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BOLO
BATTALION

GRLA-5

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AGCC-RC Villas, Bernardo P.
(15 Feb 61)

15 MAR 1961

Mr. Bernardo Villas
South Negros Island
Philippines

Dear Mr. Villas:

I am referring to your letter of 15 February 1961 to the President of the United States requesting recognition and compensation for the services rendered by the members of the Bolo Battalion, South Negros Island, during World War II.

The activities of the members of the Bolo Battalion, South Negros Island, while indicative of patriotic endeavors and unselfish devotion to the principles of democracy, do not meet the requirements established for recognition as civilian employees of the War Department during World War II. The services rendered by the Bolo Battalion, South Negros Island, are considered to have been in consonance with services rendered by other groups of freedom loving people the world over in their determined desire to rid their country of a ruthless enemy.

In view of the foregoing, there is no authority whereby official recognition as civilian employees of the War Department may be accorded or payment for such services made to the members of the Bolo Battalion, South Negros Island.

Sincerely yours,

R. V. LEE

R. V. LEE
Major General, USA *Ch*
The Adjutant General

MEMO FOR RECORD:
(See attached sheet)

gr *gr*

RETURN TO HQ, RPR BR, USARCEN, TAGO
TSENES/spd/

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AGCC-RC Villas, Bernardo P.
(15 Feb 61)
Mr. Bernardo Villas

MEMO FOR RECORD:

Ltr 15 Feb 61 to the President requesting recognition in payment for all services rendered by Bolo Battalion, So. Negros Island. This unit previously petitioned for grla recognition but since it did not meet requirements grla recognition was not accorded. (See background papers atchd.) Members were not Civ Employees of the War Dept but merely civ organized under civ initiative who rendered some assistance and services to US and grla forces. No authority for recognition or compensation for such services.

J. Palmer 13 March 1961

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
REFERRAL SLIP
(Will remain with correspondence)

FILE NUMBER

DATE
MAR 9 1961

OSA		ACSRC		CINFO		COFORD
CLL		TJAG		TPMG		TSG
DCSPER		TIG		CCA		CSIGO
DCSOPS		CNGB		CMH		CCMLO
DCSLOG		CAROTC		TQMG		COFF
COA	✓	TAG		COFENGR		COFF
CRD		COFCH				CGMDW
ACSI						

ATTENTION

✓

NECESSARY ACTION

DIRECT REPLY. COPY
OF REPLY TO

PREPARE (DRAFT) (FINAL) REPLY FOR SIGNATURE

PREPARE SUMMARY SHEET
REPLY TO

NOTE AND (FORWARD) (RETURN)

INFORMATION AND/OR FILE

INFORMATION ON WHICH TO BASE REPLY

TRANSLATION AND RETURN

REPORT ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE BY

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN

COORDINATE WITH

SEE REVERSE SIDE

SUSPENSE DATE

CASE NUMBER

BY DIRECTION OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

for

B & B
F. W. NORRIS
Colonel, GS
Deputy Secretary of
the General Staff

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF

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DECLASSIFIED

Authority

883 078

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 7, 1961

Respectfully referred to the
Department of the Army for attention
and acknowledgment.

Ralph A. Dungan

RALPH A. DUNGAN

Special Assistant to the President

(2)
a2
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(7 Mar 61)

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Authority 883078

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DEPT. OF THE ARMY

Department of the Army for approval
of the proposed...

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Philippines

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Army
2/27/61
mail

WAR TIME WORKERS
WWII - Resistance Movement
South Negros Island, Philippines:

15 February 1961

Hon. John F. Kennedy
President, United States of America
WASHINGTON, D.C.

S I R :

WE HAVE THE MONOR to request your kind and active assistance in our endeavor to secure - RE-EXAMINATION - FOR RECOGNITION and COMPENSATION of our Old CIVILIAN Services as War Time Workers-WWII-Resistance Movement-South Negros Island-Philippines, in cooperation with the Army units under the Control of the United States, from July 1942 up to April 1945, through the PASSAGE OF A SPECIAL LAW GRANTING COMPENSATION FOR THE Old CIVILIAN Services RENDERED BY OUR GROUP . . . DISTINCT And SEPARATE. . . from previous legislation on other allied claims. Our Group has a total membership of 1,674 , residing in South Negros Island, Philippines.

