

DECLASSIFIED

Authority ND 833078

STUDY-RETENTION OF PA RECORDS

STUDY - 12

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Authority NND 883073

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Authority NND 883078

STUDY
RETENTION OF PA RECORDS

STUDY - 12

HEADQUARTERS
PHILIPPINES--RYUKYUS COMMAND
RECOVERED PERSONNEL DIVISION

GSXRP

APO 707
27 February 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

1. The attached staff study consisting of a checknote from the Chief, Veterans Administration Branch, RPD to the Director, RPD and from the Director, RPD to the Staff Judge Advocate PHILRYCOM, through the Adjutant General, PHILRYCOM, was forwarded on 17 February 1948 for an opinion as to whether or not Philippine Commonwealth Army records should be considered United States records in the sense referred to in Section 9, Public Law 115-78th Congress.
2. Several days after this study was submitted, I contacted Lt Goldfarb and Capt Atkins of the office of the Judge Advocate in connection with another matter and entered into a verbal discussion of the attached staff study before leaving.
3. At this time I had received a radiogram from the Department of the Army with reference to the Veterans Administration program, and in making a survey of the situation in preparing a reply thereto I became convinced that the interests of the United States would suffer if plans to turn backpay records over to the Philippine Army were carried out as contemplated on 1 July 1948. In discussing the matter with Capt Atkins, who had had a chance to read this staff study, he informally told me that his recommendation would probably be that this staff study would be referred back to RPD or to a board of officers to determine whether the records were U. S. Records or Philippine Republic records; adding that no legal question was involved inasmuch as Section 9, Public Law 115-78 Congress was very clear.
4. In securing concurrence for my reply to the above mentioned Department of the Army radio from all General Staff and some special Staff sections, it became apparent that there was a unanimity of opinion that under no circumstances should backpay records be turned over to the Philippine Army as long as the certification of military information to the Veterans Administration remained the responsibility of this headquarters. I therefore verbally requested Capt Atkins to return the staff study to me for file and possible reference in the future.

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MEMO FOR RECORD, 27 Feb 48 (continued)

5. Decision as to whether these records will be retained indefinitely by some agency of the United States, instead of being released to the Philippine Republic on 1 July 1948, is expected to be made by the Department of the Army in connection with the above radio reply referred to.

Incl: C/N (Staff Study) fr
Dir, RPD to SJA, PHILRYCOM
- - - w/checknote fr Ch, VA Br, RPD



J. R. GILBERT
Lt Col AGD
Director

6732

Check Sheet
HEADQUARTERS PHILRYCOM
AG-Recovered Personnel Division

Do not remove from attached sheets

File No. GSKRP Subject:
THRU : AG, PHILRYCOM

(2) FROM: Director, RPD THRU: AG, PHILRYCOM DATE: 17 FEB 1948
TO: Staff Judge Advocate
PHILRYCOM

1. The attached request for a legal opinion on the release of military records of the Philippine Commonwealth Army to the Philippine Government on 1 July 1948 (in accordance with present plans) prepared by the Chief of the Veterans Administration Branch, this division, is forwarded for such opinion.
2. The plan for the release of these records was approved by the D C & CofS on 10 June 1947 (see Tab J) as the result of a staff study prepared by my predecessor, Col Morris H. Marcus (Tab K). In implementing this approval (Tab J), every action of this division has been pointed towards release of the records and the turn over of the present organization to the Philippine Government on 1 July 1948. For example, in answer to a letter dated 21 November 1947 (Tab L) from the Chief of Staff, Headquarters National Defense Forces, Republic of the Philippines, a 1st indorsement (Tab M) signed by the Commanding General outlined the future mission of this division and described in some detail the plan for the release of the records and the turn over of the area to the Philippine Government. A discussion of this 1st indorsement is attached as Tab N.
3. It is not believed that Public Law 115-78th Congress (Tab A) was considered when the decision to release subject records was made by this headquarters, probably due to the fact that no one has ever considered these records as being records of the United States. Since the question has been brought up by the Chief of the Veterans Administration Branch of this division, it is believed that its legal aspects should be examined sufficiently in advance of 1 July 1948 to allow appropriate change in plans, if required.
4. In view of the commitments already made by this headquarters a finding that these records are United States records and cannot be released will result in some complications. As pointed out in preceding checknote, if records now on hand pertaining to the Philippine Commonwealth Army are United States records, then all records pertaining to Philippine Commonwealth Army personnel in Headquarters National Defense Forces, Republic of the Philippines, are also United States

Check Sheet
 HEADQUARTERS PHILRYCOM
 AG-Recovered Personnel Division

Do not remove from attached sheets


File No. GSKRP Subject: _____ (continued)

FROM: Director, RPD ~~MEMO~~: _____ DATE: _____
 TO: Staff Judge Advocate
 PHILRYCOM

records and would have to be secured and taken over by this headquarters. The cost of the retention of present records and the taking over of additional records would be very great and in view of commitments already made, might not be immediately considered with favor by the Philippine Government. However, continuation of the present operation would probably not meet with serious objection.

5. An important point for consideration in any opinion rendered is the manner in which payments for arrears in pay are made to members of the former Philippine Commonwealth Army. Bulk allotments of funds are released to the Philippine Government by the Commanding General, 10 million dollars at a time. Each of these bulk allotments is made on one voucher and funds are actually disbursed only by Finance officers of the Philippine Army. This headquarters confines its activities in this respect to the making of determinations of status, including casualty status, during periods of absence, determinations of grades held and determinations or findings of death under the provisions of the Missing Persons Act. These determinations are now being made by a dual organization, the majority of which is composed of officers and enlisted men of the Philippine Army and Filipino civilian employees paid and administered by the Philippine Republic with supervision and authentication by AUS officers. The release of these records will not materially affect the present method of operation since plans call for authentication by an American officer of this headquarters of each determination made.

14 Incls -
 Tabs A to H as described in
 C/N #1 & above. -----


 R. GILBERT
 Lt Col AGD
 Director -----

HEADQUARTERS PHILRYCOM
Check Sheet

Do not remove from attached sheets

FILE NO.

SUBJECT:

FROM: Chief VA Branch, RPD, AG TO: Staff Judge Advocate DATE: 3 Feb 48
PHILRYCOM PHILRYCOM
THRU: Director, RPD

1. Opinion is requested as to whether the records of Philippine Army Personnel, now in the possession of this Division, are records of the Philippine Republic or are records of the United States of America.

2. This request is made in view of the requirements of Section 9, of the Act approved August 5, 1939 (53 Stat. 1219) which provides for the disposition of records of the United States Government. (Bulletin No. 14, War Department, 16 July 1943) Tab "A". Action of this headquarters might be questioned in view of this Act when the activities of RPD, Philippine Army, now under control of RPD PHILRYCOM are returned to the Philippine Army on 1 July 1948 in accordance with present plans.

3. It is the contention of this Division that all records of Philippine Army Personnel (approximately 700,000 individual files and 80 tons of general files) are records of the Philippine Republic and not records of the Government of the United States, and to support that contention the following documents or true extracts thereof are submitted:

4. a. (1) Section VII of the WD Plan for Casualty Administration, Tab "B" places members of the Philippine Army in the service of the Armed Forces of the United States within the provisions of the Missing Persons Act and payments made under the provisions of this Act to members of the Philippine Army may be made without regard to the provisions of law regulating the expenditure of or accounting for funds of the United States within the meaning of the Act appropriating funds for the Army of the Philippines.
- (2) See Par 7 Tab "B". It is believed that this provision alone takes the records outside the requirements of Section 9, Tab "A".
- (3) Furthermore, all payments in the past have been, and those now being made and to be made will be, actions of the Chief, Finance Service, Armed Forces of the Philippines and not Fiscal personnel of the Government of the United States.

b. On 26 September 1945, The President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines issued a proclamation ordering all unrecognized guerrillas units disbanded, and further directed that all records of those disbanded units would be assembled and forwarded to Headquarters, Philippine Army. See Par 3,

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Authority NND 983078

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: [Illegible]

FROM: [Illegible]

SUBJECT: [Illegible]

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FROM: Chief VA Branch, RPD, AG TO: Staff Judge Advocate 3 Feb 48
 PHILRYCOM PHILRYCOM
 THRU: Director, RPD

Tab "C".

c. On 3 December 1945, by order of the Secretary of National Defense, Army Headquarters, Commonwealth of the Philippines, issued Circular 182 (Tab "D") directing, among other actions pertaining to disposition of personnel to be demobilized, that all records would be forwarded to Headquarters, Philippine Army. (Next to last paragraph of Tab "D".)

d. On 28 November 1945, the Commanding General, AFWESPAC, issued Circular 102, Tab "E", establishing with the Recovered Personnel Division, AG Section, AFWESPAC the Recovered Personnel Division, Philippine Army, creating in fact two Recovered Personnel Division under one Director, and par 2 f (3) required the RPD, Philippine Army to obtain complete records on all Philippine Army Personnel.

e. On 25 June 1946 the CG AFWESPAC issued General Order No 168 effecting the release of all Philippine Army Personnel from attachment or assignment to service in the Armed Forces in the United States and prescribing that on 1 July 1946 they would revert to full control of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines. See Tab "F".

f. On 27 November 47 a radiogram was received from the War Department by the CG PHILRYCOM providing for the certification of service of Philippine Army Personnel by this Headquarters for veterans benefits. See Tab "G".

5. Upon the relief from active duty and disbandment of some units, and upon reversion of reserve status or discharge from the Philippine Army in the service of the Armed Forces of the United States of individuals many returned to their homes or engaged in activities, other than military, and awaited their discharges at the addresses given at the time of relief, or separation. Many received no current pay or arrears in pay - many had no documentary evidence of service, others had reported with their units to military control and had received some current pay or allowances but no arrears in pay that may have been due them and many died. To adjust these discrepancies a series of replacement camps were organized whose mission was to adjust any accounts and to prepare proper documents showing the individual's former military status. This work was first undertaken by Headquarters of the Philippine Army and continued under the supervision of that headquarters until the work reached such proportions that help from Headquarters AFWESPAC was deemed necessary and it was then that the Commanding General, AFWESPAC issued Circular 102, 28 November 1945 - Tab "E", placing supervision and control under the Director, RPD AFWESPAC. Any or all records at Headquarters Philippine Army were made available to the Director, RPD, AFWESPAC. Many of the records at Headquarters Philippine Army were withdrawn from the files thereat and moved to RPD, AFWESPAC. Personnel on duty with Headquarters Philippine Army which had been reconstructing the records were placed under control of the Director, RPD AFWESPAC and RPD Philippine Army was activated. While responsibility of adjusting of accounts was still that of the CG, AFWESPAC,

FROM: Chief VA Branch, RPD, AG TO: Staff Judge Advocate 3 Feb 48
 PHILRYCOM PHILRYCOM
 THRU: Director, RPD

he saw fit to assign the functions of the RPD, Philippine Army, to the Director, RPD, AFWESPAC, giving that officer a dual status. The Director of the two separate and distinct Recovered Personnel Divisions retained in the RPD, Philippine Army, the Philippine Army officers and civilians but placed AUS officers in supervisory and authentication positions. As the need for additional personnel was justified it was made available from Headquarters Philippine Army. See Tab "H".

6. The mission of RPD, Philippine Army, is the certifying of information for arrears in pay and allowances to the Finance Officer, HNEF for living and deceased claims and military information on persons with service or alleged service to the United States Veterans Administration in Manila, and for this purpose they must now and, in the future, have access to the file of the individual concerned. The use of the records by RPD, Philippine Army, for these purposes does not necessarily result in the closing of the case on each person involved. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has its own use for these records for historical, research and legal purposes and their immediate uses, by this Division, while urgent, are not the final criteria by which their future value or possession may be judged. As more and more records of Philippine Army Personnel come to light not only for the purposes of RPD, Philippine Army, but for future references by the Philippine Government, those on file with RPD, Philippine Army, assume a greater importance particularly so when complemented by those already in the files of HNEF.

7. To make the files at RPD, Philippine Army, more complete and reduce the time lag in obtaining the necessary information for veterans' benefits a conference was held with the Adjutant General of the Philippine Army (See Tab "I") in which it was agreed that any medical records available at his headquarters at Camp Murphy would be withdrawn and integrated with the individual's records at RPD, Philippine Army. It was understood that the files removed from the Records Depot at Camp Murphy were Philippine Army files and what was being done at RPD, Philippine Army, was the completion of the individual's history or 201 file for eventual return to the Philippine Republic Records Administration Center. Several thousand medical records have been transferred to Veterans Administration Branch, RPD, and are now in the files of this Branch at RPD, Philippine Army.

8. a. If it is held that the records referred to above are the public documents of the United States, then the Records Administration Center, HNEF, Philippine Republic, Camp Murphy, will also possess records that are public papers of the United States as the 201 files at both stations pertain to members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army in the service of the Armed Forces of the United States. The only difference, is that these latter records pertain to individuals who are still in the service of the Philippine Republic after relief from service with the Armed Forces of the United States.

b. If the records in the hands of the Philippine Army at this time

FROM: Chief VA Branch, RPD, AG TO: Staff Judge Advocate
PHILRYCOM PHILRYCOM

3 Feb 48

THRU: Director, RPD

are those of the United States provisions will have to be made to effect such transfer and to employ the required personnel for processing and furnishing information from those records to persons or agencies entitled to such information.

