

HISTORY OF RPD

RPD - 5

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Authority: JND 983078

RECOVERED PERSONNEL DIVISION

ORIENTATION

1. At the outbreak of the war many thousands of American and Nationals of other nations were in the Philippines, as well as the Nationals of the Philippine Islands. On the fall of the Philippines these people came under the control of the Japanese.

a. Of this group, the United States Government was particularly interested in the following personnel:

Military; Army, Navy, Marine and Coast Guard.
In the Army as part of it were the Philippine Scouts.
Besides that group was the personnel who made up the new Philippine Army.

b. In addition to the military personnel there were War Department employees both American and Filipino. Most of this group were permanent Civil Service employees, although some were temporary employees.

c. The remainder of the group were Military personnel of the Allied nations as well as Allied Civilian Nationals.

d. In the remaining group there were:

- (1) Americans who were representatives of religious organizations as well as agents of many manufacturing concerns. There were also many business people who operated their own private businesses.
- (2) Allied Military personnel who had been in the Islands for various reasons.
- (3) Allied Nationals who were representatives of firms in their own countries.

e. The United States Government issued instructions to the Field Forces to pass any of their personnel that might be recovered back to Replacement Depots and Base Casual Camps so that the representatives of the Allied governments could be advised of their recovery or location of their graves whenever possible.

The Missing Persons Act

Shortly after war was declared, Congress passed an Act known as "Missing Persons Act", as amended.

This act covers the fact that any individuals who were members of the United States Military organization or any civilian employee (Civil Service or Executive Department) would continue to have credited to their account or to their allottees account pay and allowances until final determination has been made

of the fact that the individual was alive in the hands of the Americans or it had been determined by the War Department that the individual was dead.

War Department Plan for Casualty Administration
Upon the Reoccupation of the Philippines.

A plan was developed, which is known as "War Department Plan for Casualty Administration Upon the Reoccupation of the Philippines." Based on this plan, it was directed that the Recovered Personnel Division in the field be established.

You are now a member of that Division.

Origination of the Recovered Personnel Division

Prior to the reoccupation, a planning section was set up in the War Department to create a division to handle such matters. This later developed into the "Recovered Personnel Division."

The primary object of this section was to clarify the status of all "casualty" personnel.

Office Special Statement Accounts

1. This Division was organized to take care of the financial phase of the "Missing Persons Act."
2. Office Special Statement Accounts was charged with maintaining a Credit and Debit account for each Military casualty and all civilian employees of the United States Government. These individuals were all in a "casualty status" according to the Missing Persons Act.
3. Method of operation: Office Special Statement Accounts credits the individuals' accounts with all pay and allowances due them during the period they were not under the control of the United States Government. OSSA debits the accounts of the individuals with Family allotments; as well as allotments for Government insurance, Civilian Insurance Companies, War Bonds, etc.
4. OSSA keeps a statement of the status of the individual's account so that if and when the individual returns to military control, a balance can be struck and payment of pay due made to the returnees or for deceased persons, the account closed and arrears of pay, death gratuities, insurance, etc. paid to the beneficiaries, when applicable.
5. Procedure by this Headquarters: A request is instigated by this Headquarters to OSSA for a statement of the credits and debits of each returnee when applicable (Military, Philippine Scouts, Civilian employees of the War Department and Civilian employees of the United States Executive Departments.

If the individuals are returning to the United States, partial payments from accrued pay shall be made to meet the needs of Civilian personnel and one (1) months pay in the cases of Military personnel. The final settlement of these accounts will be made by OSSA upon arrival of the individuals in the United States.

If the individual is to remain in this theater. OSSA will return to this Headquarters the statement of Credits and Debits of each individual. The Finance Branch of Recovered Personnel Division will check the account to make sure that it is in order and forward to the Disbursing Officer that will make the payment to the individual concerned upon proper identification.

General

1. Each one of you should be thoroughly familiar with his own job. He should also be familiar with each job in his section so that assistance can be given to one and other when necessary.
2. Forms will be used as far as possible.
3. Accuracy is of primary importance and should be stressed at all times.
 - (1) Spelling of personnel names, and location.
 - (2) Serial numbers of all Military personnel.
 - (3) Dates shown on all affidavits.
4. It is absolutely essential that all files be maintained by the personnel charged with same.
5. No other section in USAFFE maintains a similar file.
6. Each individual will be thoroughly instructed in the work outlined herewith. They must be aware of the importance of coordination between all sections of this office.
7. The tracing of each bit of information that may become available.
8. Extreme importance of accuracy must be stressed at all times. Data as to name, rank, serial number.
9. To supplement their instructions frequent meetings will be held to keep all personnel informed to changes in directives, etc. that may occur.

Procedure of Handling Returnees

1. The Field Forces as they progress in their reoccupation of the Philippine Islands receive personnel from various sources:
 - a. Escapees who report to them.
 - b. Evaders who report to them.
 - c. Personnel recovered by capture of prison and concentration camps.
2. Military personnel are passed down to the nearest replacement depot or battalion. Civilian personnel are passed to the nearest casual camp. The replacement depots or battalions, as well as the casual camps; process this personnel: (Processing consists of giving them quarters, food, clothing, medical attention, procuring affidavits including financial statements from each person.)

3. Procedure in regard to Philippine Scouts.

a. They are held pending identification. They are then discharged. If physically fit, they are reenlisted in the Army of the United States. Arrangements are made to clear their financial accounts.

4. Procedure in regard to Army of the United States.

a. Military personnel are processed as stated above and held until arrangements can be made to return them to the United States.

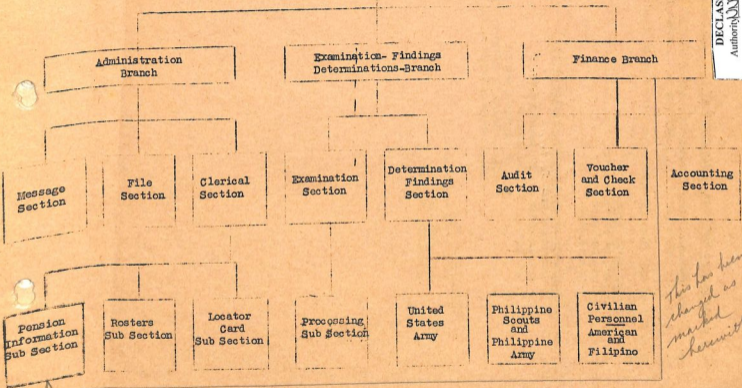
5. This is a general over-all of the establishment and procedure in effect for this organization, before the papers of each individual are processed by the Recovered Personnel Division.

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Repatriated & Benefits
Division

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This has been changed as marked herewith

Organization and Functions of the Recovered Personnel Division

The Recovered Personnel Division consists at present of:

_____ Officers _____ Enlisted Total - 131

It is divided into three (3) branches that are divided into sections.

1. Administration Branch:

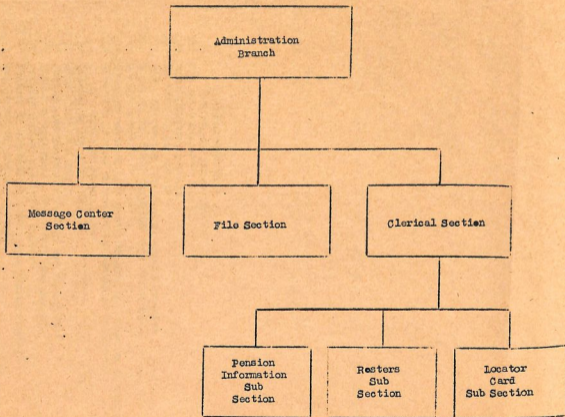
Message Center Section
Clerical Section
Files Section

2. Determination-Examination and Findings Branch:

Examination ~~Unit~~ *Section*
Determination and Findings Section
Military and Civilian Section
 Army of the United States
 Philippine Scouts (Philippine Army)
 Civilian employees (American and Filipino)

3. Financial Branch:

Voucher and Check Section
Audit Section
Accounting Section



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Administration Branch

List of communications received by the Recovered Personnel Division.

