

510

X

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 883078

RELOCATION OF PHILIPPINE RECORDS

Property of
U. S. Army Administration Center
Library & Central Files
Room 4175

COPY

COPY

EUA#18

HUH#29

MUDE3

JMA 14

JMAL A12

JMALP 13

RR UEPBU

DE JMALP #7A

R 2#234Z

FM USMILPORT OF MANILA PI

TO UEPBU/CHIEF DEMOED PERS RCDS BR TAGO TLOUIS MO

INFO ZEN/CG 15AF CLARK AFB PI

AF GRNC

CITE U 437# MAPO REF LTR DA FILE AGCM-M SUBJECT SMCEN RELOCATION OF
S153RD AU CMA AGRD DTD 19 DEC 52 PD FOLG IMPL OF S153RD AU CMA AGRD
CMA AFO 928 CMA TRPG YOUR OFFICE CLN ELVARD L DAVIS CMA DOB 28 OCT
#0 CMA ADM ASST PAREN CLAIMS EXAMINING PAREN CMA G -3#1-9 CMA
#661# PER ANNUM CMA LEFT BY WATER 19 FEB 53 PD 2#1 FIL AND LEAVE
RECORD MAILED TODAY

2#/#245Z FEB JMALP

DPRB COMM GEN REC'D FEB 20, 53 8:00 AM

MEMO ROUTING SLIP

NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS

1	NAME OR TITLE Miss Hager	INITIALS	CIRCULATE
	ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	DATE	COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE

REMARKS

Pending further instructions, cases or requests for information from records will not be forwarded to AGRD.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 883078

FROM NAME OR TITLE JOSEPH MALEY, Chief Clerk	DATE 21 Jan 53
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION Demob Pers Rec Br, TAGO	TELEPHONE 700

DD FORM 1 FEB 50 95 Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used. 16-48487-4 GPO *

27 Jan 53

Colonel, AGC
Chief, Comptroller Division, TAGO



COPY

ctions to DPRB

1953 Guthrie/ht/73658

the Executive Director, transfer of the records of Demobilized Personnel Commission desire to you will be furnished your of your letter of to the Commission, 1 Records Depository, the coordinated with the this coordination was those agencies that their s and procedures effected of the Veterans Adminis- tant General Records dependent organizational onsequently little, if

1 Inquiries to- s Depository operation least possible amount Depository operating changes in those policies

vision, AGO

AGCM-M

Transfer of AGRD Records and Functions to DPRB
//THRU Chief, Adm Svs Div, TAGO Chief, Compt Div, TAGO

6 FEB 1953

Guthrie/ht/73658

TO Chief, DPRB, TAGO
4300 Goodfellow Blvd
St. Louis 20, Missouri

1. Reference is made to the inclosed copy of letter from the Executive Director, War Claims Commission, dated 27 January 1953, concerning the transfer of the records and functions of the Adjutant General Records Depository to the Demobilized Personnel Records Branch. As indicated therein, representatives of the Commission desire to visit your branch on or about 15 March 1953. Further information will be furnished your office as soon as the exact date of the visit is known.

2. Prior to initiation of the move of the Adjutant General Records Depository, the transfer of the records and functions of that depository was coordinated with the Veterans Administration and War Claims Commission. At the time this coordination was accomplished, some concern was expressed by representatives of those agencies that their operations might be complicated by changes in operating policies and procedures effected by the Demobilized Personnel Records Branch. Representatives of the Veterans Administration and the War Claims Commission were advised that the Adjutant General Records Depository operation would be established as a separate and independent organizational element of the Demobilized Personnel Records Branch, and that consequently little, if any, change in operating policies and procedures would be made.

3. Accordingly, to assure that the Adjutant General Records Depository operation is resumed at the Demobilized Personnel Records Branch with the least possible amount of disruption, it is requested that Adjutant General Records Depository operating policies and procedures be followed and that any contemplated changes in those policies and procedures be coordinated with this office before adoption.

D. R. VAN SICKLER
Colonel, AGC
Chief, Comptroller Division, AGO

1 Incl
Cy of ltr from WCG,
27 Jan 53

D. R. VAN SICKLER, Colonel, AGC
Chief, Comptroller Division, TAGO



DECLASSIFIED
Authority 883078

158 1988
158 1988
158 1988

Reference is made to the original copy of letter from the Executive Director, the Commission, dated 27 January 1953, concerning the transfer of the records and functions of the Adjutant General Records Branch to the Executive Director's Branch. As indicated therein, representatives of the Commission desire that your branch on or about 15 March 1953. Further information will be furnished you as soon as the exact date of the shift is known.

After the initiation of the move of the Adjutant General Records Branch, the transfer of the records and functions of that branch was coordinated with the Executive Director and the Adjutant General. As the date of this coordination was coordinated, your concern was expressed by representatives of that agency that their operations might be complicated by changes in operating policies and procedures. It is the Executive Director's Branch. Representatives of the Executive Director's Branch and the Adjutant General were advised that the Adjutant General Records Branch would be transferred to a separate and independent organization. It is noted that the Executive Director's Branch, and its corresponding files, if any, changes in operating policies and procedures would be made.

Accordingly, to ensure that the Adjutant General Records Branch operating in accordance with the Executive Director's Branch with the least possible interruption, it is requested that Adjutant General Records Branch operating policies and procedures be retained and that any organizational changes in that branch be coordinated with the Executive Director's Branch.

Chief, Executive Director's Branch
Adjutant General's Branch

158 1988
158 1988

158 1988
158 1988



WAR CLAIMS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

January 27, 1953

Major General William E. Bergin
The Adjutant General
Department of the Army
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Bergin:

I have been requested to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 16, 1953, addressed to the Chairman, War Claims Commission, relative to the transfer of records and functions from the Adjutant General Records Depository, 8133d Army Unit, located in Manila, Philippines, to an Army records center in St. Louis, Missouri.

The Commission will arrange to discuss the transaction of business with the center in St. Louis on or about March 15, 1953. It is noted that this will be simplified by the office following the same policies and procedures as have operated with the Adjutant General Records Depository in Manila.

Members of the staff are being advised that all inquiries relating to records heretofore maintained in Manila should be addressed to your office in St. Louis. In this connection, I wish to take this opportunity of thanking you for the cooperation and helpful assistance extended to the War Claims Commission in the performance of its official duties.

Sincerely yours,

F. Byrne Austin
Executive Director

17 October 1952

Mr. McCool:

The attached was prepared at my request in order that DPRB may be "on the ball" in the event the records referred to herein are transferred to our custody.

Informally, I am also submitting a chart showing the organizational set-up, as well as the names of available key personnel to be assigned in key positions. The grades may be too low when compared to grades authorized for similar positions in the Philippines. Bargar, of course, will have to be pushed by higher-ups before he deviates from the "routine".

