

We are moved to the front half of the prison of the building this is much more desirable. An hour later we are moved back ^{more exact} ~~now exact~~ given a little later we are told that we move tomorrow. We suppose it will be Cabantuan. Major Sult and myself repacked the Dental Chest. It weight about 350 lbs. and contains much equipment and supplies. The Navy tried to get us to turn part of the supplies and equipment to them but not knowing our future needs we gave them nothing.

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I
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May 30, 1942

We were awakened at 2 am "Banged" roll called and assembled in the prison yard. Where we wait until 5 am and then are marched to the "Tutuban station on Azacarra Street. Loaded down with all our luggage. Azacarra Street is practically deserted as we move along in the dark flanked by Japanese Guards. We are crowded into the small box car 76 to a car and 2 guards they tried to squeeze 100 of us into the car but it simply could not be done. The train pulled out at 6 am. The trip was hot and slow and every one suffered terribly from the heat and bad air of the car. The Natives along the way were very kind to us selling or giving us eggs fruit and other eatables. Some of our Officers had diarrhea and had to hop off at the frequent stops. Arrived at Cabantuan about 2 M and it was a relief to get into fresh air again after the oven heat of the metal box car. I had my pack arranged so that I could drop about 1/3 of it if we had to march from Cabantuan. When I looked about the station and saw no transportation I dropped 1/3 of the load on the platform. We marched about 1 Km to a school yard where we camped for the night. Troops had been going this same route for about a week and the grounds were the filthiest place I ever expect to spend a night. It had rained heavily the night before the area was muddy and "excreta/homus" was everywhere. A small wall tent was put of for Col. Gillispie, Lt. Col. Sullivan and myself. After a light rain early in the evening which threatened us with a flood we were awake a good part of the night by one of our Corps Men Pvt. Shutz who "blew his top" and going completely mad died about 10 days later.

May 31, 1942

We broke camp at 4 am and after a breakfast of rice and onion soup we were each issued a rice ball and started marching Eastward through Cabantuan. Had lightened my pack as much as possible and had further divided my effects so that I could drop the load I was carrying in my Barracks Bag - had divided the Barracks Bag to look like a big Indian Club and I could balance it in the middle over my hip. With a rope from the middle of the Bag over my opposite shoulder and with a hard hold in the rope I had a pack that "rode" well and gave me fair air circulation about the chest and upper part of the body. Had put on two pairs of socks with lots of foot powder because in were told we would not be allowed to drop out and that we would march about 30 Kms. that day. We marched about an hour and with a 10 minutes interval for rest at the end of each hour. The sun soon came up and in a short time was blazing hot - in fact it is the hottest days I have experienced over here. I started with a full canteen of water and used it most sparingly the many were soon out of water. As the day wore on the number increasingly had to fall out due to the heat and fatigue. We reached a camp "PA" about noon and due to the exhausted condition of so many of the men the Japanese halted the march. We had just passed the 16 Km post and we had marched a Km in Cabantuan making 17 Kms. We still had about 8 Kms to go before reaching "Camp #3" but during the afternoon the Japanese got word that no more could be accommodated at that Camp so we stayed where we were for the night. Many of our number were in bad condition. We thought Maj. Strand and Chaplain Dawson would

die and others Swanson, Hubbard, Zimmerman, and a number of the enlisted men were in collapse. We had no water at this Camp and it was late in the evening before water sufficient for drinking could be brought in. I had so conserved my water that I made the 1 canteen last until the new supply had arrived. I was so dehydrated from this march that I urinated but slightly for the next 3 days - being very painful and highly colored. I would say that a providential shower arrived about 4 PM and this cooled the atmosphere and did much to revive us some. A number caught water in a hastily dug hole - I was afraid of such a source and waited the arrival of drinking water later.

1' June 1942

7 of us slept in a bay of one of the Philippine Army Barracks 100 to the building that had been built to sleep about 70 Filipinos. We rested during the day and about 4 PM started marching back up the road we had come over yesterday, 6 Kms. to a Philippine Army Cantonment. After the terrible day yesterday, I noticed the 6 Kms very much. A number of Officers and Men could not walk today and most of them were taken part on all the way in trucks. Arrived at dark are quartered more or less according to rank. I have a small room about 12 'x 12' which I share with 9 other Field Officers. The room was filthy from previous ~~occupation~~ ^{occupation} by the Philippines and we sleep on the bare floor.

2' June 1942

Prisoners begun to arrive from O'Donnell. We hear of the horrible conditions there - 1200 Americans and 14,000 Filipinos have died, of dysentery, Malaria and other Camp diseases and starvation. We meet many previous acquaintances and heard details of the death March from Bataan to O'Donnell after the capitulation.

3 June

Many sick and several have died following our march out here. Malaria, dysentery and exhaustion. We are quartered in a very low section of the Camp and mud is shoe-top deep and water is standing under many of the buildings. We are building "Duck boards".

4 June 1942

Much difficulty about water, we are only allowed 1 canteen for drinking per day and in sometimes stand in line for an hour only to have the water cut off when we are near the spigot. Meals are irregular and difficult due to lack of water and all cooking has to be done in the open over camp fires with a large Caldron or two to supply about 500 men. The Japanese are poor organizers and have much snafu among themselves. Its tough going.

5 June 1942

Several deaths per day and it is hard to get permission from the Japanese to make the burials. They cannot decide on a location for a Cemetery saying it will be decided "tomorrow". Sanitation is bad straddle trenches and many with diarrhea and sick besides cannot make it to the latrine

DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd
*we are allowed no light at night and the mud, many do not get to the
latrine area.*
areas. Many arriving from O'Donnell. Apparently this is to become the main
prison Camp for the Americans. This Camp was a regimental area of the 57th
Division Phil. Army - General Stevens Commanding. 3 young Naval Officers
escaped the first night we were here.

Extreme water shortage - each man permitted 1 canteen and cup full per
day for drinking bathing and washing mess kits. We catch all we can during
the showers. The whole atmosphere of the place is depressing. Deaths and
sickness increasing, prisoners still arriving from O'Donnell several have
died in the way here. No medicine and food poor and uncertain, without
water sufficient to cook the rice we have.

7 June 1942

We need a hospital badly have been here a week and all we have is a
small dispensary little medicine and no supplies. A complete breakdown of
discipline among Officers and men. Petty thieving is increasing. Everyone
presents a slovenly appearance unshaved unkempt filthy clothing worn or no
shoes.

Continue to hear stories of the death march out of Bataan to O'Donnell.
Among Officer shot or bayoneted on the trip I learn that Lt. Col. Mc Connell
(came on over our boat) Col. Ward, Major Irvy (served with him at Ft. Thomas)
Major Vaughan Maj. Magnessen, Maj. Undolenberg (Formerly Adjutant at Ft Stot-
senberg) Stories of Philippines being buried alive - my room mates are Ch.
Oliver, Jackson, Kawalake, North Dawson, Bennett, Schwartz - and myself.

8 June 1942

Hospital Area designated on West side of Camp, good location higher
ground. The buildings "Buyhays" for the Staff Officers are small wooden
affairs 18 x 18 nippa roofs. The wards are double decker bamboo and sa-
wale buildings with Nipa roofs. Housing about 100 patients actual capacity
should not exceed 40. We decide among ourselves that about 6 Officers should
occupy a "buyhay" but the Japanese come along later and huase us double up
until our "buyhay" 18 x 18 had 18 Officers assigned to it all required to
sleep on the floor not allowed by the Japanese to sleep on anything higher
than a Philippine "benig" mat.

9 June 1942

Hospital is organized and all staff members have been assigned jobs.
Mine of course is chief of Dental Service and other odd jobs including help-
ing with the "Bango" roll call. 500 Pvts. moved in today no medicine or
supplies and the patients are in such desperate condition - so hopeless a
sorry lot. 18 deaths today.

11 June 1942

Terrible sights 20 deaths per day. Such a toll for our Neys, Wheeler
Lindbergs and other Pacificistic big ^{men} ~~men~~ to answer for. Patients are emacia-
ted, pallid, naked, most of them have diarrhea. They cannot control their
bowels and are too weak to make the latrines.

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We have no bed pans and as a result the wards and the areas around them are a sea of liquid flies in which flies are breeding by the millions - looks bad for the future. The Hospital area is divided into a dysentery and non-dysentery area, the lower and north end being dysentery divided by a barbed wire fence.

Each afternoon the dead are collected and carried to the burial Grounds about 1 Km south. The dead are stark naked, other patients having taken every stitch of clothing or other property which they may have had. And these are our fine ??? American citizens. They are carried on window frames made of sawali and are buried in common pits as many as 15 to a pit unhonored, unwept, unsung and without the benefit of clergy. The Japanese do not allow a chaplain to accompany the burial party.

I have been designated disciplinary Officer for the Hospital with duties similar to Summary Court Officer.

14 June 1942

We are informed we will be permitted to make outside purchases of food as soon as arrangement can be made - if we have the money. I was lucky I got in here with about P140.00, which is much more than most Officers have. Nutritional Edema is Universal. I am doing practically all of the Dental treatment using such instruments and supplies which we dental Officers have carried in. The Clinic room is small but adequate with excellent light from the West. Have made a wooden operating chair and by using bores and built in shelves we have our good operating outfit. We badly need a Field Engine for cavity preparation. As regards to equipment the Dental Clinic as primitive as it is is much better equipped than most of the Hospital. We have adequate anesthetic solution or tablets, sufficient eugenol Zinc Oxide so that we can at least keep the personnel reasonably comfortable and will be able to conserve many teeth with the few instruments and the medicine and supplies which we dentists carried in. Major Sult and myself spent almost a day before we left #1 Hospital Area in Bataan selecting and packing on Med Dept Chest #60 (The Army Field outfit). We had adequate instruments supplies and other necessities so that we could have supplied our Dental Officer for at least 6 months. I personally saw to it that this chest was loaded on the truck that brought us out of Bataan and to Bilibid. It was very heavy requiring 4 men to handle it. While we were at Bilibid the Navy personnel there wanted us to give them the chest or at least part of its contents. This I refused as I did not know where we were going or what our needs would be. I did not check on the loading out of our baggage when we left Bilibid, but supposed the chest 60 would be included with the rest of the equipments - about 2 truck loads. However when we got to Cabantuan I checked on our baggage and apparently all had been loaded but this so much ⁱⁿ ~~in~~ ^{lost} ~~lost~~ chest. Evidently the Navy had connived with the Japanese to detain the chest at Bilibid. ~~We~~ here we are with 6 or 7 thousand prisoners and not a field unit with which to treat them with.

To conserve every bit of medicine and supplies which we have I am doing practically all the dental treatment myself. Having been up against

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so many Dental problems during the past 20 years in the Army I feel that I am better prepared to conserve what we have than some of the less experience Dental Officers would be. Most of the Dental Officers have essential jobs in the Administration and running of the Hospital. Supervising the work of sanitation, feeding patients, assisting at the endless "Bangos" roll calls, and making out of Hospital Records - improvised 55 a series using any such scraps of paper that can be found. Records are difficult to compile no forms being available and every vestige of record the previous records are lost. Patients do not know what their last Army Navy Marine or civilian status was. They give one answer and name and rank one day and change the whole thing the next day. Patients are brought to the Hospital too sick to give their names and die without being identified. Due to the cerebral malaria many have lost their minds and can give no coherent record of their past. We find patients nearly every morning ~~in~~ who have escaped from their wards at night, have fallen, or crawled off into high weeds, grass and either died from exhaustion, exposure. Some are unconscious or entirely disoriented as to their whereabouts.

15 June 1942

A big day the Japanese Med Officer bought for each Staff Officer the following in Cabantuan. I can Corn Beef, 1 can Milk, 1 box Candy, 1 Coconut, Cigarettes cost P4.50. Just like Christmas. Grown men behaved just like children.

18 June 1942

Frequent ^{stomach} ~~stomach~~ Flies terrible. Deaths about 20 per day. A case of Diphtheria isolated today. No anti-toxin to treat patients.

Patients trade or sell anything they have shoes, rain coats, blankets etc. to get commissary food which they need so badly - and I don't blame them; few have any money.

20 June 1942

Diphtheria is reaching epidemic proportions with nothing to treat it with.

21 June 1942

5 more cases of Diphtheria - received 80,000 units of anti-toxin the Med Officers have to decide what ~~to~~ they think have a chance of getting well and give the antitoxin to them. It is a hard thing to do to decide what patient will get well if given the anti-toxin and to practically condemn the patients who do not receive the anti-toxin to certain death.

22 June 1942

23 deaths today. No case of diphtheria has lived that did not receive the anti-toxin. It is being given in 1500 unit doses to make what little we have go as far as possible.

25 June 1942

Yesterday evening during a thunder shower Ward 15 was hit by lightning 1 patient was killed and 5 injured. I was about 75 yards away at the time - of a real fright. We surely seem to out of luck.

26 June 1942

Sgt. Hunt, who escaped from the hospital a few days ago was captured together with 5 other Americans who have been buying food from the Philipinos thru the barbed wire fences and smuggling the groceries to sell at exhorbitant prices as Sardines P3.00. The six were beaten and tied to put all day in front of Japanese Hqs. in down pouring rain without food and about 6 PM today were marched out and shot. Sgt Hunt and one other ~~have~~ ^{were} marched thru the Hospital area and to a point about 100 yards to the exit of us where previously two graves have been dug. The men were seated with their feet and legs in the graves blind-folded and then summarly shot by the Japanese firing squad. It may be they had committed the crime of enahling and securing food but it is certainly a greater crime to shoot men for being hungry. The other four were shot about the same time on the East side of the main camp. Practically everybody in camp standing attention during this sickning ordeal.

28 June

Our compliment of Officers was increased by 9 today further aggravating our over crowded dining quarters. I am now sleeping in the Dental Clinic to relieve the conjection in our "bunhai" as are also Schwartz Waterous Bye Guard and Ransome this without the consent of the Japanese so we may be slapped or otherwise punished if they do not like the changes. The Hospital has been divided into "shooting" squads to prevent escapes. In other words if one escapes in four squad all of the 9 others are to be shot. I am a section Reader and have two squads namely. Group A Sullivan J M Peters J F Bertram H.F. Burgs J C Zerfas M.E. Talbot A D Carberry R.E. O'Donnell A. B. Group B. Kowalake C.C. Bodine Roy C Jr. Schott R.W. Sult M.C. Metcalf W.L. De Long Cyrus N.

29 June 1942

Was the senior member of a Board of Officers today determine the disposition of a patient who had been apprehended by our guards det: going thru the fence with a sack of food bought from a Phillipino. We decided to turn him over to the Japanese. After an anxious hour they decide not to shoot him considering that he was mentally deranged by Malaria or some other cause. Probably coming to the conclusion. Its inconceivable that a man would jeopardize his life for a Can of sardines two days after seeing 2 men shot for the same offense and knowing that 4 others had been so executed at the same time. The QMC estimates of our ration at 1 ♂ gold per day.

We were rewarded for turning over the patient who had offended by purchasing food thru the fence by a special commissary purchase for the Staff and Det of the Hospital. Truly we cannot understand the functioning of the oriental mind.

