

P.O. W./C.I. - W.P. Oliver

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Title: Diary

AGRF - 88

8 Oliver

Origin: 1st Lt., William P. Oliver

Dates: 30 Apr 42 to Jul 1943 Classification: None

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*Hq. Special Troops
Philippine Division*

1294 Eastlawn Ave
Detroit, Michigan

Hosp. # 1 Bataan, P. I.

April 30 12:05 AM. Wanted to be ready to leave hospital for FW Camp at any time - left at about 12:15 Am. Rode in truck to Balanga arrived at 4 AM Slept - had fine big serving of Rice at breakfast and noon Japanese are being very liberal and Courteous - One soldier took my watch but later I was questioned about it without any reference on my part & later the watch was returned!!

May 1 - Taken by truck to San Fernando & there stripped of razor, small knife, silver pencil, flash light, cigarette case, Compass, etc whistle & letters from Helen. Had plenty of rice, opened the can of tomato soup - Spent the night & at 8:30 had rice & misua to a train for ride to Capaz. Marched from Capaz to ODonnell. Rested & under supervision of N.C.O. provided with water - Civilians gave each of us two cigarettes. Arrived at O.D about 4 - registered & assigned to Co. B of Casual officers. Then Col G. & the officer of the 1st. Abbott, Thomas Amato have not appeared. Olson lost on way up. Hutchings & Col Ivey believed lost. Abbott & White made Capt. about April 1. White is here & died enroute.

May 2 - getting rattled a bit. Three meals of rice - 1st with sugar, second with squash, 3rd with comotes - plenty to eat but we need proteins & vitamins, quite a bit of sickness in camp - Diahrea, Dysentery, Malaria etc & little medecine of any sort. Back still very painful.

May 3 Sunday - went to church with Dixon - went to see Col G in the afternoon. Tex Hill Dixon, Miles & I had the last of my Chesterfields & then we had $\frac{1}{2}$ a duck egg - my first protein in a long time. Times of stress sure bring friends close together.

May 4. Gave Col G. half of my soap & half (2) of my cigarettes. Hill sent a cigar for me I gave the Sp ~~troops~~ gang 1 Vita-Kap each. Next issue May 7.

May 5 - Rumors too numerous to record - All false but one is wild enough - to merit writing down. Some driver reported that Manila papers say an exchange is under way & that the Japanese internees are already on their way to the Coast to boats!! Whether the deal includes us or not is an issue. We do need proteins as all are fairly weak. Hill sent a fine piece of coconut candy tonight - Rumors are worse here than they were in Bataan.

May 6 - Many versions of the "exchange" are floating around. We pay little attention but they are good to listen to despite the part that there isn't any logic in the whole thing. The Rumor has now reached its peak - 30,000 on the way out here & we are to be out by May 23!!!! So you can see how they stretch one little rumor. Assigned to go out with ration details soon. Rumor - Generals & Col's to be moved else-

where - Back a bit better but still extremely weak.

May 7 - Will begin a log of rumors in order to amuse myself. Cooler last 2 days. Gen. Brougher inspected Casual Area this morning. Back still very uncomfortable - great loss of sleep from trying to sleep on the floor.

May 8 - Arrived Manila one year ago today. Wiley, Ed & I here out of 5. Rumors good but nothing confirmed - Back very mean in rain.

9 May. Breakfast cut & no sugar. Lunch good, dinner weak on rice - broth good. Heard that W. O. Anderson is dying. Gave Col. G. the watch he gave ME.

10 May - On detail at Stotsenburg - Didn't get to buy a thing due to misconduct of soldiers beyond my control. Returned to Camp at 6 - Generals & Colonels left in the Am. Rumors thick & fat on my return. None sound possible. W.O. Anderson died - 32 others.

11 May - Back raising H - Very warm today - Expect river detail tomorrow - Wiley doesn't look too well. In fact he looks pretty ill.

12. No Change; Wiley much better - he must get back to his wife & Baby. I am so sorry for young married couples!! - Almost happy I am single!!

13 May Water detail in the afternoon. No rumors. No doubt we are here for the duration. Out of 7000 Americans our daily death rate is about 50. This worries all of us.

14 May "Exchange" Rumor weakening - It never had much sense - But hope is wonderful for Morale - So is the Holy Bible. Although weak I feel better mentally today. Sort of resigned now to the duration of the war. If the folks at home have the Courage I pray for them to have. I can get along as long as my health is OK. It must be harder on those at home than on us. It might be well while I am feeling very fit to again include how grateful I am for the parents, Aunt Margaret, sister and loved ones and friends that I have had. Mere writings cannot express the feelings I have experienced with re: to my loved ones in this war. I hope they, with me will try not to regret my decision to accept duty here where we expected trouble. If anything should happen to me mother & Dad will have enough money to live in comfort for a while. There is a list of my losses in my Army Identification card. Perhaps someday our Gov't will make the losses good. It is too hard to write of my love for Mother, Dad, Sister, Aunt Margaret & members of our family & friends - So it will suffice perhaps, to hope that my prayers and possibly theirs may bring this horrible experience to a quick and safe conclusion. I pray not for the good time I miss as much as I pray for those I left behind. If these prayers be granted God will indeed have been good to all of us.

15 May - Feeling much better today - Spent the morning on duty on the

river checking Filipinos getting water. Wind & dust storms are getting bad at night. Excellent chow all day.

16 May. Stomach upset today. Hope it is not the start of something. Rumors also upset with orders to repair buildings for rainy season. Profiteering checked a little - Cigarettes down to PI jar pk & chow profits limited to 100% instead of prices like ₱15 for a 50 Centavo bar of Candy. Saw a can of milk being sold for ₱10. Nice & Cool today. Had $\frac{1}{2}$ can of Sardines Miles.

17 Sunday - To church with Gouman & then rest then lunch & to duty at the River. Rumors at night were good - chow excellent - Malaria & Dysentery still worry all of us. Death rate up to 40 a day & No help.

18 Monday - Eyes sore - hope it was from the sun. Feeling a little better due to rumors that may be in part worth something.

19 May-Tues - On water faucet detail this AM very warm - 43 died yesterday. I am very worried with loose Bowel movements hourly. Once again only God can help there is no medicine for Malaria or Dysentery. Meals are much better & I felt a lot stronger till stomach condition got threatening. We surely need a camp with better sanitary facilities. Perhaps one of these wild rumors will come true & we will go to Japan & then possibly home. Dysentery set in at 4 pm. Since there is no medicine for Dysentery only interavenous of God (Can pull me through this scrape. It is so hard to think of the folks at home I feel that I pulled a sort of dirty trick on them the way I left - but it was probably just as well. Many men-sons- and husbands have died here no doubt elsewhere I have only the regret of not being sure I will get back to give mother and Dad some ease, Comfort, and love which I fell I could give them in their later years. I have plenty of will to fight this dysentery & I will fight till I can fight no more heaven with God's care & help I will make it out of here to the ones I love. If I cannot make it - I will be sorry I was not able to do more for my parents & country. My parents will have a little money from insurance & Capt. Wiley Dixon, Mil. Police can advise them or Lt. Col. Montgomery McKee or Colonel A. Garfinkel. But I hope to be able to fight this bug despite the poor physical condition in which I was discharged from Hosp # 1. My parents must suffer more than I but they are brave & can accept the will of God.

20 May-1942 Had a tough night between rain, cramps, dysentery & FEAR - No blood this morning but very weak. Rumors of moving someplace - We all pray that they are true. Joe Gouman has been very good to me. Got three D & D pills at the hospital at 11:00 Am. getting very weak. Cramps still bad particularly after each meal. C.O. checking on blankets so there may be something to this rumor of moving. Someplace in these notes there should be a word about

people outside the family which includes Aunt M. of many in the place I have been. I often think of Hilda and McLaughlin. Hilda because of the great problem she has been & McLaughlin because he is and has so much I want to be and to have. If anything happens to me I would like my military short coat sent to him. Hilda would probably have made the finest wife possible - Yet somehow I was afraid of something. I know this - that when I get home God willing - I will surely try to find a solution to that problem. Rained very hard. Dysentery bad, all night. Entire camp too weak to provide proper camp sanitation. Latrines are criminal.-

21 May On detail to Tarlac to had rice. Had we stopped for food I would have enjoyed it more. Dysentery & cramps still pretty mean. No D & D pills today.

22 No medicine today. Rumors of moving getting weaker with no evidence of a change. I am getting weaker too from Dys. Had dinner with Dixon & Miles & sardines, cocoa, catsup, mungo - They sure have been good to me. Lee gave me coconut candy - Hill gave some other candy. Tomorrow is big rumor day to move.

23 May, Nothing unusual - no rumors came true. Dys still sort of mean. Most are depressed. 47 died.-

24th, Out on detail - got some little canned food in. Very hard work. Rainy season starting.

25th, Up all night - Very mean. No medicine. On water detail again. Dys. pretty bad - Hope we can try the burned flour treatment Heth. Much rain each afternoon. 45 died.

26th On flour Dys. no change as yet. Many think we may leave here on or about the 29th for Manila area.

27 Not much change in condition. Rain bad - On detail in ODonnel for wood ordered ready for outside detail.

29 Moved with 40 men to Tarlac. C.O. Major Chenoweth, Capt Bubaltz, Presnell & I 200 men. (Good Chow - company - Quarters.

30 - Detail on lumber - Meat, catsup, beans, shrimp, fish, raisins stewed, canned raisins, fresh carabao, mongos, banana, & Vienna sausage, etc - eggs - one doz daily each (officer for 4 days. Too good to last long. ₱50 -

31 No detail chow still good. Moved to Tarlac Court house, Dys. a little better. Malaria again. Quinine ₱.80 each.

1 June. Some Birthday - did have field chicken for dinner with the 30th menu too. Once I could send a greeting to Mother on this day. Today only thoughts can go to those at home. Japanese very pleasant - With regret leaving them. God keep us all till this mess lets us get together again.

2 June - In Court House at Tarlac. Quartered in Library Tarlac Bar Ass'n. Makeshift Bamboo Bed fairly comfortable. Chow good. Dys. better.

3. Tomorrow is M's Birthday - We are to be ready to move back to O'Donnell today. Moved to O'D.

4. Moved on M's Birthday to a camp near Cabanatuan Nueva Ejica. Roofs better than those at O'D. sidings better. Same sort of rice paddies. (Areas which will probably be pretty wet.

5. Quartered with Miles & Dixon. Hill nearly die. Heavy rain - mud flows - hard to get to latrine. Chow fair. A little meat pump broken.

6 - Dys seem better - I hope my prayer have been answered. At least I can thank God that I feel as well as I do. All loot from Tarlac - stolen.

7 Sunday - No church set up as yet. Have only missed a few days of reading a Chapter of Bible Daily & on Sundays I read nearly all day. Have felt a bit shaky the last 2 days. Sundays bring new thoughts of home & tears to be fought - We always have so much to fight & our loved ones alone keep us going. Water scarce making chow the same. Heard that Shack got out. I wonder if Helen did too. A.G. still in Tarlac, I sure miss Tarlac & the hours spent with the guards there. Here they are trying hard but there are too many of us here to let us buy the same way. So I guess we just don't eat any better.