1. List from the field.
2. Affidavits from replacement depots.
3. Enlistment and arrival reports.
4. Reports of personnel returned to military control.
5. Service records and allied papers.
6. Report of strength of Philippine Army Units.
7. Orders from Replacement Depots and battalions.
8. Directives from USFIP.
9. Rosters of POW transfer;
(1) Extracts to 201 files.
10. Personnel letters of inquiry in regard to internees.
11. Messages received from relatives that are answered by form letters.
12. Sailing lists.
13. Radio of all types affecting this division.
14. Check sheets and inter office correspondence.
15. Prisoner of War sheet.
16. Miscellaneous reports.
17. Arrival reports:
Army of the United States.
Philippine Scouts.

Administration Branch

Message Center Section

1. Records all communications received by the Recovered Personnel Division.
2. Turns over to the Chief Clerk for distribution ^{certain} all papers that have been received.
3. Receives from Chief Clerk for recording all papers forwarded from the Recovered Personnel Division.

Chief Clerk

Message Center Section turns over to the Chief Clerk ~~all~~ papers passing through the Message Center.

- (1) Chief Clerk makes necessary distribution to ~~Sections concerned~~.
- (2) Submits to Chief of Section ~~all~~ papers concerning their section.
- (3) Submits to the Assistant Executive Officer any material upon which decision should be made by an officer other than Section Chiefs.
- (4) Checks all out going papers from the Division.
 - (a) Makes sure all papers are in order.
 - (b) Makes sure that all papers are correctly routed to their destination.

Locator Card Sub Section

1. Prepare locator cards on all Returnee personnel from:
 - (a) Prisoner of War lists from Advance Echelon.
 - (b) Affidavits from any source.
2. Check against:
 - (a) War Department list of Military Personnel as of 7 Dec 41.
 - (b) War Department list of Civilian Personnel as of 7 Dec 41.
 - (c) Lists of personnel returned to Military Control.
3. Check any discrepancy against all records to make certain that the correct information is on the Locator Card.
4. Examine each Locator Card to ascertain that it is complete and accurate in every detail.

Roster Sub Section

1. Receives all Rosters of Returnees.
 - a. Rosters from the Field Forces.
 - b. Shipping rosters after personnel has been placed aboard the transportation that is to return them to their country. (Americans or Nationals of other countries.)
2. Check locator cards to make sure information contained on Roster has been transferred to Locator Cards.
3. Refer at once any Cases that definitely indicate the death of Prisoners of War or internees to the Determination, Examination and Findings Branch.
4. Type radio reporting returnees to the Adjutant General.
5. Forward confirmation papers of the radio to the Adjutant General.
6. Clear Philippine Army personnel papers to the Philippine Army Division

Files Section

1. Active cases - This file is made up of all cases being processed or acted on by the various sections concerned.
2. Suspense cases - This file contains the cases which are held up until Credit and Debits reports are received from Office Special Statement Accounts or cases which have been referred back to the Replacement Depot for completion of data on the case.
3. Completed cases - This file is made up of cases which have been completed and is used only in case it is necessary to refer to same for further information as may be requested by the War Department or any of the agencies of the Government.
4. Become familiar with handling Military and Non-military filing. Maintain charge out slips for material removed from any file.
 - a. Become familiar with the Dewey decimal System.

Clerical Section

1. Prepares all types of correspondence as may be directed.
2. General stenographic work.
3. Typist; Prepare radios, message form, etc.

Personnel in this section should be completely grounded on:

- a. Radio: Method of preparing same, particularly the type that contains more than one part.

- b. Radio: Standard type.
- c. Message form: When this type of communication is to be used it should be so stated by the head of the Section or Sub Section concerned.
- d. Letters: Forms, indentations, etc.
Signature for whom it will be prepared.

The letters prepared for the Adjutant General's signature are policy forming letters only. All other letters are prepared for the signature of the Assistant Adjutant General.

- a. Routine letters.
- b. Indorsements.

Letters prepared for higher commands or other commands on the same level have a Command line as follows;

For the Commanding General;

Letters to lower commands carry a Command line as follows;
By Command of.

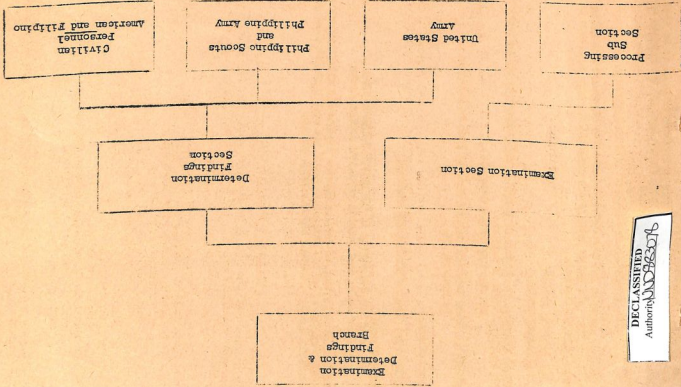
Form letters.

Enclosures; Form - listing and marking.

Check sheets;

- a. Used for everything in the USAFFE Headquarters.
- b. Never to be used outside of USAFFE Headquarters.

Prepare cover letters to forward Service Records and Allied papers to the Adjutant General after the Philippine Scout has been paid his final payment as a Scout and has received his discharge papers.



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Examination-Determination and Findings Branch

The duties of this Branch is to receive, process, examine and make determinations on all affidavits, data and pertinent information from any source such as Replacement Depots, Casual Camps or Battalions.

This Branch is divided into three (3) sections, namely:

1. Army of the United States.
2. Philippine Scouts and Philippine Army.
3. Civilian Personnel-American and Filipino.

These sections are sub-divided into Sub Sections, which are alike as to processing, examining and making findings and determinations in their respective categories and sections.

The Branch as a whole compile and maintain a 201 file on all Recovered Personnel, regardless of the category into which they may fall.

Army of the United States Section

This section checks all briefs of cases regarding this Personnel. They examine, process and make findings and determinations in regard to each individual concerned.

1. Date of capture or surrender if applicable.
2. Date of escape if applicable.
3. Date of promotions, if any.
4. Complete information in reference to any guerilla commission held, date, etc.
5. Date of return to control, place, circumstances and physical condition.
6. Correction of Casualty status.

Philippine Scouts Section

This section checks all briefs regarding this type of personnel. They examine, process and make findings and determinations in regards to each individual.

1. Date of capture or surrender if applicable.
2. Date of escape or release.
3. Dates of service with guerilla forces.
 - a. Promotions in enlisted grades.
 - b. Commissioned service, if any.
4. Date of return to military control.
 - a. Place.
 - b. Circumstances.
 - c. Physical condition.
5. Status as to "absence from post of duty without authority."
 - a. Dates of absence if applicable.
 - b. What were they doing during this time.

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Philippine Army Personnel Sub Section: This phase is coordinated with the Philippine Army Division.