9. This office does not certify money accounts to the US Veterans Administration Manila, but furnishes information from records of the RPD, Philippine Army and certifies the periods of military service during which the veteran was determined as entitled to pay. The US Veterans Administration makes its own determinations as to entitlement to veterans benefits based on the information so furnished.

W. C. Elliott
W. C. ELLIOTT
Major (AGD)

Chief VA Branch

IV - Act of Congress -- Disposal of certain records of the United States Government. - The following act of Congress (Public Law 115-78th Cong.) is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

An Act To provide for the disposal of certain records of the United States Government.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That when used in this Act, the word "records" includes all books, papers, maps, photographs, or other documentary materials, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made or received by any agency of the United States Government in pursuance of Federal law or in connection with the transaction of public business and preserved or appropriate for preservation by that agency or its legitimate successor as evidence of the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations, or other activities of the Government or because of the informational value of data contained therein. Library and museum material made or acquired and preserved solely for reference or exhibition purposes, extra copies of documents preserved only for convenience of reference, and stocks of publications and of processed documents are not included within the definition of the word "records" as used in this Act.

Sec. 2. The National Archives Council shall promulgate regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, establishing (1) procedures for the compiling and submitting to the Archivist of the United States of lists and schedules of records proposed for disposal, (2) procedures for the disposal of records authorized for disposal, and (3) standards for the reproduction of records by photographic or microphotographic processes with a view to the disposal of the original records. Such regulations, when approved by the President, shall be binding on all agencies of the United States Government.

Sec. 3. The head of each agency of the United States Government shall submit to the Archivist of the United States, in accordance with regulations promulgated as provided in section 2 of this Act (1) lists of any records in the custody of the agency that have been photographed or microphotographed in accordance with the said regulations and that as a consequence thereof, do not appear to have sufficient value to warrant their further preservation by the Government; (2) lists of any other records in the custody of the agency that are not needed by it in the transaction of its current business and that do not appear to have sufficient administrative, legal, research, or other value to warrant their further preservation by the Government; and (3) schedules proposing the disposal after the lapse of specified periods of time of records of a specified form or character that either have accumulated in the custody of the agency or that may accumulate therein at any time after the submission of such schedules and that apparently will not after the lapse of the period specified have sufficient administrative, legal, research, or other value to warrant their further preservation by the Government.

Sec. 4. The Archivist shall submit to Congress, at such times as he shall deem expedient, the lists or schedules submitted to him in accordance with the provisions of section 3 of this Act, or parts of such lists or schedules, and lists or schedules of any records in his legal custody, insofar as

Tab

it shall appear to him that the records listed in such lists or schedules do not, or will not after the lapse of the period specified, have sufficient administrative, legal, research, or other value to warrant their continued preservation by the United States Government: Provided, That the Archivist shall not submit to Congress lists or schedules of records of any existing agency of the Government in his legal custody without first having obtained the written consent of the head of such agency.

Sec. 5. Whenever the Archivist shall submit lists or schedules to Congress, it shall be the duty of the presiding officer of the Senate to appoint two Senators who, with the members of the Committee on the Disposition of Executive Papers of the House of Representatives, shall be referred, and the joint committee shall examine such lists or schedules and submit to the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, a report of such examination and its recommendations.

Sec. 6. If the joint committee reports that any of the records listed in a list or Schedule referred to it do not, or will not after the lapse of the period specified, have sufficient administrative, legal, research, or other value to warrant their continued preservation by the Government, the Archivist shall notify the head of the agency by which the list or schedule was submitted of the action of the joint committee and the head of such agency shall cause such records to be disposed of in accordance with regulations promulgated as provided in section 2 of this Act.

Sec. 7. If the joint committee fails to make a report during any regular or special session of Congress on any list or schedule submitted to Congress by the Archivist not less than ten days prior to the adjournment of such session, the Archivist may empower the head of the agency who submitted the list or schedule to cause the records listed therein to be disposed of in accordance with regulations promulgated as provided in section 2 of this Act.

Sec. 8. Whenever it shall appear to the Archivist that any agency has in its custody, or is accumulating, records of the same form or character as any records of the same agency previously authorized by Congress to be disposed of, he may empower the head of such agency to dispose of such records, after they have been in existence a specified period of time, in accordance with regulations promulgated as provided in section 2 of this Act and without listing or scheduling them.

Sec. 9. Records pertaining to claims and demands by the Government of the United States or against it, or to any accounts in which the Government of the United States is concerned, either as debtor or creditor, shall not be disposed of by the head of any agency under any authorizations granted pursuant to the provisions of sections 6, 7, and 8 of this Act, until such claims, demands, and accounts have been settled and adjusted in the General Accounting Office, except upon the written approval of the Comptroller General of the United States.

Sec. 10. Whenever the Archivist and the head of the agency that has custody of them shall jointly determine that any records in the custody of any agency of the United States government are a continuing menace to human health or life or to property, the Archivist shall cause such menace to be eliminated immediately by whatever method he may deem necessary. If any records in the custody of the Archivist are disposed of under the section, the Archivist shall report the disposal thereof to the agency from which they were transferred.

Sec. 11. At any time during the existence of a state of war between the United States and any other nation or when hostile action by a foreign power appears imminent, the head of any

agency of the United States Government may authorize the destruction of any records in his legal custody situated in any military or naval establishment, ship, or other depository outside the territorial limits of continental United States (1) the retention of which would be prejudicial to the interests of the United States or (2) which occupy space urgently needed for military purpose and are, in his opinion, without sufficient administrative, legal, research, or other value to warrant their continued preservation: Provided, That within six months after the disposal of any such records, the official who directed the disposal thereof shall submit a written report thereon to the Archivist in which he shall describe the character of such records and state when and where the disposal thereof was accomplished.

Sec. 12. The Archivist shall transmit to Congress at the beginning of each regular session reports as to the records authorized for disposal under the provisions of section 7 of this Act and as to the records disposed of under the provisions of sections 9 and 10 of this Act.

Sec. 13. Photographs or microphotographs of any records made in compliance with regulations promulgated as provided in section 2 of this Act shall have the same force and effect as the originals thereof would have and shall be treated as originals for the purpose of their admissibility in evidence. Duly certified or authenticated reproductions of such photographs or microphotographs shall be admitted in evidence equally with the original photographs or microphotographs.

Sec. 14. All moneys derived by agencies of the Government from the sale of records authorized for disposal under the provisions of this Act shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States unless otherwise required by existing law applicable to the agency.

Sec. 15. The procedures herein prescribed are exclusive and no records of the United States Government shall be alienated or destroyed except in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 16. The Act entitled "An Act to provide for the disposition of certain records of the United States Government," approved August 5, 1939 (53Stat. 1219), the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the disposition of certain photographed records of the United States Government, and for other purposes", approved September 24, 1940 (54Stat. 958), and all other Acts or parts of Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

Approved July 7, 1943.

By order of the Secretary of War:

G. C. MARSHALL,
Chief of Staff.

Official:

J. A. ULIO,
Major General,
The Adjutant General

A TRUE COPY:


W. C. ELLIOTT
Major AGD

WAR DEPARTMENT PLAN FOR CASUALTY ADMINISTRATION
UPON REOCCUPATION OF PHILIPPINES
7 NOVEMBER 1944, AS AMENDED, BY
CHANGE 1, 21 MARCH 1945

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NN0983078

* * * *

VII. Philippine Army.

1. The Missing Persons Act has been authoritatively held applicable to members of the Philippine Army ordered into the service of the armed forces of the United States and placed under command of the Commander-in-Chief, Southwest Pacific Area, upon whom rests the responsibility and authority for final administrative and fiscal action arising in the application of the Act to all personnel of the Philippine Army. (C-1, 21 Mar 45)

Tab B

2. There has been no data available in the War Department upon which to officially report or determine any status of individuals of the Philippine Army. The Japanese government has made no report to the United States of the status of any such personnel as prisoners of war or otherwise.

3. There is the problem of identifying members or alleged members of the Philippine Army who return to control or whose death is alleged as a basis of claims; determining any status they have or may have had (including missing, captured, interned) and the termination thereof by factual or presumptive death, or by return to control; determining whether absence has been "from post of duty without authority"; determining periods of entitlement to receive or be credited with pay and allowances; the settlement of accounts and payment of benefits.

4. It is contemplated that, subject to the final responsibility resting with the CinC. SWPA, military and other officials of the Philippine Commonwealth, will, with appropriate assistance from United States forces, identify individuals and make all necessary determination of status (including finding of death) and of payments pursuant to the Missing Persons Act in the cases of members of the Philippine Army returning to duty or otherwise account for. Payments of pay and allowances for periods of absence may be made only if approved by the Commanding General, U.S.A.F.F.E., and when so approved shall be a proper charge against any available funds appropriated for expenses incident to operation of the Philippine Army in the service of the armed forces of the United States in the Philippines.

5. No retroactive allotments to dependents or others may be made from pay and allowances when the missing status has been terminated by return to control, death or otherwise.

6. Reports of any status or change therein of Philippine Army personnel are to be made to the War Department only when individuals have an additional status;

a. as an active or retired member of the United States Army;

SECTION VII, CONT'D

- b. as an active or retired member of the Philippine Scouts;
- c. as one of the group from whose pay allotments have been paid by the War Department during absence (see per 10 appendix 1).

Such reports will show the determined status, return to military control, death or finding of death, with essential dates in each case. If returned to military control allotments will be adjusted in conformity with paragraph 2, Section V. (C-, 21 Mar 4)

7. In death cases payments of arrears of pay due to the heirs or estate are deemed 'expenditures incident to pay*** of said organized military forces' and ' may be made without regard to the provisions of law regulating the expenditure of or accounting for funds of the United States' within the meaning of the Act appropriating funds for the Army of the Philippines. Such payments may be made by or with approval of the Commander-in-Chief Southwest Pacific Area. The law authorizing payment of six months' pay as death gratuity has been determined to be inapplicable to Philippine Army personnel. Matters pertinent to pensions and National Service Life Insurance are for determination and action by the Veterans Administration. (C-1, 21 Mar 45)

* * * * *

- 2 -

RESTRICTED

A TRUE COPY:


W. G. ELLIOTT
Major ACD

MALACANAN PALACE
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 68

DEMobilIZATION OF ELEMENTS OF THE PHILIPPINE
ARMY AND OTHER GUERRILLA UNITS IN THE FIELD.

WHEREAS the Commonwealth Government has been advised by the Commander-in-Chief, United States Army Forces, Pacific, of the termination of hostilities and the surrender of Japanese forces;

WHEREAS the Government has further been advised by the Commander-in-Chief, United States Army Forces, Pacific, that this termination of hostilities and surrender of the Japanese forces has rendered unnecessary the maintenance for further field service of elements of the Army of the Philippines in addition to regularly activated units and of those guerrilla units already recognized;

WHEREAS continued assembly and maintenance of headquarters is not a prerequisite to recognition of guerrilla units; and

WHEREAS the demobilization of guerrilla units in the field will not prejudice the continuance of recognition of such guerrilla units as can produce evidence showing that they maintained organized military forces in the field in effective opposition to the Japanese, which will be the basis for award of such benefits as may be authorized to members of such units;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sergio Osmena, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Philippines, do hereby order:

1. That all unrecognized guerrilla units be disbanded and that all members thereof return to their houses and engage in their normal civilian pursuits.
2. That all arms, ammunition, and military supplies and equipment in the possession of unrecognized guerrilla units or of individual members of such units be immediately turned in to the Commander of the nearest unit of the United States Army or of the Army of the Philippines.
3. That all records of unrecognized guerrilla units disbanded in conformity herewith, together with any request for recognition and evidence in support of such request, be assembled and turned in to the Commander of the nearest unit of the United States Army or of the Army of the Philippines for forwarding to Headquarters, Philippine Army.

Done at the City of Manila, this twenty-sixth day of September in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and forty-five, and of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, the tenth.

SERGIO OSMENA

President of the Philippines

By the President:

JOSE S. REYES
Secretary to the President

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:



W. G. ELLIOTT
Major, ACD
Chief, VA Br

R E S T R I C T E DCOMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES
ARMY HEADQUARTERS
APO 501

3 December 1945

CIRCULAR)
:)
NUMBER 182)DISPOSITION OF PERSONNEL TO BE DEMOBILIZED

1. a. The program for the demobilization of Philippine Army Forces provides for a progressive reduction in personnel by either discharge or relief from active duty.

b. Orders will be issued by this headquarters directing the inactivation of units and/or designating categories of personnel for demobilization.

2. Commanding officers of standard T/O Philippine Army battalions or larger units ordered inactivated or containing personnel designated for separation, commanding officers of replacement battalions, and the senior officers of special demobilization teams constituted by this headquarters, are authorized to accomplish discharges and to issue orders for the reversion to inactive duty of officers below field grade and enlisted men of the Philippine Army in accordance with the provisions of this circular.

