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P.O.W./C.I. - T. W. Houston - Book 5

Folders 7

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Title: Diary

Origin: Sgt. Thomas W. Houston

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Source: *Cabanatuan POW Camp*

Extracted by _____ Date _____ Microfilmed _____ Date _____

46-11 Form 91 (July 1945)

SECRET (No PA P)

*Eximated
ECM.
Jan. '46
Happy New Year*

Extracts from the following documents:

Heading on etc. (Spelled out) the title, however, the Phil
Press relations Section, pro-Tag
Widesummary or Editorial News Summary

178 - Army presence is necessary for SE - both things - II - Are but serious
3 columns - 179 - "The declaration of Manila as open city was in itself not
only to permit the city, from the ravages of war, but was also intended to increase the
possibilities of peace in the "rotting arena" - Hongkong follows - (180) 13
again changing - Churchill addresses Congress in U.S. -

178 - Action on Sumatra - "The Spanish bombing of Manila on open
city, as a precedent and harmful to the United States which the rules were con-
sidered a new sentence, hereby the superior teacher and bacterium in their attack
on Pearl Harbor" - Churchill to Congress - Tokyo reports tense relations

178 - Withdrawal of troops from Manila - British cables to Manila
was opening U.S. - "The President received in an official proclamation
from his cabinet pledge that the U.S. would remain the freedom of the Philippines
and guarantee their independence.

178 - Churchill helps Canadian cabinet - received Churchill's party to come
"The minister, Herbert Lydings sent today the following message to the Filipino people:
"your gallant conduct shows you share with us not only the great love for your
islands but for our common motherland, the United States. The companies
which we joined 40 years ago, the first and ultimate motives which have not let
both the Filipino government and our own share you to be moved by the same
intest energies by the treacherous forces. We shall continue our friendship
friendship, help and support with every promise to the Filipino people has
been fulfilled. Some day, we shall see your hands in rebuilding Manila where
the flag is a completely free and independent Philippines will be re-erected. Keep
your stout heart. All are yet to meet. All your long dreams are sure to
come true." - Eden in Moscow

178 - Air raid, Manila, 5 hrs, 12 - 4000 within 175 miles, Singapore - Very, with serious
relations with our - first days 4 nights the air city Manila under an attack -
"Manila: The most spectacular fire in Manila's history was heard in New Year Eve,
seeing a huge canopy of black smoke across the city and out over Manila bay,
set fire underneath by the burst flame of burning oil stores. Although the most
destructive it was the least damaging to life and limb, not a single man
or thing of life being recorded. It was originally planned fire intended to be
short installations in the Panhawan area of Manila in record with a
with policy about the military authorities had decided to follow. The companies

Extracted
from
G.M.

③

(Continuation of Lt. Francis Purgies' Pledgement):

...and our clause is, her help will not be long delayed.
 Showing temporary superiority in the air in land and sea, cannot but such
 longer we must meet further showing the enemy with assistance, comes
 and I trust it will be soon. The outcome of the battle of the Philippines will depend in
 very large measure on your firm and dignified resistance.
 I am aware of your sufferings, your privations, your sacrifices and the
 courage which you are depicted. ... I shall be glad to hear from you, mind but I am
 concerned for the fact that I am sharing with you your trials and tribulations, but I am
 right now I am feeling near as you feel as they must feel around you. But we
 cannot allow them to take & demand our spirit or weaken our determination to see
 things fighting to the bitter end. We must stand by our pledged word, by the loyalty
 that we have pledged to America, and by our devotion to freedom, success and
 our liberty. We are fighting that the Filipino people may be masters of their
 own destiny and that every Filipino not only of this generation but of the generation
 to come may be able to live in peace and tranquillity in the full enjoyment of
 liberty and freedom. Your duty - our duty - is to fight and resist until
 the invader is driven from our land. You must rise and put up a foot of ground when
 the battle joins. You must hold in place - and hold, and hold.