Civilian Employees of Philippine Commonwealth; That the proper authorities of the Philippine Commonwealth have been advised that certain of these casualty personnel have been recovered.

Civilian Personnel Section

This group is composed of War Department employees, American and Filipino. Executive Department employees upon whom only the Department head can make determination (this section supplies all information through the Adjutant General for transmittal to the Department head concerned.) Civilians in general (civilians employed by various agencies ^{OR} of employers in the United States.)

1. This section checks all briefs on Civilian Employees of the War Department (American or Filipino) making findings and determinations regarding their status.
 - a. That the person concerned comes under the Missing Persons Act,
 - b. Whether absence has been from post of duty without authority.
2. When applicable, the War Department civilian employees, if remaining in the theater have signed a statement that their employment by the United States Government has been terminated.
 - a. Guerilla status of any civilian individual may have had after escape or release from the hands of the enemy.

Receiving, Processing, Examination, Determination and Findings Sub Sections

The above sub sections operate under the section so concerned, in the following manner as to procedure:

1. Examination-Determination Sub Section.
 - a. Examine the Returnee's affidavit which has been completed at the Replacement Depot where the individual came back under military control.
 - (1) Separate affidavit contains a completed financial statement. This financial statement should be checked to make sure that all necessary information has been procured.
 - b. While making the examination of the Returnee's affidavit all reference to other personnel will be underscored, regardless of the category they may fall in (i.e. P.O.W., M.I.A., etc.)
 - (1) Check 201 file to see if any additional information is contained in their 201 file with regard to the individual.
 - (2) Compile all information available making a complete case on each returnee.
 - (3) Check with Administration Branch to make certain that all listed personnel have been verified with existing War Department listing of Army personnel in the Philippines as of 7 December 1941 and War Department Listing of Civilian employees payrolls.

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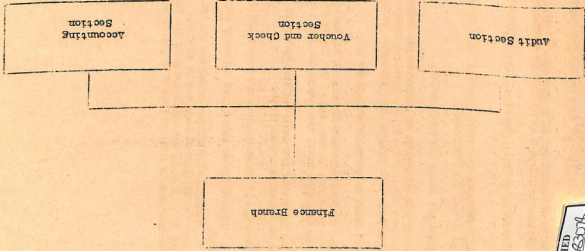
c. Prepare a brief on each returnee and submit same to the Findings and Determinations Sub Section concerned. Personnel of this section will ascertain that all data as to status of all personnel has been checked against.

Processing and Examination Sub Section

1. Extract all names and data from the returnees affidavit who have been processed by Replacement Depots or Battalions or Casual Camps.
2. Refer to Locator Card Sub Section any names which may be received from any source.
3. Check affidavits against Locator Cards to make certain returnee has been reported to the War Department.
4. Check all names for duplication.
5. Check all affidavits to make sure all information concerning any casualty has been transmitted to the Division Examination and Findings Branch to be filed with the 201 file of the individual concerned.
6. 201 Files on casualty personnel;
 - a. Temporary Service Records on Philippine Scouts who have been discharged to re-enlist in the Army of the United States. Their service record to be held in this file until the Credit and Debit report from OSSA has been completed.
 - b. Turn over Temporary Service Record to the typing section for preparation of letter of transmittal.
7. That the Adjutant General has been notified of;
 - a. United States Government employees who are returning to the United States.
 - b. Executive Department employees who are returning to the United States so that the Department head can be advised.
 - c. Civilians of any other category are being returned so that the agencies or employers of such personnel can be so advised.

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Finance Branch

1. Voucher and Check Section

- a. Prepare vouchers certified by OSSA as correct on Philippine Scouts and Americans remaining in the theater.
- b. Writes checks.
- c. Forwards checks to payee.
- d. Handles all correspondence with OSSA on corrective data needed, incomplete financial statements.

2. Audit Section

- a. Checks Philippine Army vouchers as to:
 - (1) Correctness of computation.
 - (2) Correctness of inclusive dates of pay.

3. Temporary Civilian Pay Roll Section

- a. Check correctness of OSSA posting.
- b. Post payrolls to Individual Pay Data Cards.
- c. Maintain alphabetical file of above.

4. Accounting Section

- a. Maintain Check Register and Cash Book.
- b. Prepare daily and monthly reports.
- c. Check statements being forwarded to OSSA.

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The Recovered Personnel Division
Adjutant General's Section
Headquarters Philippines-Ryukyus Command

The material for a thousand books lies untapped in the files of the Recovered Personnel Division. Some day perhaps these books will be written. In the meantime, the staff of this PHILRYCOM office is engaged in the tremendous job of translating its imagination-stirring records into the practical terms of benefits for the Army personnel and War Department civilian employees to whose heroism and loyalty they testify.

Guerrilla rosters signed by men long since dead but whose names are now a by-word in the story of the resistance, lists written on the backs of milk can labels, and diaries that chronicle on scraps of paper the story of days and years of captivity, all point to the ingenuity that rises out of desperate need and the will to live. For two years these records have been accumulating in the archives of the Recovered Personnel Division and they are still coming in. Stained by rain and mold, some of them have been recovered from hiding places in the walls of Bilibid, rolled in tubes or bottles and thrust out of sight; others have been dug out of the ground. Wherever men have been confined they have managed to leave records of their stay. All these records are carefully read and information is extracted from them for use in the different departments of the Recovered Personnel Division.

The Recovered Personnel Division, called RPD for short by civilian and military personnel alike, began on a very modest scale in Tacloban, Leyte, in January 1945, just three months after the Liberating Forces landed. Two persons comprised its original staff, which in two months time grew to 45. From Leyte the Office moved to the Trade and Commerce Building in the heart of downtown Manila, where many of its oldest civilian employees joined it. These employees recall that in those days they had very few records to work with and that their equipment consisted of a few chairs, boxes and makeshift tables; but then as now the idea behind the organization was the extension of benefits to that large body of men who served the United States government in either a military or a civilian capacity. By February 1946 the volume of work, and the office force and equipment with it, had reached such proportions that it was found expedient to move to the present location on Pasig Boulevard, midway between Mandaluyong and Pasig.

RPD started out, not a Division but as a part of G-1 office activated by verbal orders of the Commanding General of the United States Armed Forces in the Far East. After three months it became a separate section with a staff of 90 persons. When USAFFE was dissolved in June 1945, it became a branch of the Personnel Division of the Adjutant General's Office, APPAC, with Lt Col E. E. Graham as Officer in Charge. After another month the Branch assumed its present status as a division and Col Morris H. Marcus became Director. Since then there have been a few additional changes involving transfer first to Headquarters AFWESPAC and then to Headquarters PHILRYCOM, as well as internal reorganization.

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At present it takes the combined efforts of 1954 persons to carry on the work of the Recovered Personnel Division. Of this number there are 27 officers and 84 enlisted men of the Army of the United States, 204 officers and 396 enlisted men of the Philippine Army, 35 Philippine Scouts, 606 PHILRYCOM Filipino civilian employees and 686 Philippine Army civilian employees. To obtain the maximum efficiency from the efforts of these 1954 persons, they are distributed according to their qualifications and natural aptitudes among the five branches of RPD: The Director's Office, Casualty Branch, Project "J" Branch, Philippine Army Branch and Headquarters Commandant. Each of these Branches has Army of the United States officers in charge, with either Philippine Army officers or civilians in charge of sub-sections.