WE FULLY BELIEVED that our Old CIVILIAN Services as War Time Workers World War II Resistance Movement-South Negros Island, Philippines, is - in the Category as WAR DAMAGE.

ENCLOSED HEREWITH are the following:

- (1) Two affidavits of disinterested persons.
- (2) A Copy of the MUTUAL AGREEMENT of the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and our late President Manuel L. Quezon, for payment of WAR DAMAGE and Small People.
- (3) A Copy of our letter to Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, the Secretary-General of the United Nation Organization.
- (4) A Map of South Negros Island, Philippines.
- (5) A picture of the REPRESENTATIVES of our Group, on the 8th day of February 1961, during the signing of our names in Sacred Blood, to show to the World the sincerity and Genuiness of our Petition-Claim of our Old CIVILIAN Services.
- (6) A Copy of our letter address to the SPEAKER, House of Representatives, Congress of the United States, WASHINGTON, D.C.

WE PRAY that this Special request be given your attention and blessing, for this is the - last hope - and IN YOUR HANDS, WE DEPEND UPONand that WE HOPE FURTHER that human consideration will be felt in your heart, for really, we are in poverty and needs your help, in the form of securing RE-EXAMINATION - FOR RECOGNITION AND COMPENSATION of our TRUE AND GENUINE Old CIVILIAN Services, in the last World War.

Very truly yours,

Bernardo Villas ✓
 BERNARDO VILLAS
 OverAll Leader
 Dumaguete City, Philippines
 SIMEON MONGCORA ✓
 1st Vice-OverAll Leader
 Antonio Mandiola
 ANTONIO VENDIOLA ✓
 2nd Vice-OverAll leader
 Eleno Villafior
 ELENOR VILLAFIOR
 Paulino Grefalde
 PAULINO GREFALDE

Mariano Dales
 MARIANO DALES
 Isaias Lingcong
 ISAIAS LINGCONG
 Sergio Felipe
 SERGIO FELIPE

Angel Abonen
 ANGEL ABONEN

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
CITY OF DUMAGUETE) S.S.
X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X)

A F F I D A V I T

I, JUAN E. DOMINADO, Filipino, married, of legal age, a resident of Dumaguete City, Philippines, after having been duly sworn to, do hereby depose and say:

That I was the Regimental Commander of the defunct 75th Infantry Regiment, Seventh Military District, (7MD) a recognized guerilla, USAFIP, in Negros Island, in the Philippine Theater, during World War No. II.

That I know personally BERNARDO VILLAS and his group of Bolo Battalion in the Field, during the Resistance Movement in Negros Island, being the Commanding Officer of the defunct 75th Inf. Reg't. 7MD;

That the Bolo Battalion in the Field operated at that time within the area of my Command of the 75th Inf. Reg't. 7MD;

That the Bolo Battalion in the Field existed and rendered services for the period from 1942-1945, to the 75th Infantry Regiment, Seventh Military District, in the furtherance of the Resistance Movement in Negros Island, Philippines;

That the members of the Bolo Battalion in the Field were utilized by the army units, under the control of the United States as outpost guards, hauling food supplies, intelligence agents, couriers, messengers and some fought the enemy in the field of battle at the risks of their lives ;

That some of the members of the Bolo Battalion in the Field were caught and killed by the enemy leaving their widows and orphans in poverty;

That the group of BERNARDO VILLAS was called "Bolo Battalion in the Field" because the members operated only in places where there were Japanese garrisons during the enemy occupation in Negros Island, Philippines, from 1942-1945.

FURTHER DEPONENT SAYETH NONE

IN TRUTH OF ALL THE FOREGOING, I have hereunto set my hand and affix my signature at Dumaguete City, Philippines, this 22d day of October 1959.