3. a. All personnel will be carefully screened with a view to retaining those who are best qualified for continued service in the Philippine Army.

b. Separation from active service will in no wise prejudice the right of an individual to any arrears in pay that may be legally due him. A statement to this effect will be included in all discharge certificates and orders for reversion to inactive duty. Settlement of claims for arrears in pay will be made whenever practicable prior to separation but its accomplishment will not be allowed to delay the execution of discharges or reversions under this program.

4. Officers and enlisted men of the Regular Army will not be discharged or reverted to inactive status under this directive.

5. Personnel coming within the following categories will not be discharged or reverted to inactive status:

R E S T R I C T E D

Circular # 182, 3 Dec 45, cont'd.

- a. Personnel requiring hospitalization.
- b. Personnel under court-martial charges or serving court-martial sentences.
- c. Personnel in the U.S. attending school or on special mission in U.S., or earmarked for such detail. Action pertaining to these cases will be referred to the Commanding General AFWESPAC for prior approval.

d. Personnel currently AWOL.

6. Procedure for discharge and reversion:

Officers- - -

a. Subject to the limitations of paragraphs 4 and 5 above, the officers specified in paragraph 2 above will discharge from the service or revert to inactive status officers below field grade, reporting to this Headquarters without delay the names of such officers for necessary confirmatory action. (See attached sample of Special Order to be issued, Incl 1) A list of field grade officers eligible for discharge or reversion will be submitted to this Headquarters for action.

b. Enlisted men-- Subject to the limitations of paragraphs 4 and 5 above, the officers specified in paragraph 2 above will discharge or revert to inactive status enlisted men, conforming to the provisions of Circular No. 136, HPA, dated 7 Sept 1945. (Copy attached, Incl 2) Discharge certificate (PA AGO Form No. 55 Incl 3) will be properly accomplished and duly signed by the officer acting under authority in paragraph 2 above. This certificate will be handed to the individual personally.

c. Physical Examination-- In all cases of discharge or reversion to inactive status, a physical examination of the individual will be made as provided in Par 1b Cir. No. 136 HPA, cs (Incl 2) which provisions are made applicable to both officers and enlisted men. For officers, WD Form No. 63 (Incl 4) will be accomplished in duplicate. For enlisted men, WD AGO Form No. 38 (Incl 5) will be accomplished in duplicate. Examination of the chest by X-Ray is not mandatory, but care will be exercised in each examination to detect the existence of tuberculosis. Should any provisions of the circular referred to prove impracticable the matter will be referred to the Chief Surgeon AFWESPAC.

R E S T R I C T E D

Circular # 182, 3 Dec 45, cont'd

d. Clothing-- (1) Officers - Officers will be required to settle clothing accounts before discharge or reversion. No gratuitous issue of clothing is authorized commissioned officers.

(2) Enlisted Men - Only those items of clothing appearing in Cir. 109, HPA, dated 15 August 1945 (Incl 6) will be authorized to be retained by the enlisted men; clothing turned in will be noted in WD AGO Form No. 32 (Incl Cl. and Eqpt Record-Incl 7).

e. Clearance - Before any officer or enlisted man is discharged or reverted to inactive status, commanding officers will require that each individual be cleared of all property and money accountabilities. All money due the government will be charged against accrued and current pay on final pay vouchers or payroll, attaching thereto the necessary Statement of Charges.

f. Pay - Settlement of all current pay due the individual will be made prior to discharge or reversion. It is planned that representatives of the Recovered Personnel Division, will be present to insure that the following action is completed prior to each individual's separation from active service:

(1) PA AGD Form No. 23 (Affidavit for Philippine Army Personnel) is complete and correct in every detail.

(2) The individual has submitted as inclosures with his Form 23, all available papers or other evidence in his possession supporting his claim for arrears in pay.

(3) The individual has been thoroughly instructed in writing as to any additional evidence necessary to support his claim for arrears in pay, and procedure to be followed.

(4) These representative composing the teams will examine all papers presented and decide whether the evidence presented are complete. If the evidences are complete the team will advise the man that his check will be forwarded to his mailing address; if incomplete, it will advise and furnish the man with a list of all papers and evidences he needs to complete his claim, and as much as practicable help him while the team is in the area of demobilization.

g. Transportation-- Transportation from the place of discharge or reversion to home town or community will be provided at government expense. The most practicable or the following means, or a combination thereof if necessary, will be employed:

R E S T R I C T E D

Circular # 182, 3 Dec 45, cont'd

- (1) Military transportation or carrier.
- (2) Public carrier. This method will require use of Transportation requests in accordance with PA regulations. Reimbursement for funds expended by individuals in traveling from point of separation to home is not authorized under this directive.
- (3) Commanding Officers charged with the duties of effecting reversions or discharges as here-in provided, will see to it that all personnel so reverted or discharged are given transportation in kind or transportation requests from point of separation to their homes towns or communities, and notation to this effect shown in the discharge certificate or order of discharge.

h. Whenever it becomes necessary for an individual to await transportation after being separated, commanding officers are authorized to continue subsisting him until his departure. He will depart by the first available transportation.

i. Subsistence during travel -- Each individual discharged or reverted to inactive status under this directive may be furnished rations in kind or per diem allowance as per PA regulations to cover the estimated travel time required from place of separation to his hometown or community. Care will be exercised in making the necessary estimation to prevent abuses of this privilege. The following per diem allowances will prevail:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| (1) For enlisted men----- | ¥ 1.50 |
| (2) For 3d, 2d, & 1st Lts----- | 2.25 |
| (3) For Cepts, and Majors----- | 3.00 |
| (4) For Lt Cols & Senior----- | 3.75 |

j. Reports --

- (1) Radio reports will be rendered this headquarters each week stating the name of the unit, the number of officers and the number of enlisted men discharged or reverted to inactive status, during previous week and the remaining strength of the unit.
- (2) Final reports will be rendered on completion of demobilization of units or major groupments of personnel. These reports will be prepared in

R E S T R I C T E D

Circular # 182, 3 Dec 45, cont'd

triplicate using the form shown below. The original and duplicate will be forwarded to this headquarters and the triplicate copy will be retained in the files of the headquarters concerned

- (3) The following records will accompany each final report sent to this headquarters and will be delivered by special officer courier.

WD AGO Form No. 83 for Officers (Original copy only)
 WD AGO Form No. 38 for enlisted men (Original copy only)
 WD AGO Form 66-1 for officers
 WD AGO Form No. 20 for enlisted men
 WD AGO Form No. 24 for enlisted men
 WD AGO Form No. 32 for enlisted men

- (4) Form to be followed in final report:

| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| : Names and NO | : Address | : Rank : or : Grade | : Army : Serial : Number | : Branch : of : Service | : Civilian : Volunteers | : Date of : Discharge : or Reversal | : Paid or : not : Paid : Paid |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : sign | : |

I certify that the above report is true and correct.

 (Signature of CO)

 (Rank & Branch of Service)

Witness:

 (Officer-in-Charge, U. S. A. Demobilization Team)

7. All officers and enlisted men of units ordered inactivated who cannot be discharged or reverted under this directive, (see personnel referred to in paragraph 4, and 5 above) will be attached to the nearest Replacement Battalion (PA) to await final

R E S T R I C T E D

Circular # 182, 3 Dec 45, cont'd.

disposition by this headquarters. Commanding officers of units being inactivated will submit to this headquarters a list of such officers and enlisted men giving names, ranks, serial numbers, branch of service, and the reason why they could not be separated as directed.

8. In order to expedite this demobilization program it is necessary that each commanding officer and headquarters without delay plan and provide an organization, trained in detail, for the purpose of discharging and reverting personnel in the minimum amount of time. This includes the procurement of necessary supplies and equipment.

DISPOSITION OF RECORDS OF INACTIVATED PA UNITS

All military records of inactivated Philippine Army Units will be turned in to the nearest Replacement Battalions (PA). All such records when no longer needed in the Replacement Battalions (PA) will be forwarded by the most direct practicable means to Headquarters, Philippine Army, APO 501. Appropriate receipts will be given by Units receiving such records.

DISPOSITION OF MILITARY SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT OF INACTIVATED PA UNITS

All arms, ammunition, and military supplies and equipment of Philippine Army Units inactivated pursuant to General Orders from this Headquarters will be turned over to nearest U.S. supply depot or as otherwise directed.

By order of the Secretary of National Defense:

R. JALANDONI,
Brigadier General, Philippine Army
Deputy Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

LUIS RAMOS
Colonel, AGS
The Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

"A" "L" "X"

Note:

Read inclosed letter File No. 342 dated 5 Dec 45 (AG-EP) re enlistment in the Philippine Scouts of enlisted men of the Philippine Army who will be separated from the service, who desire to enlist and who have the qualifications for enlistment in the Philippine Scouts.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:


W. G. ELLIOTT
Major AGD
Chief VA Branch

/epf

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES WESTERN PACIFIC
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

CIRCULAR)
:)
NO...102)

AFO 707
28 November 1945

FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF RECOVERED
PERSONNEL DIVISION

1. The Recovered Personnel Division, Adjutant General's Section, Headquarters AFWESPAC, effective immediately, will assume the functions of the Recovered Personnel Division, Philippine Army, and the responsibility for the administration of the Missing Persons Act as applicable to Philippine Army personnel.

2. The functions and responsibilities will include:

a. Control and supervision of Philippine Army Loyalty Status Boards.

b. Review of board proceedings of Philippine Army Loyalty Status Boards, recommending action by this headquarters in each case where a finding of disloyalty has been reached.

c. Supervision of the Philippine Army in all recovered personnel activities on behalf of this headquarters.

d. Final adjudication and approval of all matters falling within the purview of the Missing Persons Act submitted to this headquarters by the Philippine Army.

e. Confirmation on behalf of the Commanding General, AFWESPAC, of all Philippine Army promotions except current promotions.

f. As far as practicable, the securing of all data necessary to:

- (1) Provide information for settlement of arrears of pay and allowances.
- (2) Provide information for settlement of claims from beneficiaries of deceased Philippine Army personnel.
- (3) Obtain complete records relating to initial individual records and to final records on separation from active service of Philippine Army personnel. This includes all categories of Philippine Army forces, namely, former USAFFE personnel, recognized guerrillas, and guerrillas recognized hereafter.

3. The Recovered Personnel Division will be guided by the provisions of the Missing Persons Act, the War Department directive for the administration of the Missing Persons Act, as amended, and current established policies. Changes in existing policies and recommendations for future policy decisions will be submitted to this headquarters for approval. (GSCS 322)

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL STYER:

OFFICIAL:

/s/ Warren C. Edwards
/s/ WARREN C. EDWARDS
Major, ASD
Asst Adj Genl



W. A. WOOD, JR
Major General, USA
Deputy Commander and
Chief of Staff

Tab E

HEADQUARTERS
 UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES WESTERN PACIFIC
 OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

GENERAL ORDERS)
 :
 NO.....168)

APO 707
 25 June 1946

RELEASE OF THE MILITARY FORCES OF THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES

Effective 2400 hours, 30 June 1946, the military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, now assigned or attached to United States Army Forces in the Western Pacific, are released from such assignments and attachments, from service in the armed forces of the United States of America, and revert to full control of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines. (GSCOT 323.361)

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL STYER:

J. G. CHRISTIANSEN
 Major General, USA
 Deputy Commander and
 Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

s/ J. J. Gerhardt
 t/ J. J. GERHARDT
 Colonel, AGD
 Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION:

AE

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:


 W. C. ELLIOTT
 Major, AGD
 Asst Adj Gen

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 983078

ROUTINE CLEAR

B 177 CC/EEC
TOO 262059 Z PHILRYCOM DIST
RECD 27 NOV 47 0800/H
FROM WAR (AGCT-R) ACTION RFD
INFO G-3 (GAD)
TO PHILRYCOM FILE
CITE WCL 40753

REURAD G 11325 GSXRP 12 NOV 1947: PROPOSED LEGISLA-
TION FOR VETERANS BENEFITS TO FORMER PHILIPPINE COMMONWEALTH
ARMY PERSONNEL WHO WERE MEMBERS THEREOF WHILE SUCH FORCES WERE
IN THE SERVICE OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES, AS NOW
DRAFTED ~~PROVIDES~~ PROVIDES FOR CERTIFICATION BY YOUR COMMAND OF THE SER-
VICE OF PHILIPINO INDIVIDUALS IN THE ORGANIZED FORCES OF THE
PHILIPPINE COMMONWEALTH IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES SER-
VICE AFTER 26 JULY 1941 AND PRIOR TO 1 JULY 1946 OR IN ORGANIZED
GUERRILLA FORCES AFTER 7 MAY 1942 AND LATER RECOGNIZED, PROVIDED
IT IS DETERMINED THAT SUCH SERVICE WAS SIMILAR TO THAT PERFORMED
IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES BY MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED
FORCES AND THE PERSON CONCERNED DID NOT RENDER ASSISTANCE TO AN
ENEMY OF THE US OR ITS ALLIES.

ab G

ROUTINE CLEAR
* INCOMING *
(PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGE)

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

WILLIAM S. ELLIOTT
Major AGD
Chief VA Branch

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES WESTERN PACIFIC

GSXRP 319.1

APO 707
29 June 1946

SUBJECT: Administration of PA Personnel Assigned For Duty With
Recovered Personnel Division

TO : Chief of Staff
Philippine Army
APO 75

* * * * *

1. For the purposes of continuing processing of records and adjudication of claims for arrears in pay for Philippine Army personnel, Philippine Army has allotted a strength of 200 officers and 400 enlisted men for duty with the Recovered Personnel Division. Matters of administration, housing, messing and supply remain a function of the Philippine Army.