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house and left the emaciated yellow bodies in a line on the road to at least get our good washing before being deposited in the "Communal" pit that was soon to be their lot. It seems that it rains everyday at some time during the procession of the burial party. We are getting very much rain at this time. Many of our personnel do not have shoes raincoats or blankets - most of them however have Malaria.

16 July 1942

Japanese rule there will no further meetings so our evening lectures are off. Col. Rutherford C.A.C. takes command of American Hqs. We came over P.I. together. Gillispie and Houghton move to other side to take over Am Hqs. Medical Hq. 88 deaths to date from Diphtheria no anti-toxin.

21 July 1942

Monotony of prison life - tropical torrential rains - nauseating diet - sickness and death. Diphtheria Malaria dysentery starvation - tough going. Occasional commissary purchases. The Japanese issued some baseball equipment some time back but due to rains not seen used. Writing paper very scarce in use milk can labels - 1 for communications and record forms. Distant artillery firing heard again today. We hope it mean Gueilla activity.

23 July

The Philippine Red Cross comes in about every a week but they bring only fiddling amounts of medicines and supplies. Thus far on this War we have never heard of the American Red Cross.

24 July 1942

Lt. Col. Schwartz, went to Cabanatuan last night where he attempted to operate Capt. Frank Cone M.C., Cone had arrived as a patient at Stotzenberg from the transport. He had been complaining more or less ever since he had been in the Island so much so that we had all decided he must be "Gold bricking" In attempting to operate Cone last night Schwartz found he had an inoperable cancer of the cecum. He (Schwartz) states that Capt Cone cannot live but a short time. The Japanese Dr. Tamura had magnanimously given consent to the transfer to Cabanatuan for the operation at the Japanese Army hospital there. They used an ordinary table ceiling lights in a crowded room without rubber gloves under cocaine spinal anesthetic supplies - mented with local procain. Assisted by a Filipina Nurse with a Japanese Medical Soldier as scrub Nurse. And none could understand each other. Schwartz says never again will he make a request for transfer. Col. Schwartz was entertained next door by a Philippine Red Cross Dr. Ronquillo, with a fine family supper.

28 July 1942

Sgt. Hathaway our druggist died today. The 3rd Corps man we had lost since arriving here. Request for Med Dept pall bearer refused. He will be buried in the common pit without marks of identification of the graves. 700 Blanket received today to be distributed to 2000 patients. We never get enough of needed supplies to go around it soon.

31 July

Another month in prison completed - deaths 789 Dysentery, 422 Malaria, 296 Diphtheria, 60 Misc, 6 mean Hospital strength 2400.

3 August 1942

Rumors that the Japanese are to pay us a monthly salary according to Geneva Conference in land warfare. I hope it proves true. Japanese merchants who bring in commissaries refuse to accept worn bills which materially affects ^{our} purchasing powers. U S Currency is not acceptable under any circumstances. Many are trading good U.S.A. "GREEN BACK" for Philippine or Japanese Military Notes at less than half per value. Personnel are selling watches, rings, pens to each for a small fraction of their real cost.

Some of symptoms of the Diphtheria epidemic seen Nasal, oral, buhal oral, sub lingual, faucial, leps, conjunctives, 2 Diphtheria of penis. Laryngeal type suffocate, and their post mortem facial contortion is horrible. The oral-buhal is especially virulent, patients of ten dying within 24 hours of septicemia. I have at least 2 cases, where the lesion was approx. 1" long by 1-1/2" wide on the buhal of the cheek and the patient died within 24 hours. At the time I saw them their symptoms did not appear severe and both patients had come to the clinic unaided. A Mrs. McMeeking in Manila has sent us most of the anti-toxin which we have received and it has been most effective.

8 August 1942

Malaria deaths has decreased due to large shipment of Quinine secured about 2 weeks ago.

9 August 1942

Mental Case Pvt. Beyuca escaped from the Guard house last night during a heavy rain. I had tried him by Summary Court Martial during the day previous and gave him 5 days confinement for stealing food belonging to other member of his ward. He told me he is member of the Zuni tribe of Indian - New Mexico and had a year schooling at some Government Indian school in N. Mex where he had studied sheep raising. He told me he intended on discharge Army to return to N Mex and raise sheep. As his tribe is Communal I took this fact into consideration when sentencing him - he simply having eaten food belonging to his associates in the ward. I did not scold him simply talking to him more as Father to Son and we parted apparently best of friends and then at breakfast: this AM I learn he has escaped. The other members of his shooting squad plus the 2 medical men on guard Pts. McMinn and and Pvt. Reeves, locked up awaiting the decision of the Japanese. Bob Lewis was O. D. and is quiet worried. Col. Rutherford C. O. of the Camp, expressed the opinion that Lewis and the 2 med soldiers should be shot. I would include Rutherford also for such an expression.

12 August 1942

Japanese relented on shooting squad - they are to be confined for 1 month. Lewis freed, McMinn and Reeves were to be shot at 4 PM. Gillispie and Craig plead with Japanese all day and at 3:30 PM the sentence was commuted to 6 months - Such rejoicing in our little circle tonight.

16 August 1942

Another pt. - civilian Klett - escaped from Ward 4. The shooting squad locked up but the Japanese announce they will not be shot.

Chaplain Jerfas was soundly slapped this AM by the Guards for not saluting briskly enough, for them. Slapping occurs quite frequently if anything occurs that does not please one of the guards.

18 August 1942

Another escape from Ward 17 last night. Japanese ^{increased} with Hospital because all escapes have been from Hospital. They have ordered a perimeter chain guard (about 300 able bodied) American prisoners to police the barbed wire fence. This will require practically all the patients who can walk so if one wants to escape all he has to do is to await his turn at guard slip thru the fence and avoid the Japanese Guard on the outside. Lieut. Estrom M.A.C. of our staff has been giving us a lot of trouble due to the use of narcotics. A Board of Officer composed of Schwartz, Sullivan, and Sitter committed him to the N.P. section Ward 15.

22 August 1942

We have been having a few home talent shows some are quite clever. We have a morale Officer for each of the four groups of the Camp with a Camp Morale Officer in charge. The Japanese favor this sort of thing but object to any other classes or gathering.

A Japanese Laboratory team Dr and assistants are here to culture stools of patients. Glass rods are inserted into rectum and stroked on Endo plates. Very few cases of bacillary dysentery found - However no examinations are made for amebiasis.

23 August 1942

For some time we have been issued evaporated canned milk, for patients, with authority to issue a case of milk per day to the Medical personnel. This amounts to 1/5 Can per day for each of us - which I use on my lugac - soft rice for breakfast. It is these Can labels that is (almost) the (Official) stationary of the Hospital. We keep all our Dental records on them. I hope, I can get these records back to the Surgeon Generals Offices as evidence of some of the shortages which we having to improvise for. 5 death pts census 2133.

27 August 1942

Many officers escaped to the hills in northern Luzon on the capitulation of Bataan and joined our forces in those parts. From time to time these officers are either captured or turn in to join us in prison camps. Major Gene Jacobs M.C. is one such he was cut off at Baguio, being on duty there when the war broke out. He had some hair raising stories to tell - and he can tell them. He does not think much of our (Bess and Sara and I) friend Col. Horan (Inf) who was in command at Baguio at the beginning of the war and lead a section of the group from Baguio - Horan surrendered some time earlier.

DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd

31 August 1942

Col. Gillispie and Col. Dorsey and Rutherford departed today to join the Colonels and Generals reported to be detained in Formosa. I saw my first "Ji Cit Su" exhibition today together with a demonstration of Japanese wrestling. It is interesting but has a lot of unnecessary swinging of the arms and planting of the feet and eating of salt and looking on some shrine-like construction above the ring. Lt. Col. Craig goes in as Chief of Med. at American Hqs, Lt. Col. Schwartz is our C. O. I am most pleased with this change. Deaths for August 288, Dysentery 160, Malaria 90, Diphtheria 22, Misc 14.

1 Sept. 1942

The census is just under 2000 Pts. Deaths by States to date in order: California, New Mexico, Illinois, Texas, Pennsylvania, New York. New Mexico's high rate is due to the fact that 200 C.A.C. Anti Air Craft Net Guard Regiment is from there.

3 Sept.

Capt. Frank Cone M.C. whom Col. Schwartz operated at Cabanatuan died today. Yesterday Maj. Phillip M.C. died of Malaria Malnutrition and Drug addiction. Drug addicts and heavy smokers are finding prison life very difficult. Many patients are spending their last bit of money for smokes when they should buy food. Some I am sure the little extra food would have prolonged their lives, if not have saved them.

Rumors galore of Americans successes in the south Pacific - no evidence.

8 September 1942

The new Staff set up is as follows: Schwartz as C.O. North, chief of Surgery, Bennett chief of Medical. Eye as commissary Officer. Rumors that all Field Officers are to be transferred to Formosa. I don't relish the idea of a sea voyage under these conditions as this time - if I have to be in prison would rather stay right here - which is no interest to the Japanese what soever.

12 September 1942

Five patients escaped last night (Ballan and Toups) The Japanese commander Col. Mori investigated the escape Col. Saye and Col. Schwartz were questioned a length. Schwartz informing the C.O. that if conditions were made more agreeable for patients and prisoners there would be no escape. The Japanese mind reasons that because there are escapes the remainder of the prisoners must be punished. Guards are placed on all buildings No latrine privileges from bango to bango. Windows must be shut.

13 Sept.

Col. Schwartz appealed to the Japanese to permit windows being opened and latrine privileges. request was granted.

14 September 1942

Much shackling from the Japanese. Come around in middle of night to hold bango. And it is near impossible to hold bango as no lights are allowed and Ward Surgeons have no way of seeing their roster of patients and cannot see who are in the bays and on the high cat walks in the Ward buildings. This evening Col. Mori (Japanese CO) rules that all Ward Surgeons will sleep on their wards. Conditions on the wards are awful - all are over crowded. Nearly all patients are infested with lice. Patients cannot control their bowels and the odor is terrible some patients have not had a bath in weeks. Much fussing, bickering, swearing, stealing, in short its something of an infernal. Our Doctors who work hard amongst this all day long deserve something better at night. Many of the patients criticize the medical Dept saying we keep food and supplies from them - They make the most baseless, accusations, forgetting that we are all prisoners and if and if anything better could be had we would only be glad to have them better treated - and housed. The Officers are about the ~~most worst~~ complainers we have. Their ward is about the ~~most worst~~ ^{officers} and they spend their days making making us of the Staff miserable. This situation has shown what a thin veneer of civilization we have. This separates the men from the boys. Although the latrine is near by every morning the sanitary detail has to pick up many piles of feces. Each ward has a commissioned Officer who acts as commissary officer. All too often these officers "lose" or have "stolen" from them the meager memo entrusted to them by the patients on the wards. It is an enlightening as well as a disheartening ~~situation~~ ^{situation}. Our officer patient, whom I have known for 20 years had made up a long list of written charges against various members of the Medical Dept. , which he is going to prepare against us when we get out of captivity - only now we have him stopped cold with the fact of misappropriation of funds belonging to patients on his ward which had been paid into the commissary fund of which he was custodian (Lt. Col. P-) should the continued rumor prove true of our ever being paid while in this camp it is contemplated withholding a part of this Officers pay until the shortage about P35.00 is returned.

15 September 1942

Japanese have relented, Med Officers move back to their bays but 20 Officers must sleep in each EM barracks or wards. Camp census 7254 Hospital census 1929. Heaviest rain of year today. Increasing number of leg ulcers any sort of scratch becoming a non healing sore. Probably due to malnutrition. However treatment similar to "scabs" has resulted in remarkable recoveries with intravenous neocasthenamine. About 3 injections cure most of these cases even the the legs are edematous. Malnutrition, beriberi and scurvy and probably Pellagra are on the increase. Perforal neuritis is on the increase. I have had an anesthetic left heal for the past 60 days.

16 September 1942

Patient Beyuka who escaped 8/9/42 recaptured and returned to Camp - looks well nourished reported to have been living with Philipinos in Cabanatuan. He is the size type and complexion of a Philipino and ~~now~~

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doubt had been so accepted by the Japanese. He has been paraded about the camp with placards on him and hands bound behind his back with a rope held by a special guard. Col. Mori has been making speeches thru an interpreter pointing out the futility of trying to escape. This prisoner will probably be confined in the Guard House a few months and we hope given his freedom. At present he is in solitaire with 1 meal per day.

20 September 1942

Several Officers and some of the Wards, have been making gardens - planting what seeds they can find. Mostly taken from our mess issue. Capt. R.W. Genung (D) is hospital "Horticulturist" and is giving advice and vainly wishing for so generous supply of flower and garden seed. Peanuts, camotes, mango beans, tomatoes and a little corn.

Our diet consists of adequate rice - served as lugao for breakfast and "dry" for the other two meals. Generally a soup twice per day containing vegetables generally insufficient and no real food value. "swamp weed" camotes, squash, green cucumbers, corn ~~plant~~.

Once or twice per week a carabao is slaughtered for the Camp of 6-7000 prisoners. Lucky if we find enough meat for a good taste. At irregular intervals small quantities of sugar (raw) purico and salt are issued. Shortly after our arrival sufficient mangoes were donated by a Governor of one of the Provinces so that we had 1 mango each. We get occasional bananas paniloes and limes on the commissary.

22 September 1942

My birthday and 54 years old. Maj. General Maramoto, gave the Camp a hurried inspection skipping the Hospital yesterday. The Japanese are not much interested in prisoner patients and it is almost impossible to get them into the Dysentery area. They take our bango count for this section.

Caneron, Toup and Ballard - 3 escapes recaptured and beaten of - especially Ballard. Paraded crossed Camp with signs hanging from their necks. Hands bound behind their backs and rope to a special guard.

25 September 1942

(O'Donnell), Hubbard, Kaufman, Evans, ~~F. DeWald~~ Freedman, and Metcalf transferred to other side. 16 deaths today - highest since Aug. 1st.

27 September 1942

13 Japanese twin motored bombers flew south over the Camp. How I would like an eye full of American planes with the star under their wings instead of always seeing the Rising Sun under the wings of ship passing low. Col. Mori made speech in Hospital Area. 3 Navy ensigns who escaped June 3 turned in last night.

2 Lt. Cols Biggs, Briggs, and Beitung and Lt. Gilbert U.S.N. were caught by our perimeter guard attempting to escape thru a urinal drain. Briggs and Beitung have both been neighbors of ours. (A long story hope to tell Bess about this some day) They were brutally beaten up and tied to

fence posted where they are exposed to the elements practically naked and without food or water.

29 September 1942

Cold and rainy all day today and yesterday on the tail end of a destructive typhoon. Several buildings have been blown over some unroofed. The three Officers Briggs Biggs, Beitung and Lt. Gilbert USN, who attempted the escape have remained out in this storm tied to the posts without food or water. They were reported taken a short distance east on the road and shot by a firing squad about 11 AM. The Japanese announced that they had been shot and required the Hospital to make out death certificates on them.

30 September 1942

No pay day today rumored that we will be paid. - Deaths 259, Dysentery 165, Malaria 69, Diphtheria 2, others 23. Total deaths to date 1834. Many sore mouths we call it Nutritional Stomatitis for lack of better diagnosis. Antinutrition and malnutrition are the main causes of death. Crally we see many evidences of these nutritional diseases. It is near an impossibility to distinguish between berberi, Scurvy and Pellagra.