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE: Each Branch has a definite duty to perform. As Director, Colonel Morris K. Marcus is charged with the double responsibility of administering the Missing Persons Act in this theater in the name of Commanding General George F. Moore and of supervising the disposition of all claims for arrears in pay of Philippine Army personnel. He is responsible to the Adjutant General, PHILRYCOM, for all the activities of RPD. The Assistant Director, Lt Col Clifton M. Hamm, coordinates and supervises the operation of the Division, while the Administrative Officer issues all publications and maintains liaison with the Branches to coordinate personnel activities and flow of work through the Division.

CASUALTY BRANCH: This Branch was dissolved on 20 September 1947. However, it performed a most important part in the history of RPD. To the Casualty Branch was assigned the task of investigating cases of missing United States military personnel of World War II in the Pacific Area who were still carried in a status of missing, missing in action, presumed dead, or declared dead. This work was one of the most interesting in the entire Division, involving as it did stories of human interest and paths that disclosed the dangers undergone by Allied Forces and the overwhelming disappointments of parents holding on to the slimmest ray of hope that their children were still alive.

This work of investigation was made possible by the cooperation of various United States Army Installations and similar organizations of Allied Forces. The Pacific Area was divided into zones to which search teams of these organizations were assigned. The search teams combed all areas where plane crashes may have or are known to have occurred, often undergoing personal danger in their efforts to locate missing planes and comrades.

Upon receipt of queries relative to missing Army personnel, the Casualty Branch gathered all information available from its records. Additional information was sought and obtained from all other possible sources. In the event that search teams had not yet covered the territory involved in the query, a search team was assigned by the appropriate organization. Frequently more than one search was made. Cases believed to be definitely closed for lack of further leads were reinvestigated upon discovery of additional clues. All data obtained on a case were compiled by Casualty Branch, studied carefully, and submitted (with recommendations on change of status of individuals concerned when appropriate) to the proper authorities.

The length of time spent before a case was finally resolved varied with prevailing circumstances. Searches were frequently inadvisable during certain seasons, especially when the territory under survey was located amidst tropical jungles. Conditions such as this naturally prolonged the investigation of numerous cases. Months of search were sometimes extended to a year or more.

Records of Pacific casualties of World War II were naturally voluminous. These were kept in organized files at the Casualty Branch office. An office staff of 13 civilians (approximately the strength at the close of hostilities) under the administrative guidance of Major W. C. Elliott carried on the functions of this Branch. The records and little work remaining for this branch have now been turned over to Graves Registration Service for their use.

PROJECT AM BRANCH: This Branch handles the claims of Philippine Scouts, AUS personnel and War Department civilian employees by means of an operative organization which consists of the Office of the Branch Chief, a Living Claims Section, a Deceased Claims Section, a Correspondence Section and a Files and Records Section.

Division of claims into two categories, Living and Deceased, simplifies the work which is basically the same in both sections but calls for the filing of different forms and allied papers and payment through different agencies.

To see how a case is treated, let us follow a hypothetical Living Claim through RFD, that of Pedro de la Cruz, former member of the 14th Inf Regt (PA) under the command of Col Guillermo Z. Nakar. Composed of remnants of the Philippine Army, the Philippine Scouts and other elements, this unit continued to resist the enemy in Nueva Vizcaya and its environs after the Armed Forces had surrendered; in recognition of these efforts General MacArthur authorized Col Nakar to induct his men into the Army of the United States in July 1942.

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Now the routine of processing a claim, Living or Deceased, is essentially a simple one. However, it involves so many separate steps with corresponding stops at so many desks that the wonder is, not that it takes so long as many anxious claimants think, but that it does not take longer. From the time Pedro de la Cruz looks in through the Living Claims window to catch an interviewer's eye until the unpredictable day several weeks later when he receives a letter with an official letterhead on it, more than twenty persons will have held his papers in their hands, read them and worked on them in one way or another. And that number does not take into account the people in Washington, D. C., and St. Louis, Missouri, who contribute their share of work to complete the process.

During Pedro's interview, he offers any official documents or affidavits which he may have to support his claim and completes an affidavit in which he outlines his personal history from September 1941 to the date of his return to military control. He fills the blanks of this affidavit form (in triplicate) with the information required, preparatory to being sworn in by the assistant officer in charge of the Living Claims Section, in whose presence he signs the affidavit. When he has signed, Pedro's presence is no longer required at RFD. He is told that he will be informed of the status of his claim through the mails. If any documents needed for the completion of his claim are lacking, he is advised to mail these to RFD. This advice to wait for notification and to entrust his supplementary papers to the mails is always given but seldom needed. Pedro, like the majority of the people who file claims for benefits in this office, will probably go to unnecessary trouble and expense to return to RFD and personally turn in the additional papers required. Then after a few weeks he will come back again to see how his claim is coming along.

In the meantime the claim has been turned over to a military adjudicator who makes a determination of grades and status under the Missing Persons Act after checking with the Philippine Army Branch to make sure that no duplicate claim has been filed and paid. The adjudicator also makes use of the Files and Records Section where such historical data is filed and which is most useful in determining the validity of the majority of claims.

The determination of the adjudicator is reviewed by a chief adjudicator and again by the AUS officer in charge of the Living Claims Section; then it is typed and corrected and forwarded to the officer in charge of the Project "J" Branch who reviews it and signs it.

A copy of the determination is forwarded to the Adjutant General, Washington, D. C., and another to the Special Settlement Accounts Division, Office of the Chief of Finance, St. Louis, Missouri. If the determination is positive, which means that Pedro is entitled to benefits under the Missing Persons Act, a copy is processed through a pay roll section and a pay

voucher prepared and forwarded to the local finance office, where a check is drawn and mailed to him. If the determination is negative Pedro will receive a letter telling him so and explaining why.

A deceased claim is treated in much the same manner. The claimant (one or more heirs to the estate of the deceased Philippine Scout, AUS personnel or War Department civilian employee) reports to the Deceased Claims Section for interview. He presents any official documents or affidavits which he might have to support his claim, and in civilian cases executes an affidavit outlining the personal history of the Deceased from 9 December 1941 to the date of death or date when his whereabouts were last known. In some cases evidence of the death or missing status of the deceased is required; in others the evidence will be found in the Files and Records Section. In all cases evidence is required to make possible a determination of heirs under the laws of the Philippine Republic.

An adjudicator makes a determination of death, status and grades under the Missing Persons Act. In most cases this has been done before receipt of a claim. As in living claims, use is made of the Files and Records Section. When the determination has been finally approved, a copy together with the papers necessary to establish the lawful heirs is sent to the Judge Advocate General, Army of the Philippines, who under Philippine law is the administrator of all Filipino estates arising from the Missing Persons Act. The Judge Advocate General then asserts a claim in behalf of the estate to the Special Settlement Accounts Division, Office of the Chief of Finance, St. Louis, Missouri, thru RFD.

After approval and computation by the Special Settlement Accounts Division, the claim is sent to the General Accounting Office where a check is drawn in favor of the Judge Advocate General, Philippine Army, as administrator and mailed to him. On receipt of the check, the Judge Advocate General makes distribution to the heirs as determined by him.

Supervision of the Project "J" Branch is exercised by five AUS officers: The Chief of Branch, Major Dave M. Lynch; the Chief of Living Claims Section, Capt Erwin F. Forgythe; the Assistant Chief of Living Claims Section, Lt Charles R. Abel; the Chief of Deceased Claims Section and Files and Records Section, Captain James H. Hill; and the Chief of the Correspondence Section, Captain Willard Keith. All other personnel are Filipino civilians and Philippine Scouts, a number of whom are in charge of various sub-sections within each section.