January 31, 1942

(Capt) Francis Purgies
 President of the Philippines

"Cells from Occupied Manila: An unofficial statement from Japanese sources indicated that the
 Japanese will soon take over the Manila, the main land runway portmark. Such a move
 there also given that Japanese forces will not be stationed in Manila and that
 the city will be treated very well. Secretary Saegusa at War Department Manila conferred
 with Japanese army officers regarding the formal entry of the forces of occupation
 into the city."

"The chief of police of Panangue reported that the first Japanese troops arrived
 in his town at 7:30 on the morning of Friday, January 24."

"Interviewed by a reporter, the officer commanding the Japanese troops in
 Panangue, through an interpreter, said: 'We don't propose to interfere with civilian
 activities, much less to civilians any harm. Individuals who may be found to be
 carrying arms or sex will be dealt with as "individual cases."'"

"The Port Area was open to the public in a profane system, to permit
 business of parcel work of stores and merchandises, from packing into Japanese
 houses, resulting in an unobstructed picture of sanctified locality."

"Manila: Printed copies of President Roosevelt's message to the people of the
 Philippines were distributed in the streets. The leaflets were distributed in cars
 in automobiles and groups from two buildings in the downtown district, but
 others translated in the business districts."

847
 1/31/42

2
 2 continue from sheet 5L (100) — news — PGX ordered to receive words
 9, 11 + 14A for info — 4th time post situation in Greater Manila created by the
 actions of communists before the Japs entry into the city has improved when
 the 2nd time was ordered by the Japs, in reference to its public markets
 all activities in operation — but by the end goods had been taken of
 "Horse-drawn vehicles", especially, carriages are enjoying an unprecedented
 boom. — "Published in five columns, best typed in Manila saw papers
 is the following announcement signed by the remainder of the Jap
 landing forces: 'Warning: (1) anyone who helps, or attempts to help, anyone
 performing actions on individual shells led to death; (2) of the assault
 and, or attempted assault, anyone be found we will treat the implicated
 persons as hostages who live or die about the street in municipalities where
 the event happens; (3) officers and influential persons show good will
 on to your citizens and villages as soon as possible and a heavy punishment
 awaits before they begin on your own responsibilities; (4) the Japs shall
 understand current intentions and Japs work together with us to main-
 tain public peace and order in the Philippines.' — withdrawal toward
 Singapore, still at Kuala Lumpur — Sumner Miller to Rio, as
 to American press minister conference — infantry, transport gliders
 delivered from factory in states —

1/14 2 Jap reconnaissance push on line 4/3 — increased activity in this
 area — photo, reconnaissance near on Malaya + WED —

1/12/42

	# of MSB	200 ⁺	515 ⁺	Total
# planes fuel on	609	295	280	1184
fighters downed	2	5	8 } 13	7
Bombers "	6	6 } 25		30 } 76
Bombers "	30	14		5 } 49
3" AA Am. Expended	5462	2709	1680	9531
37mm " " "	0	2857	278	5535
50 Cal. " " "	11752	7899	0	19651
Average Am. per plane	1/107.7	1/135	1/174	1/126

* 515 to 1/10 only

U.S. Outlets Austr planes from Secret bases swarm against
 Japs — Had in WED to assume full command — loss of Kuala
 Lumpur, line now 150 miles from Singapore — intensive activity
 for from Japs on front, searching for weak spots, preparing
 to major offensives — (cont)

MACHINE FORM - ALL SPACING MUST BE EXACT

ITER OF VV HER

1945

PRIORITIZATION

GROUP FORM

REFERENCE

CLASSIFICATION

GROUP FORM

CLASSIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION

SHEET NO

"The economic situation in the Philippines is...
economic balance has been completely disrupted in the
and services." — Being 4 weeks for fruit 1/2
hours to be 6:30 a.m., 12 noon, 7:30 P.M. (Baybay & Samar) —
length 9,600 miles. — Amer. Submarine...
to Tokyo + Yokohama, San Francisco, 3 merchant vessels in Tokyo
bay, in exp. — Carol Lombard killed in plane crash
London: 10% paper. Malaya, Malacca, etc.