They are interrelated and symptoms so alike in the mouth that it seems reasonable to in the fact that there is no way of differentiation to call them all Nutritional Stomatitis.

1 October 1942

Typhoon blown out a number of buildings mostly latrine covers blown over unroofed ~~or~~ left at a "rakish" angle. Dr. Crai the Lab. Medico visited the Hospital today with some good news if true. Some of the Japanese Officers and Soldiers are very kindly and ~~cut~~ the part of Gentlemen. Our treatment has materially improved. The Japanese say say our food will improve that more medicine will be issued. That we will be paid as of August 1, etc. The General Hospital # 1 now at O'Donnell will be moved to this Camp so that we will have additional equipment.

5 October 1942

Deficiency diseases continue to crop up. Some typical cases of Pellagra presenting. Beri-beri and Scurvy seen recurrent Malaria. Many of the Staff Officers and Det Men continue to go down under Malaria-chronic recurrent. They take a "course" of quinine and Atrebin and go along for indefinite periods then suddenly find themselves sick again of Old Break Bone Fever which occasionally may be Dengue. New cases of Amebic dysentery are being picked up daily due to the fact that we have a microscope which Major Waterous has secured from his Office in Manila.

A detail of 527 left today for Japan.

6 October 1942

Our wedding anniversary. I wonder what Bess is doing today and where she is? If I ever get back with that "Girl" again we are going to go on a 2nd Honeymoon that will be a dinger! A detail of 149 more left today on detail for Japan - accompanied by 5 Med Officer and 15 Med E.M. Lieut. Hockman was the only Medico from the Hospital Camp Census 6487.

8 October 1942

13 deaths today - much rain this month. We are not troubled with water shortage and one can bathe at will. Fr. Battenbruck representing Philippine Red Cross who has visited us a time or two, came in today with a large amount of Neo Arspenimine which we need badly, Some other Supplies but no dental supplies which we need badly also. A Field Engine and Chair were received last month together with instruments and supplies. We dentists have been keeping the equipment very busy. We only received 4 Ozs. of Alloy and it will soon be used up. We need at least 3 more of these outfits to anyways near supply the needs of the Camp.

9 October 1942

Dr. Konishi of Camp ~~III~~ moved his Hqs from 3 to this # 1 Camp - taking the places of Dr. Tamura. Dr. Konishi is a good doctor and a splendid gentleman. He has helped us much in the past and promises to assist us in the future. He stated while the War lasted we were enemies but not that we are prisoners he is our friend, and I believe he means it. The apparently a Medical Officer ~~has~~ ^{has} very little influence in the Japanese Army. He states the O'Donnell will soon be broken up and their equipment brought here. We learn that Colonels Duckworth and Schock are still at O'Donnell. Also that Camp ~~III~~ will be combined with us and that all excess Medical personnel will either be sent to Davac or Japan. Major Roby, V.C., detailed from other ~~Side~~ to become Mess Officer Mess # 11.

10 October 1942

Under observation of Col. Mori, Col. Horan (our friend from Neb.) and the returned escaped ensigns Navy ~~subject~~ ⁵⁰⁰⁴⁸ to all Assembled Ambulant patients. (I could see and hear all I wanted from the Dental Clinic) Col. Horan, attempted to alibi his surrender - made pretty much of a fool of himself. He was in command of the N. Luzon Forces during the War and from all information which I have received did not do so well.

12 October 1942

Lts. Nase and Mohnae D.C. reported today from O'Donnell. I had requested their transfer and Dr. Konishi the Japanese Dr saw to it that they were sent over. Nase was with me at Ft. Stotsenberg. Formerly from Omaha. Mohnae was with the 803 Engineers coming with them from Boston. Am glad to get these boys. They have lots to tell about O'Donnell - things there were plenty "Rugged", over there.

Deaths average about 12 per day. Weather cool and damp. Many Pts. without blankets and are so emaciated they litterly freeze to death at night. Capt. Brewer D.C. from Neb. has been a pt diagnosis dysentery is having a hard time believes - himself that he is going to die. Has told me what he want me to do with his effects. We sold his Watch for P35.00 and two cans of corn beef. I did not want to do this but he insisted and if the additional food pulls him then it is a good deal. He has been splendidly cared for getting all the medicine available and the member of our Corp have seen to it that he has not wanted for anything.

Hew McMurdo Pvt. 31st Inf. son of Col. McMurdo M.C. died today. He had a hand blown off in the bombing of Gen. Hospt. #1 at little Baguio, last few days of the War. Shortly after coming here he was admitted with dysentery and gradually failed. Baseball - Hospital 5 Gr # - 4.

13 October 1942

80 Officers and E.M. including 13 Med Officers transferred to this Camp from O'Donnell yesterday. They all had foot lockers mattresses, Cots and much Medicine. They describe conditions at O'Donnell as much improved - much better than here. Have lights, refrigerators plenty of Medical Supplies, some Class C Rations short-wave radio etc. Gen Hospt. # 1 is still being operated for a few American pts and about 2000 Philippines who are being trained by the Japanese for cooperation with the Japanese in the Greater East Asia Cooperative Sphere. About 2000 Americans died at O'Donnell and 29,000 Philippines out of a total of about 40,000 Philippines. They report practically all the Philippines have been released.

The Officers who arrived had been listening to the short-wave radio and exploded a lot of wild good rumors which we had been receiving from their report it begins to look as tho we will be here a long long time.

16 October 1942

Major John Raulston M.C. Capt. Greensjohn M.C. Lt. Hall M.C. Capt. Nese D.C. Lt. Mohnae D.C. and Capt. Rex Aton M.A.C. transferred from other side to us today for duty these completing the O'Donnell transfer. These Officers are much needed to relieve our Staff who have been carrying a heavy load as so many of us are not fit for continuous heavy duty.

Hospital census 2000 Deaths average about 8 a day. Deficiency diseases still on the increase. We are being issued limes at irregular intervals. We hope to control scurvy with this citrus issue.

Dr. Konishi is interested in Pellegra so Col. Schwartz is having 100 cases histories written up for him. Rumors we are to be paid on the 22nd of Oct. More Medicine and food are also promised - encouraging - at least. Japanese are really more kind to us than formerly. Their Medical Personnel is especially so and I believe sympathize some what with us and our lot.

18 October 1942

I still have about P40.00 am surely making my pennies count. Bodine and I have a can of Sardines about 2 or 3 times per week. I have a little more money than he. It is announced that many more details will leave for Japan and Davao where it is reported conditions will be better.

20 October 1942

Passed 2000th mark for deaths in this Camp - many more will die - many hopeless. Sights in the Hospital area are pitiful. Young men crippling along with painful feet, emaciated bodies, sore eyes and blindness all due to lack of proper food.

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Handwritten:
Capt
Pined
8-5

22 October 1942

Major Houghton M.C. returned yesterday from Bilibid. Had gone there to get glasses repaired for a lot of patients. Major Waterous left today on a like mission. He had made the request some time ago and thought the Japanese had ignored the request. He was told about 11 AM to be ready at 1 PM so he had to do some tall hustling. About all of us gave him chicken to be cashed. If he gets 50% of their fare value it will help us all a lot. Personally I hope Waterous gets to stay in Manila. It is his home and he will be close to his former business - General Medical Mfg Optical Clinic. He had a fine business before the War. We understand the Japanese have not allowed the Philippine Trust to reopen. This Bank had most of the money belonging to Army Officers.

23 October

Lt. Col. Pete Kempf M.A.C. former C.O. of the Phil Med Supply Dept was brought in last night from Manila. Had been working for Japanese since May 15. Said he was treated well and had a lot of "Seattle butt" news favorable.

26 October

Camp III is being closed and joins this Camp. before the 1st of Nov. Many details leaving for unknown destinations. 354 Leave today. 587 tomorrow. We supply Medical Detach - and 30 Officers Jackson Whiteley and Schneider, 2 Chaplains Dawson and Carberry. Makes us short of Med Officers as so many of our Staff are sick.

28 October 1942

Nine recaptured escapes taken to Manila today - Presumably for trial I doubt it. A number of patients were reported cooking a dog in the upper Area of the Hospital but, I understand Major Lentz M.C. sanitary Officer who was ordered to stop it acted slowly and the dog was no more when he got there.

Capt. Harlow Brewer, D.C. - has been failing and we are beginning to despair of his life. He has had several spells of unconsciousness and has been irrational at times.

1 November 1942

Capt. Brewer died last night. We all his friends feel we have lost another battle. Brewer had many friends and if good friendship and care could have pulled him there he would still be with us. We of the Dental Corps have looked after him with especial care and interest and as he had been in the Hospital since September we have come to regard his needs as a special "labor of love" During his last weeks he has had something of a mind on thought for religion and for his "My Boy" Their baby son. These have been something of an obsession with him. I am assuming that his wife is Catholic and in his enfeebled and sick mind as well as body he seemed to think he should some however make amends. He was recently baptized by Fr. Chap. Talbot Catholic and at least he died as a member of the Roman Church.

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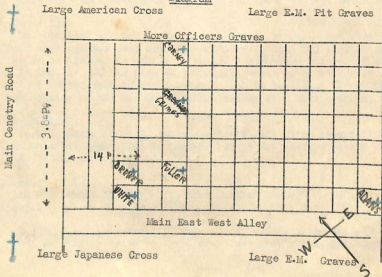
DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd

He has intrusted in writing for me to take charge of his personal effects and I have gathered them together and I hope some day I may have the privilege of giving them personally to his good wife and boys. Brewer put up a good fight to live but it seems that dysentery and the other deficiency diseases have been especially fatal for big husky individuals of the type of Capt. Brewer.

I arranged for four of us Dentists - his closest friends to be the pall bearers. Bodine, Nase, Mohnae and myself. We headed the burial party of 18 bodies. He being the only Officer. The cemetery is approx. 2Kms south of the Camp. The road was muddy and rocky in spots. I waded water over my shoe top. We made the march with only 1 stop for rest. Brewer was formerly a high husky weighing probably 230 lbs. He had wasted away until he probably did not weigh much over 150 lbs. At that however he was quite a load before we got to the cemetery. It has been the custom for some time to bury all patients in the nude salvaging sock clothing as they have left for the use of the living. In the case of Brewer I had a sheet and in used this to wrap the body in.

Chaplain John K. Borneman, Presbyterian was the officiating chaplain for this particular day, and said a special prayer at the grave for the repose of his soul, at the conclusion of which in all came to attention faced the "East" and I gave the only military honors we could under the circumstances by commanding - Attention' Hand Salute - one - two. We then placed him in his grave which lies East to West and is the 2nd grave on the left of the main east west, alley. The 7th row from the East side of the cemetery. On his right is the grave of 2nd Lt. Clyde L. White Inf. buried 28 of October 1942.

Diagram



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The Chaplains take turns of accompanying the burial party to the Cemetery. The Japanese have recently allowed them this privilege.

Dr. Konishi the Japanese Med. Officer of this Camp and Col. Mori have been transferred effective about this date. Dr. Konishi is a capable Doctor and is a splendid Gentleman. Before leaving he commended the prisoner Medical Officers and Corps men. We are sorry to lose him as he has befriended as much as he could in his limited way - of a Med. Officer in the Japanese Army. He mentioned among others Tokemoto who has been more or less as I understand a civilian adviser to the C.C. here - We called him Gold Tooth - Konishi said he is a barbarian - without education.

The Japanese have suddenly stopped all forms of meetings church services masses programs meetings of instruction classes and etc.

2nd November 1942

There is a big head of Carrabao recently brought in that looks like a lot of meat on the hoof which I hope means more meat for us. Also a rumor that we are to be allowed to send post cards home at 2 month intervals. A further rumor that 2 Red Cross ships are now in the harbor of Manila.

5 November 1942

We expanded the Dental Clinic into the room just south of the present one we now have twice the room we formerly had. Have two nice big west windows which will make it possible to install 2 extra chairs when the additional equipment arrives from #1 Hospital at O'Donnell. Capt. Gard and Aton formerly occupied the room with the General Supply and Subsistence Officer. They have been moved to "Buhay" to themselves at the north end of the Officers Row, where they will have much more room for their activities.

7 November 1942

Mr. Graybeal the Red Cross representative who has been with in Bataan and some time ago was sent with the civilian to Camp III dropped in today. Says he is on his way to Manila to become a ~~special~~ laborer at the waterfront in Manila. He has been very indolent while with the Hospital maybe he will be better when he has a definite job to do. Thus far we have done all the helping of the Red Cross people rather than they bringing relief to us.

8 November 1942

Lt. Col. North, Kenhmer, Lentz and Lewis left today reportedly to report on Malarial conditions in Bataan. It is not clear whether they are going to Bataan or Manila.

11 November 1942

Another Armistice Day - its just another day of prison life with us. I sincerely hope we will be out of captivity by this date 1943.

The Japanese have trained several contingents of draftees or whatever the Japanese call recruits to their Army just back of our Officers Quarters.

Between the Hospital area and the Main Camp is where most of the Japanese are quartered and there is an approximate square area about 1 Km. in extent. Since we have been here the Japanese have used this area for their close order training. They drill their recruits from daylight until dark and then after supper we can hear them mass singing and clapping hands and stamping their feet all part of their training build up. Practically all their training is done "double time" they run to practically all commands - keep it up all day one wonders how the youngsters stand the training but generally speaking they seem to get on in good order and it is noticeable how rapidly they advance in perfecting their training. I hope our own forces are being given a similar rigorous preparation if they are not they are going to find these little yellow lithe fellows very hard to handle.

Their bayonet drill is entirely different from ours, they only use a straight forward jab or thrust. They use in connection with this a queer little quick forward - back half step it is almost a sort of little dance. It is probably a carry over from the ancient fencing on jousting with swords and spears. It would be deceiving probably to an enemy not accustomed to this specially combat, but I believe it would not be very effective against our manual of arm for the bayonet. It seems to me one of our soldiers using the butt of his rifle to fend and hit the Japanese under the chin and then following with the reverse crashing the rifle stock down on his head before he could recover would prove very disconcerting to the Japanese. I do not believe the short little quick step or steps backward would "Clear" him of the maneuver of our manual of arms. I hope after this War is over to see what our experts have to say about the feature of the Japanese training.

13 November 1942

Lewis Have just finished reading the book "How Green was my Valley" by *Survein*. It is ~~welsh~~ *welsh* story of the coal mines of Wales at the time of Queen Victoria and Boer War. It is a splendid book and liked it very much.

Still have few pesos but they cannot
Still rumors persist that we will be paid last long unless renewed pretty quickly. Major Wernitznig and Sgt. Sarno took about 40 Pellegra patients to Manila yesterday. They are being taken to Bilibid Hospital for study of Pellegra by the Japanese Med. Officer. Some of the patients are in ~~not~~ *not* critical condition they will in *my* estimate ~~not~~ stand the trip to Manila.

Fr. Buttonbuck Catholic priest of Manila representing the Philippine Red Cross came in today with packages for some individuals some much needed medicine and a lot of supplies for both the Catholic and Protestant Chaplains. Bibles, song books and other literature as well as a supply of sacramental wine. A folding portable Field Organ. This had been very much needed and will be a much appreciated addition to the Devotional Services.