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For obvious reasons care is exercised to limit contact between office personnel and claimants. The latter are not allowed to approach adjudicators. Claimants awaiting their turn to be interviewed are provided with benches outside the building and when called in they may talk only with the interviewers. Interviewers' and adjudicators' duties do not overlap. An interviewer takes down the information supplied by the claimant; an adjudicator determines the claim on the basis of this information in addition to that available to him in the Files and Records Section. The Recovered Personnel Division uses this method of general insulation, on the assumption that it might be necessary in a rare instance or two, since it is a well-known fact that in a large group anywhere under whatever circumstances, the bad may be found mixed with the good.

This Branch receives and acts on over 200 pieces of correspondence daily. From 80 to 100 claimants are interviewed every day, although these do not all represent new claims. About 35 new living claims and 7 new deceased claims are received and about 200 old cases are reviewed daily in an effort to dispose of incomplete cases or in answer to an appeal of a previous determination. Information is also furnished to Veterans Administration, War Department, Far East Command and other agencies.

THE RECOVERED PERSONNEL DETACHMENT. This organization was organized in July 1945 under the supervision of the Recovered Personnel Division and represents one of the most interesting phases of our history. It consisted of a small operating headquarters and seventy-five teams of officers and enlisted men who were given special training in processing released prisoners of war.

Appropriate numbers of teams were attached to Combat Units prior to the landing in Japan and Korea at which time they were immediately dispatched to all prisoners of war camps in the unit area, where they took affidavits from each person to rebuild his personal history; prepared a message to be radioed to his next of kin notifying of his release and his health and anything else he desired to say; and forwarded all papers to the branch headquarters of RPD in Yokohama and later Tokyo. Teams consisted of American, British, Canadian, Australian and Dutch representatives.

Appropriate instructions were also distributed to each Army and Corps headquarters concerned to provide all necessary food, clothing, reading material, toilet articles and other items to each recovered person, and to arrange his transportation by air or hospital ship to Manila. Here the 29th Replacement Depot received them and kept them only so long as necessary to obtain transportation to the United States.

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A total of some 35,000 Allied prisoners of war were thus released and returned to Manila within less than thirty days after the initial landing.

After this phase of operation, teams were redistributed through the Philippine archipelago and engaged in processing members of the Philippine Army. This phase has now been completed. With the loss of personnel the Recovered Personnel Detachment was finally merged with the Recovered Personnel Division, lost its identity as a separate organization and was absorbed by the Philippine Army Branch and the Headquarters Commandant Branch.

PHILIPPINE ARMY BRANCH: The Philippine Army Branch consisting of 1,031 Filipinos who are members of the Philippine Army, employees of the Philippine Republic or employees of PHILRYCOM, carries out all responsibilities of the Commanding General, PHILRYCOM, in connection with the payment of arrears in pay of members and former members of the Philippine Army while in the service of the Armed Forces of the United States. Nine American officers supervise this Branch while in no way interfering with its functions, which are completely in the hands of a staff of 171 Philippine Army officers.

The Philippine Army Branch, headed by Lt. Col J. R. Gilbert, AUS, and Captain Generoso L. Mendoza, PA, is organized into one administrative and five operating sections. Like the Project "J" Branch, it has a Living Claims Section and a Deceased Claims Section; in addition to these, it has a Veterans Administration Section, Veterans Affairs Section, and Operations Section.

The Living Claims Section processes and adjudicates claims for arrears in pay of Living PA personnel ordered into the service of the Armed Forces of the United States; it also approves or disapproves requests for confirmation of promotion of former USAFFE officers and men prior to surrender. The Deceased Claims Section processes claims for arrears in pay and quarters allowances which might be due the estates of deceased PA servicemen (members of the USAFFE or duly recognized civilian guerrillas). Adjudication is accomplished in conformity with prescribed adjudication procedures and subject to approval by the Authentication Group. These two sections work hand in hand with Finance Service, HAP. Finance Service makes computation and payment for both Sections on the basis of adjudication by the Recovered Personnel Division, with the difference that in a deceased claim, payment is made in accordance with the Judge Advocate General's determination of heirs.

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Authority: ND 983076

Aside from the work of processing and adjudication of claims the Living Claims Section conducts an average of 250 daily interviews and sends out no less than 1,000 letters every day, in reply to inquiries from claimants and various government agencies. It also extracts recognized guerrilla rosters, authenticates guerrilla cards and sends them to the sub-sections, and files tons of archive records from the Military Districts, all in an effort to complete the file and record of each and every claimant. The Deceased Claims Section sends out an average of 500 letters a day to claimants requesting information in order to complete their claims. The result of all this coordinated activity is that enough material has been compiled to process 600,000 claims.

To date 228,155 claims have been received in the Living Claims Section and it is expected that the total number will reach 263,200 including from 50,000 to 80,000 USAFFE cases and 214,200 civilian guerrilla claims. By 8 May 1946 a total of 30,000 USAFFE claims had been adjudicated and determinations sent to Finance Service, HAF, for payment. 1,761 of these cases were actually paid; the rest were returned to this Headquarters when Public Law 301 known as the Rescission Act rendered the Missing Persons Act no longer applicable to members of the Philippine Army.

The adjudication of civilian guerrilla claims started 7 October 1946. Since then a total of 53,173 have been adjudicated and determinations forwarded for settlement to Finance Service, HAF. So far only ten (10) major guerrilla organizations with a combined strength of 140,526 have been revised in dates of recognition by the Living Claims Section. Of this number 40% have not filed their claims for arrears in pay; 15% are USAFFE guerrilla cases and are being held in suspense pending receipt of a policy; 15% have incomplete papers; 12% have no pay due because they joined a guerrilla unit after it was attached to an American unit.

The Veterans Administration Section, PA Branch, RFD was organized on 9 August 1946 for the sole purpose of securing records for and certifying accounts of members of the Philippine Army and eligible dependents, who have filed claims for benefits in the Manila office of the Veterans Administration.

The Philippine Veteran Affairs Section was organized as a part of the PA Branch on 29 January 1947 to furnish Army information to the Philippine Veterans Board, the Bureau of Public Welfare, Malacañan, and the Casualty and Guerrilla Affairs Division of Headquarters Philippine Army. This Section which was modelled after the Veterans Administration Section, is staffed with twenty Filipinos. All information furnished is certified by Philippine Army officers.

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Authority: ND 983076

The Operations Section of the PA Branch has for its mission the processing for pay of all Terminal Date Guerrilla organizations. Terminal Date Guerrillas are those which are recognized for a specified period of time. Processing of these organizations consists of securing the individual history of each member, accomplishing payrolls or pay vouchers for all personnel, physical examinations and discharge. To date approximately 50,000 terminal date guerrillas have received payment. All new recognitions by PHILRYCOM headquarters are expected to be terminal date recognitions.