Juan E. Dominado
JUAN E. DOMINADO ASN 3832
Major, Inf. (Inactive)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 22d day of October 1959, at the City of Dumaguete, Philippines. Affiant exhibit to me his Res. Cert. No. 1501701, issued at Dumaguete City, Philippines, on January 21, 1959. Affiant is 39 years old.

Narciso P. Tendrio
NARCISO P. TENDRIO
NOTARY PUBLIC
UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 1959



655
DUE No. 393
PAGE No. 77
BOOK No. 1
1959 10 59

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES) S. S.
CITY OF DUMAGUETE)

A F F I D A V I T

I, MACARIO PATRIMONIO, Filipino, married, of legal age and a resident of Dumaguete City, Philippines, after having been duly sworn to according to law, do hereby depose and say:

That I was an active member of the defunct "G" Co., 2nd Bn, 75th Infantry, 7th Military District, a recognized guerilla unit, USAFIP, in Negros Island during World War No. 11;

That the "Bolo Battalion in the Field" rendered services day and night to the 75th Inf. Regt., 7th Military District, South Negros Sector, during the Resistance Movement in the Philippines from 1942 to 1945;

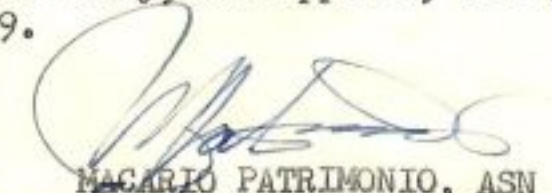
That the "Bolo Battalion in the Field" was utilized by the army units, under the control of the United States, as couriers, messengers, advance guards, hauling food supplies, taking care of the astrayed wounded soldiers, and some fought the enemy in the field without compensation;

That without the commandered services of the "Bolo Battalion in the Field", the 7th Military District, (7th MD) could not have carried on the task of resisting the enemy in Negros Island, South Negros Sector because casting aside the other services, there would have been no provisions for our existence;

That the foods that we ate, were solely provided by the "Bolo Battalion in the Field."

FURTHER DEPONENT SAYETH NONE.

IN TRUTH OF ALL THE FOREGOING, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my signature at Dumaguete City, Philippines, this 23rd day of October, 1959.


MACARIO PATRIMONIO, ASN 072162
Sgt., Infantry (Inactive)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 26 day of Oct., 1959, at the City of Dumaguete, Philippines. Affiant exhibited to me his Residence Certificate No. A-1500425 issued at Dumaguete City, Philippines, on 11/2/59, 1959. Affiant is 35 years old.


NOTARY PUBLIC
CITY OF DUMAGUETE

~~The least one
independent
matter~~ (1)

Do you know
about the
two Joint Resolutions
that have already
been passed by
the Senate and which
are now pending
in the House?

One is about (2)
the protection of
the Republic of
the Philippines
and the other is
about the rehabilitation

of the Philippines
economically.