8. Monday. Good squash soup as we got to M.H. Margarine was thick in Bottons Hurt grain carrying sack of rice 120#. Rumors so good am starting a new set. Wonder how things are at home. I pray nightly for the day we get together again. That's all we have to live for - we are beaten but still on our feet.

9. Tues. Up early (66) to move hosp group. Movement stopped on the Road - ?? Daily menu - rice 3 times a day. Once home I will want rice dishes fixed as attractively as possible. Most officers have menus planned for weeks. I would like to rest my head in my mothers lap & forget this experience completely & that is the one place I am sure I could do it. If it please God I will.

10th. Only two meals today due to water shortage

11th. Thurs. Water short again today. Back sore & some sort of rapture from 8th. Chow situation is picking up.

12. Loose Bowels again. Very disturbing. Moved into officers quarters. 130 men in a 60 man Barracks.

13. Stomach still upset. Elected finance chosen for Group.

14. Good biscuits issued 1 ea. - Chow better but no change in Content - More beans. No church here. P.X. distributed.
15. No news - routine must be accepted - Slow & dull as it is Malaria & Dys. still on the rampage. Slight epidemic of a Fatal French month reported. Feet sore. Arches Bad.
16. Quiet except for inspection by a Japanese M. G. of Q. M.
17. Morning 18th - 600 yds to 12 kilometers rumored. P.X.
18. Bill Neilsen came to see me today. Moved a lot of men to the hospital, 18 out of our 113 "Well" officers. Moved too.
- 19th. Moved in great confusion to Area 1 & new, hard floor building that is tough. Stomach & Bowels upset again. Severe pains in bones & legs cause unknown. Water scarce.
- 20th Sat. (Chow plentiful - rice & beans but dull - Hotter than last year & approx. 1 canteen of water per day. No bathing of any kind.
- 21st. Sunday. P.X. issue - got big & 7 small pineapple. Church forbidden. Down with Dys again - very painful paid ¥5.00 for can 16 ozs of Macherel & ¥2 for 3 oz of Sardines.
- 22nd. Dys. very bad - Very warm - Many down with Malaria.
23. Good Meal broth for supper. Cramps Soup & Dys. pretty bad but seemingly easing off. Heat terrific. Will be glad when the rains start.
24. Brutally hot even at 9 AM. got 2 pills this AM. Out they are getting shorter & they will be the last. Had 2 nights without getting up thanks to M.C. our first rain - just bath in 25 days!! I am still dirty as the rain was too cold for prolonged bathing. Then I fell into the irrigation ditch later that night.
25. Ordered to hosp. today - after an effort got taken off the list. Don't want to go, too few come out on their feet. All we can do is exist as God wills and pray and offer thanks. Dreams of home have been more frequent of late. I hope it is a good omen. We all plan our first month at home & there are so many possibilities I can see that I want mine to be briefly written - just in case I am unable to make it. But if it is at all possible I want to take my back pay & spent it giving Mother & Dad & Aunt Margaret a good time. Possibly if the war is over we can all go to the old Country - if we can't afford that we can really see the U.S. Food is the second item after my parents. Some have a menu for a month. I choose to ask Mother to feed me for a week. I know I will get the things I want if we are at home or Canada. If we can't go on a trip we shall have help for

the Cottage or Home & live a life of joy with a great deal of Thanksgiving. I want to get home as soon as possible yet there is no way to speculate. My fondest hope is "leave tomorrow" & God willing one of these days we will see that. Malaria bad again. 3rd time now. Dys. keeps me weak.

26th Some American caught outside fence. Believed shot. (Certainly was a foolish venture for profiteering. Punishment severe but not too surprising. Rumors are wild. It is so hard to think we may be prisoners for a month or a few years!! Stomach sure bad. Reiniger bro't some medicine. Sgt Hardesty died.

27th Commissary issue of 145¢ for our company - got cigarettes & 1/3 coconut but latter is bad for dys. so gave it away. At dark Reiniger brought me a huge dose of Castor Oil which kept me up all night.

28th Sunday - missed our first Church. Read my own. Rumors too wild to consider!!!

29th Stomach no better. Unbearably warm & water scarce.

30th Tuesday: Really warm - clothes soaked with perspiration & no water except to wash teeth - mess cup. To amuse myself have started some menus in another book. Our loved ones & food are all we think of & we can write only of the latter. Everyone has the meals planned. Personally I'll take what I can get but I prefer to take what I get when I get home.

1 July - Stomach no better - heat & dirt the same - Rice - Rice & Rice. Today as a treat we had 3 slices of cucumber. Some pigs arrived. Perhaps we get pork for tomorrow.

2 July - Tomorrow is Dads Birthday: Perhaps he can feel me pray for us all to be together again soon. God has given us all so much surely He will be merciful in his really trying times 1 small pig for 500 men for dinner. Roasted, I got 1 in of skin! Grease was good on rice.

3. Dad's Birthday!! - here not get at home due to time differences at 4.01 pm it will be 12.01 AM July 3rd. Rumor has it U.S. has taken back Wake & Guam. I wish U.S. would come & get us out of here. It is cooler after an all night rain. Stomach sadly upset. Must be due to internal injuries in bombing raid as medicine has no effect. Dad's Birthday really spoil by news that the officer next to me who went to the hospital with a sore throat died this morning Diphtheria!!! P.X. stuff in, can of milk to me. I sure needed something to help get the rice down.

4. I sure hope the folks are having some sort of a good time today. Heat here is terrible & we are in the open with no shade & these native barracks are Hot. Stomach a little better - not so many trips to the latrine but still very weak.

5. Went to church with Stewart. The Lt. Col. Chaplain's name is Oliver. He held a very impressive Field Communion. We get an extra bit of Cigarettes & Candy for sale today. Sgt Rainiger bro't me some pills but I think my trouble is internal injuries from the Bombing. My back is worse too in the rain. Another officer to hosp. with Malaria. Lost his eye so far. Officer moved next to me has Malaria!!

6th Mon. 6 officers moved out in a reorganization & we go to a poor M. H. No beans lately getting me, coconuts & boiled egg plant & the vines from Sweet Potato (native). Raining almost daily - a little cool to bathe in due to accompanying wind. I weigh 151.

July 7. Rains are with us horrible mud between quarters and M. H. & latrine. Had beef broth - about 1 tea cup. It sure is a treat to find a pea size scrap of meat.

July 8. More coconut - Food very poor in M. H. # 1. Mostly rice & coconut. Stomach really worries me: more men to Hosp.

9. Up all night again. Very ill. Medecine available has no effect. Reiniger cannot find Sulfathiasol necessary at any price. No more D & D Pills - Bought a mosquito bar late last night. Turned over to finances to Lt. Levie thus got rid of a worry. Got a note from Helen today - She sent two letters to Mother & feels that one surely got there. She has the ring I got from Grandfather. I am sure glad I didn't have it. I could surely have lost it.

10th On water CO again today. Much rain - rumors. Navy operating. Mess much better. The note from it was very encouraging. Not the first time she has helped. Often got cigarettes and tobacco & candy from her. Dys. no change.

11th. Got a night of sleep thanks to Keiniger's pills. Hope to get another night tonight. List out today of groups of ten. If one may escapes the other nine will be shot. I am a leader & one of my men does not seem quite sane and that sure does worry me already. P.X. stuff in - Got nothing.

12th Church by Navy Chaplain spoke on field. It seems like a care of the survival of about half our group. Nearly 30th have died already & 43 died yesterday. Only God can save us.

13th Mon. Of my ine men 3 went to the hospital today. 1 Dys, 1 Malaria, 1 shell shock case. Big raid near us last night. Much shooting. No rumors as to what happened. Stomach very mean. Big inspection tomorrow.

14. No inspection or reason. Very hot cleaning area etc.

15. 3 more to hosp out of our company - One who went the 13 died - the dys. case. Thank God my Dys. has stopped to Diahrea. Today I had a bad chill & fever.

16. More chill & fever - might be Malaria. Meat gravy & Roll!!!
17. Malaria is with me. Got 1 can of milk & 507 can of sardines. Meat broth for supper. I keep dreaming of home & loved ones I hope they are all well & of Good Courage & faith in the judgment of God.
18. Milk was bad!!! Running out of money. When I am out it will be real tough without that small issue of 5 oz of fish every 10 days. This rice diet has me down to 141 lbs. Sleeping on the floor my hips & shoulder blades are raw!!! Dreamt of Aunt M. Have not written of her but every Catholic Priest I have talked to knows of her Goodness. Things I could write would not suffice but what children have ever had two Mothers the way Margaret & I have? I don't remember being refused a direct request & few subtle hints went unanswered!! My wish & daily prayer is to be able to get home & all of us take as much of a trip as we can afford. Perhaps God will consider the goodness of those at home to let me try in some way to make it up to them in their later years. We are still praying to be released. Two days ago 39 died of our 8000 that rate is terrific & not the sort of release we pray for!! Malaria bad - Dys. stopped. Diahrea still with me. We sure need food. All we get now is rice with a burnt flour gravy once in a while. I know I weigh less now than my last weight of 141. There is plenty of rain daily & we must trek thru mud & water to eat & go to the latrine. No church planned due to continuous rain.
19. Sunday & no church. I couldn't have gone as I had alternate chills & fever. Couldn't eat till supper & that sure weakened me. Death rate up again. Diphtheria serious. All clothes damp - no sun for a week now. It sure is tough to have come this far & now to wonder what the chances are again. Nothing but skin & bone.
20. Everything happens once. My Malaria & Diahrea are very bad and now yellow jaundice has set in. Now I wonder just how much of this I can stand. But I have terrific desire to get home & give Mother & Dad a bit of luxury & rest & it alone keeps me going. My injuries in the bombing have done something internal that war hospitals cannot handle. My only chance is to last till the War is over & we get home to a hosp. But I am so weak I can't resist a thing & have no appetite. Eating means to stuff rice down & live for our return home God Willing.
21. Feeling about the same although there is no circulation in last 2 fingers of my right hand. Raining continuously for past week now - clothes & blanket all damp. Much shooting near here last night. Some Filipinos are not cooperating very well. Confined to quarters for another three days with Malaria.
22. No change - Miserable weather. Still unable to eat much. Flour & Corn giving helped the rice a lot. Nerves are fraying - mine still O.K. heated arguments & one scuffle today. Food problem very Critical & not improving Food causing food trouble - Beriberi they say.
23. A good pork gravy but no pork. Food still meagre. Japanese gave us a good soft ball, bat and 2 gloves of over 70 officers. We

only have 16 fit for duty. My Malaria seems better but I never imagined I could be so weak. Dreaming of WAR in Canada!!

24th. Still weak as a kitten. Fever but no chills for 2 days now. Food problem becoming really critical & no money left to buy from the smugglers. One day of sun so I got a bath with a gallon water pail & a tin can & got some clothes washed a bit. Many rumors out no facts. One large group is ready to go somewhere.