* * * * *

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL STYER:

MORRIS H. MARCUS
Colonel AGD
Ass't Adj Gen

CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

W. C. ELLIOTT
Major AGD

Check Sheet
 HEADQUARTERS PHILRYCOM
 AG-Recovered Personnel Division

Do not remove from attached sheets

File No.

Subject:

FROM: OIC VA SEC

TO: Chief PA Branch

DATE: 22 Aug 47

At a conference held in the office of the Adjutant General HAP 10:00 21 August 1947 it was agreed that HAP would withdraw the following records from the files at Camp Murphy, Quezon City for file in the 201 files at RPD with the Philippine Army Branch:

All Clinical Records and Medical Cards.

All Service Records of CDD cases.

All forms AGO Forms 40 or comparable form.

(Form for C. D. D.).

Forms AGO 38 Physical Examination Prior to Discharge

(Other than in CDD Cases) up to and including 30 June 1946.

All Medical Records now on file with Philippine Veterans Board, Manila. (Now being withdrawn by personnel from VA Section Philippine Army Branch, RPD).

VA Section, PA Branch, RPD, to furnish two competent persons to instruct PA personnel at Camp Murphy in the withdrawal of pertinent records. These two persons to be at Camp Murphy not exceeding two weeks.

CONFERREES: Col. FLORENTIN TAG HAP
 Maj. LUCERO Asst. AG
 Capt. ONGLENGER, Asst AG
 Maj. GALANG, V LUNA GEN HOSP
 Capt. YRA, Asst AG
 Maj. ELLIOTT RPD
 Lt. MONCURE RPD
 Capt. Mendoza PA RPD

Tab 1

----- /s/ W. C. E.
 /t/ W. C. E. -----
 (2) FROM: Chief, PA Branch TO: Director, RPD 23 Aug 47

For your information.

/s/ J. R. G.
 /t/ J. R. G.

CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

W. C. ELLIOTT
 Major AGD

GSKRP

Plans of RPD for Termination of Mission
by June 30, 1948.

AG Rec Pers Div

AG
G-3
D C & C of S

26 May 47

1. The Recovered Personnel Division has been set a deadline of June 30, 1948 for termination of its mission of adjudicating arrears in pay for personnel of the Army of the Philippines by the following factors:

a. Funds now authorized but unexpended by June 30, 1948, will revert to the Treasury.

b. GHQ FEC has indicated its desire that this deadline be set, by special planning of civilian personnel budget for this organization for the Fiscal Year 1948.

2. The Guerrilla Affairs Division is rapidly transmitting the revised recognition dates of guerrilla units to the Recovered Personnel Division for action. No trouble is anticipated in the completion of the recognition of units in sufficient time for this organization to adjudicate the claims. Other factors, however, have presented certain problems to this Division which, at the present time, appear to have no solution.

3. In the recognition of guerrilla units, rosters of the units are not always available and it is necessary for this Division to devise methods of identification of personnel by means of recovered records, affidavits, etc. In all cases, the Guerrilla Affairs Division indicates the approximate strength of the units at various time during the period of their recognition. In the adjudication of three (3) large units where rosters or other means of identification are available, it has been found that 43.5% of the individuals belonging to these units have not yet filed a claim for arrears in pay. This is indicated by the following chart:

| | <u>No. Recognized</u> | <u>No. Acctd. For</u> | <u>Balance Claims Unfiled</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| USAFIP, NL | 17,480 | 9,298 | 8,182 |
| ECLGA | 35,249 | 20,942 | 14,307 |
| Cebu Area Command | 9,569 | 5,074 | 4,495 |
| Total | 62,298 | 35,314 | 26,984 |

If this can be used as a criterion there will be a total of approximately 141,610 recognized guerrillas without claims upon completion of our work. On the other hand there are many claims on hand submitted by persons whose entitlement to arrears in pay cannot be established, or who have not been recognized.

Tab K

GSXRP
AG Rec Pers Div

Plan of RPD for Termination of Mission
by June 30, 1948 (continued)
AG, G-3, DC & Cofs

26 May 47

4. This Division is at a loss to understand the reason for the failure of these persons to submit a claim for arrears in pay, particularly after the wide publicity that has been given to this subject in the newspapers. Every effort has been made through proper publicity to inform the public of this situation but the results have been meager. Teams established at the headquarters of each Military District (PA), the Red Cross, and a special Legal Section of the Department of Justice (Philippine Republic) are also assisting in this program. There is no way of getting in touch with these persons individually since their addresses are not known. It is felt, however, that the following facts may have some bearing upon the situation.

a. Many of these people concerned may be illiterate, although it is felt that they would have been informed by this time by their friends and relatives.

b. Some of these persons realizing that their claim is very small, feel that it is not worth the expense and trouble of claiming.

c. An undetermined number of these persons may have joined the organization at the time of the landing of the American forces and have received pay from the date of their joining the organization. In such a case, no arrears in pay would be due them. If this assumption is correct, the work load of this Division will be materially reduced.

5. Since no funds would be available for the payment of these claims after June 30, 1948, and since a reasonable length of time must be allowed this Division to adjudicate each claim and transmit it to the Army of the Philippines for payments, it is believed that a deadline must, sooner or later, be set beyond which claims cannot be accepted. It is felt that it is a little early yet to announce such a deadline but the policies to be followed by this Division from this point on, must be guided by some definite plan of action. It is therefore recommended:

a. That this Division continue as in the past to publicize through newspaper articles and other mediums, the necessity for submitting claims for arrears in pay at the earliest possible date, with a view to establishing a deadline of March 31, 1948 after which no claims will be accepted. The announcement of this deadline date should be made at least 6 months in advance of the date, or about September 30, 1947.

Plan of RPD for Termination of the mission
by June 30, 1948 (continued)

GSXRP
AG Rec Pers Div

AG, 3-3, DC & CoFS

26 May 47

b. That it be assumed, that recognized guerrillas who have not submitted claims by that date fall into one of the three classes mentioned in par 4, a, b, c, above, and will not file claims.

6. It is further recommended that at the proper time, a definite understanding be had with the Army of the Philippines to the effect that the files and records of the PA Branch, Recovered Personnel Division, will be returned to them at the earliest opportunity commensurate with the progress of work, and in any event not later than June 30, 1948, and that it will be their responsibility to finish any uncompleted work such as redeterminations, corrections, etc., and the answering of all future correspondence concerning arrears in pay of Philippine Army personnel. In such an event it would be necessary to retain only a small authentication section under the Adjutant General, PHILRYCON, who is charged with administration of the Missing Persons in this theater.

MORRIS H. MARCUS
Colonel AGD

Director

GSXRP

Future Planning

Director

Capt Mendoza,
Chief PARPD, & LIAISON
Off, NDF, Republic of Phil.

JRG/ ja
12 Nov 47

1. For use in future planning by this division, it is requested that you explore and report on the following:

a. It is contemplated that the workload of this division will require present personnel strength for the period 1 Jan to 30 Jun 48. Will you have presently assigned HAP personnel available during this period?

b. It is contemplated that all records pertaining to the Philippine Commonwealth Army on hand in this division will be turned over to you on 1 July 48. On that date it will be necessary for your organization to provide space and housing therefor either by leasing the present RPD site, by new construction or utilizing adequate facilities at some other site. Does this present any particular problem?

c. On 1 July 48 present plans contemplate forwarding of all correspondence received by this headquarters with reference to arrears in pay or determinations of status of former Philippine Commonwealth Army personnel to your office. Will you have sufficient personnel and equipment available to handle this workload?

d. On 1 July 48 it is contemplated that all requests received for certification of Philippine Commonwealth Army service from the U.S. Veterans Administration will be forwarded to your office for such information as may be requested and return to this headquarters for review and authentication. Will you have adequate personnel and facilities to carry this workload?

2. An estimation of workload for the projects outlined above can be made by you and your office based upon past experience in this division. Request report of this matter at the earliest practicable moment.

J. R. GILBERT
Lt Col AGD

Director -----

Tab "D"

WAR DEPARTMENT PLAN FOR CASUALTY ADMINISTRATION
UPON REOCCUPATION OF PHILIPPINES
7 NOVEMBER 1944, AS AMENDED, BY
CHANGE 1, 21 MARCH 1945
CHANGE 2, 16 NOV 1945* * * * *
VII. Philippine Army.

1. The Missing Persons Act has been authoritatively held applicable to members of the Philippine Army ordered into the service of the armed forces of the United States and placed under command of the Commander-in-Chief, Southwest Pacific Area, upon whom rests the responsibility and authority for final administrative and fiscal action arising in the application of the Act to all personnel of the Philippine Army. (C-1, 21 Mar 45).

2. There has been no data available in the War Department upon which to officially report or determine any status of individuals of the Philippine Army. The Japanese government has made no report to the United States of the status of any such personnel as prisoners of war or otherwise.

3. There is the problem of identifying members or alleged members of the Philippine Army who return to control or whose death is alleged as a basis of claims, determining any status they have or may have had (including missing, captured, interned) and the termination thereof by factual or presumptive death, or by return to control; determining whether absence has been "from post of duty without authority"; determining periods of entitlement to received or be credited with any and allowances; the settlement of accounts and payments of benefits.

4. It is contemplated that, subject to the final responsibility resting with the CG, USAFAPAC, military and other officials of the Philippine Commonwealth, will, with appropriate assistance from United States forces, identify individuals and take all necessary determination of status (including finding of death) and of payments pursuant to the Missing Persons Act in the cases of members of the Philippine Army returning to duty or otherwise accounted for. Payments of pay and allowances for periods of absence may be made only if approved by the Commanding General, U.S.A.F.P.E., and when so approved shall be a proper charge against any available funds appropriated for expenses incident to operation of the Philippine Army in the service of the armed forces of the United States in the Philippines.

* * * * *

22 December 1947

ARMY MEN FACE DISMISSAL

All civilian employees who were assigned to help expedite the payment of backpay of war veterans and heirs of deceased soldiers are likely to be separated after Dec. 31, due to exhaustion of funds appropriated for their salaries, the public and legislative relations division, HREDF, revealed.

Cognizant of the necessity of retaining all the personnel assigned to expedite payment of backpays, Headquarters National Defense Forces is requesting President Roxas to cause the appropriation of an additional fund of P1,300,000 for salaries of about 2,000 civilian employees for a period of six more months.

Unless the appropriation is made, it was pointed out, the USAFFE backpay may never be paid before the deadline set by the United States government for the settlement of all arrears in pay after which date all the unappropriated 200 million pesos will have to be reverted to the U. S. Government.

It was revealed that the separation of these emergency personnel will jeopardize the payment of about 288,419 claims which have not yet been settled. The Recovered Personnel Branch, OTAG, the AFP finance service, AFP auditor's office and the Claims Branch, JAGO, will practically have no personnel left to work on backpay claims after the end of 1947 unless funds can be made available to pay them.

It was explained that although the salary of these affected personnel should have been borne by the United States government, the Philippine Republic, in its spirit of cooperation, accepted to carry the burden of this responsibility. Army authorities are optimistic on the action that will be taken by the President.

* * *

HEADQUARTERS NATIONAL DEFENSE FORCES
Camp Murphy, Quezon City
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF

21 November 1947

A

SUBJECT: AFP Military and Civilian Personnel at RPD

TO : The Commanding General
PHILRYCOM, APO 707

1. Reference is made to the military and civilian personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines now on duty at the Recovered Personnel Division, PHILRYCOM. I would like to bring to your attention the difficulties which this Headquarters is now facing as regards this matter hoping that you may see our problems, which are mainly financial, in maintaining the present strength of our said personnel.
2. As of this date, there are 203 officers, 380 enlisted men and 689 civilian employees of the Armed Forces of the Philippines on duty at the Recovered Personnel Division, PHILRYCOM, who are working on the claims for arrears in pay of our veterans and allied matters therein. This number of personnel has already adjudicated and transmitted to the Office of the Chief, Finance Service, HNDF, 169, 781 adjudicated USAFFE and Guerrilla claims as of 15 November 1947. This Headquarters, however, has disposed of only 102,439 of these claims as of the same date, thus leaving a backlog of 67,342 undisposed of claims.
3. I would like to increase the number of personnel working at our Headquarters on the adjudicated claims so that our backlog can be cleared and that the rate of settlement of these claims can proceed at the same rate as the output of the Recovered Personnel Division. Our current appropriations, however, are so limited that I believe this Headquarters will be unable not only to increase the number of the personnel at our Headquarters but also to maintain the present strength of our officers, men, and employees at the Recovered Personnel Division, PHILRYCOM, without impairing other activities of our Armed Forces, such as the training program of our reservists, which are as equally urgent and important as the settlement of the arrears in pay of our veterans.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 883,078

4. I am, therefore, presenting to your Headquarters the proposition that, should conditions now permit, the number of our military and civilian personnel on duty at the Recovered Personnel Division be reduced under a program that may be evolved with your Headquarters and which will not jeopardize the ability of the said Division to finish the adjudication of all the claims on or before the target date.