The idea is to
appropriate funds
to repair the damage
done to our roads

^{public}
(bombings, raids,
and to indemnify
those who have

lost property
including the
small people who

might have
lost cars, buses or
village houses. Every

body will be in-
deemnified. This
has been the result

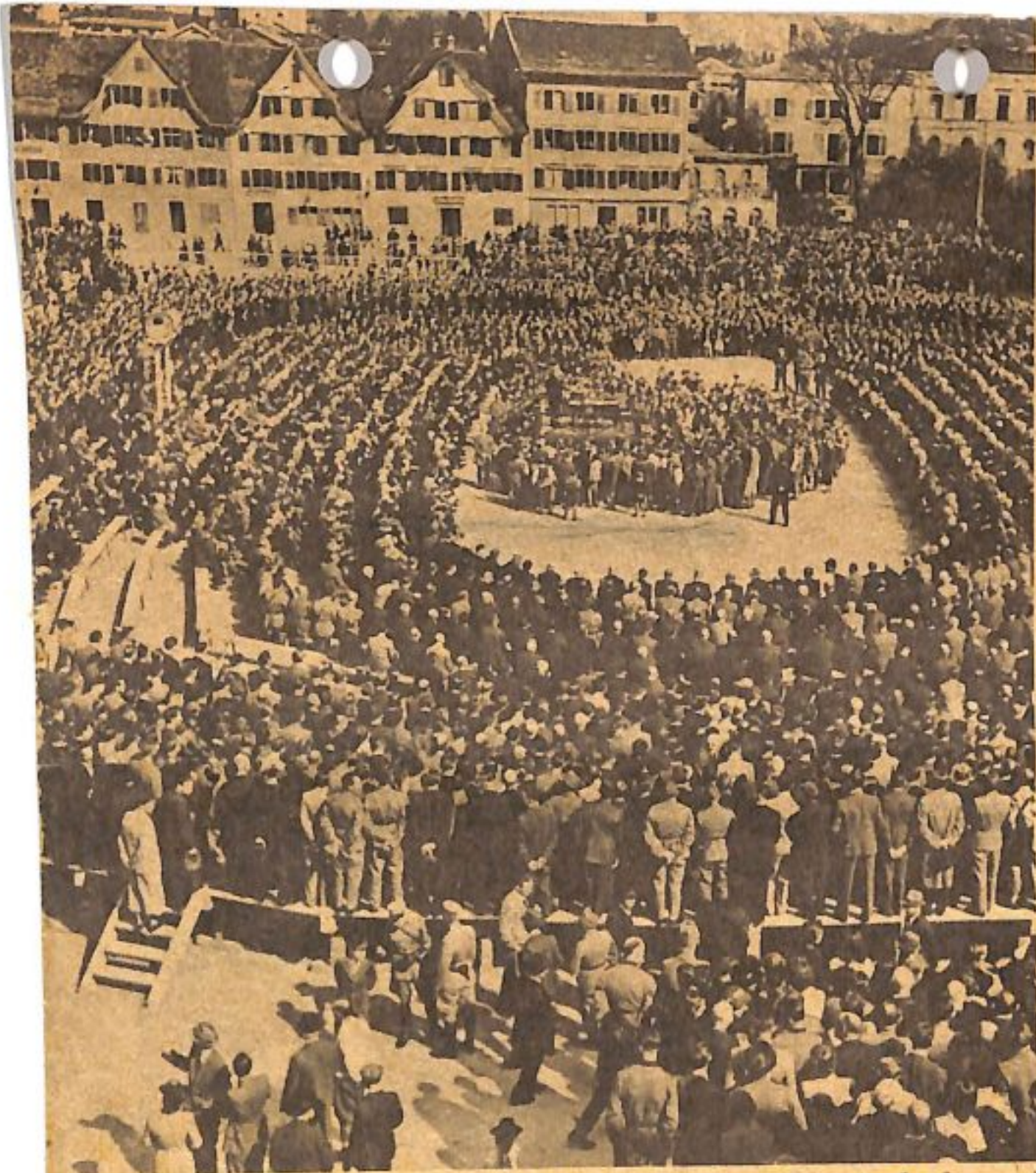
of my conference (4)
with President
Roosevelt and
the leaders of
Saunders.

M. L. Q. " "

Note:
The Small People
Villas

Quezon wrote numerous notes to Villamor during their meetings in Florida. Among them is this one in which the late President mentions his talks with the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt wherein FDR agreed on the indemnification of every damage to Filipino life and property.

MUTUAL AGREEMENT between two Presidents
Pres. Manuel L. Quezon & Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt



Election day in Swiss canton is held in public plaza. In background are the snow-capped Alps.

Best-armed democracy in the world is Switzerland, where one out of eight Swiss males goes to military school, shoulders arms, and is ready to fight in event of an emergency.



The Federal Parliament in Berne, capital of Switzerland. Many international buildings operating under the supervision of the United Nations are in Geneva. The old League of Nations headquarters was in Geneva.

CAN TAKE a lesson from Switzerland, the best-armed world. With a population of 650,000 souls, it has a standing army of 650,000 men. This means that in the event of an emergency, every man in the country is a soldier on the spot. The mobilization of the Swiss population would give the country an army of about 3,000,000 men.