Churches in London — States' papers...
continued stand on Betson — faps reported MacArthur's
arrival at Port Darwin on "Mackinac" — former Sen. ...
Harry C. Hammer urges Philippines to stand fast with U.S. and
insisted freedom & to disregard faps' clamor "assembly"
1/22 Heavy stores to be reshiped off by King. extremely heavy
air attack limited — good ship David Curious...
for 5th... in 1949... during first attack...
plunged into by radio beams — fap bombers within 20
to 50 miles and took night before war, last one turned back
it could have Pearl Harbor was bombed.

Pershing: "My heartiest congratulations to you and the brave
members of your command for the splendid fight you are
making." — "Commenting later, General Pershing said
I am extremely surprised by the strong and heroic fight
put up by General MacArthur's forces. General MacArthur
own high qualities as a soldier, have long been well
known to me. In my own experience, I also have had
the occasion to observe the fine fighting spirit and courage
of the Filipinos." — 4 part program accepted by
3. American general, Rio, Anti Axis.

1/23 The enemy continues to land reinforcements in Luzon, hostile
pressure increased again yesterday. The enemy attacked
heavily on our left. Early this day and attempted infiltration
along the coast during the night. Savage fighting resulted
some of these attempts but some enemy gains have not been
retaken. Serious losses were suffered by both the
attacker and defender. — In January fifteenth Japan
announced through Switzerland that she would abide
by the International Captured Prisoners Convention
(Cont'd on page 1)

(7)

(Continuing 1/24) — See brazen deceit in making this announcement to the world has been illustrated on the battleship of Saigon several times. After a successful counter-attack by our troops on January 12th the body of Private Fernando Law, a Philippine Scout soldier, was found in a stream where he had been thrown to drown after being bayoneted several times while his hands were tied behind his back. Only the day before Private Law had distinguished himself in action. Other cases of this nature have been reported. — 70 miles from Singgare — DSC to Major Thomas F. Spruell, 26th Cav, 1422, set fire to truck on bridge in La Union — N.Y. paper. Vito Marcantonio + Phil. Res. Com. + M. Elizalde before House Immigration Com. renewed attempt naturalization of files —

1/27] fighting and down yesterday — 2 planes vs 3 of. dive bombs, 2 later down, other disabled — MacArthur torpedo boats proving that work — 2 torpedo boats (ac 2A) engaged our bombers 1/26; 3 planes hit, others dispersed; crews cited for gallantry — Roosevelt + Stevenson congratulated to Mac

on birthday 1/26 — battle in Macassar — trait between Bernier + Calles — air activity there — Secs: 1/26: 92-99-137

Thailand declared war on U.S. + Br 1/26 — 60 miles from Singgare — Herald guard, U.P. correspondent, at Kluang near Malayan front, quotes Gen. Gordon Bennett: "Things the last two days have not developed according to plan!"

1/28] Gen. Clark's great victory necessary — Amer. + Br. honor Mac (act birthday), Congress, speeches — Secs: 1/27: 94-45-139 — 50 miles from Singgare —

heavy fighting on New Britain — gubs. land in Ireland 1/27] "Several strong enemy thrusts at our lines including a night attack were repelled yesterday. The fighting was heavy but all positions were firmly held. Enemy losses were relatively large. Artillery was particularly active all along the line. — Our guns suddenly concentrated on a heavy force assembling at Ternate on the 27th (over)

MACHINE FORM - ALL SPACING MUST BE EXACT

REGISTER OF VOUCHERS

APPROPRIATION

REVISIONS TOTAL

REVISIONS

DATE OF REVISIONS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

TOTAL DOLLARS

REVISIONS TOTAL

DATE

DAY'S POSTING

SHEET No.