The Philippine Army Branch is manned by the following Section and Sub-Section Chiefs under the Branch and Assistant Branch Chiefs:

Administration Section: WO Ernest J. Brown (AUS)
1st Lt Hugo C. Agudo (PA)

Liaison Section : Capt Pedro P. Ablan (PA)
Capt Manuel Fajardo (PA)
1st Lt Jose Alfonso (PA)
" " Felix Gabat (PA)
" " Galicano Luansing (PA)
" " Elfron Quial (PA)
" " Melencio R. Wage (PA)
2nd Lt Ricardo Panganiban (PA)
" " Enrique Turaray (PA)
" " Carlos Sien

Deceased Claims Section: 1st Lt Duane R. Essam (AUS)
Capt Irineo M. Cabrera (PA)
2nd Lt Benjamin Austria (PA)
" " Gerardo E. Agustin (PA)

Living Claims Section : 1st Lt J. F. McNeill (AUS)
Capt Jose A. Bunda (PA)
Capt Arturo V. Calica (PA)
" Federico S. Baldonado (PA)
" Rosendo D. Baltazar (PA)
" Albino M. Flores (PA)
" Rufino N. Santos (PA)
1st Lt Pablo C. Francisco (PA)
" Romeo C. Luat (PA)
" Juanito M. Villarama (PA)
2nd Lt Augusto Reyes (PA)
" Benjamin Amos (PA)
" Juan S. Bautista (PA)
" Arturo Garcia (PA)
" Valentin Mayuga (PA)
" Vicente R. Villanueva (PA)

Operations Section : 2nd Lt Felix B. Gable (AUS)
Capt Eulogio M. Dua (PA)
" Marcelo P. Eguerra (PA)
" Sergio Valeta (PA)
1st Lt Salvador Severos (PA)
2nd Lt Blas Miranda (PA)

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Authority: IND 983076

Veterans Administration Sec: 1st Lt Gregor A. MacLeod (AUS)
1st Lt Pacifico K. Marcos (PA)

Philippine Veterans
Affairs Section : 1st Lt Alejandro F. Gloria (PA)

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDANT: This Branch is responsible for the feeding, clothing, housing, and disciplinary control of enlisted personnel in the Division, as well as for the maintenance and upkeep of the buildings and grounds and for the security of the Recovered Personnel Division Area. Headed by Captain Allan P. Hackett, it also looks after the operation of all overhead facilities.

The civilian personnel section of this Branch receives all applicants for jobs and gives pre-employment interviews to determine the proper job allocations for them. Effort is exerted to give each civilian employee the duties called for by his qualifications and interests. Supervisory duties are generally assigned to civilian employees who are college graduates or college students. High School graduates are assigned to filing, typing, and other clerical duties.

The positions available to civilians in each sub-section are those of supervisors, claim adjudicators, bookkeepers, stenographers, typists, general clerks. Salaries range from ₱100 to ₱200 per month, with a few qualified personnel receiving from ₱200 to ₱300 and more per month.

Incentive to efficient work is supplied by promotions and reclassifications. After three months of efficient performance of their duties, civilian employees are promoted to the next payrate. Outstanding work calls for assignment to other and more complicated duties, with reclassification in position titles and corresponding increase in pay.

The Recovered Personnel Division is not lacking in social activity for its civilian employees, who are equally divided between two groups. ARPA and the Gay Circle Club. These groups are the official spokesmen of the civilians, men and women alike, and through them many matters of vital interest to the members are brought to the attention of the proper authorities. ARPA, is scheduled to change its name some day as being out-dated, standing as it does for AFWESPAC Recovered Personnel Association. Both Clubs give occasional informal afternoon parties to bring civilian employees and Philippine Army and AUE personnel together in a spirit of camaraderie.

* * * *

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: *WDC 983078*

Check Sheet
HEADQUARTERS PHILRYCOM
AG-Recovered Personnel Division

Do not remove from attached sheets

JRG/ja

File No. GMRP

Subject:

(2) FROM: AG Rec Pers Div TO: Chief Historical Sec, DATE:
PHILRYCOM
THRU: Mr. Cushman, Liaison Off,
GAD

The answers to questions propounded in C/N #1 are as follows:

Q #1. When was the RPD organized?

A : The beginning of the present Recovered Personnel Division was organized at Tacloban, Leyte, in January 1945 by verbal orders, CG USAFFE.

Q #2. Under what headquarters?

RPD was organized as part of the G-1 Section, USAFFE. When USAFFE was dissolved in August 1945, it became a branch of the Personnel Division of the Adjutant General's Office, AFPAC. In September 1945, the Branch assumed its present status as a Division. In November 1945 it was transferred to Headquarters AFPAC which became Headquarters PHILRYCOM.

Q #3. What was its mission?

A : The mission of the Recovered Personnel Division was and is to administer the provisions of the Missing Persons Act in this theater in the name of the Commanding General and of supervising the processing and disposition of all claims for arrears in pay under that Act for AUS, FE and War Department civilian personnel. It was amended in November 1945 to include Philippine Army personnel.

Q #4. What was the authority?

A : Organizational Authority. Initial authority - VOCC CG, USAFFE issued to G-1 at Tacloban, Leyte, in January 1945 to organize as a part of the G-1 Section.

Then USAFFE to AFPAC as Recovered Personnel Detachment, AFPAC under authority of SO #103, Headquarters USAFFE, dated 11 August 1945.

From AFPAC, the RPD was transferred to AFPAC, 5 November 1945, under authority of SO #310, Headquarters AFPAC, 1 November 1945.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: AND 983076

Check Sheet
HEADQUARTERS PHILRYCOM
AG-Recovered Personnel Division

Do not remove from attached sheets

File No. GEXRF

Subject:

(continued)

FROM: AG Rec Pers Div TO: Chief Historical Sec DATE:
PHILRYCOM
THRU: Mr. Cushman, Liaison Off, GAD

From AFWESPAC, the RPD was redesignated as a unit (without change of title) of the Philippines-Ryukyus Command, on 1 January 1947, under authority of CG #272, Headquarters AFWESPAC, dated 31 December 1946.

B. Directive Authority.

Missing Persons Act (WD Cir. #305, 18 July 1944).

War Department Plan for Casualty Administration Upon reoccupation of the Philippines, 7 November 1944, as amended, by Change 1, 21 March 1945.

Letter from former Secretary of War Stimson, delegating authority to the Commander-in-Chief, USAFFE to administer the Missing Persons Act.

The Commander-in-Chief in turn delegated this authority in letter form to the CG, AFPAC; CG, AFWESPAC; and CG, PHILRYCOM, as they assumed command.

Current authority is a letter from the Secretary of War to CG PHILRYCOM (WD letter dated 20 January 1947, subj: Delegation of Authority under Missing Persons Act) and a letter from the CG, PHILRYCOM dated 11 February 1947 designating the Director, RPD to administer the Missing Persons Act in this theater.

Q. 1. Is in existence that early, when did RPD transfer to AFPACT

A. : See answer to question #4.

Q. 2. When was it made responsible for payment of guerrillas?

A. : Since guerrillas are recognized as members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army they come within the authority delegated under the Missing Persons Act. No separate responsibility was assigned except for the taking over from the 86th Division in February, 1947 of responsibility for processing and payment of terminal date guerrillas.

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Authority: 100-923078

Check Sheet
HEADQUARTERS PHILRYCOM
AG-Recovered Personnel Division

Do not remove from attached sheets

File No. GSXRP

Subject:

(continued)

FROM: AG Rec Pers Div TO: Chief Historical Sec, DATE:
PHILRYCOM
THRU : Mr. Cushman, Liaison Off, GAD

Q #7. Specifically and in brief, how do the operations of the Guerrilla Affairs Division affect operations of the RPD?

A : Except for the 7th and 10th Military Districts, approval of claims for arrears in pay is not given to any civilian guerrilla whose name does not appear on a guerrilla roster or on an individual letter of recognition which has been authenticated and furnished to RPD by the Guerrilla Affairs Division. With concurrence of G-3 exceptions were made for the 7th and 10th Military Districts because of the huge volume of records which were recovered from these organizations and are on hand in the Recovered Personnel Division. Claims from members of guerrilla units are not acted upon until consideration has been given to the revision of recognition dates by the Guerrilla Affairs Division. Guerrilla grades are not approved for members of USAFFE unless recognized by GAD.