Strong Bond

The Swiss army is a bond not



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MUTUAL AGREEMENT between two Presidents
Pres. Manuel L. Quezon & Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt

SOUTH NEGROS ISLAND, PHILIPPINES
Dumaguete City - Sept. 30, 1960

Mr. Dag Hammarskjold
Secretary-General
UNITED NATION
Manhattan, New York
U. S. A.

General Assembly, GENTLEMEN:

WE, 1,674 PETITIONER-CLAIMANTS, member of the "Bolo Battalion IN THE FIELD" South Negros Island, PHILIPPINES, generally informed and PARTICULARLY APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THIS BODY OF HONORABLE GREAT MEN OF THE WORLD, IN SECURING OUR RECOGNITION AND COMPENSATION of our services as WAR TIME WORKERS DURING RESISTANCE MOVEMENT, WORLD WAR NO. II-SOUTH NEGROS ISLAND, PHILIPPINES, from July 1942 to April 1945, in the amount of ONE MILLION DOLLAR (\$ 1,000,000.00) PETITION-CLAIM against the UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

Handwritten signature in blue ink, possibly 'Kimura'.

I - DEFINITION: "Bolo Battalion IN THE FIELD"

"Bolo Battalion IN THE FIELD" - means - WAR TIME WORKERS
DURING RESISTANCE MOVEMENT
WORLD WAR NO. II
SOUTH NEGROS ISLAND
PHILIPPINES

who served in the following capacities, to wit:

- (1) Hauling food supplies and ammunition from supply depots to the front line and from Unit to Unit;
- (2) As advance guards and as "look outs" of the guerillas;
- (3) As Intelligence Agents of the guerillas at great risk to their lives; and
- (4) By actual fighting valiantly in arms in the field of battle some sacrificing their lives and leaving widows and orphans in dire need and extreme poverty;

WE ARE APPEALING FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THIS BODY OF GREAT MEN OF THE WORLD, for WE BELIEVED THAT THIS BODY WILL NOT FAIL US ... in our need of help and assistance ... because we have no other course to go - in order that the UNITED STATES CONGRESS will enact a separate legislation for RECOGNITION AND COMPENSATION of our services as WAR TIME WORKERS - DURING RESISTANCE MOVEMENT-WORLD WAR NO.II-SOUTH NEGROS ISLAND, PHILIPPINES, under the United States Forces in the Philippines - Pacific Theatre

II - I N F O R M A T I O N

WE, 1,674 PETITIONER-CLAIMANTS, had sent our PETITION-CLAIM on October 2, 1958, to the CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, WASHINGTON, D.C. , requesting to enact a separate legislation for RECOGNITION AND COMPENSATION of our services as WAR TIME WORKERS - DURING RESISTANCE MOVEMENT - WORLD WAR NO.II - SOUTH NEGROS ISLAND, PHILIPPINES, under the United States Forces in the Philippines, Pacific Theatre, in the amount of ONE MILLION DOLLAR (\$ 1,000,000.00) PETITION-CLAIM against the United States Government, Washington, D.C.

TO PROVE THE GENUINENESS OF OUR GROUP DURING WORLD WAR NO. II, we had sent our papers and evidences to the CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, WASHINGTON, D.C., but Chairman Emmanuel Celler of the JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, Congress of the United States, HAD MISINTERPRETED OUR CASE THINKING THAT WE WERE SOLDIERS , but were not soldiers ; we were WAR TIME WORKERS during the Resistance Movement of South Negros Island, Philippines, under the United States Forces in the Philippines, Pacific Theatre - during World War No. II. WE HAD ALSO SENT LETTERS TOGETHER WITH EVIDENCES to the International Court of Justice, The Hague, Netherlands.

III - I N J U S T I C E

WE, 1,674 PETITIONER-CLAIMANTS base upon the DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. firmly

Handwritten signature in blue ink, possibly 'Bernardo Villan'.

The United States Government had paid the commandered animals such as pigs, horses, carabaos and cows (COMMANDERED ANIMALS AS FOOD) in the form of WAR DAMAGE.

If the United States Government had paid the COMMANDERED ANIMALS AS FOOD in the form of WAR DAMAGE, therefore, Human Baings services as WAR TIME WORKERS are entitled to compensation in the Category as WAR DAMAGE, on the ground that Human Being is Higher Than Animal.