Mr. Wyrach, in our opinion is tops, and since he had made a previous study on this subject, as well as having occupied previously the top job in Special Correspondence, will be invaluable for the top job in the new section.

My recommendation would be to adopt the proposed set-up; bring from Manila an assistant for Wyrach and as many lower grade clerks as wish to repatriate and fill the vacant spaces indicated on the chart. Of course we can secure additional good clerks from other segments to fill some of the spaces.

Colonel Newman and Colonel Hill authorized me to send this to you informally, so that you and Jack may become acquainted, in advance of the meeting, with our proposed plan. If you wish that this chart be submitted formally to anyone, please advise us and feel free to suggest any changes.

Hope to see you in the near future.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH MALEY
Chief Clerk, DPRB

16 October 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. MALEY
Chief Clerk, DPRB

1. In response to your request there is inclosed a Chart of the proposed Philippine Section containing the names of personnel who have had experience on working Project "J" cases and who are believed to be well qualified to work other types of Philippine cases.

2. The names of such personnel have been entered on the Chart opposite the jobs to which it is believed they are best qualified. Personnel whose names are followed by an asterisk have worked previously on Project "J" cases but are currently assigned to other units in World War II Correspondence Section.

1 Incl
Chart

ROBERT E. WYRECH
Supervisor, Casualty Unit
World War II Correspondence Section

14 October 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. MALEY
Chief Clerk, DFRB

1. In connection with our recent conversation regarding the possible transfer of Philippine records and functions relating thereto from Adjutant General Records Depository to Demobilized Personnel Records Branch, I have discussed this matter with Mr. Allen and have considered matters believed pertinent to the establishment of a section in Demobilized Personnel Records Branch which would be able to process the necessary functions.

2. Based on available information, observation and study of records, and examination of reports received from Adjutant General Records Depository on USAFFE, Philippine Army and civilian guerrilla personnel, it is believed that records and cases relating thereto could be handled in this branch without undue difficulty. Since the Missing Persons Act (Public Law 490, 77th Congress, as amended) is the basic law under which all World War II Philippine cases are processed, work on all categories of Philippine cases should be very similar. It appears that the major problem involved would be the coordination necessary to assure that the interpretations used in cases pertaining to Philippine Scouts, Army of the United States and Department of the Army civilian employees are the same as those used on cases pertaining to Philippine Army and guerrilla personnel. No doubt it would be necessary to make a comprehensive study of the policies and procedures now being used at Adjutant General Records Depository in processing Philippine Army and guerrilla cases; however, that is true when any new category of cases or records are received.

3. In connection with Philippine Army and guerrilla records, during the past few years this Branch has had custody of the original records of the Guerrilla Affairs Division. Since the recognition of guerrilla service was governed by determinations of the Guerrilla Affairs Division, the experience that we have gained in working with the records of the Guerrilla Affairs Division on Project "J" cases should be very pertinent to the processing of Philippine cases other than Project "J".

4. Inasmuch as the guerrilla recognition program and the arrears in pay program have been closed for several years, it appears that the major functions remaining in Adjutant General Records Depository are the furnishing of service information to various agencies and individuals from determinations already made; the determination or redetermination of military status of individuals based on records and evidence received since the

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. MALEY

14 October 1952

original determinations were made; and the redetermination of casualty status on personnel who have been granted status under the Missing Persons Act. Examination of records pertaining to Philippine Army and guerrilla personnel received from Adjutant General Records Depository shows that service reports, determinations and redeterminations are made by Adjutant General Records Depository in the same manner in which such cases are processed in Demobilized Personnel Records Branch on Project "J" personnel.

5. During the past year we have been receiving approximately fifty (50) cases per week containing claims for recognition as the result of alleged service with the armed forces of the United States in the Philippine Islands during World War II. Since many of these requests were addressed to the President, Chief of Staff, Secretary of Defense and governmental officials in Washington, it was necessary for this office to request information on which to base a reply from Adjutant General Records Depository. In practically all the reports received from Adjutant General Records Depository on these cases statements regarding the individual's service were furnished together with information that the recognition program and/or arrears in pay program were closed and that, therefore, there was no authority for taking any further action on the request. Action taken by Adjutant General Records Depository on cases of this nature appears to be very similar to actions taken in this office on records maintained here.

6. It is believed that personnel now assigned to Demobilized Personnel Records Branch working on Project "J" cases are well qualified and have an excellent background to form the nucleus of an organization designed to process Philippine cases of all categories. Personnel working on Project "J" cases have used the Guerrilla Affairs Division records extensively in connection with cases pertaining to Project "J" personnel who also served in guerrilla organizations after the surrender of Bataan or release from Prisoner of War camps. The experience gained in working on these records and in processing Project "J" cases under the provisions of the Missing Persons Act should be of great value to these personnel in connection with the processing of cases pertaining to Philippine Army and guerrilla personnel.

7. There is attached (Tab A) for your information a copy of memorandum dated 9 February 1949 containing proposed plans for transfer of Project "J" records and functions to Demobilized Personnel Records Branch. These proposed plans were formulated by the undersigned in conjunction with Mr. Schoenman (no longer with Demobilized Personnel Records Branch) during the period December 1948 to February 1949, after a study was made of the Philippine program from information then available, which indicated

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. MALEY

14 October 1952

that Project "J" included the records of all Philippine personnel who served with the Armed Forces of the United States in the Philippine Islands during World War II. Shortly after these plans were made information was received that the Project "J" records which were being transferred to Demobilized Personnel Records Branch pertained only to Army of United States, Philippine Scouts, and War Department civilian personnel. Mr. Allen and I became familiar with this phase of the Philippine program while on temporary duty at Adjutant General Records Depository in Manila, Philippine Islands in June and July 1949. While on duty at Adjutant General Records Depository practically all of our time was spent on learning the various aspects of work on Project "J" records; however we received some orientation on the remainder of Philippine records which remained at Adjutant General Records Depository and are currently maintained there. Even at that time it appeared that the work on Project "J" records was very similar to work on the other categories of Philippine records such as Philippine Army and guerrillas. After three years of experience on Project "J" cases and observation or records and reports received from Adjutant General Records Depository this similarity is even more evident. It is believed that the organization proposed in February 1949 is still basically sound to handle the World War II Philippine records if it is determined that all such records are to be retired to this Center; however, based on knowledge acquired since that time on these records some changes appear to be desirable, particularly in connection with grade allocation, in view of the extensive investigations necessary and the lack of official records in a large number of cases. We have therefore, planned a revised tentative organization designed to process the Philippine records and cases at this time. An organizational chart of this proposed section is attached. (Tab B)

8. Since no information is available in this Branch as to the backlog or the current average receipts of cases in Adjutant General Records Depository on Philippine Army and Guerrilla personnel, it is impossible to estimate at this time the exact number of personnel that will be required in Demobilized Personnel Records Branch if such work is to be processed here. However, the organization has been planned to include seventy-five (75) people. Inasmuch as there are approximately fifteen (15) people now required on Project "J" work the remaining sixty (60) clerks are proposed for work on other categories of Philippine records. When information is available as to the work load included in the proposed transfer personnel requirements can be adjusted accordingly. It is estimated that the work load will be distributed about equally between correspondence cases, cases requiring determinations, and requests from the Veterans Administration; therefore, it is recommended that separate

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 883078

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. MALEY

14 October 1952

units be established for each of these categories of cases as shown on the proposed organizational chart.