R. JALANDONI
Major General
Chief of Staff

OSRP

1st Ind

HEADQUARTERS PHILIPPINES--RYUKYU COMMAND, APO 707

TO : Chief of Staff
 Armed Forces of the Philippines
 Camp Murphy, Quezon City

1. The difficulties being encountered by your headquarters in maintaining personnel strengths for the many tasks confronting you are fully appreciated. This headquarters is experiencing a similar condition. It has only been through the splendid and unselfish cooperation of your staff that it has been possible to carry on the gigantic task which has confronted us in the Philippine Army arrears in pay program. It is my sincere desire to cooperate to the fullest extent possible in the completion of the mission of the Recovered Personnel Division.

2. I believe it is appropriate at this time to estimate the situation as regards the Recovered Personnel Division, review the accomplishments and forecast future problems and missions. The mission of the Recovered Personnel Division is threefold: (1) determination of entitlement to pay periods for former members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army including recognized guerrillas, (2) establishment of a central records depository pertaining to all available individual personnel and organizational records of the Philippine Commonwealth Army during World War II, and (3) furnishing of military information to the U. S. Veterans Administration and the Philippine Veterans Board for use in the adjudication by these offices of claims for whatever veterans benefits are provided by law.

3. Arrears in Pay. This task is nearing completion. 200,000 approvals for arrears in pay have been forwarded to your Finance Service for computation and settlement. These cases have been approved since October 1946 with the bulk of them completed since 1 August 1947. The production of this large number of cases by the Recovered Personnel Division was made possible through tens of thousands of man hours expended in preparatory work which enabled mass production methods to be used. The remainder of the arrears in pay program consists of about 50,000 miscellaneous type cases which cannot be processed by mass production methods due to lack of supporting documents, or incompleteness of certain preparatory procedures, and an estimated ten to twenty thousand redeterminations which will be requested by persons not satisfied with the original adjudication which was based on available supporting documents. In addition, it is estimated that 2,000 interviews per day with claimants will be conducted and 2,000 pieces of correspondence per day will be received and must be processed up until about 1 July 1948.

Tab M

Tab A

M

BASIC: 1st Ind fr CG, PHILRYCON to C/S, AFP ltr, dtd 21 Nov 47,
 subj: AFP Military and Civilian Personnel at RPD.

b. Records Program. This task has been continuous since Liberation. The records which have been accumulated, evaluated and filed by the Recovered Personnel Division are priceless to your government and the Filipino people in general. Under present plans it is contemplated that these records will be turned over to your custody on 1 July 1948. Much has yet to be done. The accumulation, evaluation and filing of these records is an integral part of the arrears in pay program and it is only through the successful completion of the arrears in pay program that these records will evolve into an acceptable military history of the individuals who served during World War II. These records consist of over 700,000 individual files and an estimated 80 tons of bulk records filed by organization in general Dewey decimal system classifications. They are now used as the basis for adjudicating veterans benefits both by the United States and the Philippine Republic. They will become increasingly important and indispensable if new veterans legislation is enacted. Without these records all veterans legislation is useless.

c. Veterans Benefits. Under United States laws providing benefits for Philippine Commonwealth Army veterans now being administered by the U. S. Veterans Administration 50,000 requests for military information pertaining to individual members of the USAFFE and guerrillas are on hand in the Recovered Personnel Division. Necessity for use of personnel records for arrears in pay matters has hampered the furnishing of this information; however, of this number 16,000 have been processed and the required information furnished for adjudicating veterans benefits. The backlog of cases now on hand, under present plans, is to be eliminated by the gradual conversion of the arrears in pay organization to a veterans benefits organization within the next six months. If presently assigned personnel are available, and in addition to the completion of the arrears in pay and records programs, it is estimated that this project will be on a current basis prior to 1 July 1948. Additional requests for information are being received at the rate of 3,000 per month. It has been estimated that under present law no less than 100,000 cases must be processed within the next few years. If legislation providing additional benefits is enacted this figure may increase twofold. The training received by military and civilian personnel in the arrears in pay program is almost identical to that required for administering the veterans program. The breaking up of the present organization would probably set back the veterans program from six months to one year, with the likelihood that without continuous custody by trained clerical and supervisory personnel in adequate numbers many of these records would become hopelessly mixed or lost.

BASIC: 1st Ind fr CG, PHILRYCOM to C/S, AFF ltr, dtd 21 Nov 47,
subj: AFF Military and Civilian Personnel at RFD.

3. The foregoing is a brief description of the general picture. As to the personnel presently assigned to the dual organization located at Mandaluyong, I urgently recommend that you do everything possible to maintain present strength until 30 June 1948 at which time a reorganization should be made for the turn over of the records and the camp site to your jurisdiction. By 30 June 1948 the arrears in pay program will have been completed under present laws and Department of the Army policies now being administered and it is estimated that requests from the U. S. Veterans Administration will have been placed on a current basis. At that time more information will be available on the fate of any proposed legislation and the procedures required by the U. S. Veterans Administration under it will be known in sufficient detail to prescribe appropriate organization and proper strength. On 1 May 1948 it is my plan to declare the RFD area in Mandaluyong surplus in the hope that your government will see fit to utilize it or to provide appropriate housing for the records filed thereat effective 1 July 1948. My plans also contemplate the establishment of a small approval and authentication group in the office of my Adjutant General for use in authenticating military information or approving documents for this headquarters where such authentication or approval is required by law or policy. On 1 July 1948 if you are able to maintain presently assigned strength as recommended above, there will be present with the records turned over to you a competent organization of military and civilian personnel which is trained in the processing of, and familiar with, these records.

4. If you find it impossible due to lack of funds to maintain presently assigned military and civilian personnel strength at the Recovered Personnel Division it will be necessary to curtail or suspend the records and veterans benefits programs described above and reorganize the Recovered Personnel Division at reduced strength for concentration solely on completion of the arrears in pay mission since funds will not be available for arrears in pay purposes subsequent to 30 June 1948.

5. Basic communication was received by this headquarters on 20 December 1947.

GEO. F. MOORE
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

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Authority NND 883078

STUDY
RETENTION OF PA RECORDS

STUDY - 12A



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

December 5, 1950

OFFICE OF
THE ADMINISTRATOR OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS



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DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND983078

Honorable Frank Pace, Jr.
Secretary of the Army
Department of the Army
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This letter constitutes the reply to your proposals of August 11 and October 24, 1950, that custody of records of Filipinos who served or alleged service with the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II be transferred for a temporary indefinite period from the Adjutant General Records Depository in Manila to the Veterans Administration Regional Office in the same city. This matter was discussed with you in our earlier communications of August 22 and September 22, 1950. While the Veterans Administration desires to and will always endeavor to contribute its full support to assist the Department of Defense and its components in attaining maximum combat effectiveness, this currently urgent objective must nevertheless be tempered by detailed consideration of the probable impact on the operations of this Agency. Evaluation of your proposition in every aspect revealed conditions which dictate our non-concurrence with the suggested change in custodianship.

It is fundamental that in consideration of eligibility to benefits under the laws governing the Veterans Administration, based on active service with or in the military forces of the United States, the determination of the fact of active service is the responsibility of the Service Department in or with which the active service is claimed, in view of Congressional cognizance of military custom, laws, and regulations pertaining to determination of status of persons in active service.

In discussing the question of the status of persons who served with the Commonwealth Army of the Philippines, in Administrator's Decision No. 746, May 23, 1947, it was stated that:

(S.D. - 50)

Honorable Frank Pace, Jr.

- "HELD: 1. Any member of the Commonwealth Army who was ordered into and served in the Armed Forces of the United States, or any person who served in such forces, is potentially entitled to benefits under the applicable laws; the fact of such service being shown by the record, or certification of the United States Armed Forces. ***** "

The present proposal, it would seem, comprehends a form of certification (based on custody) in diametrical opposition to the foregoing. It also appears to contravene the agreement ratified by our respective agencies in August 1948 which provided in part that:

"Service History Data

1. The furnishing of Service History data to the Manila Veterans Administration Regional Office is a responsibility of the Commanding General, Philippines Command, United States Army.
2. The Veterans Administration will accept as official, certifications of service from the Commanding General, Philippines Command.
3. Where the Veterans Administration has obtained information deemed reliable by it, which conflicts with information obtained from the Philippines Command, the case will be returned to Philippines Command with the conflicting information obtained by the Veterans Administration for reconsideration. Where redeterminations are made, a statement will be furnished on supplemental VA Form 3101 series that the redetermination supersedes determinations previously submitted.
4. Field investigations will be made by Philippines Command only on those cases where actual determinations of service cannot be established by review of existing files and by mail communications. Determination as to the necessity for field investigation in any case rests with the Commanding General, Philippines Command.
5. Existing procedures will be continued with regard to developing service data on individuals for whom no personnel

Honorable Frank Pace, Jr.

files exist. Insofar as possible, affidavits and certificates will be secured from appropriate individuals by Philippines Command in addition to requiring the veteran claimant to secure affidavits and certificates."

The foregoing followed the obligatory rejection by the Veterans Administration of a proposal advanced then by Army representatives that this Agency assume custody of the self-same records.

In the main, it may be anticipated that the files in question contain material on which determinations of active service may be predicated. However, (1) these determinations are ones which the Army is required to make, and (2) the validity of and the weight to be accorded to the contents of the files can best be adjudged by the agency which created them.

Sincerely yours,



O. W. CLARK
Deputy Administrator

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Authority NND 883078

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Office of the Adjutant General
Washington 25 DC

AGCM-M

Jan 23 1950

SUBJECT: Assumption by the Veterans Administration of Custody and Servicing of Philippine Army Records Presently in the Custody of the AG Records Depository

TO: Commanding General
Far East Command
APO 500, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

1. Reference is made to the following:

a. Letter from the Commanding General, Philippines Command, subject as above, dated 16 May 1949.

b. Letter from this office to the Commanding General, Philippines Command, dated 14 September 1949, subject: "Report of Military Personnel Records Operations," and 1st indorsement thereto dated 13 October 1949 transmitting report of records operations for the AG Records Depository.

c. Discussion of 13 January 1950 between General W. A. Beiderlinden, your headquarters, and General Witsell, The Adjutant General.

2. The report for the AG Records Depository referred to in paragraph 1b above indicated that inquiries received from the Veterans Administration averaged 2,300 monthly and that inquiries received from individuals relating to claims for arrears in pay under the Missing Persons Act and to claims for guerrilla recognition averaged 2,250 monthly. The processing of inquiries relating to claims for arrears in pay and for guerrilla recognition is an Army function. Consequently, any use made of the records in question in connection with this activity is considered to constitute use for Army purposes. The information contained in this report therefore indicates that the records in custody of the AG Records Depository are utilized practically as much for Army purposes as for furnishing information to the Veterans Administration.

3. In the discussion referred to in paragraph 1c above, General Beiderlinden indicated that he was of the opinion that the use being made of the records in question had changed since the

AGCM-M

Jan 23 1950

SUBJECT: Assumption by VA of Custody & Servicing of Phil Army
Records Presently in Custody of AGRD

report was submitted on the AG Records Depository or that the use would change in the immediate future. It is therefore requested that the following information be furnished for planning purposes:

- a. Total number of inquiries currently being received per month at the AG Records Depository.
- b. Number of inquiries currently being received per month from the Veterans Administration.
- c. Number of inquiries currently being received per month from individuals relating to claims for arrears in pay under the Missing Persons Act or for guerrilla recognition.
- d. Number of inquiries currently being received per month from Department of the Army sources.
- e. Number of backlog Veterans Administration cases.
- f. Number of backlog cases relating to claims under the Missing Persons Act and for guerrilla recognition.
- g. Number of AG Records Depository personnel (military and civilian) engaged in the servicing of Veterans Administration cases.
- h. Number of AG Records Depository personnel (military and civilian) engaged in activities other than servicing of Veterans Administration cases.
- i. Date by which it is anticipated that the volume of work in connection with the Missing Persons Act and guerrilla recognition will be reduced to such an extent that not more than 50 persons will be required for this operation.
- j. Recommendations as to action that should be taken to reduce the amount of work being performed by the AG Records Depository, other than that required in connection with the servicing of Veterans Administration cases.

4. The Secretary of the Army has recommended to the Office, Secretary of Defense, that the records in the custody of the AG Records Depository be transferred to the Veterans Administration. However, it is not believed that any favorable action in this matter

AFCM-M

Jan 23 1950

SUBJECT: Assumption by VA of Custody & Servicing of Phil Army
Records Presently in Custody of AGED

will be accomplished until the preponderance of the work carried on
by the AG Records Depository is in connection with the servicing of
Veterans Administration cases.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Adjutant General

AG 313 (23 Jan 50)AG 1st Ind

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND, APO 500, 4 February 1950

TO: Commanding General, Philippines Command (Air Force), APO 74

1. Particular attention is invited to paragraph 2, basic communication.
2. It is desired that information requested in paragraph 3, basic communication, be furnished this headquarters at the earliest practicable date.

BY ORDER OF GENERAL MacARTHUR:

10227

/s/ K. B. Dush,
/t/ K. B. Dush
Brigadier General, USA,
Adjutant General.