Now, if the United States Government deny the payment of our PETITION-CLAIM in the amount of ONE MILLION DOLLAR (\$ 1,000,000.00) of our services as WAR TIME WORKERS -DURING RESISTANCE MOVEMENT-WORLD WAR NO.II - SOUTH NEGROS ISLAND, PHILIPPINES, under the United States Forces in the Philippines, Pacific Theatre ; Then the Question Is WHAT WILL BE THE FEELINGS OF THE HUMAN BEINGS LIVING IN THIS PART OF THE UNIVERSE ? The answer is simple - Human Beings are Lower Than Animals. Then another question :- WHY ? ... Because COMMANDERED ANIMALS AS FOOD was compensated while Human Beings services as WAR TIME WORKERS is denied for compensation by U.S. Government.

WE, 1,674 PETITIONER-CLAIMANTS are now old, many had died of waiting and waiting and we are poor ... very poor ... WILL THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PAY THE PETITIONER-CLAIMANTS WHEN THEY ARE ALL DEAD ? Basing upon the DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, We Complain

WAR TIME WORKERS
DURING RESISTANCE MOVEMENT
WORLD WAR NO. II -SOUTH NEGROS
ISLAND- PHILIPPINES, USAFIP-PACIFIC THEATRE.
COMPLAINANT.

F O R :

versus

RECOGNITION AND COMPENSATION
OF SERVICES AS WAR TIME WORKERS.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA.

RESPONDENT.

X X

C O M P L A I N T

COME NOW the above-Petitioner-Claimants Complainants through the under-
signed representatives and to the Honorable Body of Great Men of the World
respectfully allege:

That the Petitioner-Claimants Complainants, served as WAR TIME WORKERS
DURING RESISTANCE MOVEMENT-WORLD WAR NO. II- SOUTH NEGROS ISLAND-PHILIPPINES,
under the United States Forces in the Philippines - PACIFIC THEATRE, in the
following capacities, to wit:

- (1) Hauling food supplies and ammunition from supply depots to the front line and from Unit to Unit;
- (2) As advance guards and as "look outs" of the guerillas;
- (3) As Intelligence Agents of the guerillas at great risk to their lives;
- (4) By actual fighting valiantly in arms in the field of battle some sacrificing their lives and leaving widows and orphans in dire need and extreme poverty;

That said services (WAR TIME WORKERS) contributed greatly to the cause of freedom and in the ultimate victory of the allies as without which no food could have reached and sustained said guerillas;

That after final victory was attained and other members of the Armed Forces of Respondent Government were paid their lawful compensation said petitioner-claimants Complainants were totally ignored and their services (WAR TIME WORKERS) as above-enumerated were not justly compensated;

James A. ...

Edwin ...

Benardo Villan

(Page 3)

That said Petitioner-Claimants Complainants honestly believed base upon the DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS that they are entitled for compensation AS EVEN ANIMALS COMMANDERED AS FOOD for the furtherance of the Resistance Movement were lawfully paid by the Respondent Government;

That said Petitioner-Claimants Complainants have been for fifteen (15) years and are still waiting for payment of said PETITION-CLAIM;

WHEREFORE, it is most respectfully prayed that this Honorable Body of Great Men of the World ORDER the Respondent Government to satisfy the PETITION-CLAIM of the 1,674 PETITIONER-CLAIMANTS, in the following manner:

- (1) To pay for said services as WAR TIME WORKERS, an aggregate amount of ONE MILLION DOLLAR (\$1,000,000.00); and
- (2) To pay said Petitioner-Claimants Complainants the amount of COMPOUND INTEREST for fifteen (15) years waiting.

WE, 1,674 PETITIONER-CLAIMANTS (War Time Workers) HOPE THAT THIS BODY OF GREAT MEN OF THE WORLD WILL ATTEND TO THIS CASE AND THAT EXPEDITE ACTION BE TAKEN for we cannot wait for generations because many have died already of waiting for payment of their RIGHTFUL PETITION-CLAIM basing upon :

- (1) Declaration of Human Rights.
- (2) WAR TIME WORKERS in the Category as WAR DAMAGE.
- (3) Human Being Is Higher Than Animal.

and hoping further that this letter-appeal-complain will not be like the epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians, not answered. We are for action.