25. Dr. arrived to take one of our officers to the hosp. & the poor devil had died within the minute - 2nd Lt. Muse - A.C. - Malaria. Here I am unable to help any of our men die to my own weakness. We are hardened to death - everything stops for a few minutes - & cord games start again - We just stopped & stood at attention as the body was carried out. I came to my bunk to ask God to care for him and the rest of us. I am so weak walking to the Mess Hall tires me out. Our best meal since April $\frac{1}{2}$ Cup Beef Broth - 1 ear horse corn, rice, 1 coconut & rice cookie. Bo't a can of milk for ¥2 - or \$100 it is usually ¥500 or \$2.50. It will go on my rice but spoil the 3rd day - does not help ache in feet.

July 26. Sunday Ch. day spoke on "Eternal Insurance" He is very good. God alone can save us. Our country abandoned us a long time ago perhaps it couldn't be helped but our high staff sure did deceive us, with 30-40 do my daily & the rainy season getting under way there won't be many to go home when the time comes. I have a cold & bad throat to go with my diahrea. I think God took away my Malaria. We are all so weak we can resist nothing.

27th. Had wounded going to Dispensary for fear I had Diptheria but my conscience bothered me because it is so contagious. At any rate this AM. the Dr. said I had no membrane & he sent me back to light duty for 3 days. God is indeed gracious to me.

Tues. 28th. Regular cloud burst today. Got first of 3 shots for Typhoid-Cholera-Dysentery - Thanks to Reiniger. Cant imagine being as weak as I am now. Had a can of Chili Con Carne today - 2 - good meat gravy for supper. Horse corn on the cob too tough to eat.

Wed. 29th. P.X. today - got milk & Chinese Beans & Candy. Another cloud burst & one fight in quarters. Stomach & back really act up whenever it rains.

Thurs. 30th. More & more rain. We had to go thru Ankle deep mud to latrine or Mess Hall. Stomach worse & keeping me very weak & lacking in sleep struggling to the latrine 16 trips or more daily.

July 31st Played bridge on the floor - Rain pouring down - Diahrea very bad - but as long as it doesn't change to dys. I will stand that. Up literally wade to the latrine or Mess Hall. Big rumor that we are no longer captives but P. of War now & are to be paid for the month of Aug. If that is and we might get food enough to back on our feet. But nothing official.

Aug. 1 Got a can of Oleo 9 of fish & some sugar. Then we had camotes (a native sweet potato). So I had 6 oz of salmon with my rice, camotes and flour grains. After that Lt. William gave me cup of broth & camotes he got from the Japanese kitchen. So I had a bit if a break from the ration of rice & weeds!! Dreamt of part at the Cottage - Pot luck chow was very elaborate!!! Scones meat loaf & potato salad (2d shot for typhoid, Dys.

August 2 Spent the night with the trots. Too much supper I guess. Chow was good Oh, Oliver spoke, chow deal not too good. Plenty of canned food in but few of us have any money at all. Perhaps one of these stories about pay will come true then we will all eat a bit. Feeling more cheerful but still too weak to do any good - Worry about home is disquieting - God help us all.

Aug 3. Tried to make fish patties with Levie - Didn't get patties but it was sure good. Talk at night by Navy films very good. Sore throat again.

Aug 4. Went to throat man - mine is OK so far. Some chills sat in again in head & legs. Have a bad cold. Good supper rice, mongo bean field corn on the Cob. Beans have some proteins & a lot of gas.

5th. Beans kept me at latrine all night. We have quinine but nothing for Diabhhrea. Went to sick (call with my cold - no medecine. Bill gave me a piece of garlic for Cold. I do think kidney was hurt in bombing. I have no control at all. Rumors of good chow today. Native sweet pot, corn gravy, rice at noon: Supper - Beef gravy, rice & sweet pot. turnover: Turnovers were truly delicious I had some garlic for the gravy which helped no end: I never had much garlic till a couple of weeks ago & now I really find it to be a great help. Wild rumors of allied action may be true as we didn't get our weekly newspaper this Sunday. Coffee for supper.

6th Up all night with runs & coffee corn soup and camotes made pretty good chow today. Much rain 24 hrs: Actually cold at night & in the morning. Diptheria still bad & now pneumonia & flu weather is with us. Coffee again for supper. I didn't take mine. God will surely care for us.

7th. Up with runs. Very cold in the morning. Throat & cold still bad. Corn & Baked camote with Noon Rice. Mongo Beans & ear of corn is the rumor tonight to help the rice go down. Mirami Rain - Beans were in a meat broth & it was no doubt the best Meal we have been issued. Rain D.

8th. 8 Months since trouble began. The 8th is quite adate with me. Reported April 8 - Manila May 8 - War Dec. 8 & news of surrender April 8'42. Diah. still bad. Sort of a fever with no chills & I can't get Malaria treatment either.

9th. Unbelievable rain & storms for 48 hars. Taking turns floundering to the M. H. thru the mud & rain. Nearly everyone has a cold now along

with Malaria & Diah. Too wet for church.

10. More & more rain. Area is flooded now & latrine & M. H. are almost to hard to reach. Confined to floor now with Diah., Malaria & a such cold & chills. World affairs rumors very depressing. Rain eased up after supper.

11. Sun out this AM. first in days. Only up once during the night & that is a record am paying for it today!!! Diptheria bad - no visit to the hosp. Now Malaria make it very hard to eat. Beri beri raising hell.

12 M. On sick all & on waiting list for quinine and milk. Diah. so bad food does no good. It goes Right thru me Capt. Blackledge pulled quinine.

13. Really down with Cold & Malaria Nausea exist for one day.

14. Levie sure has been good to me - chow water washing, help to latrine. It puts a bright side on the horrors of this camp. I hope I am worthy & can do as much for the next fellow. So many of us have been too long in seeking God. We can only pray that He will also give us a chance.

15th. Fever bad during the night up till noon no nausea. Warm & over cast today. One doz of milk daily now.

16th-17-18-19th. Very sick & weak. God has indeed been good in taking care of me. I pray that He means to see me home. Levie hasn't failed to look after every need. Got started on a complete Malaria course this morning I will run 15 days & will keep me full of quivering. Today we signed a pledge not to escape. Feet still dull ache.

Spt 22nd - In pretty bad shape - legs & feet are starting to swell due to diet I suppose. This is a rough existence for us all.

Sept. 3 - Thanks to God - I am able to sit up & write again. Weakness & swelling still with me but I do feel a lot better. Dr. Sharbart has been more than Dr. to me. I am grateful beyond words for his help. Lt. Goumans lent me 10\$ for which I gave him on IOU for \$10 - to cover his loss. Stomach still unruly & Diah. very bad but it is all due to diet. Dixon & Hill are O.K. Hill had a note from Shack. Raining daily. -

4th. A little beeter today - Back bad with rain - Miles sick - Hill has chills - New list of extra chow being made - I won't get on it because I do have 2 in the fund.. Feet swollen & ache like HA.

5th. Feeling better - Diah & swelling still getting worse. Legs getting too large for comfortable walking - a little sun today -

6th Sun. Missed Church due to sick call. Bright sunshiny morning. Rumors of plenty chow - nothing new just variety - some peanuts - Just

a rumor - nothing special.-

7th. Labor Day - Hope the folks are having a holiday - we aren't. A friend of mine was ordered to the hosp. with the same trouble I have. I hope I can keep out of the hosp till we get some good chow. My swelling is getting very bad & it is hard to move around.

8th. Swelling worse - A. W. read to Co. C now poor. All U.S. funds taken up by U.S. C.O. Much rain - little in - shoes are worn out - so are clothes - in fact I am about worn out too! Had a nice talk with Chaplain Day -

9th. Lt. White ordered to hosp. today Diah-Be No immediate hope for relief of any kind. Rumors are falling off quite a bit as we resign ourselves to a long stay. My own swelling has gotten real bad. Malaria again.

10-15 Another Real Rough Period - God & the kind attention of Dr. Sharbart pulled me back to pretty fair shape. Am now getting 3 or 4 oz of canned milk & a blood tonic daily & today I got put on extra chow whatever that will be. Beri-beri & Scurvy are on the increase in the men in the barracks.

16. Except for swelling am feeling pretty cheerful. Stomach out of control but that will take a long siege in a US hospital. Extra vegetable 2X daily & a fish loaf at noon will surely help me a lot. Capt Blackledge helped by putting me on that list. Been thinking of G.S. opening this week. Dream often of home & loved ones and Hilda.

17 - Bad night - No rain for 24 hrs!! nothing new. Definite diagnosis of Beri-Beri & a need for Milk & Iron - I get a little - 3 oz of milk & $\frac{1}{2}$ oz of a tonic. Nothing for aching feet.

18. Swelling up again & into stomach - arms & face swollen now.

19. No Change - 1st Lt. Ranke died in hosp.

20. Swelling at most severe state - Dr. Sharbart very encouraging.

21. I. J. General arrives - Swelling fierce - above waist & into arms & hands. Very hard to get around but still semi-cheerful despite lack of hope less than 2 years.

22. Inspection by I. J. General - Didn't get to us - Swelling very severe. Worries me to a great extent but nothing can be done - So I must wait & see how serious it is.-

23. How much swelling can flesh stand!! Pay rumor put out on paper by U.S. Hq. Pay for Aug & Sept. expected? Other wild rumors re Gen. Drum.

24. Swelling - No Change - otherwise cheerful - Pay will help I hope

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

we get it. Rumor has it for officers only but I hope we get enough to help feed everyone a little better. No rain for 48 hrs. since I bought a decrepit rain coat for ¥1 - My last one incidentally - So I hope the pay story is good.

25. No Change - Diuretic seems to be working & that is what helps reduce the swelling which has been called Beri-Beri or Edema.

9/26 - No change.

9/27 Beri Beri very severe - Barely able to walk & then only with great pain due to swelling & stiffening of right knee. Unable to go to church again this Sunday. I.J.C.O. will make a speech this AM. good talk on futility of escape & how poorly Japanese nationals are treated as US Col. Mori is more than fair & agreeable.

9/28 Despite all fair warnings 2 Lt. Cols & one USN Lt. were caught by Amer guards. Resisting they attracted the Attention of IJA guards. They were well and deservedly beaten today. 9 men can be shot each escape so we have no use for those who jeopardize & rest of us cause a lot of new rules & perhaps hurt our food. My Beri-Beri is a bit better thanks to Lt. Ball & his B. powder gift. Sgt Gail who gave me a bottle of Tiki-Tiki. Lt. Levie goes out on detail of technicians 700 men 14 officers. J.K. has been more than good time & I will miss him but can't be sorry as he wants to go. Rumor has the detail going to Japan.

9/29 Heavy storm from edge of Typhoon - several sheds blew down. High Wind & heavy rain - Nearly everyone went to bed to stay warm. My swelling easing off- diah. still mean. Three more of our officers went to hosp. one is in really bad shape with Dys - one diah - one doesn't eat (psycho neurosis - gastric). The 2 Lt. Cols & 1 Ensign were shot today. Barracks penalized too.