9. A chart containing the names of personnel who have had experience on working Project "J" cases and who are believed to be well qualified to work other Philippine cases will be furnished if desired.

2 Incls

1. Tab A
2. Tab B

ROBERT E. WYRSCH
Supervisor, Casualty Unit
WW II Correspondence Section

DEMobilized PERSONNEL RECORDS BRANCH

Philippine Section

Headquarters

1	Chief Clerk	GS-
1	Asst Chief Clerk	GS-8
1	Clerk-Steno	GS-3
1	Clerk-Typist	GS-3

Correspondence Unit

1	Corr Unit Supv	GS-7	(Cupp)
2	Corr Clerk (R&A)	GS-6	(Amos) (Evans)*
4	Corr Clerk	GS-5	(Kidd) (Green)*
2	Corr Clerk (R)	GS-5	(Huhn)*
6	Corr Clerk	GS-4	(Sawon) (Seal)
2	Clerk-Steno	GS-3	
2	Clerk-Typist	GS-3	
1	Mail & File Clerk	GS-3	(Vohl)

20

Adjudication Unit

1	Claims Examiner (Supv)	GS-7	(Allen)
2	Claims Examiner	GS-6	(Imhof) (Page)*
6	Claims Examiner	GS-5	(Rigdon) (Williams)
1	Claims Examiner (R)	GS-5	(Mogelnicki)
4	Claims Examiner	GS-4	
3	Clerk-Steno	GS-3	(Varble)
2	Clerk-Typist	GS-3	
1	Mail & File Clerk	GS-3	

20

Veterans Administration Unit

1	Clerk (Supv)	GS-6	(Giess)
2	Clerk (R)	GS-5	(Jobe)
6	Clerk-Typist	GS-4	(Thomas)* (Gaillard)*
2	Clerk (R)	GS-4	(Pohlman)*
8	Clerk-Typist	GS-3	
1	Mail & File Clerk	GS-3	

20

Records Unit

Headquarters

1	Clerk (Supv)	GS-5	(Votaw)*
1	Clerk (Steno)	GS-3	
<u>Pers Rec S/U</u>			
1	Clerk	GS-4	
1	File Clerk	GS-3	
4	File Clerk	GS-2	
<u>Archive Rec S/U</u>			
2	Clerk	GS-4	(Wilson) (Weber)
2	Clerk	GS-3	

12

A

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *885078*

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 885078

PHILIPPINE UNIT

Unit Headquarters

- 1 Administrative Assistant CAP-6
- 1 Administrative Assistant CAP-7
- 1 Clerk-Stenographer CAP-3
- 1 Clerk-Typist CAP-3

Plans, directs and is responsible for the performance of administrative functions and the development of policies and procedures in connection with the certification of military and medical information to the U. S. Veterans Administration, the processing of correspondence, and redetermination of status under the Missing Persons Act, pertaining to all living and deceased Army of the United States, Philippine Scout and recognized guerrilla personnel who served in the Philippine Islands between 8 December 1941 and 30 June 1946. Has custody and administration of personnel and archival records pertaining to this category of personnel.

CONTROL & DISTRIBUTION SUB-UNIT

- 1 MAP Clerk (Supv) CAP-3
- 1 MAP Clerk CAP-2

Receives, processes and distributes all incoming mail. Maintenance of Unit suspense system of all communications received. Determines priority and routing of correspondence.

CORRESPONDENCE SUB-UNIT

- 1 Corres Clerk (Supv) CAP-6
- 2 Corres Rev Clerk CAP-5
- 1 Corres Clerk CAP-5
- 8 Corres Clerk CAP-4
- 2 Corres Clerk-Typist CAP-3
- 6 Clerk-Typist CAP-3

Responsible for the composition and preparation of correspondence involving policy and procedure; staff & congressional inquiries; and requests from representatives of the United States and Foreign Governments at Ambassadorial or Consular level, Dept of the Army and other Government agencies, claimants and their representatives, and all correspondence received in the Unit pertaining to military service and status of living and deceased Army of the United States, Philippine Scouts, War Dept Civilian personnel classified as Project "J", who served between 8 Dec 1941 and return to Military Control.

ADJUDICATION SUB-UNIT

- 1 Claims Examiner (Supv) CAP-6
- 2 Claims Examiner Rev CAP-5
- 4 Claims Examiner CAP-5
- 2 Clerk (Interpreter) CAP-4
- 6 Claims Examiner CAP-4
- 2 Corres Rev Clerk CAP-4
- 4 Correspondence Clerk CAP-3
- 2 Clerk-Analyst CAP-3
- 5 Clerk-Typist CAP-3
- 2 Clerk-Typist CAP-2

Conducts investigations and makes determinations regarding status, grades, and loyalty of individuals who served in the Philippine Islands with the Army Scouts or recognized guerrilla organizations; makes redeterminations and corrections in cases in which there is an indication of error or incomplete investigations in original determinations made in connection with arrears in pay program; responsible for detection and investigation of tampering with or alteration of records; prepares, issues, and amends discharge certificates; prepares all correspondence necessary for investigations.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION SUB-UNIT

- 1 Clerk (Supv) CAP-6
- 1 Clerk CAP-5
- 1 Clerk-Reviewer CAP-4
- 15 Clerk-Typist CAP-3
- 9 Clerk-Typist CAP-2

Furnishes military and medical reports, and information to the U.S. Veterans Administration for use in the adjudication of claims for disability compensation benefits, death benefits, National Service Life Insurance, etc.

RECORDS SUB-UNIT

201 File

- 1 Clerk (Supv) CAP-5
- 3 File Clerk CAP-3
- 10 File Clerk CAP-2
- 2 Clerk-Typist CAP-2

Archival Records

- 1 File Clerk CAP-4
- 5 File Clerk CAP-3

201-File: Has custody of the personnel and medical records of former members of the Philippine Army who served in the Philippine Islands during WWII, AUS personnel; Philippine Scouts; Guerrilla Personnel, covering the period 8 Dec 1941 to 30 June 1946. Searches 201 files and withdraws files containing information requested, transmits files to the requesting Sub-Unit for preparation of replies. Examines, sorts, arranges, folder-ites, perfects, indexes, and files personnel & medical records. Searches urgent and telegraphic requests and makes extensive search for lost records.