Copy furnished
CG FEAF

C O P Y

AG 313

4th Ind

SUBJECT: Assumption by VA of Custody & Servicing of Phil Army Records Presently in Custody of AGRD.

HQ PHILIPPINES COMMAND (AIR FORCE) AND THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE, CLARK AIR FORCE BASE, APO 74, 21 April 1950

TO: Commander-in-Chief, Far East, APO 500

1. Attention invited to preceding third indorsement and to staff study herewith in answer to problems presented in basic communication. This headquarters concurs in cited indorsement and staff study except that:

a. Information received indicates that the Veterans Administration requests for official detailed service reports will average in excess of the 2375 indicated in third indorsement. As of 15 April the number of requests on hand was 3080. It is believed this figure will range between 3000 and 3500.

this was work load

b. Throughout the third indorsement and staff study, emphasis is made to the possible use of form letters and stamp indorsements for reply to inquiries regarding MPA, guerrilla affairs and other Army responsibility. It is believed that most of the good which has been gained through these programs may be lost if this form of correspondence is overly emphasized.

will need to be great letters and have for over two years

c. The reduction in personnel strength is based on several assumptions. The reductions cannot be effected until these assumptions are effected.

- (1) Transfer of records pertaining to Philippine Scouts AUS personnel, Philippine Commonwealth Army, War Department civilian employees and recognized guerrillas to the VA. This headquarters concurs in the saving that can be effected here if the VA will assume responsibility for:

- (a) Maintenance of records
- (b) Records search
- (c) Field investigation
- (d) Case evaluation

cannot for army matters

- (e) Submit case in final form for certification - thereby almost reducing Army workload to spot checking.

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Authority: NND 883278

MR
Send

SUBJECT: Assumption by VA of Custody & Servicing of Phil Army Records Presently in Custody of AGRD.

- (2) Statistics presented indicate that at present the Army workload is over 200 pieces of correspondence per working day. Should the VA not be able to afford space readily accessible to required records for the recommended AGRD liaison group, with proposed strength of 50, this strength is additionally inadequate and duplicate files will most likely again be developed. *Give to a certain degree*
- (3) Determination should be made as to whether inquiring correspondence from military headquarters should be addressed to the residual liaison group or the VA. Which of the latter will process this correspondence. *on VA matters to VA on Army matters*
- (4) Reductions as outlined include assumption that move of AGRD to Palma Hall will be effected on or about 15 May thereby eliminating Base Service requirements. These requirements will continue in part, however, unless the housing of AGRD personnel is also moved to the Greater Manila Area. Housing in the Dilliman Area, as at present, requires PX, theater and other base services due to its isolated location. *True*
- (5) It is believed that the personnel of the Control, Audit and Fiscal Section should continue in this assignment until all audits are finalized and records processed. This headquarters has no assurance that this will be completed as of 1 July 1950 and believes that it will continue until 1951. *1 Sept 50*
- (6) This recommendation for reduction in personnel is made even though the AGRD workload has continually increased due not only to increase in volume but to additional responsibilities assigned. This is borne out by budget data which shows that costs for the operation of AGRD have compounded 100% annually since FY 1947. *1947-48 costs are included in all 50*
- (7) Under the present organizational structure of AGRD and operating procedures, it is impossible to divorce or compart the VA workload from the Army workload and change it to any specific group of employees. *Not possible*
- (8) Future workloads may be increased due to required certification of POW status to the War Claims Commission unless this responsibility is assumed by the VA. *True*

AG 313

4th Ind (Continued)

SUBJECT: Assumption by VA of Custody & Servicing of Phil Army
Records Presently in Custody of AGRD

3. This headquarters concurs in the need for reduction in duplication of effort now existing within AGRD and the VA and invites local effort which may be expended in effecting the correction of this deficiency.

this is done daily

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

GUSTAV A. NEUBERG
Lt Col USAF
Adjutant General

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN D 333078

AGRD 313, Subj: Assumption by VA of Custody & Servicing Philippine Army Records Presently in Custody of AGRD.

AGRD-A 313 3d Ind WMG/JWP/ja
HEADQUARTERS, ADJUTANT GENERAL RECORDS DEPOSITORY, PHILCOM (AF) AND
THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 900

TO: Commanding General, Philippines Command (Air Force)
and Thirteenth Air Force, Clark Air Force Base
APO 74

STAFF
STUDY

1. In compliance with instructions contained in 2d indorsement, supra, data requested by basic communication is furnished as follows:

a. Total number of inquiries currently being received per month at the Adjutant General Records Depository: 4389 inquiries described as follows -

(1) Requests for official detailed service reports: 2410

(These requests emanate from VA and non-VA sources for certification of military service information concerning members of Philippine Commonwealth Army, recognized guerrillas, AUS personnel, Philippine Scouts, and War Department civilian employees (involving search of records for information and evidence, field investigation if necessary, evaluation of facts and adjudication. These requests constitute principal operational workload of AGRD. Also included are requests from The Judge Advocate General, Court of Claims, and General Accounting Office, Washington, D. C., etc., requiring investigations and reports of procurement and wage claims.)

(2) Inquiries and reclaims: 1975

(These are from individuals and organizations inquiring as to status of VA and Army claims, recognition of guerrilla services, and requesting extracts and photostats of documents. Actually these constitute a correspondence rather than a primary operational workload and in most cases are answered by form letters, with or without pre-reference to file records. Field investigations, re-evaluation of facts, etc., are not involved. This category of inquiry requires but a fraction of the time involved in the accomplishment of a service report alluded to in paragraph (1), above.)

b. Number of Inquiries currently being received per month from the Veterans Administration: 2475 described as follows -

- (1) VA Requests for official detailed service reports:
2375

(These requests emanate from the VA for certification of military service information concerning members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army, recognized guerrillas, members of the AUS, Philippine Scouts, and War Department civilian employees, in connection with entitlement to veterans benefits under the USVA program. These requests involve search of records for information and evidence, field investigation, evaluation of facts and adjudication. These requests constitute the principal operational workload of AGRD, as reported in a(1), above.)

- (2) Inquiries and reclaims: 100

(These are from individuals and organizations regarding VA claims and represent the VA part of category a(2), above.)

c. Number of inquiries currently being received per month from individuals relating to claims for arrears in pay under the Missing Persons Act; or for guerrilla recognition: 1600

(These are inquiries and reclaims on completed arrears in pay actions and are answered by form letters almost exclusively. Represent routine correspondence which is an Army responsibility and are included in category a(2), above.)

d. Number of inquiries currently being received per month from Department of the Army sources: 310 inquiries described as follows -

- (1) Requests for determination of service under the Missing Persons Act: 5

(These are communications from The Adjutant General of the Army directing determinations or redeterminations of service, involving search, investigation, evaluation and adjudication, and preparation of payrolls for arrears in pay purposes. These are included in a(1), above, and relate to AUS, Philippine Scout, and War Department civilian personnel.)

STAFF
STUDY

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(2) Requests for investigation or additional data on procurement and wage claims: 30

(These emanate from The Judge Advocate General, the U. S. Court of Claims, and the General Accounting Office, Far East Command, Army Finance Center, etc. They require detailed study and report and are included in category a(1), above.)

(3) Inquiries and reclaims: 275

(These arise through action of claimants who write to Washington asking for clarification of claim status or reconsideration of completed MPA and guerrilla recognition cases. These are an Army responsibility and are included in category a(2), above.)

(Note: It should be noted from the answers to questions a, b, c, and d, above, that while the Veterans Administration is referring 2375 cases per month to AGRD which require search of files, investigation, evaluation and adjudication, only thirty-five (35) cases of a comparable category are received per month from the Department of the Army or Washington sources. Additionally, 100 inquiries monthly (see b(2), above) are contributed indirectly by the VA on matters relating to the claims being processed finally by that agency. The remaining inquiries, considered to be an unquestioned responsibility of the Army, a total of 1875 as reported above, involve reclaims and followups, requests for extracts or photostats on previously completed and closed cases. This correspondence is handled by form letters with a minimum reference to records and files.)

e. Number of backlog Veterans Administration cases.

(There is no backlog of VA cases. See paragraph 2a(5) of staff study, attached.)

f. Number of backlog cases relating to claims under the Missing Persons Act and for guerrilla recognition.

(1) Under MPA: 870

(As of 10 Feb 50 a total of 870 cases are on hand. These relate to AUS, Philippine Scout and War De-

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Authority: NND 883078

STAFF
STUDY

partment civilian personnel. Thus they constitute an Army responsibility and represent a residue of the arrears in pay program for these categories of veterans and employees. Field investigation has been completed on 280 of these cases which are in process adjudication; 590 are in process of field investigation. Even with the monthly accessions from the Department of the Army reported in d(1), above, it is estimated that these cases will be completed and the files returned to St. Louis, Mo., during the present calendar year.)

- (2) For guerrilla recognition: (None. See par 2a(6)(b), of staff study, attached.)

g. Number of AGRD personnel engaged in servicing VA cases:

(20 officers, 17 DACs, and 317 local employees.) (See paragraph 2b(2), of staff study, attached.)

h. Number of AGRD personnel (military and civilian) engaged in activities other than servicing VA requests:

- (1) Personnel engaged in Army responsibilities of processing claims and correspondence relating to Missing Persons Act and arrears in pay (continuing mission):

(3 officers, 16 DACs, and 70 local employees.) (See paragraph 2b(3) of staff study, attached.)

- (2) Miscellaneous activities.

(a) Control, Audit and Fiscal Section

(1 officer, 2 DACs, and 14 local employees.)
(See paragraph 2b(3)(b), of staff study, attached.)

(b) JAG Liaison Section

(1 officer, 1 DAC, and 2 local employees.) (See paragraph 2b(3)(b) and 2b(3)(c), staff study, attached.)

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STAFF
STUDY

1. Date by which it is anticipated that volume of work in connection with the MPA and guerrilla recognition will be reduced to such an extent that not more than 50 persons will be required for this operation.

(1) By 1 July 1950:

(5 officers, 22 DACs, and 54 local employees.) (See paragraph 2c(1), of staff study, attached.)

(2) By 31 December 1950:

(5 officers, 15 DACs, and 36 local employees.) (See paragraph 2c(2), of staff study, attached.)

j. Recommendations as to action that should be taken to reduce the amount of work being performed by the AGRD, other than that required in connection with the servicing of Veterans Administration cases:

(1) In connection with Project J cases.

That reclaims and requests for information pertaining to Project J cases (AUS, FS, WD civilians) be forwarded to the Commanding Officer, Records Administration Center, St. Louis 20, Mo., Attn: Demobilized Personnel Records Branch, and that the determinations made by this headquarters (AGRD) which are of record in subject's 201 file in that office (DPRB) be reiterated and that claimants be emphatically informed that their cases are closed and further correspondence will serve no useful purpose.

(2) Records Branch, AGRD, continue to include a paragraph in all correspondence on arrears in pay to the effect that the Adjustment Division (formerly adjudicating such claims) closed on 31 December 1949 and that all cases are considered permanently closed.

(3) A positive statement should be issued by the U. S. Government, through radio and press, that -

(a) The program of granting guerrilla recognition to individuals and units closed on 30 June 1948, and that the program will not repeat not be reopened.

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STAFF
STUDY

(b) That the Adjustment Division, AGRD, formerly processing claims for arrears in pay and claims for procurement and wage reimbursements, was inactivated on 31 December 1949. No further claims or inquiries thus should be sent to the U. S. Army or Air Forces in the Philippines.

(4) That Control, Audit and Fiscal Section, a residual of the inactivated Adjustment Division and consisting of 1 officer, 2 DACs, and 14 locals, should complete operations by 1 July 1950, resulting in the saving of this personnel. The closing of this section is dependent upon the speed with which Finance Service, HMF, furnishes abstracts of paid vouchers from disbursing officers.

2. An analysis of the workload of the Adjutant General Records Depository, including ways and means of reducing this workload, has been prepared and is attached hereto as an inclosure.

1 Incl.,
Staff Study

Wm. M. GOLD
Lt Col AGD
Commanding

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Authority: NN 0333078

STAFF
STUDY

HEADQUARTERS
ADJUTANT GENERAL RECORDS DEPOSITORY
PHILIPPINES COMMAND (AIR FORCE) AND THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE
APO 900

WMG/JWP/ja

6 Mar 1950

AGRD 313.3

Staff Study - SUBJECT: Reduction of Workload of the Adjutant
General Records Depository

STAFF
STUDY

1. PROBLEM. To analyze the present workload of the Adjutant General Records Depository, APO 900, Manila, to determine ways and means of reducing such workload, and to make recommendations as to the implementation of such ways and means.

2. DISCUSSION.

a. Present Workload Components and Workload Levels. (Feb 1950).