9/30. Very severe wind - too cold to sleep - Bldg shook & shook all night long & kept us scared & cold. Swelling down in legs but up in hands & arms. Most officers are wrapped in Blankets trying to keep warm. Driving rain all day.-

Oct. 1st No further Pay Rumors! Sgt. Gail got out today - he will try to get me home veg. & meat - (a fryer hen) - if possible - The P.X. stuff came in today - But I don't expect anything. Why hasn't our Red Cross gotten in with medicine & clothes & food? If they don't get to us I shall feel very bitter.

Oct 2. Gail had no luck. Trying again today. Dr. Sharbart got hold of some medicine for me. I can never thank him enough for his help during those rough times. Perhaps when I get home I can more fully express my gratitude to him.

Oct. 3. More rumor of Detail & Joke leaving - Felt miserable.

- Oct. 4 Missed Church again due to sick call. Dr. Sharbart reld to go with detail. Levie issued shoes & blanket & cover-alls. My diah & Beri Beri still pretty mean. On list for "SEA Voyage" on Oct 11 - rumor has it to Mindinao or Japan.
- Oct. 5 Take leaves Barracks to spend night in group having to get up 5-6 Mid to leave. I sure will miss him. Diah & Beri Beri very severe.
- Oct. 6 Miss J. K. already. More rumors of more men leaving for some place. Rumor has it on Japan or so to Mindinao.
- Oct. 7 - No Change - Diah. pretty bad. Beri Beri no change. Still swollen beyond belief. Rumor - going to Malay-Balay in Mindinao. Good cattle country there - if we go & if they feed us.
- Oct. 8 Hired a soldier to get my clothes ready for the trip & keep me in water. Evidently pay rumor fell out despite HQ. statement. Eyes going bad from diet deficiency - Vitamin lack according to Drs.
- Oct. 9 Commissary in - have no funds & nothing due in for me. Col. McKee owe me ¥10 & a Sgt Reiniger ¥5 - but I can get neither. Rumor that trip of 11th is postponed - Beri Beri better - Diah mean.
- Oct. 10 Still uncertain about leaving. Rumors conflict. Beri Beri no change Diah little better. No word on leaving.
- Oct. 11 Dry run on leaving 2nd, 3rd Pl. Co 2. Felt very faint at the formation. Beri Beri & Diah bad.
- Oct. 12 Nothing new - Cooler after all night rain. I am almost packed ready to go. New rumor says Formosa. We all hope not. We have hopes of recovery if we stay in P.I. Beri Beri & Diah still bad.
- Oct. 13 Mother's Birthday. I hope my prayers reach her today especially. We are all waiting word as to if a & when we leave this prison area & where we are to go. Despite rumors I'll bet we go North - South. Rumor says nothing will be done our way till Germ. is settled.
- Oct. 14 Wedding anniversary at home. I hope they can enjoy it with some knowledge that I am at least alive if no better.
- Oct. 15 AM. No word of leaving. Stories of great improvement in rations. Possibly like pay stories. Saw Hill at sick call. Says he has had enough. Got a note from Helen written 11 Sept. Diah severe all night - no sleep at all. Ache up to knees.
- Oct. 16 Still no word of moving. Otherwise no change Rice & Potato peel soup at noon!!! Things are getting quite tough around here. Today we are due to have meat broth but there is no meat.

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

- Oct. 17 - Food brutal - still no word of leaving. 4 PM Some meat arrived one day late. Diah & Beri Beri worse.
- 18th. Rumored improvement in food not yet evident - getting worse in fact. Diah. not letting up at all. Rumored food in Davao should help us if we go there!!
- 19th. Oct 11 group now on Oct 24 & 25 - Feet & Eyes getting bad. Diah very mean.
20. Nothing new - Duck or Japanese War Party out after guerillas returned carrying the head of a Fil. I guess it will impress the natives.
21. 3 chickens & 48 eggs issued each 500 men!! A fine start - hope it continues. We got no Bemi weekly meat issue however. Eyes & feet giving out about 30% have feet trouble.
22. Soup for 450 out of above Ration!! Pretty thin.
23. No word get on detail. Japan may be destine from the food can't get much worse - So any change should help. 3 Fish for 450 men: Hq says detail off till 26th.
- 24th. No change Diah & BB very mean. Dry run on detail. Sun AM.
25. Dry run on detail 1998 dead Cab.
26. Marched to Cabanatuan - Rough march 11 Km many shape long crowded ride in Box Car to Bilibid - Best issue chow same Dec 8. Mutton stew with Mutton!
- 27th Pier 7 & into hold of transport for the night 12 men 6' X 5' 10" X 28"
- 28th Sailed.
- Nov 8 Hog not available till arrival - Near Davao Landed at Saw Mill - Xourteous treatment till I got taken by truck. 24 Km to Davao Penal Colony. Mat of Capt. of M. C. taken right to hosp. Excellent care thanks to Cooperation of Japanese M. D. & our Col. Deder. Chow good - canned tomato ($\frac{1}{2}$ can) tasted like Jam. Meat shreds in stew today. Fruit shortage being worked on - Favorite MD Dr. Jackson is here - Also Rasmussen - Ward man from the Beautiful grounds & landscaping. Shall be content here if we get proper diet.
- Nov. 14 Swelling & diah still mean - no sleep for 2 nights. Issued of tomatoes again. BB & diah. about same. Eyes & feet still ache. Rough Chow.
- Nov. 15 - Church in the garden. Beautiful day. Chow tiny bit of fish at night.
- Nov. 16 issue to some of lemons & slice of papaya. Swelling down same.

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

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- Severe aching of eyes & feet. Fish gravy & fish issue. Excellent care & interest!!
- 17th. Bit of tomato & fish for supper. All officers Co. grade are working in field (25 yrs. Hard labor on most details. Age up to 40.
- 18th. Swelling way down - Dry BB setting in severely Mirami greens.
- 19th. Chow little better - comotes & roots - $\frac{1}{2}$ can Mangus at supper excellent.
- 20 - N. C. to 22. Swelling gone. Too weak for church. Ration short.
23. Ration short - some sort of holiday. Feeling pretty mean.
24. Bad day Cut!! From noon milk & fish & tomato list. Very thin & weak now that swelling is gone. Diah MC & dry bb bad. Don't feel too well inside.
30. Diah better during the week. Hopelessly weak from night.
- Dec. 1 How I pray that all are well at home and that we can have many more years together. Things here are alternately encouraging & depressing. We all need better food. We are to survive. Our own Qman Bataan should be tried & shot for the shape we are in. The talk is as well as better than QM Bataan.
2. Rumors of Relice - impossible - Fools believe them. Diah & dry BB very active keeping very weak. Wish I were able to go all in detail. They seem to eat plenty of fruit when outside working.
3. IJA take their holiday on them - so we must. From my hospital bed I can hear the Dapecol band and Fil-Amer. Ball game. Have felt uncommonly homesick the last of few days usually I can hold that feeling sick and somehow I have been sort of worried about things at home. I hope my worries are unfounded - But it sure looks as though as we are here for a long stay. We will be more than blended by God if we ever see us & our loved ones again.-
4. Diah. much better thanks to God & efforts of Capt. Heinbath. Diah is very severe but I can take it. Feel very weak. B'fast worst even.
5. Read the Poem "Back" by Willred Wilson Gibson. Good food.
6. Mon. - No change. BB - very severe - no sleep at night poor chow.
8. IJA Holiday - War one year old for US. Dry BB unbelievable painful.
9. Inspection put off. Real Parts for IJA - like E. Ofx
10. " " at noon - very perfunctory. Nice looking qtrs. Poor chow

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

11. Cooler - Diah & BB kept me up all nights. Ch. Houser died 8th here.
12. Still no sleep. Dr. doesn't seem to give aid - & I am just about at the end of my resistance in feet & hands. Pain in my feet could eat no dinner. But I won't be broken. IJA alert last night.
13. Getting weaker - cause unknown. Slept after one. Doped. Too weak for church. Big Holiday looks like Sundays may be our day after all. Meat soup our own cooked.
14. Very weak today - good chow - one green onion each. Assigned to Dr. Whitely Penobscot Bill. Diah gave bad night. He says 4 men may leave permanent by now. We 12 B # 41 have gained at least 15 # in the hosp - 3 onions ea.
15. Dr. Whitely very fine.
16. Ex chow - meat onions M.N.C. Co meaner.
- 18th Warmer - Chow fair. Much pain & weakness. Diah mean. Hard to believe that Christmas is one week away. Our only hope is God.
19. A Dental Capt. died - worked yesterday. Cerebral Malaria. Mongo beans for dinner. Still too weak to enjoy the future of Rumors of Cig. for Christmas. Am quite worried about mother. Possible permanent injury to nerves of extremities due to Beri beri & Diah own Drs are worry. All they can but die & vitamins are needed. Tropical rains. Sure need hot bath, shave clothes & our loved ones & homes most all. God will surely give us courage & help.
20. Sunday Small bit of fresh fried fish for dinner, 2 oz sardines at supper. Rumors of food. Christmas stay. If Amer. Red Cross doesn't all help to us for Christmas there will be quite a let down here. Sundays seem to bring added thoughts of loved ones and friends.
21. Bill Leisenring visited this AM. He has Malaria (1st time). Chow Swelling start again.
22. Bb mean also diah. Vatrinol critical. Good soup. All day long Bb being hard but there is a little fight left I am gaining with lost at O'D in Cab. No hope for Vatrinol.
23. Vatrinol passed away about 7:45 AM. He was a fine boy with courage in the pain. We all must endure. I pray God will care for him! Rumors of a little extra food for Christmas fade one by one. I had some sleep last night. Little but cabbage & onion for dinner this Christmas eve till the IJA gave us a pk. of cig. I know now what a broken heart feels. A very remarkable feeling. As how - what with physical pain - deaths of friends - fears of pain with plain ordinary homesickness in large amounts. The future is too dark for me. But we must fight on for some of us should be able to get home some time -

some Christmas. Merry Christmas!! good chow & a veneer of good cheer. Certainly the hosp. people did all they could to make it as enjoyable as possible. My thoughts are all prayers that Mother & Father etc are well & knew somehow that I am still able to get about. It is hard to rave about home. Felt more like crying night. Bring only on me with-part anger - part sorrow on losing a favorite Amer E. M. Really felt bad this time.

26. Many light eaters still full from yesterday. It is Dec 25 in Detroit - write too with an unshed tear I wish all my loved ones a Merry Christmas & pray that the next Christmas we will find us together. Another death - Beri Beri - Malnutrition, other cases are critical.

27. Wt up to 135 P a bit of color. Terrific appetite - Never satisfied. Not only 2 men near us both in bad shape. Rumors of US action getting closer but nothing hopeful as yet.

28. Days that seem more painful slip by without relief in sight. Rumors of B but that is all.

29. What pin - & nothing but diet will stop it. Some Curse & some pray. Prayer is our sole chance.

30. Fish - 2 oz Meat soup - 6, concentrate arrived. Japanese song, sword dance, flute solo. Rumor has clothes medicine and packer.