18 November 1942

North, Lentz, Lewis, KeKöhner returned from Manila. They reported a very pleasant trip but very little accomplished regarding Malaria. They said they had one conference with some Japanese Doctors. They had a nice outing in Manila being taken on a long walk about the Escolta, Manila Hotel for a supper and drinks by the Army and Navy Club. From the rounds they ~~made~~ sounded as tho they were fencing with the bamboos foils which the Japanese use.

A fence has been built around the Club. At Sternberg a fence has been built in front of it also with a ramp over the street to the Phil Army Hqs. Women's Normal School. Some of the rumors they brought back with them (1) We got Dakar West Africa without firing a shot (2) The French fleet was sent out to interrupt our landing in north Africa but as soon as the American fleet was sighted they surrendered to the Americans (3) The Russians are doing very well. (4) We have French Morocco and Algiers in N. Africa and Rommel is being rounded up in Tunis. (5) There is mail for us in Manila now being censored. (6) Some have received pay - maybe it will get to us out here some day. (7) Dewey has been elected Governor of N.Y. (8) We have a new C.O. of the Pacific Fleet.

21 November 1942

An ~~old~~ Pvt. D.K. Russell 22 was apprehended last night after going outside the wire fence and securing some food. He was executed by the Japanese today. They issued quite manifests concerning the alleged crime.

25 November 1942

Mamas birthday I sent her a Birthday Greeting in the form of a Red Cross Radio Message which I was privileged to send. I sincerely hope it went through. I believe about 10 or 15 messages were allowed at this time from the Hospital.

26 November 1942

Thanksgiving day - Unless Roosevelt has decreed some other day or abolished it altogether - Anyhow we are call it Thanks giving and are really celebrating it as such. We had our first really good meat today since we have been captives. Dinner menu was not a Thanks giving dinner as such in the States but for us a real treat. My "eating Four" Bodine, Peters and Zerfas and myself had bought a chicken which we intended to have as our main "piece of de resistance" but on seeing the menus and the amount of food available for it we decided to save the chicken for Sunday dinner instead. We had for dinner - All we could eat Rice, Roast Carabao, Corned beef, fried eggplant, mongo beans 1 piece of candy and ginger tea. Supper Rice, ground carabao meat, Mongo beans, soup, fried eggplant. For once everybody could get enough of 2nds and 3rd servings so the entire command was well filled up for one day. It is an unusual feeling after being pretty nearly empty

most of the time for almost a year. Thanksgiving a year ago I had a wonderful dinner at the Nurses Home Sternberg Hospital in Manila. I enjoyed the dinner and the company of course but I can assure all interested that this dinner today hit the spot much more fully. The Nurses had for dinner Co. Carroll, Col. Cooper, Col. Shock - myself. And all the Chief Nurses from Stotsberg, McKinley and Fort Mills. During the evening Miss Davidson fell and fractured a rib which rather put a bad finish to an otherwise pleasant occasion.

Dr. Nogi Japanese Med. Officer from Manila inspected the Hospital two days ago. He has promised us much more medicine. The Japanese do not always seem to understand the meaning of "much!"

3 December 1942

Deaths for November were 296. Pvt. Birch Med Dep died of Beri-beri last night. Lt. Bostrom, M.A.C. Died of Dysentery and other complications. He had given us much trouble during the past 6 months due to his using Narcotics. He was under charges - which of course now under the circumstances will be destroyed, for the benefit of his family. He was the Sgt. Major of Sternberg Hospital, before the out break of the War.

6 December 1942

A detail left for Manila today taking among others, Brig. General Stevens. Gen. Steven had been on duty over here with the Phil. Scouts in the southern Islands. He is widely known in the southern Islands and was considered a good friend of the Moros. Included in the detail also was Colonel Horan Inf. - former C.O. of Baguio. We are told both of these Officers are to be taken to Japan. Lt. Lansdon M.C. Navy was also transferred to Bilibid - We like Lansdon very much. All of this detail was paid before leaving so we feel that our pay day is only a short time removed.

7 December 1942

Lt. Col. Warner returned from detail to the provinces where we understand he was sent by the Japanese to contact the ^{Co}Grillas and try and induce them to surrender. He told of the death of Lt. Col. Ted. Kalakuka ^{Co}M.C. who died of an cerebral malaria at Bayombong Oct. 31, 1942. Both had contracted Malaria but Col. Warner recovered. Reported no luck with the ^{Co}Grillas. He had been gone so long we had about decided something had happened to him.

8 December 1942

A few letters in from the States. Major Babrenberg M.C. got one from his family - had a Kodak picture of his family I surely hope I get one some of these days from Bess and Sara.

A year of War - today - I wonder how we are really doing? So many conflicting rumors but not solid news. According to Japanese propaganda we have no Navy or Army left - We know this to be extremely unlikely.

12 December 1942

Pay Day - today. The first money I have received in a year and 12 days. Was paid P640.00 for 4 months pay. Was allowed to retain P30.00 of this amount and the remainder was placed to my credit in Japanese Postal Saving Bond.

14 December 1942

Following pay the Officers have put in commissary orders of astronomical proportions - Everybody is putting in senselessly big Orders in the hope that they will get at least a little of the items they desire.

16 December 1942

No deaths for the past 24 hours - the longest period without a death since we arrived in this Camp.

Bess' birthday - I wonder, wonder, wonder - At so many things there is no use to try enumerate them. I just hope she is getting along OK and that conditions will be different next year.

Rumors is that Russia is doing well. Many Medical supplies received - most needed - most appreciated - we are truly thankful.

I understand the Japanese C.O. has allowed the Am Hqs to withdraw P5000.00 from the Postal Savings fund of the Officers for the welfare of personnel and patients who are not being paid. As the money is needed our accounts are debited "chopped" P50.00 from each Field Officer. We are all so pleased to be able to contribute to the general welfare in this manner.

Three Officers reported from Bilibid today, Major Kagy and Warren Wilson M.C.s - and Capt. Hibbs M.C. Major Wilson is replacement for Major Watercus who went to Bilibid a couple of month ago.

The new ration allowance is reported to be for well people: Meat 100 grms. Rice 550 grms. Veg. 330 grms, purico 30 grms. Salt 15 grms. Sugar 30 grms.

40 Cigaretts per month 1 towel 3 months 1 bar of soap 3 months, 1 roll toilet paper 2 months, 1 pr. shorts 2 months. There is to be special allowance of food for seriously ill and sick in Hospital. This all sounds fine - time will tell if this promise can be fulfilled.

18 December 1942

Three Japanese Generals inspected the Camp today. So far as I know none of them came to the Hospital.

5 Bombers flew northward we wonder why and where going? A gang of soldiers is practicing Christmas Carrolls and songs. It gets pretty tiring listening over and over to "Silent Night Holy Night" They should sing well at Christmas.

DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd

19 December 1942

Japanese announce the arrival of a Red Cross ship with the following supplies on board:

1127	Cases	Meat & Vegetables
996	"	Canned beef
1125	"	Assorted canned goods
252	"	Peaches
157	"	Cocoa
76	"	Raisins
27	"	Carmel
545	-	Bag Sugar
1874	-	Cups
5193	-	Sweaters
780	-	Shirts
1040	-	Drawers

The ship also had several thousands of Individual Red Cross food packages containing about 17 different items of food and soap.

20 December 1942

Four deaths today. Total to date in this Camp 2502

22 December 1942

Received a big commissary today with the following prices prevailing
 Note books (like this one) .20 Pencils, 20 Chile Fl.00, Famloes 10 ¢, Hen
 Eggs 10 ¢, Cup of Salt .05 ¢, Sugar 10 ¢, Salted Peanuts cup 50 ¢, Devil
 Meat 30 ¢, Sardines 5 Oz. 30 ¢, 7-1/2 Oz. 40 ¢, 15 Oz. 75 ¢, Pork & Beans
 Fl.00.

23 December 1942

Carried Red Cross packages from other side of the Camp made many trips carrying 4 packages.

24 December 1942

Carried many more packages. Every man in the Hospital is to get an individual package. Due to the visible supply of food and the presence of the packages the spirits of everybody is very much improved. The Officers and Med Detachment received their packages tonight. The patients are to receive their packages in the morning. We were given our choice of packages Canadian British and American. Bodine and I both selected the Canadian packages due to the better food selection - The Canadian package had a pound "Maple Leaf" butter and no tobacco. The American package had some cheap items - namely "Sweet Life Orange Powder". A synthetic orange drink cheap smoking tobacco George Washington Brand. The package came to us from South Africa by way of Lorenzo Mozambique Portuguese East Africa.

25 December 1942

Christmas Day. I got early not exactly to look in my stocking but due to the fact that I could not sleep due to the commotion. Church Call blew

before daylight and I attended daylight sunrise service. Chaplain Taylor preached the sermon - immense crowd. The Japanese have declared a 4 day holiday as they also make quite a little of the Holiday season including New Years Day. The wood detail is not to go out until after New Year as the supply sufficient for the intervening time has been brought in. Our dinner today was really very nice and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The menu Roast Carabeo, Brahma beef, Beef broth, Candied Camotes ("Sweet potatoes") raisin, sauce, Carmel Candy, Burnt Sugar brittle with shreaded Coconut. Breakfast was hot Cocoa and thick Lugeo. Supper was much like dinner without the Candy. I received a Christmas Card from Norquist which he had made.

28 December 1942

One man died today in the main Camp due to over eating.

30 December 1942

Carried additional Red Cross packages today.

31 December 1942

Received an additional Red Cross package today. I took a British package this time selecting it over the American package.

1 January 1943

Stayed up until after mid-night we had singing and from some where a small amount of jin was brought in which helped the singing a few of the Officers really got to feeling quite "Hi".

I had called on Lt. Col. Schwartz and told him I thought the traditional New Year reception should be held as usual.

As a result we had a reception in the Mess Hall at 11 AM. We brought our own canteen cups and drank Hot Cocoa and all wished each other and Col. Schwartz a Happy New Year, 83 Officers were in Line.

"Japanese Propaganda release on 8th of December 1942 Summary for the year:

Enemy troops encountered Southern and Aleut Fronts, China Front.

	Southern Aleutian Fronts	-	China Front
	600,000	-	3,600,000
Bodies of dead left behind	- - 51,000	-	280,000
Prisoners of War	- - - 303,000	-	123,000

War Trophies

1. Guns	- - - - -	3,620	-	846
2. Machine guns	- - - - -	11,300	-	3,200
3. Other Arms	- - - - -	206,000	-	159,100

War Troops -----

4. Tanks	- - - - -	1,440	-	
5. Motor Cars	- - - - -	31,700	-	129
6. Rolling stock	- - - - -	12,200	-	208
7. Airplanes Captured or shot down	- - - - -	1,959	-	138
8. Enemy vessels sunk or damage	- - - - -	104		
Prisoners taken in P.I.	- - - - -	75,500		
Fil-American deaths	- - - - -	25,400		
	---()---			
Japanese Losses Killed	- - - - -	21,107		
" Wounded	- - - - -	42,576		
	Total	- 63,683		
Airplanes	- - - - -	399		
Vessels	- - - - -	62		

Will be interesting to check these figures against the official reports after this War is finished.

THE TRIBUNE

Manila, February 10, 1943

Kigen - Setu Ceremony at New Luneta
Feb. 11, a Holiday, Vargas Urges Display of Flag.
Kigen - Setu or Empire Foundation Day.

Proclamation Issued by Jorge B. Vargas of the Executive
Commission - Proclamation # 9 x x x

Prepared Program

1

8:30 A.M.

1. Salute to the Representatives of the Imperial Japanese Forces in the Philippines.
2. "Kimigayo" by the Metro. Constabulary Band.
3. Song of the Empire Day by Japanese Girls
4. Homage to the Imperial Palace
5. One minute silent prayer for the War dead and Victory by Japan.
6. Greetings by the Chairman of the Executive Commission.
7. Instructions by the Director of the Japanese Military Administration.

11

9:15 A.M.

1. Three Cheers of "BANZAI" led by Chairman of the Executive Commission.
2. Salute to Representatives of the Imperial Japanese Forces in the Philippines.

111

12:00 Noon

1. Call on the Chairman and Members of the Executive Commission, Parade of the Constabulary Band through out the City of Manila in a decorated truck.

Instruction to the Public

- (a) All participants must be in their place at 8 A.M. in the New Luneta carrying Japanese paper flags.
- (b) Participants all to keep silent during the ceremony, due respect to the solemnity of the occasion.
- (c) Every person should stay at attention, head uncovered when the "Kamigayo" or Japanese National Anthem, is played, and then 1 minute prayer for the War dead and Victory of Japan is ordered.

(d) The salute to the Representatives of the Imperial Japanese Forces shall be rendered when the order of "Keirei" is given, every participant shall remain at attention, head uncovered, with hands at sides and bow from 20 to 30 degrees from the waist; the command "Maore" shall be given after the salute to resume original position.

(e) The homage to the IMPERIAL PALACE shall be rendered when the order "MAWARE MIGA" (or about face) is given. Participants shall therefore turn around at attention, head uncovered facing the North East and at the command "SAI KEIRI" bow 90 degrees from the waist, (at right angle); the commands "MAORE" resume original position and "MAWARE MIGA" (about face) will follow:

(f) The three cheers of "BANZAI" should be executed properly by every body under the direction of the Chairman of the Executive Commission.

(g) Everybody must remain in place until the program is over. Nobody will leave until after the Representatives of the Imperial Japanese Forces and the members of the Philippine Executive Commission, have left the grand stand.

(h) Spectators who are not taking part in the ceremonies will assemble at rear of participants; they will not be allowed to stay around the grand stands or to move around once the ceremonies begin. However, they are required to participate in execution of Nos. 1 and 2 and of part 11.

(i) All Depts. Bureaus and offices of the Central Administrative Organizations shall be headed by their assistant Assistant Commissions, Directors and Assistant Directors.

The departments and district offices of the City of Manila shall be headed by their respective chiefs, under the Assistant Mayor.

1 Jan. 1943

We have had a much more pleasant Holiday week than I could ever have believed would be possible under the circumstances. The Japanese have made much of the Holiday season by a 4 day holiday and they have indulged in much liquor and singing. We had a little liquor but just enough to "Fail" the vocal cords so that we had a sing last night. Food has been plentiful and all in all we are much more optimistic than a year ago at this time. Favorable rumors keep coming in but nothing that we can see that looks like fighting America. We are so hoping to be out of this by the 4th of July. Our death rate is going down rapidly being less than half for December what it was in November mostly due I believe to the increase and improved rations.

15 Jan.

Still good rumors but nothing in particular to baze our hopes on for early release from captivity. The weather is cool and we need 2 blankets at night. Death rate still diminishing.