(1) Monthly total of inquiries received: 4385

(a) Requests for official detailed service reports:
2410

(These requests emanate from VA and non-VA sources for certification of military service information concerning members of Philippine Commonwealth Army, recognized guerrillas, AUS personnel, Philippine Scouts, and War Department civilian employees involving search of records for information and evidence, field investigation if necessary, evaluation of facts, and adjudication.. These requests constitute principal operational workload of AGRD. Also included are requests from The Judge Advocate General, Court of Claims, and General Accounting Office, Washington, D.C., etc., requiring investigations and reports of procurement and wage claims

(b) Inquiries and reclaims: 1975

(These are from individuals and organizations inquiring as to status of VA and Army claims, recognition of guerrilla services, and requesting extracts and photostats of documents. Actually these constitute a correspondence rather than a primary operational workload and in most cases are answered by form letters, with or without pre-reference to file records. Field investigation,

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re-evaluation of facts, etc., are not involved. This category of inquiry requires but a fraction of the time involved in the accomplishment of a service report alluded to in paragraph 2a(1)(a), above.)

(2) Monthly total of requests from the VA: 2475

(a) VA Requests for official detailed service reports: 2375

(These requests emanate from the VA for certification of military service information concerning members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army, recognized guerrillas, members of the AUS, Philippine Scouts, and War Department civilian employees, in connection with entitlement to veterans benefits under the USVA program. These requests involve search of records for information and evidence, field investigation, evaluation of facts, and adjudication. These requests constitute the principal operational workload of AGRD, as reported in paragraph 2a(1)(a), above.)

(b) Inquiries and reclaims: 100

(These are from individuals and organizations regarding VA claims and represent the VA part of category 2a(1)(b), above.)

(3) Monthly total of inquiries from individuals relating to claims for arrears in pay under the Missing Persons Act or for guerrilla recognition: 1600

(These are inquiries and reclaims on completed arrears in pay actions and are answered by form letters almost exclusively. Represent routine correspondence which is an Army responsibility and are included in category 2a(1)(b), above.)

(4) Monthly total of inquiries from Department of the Army sources: 310

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(a) Determinations under the Missing Persons Act: 5

(These are communications from The Adjutant General of the Army directing determinations or redeterminations of service, involving search, investigation, evaluation and adjudication, and preparation of payrolls for arrears in pay purposes. These are included in 2a(1), above, and relate to AUS, Philippine Scout, and War Department civilian personnel.)

(b) Investigation and development of additional data on procurement and wage claims: 30

(These emanate from The Judge Advocate General, the U. S. Court of Claims, and the General Accounting Office, Far East Command, Army Finance Center, etc. They require detailed study and report and are included in category 2a(1)(a), above.)

(c) Inquiries and reclaims: 275

(These arise through action of claimants who write to Washington asking for clarification of claim status or reconsideration of completed MPA and guerrilla recognition cases. These are an Army responsibility and are included in category 2a(1)(b), above.)

(Note: It would be noted from the answers to questions (1), (2), (3), and (4), above, that while the Veterans Administration is referring 2375 cases per month to AGRD which require search of files, investigation, evaluation and adjudication, only thirty-five (35) cases of a comparable category are received per month from the Department of the Army, or Washington sources. Additionally, 100 inquiries monthly (see (2)(b), above) are contributed indirectly by the VA on matters relating to the claims being processed finally by that agency. The remaining inquiries, considered to be an unquestioned responsibility of the Army, a total of 1875 as reported above, involve reclaims and followups, requests for extracts or photostats on previously completed and closed cases. This correspondence is handled by form letters with a minimum reference to records and files.)

(5) Number of backlog Veterans Administration cases.

(There is no backlog of VA cases, insofar as unworked cases are concerned. In the process of being adjudicated there are 2880 cases (10 Feb 50) on hand. For economy of production, it is estimated that at least 2500 cases will be "in process" at all times. Enough elasticity exists in the organizational structure and procedures to permit a gearing of operations whereby output is balancing input of cases. In between these ends lie the 2500 cases going through the process of search of records, evaluation of data, determination of facts, and, frequently, field investigation.)

(As of 6 February 1950, statistics show that the total living and deceased requests from the Veterans Administration alone, considering original and supplemental requests, since 1945 amounted to 125,022 (Project J: 32,074; Living Section: 15,907; Deceased Section: 77,041. Also, as of 6 February 1950, the total requests from the USVA on hand in AGRD in process of adjudication was only 2840 cases. Most of these were of recent receipt from the USVA.)

(In January, 1949, the backlog of cases in AGRD stood at an all-time high of 39,438. By persistent planning, streamlining of procedures, through reorganization for functional effectiveness, and by full cooperation with the Manila Regional Office, USVA, AGRD has been able to reduce this backlog to a current, working level of 2880 cases (as of 10 Feb 50), a figure ascertained by physical count.)

(6) Number of backlog cases relating to claims under the Missing Persons Act and For guerrilla recognition:

(a) Under MPA: 870

(As of 10 Feb 50 a total of 870 cases were on hand. These related to AUS, Philippine Scott and War Department civilian personnel. As such they constitute an Army responsibility and represent a residue of the arrears in pay program for these categories of veterans and employees. Field investigation has been completed on 280 of these cases which are in

process of adjudication; 590 are in process of field investigation. Even with the monthly accessions from the Department of the Army reported in paragraph 2a(4)(a), above, it is estimated that these cases will be completed and the files returned to St. Louis, Mo., during the present calendar year.)

(b) For guerrilla recognition: None

(No backlog of cases for guerrilla recognition exists, inasmuch as the program for granting guerrilla recognition was terminated on 30 June 1948. At present no authority exists to grant further consideration to such claims.)

b. Present Organizational and Personnel Requirements.

(1) Organization.

In order to discharge its combined Army - VA mission, and to provide its necessary logistic and administrative support, the AGRD is organized as follows (also see Inclosures Nos. 1 and 2, attached):

Command Group (2 officers)

Control, Audit and Fiscal Section (1 officer,
2 DACs and 14 locals)

JAG Liaison Section (1 officer, 1 DAC, 2 locals)

Service and Certification Division (23 officers,
34 DACs, 385 locals)

Post Engineers (1 DAC, 64 locals)

Headquarters Division (6 officers, 3 DACs,
195 locals)

(Recapitulation: 33 officers, 41 DACs, and 660 locals. This strength obtains as of February, 1950. Slight variance from figures shown on Inclosure #2, attached, is due to difference in dates and inevitable weekly fluctuations.)

Study, "Reduction of Workload of AGRD" (Continued)

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Authority: NND 333,078

- (2) AGRD Personnel engaged in servicing VA cases (Feb 1950):

| <u>Officers</u> | <u>DACs</u> | <u>Locals</u> | <u>Total Mo. Payroll</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 20 | 17 | 317 | \$49,031.70 |

- (3) AGRD personnel (military and civilian) engaged in activities other than servicing VA requests (Feb 1950):

- (a) Personnel engaged in Army responsibilities of processing claims and correspondence relating to Missing Persons Act and arrears in pay (continuing mission):

| <u>Officer</u> | <u>DACs</u> | <u>Locals</u> | <u>Total Mo. Payroll</u> |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 3 | 16 | 70 | \$18,573.63 |

- (b) Miscellaneous activities.

* 1. Control, Audit & Fiscal Section

| <u>Officers</u> | <u>DACs</u> | <u>Locals</u> | <u>Total Mo. Payroll</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 14 | \$ 3,389.13 |

** 2. JAG Liaison Section

| <u>Officers</u> | <u>DACs</u> | <u>Locals</u> | <u>Total Mo. Payroll</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | 2 | \$ 1,373.47 |

- (c) Camp Overhead (Command, Administration, Repairs and Utilities, Security, etc.)

| <u>Officers</u> | <u>DACs</u> | <u>Locals</u> | <u>Total Mo. Payroll</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 8 | 5 | 257 | \$28,389.77 |

* Processing records and auditing accounts pertinent to arrears in pay and claims for procurement and wage reimbursements chargeable to Appropriation "Expenses, Army of the Philippines 1942-1946". This Section should complete this mission by 1 July 1950.

** Performing duties in connection with investigation, primarily be records study, of procurement and wage claims, many of which are being received from the U.S. Court of Claims. This activity has been associated with the AGRD because of the latter's maintenance of 201 files, archives, and claims files used by the Section. This Section also conducts additional investigations (from records study primarily) for the General Accounting Office, making appropriate recommendations based on such investigations. Because of the dependence of this Section upon 201 files, recognition rosters, and archive files in AGRD, it is not advisable to relocate this activity at a distance from the records it uses. Claims actions are expected to last until 1956 and presumably a need for verification of allegations made by claimants will continue until that date.

c. Projections (estimates) of Future Strength Requirements.

(1) By 1 July 1950:

(It is estimated that by this date a staff of 5 officers, 22 DACs and 54 locals will be sufficient staff for the continuing activities of the AGRD to include certification (for the benefit of both VA and the Army), processing of the remaining arrears in pay cases (AUS, FS, and WD civilians), field investigations, and the correspondence section required to handle the volume of inquiries for which the Army is responsible. This strength estimate, however, is based on the assumption the VA will assume responsibility for all activities in connection with the processing of their cases, to include determination of service history facts, but excepting the element of actual review and authentication by Army certification.)

(It is further estimated that a minimum strength of 21 officers, 39 DACs and 500 locals will be required if AGRD's combined Army - VA mission is continued as at present. This personnel requirement will continue for an indefinite period of time (probably extending

into the calendar year 1952). Inasmuch as the Army now must handle VA requests as well as those originating within the Defense Department, with operating personnel spending a portion of their time on each category, it is difficult to prepare an estimate which does not presuppose that non-Army activities will be dropped (given to the VA with responsibilities for the records). Under present organizational structure of AGRD and operating procedures it is impossible absolutely to divorce, or compart, the VA workload from the Army workload and assign it solely to this or that group of employees.)

(2) By 31 December 1950

(By this date, because of the anticipated completion of AUS, PS, and WD civilian cases now undergoing field investigation, it is believed that this staff can be further reduced to 5 officers, 15 RAUs and 36 locals under the same assumptions obtaining for paragraph 2c(1), above.)

d. Fast Fund Requirements and Future Estimates.

(1) Fiscal Year Ending -

- (a) 30 Jun 47 (FY 1947) RPD - FSA P423-01 \$424,420.64
- (b) 30 Jun 48 (FY 1948) RPD - FSA P423-01 \$416,997.31
- (c) 30 Jun 49 (FY 1949) AGRD - FSA P413-01 \$877,594.23
(Includes Adjustment Division)

(2) Fiscal Year 1950:

- (a) 1 Jul 49 - 31 Dec 49, AGRD-FSA P413-01 \$696,859.79
- (b) Est. Exp. 1 Jan 50-30 Jun 50, AGRD, FSA P413-01
\$487,307.11
- (c) Total FY 1950 \$1,184,166.90

(3) Fiscal Year 1951 (estimate):

1 Jul 50 - 30 Jun 51, AGRD-FSA P413-01 \$910,735.80

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- (4) It must be borne in mind that the above figures represent personal services only. For eight (8) months of FY 50 and all periods thereafter additional activities budgeted for by Headquarters PHILCCM (AF) and 13th Air Force, APO 74, and not included in AGRD figures above, are the following:

(Installation Support) -

Motor Pool
Dispensary
Communications Services
Repairs and Utilities
Security
Supply
Special Services

Cost figures for these activities are not available in this headquarters. However, for FY 50, the AGRD received a total overall allotment of \$1,800,000.00 to cover all classes of funds and activities. It is estimated that by the end of the current fiscal year this entire amount will have been obligated. This is particularly indicated after considering that FY 50 personal services (FSA P413-01) alone are expected to total \$1,184,166.90, over and above expenses incident to installation support.

e. Courses of Action to Reduce the Workload in AGRD.

(1) For non-VA activities.

(a) In connection with Project J cases.

That reclaims and requests for information pertaining to Project J cases (AUS, FS, WD civilians) be forwarded to the Commanding Officer, Records Administration Center, St. Louis 20, Mo., Attn: Demobilized Personnel Records Branch, and that the determinations made by this headquarters (AGRD)

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Study, "Reduction of Workload of AGRD" (Continued)

which are of record in subject's 201 file in that office (DPRB) be reiterated and that claimants be emphatically informed that their cases are closed and further correspondence will serve no useful purpose.

(b) Records Branch, AGRD, continue to include a paragraph in all correspondence on arrears in pay to the effect that the Adjustment Division (formerly adjudicating such claims) closed on 31 December 1949 and that all cases are considered permanently closed.

(c) A positive statement should be issued by the U. S. Government, through radio and press, that -

1. The program of granting guerrilla recognition to individuals and units closed on 30 June 1948, and that the program will not repeat not be reopened.
2. That the Adjustment Division, AGRD, formerly processing claims for arrears in pay and claims for procurement and wage reimbursements, was inactivated on 31 December 1949. No further claims or inquiries thus should be sent to the U. S. Army or Air Forces in the Philippines.

(d) The Control, Audit and Fiscal Section, a residual of the inactivated Adjustment Division and consisting of 1 officer, 2 DACs, and 14 locals, should complete operations by 1 July 1950, resulting in the saving of this personnel. The closing of this section is dependent upon the speed with which Finance Service, HNDP, furnishes abstracts of paid vouchers from disbursing officers.

(2) In connection with servicing of VA cases.

(a) Careful analysis and study have been made in connection with the feasibility of the assumption by the Veterans Administration, Manila Regional Office, of the custody and servicing of Philippine Army and related records presently in the Adjutant General Records Depository, AFO 900, (Manila).