31. Very depressed again - worry about home. I wish we could get mail from home.

1-1-43 Happy New Year - I hope this may be a better year for the world. IJA had big party last night & this AM. They had real feed this AM. C.O. & Adj. x Fil, etc. Meeting of Mich Club.

1/2 Bad night feet legs - hands (eligible) be Critical. Stored fish-Ex supper.

1/3 Missed church in Eve due to visit of Dr. & my argument with Corps man.

1/4 1st B. shot today. Spot of fried liver for supper H. P. will passed away 7 P. M.

1/5 Meat soup for dinner - Fish ration at night.

1/6 Made out cards to mail home. 2d B. shot.

1/7 Rained out of Bed last night. Miserable with wet clothes & feet gear. Bb & dish. very mean during night. Hands & arms very mean. Let a soldier make copy of my rumors.

1/8 IJA Holiday today - I don't know why. Got no sedative last night. Hence no shoes at all. Feel Mean today. Mich Club Met.

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

- 1/9 Very MEAN today - Diah & BB. Meat gravy for supper & B. shots today. Diah & BB. mean - still no move towards paying sick officers. NO SLEEP - Bad itch.
- 1/10 No change - meat again - Delicious - Patients worry me I am AFRAID.
- 1/11 Fear - Fever, stomach ache x Diah & Bb keep me sick & worried. B. shots may cause fever. IJA dys. smear. Meat soup.
- 1/12 MORE FEVER - Bb WORSE - NO APPETITE - ROUGH NITE
- 1/13 MALARIA again No wonder I cannot build up strength this is 6th Malaria since April. P.X. of cigarettes today x Inspection by Major General IJA. Field Officers go Paid - signed for ¥825 - got ¥25.
- 1-14 No change - Dopey with Quinine - can't eat - chow poor anyway.
- 1-15 Pk for dinner - many Wild Rumors of Christmas Packages & Mail x B. x Food - seeing is believing!!
- 1-16 Fever broken - God has spared me again - Praying brings a New Comfort to me. Spot of ried liver for supper. Appetite fair. Some got letters written in June. We were reported as Missing in Action. I hope letter from Helen - letter got home - More than that I hope Mother got the letter from Helen and has written me. See Rumors for. 15-16 - Col. Deder got mail.
- 1-17 Rice - butter & Syrup for B'fast - Much rain - Bb painful. Praying nightly for parents.
- 1-18 Bit of liver for supper - MC. Em. paid ¥15 all officers paid except sick in hosp. Bb & Diah.
- 1-19 HBegg for B'fast. 20 moved to Mal M. ward - Missed the move by 3. Meat Gravy. do-do.
- 1-20 Meat gravy - B. mean. - Red Cross Packages on way - Hope this is NO RUMOR.
- 1-21 - No changes.
- 1-22 Changes in hosp. staff (new Compound for sick) hosp.
- 1-23 Bb & Diah. mean - still no move towards paying sick officers. NO SLEEP - Bad itch.
- 1-24 Still no sleep - Bb no Vitamin pills & Tiki-tiki. A Slang - Strafed - Stopped Detail ins.
- 1-25 - Shot with something this AM - then pills I always just take what they hand me and ask no questions. Saw train (our little train) load of Red Cross stuff go by. Santa Claus is sure late - But welcome.

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

1-26 - Red Cross Stuff in ware house - conflicting rumors as to what we have. Bb & diah mean - Another shot & pills today. Kidney quite painful.

1-27 - Diah better - Bb worse.

1-28 - No change - Kittridge's Pen

1-29 - Red Cross Pk's have plenty of Food about 2 small shoe Boxes each. God indeed was good especially today. 4 Boxes for 2 men - 1 Canadian, 1 Amer, 2 other S. African. List of Contents in Notebook - Bb bad - Diah improving. Fried Fish for supper.

1-30 - I got 1 Pk of Chesterfields & a wool jacket - Morale up 100% - Fish again & some Corned Beef - Jam biscuits & Cocoa from RC. PK. Got wet in rain sleeping in on porch. God is with us!!

1-31 - Got some candy & then was pad. 20¢ by IJA. Bb Bad Medecine bro't in. 2 # of Jam S.A.K. Pineapple each 5 men. Mongo Beans for supper. 1/3 can Corned Beef - Hard Tack & Jam.

2-1-43 Cocoa - rice & raisin & prune sauce for B'fast - Bb most painful last night.

2-2-43 Red Cross food going fast. Bb still mean - Control improving - Dr. Whitely is giving me extra pills.

2-3-43 O.W. Holmes Says "One that goes in a nurse may come but an angle" Makes me think of Helen H. God has been indeed good on allowing this RC stuff to come to us. We got some medecine - sugar & Corned Beef.

2-4-43 - Bad night - a pain & rain - Vitamin C pills "Good" as Dr. Whitely says. Malaria hit me again - CB issued.

2-5 Pills - Vita ABC-D & shots B. - dried Fish dinner, Beef gravy supper. Malaria hits harder & takes more out of me. Each time I pray for relief by our forces but I fear the main effort may be made in other theaters. No doubt US will have to get Germ. & Italy. 5 or all out effort can be in this Area. Bb tougher - or I am less able to stand pain. Diah. worse from day to day. IJA announced no more food to come in & we & others too would have to live on Colony produce. Right now there is very little & it will be 4-6 weeks before any new crops are ready!! RC packages offers little build up.

2-6 Malaria really taking me down ill right when I was getting stronger!! CB for dinner. Rice Yeast - hard to take but reputedly full of things we need.

2-7 Some made of S. African dried pears on B'fast rice good flouring - hope we have More - 2 Cans C Beef for next 7 days. Rumors best of all. Sweet Cocoa, meat soup, Raisin pie. God is surely still with us.

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Bb improving as shots revive Nerves - Very painful Cure!

2-8 RAIN ALMOST DAILY. No Bb shot today. Last day of quinine. Malaria Fever easing. HOW ARE THE FOLKS at home these days. My nightly prayer is for them not to worst.

2-9 Very bad night - not much sleep in last 5 nights. Shot interavenous for Malaria. Bb severe.

10. Night of sleep - RUMORS OF OUR GOING TO JAPAN I pray God will spare us and the Boat Ride.

11. Pain that defies description as extract revives nerves!! Got cond. milk for my Cigarettes.

12. Rumor of Germ. Falling (AGAIN) Bb very mean. Red Cross food almost gone. Issue Chow poor.

13. Rumor false. Dr. Whitely down with cellulitis. Diah a little better. Kittrriage ill - fever U.O. Bb MEAN.

14. Valentine greetings to Mother - Aunt M - Sister & Granny & Aunt B - Others to whom I want to sent may not want my from a P. W. - Bb exceptionally painful. Raisin Pie - 1 C Beef - 1 Meat & Veg issued for the week.

15. Eyes & Kidneys still acting up - cards writing 1-6 are still here. Hope they go home soon. I would give a lot to get a better from home. They must keep well and trusting in God.

16. No change - Bb keeping me awake at night - Major Ruth gives no MS apparently.

17. Bb very mean - Dr. Whitely still Q Two lemons from I. S. officer last night. No Rain today.

18. Awake all night till 3 with Bb. Lots of worry about home and loved ones. This is such a futile sort of existence. We just sort of go from day to day. Some day - or year - this will be one God willing.

19. Days roll on by. Sleep some last night. Good raisin lugao for b'fast. Wt 152 - $\frac{1}{2}$ CB for Supper. Consult Dr. Rob't Whitely of Detroit.

2-20 Bad night - legs & arms quite mean. RUMORS lying - No Backing - Capt W. a little better I sure miss his daily rounds. Once home I hope to get him to Wilmarga.

2/21 Worse night - Vain hard on feet Coc. Pie For dinner - 1 CB - 1 meat & Veg issued.

22. Dr. Whitely to duty. Richardson - Hosp to Q Kittrriage, same. Bb

mean - Dish - better.

2-23 Kittridge - Q to duty. Rice detail out - ache worse 4 PM - Fever - 104-F - Malaria!! gr 30 quinine in 2 hrs severe Headache - Nausea - Unable to eat supper.

24. Temp. Normal - Course of Quinine ordered also Urinalisis - Very hot sun.

25. Bad night with Bb. Rumors to D - are on telegrams seem good - Hope to get one. Had 22 pills yesterday & ones hot today same & interavenous Mcpharsan. Worry a lot about home -

26. I sure need sleep in pursuit of Laughter page 30. The gallant Lt. I will brave all dangers except marriage!!! Very good thought - I think I agree. Will see - God willing. When this is over. All Rumors seem False. Bb mean - little sleep. From my Cotton the hospital porch I see IJA headquarters. When let up at night it looks just like Wilmarga & it makes my heart sick to look at it. It also gives renewed determination to ride this pain from Bb. Malaria weakens but is only upsetting for a few days. I pray that God will care of those at home. I feel sure He is helping me.

28. Big Celebration today. Japanese children putting on Show for Filipino - great amount of singing. Very warm - hard on feet. New occupation questionnaire & rumors of Japan again: I don't believe it would stand another boat ride like the last one. Slept last night with aid of $\frac{1}{2}$ MS.

3-1 Another Month Gone. Still no Relief in Sight. How Many more will it take? Telegrams given out - Very hard on us who didn't get one. BB mean. Dreams of GMS - with a wise!!

3-2 - Fog & haze this AM. Bb mean. Seem a bit discouraged - Yet we have hope to God.

3-3 Bottle of orange POP today. Suffering from malnutrition we can buy such stuff!!!

3-4 Stomach upset - Bb mean as ever. Relsed Kittridge eat a pumpkin - excellent dessert.

3-5 No change.

3-6 Sleepless night - a pain thru to heart - worries me - Rumors of exchange rain.

3-7 Much Rain & Pain.

8. Another card to be sent home. Bb meener than usual.

9. No change - PAIN SEVERE - little sleep.

10. Egg - Incl. Rainy Day. BAD Cold to add to my trouble.

9/30 E

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

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- 11th Cold & throat worse. How much longer.
- 12 Bad night
- 13 Nothing worth noting.
- 14th - Meat & Pie - Beri beri mean - Signed card of 8th.
- 15 NOTHING -
- 16 Still Raining heavily. Followed by Heat - What Hope Have we - Nothing is left save FAITH in God and a hope that by living we can one day make our loved ones Happy again by our release - But now - has our country forgotten us - Can they not get an exchange for our sick! We only waste away here. I pray God will care for my parents.
17. Col. Deder gave me a fine pipe.
18. Great surprise - Disch fr. Hops. & to duty MALARIA PM
19. Duty with Nepa detail inside - chow good
20. Save - 21 Sun - rest 1 last little of canned goods went to move in M. H. last night.
- 3-22 - Guard Road - good chow -
- 3-23 Very tired - food good.
- 3-24 KAPOK gathering detail camotes.
- 3-25 - Same detail - very tired.
- 3-26 - Same
- 3-27 - Very hot - Big shaked down at gate - left 2 papaya.
- 28-31 Malaria detail weeding ditches - Feet covered with infections. MC Fil shot - 30th
- April 4 - Feet Bad with infections - Pay Day - Soaking of feet most of the day in the hops. First fooling since 18th... 10 escape have no regard for those left behind. No work today. Starvation diet - due to foolish few Rumor has 7 officers, 2 EM, 2 fool in the Party. Apparently it was very well fixed up - clothing gear, food medicine & instruments - 2 Animals
- 4-6. Ration really cut - 2 EM selfish men causes us plenty of rough living - No one knows why they were so foolish. They have caused new rules etc. - all of which cut our food. RUMOR has it one soldier KTA - satisfies in part action.