1 February

Finally hospital No 1 from O'Donnell has joined us. Most of the personnel and equipment are now here or at Camp #3. We have 2 foot Dental Engines and three Field Chairs. A like amount of equipment was sent to the other side of the Camp. They have 2 foot Engines and three Field Chairs. We are running a survey of the Hospital and giving all of the patients all the treatment possible with our limited supplies. We are very short on Alloy so can do only class 2 fillings in the posterior teeth class 1 and class V Cavities are treated with Ag Nos and Zn O & Eugenol. We are doing many extractions getting the pts. ready for prosthesis when they arrive at stations where replacements are possible. Personnel of the Dental Corps are assigned as follows:

Kowalake, athletic Officer and Ward examiner appointments.
 Bodine, quarters due to Amebic Dysentery.- good condition otherwise.
 Schott, full time on reclamation laundry.
 Sult, full time in Clinic.
 Genung, full time in Clinic.
 Francis, Investigating Officer and part time in Clinic.
 Nase, full time on Sanitary detail.
 De long, full time on de lousing plant, part time in Clinic.
 Hudgnis, full time in Clinic recently joined from O'Donnell.
 Mohase, full time on Sanitary detail.

Am going to recommend this Officer for G-2 work when the American forces return. He speaks and writes Russian and French, understands Spanish and speaks Tagalog and speaks and writes Japanese.

Our 2 Assistanta are Pvt. Andrews - Cedar rapids Iowa and Pvt. Hale
Duncan Okla.

Assignment of Duty personnel

Allee, W.S. 1st Lt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 31
 Andler, M.M. 1st Lt. M.C. Research Board
 Armstrong, C.B. 1st Lt. M.C. Asst. Ward Surgeon Ward #9
 Aton, Rex Capt. M.A.C. Subsistence Officer
 Ayers, R.L. Capt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 30
 Bahrenbury, J.H. Major M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 25
 Brashop, N. Capt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 6
 Bonison, C.L. 1st Lt. M.C. Asst. Ward Surgeon W2
 Bennett, J.B. Major M.C. Chief of Medical Service
 Berkelhamer, R.C. Capt. M.C. C.O. Detachment Med. Dept.
 Berry, W.C. Major M.C. Medical Inspector
 Bertram, H.F. Capt. M.C. Research Board
 Bertz, W.W. Major V.C. Mess Officer Mess #3
 Bodine, R.L. Major D.C. Dental Service
 Brennen, J.J. Capt. M.C. Sanitary Service
 Bronk, T.T. 1st Lt. M.C. Research Board
 Brown, H.M. 1st Lt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 7
 Bulfamonte, J.C. Capt. M.C. Surgeon Service
 -Bumegarels, J.R. Capt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 28
 Bye, E.W. Capt. M.A.C. Medical Supply Officer
 -Chamberlain, G.E. 1st Lt. M.C. ward Surgeon Ward 24
 Clayman, S.J. Capt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 16
 Cmeyla, P.M. Capt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 5
 Comstock, J.A. Capt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 27
 De Long, Cyrus W. Capt. D.C. Sanitary Service
 Dorset, V.J. Capt. N.S.P.H.S. Ward Surgeon Ward 19
 Dulin, B.B. 1st Lt. M.C. Asst. Ward Surgeon Ward 8
 Fields Albert Lt Col. D.C. Chief of Dental Service
 -Francis, G.P. Capt. D.C. Police Officer
 Gard, H.L. Capt. M.A.C. General Supply Officer
 Genung, R.W. Capt. D.C. Dental Service
 Ginsberg, J.E. 1st Lt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 14
 Goldberg, J.E. 2nd Lt. M.A.C. Mess Officer Mess #4
 Golenternek, D. Capt. Sanitary Service
 Goodman, J.M. Capt. M.C. Ward Surgeon W 8
 Gordon, J.D. 1st Lt. M.C. Ward Asst Surgeon W #5
 Grider, J.A. Capt. M.C. U.S.P.H.S. Ward Surgeon W 29
 Hall, J.L. 1st Lt. M.C. Sanitary Service
 Hibbs, R.E. Capt. M.C. Research Board
 Hudgins, J.G. Capt. D.C. Dental Service
 Jacobs, E.C. Major M.C. Asst. Ch Medical Service
 Johnston, M.T. 1st Lt. M.A.C. Morgue Officer
 Kagy, E.S. Major M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward #2
 Kallus, E.J. Major M.C. Chief of XRay Service
 Katz, C.J. Capt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 18 Research Board

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DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd

Kelly, A.R. 1st Lt. M.C. Asst Mess Officer Mess #5
 Keltz, C. Capt. M.C. Asst Ward Surgeon Ward #4
 Keschner, H.W. Capt. M.C. Laboratory Officer Research Board
 Kostěcki, W.A. Capt. M.C. Asst. Ward Surgeon W6
 Kowalake, O.C. Major D.C. Athletic Officer
 Laudicina, A. 1st Lt. M.C. Asst. Ward Surgeon W 3
 Le Mire, J.F. Capt. M.A.C. Research Board
 Lentz, E.C. Major M.C. Sanitary Service
 Lewis, R.B. Capt. M.C. Sanitary Service Research Board
 Lunnie, F.M. 1st Lt. M.A.C. Personnel Adjutant
 Maupin, C.S. Major M.C. Adjutant
 Mohnae, A.M. 1st Lt. D. C. Sanitary Service
 Nardini, J.E. Lt. M.C. (Navy) Ward Surgeon W 9
 Nase Fred, G. Capt. D.C. Sanitary Service
 North, W.D. Lt. Col. M.C. Chief of Surgical Service
 Palermo, A.L. 1st. Lt. M.C. Asst. C.O. Dept Med. Det
 Perlman, W. 1st Lt. M.C. Receiving & Evacuation Officer
 Peters, J.F. Major M.C. Sick
 Pizer, M.I. Capt. M.C. Asst. Ward Surgeon W 19
 Proff, H.P. 1st. Lt. M.C. Asst Ward Surgeon W 7
 Rauson, K.E. Capt. M.A.C. Asst. Med Supply Officer
 Reilly, S.I. Major Chap. Senior Chaplain
 Rinaman, J.C. Major M.C. Senior Mess Officer
 Rizzolo, J. Capt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 13
 -Roby, A.A. Major V.C. Mess Officer Mess 2
 Roland, P.S. Capt. M.C. Ward Officer Ward #3
 Saravold, A.N. 1st M.C. USPHS Ward Surgeon Ward 26
 Schott, R.W. Major AC. Sanitary Service
 Schultz, E. 1st Lt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 1
 Schwartz, J.W. Lt. Col. M.C. Commanding Officer
 Seid, S.E. Capt. M.C. Asst. Ward Surgeon Ward 18
 Shaw, V.A. Capt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 12
 Sigrist, H.E. 2nd Lt. M.A.C. Registrar
 Sitter, S.C. Major M.C. Research Board
 -Smith, J.S. Maj or M.C. Mess Officer Mess #5
 Strand, C.J. Major M.C. Asst. Chief of Medical Service
 Sullivan, J.McG. Lt. Col. M.C. Attending Surgeon
 Sult, M.C. Major D.C. Dental Service
 Swanson, W.F. Major M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 4
 Talbot, A.D. Capt. Chap. Chaplain Catholic
 Taylor, R.O. Capt. Chap. Chaplain Baptist
 TIFFANY, F.L. Capt. Chap. Chaplain Presbyterian
 Tucker, E.W. 1st Lt. M.C. Mess Officer Mess 1
 Wallace, J.K. Capt. M.C. Sick
 Weinstein, A.A. Capt. M.C. Ward Surgeon Ward 17
 Wernitznig, E.W. Major M.C. Executive Officer
 Wilson, W.A. Major M.C. Chief of E. E. N. T.
 Zorfus, M.C. Capt. Chap. Chaplain Catholic
 Zimmerman, L.F. Capt. Chap. Chaplain Christian

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Attached Officers

Gouch, C.D.	2nd Lt. Army Asst.	Utilities Officer
Gallop, B.G.	East Army "	" "
Hartman, A.T.	" " "	" "
Heinrich, C.C.	Major Army Barracks	Leader Ward 15
McDantb, J.A.	Capt. Army East Barrack	Leader Ward 15
Northely, W.I.	1st. Army Asst.	Utilities Officer

15 February

Believe it or not the N have allowed a long run radio to be installed on the Hospital outdoor stage. It is played from 6 to 9 PM and then for an English broadcast of the news at 9:30 P.M. to 9:45 P.M.. At the same time electric lights were installed on the stage and we had the first performance of the Camp Orchestra tonight. Imitation of famous orchestras and their theme songs - very very good considering. Instruments 2 Cornets, 1 Clarinet, 1 Guitar, 1 Field Organ and 1 Baby Piano. The smallest practical piano I have ever seen.

16 February

20 Officers and 50 Corpsmen were ordered to Camp #3 today these are to be replaced by 6 Officers and whom we had out to Camp #3 previously. Our Camp is in the middle of a lot of hot air whirl winds which fills the eyes and the building full of dirt and are a real nuisance in the afternoon as the dust is whipped about.

18 February

We had a "shake down" inspection by the Japanese today. They got an old blanket, 1 over seas cap and suit of underwear from me. They also took a pair of my shoes but I got them back as they were given to Capt. Ransome and he in turn had been unable to find his shoes for the inspection and appeared in a pr. of "sivies" only. There is at least some comedy in our predicament. The Corpsmen working in the Medical Supply had hidden the Capt. Ransome shoes - and later today he had not found them so well did his men hide them. Last night I had a thrill that has come to me only a few times in my life. In company with Major Bodine we strolled out to listen to the radio when to our astonishment and surprise came the news of Germany Chief of Propaganda "Goebels" speech "telling the German people of the extreme "Crisis" they must face during the next few weeks. Telling in detail of the disasters that had befallen their Army on the Eastern front. How they had been surrounded and beaten at Stalingrad, Rostev, and Karkove. The talk was ended by telling the German people to prepare for the whirlwind. The news was so unexpected and so favorable to our cause that I found myself yelling and clapping at the end of the Broadcast, even tho we have been given to understand that we are to make no demonstration at any time should we get favorable news see an American plane or column of "Yanks" coming up the road. It happen that very few were around the radio at the time but electrically every one responded at the conclusion of the broadcast without regard to the instructions to the contrary by the American Hqs and the Japanese. It was the only really favorable news that we had heard in a year of discouragement so no one can know our reaction or joy. I slept very little

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Friday night so excited was I from hearing the most welcome news over the Japanese Radio K.Z.R.H. Manila. We all feel it is the first admittance on the part of Japan that the Allies are gaining and now it is only a question of time. Good rumors continue to come in of our gains in the southern Islands.

Patients in Hospital 1900. It will surely pep them up to get this good news because probably 75 to 100 patients were around the radios when this "Speech" came in at 8:45 to 9 P.M.

24 February 1943

Five days the wind has howled out of the north east. ^{Glowing} ~~Becoming~~ dust with everything. This old wooden building creaks and howls it is the longest "Cold" spell I have experienced in the low altitudes. Everybody is listening to the Radio these nights hoping for more good news but since Friday 18 Feb. the news has been of the usual propaganda variety. In reporting engagements the Japanese usually give our (Japanese) losses NONE.

28 February Sunday 1943

A year ago today in company with Capt. R.W. Genung, we went from #2 Hosp ital Bataan to the comparative quiet and luxury of Corregidor. Shall never forget our arrival at the Tunnel Hospital if we would like a little something to Eat? A positive and affirmative yes. Wanted to know if we would have hamburger or cheese sandwiches - I chose Cheese because - well I thought I would get it sooner and my how good the 2 two sandwiches tasted. Also had the privilege of Coffee but declined as it was after 9PM. and I wanted a good nights sleep with substantial food in my belly and the prospect of a busy long day the next morning going over the Island.

Don't know what we have done now but the Japanese have taken out our radio so we do not even get local news and Propaganda. The Japs have also stopped all forms of assemblies and classes - allowing only church services and I understand a class in the Japanese "Nippongo" language. We hear rumors as to how the Russians are still winning over the Germans and we think the news of the Japanese -American War over here is something the Japanese do not want us to hear. Truth and correct news are two things that all warring nations seem to think should not be allowed.

We were told yesterday this would be pay day again, but this morning it was called off. Understand rumors to the effect that we will be paid tomorrow. Field Officers draw P25.00 Japanese Currency per month and the remainder of our pay is credited to us in "Postal Saving Bonds". I do not know how much is credited to me each month. The P25.00 is a big help in buying the "Quan" necessary to augment our diet. I buy monthly Fruit and Eggs extra. Am glad I do not smoke or use tobacco as it had been a big savings and the quality of tobacco has been very bad. Some items are getting to be very scarce. Sugar is now selling for P26.60 per sack of about 55K. As late as September it was about about P8.00 per sack. Coffe (Native) only)

DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd

now is selling at P5.50 per kilo. Chicken Eggs at 7-1/2 ¢, Duck Eggs at 10¢ each. Chickens average a little more than P1.00, Ducks sell for about P1.00.

Another Red Cross Card is being prepared in Hqs of the Hospital, on which we can indicate where we are and how we are getting along. These are supposed to go to our closest of Kin. Will make out ~~one~~ ^{one} which I hope will get to Bess, Sara and the rest of the family in time. Except for my signature I say almost nothing on them so that no censor - no matter how dumb can take exception to anything contained there on.

3 March 1943

Still continues to hear good rumors concerning progress of our forces and the Allies but it is sure slow going to sit here and wait and wait without visible signs of our arms being somewhere in this part of the world.

Yesterday Capt. Le Mire and a number of Japanese personnel came down from Camp #3 and took one of our two foot engines and a few supplies which will slow up our work here considerably. Today the Japanese Dr. Sucherie says we are to use "force" to prevent the members of Camp 3 coming down here and taking supplies and equipment. Fine information after the items have been taken. Why did not the Japanese Med Eqs do something about it yesterday when the party was here as they well knew? More evidence of "Snafes" in the Nippon organization. Being Prisoners of War we do as we are told by the Japanese currently present whenever the occasion arises. No deaths for February was only 10; the lowest since we have been for anyone month.

4 March 1943

Just finished the book "Berlin Diary" by William L. Shirer. It is a most apropos book to be reading at this time. From the Notes of this Diary one wonders how it is that the German People have been able to stay in this War this long. I hope we will soon see the fulfillment of many of the noted short coming of the German People and their Government. Among the acute shortages at the times of the Book was cotton and wool I wonder how they are able to withstand the terrible Russian Winters on a shortage of fabric material that existed as early as the fall of 1940.

5 March 1943

This is Friday but we are observing it as a Sunday effective today our Sundays are regular days of duty and Friday is to be the "rest" day of the week. Believe this is the result of the Japanese wanting to go to Cabanatuan during the week rather than on Sundays when most of the country natives come to market Church and etc,

"War Prison Camp No 1 of the Philippine Islands Cabanatuan, P.I.

3 March 1943

MEMORANDUM: Group Commanders 11 1 111 Hospital

Hospital

Lt. Col. Montgomery

Lt. Col. Babevik

Lt. Col. Oliver

DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd

1. Effective this week and hereafter Friday will be the observed holiday of the Camp Sunday hereafter will be a work day. The morale program for this week will remain as submitted with changes of Church services, if so desired, by the Chaplains. Next week however, morale program will be submitted taking into consideration that Friday is the holiday instead of Sunday.

By Order of Lieutenant Colonel BEECHER

G.H. REYNOLDS
Major F. A
Adjutant

Facsimile of Memorandum changing Friday to the holiday of the week instead of Sunday. Just in from the holiday (Friday) soft Ball Game the Hospital Group lost to Group 1 score 3-5. Chaplain Zerfas pitched for the Hospital, but as I had made and overfed him or very tasty "Rice Flour" pancakes I may have been indirectly the cause of our losing the game.