Respectfully and truly,

Bernardo Villas

BERNARDO VILLAS
OverAll Leader

Guillermo Alcoran

GUILLERMO ALCORAN
1st Vice-OverAll Leader

Simeon Mongcopa

SIMEON MONGCOPA
2nd Vice-OverAll Leader

COPY FURNISHED:

1 - Judiciary Committee
Congress of the United States
Washington, D.C.

1 - International Press & Magazine
1 - File

WE, the undersigned, representatives of the 1,674 PETITIONER-CLAIMANTS, hereby concur with the foregoing:

1- Isaías Lingcong

2- Mariano Daler

3- Benito C. Acuña

4- Antonio Verdola

5- Romulo Forollera

6- Angel Abner

7- Santiago C. Salvo

8- Rubén R. Hidalgo

9- Lorenzo Roda

10- Restituto Detungco

11- Panfilo Velez

12- Santiago Ferranor

~~13-~~

~~14-~~

MAP
 of
 NEGROS ISLAND PHILIPPINES

Showing the SEVEN (7) Towns of South Negros Sector...
 PETITIONER - CLAIMANTS 1,674 members
 PETITION - CLAIM in the amount of \$1 million
 against the United States Government.



Note:

The above map of the seven (7) places are the residences of the PETITIONER-CLAIMANTS. Some are dead and the rest are already old. The original PETITIONER-CLAIMANTS was 1,674 members.

The PETITION-CLAIM was about the cammandered services AS WORKERS of the United States Forces in the Philippines (USAF-IP) during World War II, in the Pacific Theatre, from July 1942 up to April 1945, in the amount of \$1 million against the United States Government.

The cammandered services AS WORKERS of the (USAF-IP) during World War II Pacific Theatre - we believed that our cammandered services AS WORKERS is under the Category... WAR DAMAGE.

Bernardo Villas
 BERNARDO VILLAS
 Over All Leader

Simon Mongcopa
 SIMON MONGCOPA
 Vice-Over All Leader

Bruno
 BRUNO
 Group

Cabajon
 CABAJON
 Leader

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WAR TIME WORKERS
WWII Resistance Movement
South Negros Island, Philippines

The Honorable Speaker
Congress of the United States
WASHINGTON, D.C.
United States of America

S i r :

WE, 1674 War Time Workers claimants who had bitterly suffered the WILL of the previous Administration, now APPEAL to the New Administration for the RE-EXAMINATION FOR RECOGNITION AND COMPENSATION in the hope of touching our sense of Human Consideration.

All file of our claim as War Time Workers of the USAFIP during World War II, in the Philippines, including the supporting papers and pictures of our parade in an album are in the Congress Hall of the United States - in PETITION.

We cannot understand why - this simple case of ours can be so long, complicated and tedious as it was to be in the past . We are the living facts and evidence of the past service that we claim for compensation as known throughout the country.

We further cannot understand ... why ... just for the unmindful act or fault of one - man - particularly the Commanding Officer, 7th Military District, ~~XXXXXX~~ as said by the past Administration, THE TRUTH IS SACRIFICE at the expense of 1,674 Filipino civilians.

Please pay our services .. our old services .. so that it will uplift a little out of our poverty, for we are very poor. We need the pay very badly now for our health and old age and for our widows, orphans and children.

We are enclosing two affidavits of disinterested persons and the MUTUAL AGREEMENT of the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt of the United States of America and the late President Manuel L. Quezon of the Commonwealth of the Philippines , further proof or to indicate further evidence of our Civilian Services and to indicate further proof of the Agreement of the Two Late Presidents, respectively, for payment of the same. For sentimental reason, we hope that this New Administration will Honor the Agreement of the two late Presidents, being of the same Party.

WE HOPE that this request for - RE-EXAMINATION - of our case will be CONSIDERED AND ATTENDED by the Honorable Gentlemen of this august Body.