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

- 4-7 Worked with sickle - IJA. M. G. here. Imposing looking party - good chow at supper.
- 8 - FALL of BATAAN DAY - Holiday - MOVED all of Barracks 6-1 interchange. Rumor 1-4 none escaped - hence detail to be accordingly changed.
- 9 - Worked - Made Rope. Other 8 no work. Bb bad when not tired out.
10. Bx 6-8 to compound - Rope again - chow good - BB mean.
11. To Hosp - Cellulitis - extremities - Capt. Osborned Severe.
12. MEAT & MONGO BEANS - Maj. Jackson to COMPOUND - Exch. RUMOR
13. Hosp. to QUARTERS - Bk. # 6 BB rough - work helps me sleep.
14. RUMORS Wild again - 1200 to Japan - I wonder how Miles Dixon & Leeare.
15. Lt. Yuki Kills RUMORS of 12th & 14th.
16. Feet Bad.
17. Lt. Yuki to Pvt. more trouble due to selfishness of those who escaped. Lt. Yuki did his duty and treated us like officers hope for.
- 18-19 - Lt. Yuki rumor still unfounded. I pray it is not true. To Bk 8 for CO 20th. Feet Bad - TROPICAL ULCERS
21. DRAFT OF CARDS.
22. Ch. Day told me he thought Ed died the day before we left Cabanatuan. WORDS FAIL ME.
23. MALARIA -
24. IJ. Holiday - Fever Bad.
25. EASTER - Brief Church - canned Chow -
26. Wild scary RUMORS - BB mean. QI makes me shaky.
27. N. C.
28. Hot - Chow cut - RUMORS BAD - Very Blue the last few days - Dreamt of home -
29. Emperors Birthday Parade.
30. RUMOR of Food shortage & no sugar.

May 1 - rumor true!! - 2 Quiet - 3 - RUMORS 3 NC, 4 leg towel - tooth paste. Issued Egg in Rice $\frac{1}{2}$ ea? Good meat P & B Gosip - Very hot. Is this Aunt M's Birthday? - 6 - NC. - 7 - My Foreign duty tour is over today!!! 8. Nothing new. 9. MOTHER'S DAY Dreamt last night of my surprise visit to cottage - Via streetcar - got off at Mickles & found out all were well - walked to Cottage & woke up after taking Mother in my arms & Crying & promising never to leave her again. God willing I won't. We are not allowed to have any church. But I can pray mighty for those I love. What a trial this must be for Mother. Have been working on a poem to note here today "To My Mother" - it is enclosed 10 - Ate can of Bacon I saved for Mother's day - we had meal broth. Sun set I saved can till today.

11th Nothing new. 12. Made shorts from overall coat!! Very hot.

13th HOTTER 14 - NC.

15-16 Bard for home - hope cards get home - they should stop some worrying. It will be hard on those who get no cards. We had a short church this morning. Preaching is not allowed since they escape. Food problem is very acute.

17. Day off. Asked Col Deder for a job to get me on duty Status again.

18. RUMORS OF Activity.

19. Same 20. Filipinos LEAVE - Good chow with Peachay - No details out.

21. Japanese home goods from Davao arrives chow with dry Fish last 10 days. No meat - set RUMOR 648.

22. Nothing New 23. Late for church - good supper soup.

24-25 Symptoms of MALARIA again. Roster signed to agree or not - to work. I signed Aye.

26. Severe earthquake this AM. IJA. C.O. according to rumor says officers will work!

27. Dull day. Raining afternoon.

28. Got some leaf tobacco from a garden - made 3 cigars 23 cigarettes & a can of pipe tobacco. Sure is tough stuff!

29. MORE RULES ON SMOKING AREAS.

30. "Chris" MOELLER has MALARIA MORE Dreams of home. June 1 will make 3 Birthdays away -

May 31 Dull and wet. No war news in paper except death of Fleet Admiral Yamamoth. 3 of X in Bay has chills today - Malaria is Bad.

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

Quinine is scarce but hema provided.

June 1 Bega well with Mongo Beans added to usual salty Rice. Once make my prayers and hope got to Mother and Dad - I hope they can hear them through Him who has saved me. Storms cannot express my testing today. Once I was so sure of being home today I hope the card we sent is home by now indicating I was spared. I will have a can of Food saved since Red Cross come to provide a note of Pleasure - Here we cannot allow ourselves to be SAD. (eligible) bear up mentally to keep well physically I am still in Quarters of Beri beri & weakness from my illness. Worries at thing that might have happened at home are terrifying. But I must only think of the Future - one cannot Regret the Past. - Meat in served is worse than I had the can of meat & Veg. saved from R. C. My only celebration.

2. Bit of papaya for B'fast S Rice & sugar & tea. - Fresh Fish served
6-3 RUMORS Fish - Birthday greetings in Prayer to Margaret this day. Ordered to Duty asked for duty in Preference to Light Duty. But grass with a sickle - had a piece of papaya. 5th Duty bodega Cut Kang Kong - fed it to fish - husked corn. Tuna - B'fast & supper. Fight 2 Em.
6. Church - go work - Making room & plans for other compound to come back.
7. Guard Road detail - Wrecked house - Cut banana trees - ate semi ripe pineapple.
8. " " " cut grass - ate papaya.
- 9th Same - Posts & choled AM - Revetment PM p No Quan - Ray hazed.
- 10 - Move - day off.
- 11-12-13 - Weeding Rice Patties - No church.
- 14-15-16 - More Rice Weeding, Poisoning Bad reld from Rice.
17. Guard Ro. Post 5 men each.
18. Bodega - 19 Plowing! 20. Holiday - missed church due to Policing
21. Bodega - palay & sacks 12 - (sanr)
24. Bodega 15 Qtrs. 26. Otrs ordered by IJA MD Food SCARSE. It go BAD. 27. Qtrs.
28. Quaters - Ration Cut again. Dry of Qtrs. 19-30. Qtrs - 7-1 Plowing - Chicken manure Q SAME.
3. Dad's Birthday - Holiday for us. We work 7-4. Wrote too soon. Went out in PM to Bodega - unleaded rice palay - good chow. 7-4 Manure Cart driver Rumors wild again.

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Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

7-5. Bodega PM. 7-6 Manure Cart inspecting party today. 7-7 Big manure - Quan 7-8-9-10 Same.

7-11 Day off - Boxing - Music. 7-12-13 Ox. Cart driver. 7-14 Hocking Cassava.

7-15 - Gathering Cassava. 7-16-17 Permanent detail - ox cart driver. 4 for 3 avocados. Pineapple good. Those not repairable. 7-18 Day off Pay Call.

19-20 Bull cart - Malaria set in. 21. Qtrs - Malaria - Newspapers - Optimism.

25 Trans & Survey 26. Bull Cart. 27. Same. 28. Cart feed & manure. 29-30. Same - 31. IJA Fruit detail - Very good.

8-1 Shaved 1st Since 6-18-2 Bull Cart wire & plows.

8-2-3-4-5 Bull Cart - Camotes 8-6.- Cart - 7 Plowing Squash.

8-8 IJA Major On Ration Cut 8-9 - Cut tough. Plow AM ASA - Pm. 10 Asa. 11. Plow & Kang Kong 12. Cult. Corn & Plow Rice 13. Nail Salvage & Plow 14. Kang Kong & (Bananas) & Asa 15. Moved Church due to Medical Survey - Feel or except tired & heart pains, Met Lt. Gardner KMS - of glasgow. 16. Kang Kong all day. - 17 - Plowed - all - all day - 18 - Camote AM. Rain PM. Rumors wild. 19. Am Camotes - PM - Abaca - Rumors - optimism. Very tired 20. All day on Abaca - 21. Worn out - plowed all day - Cart for all Bull drivers - I will get it 2 or 3x a month - Air activity. I am exhausted. 22. - Missed Church again 23-8 Plowed Corn Cassava - Squash - half day. 27-28 Food cut up. 29. Never so tired but sick of slick tired. 10 sheets of T. P. 1 Cake of Soap - 1 pk of cigarettes & 1 1/2 green Bananas issued. Mactan Sout till 9:10 last night. 30. Plowed Corn half day - 31. Same - Shaved. RAIN.

9-1 Half day PM. Another Month by & a new one to wait out. Rumors are good but there is so little to depend upon. I still tire out too easily and then spend bad nights. Food is short but sustaining - I hope. 9-2 Rain half day on cart - no luck. 9-3 Plow Cassava. 9-4 Plowed for Peachay field. - 5. Sun. to church but had to leave early - lugeo - 9-10 Plowed Papaya - still on 1/2 day 9-7 Cart again - permanent - Kang Kong - guava - coconut - Bananas Rice - 9-8 Abaca - Am. - PM off - 9-9 Camote - plow & cart 9-10 Peachay Cart Kang Kong Cart - 17 KEFUN CART - GUAVAS - 18 RADISHES 19 Sun. Work - Kang Kong 20. Plowed for Camote gathering. 21st. Qtrs. awaiting trst to Hosp. 22. Same - PM. to hosp Eb about the heart Haven't seen Dr. yet 23. Dr. Whitely - hear marmor - 24. Check by Capt. Rader for Dr. had an egg - No shot 60X power of usual ones. 26. Church PM. Dr. Brown spoke. 27. Shot - Bridge - Joe brought me 2 guavas & camotes. Bridge 7 rubbers. Newspapers good. 28. Corn grain Egg 29. Shot - Vespers - Wildest Rumors 30. R. C. & Mail rumors tocusan.

Oct 1 Heart funnys Oct 2. Chess lesson. Oct 3. Shot - Church.

W.P.O.

Diary of 1st Lt. William F. Oliver, cont'd

4. Quiet - hungry - 5. Shot - Meal or list for 2 days now. - Pc. of Candy. 6. Dry fish for supper. Major Wolfe pretty Bad attack. 7. Dry fish again - many rumors. 8. Candy tonight - Milk list. 9. Painful headache 4 days now. Extremities Bad Milk - 14 cigarettes. Church - Dr. Brown - two carabao - Neck massage. 11. Message to be disch soon. RC? is mother's Birthday! I can only pray nightly for God to give her the strenght she needs. I know she has the courage and surely by now some card has found its way home. Had I no hope of having Mother, Dad & Aunt M - I don't think I would have left Bataan or some hospital. Now each day goes me new Courage and desire to get home to thank God with this at home for His mercy.

Oct 14. Another heavy hearted day of thoughts of Mother & Dad and a Home I love. May God grant had 5 days celebrate their next anniversary with them. Today is a holiday here for Phil. Ind. I was just a day off. No extra food was allowed - But a new flag flies under the Sun. The change probably went effect us.