Archival records: Has custody of organizational records, historical records, documents, diaries, and reports pertaining to former members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army while in the service of the Armed Forces of the U.S., Philippine Scouts, AUS personnel, Guerrillas, who served in the Philippine Islands. Conducts research of cases in which the requesting Sub-Unit requires additional or unusual information from the files.

-RECAPITULATION-

	CAP	CAP/6	CAP/5	CAP/4	CAP/3	CAP/2	CAP/1	Tot
Unit Headquarters	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	31
Control Sub-Unit	1	1					2	4
Corres Sub-Unit			1	3	8	6		20
Adjudication Sub-Unit			1	6	10	11	3	31
V A Sub-Unit			1	1	4	15	9	30
Records Sub-Unit				1	1	6	12	22
TOTAL	1	1	3	11	23	45	26	110

9 February 1949

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Kenney,
Chief Clerk,
Demobilized Personnel Records Branch

SUBJECT: Proposed Plans for Retirement of Project "J"
Functions and Records to Demobilized Personnel
Records Branch

1. In accordance with your instructions of 17 January 1948 a careful study of all available data pertaining to the proposal to transfer Project "J" files and functions to Demobilized Personnel Records Branch, Records Administration Center, from the Philippine-Ryukyus Command, Manila, Philippine Islands, has been made. Inasmuch as the administration of the arrears in pay program, determinations of status under the Missing Persons Act, and related functions, were to be completed on 30 June 1948, the major function of Project "J" to be administered at Demobilized Personnel Records Branch is in connection with the certification of military and medical information to the Veterans Administration for use in the adjudication of claims for disability compensation, death benefits, and National Service Life Insurance, submitted by personnel classified as Project "J" and their dependents. Project "J" personnel consists of all men, living or deceased, who served in the Philippine Islands between 8 December 1941 and 30 June 1946, with the Armed Forces of the United States, including the organized military forces of the Commonwealth of the Government of the Philippines while in the service of the United States pursuant to the military order of the President of the United States dated 26 July 1941, and all individuals who performed recognized guerrilla service in the Philippine Islands during that period.

2. Although authorization for original determinations of status under the arrears in pay program ended 30 June 1948, negotiations with the Philippine Government resulted in the agreement that appeals from original determinations were to be acted upon until 30 June 1949. Inasmuch as Project "J" files must be used in connection with these appeals it is believed that a considerable amount of correspondence will be received even after 30 June 1949 concerning arrears in pay. In June 1948 it was reported that approximately 500 to 1,000 requests were being received daily from living claimants and their representatives regarding claims for arrears in pay. A large percentage of these requests can probably be answered by form letters stating that the project is completed and funds are no longer available for payment; however it is assumed that many requests will also be received from high ranking Philippine officials necessitating a large number of composed letters.

3. Since the Veterans Administration was given secondary consideration in connection with Project "J" operations until 30 June 1948 because of the time limits established for adjudication of arrears in pay claims, a great amount of friction was established between the Veterans Administration Regional Office and the Department of the Army in the Philippines. The Veterans Administration had not specifically made known the exact type of information they required for the proper adjudication of their claims. Reports furnished to the Veterans Administration by the Recovered Personnel Division varied from an information copy of the determination status to a complete report of available information. When the arrears in pay program was in full operation as many as 1,000 claims for pay were completed in Recovered Personnel Division per day. Many of these determinations were based on vague information available and did not include information regarding non-casualty status while not under military control, which information was one of the main requirements of the Veterans Administration. Representatives of the Veterans Administration were not satisfied with the reports furnished because of the following reasons:

- (1) When service data was not available in Recovered Personnel Division, requests were returned with a notation to that effect
- (2) Veterans Administration stated that medical records had not been completely secured and segregated from various agencies in the Philippines
- (3) Loyalty status was not adequately developed

The Veterans Administration felt that when service information or medical records were not available it was the responsibility of the Department of the Army to accumulate records from extensive field investigations, and if it were impossible to accumulate military and medical records that the Department of the Army should furnish sufficient substitute evidence and information obtained from investigation to enable them to adjudicate claims properly. In connection with loyalty status the Veterans Administration desired that all items of derogatory information be fully developed from investigation and that complete reports of such investigations be furnished; and that positive identification be made. Inasmuch as Counter Intelligence Corps reports on loyalty status were meager positive identification was very difficult.

4. Due to their dissatisfaction with reports furnished the Veterans Administration during 1948 was making from 1 to 10 supplemental requests on 65% of the reports furnished. The

difficulty encountered by Recovered Personnel Division in making satisfactory reports led to a backlog of 38,938 Veterans Administration cases in July 1948. Many of these cases required field investigation inasmuch as 9% of the claims pertained to men who had no record of service in Recovered Personnel Division; 8% concerned men whose 201 files did not contain sufficient information regarding status, and approximately 4,500 cases required check against Counter Intelligence Corps reports for loyalty clearance. Another 30% of the cases were being delayed because the pertinent records were being used in connection with claims for arrears in pay. Further reasons for delay and backlog were given as lack of qualified and sufficient personnel to prepare reports and the insufficient number of Army officers available to review the reports. The necessity for making investigations and redeterminations on a large scale is emphasized since out of 285,000 recognized guerrillas no information other than the name shown on approved guerrillas rosters was available on 115,000 men who received pay during liberation but did not file for arrears in pay. It was estimated that 220,000 determinations made under the Missing Persons Act were not acceptable to the Veterans Administration. A further necessity for investigation was established when it was discovered that many alterations, erasures, and forged signatures appeared on the affidavits and claims, because of collaboration between Philippine Civilian employes and claimants. By January 1948, 487 cases that showed evidence of tampering with or alteration were discovered.

5. By June 1948 a total of 1,278,646 claims for arrears in pay based on recognition as guerrillas had been received in Project "J" Branch. Of this number it was determined that 261,912 were entitled to arrears in pay based on guerrilla service. Using this figure as a basis it was estimated that including members of the Philippine Army and Philippine Scouts a total of 475,000 valid claims for arrears in pay would be received. No information is available as to the exact number of claims that have been received and processed.

6. Records in custody of Project "J" Branch consist of 1258 locker boxes of the following categories:

201 Files	960 Locker boxes	2400 linear feet
Archival records	298.5 " "	746.25 " "
	Total	3146

The 201 files consist of approximately 700,000 individual 201 files. Some of these files contain only one extract or paper indicating that the person had or alleges service in the Army of the United States or in a guerrilla unit. Other files contain hundreds of such extracts from various records, plus affidavits of individuals as to their military service from 8 December 1941 until return to military control, which are substantiated by affidavits of persons who are alleged to have knowledge of such service. These files constitute the sole existing record of the Philippine Commonwealth Army, including guerrillas, while in the service of the United

States, and formed the sole basis for payments of arrears in pay and the certification of service to the Veterans Administration. The archival records consist of organizational records, documents, diaries, reports, prisoner of War files, draft rosters, death reports, and many various types of miscellaneous records.