Q #8. How does RPD define:

a. Current pay.

A : That pay and allowances due for service rendered after return to military control subsequent to Liberation (i.e. subsequent to date areas came under operational control of the Army of the United States.).

b. Arrears in pay.

A : That pay and allowances due for services rendered from the date last paid in 1941 or 1942 to the day prior to return to military control at Liberation.

c. Terminal date pay.

A : That pay and allowances due members of guerrilla units which are recognized for specific periods of time. Service is usually subsequent to Liberation but may involve service prior to Liberation.

Check Sheet
HEADQUARTERS PHILRYCOM
AG-Recovered Personnel Division

Do not remove from attached sheets

File No. GSXP

Subject:

(continued)

FROM: AG Rec Pers Div TO: Chief, Historical Sec, DATE:
PHILRYCOM
THRU: Mr. Cushman, Liaison Off, GAD

Q #9. What was (is) the procedure in paying guerrillas?

a. Current pay.

A : Paid by Finance Officers of Philippine Army upon submission of voucher by claimant with proof that service had been rendered but pay not received. In deceased cases current pay is paid at same time as arrears in pay only after approval by RFD.

b. Arrears in pay.

A : Paid by Chief Finance Service, Philippine Army after approval in each case by RFD. In living cases action is initiated by RFD using as a basis the sworn statement (Form 23) of service of the claimant which was accomplished at demobilization or upon recognition. In deceased cases claimant (beneficiary) must initiate action by submission of a claim for arrears in pay of deceased individual (Form 9). Approval for payment is given after a procedure called "adjudication" which consists of the examination, consideration and a judging of all available documentary evidence pertaining to the military service of the individual concerned. Upon completion of this procedure the Chief of Staff, Army of the Philippines is requested to settle the arrears in pay for the approved periods. In living cases payment is made to the individual and in deceased cases to the Judge Advocate General, Army of the Philippines who is the legally appointed administrator of estates of deceased military personnel which have been created by arrears in pay.

c. Terminal date pay.

A : Same as current pay. However, RFD exercises staff supervision of the processing of claimants and furnishes supplies and equipment. Procedure is briefly: (1) Receipt of approved roster. (2) Contact guerrilla leader. (3) Arrange place and time of processing. (4) Process members (usually in provinces). (5) Forward payrolls and vouchers for payment.

Check Sheet
HEADQUARTERS PHILAYCOM
AG-Recovered Personnel Division

Do not remove from attached sheets

File No. GSIRP

Subject:

(continued)

FROM: AG Rec Pers Div TO: Chief Historical Sec, DATE:
PHILAYCOM
THRU: Mr. Cushman, Liaison Off, GAD

Q10. What responsibility did the 86th Inf Div (US) have in making payments to guerrillas?

A : Prior to February 1946 the 86th Division was responsible for processing and payment of terminal date guerrillas in addition to their responsibilities in the general demobilization of the Philippine Army. (See Incl #5). (The processing of terminal date guerrillas is the same procedure used in demobilization, i.e., it includes physical examination and discharge).

Q11. What use is made of rosters furnished by the GAD?

A : They are extracted to 201 files and are prerequisite to approval of payment for civilian guerrillas with certain exceptions (see answer to Question #7) and approval of guerrilla grades in USAFFE cases.

Q12. What procedure is followed when no roster is furnished?

A : Approval for payment is given based on original copies of recovered guerrilla unit documents and retained current payrolls.

Q13. Specifically, what are Forms 23?

A : Forms 23 are blank forms which when properly accomplished constitute complete histories of recovered military personnel from 8 December 1941, or date of commencement of guerrilla service, to date the form is accomplished, in the form of sworn statements of the individuals concerned. They are, wherever possible, supported by documentary evidence either official or from disinterested persons with a knowledge of the facts.

Q14. In so far as guerrillas are concerned, what irregularities in guerrilla backpay have come to your attention?

A : Many charges of irregularities in guerrilla backpay have been made but few persons making such charges have been willing to furnish evidence to support them. Several instances have arisen in which persons claim to be persons listed on guerrilla rosters but upon investigation are shown to be misrepresenting themselves. Isolated cases of substitutions on guerrilla rosters have been found.

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Authority: ND 983076

Check Sheet
HEADQUARTERS PHILRYCOM
AG-Recovered Personnel Division

Do not remove from attached sheets

File No. GSXRP

Subject:

(continued)

FROM: AG Rec Pers Div TO: Chief Historical Sec, DATE:
PHILRYCOM
THRU: Mr. Cushman, Liaison Off, GAD

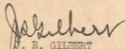
Q #15. Now that revision of dates has been completed, what is the anticipated cost paid and to be paid?

A : No new estimate as to amount which will be paid to civilian guerrillas has been made since General Livesay's mission to this Command. Attached hereto as Incl #8 is a copy of this estimate. These figures have been recently reported to the War Department as the only estimate made. Approximately \$50,000,000.00 has been expended for the payment of Terminal Date and regular guerrilla organizations, including that approved by the 86th Division.

Q #16. What has been the total expenditure for guerrilla pay - current, arrears, terminal date?

A : Expenditures for current pay should be obtained either from the Chief Finance Service, Army of the Philippines, or the Fiscal Director, PHILRYCOM. See answer to Question #15 for estimate as to terminal date and arrears in pay.

General: I shall be glad to verbally elaborate further on any phase of the operation of RPD at your request and convenience.


J. R. GILBERT
Lt Col AGD
Director

8 Incls:

- ✓ Incl 1 - Missing Persons Act
- ✓ " 2 - WD Plan for Casualty Admn
- ✓ " 3 - GO #103, GHQ AFPAC 11 Aug 45 (copy)
- ✓ " 4 - GO #310, GHQ AFPAC (copy)
- ✓ " 5 - C/N fr G-1, AFESPAC to RPD, 18 Feb 46
subj: Disposition of Terminal Date Guerrillas
- ✓ " 6 - Ltr, Hq Special Trps, PHILRYCOM redesignation
of command
- ✓ " 7 - Brief History of RPD
- 2 " 8 - Estimated amount to be paid USAFFE & Civ. Guer. (copy)

11 Dec 50

1st Ind

GWH/2213244

Headquarters United States Army, Pacific, Ordnance, APO 958

To: Commanding Officer, 8133rd Service Unit, Adjutant General Records
Depository, APO 928, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California

1. John Walton, CAF-8, Administrative Assistant at \$2900 per annum, served directly under me as Chief Clerk of the pre-war Philippine Ordnance Depot, Manila and Bataan, P.I. until the capitulation of Bataan to the Japanese on 9 April 1942. In general, civilian employees, presumably including Mr. Walton, were last paid in full to include 30 November 1942. Thereafter with rare exceptions, if any, only partial payments were made. Upon the outset of war on 8 December 1941 civilian employees of the Ordnance Department in Manila and on Bataan worked to the limit of human endurance, averaging perhaps fourteen (14) hours per day for seven (7) days per week or a 98-hour work week of which all exceeding forty (40) hours were at a rate of time and a half.

2. In early April 1942 I furnished each civilian employee a signed individual statement of his pay account as of 31 March 1942 showing regular payroll accruals, overtime payroll accruals, partial payments if any, and net balance of pay due. Unfortunately all retained records were lost and I have no recollection of the amount of pay due Mr. Walton or any other individual. I would estimate however that in the general case the partial payments did not average more than \$25.00 per individual in the aggregate because the Ordnance Depot moved to Bataan on 23 December 1941 and money was largely worthless thereafter due to the rapid exhaustion of post exchange supplies and the total absence of commercial outlets.