9 March 1943

Rumors that Germany will "fold" this month continues to come in. Rommel in North Africa is supposed to be bottled up with all lines of communication cut. Rumors of sinking of various numbers of Japanese ships in the south west Pacific. The Chinese are reported as doing well. The Russians are supposed to have Opessa (I doubt it) Kiev and are moving steadily forward on all fronts.

Patients in Hospital 1843.

16 March 1943

The dental Clinic was moved today from our location in the Clinic Building to the former Morgue - Building #10. Together with the Laboratory we are occupying the entire Building aprox 20'x50' we have the east end of the building giving us good north and south light. We have a lavatory in the middle of the east end of the building which makes it handy for the chair on the north and the two on the south side of the building. We have running water and electric lights which is one of two buildings so equipped in the entire Hospital. The other building being the surgery and XRay Clinic. Except for being about 500 yards from the Headquarters and Officers Mess it is otherwise a very satisfactory location. We have acquired some much needed office equipment namely an Office desk - Chair and 3 steel folding Chairs of good manufacture. We will be able to use electric sterilizers of which we have two. We also have one good "Promethus" operating light which will be available for night emergencies.

The building is in bad repair with holes in the weather boarding and roof. The Nipa roof is going to allow a lot of water thru during the rainy season if we are still here as tho we are going to have to endure another

during the rainy season and it certainly looks

rainy season either here or in some other location under Nippon Rule. The Grounds surrounding the Clinic are in keeping with the poor condition of the building so I am making plans to do a little landscape gardening. Building walls doing grading and I hope to have some flower before long.

21 March 1943

(The ~~Ides~~ of March) The first day of spring. It is windy much like it would be in Kansas but much warmer about 90oF. This being the middle of the dry and hot season much dust is being blown about. We had a severe electrical storm last night that sprinkled a little and we could see a very heavy rain to the north west in the foot hills of the mountains. The storm clarified the atmosphere and it is cooler and not so humid today.

There is an al~~most~~ total lack of news or rumors so we are just marking time. We have the Clinic well organized in the new locations and it is running smoothly again.

Prices are getting very high in the Commissary. Bananas 1-1/2 ¢ Cigarettes 20¢ Chicken Fl.00 to Fl.50 Eggs Hen 7-1/2, Eggs Duck 12¢ Oranges 15¢ Tangerines .07¢ Tomatoes K. 25¢ Coffee K. P7.00. Peanuts raw .10¢ Cup Peanuts salted and roasted .50¢ Cup. Evaporated Milk Fl.50, Razor Blades 4 blades 2.55, Sugar P26.25 sack. Matches 40-60¢, Corned Beef (native) 90¢. Can .80¢, Oleomargarine difficult to secure at about 2.50 per kilo, Sardines 7 Oz. .7 ¢ Tooth brush Fl.50, tooth powder .95¢ per kg. Toilet paper Fl.10 per roll. Many of these items are difficult to secure.

About the only athletics which we have ^{are} ~~less~~, Valley Ball, Soft Ball and occasional hard ball. I played my first game of Cribbage last night and I think I will like the game quite well with more experience. We have about worn out all the cards in Camp and we cannot get replacements for them.

The Japanese give us two picture shows per month the 2nd and 22nd but due to the propoganda and the fact that all speaking and titles are in Japanese they mean very little to me so I seldom go to one of them.

Our Camp orchestra is getting to be very pepping but as they have such few instruments about the only music they are capable of doing well on is dance music. The director is excellent and has been giving a service of "hit parades" and imitations of the famous band and Orchestras currently playing in the U.S.A. These concerts make quite a hit with our personnel.

24 March 1943

Several flights of planes have passed over today - more aerial activity than we have heard in a long time. Clear and brilliant tropical sun makes it difficult to see them due to the glare. Some Japanese General gave the Camp a hurried visit yesterday. I do not believe he visited the Hospital at least he did not visit the Dental Clinic. I have the Hospital Guard House prisoners digging up the ground are out the building and we are going to utilize the water from the lavatory to keep the East end of the - - - -

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building grounds green. Am having it sodded and the waste water should keep it going until the rains come. Capt Genung supervised the digging up and the transferring of "Gardenia" - or Cape Jasmine" bush to our area. It had been located along our west fence of the Hospital having been cut down and otherwise mistreated. The base of the plant was divided into 3 sections we kept the best one and the two other were placed in front of the Guard House. By care and attention I hope it blooms by June.

28 March 1943

Sunday. ^{Got} ~~ate~~ up early and "Quan"^{ed} some fine pancakes for our eating gang. It is surprising what excellent pancakes can be made of rice flour or meal. Our mess has a little hard rice mill which I understand was donated and sent up from Manila by Maj. Waterous. Bodine had ground our flour a day or two ago and I put our batter to soak over night - last night. Then this morning I peppered the baking powder into the batter and we really had an orgy of pan cakes. Gave about 1/2 doz. away part of them to Maj. Smith and Lt. Doolin who are running our Hospital Mess five.

More rumors of heavy bombings in the southern Islands. Increased activity in Burma. We hope it is true. Our newly transplanted *Gardenia* is growing nicely. Have rigged up a length of water pipe to irrigate the lawn on the east end of our clinic. We are using the waste water from the lavatory. Pvt. Andrews has put out some morning glory seed and is building a bamboo trellis for them to ~~vine~~ on. 1 death today.

Back to rice flour or meal, many patients are making excellent flour by soaking the rice for a few hours then using a round bottle about 1 quart size and using the bottle like a rolling pin on a board the rice is easily ground in this manner and it takes only a short time to make sufficient flour to make a batch of really delicious pan cakes. I have seen several very good Cakes made of this flour also Rice has many possibilities and uses which I never dreamed of.

Chaplain Tiffany (Presbyterian) has fixed himself a nice little chapel in the north end of the Hospt. Area under a nipe roof that had been left standing where a former building had been. The building had been used as salvage lumber and only the stuffing and roof remained. Lumber and Nails are very scarce or almost non-procurable. Much salvage lumber was burned in the messes during the early days of our occupation here. I had tried to argue against the use of the lumber in this manner but to no avail and now we cannot lumber for urgently needed sanitary installations, latrines repair of roofs and floors in the buildings.

1st. April 1943

Just another April's fool day without especial notice taken thereof. We were paid yesterday and I have commissary Group #38. Invested in the new Commissary Order which went in today. Our total Credit as of this date F206.86 -F53.00 belonging to me.

DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd

5 April 1943

The rumor concerning another detail to Japan materialized today by the publishing of the names of the 1,000 men detail that is to leave in the very near future. We are loosing about 8 Med Officers on this details Capts. Seid, Keltz, Kosteki, Benison, Proff, Lt. Dulin and Landicina.

6 April 1943

Two men (enlisted) escaped from the farm watering detail late tonight. I understand they were both captured recently having been members of a ~~Guerrilla~~ ^{Guerrilla} Band somewhere in the mountains. I doubt if they will be caught as I believe they know of certain hide outs and have probably taken off for them. One of the men is named Kelly. We in the meantime are being punished in the Camp by serious restrictions and slapping about by the Japanese Guards.

7 April 1943

A torrential down pour caught me at supper tonight, it was unexpected even though it had looked like a thunder shower all afternoon. It was a very hot humid day with the thermometer reaching 102 in the shade on the porch in front of the Med Supply in the Clinic Bldg. To keep my old shoes dry I walked from Hqs to the Dental Clinic barefoot. It is slow going with tender feet. Severe wind and lightening accompanied the rain.

The storm did minor damage to buildings in the Hospt. Area. A ward tent about 20' x 40' occupied by a small detail of men doing guard duty here in the Hospital was torn to pieces and several of the men were given minor injuries ^{by the poles & stakes striking above their beds & effects were} badly water soaked. My bed is dry but the Clinic building floor is wet all over due to water that was blown thru the walls and around the windows.

8 April 1943

Another big rain and wind storm today. The wind got under the Nipa "Shingle" of the roof over the Clinic and the entire interior of the building was a flood. Some of the Nipa leaves were dislodged and as result our floor was covered with debris.

9 April 1943

Anniversary of the fall of Bataan. What a year it has been! I can visualize the stirring times we were having a year ago. It has been a hert year in retrospect. To think of the disease and death we have been in since this time a year ago makes one shudder. Had we had food and medicine I am sure the sickness and deaths would not have been more than 5% of the number that actually died. In walking about the Hospital today one is impressed by the remarkable improvement that has taken place since Christmas. For it was at this time that the food and medicine which we had received earlier in December began to become effective and the conditions of the patients has constantly improved since then until just recently when many of the essential drugs are becoming exhausted and the food supply is not adequate unless bolstered by bought food. If the men could buy additional ~~fees~~ ^{fees} and fruit to augment the present diets as issued by the Japanese many of our people would undoubtedly continue to show improvements.

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DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd

As it is however I am of the opinion that we will have additional deaths unless the issued food is improved in variety and more liberal amount - Variety with a more potent ~~Vitamina~~ content is the more necessary need.

Capt. Strand, Lieut. Doolin and myself comprised a Board to award prizes in Ward 5 today. The contest was between different Groups in the Ward. To improve the general condition of the Ward. There were 8 different projects. Namely - Bath rack outfit, Tom Thumb golf course, Time Cong Sun shade on East side of Ward and Sun shade on West Side of the Ward. Two rock gardens in front of the Ward. The first prize to Rock Garden consisting of two designs of the U.S. Shields similar to the Adjutant General's Dept Insignia. A star and the inscription "Ward 5". The prize honorable mention went to the south Rock Garden which had worked out the following: U.S. ARMY NAVY MARINE. The Rock Gardens are original for the Hospital and it gives this Ward the distinction of having the first of this sort of Civic or Community improvement. Capt. James Bruce M.C. the Ward Surgeon had originated the idea and got the prize money together from various sources. About \$10.00 total.

A rumor persists that about 700 men are to arrive from the Southern Islands mostly from Mindanao. We are looking forward to their arrival - means new faces maybe with a little information as to what is going on down there and what the conditions are in that section.

The 1000 men detail that was announced about a week ago and all informed to hold themselves in readiness to move on a five minutes notice is still with us. No information is available as to the cause of the delay.

Since the two storms all available material is being utilized with the purpose of repairing the roofs of the Buildings. This is not limited to the Hospital only. We can see men repairing the roofs of the building occupied by the Japanese. Believe the entire Camp had leaky buildings so I suppose the efforts to repair the buildings is common to the entire Camp. Practically all the buildings are roofed with the Mipa Palm leaves worked into a special matting fabricated by the Philippines at the time this Camp was constructed.

Deaths to date 2634 - None so far this month.

11 April 1943

Sunday nothing in particular to report. Last night I assisted Major Wilson in opening what proved to be an abscess super-imposed upon the Right Parotid of a patient. We both thought the gland Parotid was effected due to the extensive generalized edema of the right side of the face. In examining the case I noted that the Anterior half of the Gland and the Stino's Duct were normal but thought the distal and main part of the gland involved. However when the lesion was lanced it was found to have "pointed" about 1/2 inch anterior to external auditory meatus. An amount of thick heavy pus was evacuated by means of blunt dissection. No saliva was encountered so the supposition is that the gland is not involved.

Went to Church services last night. The occasion being the fact of a baptismal service. Major White M.C. from the other side of the Camp was one among about 23 others who was baptised. Chaplain Taylor preached the sermon, which was by "reading between the lines" a regular old time "hard shell" Baptist sermon. Taylor baptised about half the number and Chaplain Zimmerman baptised the remainder. They had rigged up a bath tub affair in front of the stage constructed of canvas. By seating the ~~convicts~~ ^{Convicts} on a submerged bucket in the bottom of the tank the ~~bucket~~ ^{Candidates} were tilted backward into the water until the water flowed over them. Major Arthur Irons D.C. and Maj. Houghton M.C. came over with Majors White, Irons who has been sick frequently since he came into this Camp from Camp O'Donnell told me that this past Friday they had found him positive for Acute B^{ac}terial Dysentery. I had suspected this condition on him ever since he has been in here due to this evident enemic condition.

13 April 1943

The Dental Group had a part in the bi-weekly staff meeting of this Camp, which included the Med Dept Officers of the entire Camp. The meetings are held in the Mess #3 Building Staff Mess of the Hospital. Maj. Jacobs presented a case of edema of the lower limbs - thought to be either Pellegra or Beri-beri. The Patient evidently has an idiosyncrasy for Arsephenimic as he had been given some as treatment and re-acted badly to the treatment. A check of his previous history showed he had had a similar reaction at Sternberg. Major Wilson represented a case of ~~sinusitis~~ ^{sinusitis} that had been presented by Capt. Farley D.C. previously - showing involvement of the left antrum. The case had recovered by treatment for sinusitis by treatment thru the nose. Jacobs also presented a case of ~~Vincent's~~ ^{Vincent's} Infection of the throat that had made a quick recovery thru the treatment with aprox 100 mg. of ~~Neosporin~~ ^{Nicotin} and daily orally. I presented. The Three Angler classifications Class 1 myself Class 11 Capt. McNaughton F.A. and Class 111 Sgt Kanstra A.C. whom I had previously opened the bite for at Stotsenberg. Maj. Sult presented a case of fistula of the parotid gland left. Ft. A Navy personnel had been wounded in the face and later had a foreign body removed at Corregidor being removed aprox 1" interior to the auditory meatus.

Major Rinaman presented a chart of the food issued for March 1943 showing the Calvic values of the various items on the menu together with the supposed vitamine contents it was a very comprehensive report. (see Copy of REPORT IN BACK OF THIS BOOK).

15 April 1943

In the early hours this A. M. it is reported we of our perimeter Guards Private Juan Trujillo formerly of "E" Battery 200 AA cal. from New Mexico was caught outside the first wire fence on the south end of the Hospital Area.

It is reported he was caught by the Japanese Officer of the Day - taken to the South west corner Guard House and tied up until morning was then beaten and otherwise mistreated and then taken to the Area near where Col. Biggs and the other two were executed and here it is reported Trujillo was

DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd

summarily shot. So far as I can learn no American was allowed to talk with him from the time of his reported apprehension and the time he was shot. It seems to be the ~~consensus~~^{consensus} of opinion that Trujillo was bartering with the Japanese Guards and that the Officer of the Day arrived at this juncture and in order for the Japanese Guards to "cover up" the fact that they were dealing with a Prisoner they began to call "Escaped" Prisoner. This Prisoner was shot about 9 A.M. and it seems to me to be a plain case of "MURDER". One deduction is the fact that the 2 prisoners who escaped about 2 weeks ago have a reprisal for their loss that this prisoner was so summarily shot. One cannot forget or forgive such wanton taking of life.