(17)

no longer. Our infantry continued to push forward, making the general attack. The 1st and 2nd Divisions were ordered to continue the attack. The 1st Division was ordered to attack the main enemy position. The 2nd Division was ordered to attack the secondary position. The 3rd Division was ordered to attack the tertiary position. The 4th Division was ordered to attack the quaternary position. The 5th Division was ordered to attack the quinary position. The 6th Division was ordered to attack the senary position. The 7th Division was ordered to attack the septenary position. The 8th Division was ordered to attack the octenary position. The 9th Division was ordered to attack the nonary position. The 10th Division was ordered to attack the decenary position.

Seco: 130-27-114. — Matias 1,600 — 1/30

1/30 The heavy work of 1/30, when the 1st and 2nd Divisions were ordered to attack the main enemy position. The 1st Division was ordered to attack the main enemy position. The 2nd Division was ordered to attack the secondary position. The 3rd Division was ordered to attack the tertiary position. The 4th Division was ordered to attack the quaternary position. The 5th Division was ordered to attack the quinary position. The 6th Division was ordered to attack the senary position. The 7th Division was ordered to attack the septenary position. The 8th Division was ordered to attack the octenary position. The 9th Division was ordered to attack the nonary position. The 10th Division was ordered to attack the decenary position.

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"The activity was interrupted in Batavia with sharp clashes between enemy
 47) parties and our forces. Shooting and shelling of our coast coast and
 48) coast continued but our efforts anti-aircraft were perfect the enemy
 bomb shells fell over 27,000 feet. Shelling of Corregidor from Cavite
 here during yesterday afternoon was ineffective. -- In Mindanao
 our forces staged another highly successful surprise attack on the
 night of Zamboanga, using hypersonic bombs, tankoo cannon, and some
 Japanese by surprise. A number of enemy machine gun nests and
 other installations were destroyed. This attack staged by our coast
 units. Subunits resulted in heavy casualties with no loss to our
 forces." -- Quezon writes to Fitz. people from Australia --
 Senate passed by 73-0 bill increasing pay 20% with 10% for officers --

49) Day by day attacks last day along line, expelled -- bombing lines yesterday
 50) some making our look -- flying on coast -- here -- "The
 by 50) kilometers west of our bases line" -- Soccer: 4/2: 132-51-134.

51) The first pictures of the war in the Philippines have appeared in American
 newspapers. Pictures show damage to Manila, Cavite, Navy yard and Corregidor."
 52) With your American press: "General Wainwright is a typical old
 clean cut American. He has the usual famous horse hairs in his hair but
 smooth. He wears the cavalry tunic. The general said a day since
 modern warfare requires them. But his old friends say the change
 broke his head. He fits a horse much better than a tank. you see,
 53) Skinning a raincoat is low-legged."

54) Continued bombing of Batavia -- kicked railed by enemy groups
 55) of bombers yesterday -- "The bombs dropped were a different type
 than those of previous days, bursting with huge flames. Two of the
 bombs dropped yesterday exploded 500 feet above the ground." -- In the
 56) forward some medium caliber artillery from Cavite to Corregidor

57) A huge convoy of the United Nations carrying planes, tanks and
 munitions for Russia has arrived safely in Murmansk following an
 unsuccessful attack by the German Navy." -- "U.S. action taken
 by the Senate extends equal pay rates to Filipinos serving in the
 United States navy, it was announced yesterday." -- Large yacht
 58) released names of 4,500 Amer. interned at Manila

59) "Our battle position in Batavia was heavily bombed and shelled during
 60) past 24 hours, the artillery concentration was very heavy. Last night
 an attempt was made by enemy troops in large to land on the
 east coast of Batavia. Our artillery fired on the troop-laden barges
 and several are believed to have been sunk. The attack was re-
 pelled with severe losses to the enemy. Convoy pay was free from
 61) pending rates during the past 24 hours. For the first time since
 (over)

MACHINE FORM - ALL SPACING MUST BE EXACT

REGISTER OF VOUCHERS

Standard Form 1070
Approved by GPO Procurement Office, Wash., D. C.
1950 Edition

APPROPRIATION

PHILIPPINE TOTAL

NON-PHILIPPINE

GRAND TOTAL

DIRECT SETTLEMENTS

TOTAL OF VOUCHERS

PHILIPPINE TOTAL

DATE

DAY SPOSTINGS

Sheet No.