10-15 Lots of papers to read - date in May. RC boxes for our hosts.

10-16 Wild Stories of Collapse in Germany. Many are feeling it may be true. Other RUMORS are too good to be true.

10-17 - Church without sermon. 10-18 Feeling about the same.

19. Rumors wilder by the day. Once more the officer who tries to understand us in trouble. Lt. Yuki Reid C.O.P.W. to Rice Detail C.O.

10-20 RUMORS PERSIST re: Collapse of Axis. 10-21 Hospital staff changes. 10-22 Prepared palm nuts for Vita A extract in AM. Candy & Cup Cake issued... 10-23 Quiet 10-24 Rumors flying without logic. 10-25 Bad attack last PM No sleep. 10-26 Work as pot washer. 10-27 Much air activity - to So. 2 men escaped or drowned or MACTAN detail Mon. No definite word as yet. The men were quite young work - 1 Pot ea. meal. 28. Rumor - Drowning 1st official - R - 2 men. 29. Work on Caboric ontment of Diet. 30-31. Wild rumors still with Us. Major Jackson to go out as M. O. for a 60 men detail.

11-1-2-3 Nothing. 11-4 Bad dose of MALARIA. 11-5-6 Full of 19 Rumors Wild - New close precautions to see that no one gets away. 11-7. If we behave - we have a bright future. 11-8 Sick with 19 - Wilder Rumors. 11-9-10 Quiet. 11-11 - Armistice Day - How I wish it were for this war. 11-12-13 Asthma Bad - to duty any day now. 11-14. Bad night - feet too low for Church. Meat & onion issued to day. Rushing work on fence & Buildings. 11-15 Wild Rumors persist on Germ. 16. 3rd B. shot today. Will go to duty any day now. Capt. Rader sure has tried to fix me up. Lab. report on WBC & differential as normal Pd. ¥30.00 Today. 17. Bad asthma 4:30 AM. 2 Naval officers visited us. 18. No sleep very jittery today due medecine yesterday. Plans today 1st in a week. 19. $\frac{1}{2}$ Day for some details. 20-21- Pushing WORK ON FENCES. Repeated. Work that Germany is out. 22. Quiet - Rumors of New policy for today did not come true. 23. General did not arrive. 24. Busy with fence & galley load of tobacco in. 25. Bad night no sleep due Asthma - Thanksgiving day We

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have so much to be thankful for one could not attempt to mention it all then too I am thankful to God for the thing rec'd about which I am not aware. His gift to me of loving parents and my life thus far impresses me most today. Especially here in the hosp. We are thankful to Him for Col. Deder and one other doctor who have helped us so many times. We got $\frac{1}{2}$ can Corned Beef today that the Col had saved from last Jan. For supper we cooked on a small "pot" with a bellow. Geo. Wightman made a pumpkin pie - no crust & fried 2 oz of Corned B. with radishes & tops, green native tomatoes rice fish oil coconut oil. Then we had a bit of crushed Corn - chicken feed - boiled & a salad of above greens & some hot weak tea. Our regular issued ration was rice & cassava with a bit of sugar syrup. We were happier for it all. We had broken some laws etc & it was a bit of a treat. There were 10 of us sharing but we had 3 pies & a little of something good goes a long way.

26. Asthma again worse today. Chapel officer to # 2 & N.C.O. from 2 to the new barracks. Now we are all pretty conferring rectangle. Rumors of Germ. have stopped so I guess they are still in the war.

27-8-9 Quiet. Nov 30 - to Ex 7 today. Capt Rader sure has taken care of me. I will never be able to express my full thanks to Col. Deder and his doctors and Corps men.

Dec 1 On Rope making detail. Dec 2 Rope detail AM. - Asthma Bad. Dec 5 To PM. rope detail. Asthma. Dec 6. Holiday - Dec 7 A. made 24 cigars with Chris. Moeller. PM rope - Dec 8 Holiday 9 PM Rope 10 Am 25 cigars - PM Rope 11 Cigars in AM - Rope PM. Asthma. 12 Sun - Holiday 13. Cigars with Chris - PM rope 14. AM cigars Slept at noon and missed PM. work. Dr. excused me from penalty. 12-15 Cigars in AM. Rope PM. 16. AM Rope Chill Malaria - Worst attack I have had. Gives a terrific headaches. 17. Still feverish & with a bad head no sleep last nite. 18. Still sick - d - little sleep again. 19-24. Much too sick to take any interest in Christmas plans. 24th We have been given 40 cigarettes & some peanut candy. I feel mighty low but the less I think or write about it the better off I will be. The Camp was given quite a few magazines of Nov & Dec. 1942. I have it read any as yet. There was quite a variety of them. Tobacco I made 2 brooms. And a monogram out of Abaca & an old M. K. lid. one for Col Deder & one for George Wightman. We had extra rice today & have plenty of meat for tonight. I worry too much about those at home to have any real Spirit. None the less there is more spirit this year than we had last year. Rumors of place float around and are disregarded I will try at broth and some clean clothes to see if they will help my morale any. 12-25 Merry Christmas to all my loved ones at home. We had a fine program last night. I was still awake at 6 AM when Carols were sung. I sure felt bad all night. Church helped me out a great deal. After church I visited my sick friends & Medical Corps. Now I feel bad again because it is just after 12:10 AM. Dec 25 at home now 3:10 pm but most everyone is trying to be cheer today (hard) & there is no point in being otherwise.

26th Work day - Rope 27 Holiday Rain 28. Guard 4 AM. Chow at 5 & to AM Rope detail 29 Pm Rope - 30 Pm rope. quarantine hosp & # 8 for suspens of infantile paralysis. 31 Holiday with fears etc of disease in. On weak condition. Made agar etc & got 1 small oleo can less than full for ¥45

1-1-44 Last night John Davis, Frank Schof & I had our New Year toast with Can of milk I had saved from Cabanatuan. This we greeted those at home on the new year. Candy.

1-2-44 IJA OD. etc do wishes. Rumors that all we had heard re Germany B not true. So we can relax for at least one more year.

1-3 Working again. Made some Cigars in AM Rope in PM. 1-5 Cigars & ROPE. 1-6 No tobacco Rope pm. 7. Much rain - Rumors that soldiers have Ocosin fever & that is quarantined too. Still Pouring rain on 9th - 10th Had to turn in Bible for Censor. 11. Rain - Rain & no rope of release this year. So we exist on. God surely has taken care of us.

12. No change 13. NC. Library to open tomorrow. 14. Library opens. 15. Work as usual. To Church in AM. 16. PM rope - George W brought me rice, peanuts - Bananas. 17. Same - George again - 18. To Basket Detail which now making mats one mat - made by lots F. O. cost as good in time \$25.00 - I V would sell in peace for about \$100

19. Got Bible & pay late last night. Work all day on Basket detail. IJA Dr. to survey us again today 20. I was excused from Survey - having worked that AM. 21. All day making mats. 22-23 On Same detail. 24 Day off but worked on a police detail. 25-26-27 Rice Cut. 28. To Qtrs with cellulitis. Rice replacement not in getting a list of meat every other day now. 29. Qtrs. feet bad. 30. Same 31. Holiday.

Feb 1st. Qtrs RC Rumors Again. 15 pc Candy 1 Pk Cig last night. 5 Candy today. 2. Qtrs - Rain. 3. Got all bedding soaked in surprise rain. GW. but blanket. Had guard 2 AM. 4th Tough guard 2-4 A, then half day up at 5 so no sleep. G Wightman has been more than a friend lately. Father is from Paisley & Mother I belive English.

5. Much Rain. Still Qtrs. Russels of our essay on honor of War 365 got "A" paper worth 1 lemon & some fried camotes. More was on bombing of Hosp. Holiday to the work last night that RC. ship left Manila 1-31

8-9-10 Working again. 11th Empire Day - Holiday. 2 Pks Cigs 205. Signing Cards for home. 12. Basket detail - Meat for tomorrow. 13. Meat Soup at night. Ration cut to HRRH. 14. Mon. our day off good meat B'fast Rice. RUMORS BAD. 2-15 To Bk at noon Bay 10 Still on Basket detail. 2-16 Detail went to Davao Rumor RC ship in last night 17. Candy & Tobacco - AIR. 18. Wightman Birthday - Some RC in Camp. Rumors of 600 detail to Carpenters to leave Sun. 30 men. Made bet with Moeller \$5 - I pay each month before Christmas He pays 5 ea after in edible stems of course. I feel we will be in IJA Hands at least all Christmas 44.

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

19. No change. 20. Detail of 30 went to set up new camp for big detail to leave soon. 21. Holiday except MACTAN. 22. Basket Detail still making mats - 23. Chills & fever - off to see Malaria. Dr. feeling rotten - Ate less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of each meal. G. W. gained where I lost. But it is all in the Clan.

24. Worked Malaria Smear - Excellent chow: a real tribute to Major Rotherham. Some RC in Details unreliable. All of RC in Bodega. Holiday for Basket Detail.

25. RC was carefully censored & 1 ea was opened. Last night a physical check was made on men to go out on a detail. My Asthma & Malaria still bad. Some mail held at noon. Some RC to hospital 8 PM IGT A/ET from Mother. 26. Less than 100 of 10,000 put out & I got one. Since God has heard my prayer. Since Dec 1942 I have worried - Particularly because Mother wasn't well - then the shock of the war & our men in Bataan must have required Courage on the part of a mother. The one I go date July 16 with 10 on the front certainly cheered me up. Prefers to say friends read the letter. That night after lights are blase baled eyes so I thought of home, more letters, but not for me.

27. Sun. Work day. Re food tomorrow. 28. Food - food - and a new faith the American goodness and ingenuity. Holiday today - plenty of food - $\frac{1}{2}$ of food issued the rest had been held by the IJA personal toilet articles always issued.

29. Many sick 1 indigestion. Pressure on Basket detail for more baskets.

1st March Rumors of 600 men detail to go tomorrow. If it does I will lost the friendship of George Wightman who is sure to get sent.

2 March - About 100 men left including heavy duty 2nd - 1st and in some Capt's. They were issued shoes. My number is 98 and there are 70 shoes. So I bought a pair, offered for 2 cans coffee. 9 Pks cig.

3 March Got shoes in lotter - size 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ D no one wanted.

7 March. No changes IJA CO. left many lotteries held. Got # 8 and selected wool sweater on one. Won Corned Beef on another. Extra comb, 5 blades shoe laces on another. Holiday 6th 89 still on basket detail - eating RC food - Not having after Bataan exercises plus of us are. 10 - Worked 11 - Half day off. All details plowing and field except rope - Basket - Asthma Bad lately. 12-13 Basket. Vitamin plus 1 - 2 in our Bks of 165. 14. Holiday in Pm. Raffle for cards. Very small change 4 decks for 160 men. None for me 1,415 Asthma and fever chest cold. 16. Lots of work cleaning for inspection tomorrow by IJA general. Cut grass outside for a stuff Qtrs.