3. Mr. Walton was captured and interned by the Japanese on 9 April 1942. Information in my possession furnished by Chief Warrant Officer James MacArthur, W-2101195 United States Army after V-J Day entitled "Ordnance Personnel Who Died and were Buried at Cabanatuan Concentration Camp No. 1, Philippine Islands" shows that John Walton, civilian employee, died on 5 October 1942 of cerebral malaria and was buried in Grave Registration Number 1879.

s/ George W. Hirsch
t/ GEORGE W. HIRSCH
Colonel, Ord Corps
Formerly, CO Phil Ord
Depot and Ord O, USAFFE

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

Richard Evans
RICHARD EVANS
WOJG USA
OIC, Project "J" Section

/jgp

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Authority: *ND 983078*

List of men identified by Santiago Buguis to have been employed by Phil Ord. Depot. Refer to case of Santiago Buguis.

Angeles, Raymundo
Anseli, Felix
Bagnes, Gregorio A.
Currens, Ronald S. (Commissioned 1st Lt., Dec 1941)
De Verve, Felipe
Dominguez, Claro
Factor, Narciso
Fontanilla, Jose
Gamet, Fermin (Died in Sempalco)
Gonzales, Josquin
Gregorio, Emilio
Gregorio, Fernando
Magyswi, David
Navarro, Felicisimo
Paguibiten, Antonio
Rango, Vicente
Suarez, Alfonso
Sulit, Ramon
Taberanza, Julio
Tansistco, Jose

BATAAN

Adriano, Pedro
Amiller, Isidro (Died in concentration camp)
Amores, Cipriano
Bernal, Marcos
Bodayos, Nicasio
Braga, Claudio
Buguis, Francisco
Bulilan, Manuel (Died on way to concentration camp)
Cebaberis, Felipe (Lost arm)
Carreon, Cesar
Concepcion, Luciano
Daquis, Felipe
Gamet, Cipriano P.
Gutierrez, Jose
Gutierrez, Lauriano
Hodges, John F.
Ibanc, Mariano (Whole family killed by Japs)
Leastin, Vicente
Medrio, Honorio
Matibag, Alfredo
Nepomuceno, Avelino (Called to P.A. before outbreak of war)
Ortega, Magno
Quiroc, Benito (Died in constration camp)
Rosario, Liberato
Sentos, Lazaro O.
Tuzon, Domingo
Villaluna, Maximo (Died after return of U.S. Forces)
Villarín, Eugenio

HEADQUARTERS
SPECIAL TROOPS
PHILIPPINES-RYUKYUS COMMAND

APO 707
2 Jan 47

GSST

SUBJECT: Philippines Ryukyus Command (AFWESPAC)

TO : Staff Sections and Units Assigned or Attached to
Hq Special Troops, PHILRYCOM

Following Radio from CG AFWESPAC, Cite #GX-23186-GSCOT,
dated 31 Dec 46, is quoted for your information and compliance:

"This radio in three parts.

Part one. General Order No. 272, this headquarters,
dated 31 Dec 46, will direct the following actions:

Part two. Effective 010001Z January 1947, the United
States Army Forces Western Pacific is redesignated as the
Philippines-Ryukyus Command (short title PHILRYCOM). All
communications now directed to CG AFWESPAC will be directed
to CG Philippines-Ryukyus Command (short title PHILRYCOM),
APO 707.

Part three. Effective 1 January 1947, all communications
now directed to Commander in Chief, United States Army Forces,
Pacific, will be directed to Commander in Chief, Far East, APO
500 (short title CINCPAC)."

BY ORDER OF COLONEL THIRKELD:

/s/ O. Paulsen
/t/ O. PAULSEN
1st Lt, AGD
Adjutant

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

Edgar T. Jones
EDGAR T. JONES
CWO USA

Administrative Officer

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: *ND 983076*

Incl 6

HEADQUARTERS AFWS/PAC

CHECK SHEET

Do not remove from attached sheets

FILE NO. GSAA SUBJECT: Disposition of "Terminal Date" Guerrillas.

(1)

RBR/WDF/npl

FROM: G-1

TO: Rec Pers Div

18 February 1946

THRU: Adj Gen

1. Guerrilla Units as listed in the attached inclosure totaling approximately 36,000 personnel have been given special recognition for specific periods of service in the Armed Forces of the United States. Other such units will subsequently be granted recognition by this headquarters totaling possibly more than 100,000 personnel. The personnel of these units are considered as having been discharged from the Philippine Army as of the day immediately following their final day of active service at which time their units were ordered disbanded and the individuals returned to their home communities as civilians.

2. It is desired that Recovered Personnel Division be charged with final processing and paying of all such Guerrilla personnel of this "terminal date" category. The 86th Division Area Command will be relieved of all further responsibility with reference to these units.

3. To assist in the accomplishment of the mission stated in paragraph two (2) above, qualified personnel will be furnished by Headquarters Philippine Army and certain processing teams released for this duty by the 86th Division Area Command.

4. Rosters of each unit recognized in this category will be furnished by Headquarters Philippine Army.

5. As additional "terminal date" guerrillas are recognized, copies of notification of recognition will be furnished Recovered Personnel Division By the Guerrilla Affairs Branch, Philippine Army Division, G-3 Section, this headquarters.

6. Decision as to the necessity for physical examination in the case of these particular personnel has been requested and will be passed to the Recovered Personnel Division as soon as received.

7. Direct communication with Headquarters Philippine Army and 86th Division Area Command is authorized.

1 Incl:

List of "Terminal
Date" Guerrillas.

/s/ (illegible)
for RUSSEL B. REYNOLDS,
Major General, GSC,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-1

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: UNDP 983078

EULOGIO M. DUA

Capt Inf

Chief, G-3 Sec

Incl 5

Guerrilla Acc
EULOGIO M. DUA
Capt Inf
Chief, G-3 Sec

Handwritten: mixed files

RESTRICTED

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

GENERAL ORDERS)
:)
NO.....310)

Handwritten: Extract

AGO 500
4 November 1945

REDESIGNATION AND REASSIGNMENT OF
RECOVERED PERSONNEL DETACHMENT

Effect 5 November 1945 the Recovered Personnel Detachment, AFPAC, is redesignated as the Recovered Personnel Detachment, AFWESPAC, and is relieved from assignment to Special Troops, General Headquarters, United States Army Forces, Pacific, and assigned to United States Army Forces, Western Pacific.

By command of General MacARTHUR:

R. K. SUTHERLAND,
Lieutenant General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

Handwritten signature: B. M. Fitch

B. M. FITCH,
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,
Adjutant General.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *ND 983076*

RESTRICTED

Administrative

R E S T R I C T E D

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

GENERAL ORDERS)
:)
NO.....103)

AGO 500
11 August 1945

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RECOVERED
PERSONNEL DETACHMENT, AFPAC

1. Effective 11 August 1945, the Recovered Personnel Detachment, AFPAC is established as a theater overhead installation and is assigned to Special Troops, GHO, AFPAC with station at APO 500.
2. Initial Rosters will be prepared and submitted in accordance with AR 345-900, dated 22 May 1942, as changed.
3. Strength and grades will be authorized from theater overhead allotment by separate communication.

By command of General MacARTHUR:

R. K. SUTHERLAND,
Lieutenant General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

B. M. Fitch

B. M. FITCH,
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,
Adjutant General.

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