March 2nd. Long destruction on a hill with
Mesa Bay, with a view of the bay and
latter. The force consisted of 1000
pushing in a direction of streets
4/5 The heavy smoke that day can be seen
EXITER across a state ground everywhere at
of the day a light sand at great
air activity was active and our night and
the rear. The lumber amount 400000 and
Source: The 104-11-10. Beginning during
March 2nd
4/6 Retention of unimpaired except by the most
infiltration & had a tank a stack of
was denied by heavy force during and
duplumber covered by AA in bay. When
4/7 The enemy continued heavy attacks on the
Bataan and some success. The
highest hills & his water supplies, fuel
Source: The 104-11-137. The
our fighting example is an inspiration to
4/8 Captain R. M. Hoffel, Commandant of
during the day in order to rectify the
covered to a previously prepared position.
4/9 Matt's 10000 on rails quiet
4/10 The heavy rain & storm has fallen. The
troops on the war-wounded and blood-stained
land down their eyes. With heads bloody
quitted to the summer force and
The enemy's long continued the open
and American soldiers put upon the
the island coast of Bataan. They
the constant and harassing fire of
months. Described as land and
attempts of help. The Philippine
fighters have seen all the
for us to sustain them through
latter use a force that was more
force & an unimpaired fact, something
that planned leadership diversity
a novel kind and about of
of uniform and dignity, and
any human progress.
The adversary in the
through well-organized
Caidan

...and feeling that his countrymen have shown in battle
 ...have found a mass and better - contacted ...
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(Contd on page 14)

(D)

The enemy gains from communications - losses in parts of the 2 days
lost first in shells, then in torpedoes - several - in total and
they counter-attacks & they withdraw silently - 11 30 AM
and the enemy's movements are traced with the aid of the
The last 10 minutes: "We are immeasurably proud to every individual
taking part in the defense of the fatherland." Every day, you
and all members of our command have given up to the world
in a simple and direct, cheerful and hard work that lives
up to the great traditions of Filipinians, especially
(Ex. 8) "We're back!"

- unofficial comment in US. re said over Tokyo, Yokohama, Kobe
and Nagoya: from radio China carrier & air force. In a way & of radio
lines, not redemptive.

with some activity quiet - several attacks by air bombers
on Luzon from - withdrawing from air base in Panay - by the patrol
commander being that operations in eastern Mindanao - apart from Tokyo
appear calm - of confirming us: what about four day area, too all
earliest end of program, so accept 3-2 type firing single or in pairs, spread
How Chen, rank - thought: "radio how reached destination" - 1st 9 AM 26
2nd "you explain" - Lee

lost under an aircraft fire - light bombers over four islands - in fact
on enemy's side, too, troop concentrations & heavy gun positions
heavy fighting at Luzon - Japanese in Luzon - in all
fronts - but marked by many sea planes - shells & hit death 38
flown in our track - from battery, 3 raid storms in 4 days, now they
the war back but. Heavier bombers instead of ^{most American} B-29.

Intermittent firing on first islands - enemy light bombers attacked 4 days
at another bay, suspect in water - counter battery fire - "They said by
recently patrol in northern Luzon during the past several days resulted
in killing many, to sea, but in personal and equipment." Lt. S. American
terrible toll on a Japanese light cruiser off Luzon, also the numerous
that land and water during a meeting of elements of the 1st and 2nd
corps.

According to reliable conservative estimates, the Japanese have lost
1,000 planes since the start of the war, another thousands in operations
against Filipinians, soldiers, more holding out, stop, Japan's highest
mountain. - The Japanese have increased the use of modern business
ships, particularly by Filipines as representation of an immense civilization,
which Japanese army officers only profess criticism of sea quality
and naval dependence in the Philippines.