17-18-19. Same work 20th. General arrives & inspected. 21. Half Holiday again. 22. Working. 23. Another letter # 13 dated Aug 25 I am so thankful for a Mother who realizes how much it means for me to take down to write. I hope the rest of the mail gets thru.

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

24. Out of bejuco ate at noon. So we came in at 2:45. 25 More bejuco came in. A bad night with Asthma. 26. Basket Detail to be over when we run out of bejuco probably sometime.

27th Sent a note to GW. Reed one from him 23rd. Reed 3 Birthday Cards Mothers & 7 & from Aunt M. this mail has been here since Feb 18 but must be censored here. There are supposed to be 10,000 pcs. Excitement & at 9:15 30 alarm & all details brot in. Learned of escape unfortunately guards (3) were hurt. I am sorry that happened as most of our guards have been good to us & it will not help our cause with them. I think it so foolish to break it out for they can't US & They do us a lot of harm.

28. Held in today & work out Wohlfeld later Boone a formed Detroiter was caught nothing official as yet. CD said 1 Man killed at dawn rest surrounded.

29. Tinko 6:40 - Still locked up. Shots heard at dawn. A little rain during the night.

30. Tinko 6:10 Rice & Salt diet. Bodega detail out in AM. We got in some vegetables - no rice.

31. Rice Blast squast & camote for lunch. Guard seems to be back from chow supper.

1 APRIL - Clean up Eks - Chow same 31st. I always try to refrain from being critical of our food - But since the escape it has been too short. 1 finger is part of a soldiers life but with our huge vegetable gardens and promises of eat what you raise - hunger to the extent of a gnawing weaking pain that won't let you lie on your back - is a lot to ask of men who have been throught so much already. Our RC food is gone & the best is in the IJA Bodega promised for today. The hunger of the week has been suffered in the hope of today and now we have seen failed on that. Rumors have it that we are going to MANILA soon. The main guard is still out coming the jungle. One ortub details go out Machine Shop & IJA Kitchen & Both - No more mail has come in & we are on God gr. of rice or veg. daily official word tonite that the censor has been preparing mail & we will get some in 2-3 days. Also a fund of ¥606.60 from the rope. Also word that the C.O (IJA) is responsible for our safety as well as detentions so don't escape.

2. Food still short. New C.O. a major arrived today and made a quick trip thru camp.

3. April -weight 148 - weak & subject to "Blackout" & Headache. Food worse & now we are about out of firewood. Some Mail came in at noon.

4. April - Vegetable Firewood details out. New C.O. came in at Tinko (AM). Letter requesting release of RC. New C.O. seems very interested in his charges. Bad night last, Asthma.

5th Eks leaders entertained at Dinner by IJA CO. Good prospects for

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

future expects discipline. Sounds like a Soldier for whom we can be grateful. Body referred to 28 March identified as Boone - Burried with Courtesy - Ch. Brester. Lots of mail late gt read. But none for me. 6 M. Chow still Bad rice & sugar at B'fast rice & salt at noon squash & cassava at supper. Few details went out. 50 to plow & Field - rope 20 & a few other maintenance units 7.50 men on rope Ws (baskets) go tomorrow.

8. Work - RC after supper the "Regular PK was issued. Official light. Rations for 200 duty men are given & 250 are put to work. Basket detail to make 100 Basket Covers tomorrow is Easter Sunday & there is a beautiful full moon tonight. War seems so far away yet the Barb Wire fence is only 75' from my bunk a dim light. Many telegrams came in last night dated Jan. this year. None for me. Easter Sunday. 4-9 Beautiful day after hectic night due to soup getting some medicine which produce symptoms like a crying drunk. They kept us awake till 1. Church in an empty Barrack brought a tear or two as I thought of Mother & Dad & those at home - Easter Service in the Cad Store Church. Sometimes I would rather work on such days than have time to think about those at home.

4-10 - Work again Basket Cards issued to mail home. More Radio grams and Mail in today but none for me.

11th Wright & Carmickael from guard house (escaped detail) to duty. Fence between us and hospital complete Woller & Fansler released in PM. 13 men to Bay 2 from 10 as Jack Newsome was returned to Duty write to me very time I have had any contact with him. Col Deder was present. Basket detail did not work PM. out of Bejuco, B only inside Details due to Rain except Basket.

14. Cards to type this AM. Rain for 13 days now. 15th Basket detail still in a little Sun at noon. READ A BEAU TYPE Short Story England to America Margarete on Montarve.

16. Sun. Some meat for supper. Another check by the Japanese Doctor. Still rain. Asthma Bad - Got good shot from Dr. Barnes -

17. Ordered to hosp at noon. 18. Dr. Rob't White Davis Mrs. Teddy Tufford - 878 Boston Blvd - The Palms - Mr. Mrs E. Whitely of Mosey Bean 173 S. Ardmore, Los A. - C. J. Geisman. 6 Ramona SFCWT. All sick are concentrated in Hosp. Rumors of Move very resistant - Destination - of course unknown. Same Tones. RFA 3 Box 100 Anaheim Calif. Col F.

18. Rumors of leaving still with us. Letters 48 - 12 & card from Aunt M. Mothers letters brot times to my eyes. Cots were checked there this PM.

19. Rumors - But no action put way. 20. Bad morning with Asthma severe. Bartz Cleared considerably. 21. Busy Packing No detail on move Asthma Bad. 22. Very ill 4 AM & all day long some sort of stomach up-

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

set dizziness. Rumor that move has been postponed for a few days.

23. Still a bit sick. Beautiful day - no word on moving as yet. Some odd RC food expected today. The individual Boxes are gone. Lotteries being set up this AM - won 1 can Corned Beef - Butter - 8 Pks bullion cubes.

24. Order today to "Cease visible packing it disturbs other men in camp. Many visiting parties today. No further rumors except that packing is visible on the other side of the fence. Surprised and pleased with letter from Tom Milnar. Wondering about McLaughlins. Many had read letters re: Boxes from home. Bell dinner. - Major Mandelson said would be nom 6 mo. before he is. I said No 4-26. - Bad night - Asthma. No word of moving.

27th Still waiting. Inspection. 28th No inspection - 6 - cooking bananas issued 2 coconuts. 29 - Holiday - Emperors Birthday.

30 April SURVEY HELD TODAY RUMORS OF LEAVING Tomorrow. Clothes were packed today - Rumor of Moving Wed!!

1 May Survey - 8 Disch N. Hosp. Food plate packed today. Expect move AM.

2 May - No official word 3 May - Holiday - Children's Party - Letter - Mother dated 23 March 43 Reed last night. 4 May 501 letters late - 51 No mail for me. Survey again if off unable to walk. 6. Medicine out by truck. Letter last night from Sister - 31 May the First I have had from her. Evidently not the first she wrote! 7. Much activities today - packing hosp about complete - lots of guards in and out - MUCH Excitement - 8. Very upset Asthma very Bad. 9. Another bad night of Asthma - no unusual activity in hosp. Main Compound 500 men to camote field weeding & harvesting. 10th Called in 311 Tods mailing AM. None for me - mail pm - none for me. 12. Bad night Cegrisbase of spinal column. Neuritis aggravated 13. Quiet - 13 Beds & chest of medicine moved. Another bad night started new course of quinine. 14. Mother's Day & how good God is to me last night got the first letter mother wrote after official word. 5 May - Aunt M? It was dated Dec 28'42!! This mail all come of course. It must be censored & is not in order by dates. I am so thankful to God for such a Mother & these letters how me much of one worry many Mothers had gone thru. They are good medicine too for all us. They give courage and desire to get home when we see that many have died through lack of faith and desire to attempt to repay debts of love. I am grateful to those who have helped Mother by writing & her doubt adding to her hopes Right here I have seen a new type of friendship in our Camp where hands appear unexpectedly when most needed today I can (eligible) have had a lot of quinine & other RC medicine in the last few days. So I can not attempt to write my prayers of Faith. But God surely knows & thru Him Mother can hear my thoughts and in my tears this day. I am only sorry those at home. (eligible) Mine - so far I can bear and by thoughts and the (eligible) God will care for Mother & Dad & those at home so (eligible) not easy to write. Did not feel able

Diary of 1st Lt. William P. Oliver, cont'd

to go to church. Hosp Chaplain Ft. Kennedy gave each patient a cigar tobacco 5-15 Back bad during night. IJA CO visited us often Tinko. 16 - I ask of mail today none for me. 17th This month since I came in- to hosp a little indication of moving no word. 18. PW have no rights - Conference with IJQM of Dapecol. RC soon. 19. Still no News of evidence or move much high plan Activity 18th 20. No news - Bad night. 21. Same much Asthma from heavy light rain. Fight on rope detail. IJA Soldier hurt. Make a reason to guard house. 22. Soldiers shot as Amer. goes near fence for food MORE RC Medecine brot back in here RC pencil today. 23. Main compound given dysentery test. 241 Camp Rope Detail CO of Harrison to hold Heuser. Ungentlemanly conduct charge against officers. 25. Hosp. Survey by IJA Dr. Pd. 30# 26. Many officers visit camp & hosp. 27. IJA Drs (3) visit hosp. 28. Col. Olson to duty with story of Maj Harrison's death. Dream of McFugitt. 29. Heavy rain during night. HUNGRY - Hungry - a sick sort of hunger. 30. Hot - hungry. 31. Rumors of sacking Vegetables for a trip again. John Davis brot me a card - Salad & Cigars - Most thoughtful of him.

1 June - Once again a Birthday without Mother & Dad close by my prayers today especially go out again to them. How they must suffer with wonder & worry. Yet if they knew the Japanese Dr. Yashimura & our Col. Deder they could know that our hosp is good under these times. My heart races away at imes but the Dr says it is Ok - but he probably is holding something back from me so now while I look OK & usually OK I myself never know I can only hope Mother & Dad have forgive me & reconciled themselves to whatever may come. We had 2 meals with meat & I got large serving Br & Supper & a agar from the P.X.

2 June Much activity during night. Cramps from too much cassava. Hungry again.

3. Activity $\frac{1}{2}$ can of CB - Comdr. McCracken 22 yrs serv. today. Moving activity again. 40 Greetings to Margarte on her 26th Birthday. I hope Connie is OK. Read Seasoned Timber made me think of GMS & all it mean means to me.

5 June - How is it that MGF remains in my hope eternal this time. Married or single she has my sincere greetings this day. 4 pm truck arrive & we are told to stay up all night packing - B'fast at 2 AM. - Closing. Play now to back - Diary will probably get away from me.

16 June At Cebu after a slow trip two men escaped or tried it. Cebu is a pretty place I would like to come here on peace. It was hot aboard ship last night & the cool breeze ashore are very refreshing. We got a RC Box on the trip. 17. Good rest. 18. Still here in San Pedro de Cebu - 21. Still here left 22nd Manila. 24. - Ashore 26 to Bilibid a fine hosp under Lt. Nog. IJA & our Navy Hosp from Cavite.

A TRUE COPY:

W. H. Essary
W. H. ESSARY
Capt Wac

P.O. W./C.I. - W.P. Oliver

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