16 April 1943

Father Buttonbruck the Catholic Priest of Manila who represents the Philippine Red Cross came out to Camp today but was not allowed to leave anything. It is reported he brought a lot of packages for different individuals, some medicine and probably some notes or letters for different members of the Command. However the Japanese are still punishing us for the misdeeds of the few and Fr. Buttonbruck was not allowed to leave anything but was required to reload of all and take it back to Manila. Such is our luck in this luckless Prison Camp of the P.I. I wonder how long we will be required to wait and endure this senseless and heartless treatment. I surely wish a few of the fond "members" our pacifists just had to spend a few years of agony, waiting for our Government to overcome its inertia and unpreparedness as a result of the "Lovely"??? doings of our Pacifists and others who joined with them to keep down the cost of reasonable preparedness, and I might add ~~everyone~~ a reasonable military policy.

22 April 1943

Sara's birthday again - 25 years after - my how short the time seems. Ofcourse I wonder where she is what she is doing and all the thoughts that one has on such occasions. How pleased I am is that Sara and Bess are as far as it is possible to be in this War torn World and still be just of the War and not really in it. I shall be so pleased if I return to find Sara, happily married - tho I am afraid that the eligible "Boys" who would have married her are still in this War - over here somewhere. Culver Brooks - formerly of Omaha and a classmate of Sara's, I believe went to Japan about 4 months ago - believe I gave him a parting gift of a can of sardines. I hope the Boy is getting along nicely - we visited much while he was a patient at #2 Gen Hospital. I was glad I could supply him with a new pair of shoes before we left there.

Chuck Samson - Is still in this Camp he had command of a company in Group #1 the last time I saw him. I had bid him goodbye and given him a small can of sardines some months back but ~~his~~ orders were changed and he has remained in this Camp. These are two good "Boys" and I like both very much. "Chuck" and I had a nice "Chile" dinner over here on an occasion before we were paid. I had "saved" the Chile for some such special occasion.

The past few days have been unsettled weather with frequent heavy thunder storms. The air has been moist but we have had very little rain but with excellent growing weather. Our little garden of Zenias, Peanuts, Papaya and onions is growing nicely. The "Boys" Andrews and Hollingsworth and myself are getting pleasure and a little exercise out of tending this small garden effort. We have many young Papaya plants that I hope will do some ~~use~~ good but personally I hope we do not have to remain in this Prison Camp long enough to see them mature.

Many rumors - all or at least most all of them very favorable to our cause. I only hope a small percentage of them are true. The war will soon be a year and one half old so it seems to me it is time to begin to make ourselves felt. At least the Japanese have not been able to dislodge our forces in the south. Australia seems ~~to be~~ safe. ~~And~~ I believe our hold on New Guinea and the Solomon Islands is too secure for the Japanese to dislodge us. The Russians seem to be carrying the war to the Germans and Rommel seems to be fighting a losing campaign in N. Africa. If we were not in this Prison Camp I am sure I would feel ~~as~~ ^{we} as a military U.S.A. are doing quite alright and it is just a question of time until our Allies and ourselves would have definitely and safely the upper hand in this World War #2.

23 April 1943

Good Friday - If I were at home in Kansas I suppose I would be doing a little spring gardening. As it is here I have a small garden that is looking very promising and is serving to interest my two enlisted men Sgt. Hollingsworth and Pvt. Andrews. We three ~~are~~ ^{are} dividing the labor (I might almost say of love) taking care of the growing things. We have to water every evening due to the dry hot weather now on us.

Being Friday a Church Holiday and also the designated day of Rest by the Japanese little is going on. Mostly I should say its just another rather hot sleepy day in prison Camp.

25 April 1943

Easter Sunday. Got up early this A.M. and attended Sun Rise Church Service - Heard a rather fair sermon on the "Recreation" by Chaplain Taylor. A large crowd was in attendance. Next had breakfast with my "Quan" companions Maj. Peter, Chaplain Zerfas and we saved plenty of Pan Cakes for Maj. Roy Bodine which I took to him in Ward # 1 where he had been an ~~acute~~ ^{acute} Dysentery patient for approx one month. I made or started the Pan Cake batter yesterday and this morning we had approx 30 delicious PanCakes.

About 9:30 A.M. I went to Church services presided over by Chaplain Tiffany - Presbyterian. He preached a good sermon on the theme of Mary Magdalene's expression, "They have taken away ^{from the Gospel according to} ~~the~~ Lord ~~and~~ to St. John. Good attendance and the singing of the Chorus Choir was excellent. At this writing a cool breeze is blowing and I must get ready to water the garden.

DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd

Rumors continue to come in saying we have made a landing on Borneo. Also it is said that some sort of shake up has occurred in the Japanese Cabinet. This may or may not effect our status later on.

29 April 1943

Thursday - And a Holiday. This is Emperor Hirohito's of Japan birthday. There is nothing in particular to distinguish this day from any other holiday which we have experienced while in this prison Camp.

The Japanese had a little ceremony at sunrise and at the same time raised their flag with or as part of the ceremony. This afternoon 4 truck loads of Japanese soldiers left in trucks headed toward Cabanatuan. We do not know if they are on a liberty Party or are going to Cabanatuan as part of some sort of celebration in that town.

Saw two notes today in the hands of Major L.W. Herrick S.C. from Chaplain Maj. Duffey formerly of Stotsenberg. He had been reported missing on the march to O'Donnell and for a time we thought he had died. It was known he fell out of line before the column arrived at San Fernando so it was presumed he was shot. However the two notes state that he is on the staff in Bilibid in Manila. I suppose quite a tale is connected with his escape and final arrival as a prisoner at Bilibid.

Rumors have it that we are bombing Davao in Island Mindanao very heavily. The rumors concerning the Borneo landing also continue to be substantiated. We received a small commissary today. Duck Eggs are now 13-1/2 centavos a piece.

5 May 1943

2 years ago today - my Dearest Bess and Sara left on the Republic for the good old U.S.A. How glad I am that their are there. So many thoughts of them since - and I wonder when it will be that we shall be together again? I thought a year ago it would surely not be later than today but today the prospects are that if we finish this job within another year we will be making very very fast time. How I would like to receive a letter from them giving me all the news of themselves and Home Folks.

Pay day has been delayed this month and we have not been paid up to this date. We are informed some ~~part~~^{part} of new pay forms is being made out and that we will be paid shortly. Our credit is still good and we are able to receive our commissaries as ~~if~~^{if} we had the money so the lack of pay is not an inconvenience.

Good Rumors continue to come in regarding the Southern Islands tho no definite details are given.

5 May 1943

Continued - Rommels Forces in north Africa are said to be fast disintegrating and that his surrender is expected within two weeks. Information received is to the effect that the U.S.A. is building 6000 planes per month and launching 8 ships per day. Planes are said to be flying to Europe in flights of 500 ships at a time. Conditions with us here in the Camp ~~is~~ unchanged. Food is about as usual the medicines are low in stock. Sugar is very scarce with us. The usual issue is evidently lacking and we have not been able to buy any in the commissary for at least 3 weeks.

6 May 1943

Another anniversary today. The fall of Corregidor. The Japanese celebrated it with a memorial formation at the flag pole this evening. They evidently had a memorial for those killed at Corregidor and also for certain dead which they had here in Camp. I counted six or seven small white boxes which were carried from the scene of the formation and placed in a Command Car auto. Then the troops were lined along the road leading from the scene of the service and then the Command Car passed in front of the troops as tho they were honoring the dead and starting them on their way to Japan.

A few days ago we witnessed the cremation of a Japanese soldier who had died here in Camp. The body was placed on a pile of wood evidently oil was poured in the body and the wood and the whole ignited. The fire lasted for several hours. It is my opinion that due to heat and lateness of the hour (aprox. 6 P.M.) that the ashes could not be collected until the following morning. Various members of the command would come to the scenes of the cremation bare their heads and bow from the waste to an aprox 90 angle of the body holding the pose for a few seconds. They would stand about the fire a short time and then move away. The small boxes ^{referred} to at the beginning of this paragraph being the containers of ashes of the various members who have died or been killed hereabouts. We hear of Japanese soldiers being killed in these parts by the activity of the ^{Guerrilla} Bands.

12 May 1943

I filled out a Red Cross card to be sent home. This makes about 3 or 4 such cards I have prepared since last December. Surely hope some of them get back to Bess and Sara.

Today is pay day. Pay Day is 12 days late this month for some reason which the Japanese did not deem necessary to tell us why the cause of the delay. Anyway it shortens the time until next pay day.

One of our patients a civilian by the name of Wm. (Bill) Zeitland whom I came to know casually went to Manila recently to have a full upper denture repaired. He had an azylic denture that had split thru the palatal portion, and got transferred to Manila for the necessary treatment. Word arrived this A.M. that he had been shot by the Japanese for trying to get check cashed by some Chinese. The Chinese involved was also executed. Good rumors continue to come in that the Allies are gaining on all fronts. General Rommel is reported to be all but taken in N. Africa. The Russians are

reported to be advancing on all fronts. It is reported that Germany had asked Russia for a separate peace but that they had been refused by Stalin of the Russians. We hear rumors of a combined British and American fleet operating in the Aleutian Islands waters.

The food situation has ^{degraded} ~~degraded~~ again and we are being subjected to short rations again. Little sugar and about 100 grams of Carabeo per day I am afraid we will have a proportionate increase in avitaminosis diseases again. We are getting almost no commissaries at this time. I was relieved today as commissary Officer for the Buhay #38. Have held this job since last July - 1942 Am glad to be rid of the nuisance. Checking on my cash following payday find I have approximately P75.00 in cash which leaves me a good working balance.

17 May 1943

Capt. Francis told me he had read in the Manila paper that fighting had ceased in N. Africa. The paper was dated the 12 May 1943. That is we completed job the Allies have accomplished. We once wondering what their next effort will be. My guess is that they will now concentrate on Germany proper. Leaving this situation in the status of holding operation in the South West Pacific. It would not surprise me that when the effort is made ^{over} here it will come in concert with Russia using Sakhalin - Kurafato Island as the main bombing base of Japan proper. Unless some border incident arises to start trouble immediately between Russian and Japan I believe both will be content with a "Status Quo" until the European situation is terminated our way or another.

The fence that formerly separated the dysentery area from the Hospital proper and which was taken down about the time we moved into this building was ordered placed immediately yesterday by the Japanese. They contending it is dangerous to have the dysentery patients mingling with patients from the rest of the Hospital. The lower or seriously ill section of the Hospital is now "quarantined" away from the remainder of the Hospital. It will be bad for the morale effect it will have on the patients in the lower area in that they will not be able to attend the entertainment Program given from the stage in the center of the Hospital Area.

Sugar has practically disappeared from our menus. Appears as tho the Japanese do not intend that we shall have more of this desirable item of food.

Information have been received that the civilians interned at St. Santo Tomas College Manila, have been transferred to the Agricultural College at Los Baños, Laguna, Province.

25 May 1943

I received an unexpected invitation to have lunch with Maj. Irons and the other Dental Officers on the other side of the Camp. In extending the invitation they requested that I bring Capt. Hamilton and Capt. Laragay with me. Both of the above Dental Officers are patients in the Hospital

and really belong on the other side of the Camp. Capt Hamilton is in Ward 5 with a diagnosis of ~~Acute~~ Dysentery. Capt Leragey is in Ward 18 and having been admitted to the Hospital on Jan. 1, 1943 with mental derangement.

We had a nice "pork" dinner. 13 Dental Officers being present. The Dentists on the other side were lucky in buying a half of a pig weighing 38 Kilos. The meat was splendidly prepared being roasted to a lovely light brown. Maj. Rago had prepared a hot pepper and pork relish that went well with the dinner. We used the usual issued meal of rice and vegetable soup and together with the fresh roast pork it really made delectable meal.

The Japanese Guards are reported to be beating up many of the men on the garden detail apparently without cause. This is one feature of Japanese psychology that I cannot understand. We have had a number of men undergo such treatment as breaking their arms numerous cuts and abrasions. Yesterday I learned that Capt. Conrad - Inf. had been beaten up by one of the Guards. Now Conrad weighs about 185 lbs. and I can imagine how difficult it must have been for him to undergo much humiliations from small Japanese Guard. I hesitate to think what will happen to some of these Japanese if ever we are released by our own forces.

26 May 1943

The Manila paper of May 25, carried the news item that the Grand Admiral of their (Japanese) Fleet had been killed in the South West Pacific. The Japanese Diet had sent condolences to his family. His son 21 years old a sophomore in High School was quoted as saying that he would avenge the death of his father. Admiral Yamamoto.

27 May 1943

On orders of the Japanese Wards 30 and 31 were closed 3 days ago and today Wards 27-28-29 were closed. 300 patients were returned to duty and the remainder of the patients were transferred to other wards. Mess #4 which was in the Area of the above wards was also closed. This leaves 3 active Messes #2-3-5. The work ward and the perimeter Guards were transferred to the Staff Mess #3 giving us about 152 additional personnel in the duty mess.

28 May 1943

Another Anniversary - I am beginning 5 years service in the Philippines today. This is 2 full years more than I had expected to do when I came over.

29 May 1943

More rumors - I hope this one is true. "After Attu" action over Navy met a large enemy force and from May 12 to 22nd a terrific battle was waged. Japs lost 62 Vessels out of 74." According to the news commentators it has the greatest U.S. Naval victory in history. We are alleged to have employed between nine and twelve air-craft carriers in the action, besides much land based aircraft from Alaska. Manila Tribune of May 26th announced that our Navy Dept. officially said we had contacted large enemy fleet in northern Pacific and that is all it said. Afterwards Japs officially announced that they had sunk one of our cruisers, ~~Damaged one battle ship, some cruisers and~~

destroyers, and several vessels of unknown category. Admiral Yamamoto is believed to have been in that action between the 17th and 22nd of May. He was killed in a plane which was shot down while he was trying to escape from his sinking ship. Spain and Portugal Turkey have declared war against the Axis. Spaniards in Manila re being gradually interned.

30 May 1943

Memorial Day. One year ago today we were enroute to this Camp via the Manila Rail Road loaded like pigs in to a small metal box car. Today the Camp is an orderly well organized and going concern. The Camp is well drained; surface ditches and the presence of flower beds and gardening has converted it into a much more levable place. The Japanese have allowed us to observe today as Memorial Day and about 2000 Officers and Men marched out to the Cemetery for the memorial service. Chaplain Oliver was in charge of the memorial service assisted by Chaplains of the various denominations. Chaplain Oliver personally gave me the details of the following program which was held at the cemetery.

General Prayer - Ending with the Lord's Prayer
Chap. John K. Borneman Pres.
Prayer in Hebrew, Canted by Cantor Auron Kliatchko

Songs: Rock of Ages Camp No. 1

- Sleep Comrade Sleep Glee Club
- Recessional sung by Montal Glee Club

Prayer by Catholic Chaplain McDonnell U.S. Army

Song: Old Rugged Cross - by entire assembly

Benediction: Pronounced by Chaplain
" Group U.S. Navy

Taps

Wreaths were placed on the two large Crosses in the Cemetery. Wreaths were provided by the Japanese General Commanding the Philippine Dept of the Japanese Imperial Army.

The Japanese Major - the seniors Officer of the Japanese Army of this Camp.

Our own Chaplains presented wreathes in the name of the Personnel now here in Memory of those Departed.

This ceremony is probably unique in as much as it was held under Japanese Captivity - Assisted in by the Japanese and the fact that almost exactly 2000 persons assembled in the Cemetery to do honor in memory of the 2644 buried in the Cemetery.

DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd

The two prayers Canted by Kliatchko were El Mawley Rochamin (Prayer for departed souls) "The Kaddisk (Miners Prayer)

1st June 1943

Precipitation for the month totaled 4.67 inches.

6 June 1943

Rain last nights lasting about 3 hours amounted 4". Commissaries received today 1 mango at .18¢, 3 Papaya .15¢. In memory of the death of Admiral Yamamoto a five day observation has been ordered by the Japanese. We are not allowed to have any music or singing for 5 days Friday thru Tuesday 8th quick. I delivered a lecture on Dentistry to Ward #7. 1 death last night.

9 June 1943

Another anniversary - The (this) Hospital was established a year ago today. We moved into an area of ~~agalli~~ buildings with Nipa roofs and half hidden in the tall cogon grass. Evidences of the recent invasion still was visible in wrecked automobiles a few burned buildings bomb holes and other jetsam of War. We started a Hospital without equipment and very little medicine or supplies. We admitted 500 Pts. the first day and such a sight they were. Emaciated, fever-crazed, dysentery-ravaged, so hope-less help-less and forlorn a group. I hope never to see again. About all ~~we~~ could do for them was to provide shelter and that in these barracks that had been built to house an emergency Army of Philippines entirely unsuited to house Americans who are able bodied to say nothing of making a Hospital with the buildings as they had been constructed for our desperately sick patients. Feeding, ^{then} the little food we had was a problem. Rice was cooked in open air caldrons over open fires and placed 5 gal. oil tins, each tin being expected to feed from 30 to 50 patients depending on the issue of rice for the day. In addition to the rice a soup issue was also prepared from whatever vegetables could be poured. Generally a very poor variety of vegetable "swamp weed" and other very cheap goods cucumbers, pumpkins, sweet potatoes, turnips, green tomatoes, corn usually small can and dry and almost entirely ~~watered~~. About once per week a pig or two would be killed and added to the general mixture. About a gal. or two of this thin ~~unpalatable~~ soup would be issued with the 5 gal. can of rice.

Today a year after we are still using the same buildings but the Hospital has a splendid organization. The area has been thoroughly policed, ~~drain~~ ^{drain} ditches carry off the rains and a few minutes after the rains cease all surface water has been drained away. The Mos (3 of them now) are housed in buildings and cooking is well done on big "dobie" stores with metal top and big caldrons. The supply of vegetables has been arranged so that there is a more or less regular supply and a meat ~~of~~ of about 100 grams of Carabao meat per day per patient. The food while not very desirable is life sustaining and I hope some day we will be relieved to the regular American diet and that we can say adieu to this Oriental issue. Census is about 1460 patients and 350 staff. Torrential rains have been hitting us for the past 5 days evidently the first major typhoon of the season is

some where ^{in the} office. I should add that all the Dental Officers materially assisted in the establishment of this Hospital by helping with the endless, senseless, "bangoes" roll calls and feeding and care of the patients. We wonder will be in still be here next year at this time???

14 June 1943

All of the Field Officers of this Camp were ordered to hear a lecture this afternoon given by the senior Japanese Officer of this Camp Major Iwanaki at the Camp Theatre on the other side. I believe the lecture was ordered by higher authority. Major Iwanaki said in part "This is the greatest War - ever - that ever Japan took part in. It is death - life struggle for Japan. I congratulate myself and all of you on the low, death rate and the improved sanitary conditions. I appeal for your cooperation and when this is over I hope no animosity will remain. If you think that your food and supplies are inadequate remember the Japanese have no more than you have.

All of you will have to work. It is necessary for your good health. These policies are ordered by the C.Gen. in Manila and all we do is to carry into effect the Orders of Manila. Beating of the men on details will largely cease. The three main causes of the beatings are indolence on the part of the prisoners, Non Cooperation and language difficulties. The face slapping which you hate is very common in Japan and in the Japanese Army as a disciplinary measure - no particular offense is intended.

The Staff composing the American Headquarters of the Camp has been selected by us and is based on efficiency and our knowledge of the individuals without particular regard to seniority. Much appeal was made for Cooperation and ~~where the~~ war is finally over it was the wish of Maj. Iwanaki that we all be rejoined with our families and in good health and physically fit. His speech was in Japanese and was interpreted by an elderly Japanese civilian attached to the Japanese Army and who used very fair English. Most of us felt that the speech is a good omen indicating a desire for bettered relations in the future. Nothing was said about Japan and her Allies ~~winning~~ the War and the Imperial Japanese Army and Navy was not mentioned. The talk came as a surprise to all of us who heard it. Heavy rains are continuing daily.

16 June 1943

We are out of Alloy in the Clinic so to carry on as best we can I have rigged up a vise to hold silver coins so that we can file them for fillings. We have rigged a hinge on the end of a 2" x 4" and by using a wide flat pan under the coin we catch the fillings in the pan. We have a very poor file and find the coinage hard to file. It would appear that we will get sufficient fillings for about 4 fillings out of a "Peseta" 20 centavo piece.

Dr. Nogi, the Japanese Doctor from Manila who has general charge of the Hospitals in this Area was in the Hospital today for some sort of an

inspection. He came in the clinic but asked no questions. I was ready to tell him of all our needs and shortages but did not get the chance. I believe he knew in a general way our needs and did not want us to tell him directly of the many items we need. Col. Schwartz asked him directly for Emetine and Zathine for the treatment of ^{cases of} dysentery. He told Col. Schwartz that they had none in the Philippines. This another much needed drug is not available.

21st. June 1943

Propaganda papers received from Manila state that the Japanese Premier Mr. ~~Wase~~ has made a speech in the Japanese Diet stating that the Philippines will be given their Freedom or Independence this year. No definite requirements are stated but it is believed that this statement is actuated by the Military - Political situation. It is believed that Japanese hegemony will remain so paramount that the change in actual status will be hard to achieve. Should the military situation require the Japanese withdrawal then the Japanese could claim that the Allies are the aggressors by violating the territory of a weak and neutral nation. It will be interesting to watch the developments during the next six months.

24 June 1943

The Camp was inspected by two Japanese Generals today. One is said to be from Tokyo and is supposed to be in Command of all prison camps under the Japanese control. The other General is supposed to be in Command of all the Prison Camps in the Philippines only. They came into the Hospital area about 11 A.M. and made a short loop going thru two or three barracks and they may have inspected Mess #2 as it is situated next to the gate. They were not in the Hospital longer than 15 minutes. We could observe the party from the Dental Clinic but they did not come near this dysentery area. The Japanese seem to have a phobia about dysentery patients as they seem so afraid to come near the dysentery area unless under the most urgent necessity.

The rains continue to arrive everyday, believe it has rained everyday this month. Much more rain this month this year than June a year ago.

The Japanese have taken up all the books from the Camp except the medical professional books. We do not know why this was done it now leaves us almost nothing to do during the days except to work and sleep. We are hoping the books were taken to Manila for censoring and that they will be returned soon. We sincerely hope so.

26 June 1943

We had another visit (Unexpected) from the Japanese Generals today. They come into the Hospital Area and stayed about 15 minutes, going over the same route they had followed on their first visit. I understand Col. Schwartz made the rounds with them. It remains to be seen what the effects, if any, will be on the general policy of the Administration of this Camp. Another terrific rain storm near dark tonight. During the storm I extracted an L-14 for a patient who came in at the time with an acute very severe

pulfitis of the tooth. Arriving to the darkness I had to work almost by touch instead of vision. I did a flap operation removing the bunal process with a "Stout" No 2 chisel and then the usual extraction with forceps No 217.

28 June 1943

Chaplain Zimmerman was just in the Clinic and asked for a deposit of our commissary account. I gave him P17.00 which brings my deposit up to P35.90. The Japanese have informed us that we will not be paid until about the middle of July. Chaplain Zimmerman wanted to order a sack of sugar for our buying group No. 32. I am glad I had a little extra money to lend him for this cause as it maybe will be able to secure a little extra sugar in this manner.

My Dental Personnel is seriously effected at this time by sickness. Major Bodine and Capt Nase have been positive of ~~amoebic~~^{amoebic} dysentery for more than 2 months.

Major Sult is on quarters status with an obscure condition - Insomnia, headache and has been "blacking out" on the least exertion. He has lost considerable weight. Has a chronic diarrhea and nausea. Capt. Genung has been feeling badly for approximately 2 weeks. Insomnia, depression and on general condition of malaise. On the 25 June he was placed on quarters status and has been quite ill since that date has a high fever 102F giddiness and severe laryngitis. No appetite.

Today Pvt. G.H. Andrews was found positive of ~~amoebic~~^{amoebic} dysentery and placed in Ward #9 as a patient. He has had intermittent diarrhea since coming back to us in January from Corrigidor. At the time he returned in January he was given a diagnosis of Cerebral Malaria and was treated for malaria at that time. He has not been well often since that time but yesterday his condition became worse and a stool examination shoed positive for ~~amoebic~~^{amoebic} dysentery. I would seem that sooner or later all of us will have contracted ~~amoebic~~^{amoebic} dysentery. It is after an obscure cause of ailment and tends to imitate the symptoms of other diseases and ~~manifest~~^{manifest} belly symptoms.

1st. July 1943

Five Officers from our staff ~~Members~~^{Members} Kowalake, Breslin and Capts. Brown, Pizer and Keltz together with two dental Officers White and Brown from the other side left today for an unknown destination on orders from the Japanese which were ordered yesterday. Rumor has it that they go to Bilibid from here and then are to be shipped to Camp Dau near Clark Field. The orders specified that a flight surgeon must be selected among the medical personnel. This is probably reasonable for the supposition that the party is going to Dau. Weather report for the month Rain on 27 days of the month total precipitation 15.37 Highest temperature. 95F lowest 74.F average 88.6.

Deaths during the month 4, Capt R. N. Genung returned to ~~duty~~^{duty} today from Quarters Status.

The Japanese Order establishing Friday as the day of rest during the week instead of Sunday was annulled today and effective at once Sunday again is the regular day of rest.

4 July 1943

Our 2nd 4th of July in this Camp. I wonder what our condition position and location will be at this date 1944. Have selected this date as the probable of transition to American Control 7/4/44. It will be interesting to see how far wrong I am on this guess.

A year ago today we had 34 deaths in this Camp. So our general physical condition has materially improved as well as our surrounding and living conditions. For our "~~2nd 4th~~" group I am fixing ⁶⁸⁵⁶⁴ beans (mixture of mango and black beans) for our evening meal. This will be in addition to the regular Japanese issue. A year ago we were doing well to get 2 Japanese issue meals per day of rice and soup. The baked bean dish contained mongo beans, black beans, ~~sugar~~, syrup, mustard, compound garlic, and two "links" of native sausage. This made delectable dish and the other 3 did not leave much for me. It really tasted good.

6th July

The Japanese today ordered us to put into operation another dental Clinic in the non-dysentery area. We do not have enough equipment for one clinic to mention making two of what we have. However another clinic will be installed.

7 July

We moved into the old clinic space in the general clinic building where the Clinic was before we moved down to this Area. We are sharing the room with the two 3 Protestant Chaplains. We will also have the Library in the same room if and when the Library Books are returned. I should say the Japanese ordered all books ^{censuring the library books} ~~turned in~~ ^{have} not been returned. Our dental - medical books were returned promptly, and it is expected that the Library books will be returned shortly.

In moving the Clinic I moved 7 chair and sufficient equipment instruments and supplies so that this material is about equally divided. Our one foot engine is being transferred every noon from one clinic to the other so that each clinic has the use of the engine 1/2 day each day. We have a rather complicated duty Roster so that all the Dental Officers are getting at least 1/2 day per week in over or the other of the clinic.

9 July 1943

Many copies of the Nippon Times of Tokyo arrived today. The papers cover about 3 weeks time in April and May 1943. They are full of propaganda as usual but in reading the papers we learn many things that are not known here in Camp. We learn among other things the number of U.S. and Allied Air Fields in China - the new Burma Road from Bengal Province India, and the fact that the Axis expect to continue to hold North Africa which of course has been cleaned up several weeks back. Collectively they make the

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with Paul 8-5

I secured a gallon at P2.80. Salt at .05¢ per canteen cup. A better brand of cigarettes at P.25 per pack. Sugar was P.10 per canteen cup which is a very reasonable price. The Japanese have done well on controlling prices to us. We learn this is not true with the civilian population where the "sky" is the limit on most commodities. I have over 2 cups of mongo beans ⁱⁿ stock at this writing at P.40 per cup. We are all very fond of these beans. We were issued these beans last year quite frequently thru the mess but recently they have been available only in small lots by individual purchase.

We learned today that the Med. Officers who left here hurriedly on the 1st. of July are still waiting further order at Bilibid. I am sure I would much prefer to be here than unassigned at Bilibid.

We are hearing some very good rumors concerning the fighting on all fronts S.W. Pacific, Sicily and Russia. Everyone feels were that the War is entering its final stages and that barring unforeseen difficulties it should be about over 1st. of July 1944.

24 July 1943

I was invited to dinner last night at Ward #20 - Capt. Weinstein M.C. ward surgeon. The Ward invited the 4 Lieut. Colonels Schwartz, Sullivan North and myself to a "Steak" dinner. The Ward bought a small Carabeo and had it especially prepared by Maj. Roby in Mess #2. They fixed the meat into steaks, Hamburger and then saved the undesirable parts and bones for stew on the following day. It is the first time since the War started that I have had all the meat (steak) that I could eat. I slept especially well last night so I suppose the presence of an extra amount of fresh meat in the "tummy" helped so far as sleeping is concerned.

28 July 1943

The presence of any newspapers in the Camp are forbidden. That means we are not even to be allowed the privilege of reading the Japanese propaganda paper the Manila Tribune. We "hear" unofficially that the War is going badly for the Axis nations on all fronts so we suppose this is the cause of the prohibition of the papers. A recent rumor said the Nanking Puppet Government has had to move from Nanking to Shanghai. If this proves true I suppose we will soon be hearing that Japan is being bombed from China Bases.

The Hospital is in a state of flux again. The Japanese have approved of a plan to enlarge the dysentery section. A large number of patients (about 150) today are being returned to duty and Wards 15-16-17-18-19-20 are being changed to dysentery Wards. The division fence is to be moved tomorrow to include the above numbered wards and Mess #2. When the changes are completed it will probably be necessary for us to rearrange the Dental Schedule. We are now examining the Wards by having all the patients of a single ward come to the clinic and be checked off by their respective ward sergeants and the patients needing dental treatment are recorded and the treatment listed and then these patients are called in for treatment in the days immediately following. Having only one (1) Dental Engine we move it back

DIARY OF Lt. Col. ALBERT FIELDS Cont'd

and forth between the two clinics on a definite schedule and having the patients listed we call them according to their needs so far as the use of the engine is concerned.

29 July 1943

Very good rumors have it that Benito Mussolini Dictator of Italy has abdicated and that General Marshall Badoglio has been put in his place with an entire new cabinet. The rumor has it that Hitler has taken Mussolini to Germany when he showed signs of treating with the Allies. Churchill is reported to have said this change is not to effect the procedure of the Allies in the continued Bombing of Italy??? Hope it is good straw in the wind.

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Ruth H. Essary
RUTH H. ESSARY
Capt. WAC

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