7. A report was recently received that confidential files of the Guerrilla Affairs Division, G-3, Headquarters, Philippine-Ryukyus Command had been retired to Organization Records Branch, Records Administration Center. These files, totaling 552 linear feet, contain claims for guerrilla recognition, individually or as organizations; guerrilla unit files; individual non-casualty files, individual casualty files and miscellaneous files covering the period from 1941 through June 1948. On 7 February 1949 a conference was held with representatives of Organization Records Branch regarding the contents and activity of these files. Up to the present time only 4 requests for information from these records had been received; however none of these requests originated in Project "J". After checking several of these individual 201's and organizational files of guerrilla units, it is believed that they would be very useful in connection with the functions of Project "J" in the development of military information for certification to the Veterans Administration.

8. Inasmuch as the Vouchering Branch, Missing Persons Act Section of the Army Finance Center is charged with the settlement of accounts under the arrears in pay program, a consultation was held with representatives of that office on 4 February 1949, concerning their activity with Project "J". Mr. Mannis of the Army Finance Center stated that approximately 25 vouchers concerning military personnel and 15 vouchers concerning War Department civilian personnel are received from Recovered Personnel Division weekly for payment. No information is available as to whether or not these vouchers are prepared in Project "J" Branch at the present time, however this was formerly one of its functions. It was further stated that practically every case contained a redetermination of status, indicating again the inadequacy of the original determinations made, and the necessity for an adequate and competent adjudication and determination unit to reconsider claims. It was further stated that vouchers received covered claims for which authorizations had been made as far back as 1946. Representatives of the Army Finance Center had no information as to how many claims have not as yet been paid; however they anticipate that a large number will be received in the future for payment.

9. In July 1948 it was reported that in Project "J" Branch, 4 Commissioned Officers; 1 Warrant Officer, and 3 enlisted men of the Army of the United States, and 148 Philippine Civilians were engaged solely in processing Veterans Administration requests. At that time it was also reported that approximately

C O P YC O P Y

3000 Veterans Administration requests of all categories were being received per month, and that an average of 4000 answers were being furnished each month. It was estimated that when the arrears in pay program was completed on 30 June 1948 the additional personnel and facilities made available for the Veterans Administration program would increase production to 5 or 6 thousand per month. This estimate was based on the assumption that reports would continue to be furnished from information available, which as has been pointed out, was not satisfactory to the Veterans Administration.

10. In August 1948 a conference attended by representatives of the Veterans Administration Central Office and Manila Regional Office, The Adjutant General's Office, and the Philippine Command, was held in Washington, D. C. to discuss problems and establish procedures for the efficient and expeditious processing of claims of Project "J" personnel. It was estimated that the Veterans Administration would ultimately receive about 400,000 claims for benefits which they administer. The following agreements were reached at the conference:

Service Information

- (1) Philippine Command, United States Army, was responsible for furnishing of service history to the Veterans Administration
- (2) Veterans Administration would accept certification of the Philippine Command as official
- (3) When Veterans Administration obtained reliable information conflicting with information obtained from Philippine Command, the case would be returned to Philippine Command, for reconsideration
- (4) Field Investigations would be made only when actual determinations could not be made from existing records.
- (5) In cases where no personnel file on the claimant existed the practice of developing service data by obtaining certificates and affidavits would be continued by the Philippine Command

Medical Information

- (1) Philippine Command would furnish original or photostatic copies of medical records when requested by Veterans Administration
- (2) Veterans Administration was responsible for developing secondary evidence when medical records were not available
- (3) Philippine Command would continue to make every effort to obtain and consolidate medical records pertaining to Philippine Commonwealth Army and Philippine Scout personnel

Loyalty Information

- (1) Philippine Command would make thorough study of its files and Philippine Govern files to locate derogatory information and to positively identify it as pertaining to the individual in question.
- (2) Where positive identification cannot be made all information that possibly pertains to the claimant would be furnished to the Veterans Administration who would make final determination and advise Philippine Command of results
- (3) Field investigations necessary in connection with loyalty status would be made by Veterans Administration.

11. After careful study of all the problems and recommendations in connection with the certification of information to the Veterans Administration and administrative functions in connection with the completion of the arrears in pay program, tentative plans for an organization to accomplish the mission in Demobilized Personnel Records Branch have been drawn up. An organizational and functional chart for the proposed organization is attached. (Tab 1) Brief outlines of the duties and responsibilities of each Sub-Unit of the proposed organization, together with estimated work loads are also attached. (Tab 2).

12. Due to the fact that original determinations under the Missing Persons Act were to be completed by 30 June 1948 and redeterminations on appealed claims are to be completed by 30 June 1949, no provision has been made in the organization for a financial sub-unit, for the purpose of preparing vouchers or related work. Based on the volume of work presently being handled by the Army Finance Center in connection with Project "J" operations it is believed that necessary duties in connection therewith can be handled in the proposed Correspondence and Adjudication Sub-Units of the Philippine Unit; however if the volume were to increase as is anticipated by representatives of the Army Finance Center, it would be necessary to provide more personnel for this function.

13. In connection with the Records Sub-Unit, proposed allocation of personnel has been made on the assumption that the files are in a fairly good workable condition and that adequate consolidation of records has been carried out in Recovered Personnel Division in view of the various recommendations for such action. However, since reports indicate that there are a number of different sections in Recovered Personnel Division having custody of records pertinent to Project "J" operations, and in view of the files recently

C O P YC O P Y

retired to Organization Records Branch, there is a very strong possibility of the necessity for much consolidation or a voluminous amount of correspondence with the various sections in the Philippine Command. For instance, medical records, which in July 1948 included 38,128 original clinical records 59,670 medical tags, and 51,760 Physical Examination Forms, are filed in Medical Records Section of Recovered Personnel Division. Inasmuch as the furnishing of medical records to the Veterans Administration is one of the primary objectives of the Veterans Administration program it is believed that these medical records should be interfiled with individual 201 files as much as possible. Discharge certificates and separation forms are another category of records that would be extremely valuable in connection with the certification program, since date of separation as shown on these forms is considered to be the most accurate. Samples of cases processed in Project "J" Branch do not contain any reference to these forms, and no information is available as to what disposition was made of them or as to where they are presently filed.