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Study, "Reduction of Workload of AGRD" (Continued)

- (b) In connection with this problem, reference is made to the following:
1. Letter, Subject: Assumption by the US Veterans Administration of Custody of PA Records, Hqs PHILCOM, file GSCG 313, 16 May 1949, to The Adjutant General of the Army, in which it was recommended that subject records be released to the Veterans Administration.
 2. Report of Military Personnel Records Operations, 8133 Service Unit (AGRD), APO 900, dated September 1949 and submitted to The Adjutant General of the Army by PHILCOM on 13 October 1949.
 3. Letter from The Adjutant General of the Army (ACCM-M) to the Commanding General, Far East Command, dated January 23, 1950, and the third indorsement thereto, in particular (of which this staff study has been made a part, through reference.)
- (c) This headquarters believes it to be feasible, desirable and administratively possible for the records pertaining to the Philippine Army and civilian guerrillas to be transferred to the custody of the Veterans Administration, Manila Regional Office, under the following plan and for the indicated reasons:
1. From the analysis of the AGRD operation as described in the third indorsement to the above-cited letter it is readily seen that the bulk of the work and the majority of personnel pertain to the primary mission of either processing requests received from the Veterans Administration or to contributing support (overhead activities) to those who are so engaged. Today, only 5 officers, 19 DACs and 86 locals are engaged in job responsibilities solely chargeable to the Army. On the other hand, the VA mission of AGRD is requiring a total of 20 officers, 17 DACs and 317 locals, which could be dispensed with along with a majority of the present camp overhead consisting of 8 officers, 5 DACs and 257 locals. The monthly dollar savings is computed to approximate \$77,000.00. The actual dollar savings will be dependent upon the nature and extent of the administrative overhead responsibilities which the Army

study, "Reduction of Workload of AGRD" (Continued)

would be required to bear in a new location and the nature of the area housing the Army residual group.

2. Plans for a transfer of records custody to the Veterans Administration are predicated upon the assumption that such records would be serviced, maintained, secured and controlled by that agency and that the VA's physical possession and use would preclude the necessity of asking the Army to prepare and submit formal certifications of military service history of veterans. To the contrary, it is expected that the VA, using the newly acquired records, plus those already available within its files, would prepare the determination according to its criteria and needs. This compilation of data would then be coursed to the Adjudication Review Section (Army) for review, approval of stated facts, and signature of the Army certifying officer. In this manner, the legal requirements that the USVA secure the certification from the service department would be met. All files needed by the Army in the prosecution of the Army mission, and held by the VA, would be formally requisitioned by the Army, used and returned thereby. It is assumed also that by 1 July 1950 only a current workload of cases will be on hand in AGRD. This fact, together with Palma Hall (in downtown Manila) being rehabilitated and ready for occupancy by 15 May 1950, should make assumption of the records custody and service determination therefrom by the VA relatively easy and logical.
3. As previously reported by AGRD on DE Form 252, under date of 13 October 1949, the records involved in such a transfer are: 7302 linear feet of Philippine Army and Civilian Guerrilla 201 files; 1228 linear feet of clinical records and medical tags; 2905 linear feet of Philippine Army Archives; and 65 linear feet of Investigation files.
4. The Army Residual Liaison Group (residual element of AGRD) will have the following organization and

Study, "Reduction of Workload of AGPT" (Continued)

Strength by which it will discharge its responsibilities and handle all necessary administrative duties:

(By 1 July 1950):

Army Residual Liaison Group:

a Overhead

- 1 - Officer (Chief of Group & Review Section) *
- 2 - Locals (1 stenographer; 1 clerk, Statistical)
- 2 - Locals (Clerks, general)

b Adjudication Reviews Section

- 5 - DACs (Claims Examiners)
- 3 - Locals (Clerk-typists)

c Investigation Section

- 1 - Officer (Chief of Section) *
- 1 - DAC (Asst Chief of Section)
- 1 - DAC (Chief, Field Investigation Unit)
- 12 - DACs (Field Investigators)
- 1 - DAC (Fingerprint & Handwriting Analyst)
- 1 - Local (Asst to Chief of Section)
- 1 - Local (Stenographer)
- 3 - Locals (Clerk-typists)
- 12 - Locals (Interpreters)
- 7 - Locals (Reviewers)
- 1 - Local (Statistician)

d Project J Section

- 1 - Officer (Chief of Section) *
- 1 - Local (Adm Assistant)
- 1 - Local (Clerk-stenographer)
- 5 - Locals (Adjudicators-Reviewers)

Study. "Reduction of Workload of AGED" (Continued)

e. Correspondence and Files Section

- 1 - Officer (Chief of Section & Comres. Unit) *
- 1 - DAC (Chief, Claims Files Unit)
- 2 - Locals (File-Clerks, Claims Files Unit)
- 3 - Locals (File Clerks, Correspondence Unit)
- 1 - Local (Chief Clerk, Correspondence Unit)
- 1 - Local (Clerk General, Corres. Unit)
- 6 - Locals (Typists)

f. JAG Liaison Section

- 1 - Officer (Chief of Section) *
- 1 - DAC (Claims Investigator)
- 1 - Local (Clerk-stenographer)
- 1 - Local (Clerk-typist)

* May serve as a certifying officer, additionally.

(Recapitulation for 1 July 1950: 5 officers, 22 DACs, 54 locals.)

(By 31 December 1950):

By this date it is expected that further personnel reduction could be effected (as shown below), producing a net strength figure of 5 officers, 15 DACs, and 36 locals:

Reductions:

- (a) Overhead - No change.
- (b) Adjudication Review Section - No change.
- (c) Investigation Section - 7 DACs; 13 locals.
- (d) Project J Section - 3 locals.
- (e) Correspondence and Files Section - 2 locals.
- (f) JAG Liaison Section - No change.

4. Office space for this Army Residual Liaison Group could easily be provided by the USVA in Palma Hall, assuming that the USVA chooses to house the records there as presently planned by the Army.

Study. "Reduction of Workload of AGRD" (Continued)

6. It is believed that the Army (AGRD) Residual Liaison Group could be quartered and logistically supported with a minimum of difficulty. The assistance of the American Embassy, Manila, in connection with procurement of housing needs is assured. In contemplation of the maximum residual strength of 5 officers, 22 DACs and 54 locals a total of 13 family-type quarters and 12 bachelor-type accommodations would be required. Assuming that three bachelors could be quartered in a family type house, a total of 17 housing units of this type would, it is believed, adequately house this residual group. Preliminary exploration suggests that such housing may be made available in the Greater Manila Area. That failing, a required number now being used by AGRD at Camp Dilliman, UP Site, Quezon City, could, under present agreements, be retained indefinitely.
7. Administrative and logistic support could continue from PHILCOM (AF) and 13th Air Force, as at present under installation support agreement. This would include contract expenses (light, water, etc.) and other utilities, motor vehicle requirements (not to exceed 10 vehicles, $\frac{1}{2}$ ton, and 6 trailers) and maintenance.
8. The foregoing plan will not require a transfer or delegation of authority of the Missing Persons Act to a non-Army agency. It is not necessary for the VA in assuming custody and use of AGRD records to have MPA authority. Using records that it now has on hand, supplemented by those to be received from AGRD and at St. Louis, Mo., the VA singly could accomplish the job now being done by AGRD and the Manila Regional Office, with but little expansion of present VA Structure in Manila.
9. A large portion of the costly installation support of 8 officers, 5 DACs, and 257 locals (monthly payroll expense of \$28,389.77) now existent for AGRD could be economically avoided were AGRD's operations confined properly to non-VA service functions, i.e., MPA, recognition and correspondence matters.

study, "Reduction of Workload of AGRD" (Continued)

10. Care should be taken to avoid an erroneous conclusion in comparing the number of inquiries received monthly from the USVA with the inquiries received on other matters, such as MPA and recognition. Although the "unit" is "inquiries" by choice of words, the two types of inquiries are not equivalent in amount of work required to dispose of or answer them. VA work as compared to Army work is not, and has not been "almost equal" since before July 1948. The request for service information and certification from the USVA requires far more time and effort, including investigations, to answer than the average MPA or recognition inquiry which can be rapidly disposed of usually by form-letter action. VA inquiries must not be compared to those from "individuals".
11. Any future additional workload of AGRD, induced by new legislation beneficial to veterans or claimants, could be absorbed as readily by the USVA as by AGRD, or any other Government agency holding the pertinent files. Any increase in future workload caused by the certification of POW status to the War Claims Commission could be as readily assumed by the U. S. Veterans Administration, or any U. S. Government agency having records custody, as by AGRD, the current custodian.

The War Claims Act of 1948 says:

"Sec 2 (b) - - - Officers and employees of any other department or agency of the Government may, with the consent of the head of such department or agency, be assigned to assist the Commission in carrying out its functions. The Commission may, with the consent of the head of any other department or agency of the Government, utilize the facilities and services of such department or agency in carrying out the functions of the Commission".

It is seen, therefore, that no one U. S. Agency is designated as sole authority to make certification of facts as may be required by the Commission.

Study, "Reduction of Workload of AGHD (Continued)

12. Many supplemental requests (which outnumber original requests by ration of 3 to 1) arise from the fact that VA has on file and uses data in conflict with that of the Army. Hence, a constant influx of inquiries from the VA follows. More and more, the VA is compiling data which duplicates, in part, the records holdings at AGHD. Enough has been accumulated that the VA not only asks for Army certification but copies of rosters, affidavits, induction and discharge papers, CIC files, medical records, and all types of evidence used by the Army in making adjudications, not being content with Army certification itself. Often the Army certification "cannot be accepted" by the VA until the Army (AGHD) dissects and explains "how it got the answer". Thus the Army is redoing much of its work - - - work which could be done of the records itself.

13. Despite rather clearly established objectives for Army and VA investigative programs, each agency finds itself again doing some of the other's work. This is the logical result from the nature of investigations. The VA in seeking final loyalty determination develops service data; similarly, the Army in seeking final service data develops loyalty data in the process. One investigative structure, for VA cases, within VA, would be an overall economy to the Government. Similar overlaps occur in other phases of the Army - VA joint activity in the Philippines, some desirable but many unnecessary.

- (3) Except through the favorable influences recommended in paragraphs e(1) and (2), above, AGHD is powerless to control the volume of workload input received from the public (inquiries and reclaims) and from the Department of Defense and the USVA (requests for service reports and other data). Internal controls and procedures have been established whereby, with the type of personnel and equipment available, the maximum of efficiency is being attained.

study, "Reduction of Workload of AGRD (Continued)3. ACTION RECOMMENDED:

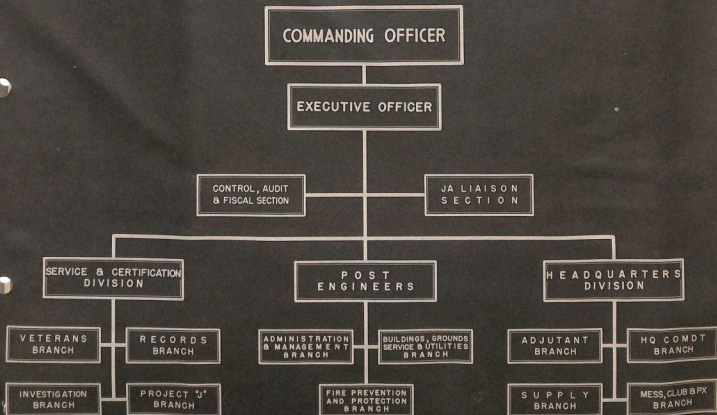
In consideration of the facts set forth above, it is recommended that favorable consideration be given to adopting the courses of action outline in paragraph 2g, above. The transfer to the USVA of records now held by the Adjutant General Records Depository, and used in certifying military service history to the former agency, will result in a centralization of adjudicative and investigative procedures in the governmental agency of primary interest, while further serving the interests of efficiency and economy (for both the USVA and the Army).

- 2 Inclosures
1 - Organizational Chart, AGRD,
21 Feb 50
2 - Functional Chart, AGRD,
1 Mar 50

Wm. M. GOLD
Lt Col AGD
Commanding

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

ADJUTANT GENERAL RECORDS DEPOSITORY



FUNCTIONAL CHART

ADJUTANT GENERAL RECORDS DEPOSIT



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33-OFFICERS 1-PA OFF* 1-EM** 45-DAC 652-LOCAL CIVILIANS

COMMANDING OFFICER
1-OFFICER 1-LOCAL CIVILIAN

MANAGE AND SUPERVISE OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.
REPORTS MAJOR ACTS TO THE POLICE AND THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
1-OFFICER

ASSIST IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

1-OFFICER 2-DAC 14-LOCAL CIVILIANS

**CONTROL, AUDIT
FISCAL SECTION**

CONTROL THE FISCAL OPERATIONS OF THE DISTRICT AND SUPERVISE THE ACCOUNTING AND THE REPORTING OF THE DISTRICT TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

1-OFFICER 1-DAC 3-LOCAL CIVILIAN

JA LIAISON SECTION

1. ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

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GRADE DETERMINATIONS UNDER THE MPA

315.4 CORRECTION OF
GRADES

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~~See memo 15 B.~~
~~315.4 CORRECTION OF GRADES~~

~~PS + AAS - 19~~

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