14. Another function formerly handled by Project "J" Branch was the redetermination of status, retention rights and pay rates of War Department civilian employees classified as Project "J". In July 1948 it was reported that approximately 300 requests per month for information regarding civilian employees were being received from United States government agencies and processed in Project "J" Branch. In addition, as previously stated, Army Finance Center is currently receiving about 15 civilian cases from Project "J" Branch every week. If this type of work involving War Department civilian employees becomes a function of the proposed Philippine Unit it is believed that the necessary work could be handled in the Correspondence or Adjudication Sub-Units.

15. It is believed that an organization of the type proposed would be able to provide satisfactory service to the Veterans Administration and to administer all other necessary functions adequately; however the plans must be considered as tentative and very flexible in view of the number of possible functions that may necessitate revision of the plans. These functions can be definitely determined only by a first hand study of the scope and details of the work and experience gained by actual performance of the work.

/s/ John H. Schoenman
John H. Schoenman

/s/ Robert E. Wyrach
Robert E. Wyrach

DECLASSIFIEDAuthority 883078

C O P Y

C O P Y

PHILIPPINE UNIT

Tab 2

Index

Tab.

- a. Control and Distribution Sub-Unit
- b. Correspondence Sub-Unit.
- c. Adjudication Sub-Unit.
- d. Veterans Administration Sub-Unit.
- e. Records Sub-Unit.

2

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 883078

C O P Y

C O P Y

PHILIPPINE UNIT

Control and Distribution Sub-Unit.

FUNCTION:

Control and Distribution Sub-Unit receives all correspondence and VA requests routed to the Unit and is responsible for the proper distribution and routing to the Sub-Unit concerned.

Determines important cases and gives priority thereto.

Submits reports of the volume of correspondence and VA 3101 requests received daily and the number of requests on hand at the close of the working week.

ESTIMATED WORK LOAD:

Per Month

3,300 Correspondence requests monthly.

3,000 Original VA 3101's (A-B-C-D) requests monthly.

500 Discharge Certificates, Statement of Service, etc.

----- Estimated 400,000 original VA requests to be received by this Unit.

6,800 Total indicated work load per month.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 883078

PHILIPPINE UNIT

Correspondence Sub-Unit

FUNCTION:

The Correspondence Sub-Unit is charged with the preparation of final replies to all correspondence received in the Unit that does not involve investigation or determination. Such correspondence is received from Congressional representatives of the United States and foreign government; United States Army Staff; Ambassadorial and Consular representatives of the United States and Philippine governments; Headquarters, Far East Command; Office of the Commanding General, PHILIPPINE COMMAND; Department of the Army agencies; Finance Department agencies; government agencies, individuals on policy-making levels in the Veterans Administration and in the Philippine Government, and from claimants and their representatives. Correspondence prepared consists of reporting the status of individual cases to claimants or representatives; justifying certain determinations of status and grades as a result of inquiries from The Adjutant General, Department of the Army; furnishing pay data and other pertinent data relative to grades and status to the Finance Office, United States Army; and furnishing information requested by diplomatic or high level agencies of the United States and foreign governments. Depending on the nature and scope of the correspondence, replies will be prepared for the signature of the Commanding Officer, Records Administration Center, The Adjutant General; or Secretary of the Army.

ESTIMATED WORK LOAD:

<u>Per Month</u>	
<u>1,572</u>	Average number of requests received monthly reported in July 1948.
1,700	Preparing replies to claimants in lieu of verbal replies formerly furnished by Interview Section.
<u>3,272</u>	Total indicated work load per month.

No information available regarding backlog or of volume or type of receipts since July 1948.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 883

PHILIPPINE UNIT

Correspondence Sub-Unit

FUNCTION:

The Correspondence Sub-Unit is charged with the preparation of final replies to all correspondence received in the Unit that does not involve investigation or determination. Such correspondence is received from Congressional representatives of the United States and foreign government; United States Army Staff; Ambassadorial and Consular representatives of the United States and Philippine governments; Headquarters, Far East Command; Office of the Commanding General, PHILIPPINE Command; Department of the Army agencies; Finance Department agencies; government agencies, individuals on policy-making levels in the Veterans Administration and in the Philippine Government, and from claimants and their representatives. Correspondence prepared consists of reporting the status of individual cases to claimants or representatives; justifying certain determinations of status and grades as a result of inquiries from The Adjutant General, Department of the Army; furnishing pay data and other pertinent data relative to grades and status to the Finance Office, United States Army; and furnishing information requested by diplomatic or high level agencies of the United States and foreign governments. Depending on the nature and scope of the correspondence, replies will be prepared for the signature of the Commanding Officer, Records Administration Center, The Adjutant General; or Secretary of the Army.

ESTIMATED WORK LOAD:

Per Month

<u>1,572</u>	Average number of requests received monthly reported in July 1948.
1,700	Preparing replies to claimants in lieu of verbal replies formerly furnished by Interview Section.
<u>3,272</u>	Total indicated work load per month.

No information available regarding backlog or of volume or type of receipts since July 1948.

b
DECLASSIFIED

Authority 883078

C O P Y

C O P Y

PHILIPPINE UNIT

Adjudication Sub-Unit

FUNCTION:

The Adjudication Sub-Unit is charged with the responsibility of conducting investigations and making original determinations or redeterminations in connection with correspondence received and with the certification of military and medical information to the Veterans Administration. Determinations and redeterminations pertain to military status and grades under the Missing Persons Act; resolving presumptive findings of death to obtain conclusive evidence of status and death; administering claims of American repatriated military personnel to promotion. Investigations involve the accumulation of information pertaining to military and medical records of Project "J" personnel; development of information regarding loyalty status and the preparation of correspondence necessary to complete such investigations. This sub-unit is also responsible for the detection and investigation of claims in which there is an indication of tampering with and/or alteration of records or affidavits; the preparation, amendment and issue of discharge certificates or certificates of service; preparation and transmittal of casualty reports; and the preparation of payroll for settlement of amount due on appeal cases where there is a redetermination of status, dates, grades under the Missing Persons Act. Responsible for the interpretation and translation of all inquiries received in Spanish or Philippine dialects, and the preparation of all correspondence in which it is necessary to reply in Spanish or Philippine dialects.

ESTIMATED WORK LOAD:

Per Month

1,559
300
1,020

Redeterminations and adjudication of status and grades.
Action of discharge certificates.
Anticipated activity in connection with Veterans Administration 3101's involving investigation or redeterminations. (9% of claims concern men who have no record of service on file - 8% of claims pertain to men whose 201 files do not contain information acceptable to the Veterans Administration) Total 17% of 6,000.
Anticipated activity in connection with correspondence cases. Total 17% of 3,300.
Total indicated work load per month.

560

3,439

No information regarding volume of casualty reports prepared; however, 3 people were employed in this work in Project "J" Branch.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 883078

C O P Y

C O P Y

PHILIPPINE UNIT

Veterans Administration Sub-Unit

FUNCTION:

Veterans Administration Sub-Unit is charged with the certification of military and medical reports to the Veterans Administration for use in the adjudication of claims for disability compensation benefits, death benefits, National Service Life Insurance, and in a few cases vocational rehabilitation benefits. Requests are received and replies furnished on Veterans Administration Forms 3101, 3101A, 3101B, 3101C, and 3101D, prescribed for use by the Veterans Administration Regional Office, Manila, Philippine Islands.

This Sub-Unit furnishes information to the Veterans Administration from the medical and service records of veterans who served in the Philippine Islands in the Armed Forces of the United States, including organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines in service of the United States pursuant to the Military Order of the President of the United States dated 26 July 1941, and of individuals who performed guerrilla service recognized by the Army of the United States. Service information furnished includes date of entrance into and release from active service; character of discharge; organizations in which served; dates of interruptions of service and status during such periods, and all basic elements of service. Medical information includes all evidence regarding disabilities, injuries, illness sustained in active service and any record of treatment thereof. Reports must also include all derogatory information regarding subversive activities, or reports to the effect that loyalty status is not in question. Sub-Unit responsible for maintaining adequate suspense system to insure that reports are furnished in the order of priority.

ESTIMATED WORK LOAD:

Per Month

3,000 Existing Backlog - 36,000 to be eliminated in one year.

3,000 Original and supplemental requests per month.
(2,100 original and 900 supplemental)

6,000 Total indicated work load per month.

d
DECLASSIFIED
Authority 883078

PHILIPPINE UNIT

Records Sub-Unit201 Files
Archival Files

FUNCTION:

201 Files

To service 700,000 to 1,000,000 201 files (2,400 linear feet) and to furnish the 201 files pertaining to requests from the Veterans Administration, Military correspondence and Non-military correspondence which pertains to former members of the Philippine Scouts, Army of the United States, and Guerrilla personnel (recognized and non-recognized) who served in the Philippine Islands during the period 8 Dec 1941 to 30 June 1946.

Charging out all 201 files with a charge out card on which the following information will be recorded: Name, ASN, date charged out, Sub-Unit requesting the 201 file.

Refiles 201 files returned from the Sub-Units.

Makes extensive search for lost 201 files.

Centralization into one 201 file of all service and medical records of individuals who served in the Philippines with the Armed Forces of the United States.

Archival Files

To service 746.25 linear feet of Archival files and the processing, classifying and extracting material of archival nature received from the field. Each reference to personnel who may possibly come under the Philippine Commonwealth Army is extracted, (name, rank, ASN, organization, archival file number) and transmitted to the 201 file for reference in subjects file.

ESTIMATED WORK LOAD:

201 FilesSearching Per Month

3,800	Correspondence Cases
6,000	Veterans Administration Cases
500	Miscellaneous Cases
<u>9,800</u>	Total Indicated Searches Per Month

Refiles Per Month

9,800	Refile completed cases
-------	------------------------

No figures available regarding receipt of new filing material or consolidation necessary.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 883078

C O P Y

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 883078

C O P Y

Archival Files

Searching Per Month

3,000

In connection with redeterminations and investigations.

No figures available regarding receipt of new material
or consolidation necessary.

B

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *883078*

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority 883078

HEADQUARTERS

1 Chief Clerk	GS-
1 Asst Chief Clerk	GS-3
1 Clerk-Stenographer	GS-3
1 Clerk-Typist	GS-3
<u>4</u>	

Plans, directs and is responsible for the performance of administrative functions and the development of policies and procedures in connection with the processing of correspondence, determinations and redeterminations of status under the Missing Persons Act, and the certification of military and medical information to the U.S. Veterans Administration, pertaining to AUS, Philippine Scout, Department of Army Civilian, Philippine Army, and guerrilla personnel, who served in the Philippine Islands during WW II. Has custody and administration of personnel and archival records pertaining to such personnel.

CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

1 Corr Unit Supv	GS-7
2 Corr Clerk (R&A)	GS-6
4 Corr Clerk	GS-5
2 Corr Clerk (R)	GS-5
6 Corr Clerk	GS-4
2 Clerk-Stenographer	GS-3
2 Clerk-Typist	GS-3
1 Mail & File Clerk	GS-3
<u>20</u>	

Responsible for the composition and preparation of correspondence involving policy and precedent; staff and congressional inquiries, and requests from representatives of the U.S. and Philippine governments, Department of the Army and other government agencies, claimants and their representatives, and all correspondence received in the Section pertaining to the military service and status of Project "J", Philippine Army, and guerrilla personnel who served in the Philippine Islands during WWII.

ADJUDICATION UNIT

1 Claims Examiner (Supv)	GS-7
2 Claims Examiner (R&A)	GS-6
6 Claims Examiner	GS-5
1 Claims Examiner (R)	GS-5
4 Claims Examiner	GS-4
3 Clerk-Stenographer	GS-3
2 Clerk-Typist	GS-3
1 Mail & File Clerk	GS-3
<u>20</u>	

Conducts investigations and makes determinations and redeterminations regarding status, grades, and loyalty of individuals who served in the Philippine Islands during WW II with the AUS, Philippine Scouts, Philippine Army, or guerrilla organizations; makes redeterminations and corrections in cases in which there is an indication of error or injustice in original determinations made in connection with the arrears in pay program; responsible for the detection and investigation of tampering with or alteration of records; prepares, issues and sends discharge certificates; prepares all correspondence necessary for investigations.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION UNIT

1 Clerk (Supv)	GS-6
2 Clerk (R)	GS-5
6 Clerk-Typist	GS-4
2 Clerk (R)	GS-4
3 Clerk-Typist	GS-3
1 Mail & File Clerk	GS-3
<u>20</u>	

Furnishes military and medical reports and information to the US Veterans Administration for use in the adjudication of claims for benefits administered by that agency; furnishes information from archive records and makes determinations relative thereto in connection with reports to Veterans Administration, pertaining to service and status of Project "J", Philippine Army, and guerrilla personnel.

RECORDS UNIT

Headquarters

1 Clerk (Supv)	GS-5
1 Clerk (Steno)	GS-5

Pers Rec S/U

1 Clerk	GS-4
1 File Clerk	GS-3
8 File Clerk	GS-2

Archive Rec S/U

2 Clerk	GS-4
2 Clerk	GS-3
<u>12</u>	

Pers Rec S/U - Has custody of the personnel and medical records of former members of the AUS, Philippine Scouts, Philippine Army, and records of Department of the Army civilian employees and guerrilla personnel, who served in the Philippine Islands during WW II; searches and withdraws files; examines, sorts, foldersizes, perfects, indexes, and files records.

Archive Rec S/U - Has custody of organizational records, historical records, documents, diaries, and reports, pertaining to personnel who served in the Philippine Islands during WW II; conducts extensive search of archive records for information to be used in investigations and determinations.

14 October 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. MALEY
Chief Clerk, DPRB

1. In connection with our recent conversation regarding the possible transfer of Philippine records and functions relating thereto from Adjutant General Records Depository to Demobilized Personnel Records Branch, I have discussed this matter with Mr. Allen and have considered matters believed pertinent to the establishment of a section in Demobilized Personnel Records Branch which would be able to process the necessary functions.

2. Based on available information, observation and study of records, and examination of reports received from Adjutant General Records Depository on USAFPA, Philippine Army and civilian guerrilla personnel, it is believed that records and cases relating thereto could be handled in this branch without undue difficulty. Since the Missing Persons Act (Public Law 490, 77th Congress, as amended) is the basic law under which all World War II Philippine cases are processed, work on all categories of Philippine cases should be very similar. It appears that the major problem involved would be the coordination necessary to assure that the interpretations used in cases pertaining to Philippine Scouts, Army of the United States and Department of the Army civilian employees are the same as those used on cases pertaining to Philippine Army and guerrilla personnel. No doubt it would be necessary to make a comprehensive study of the policies and procedures now being used at Adjutant General Records Depository in processing Philippine Army and guerrilla cases; however, that is true when any new category of cases or records are received.

3. In connection with Philippine Army and guerrilla records, during the past few years this Branch has had custody of the original records of the Guerrilla Affairs Division. Since the recognition of guerrilla service was governed by determinations of the Guerrilla Affairs Division, the experience that we have gained in working with the records of the Guerrilla Affairs Division on Project "J" cases should be very pertinent to the processing of Philippine cases other than Project "J".

4. Inasmuch as the guerrilla recognition program and the arrears in pay program have been closed for several years, it appears that the major functions remaining in Adjutant General Records Depository are the furnishing of service information to various agencies and individuals from determinations already made; the determination or redetermination of military status of individuals based on records and evidence received since the

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. MALEY

14 October 1952

original determinations were made; and the redetermination of casualty status on personnel who have been granted status under the Missing Persons Act. Examination of records pertaining to Philippine Army and guerrilla personnel received from Adjutant General Records Depository shows that service reports, determinations and redeterminations are made by Adjutant General Records Depository in the same manner in which such cases are processed in Demobilized Personnel Records Branch on Project "J" personnel.

5. During the past year we have been receiving approximately fifty (50) cases per week containing claims for recognition as the result of alleged service with the armed forces of the United States in the Philippine Islands during World War II. Since many of these requests were addressed to the President, Chief of Staff, Secretary of Defense and governmental officials in Washington, it was necessary for this office to request information on which to base a reply from Adjutant General Records Depository. In practically all the reports received from Adjutant General Records Depository on these cases statements regarding the individual's service were furnished together with information that the recognition program and/or arrears in pay program were closed and that, therefore, there was no authority for taking any further action on the request. Action taken by Adjutant General Records Depository on cases of this nature appears to be very similar to actions taken in this office on records maintained here.

6. It is believed that personnel now assigned to Demobilized Personnel Records Branch working on Project "J" cases are well qualified and have an excellent background to form the nucleus of an organization designed to process Philippine cases of all categories. Personnel working on Project "J" cases have used the Guerrilla Affairs Division records extensively in connection with cases pertaining to Project "J" personnel who also served in guerrilla organizations after the surrender of Bataan or release from Prisoner of War camps. The experience gained in working on these records and in processing Project "J" cases under the provisions of the Missing Persons Act should be of great value to these personnel in connection with the processing of cases pertaining to Philippine Army and guerrilla personnel.

7. There is attached (Tab A) for your information a copy of memorandum dated 9 February 1949 containing proposed plans for transfer of Project "J" records and functions to Demobilized Personnel Records Branch. These proposed plans were formulated by the undersigned in conjunction with Mr. Schoenman (no longer with Demobilized Personnel Records Branch) during the period December 1948 to February 1949, after a study was made of the Philippine program from information then available, which indicated

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 885078

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. MALEY

14 October 1952

that Project "J" included the records of all Philippine personnel who served with the Armed Forces of the United States in the Philippine Islands during World War II. Shortly after these plans were made information was received that the Project "J" records which were being transferred to Demobilized Personnel Records Branch pertained only to Army of United States, Philippine Scouts, and War Department civilian personnel. Mr. Allen and I became familiar with this phase of the Philippine program while on temporary duty at Adjutant General Records Depository in Manila, Philippine Islands in June and July 1949. While on duty at Adjutant General Records Depository practically all of our time was spent on learning the various aspects of work on Project "J" records; however we received some orientation on the remainder of Philippine records which remained at Adjutant General Records Depository and are currently maintained there. Even at that time it appeared that the work on Project "J" records was very similar to work on the other categories of Philippine records such as Philippine Army and guerrillas. After three years of experience on Project "J" cases and observation of records and reports received from Adjutant General Records Depository this similarity is even more evident. It is believed that the organization proposed in February 1949 is still basically sound to handle the World War II Philippine records if it is determined that all such records are to be retired to this Center; however, based on knowledge acquired since that time on these records some changes appear to be desirable, particularly in connection with grade allocation, in view of the extensive investigations necessary and the lack of official records in a large number of cases. We have therefore, planned a revised tentative organization designed to process the Philippine records and cases at this time. An organizational chart of this proposed section is attached. (Tab B)

8. Since no information is available in this Branch as to the backlog or the current average receipts of cases in Adjutant General Records Depository on Philippine Army and Guerrilla personnel, it is impossible to estimate at this time the exact number of personnel that will be required in Demobilized Personnel Records Branch if such work is to be processed here. However, the organization has been planned to include seventy-five (75) people. Inasmuch as there are approximately fifteen (15) people now required on Project "J" work the remaining sixty (60) clerks are proposed for work on other categories of Philippine records. When information is available as to the work load included in the proposed transfer personnel requirements can be adjusted accordingly. It is estimated that the work load will be distributed about equally between correspondence cases, cases requiring determinations, and requests from the Veterans Administration; therefore, it is recommended that separate

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. MALEY

14 October 1952

units be established for each of these categories of cases as shown on the proposed organizational chart. The names of personnel who have had experience on working Project "J" cases and are believed to be well qualified to work on other Philippine cases have been entered opposite the job in which they should be most valuable and qualified. Personnel whose names are preceded by an asterisk have worked previously on Project "J" but are currently assigned to other units in World War II Correspondence Section, Demobilized Personnel Records Branch.

2 Incls

1. Tab A
2. Tab B

ROBERT E. WYRSCH
Supervisor, Casualty Unit
WW II Correspondence Section

A

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

883078

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 883078

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 883078