We Hereby Affix our signature in our SACRED BLOOD to show to the World the TRUTH of our case and the GENUINENESS of our claim this 8th day of February, 1961, at Dumaguete City, PHILIPPINES.

Bernardo Villas
BERNARDO VILLAS
OverAll Leader

Simeon Mongcopa
SIMEON MONGCOFA
1st Vice-OverAll Leader

Antonio Vendiola
ANTONIO VENDIOLA
2nd Vice-OverAll Leader

WE, the undersigned, representatives of the 1,674 claimants hereby concur with the foregoing:

Bernie ...
Roman ...
Luis ...
Marian ...
...

Julio Tuballa
Defini ...
...
Melanie ...
Lorenz ...
Sergio ...

Justiniano Galatay
Francisco Manabeng
Juan Teguer

Romulo Tomalaca
Torres Calopez
Angel Abonon
Melchor P. Gage
Arsenio Abonon
Sergio Abonon
Mimo Dalea

Eusebio Ocho

Eutiquio A. Salgado
Pablo Salgado
Vicente Salgado

Victor Salgado
Benito Salgado

Gregorio Salgado
Angel Salgado
Ferdinand Salgado
Santos Salgado
Felix Salgado
Manuel Salgado
Pablo Salgado

Alvaro Salgado
Luis Salgado
Emilio Salgado
Anselmo Salgado
Pablo Salgado
Felix Salgado
Manuel Salgado

Abel Salgado
Cecilio Salgado
Francisco Salgado

Relacion de nombres:
Francisco Salgado
Francisco Salgado
Francisco Salgado
Francisco Salgado
Francisco Salgado
Francisco Salgado
Francisco Salgado
Francisco Salgado
Francisco Salgado
Francisco Salgado

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Authority 883 078



PHOTOS SUBMITTED W/LTR DTD 15 FEB 61

To: Dumaguete City
Philippines

Hon. John F. Kennedy

A souvenir for the
Mark X - Sergio Lopez

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City



KNOW ALL MEN:
On this 8th day of February 1961,
we signed our names in Sacred
Blood, in the House of Sandugo de
Villas, at 58 Luke E. Wright Street,
Dumaguete City, Philippines.

PHOTOS SUBMITTED W/LTR DTD 15 FEB 61

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 883 078

To:

Davao City
Philippines

Hon. John F. Kennedy?

A Souvenir from the
Gen. H. L. Landa - Mack &

Remando Villa



KNOW ALL MEN:
On this 8th day of February 1961,
we signed our names in Sacred
Blood, in the House of Sandugo de
Villas, at 58 Luke E. Wright Street,
Damaguete City, Philippines.

PHOTOS SUBMITTED W/LTR DTD 15 FEB 61

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 883 078

10:

Hon.

Dumaguete City
Philippines

John F. Kennedy;
A Surgeon from the
Overseas Leader - Mark F

Benardo Villa

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 883 078

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On this 8th day of February 1961,
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PHOTOS SUBMITTED W/LTR DTD 15 FEB 61

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 883 078

To:

Dumaguete City
Philippines

~~Hon~~ John F. Kennedy:

A Souvenir from the
Over All Leader - Mark F

Romaldo Villas

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Authority 883 078

Handwritten notes on a white strip of paper, partially visible on the left edge of the page.

646

PHOTOS SUBMITTED W/LTR DTD 15 FEB 61

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ACAR 345-250

SUBJECT: Bolo Battalion Petition

THRU: Chief, Adm Svc Div
TAGO

FROM: CO USARCN

20 FEB 1969 COMMENT NO. 2
en/765

TO: Chief, Compt Div, TAGO

1. No record has been found to show that a request for guerrilla recognition was filed with the Guerrilla Affairs Division from an organization known as the Bolo Battalion, South Negros Sector.

2. From the information furnished in letter 7 January 1959 to Judiciary Committee, U. S. House of Representatives, the purported activities took place within the geographical limits of the overall guerrilla command recognized by the United States Army under the title 7th Military District (PA) which comprised the islands of Negros and Siquijor in the Philippines.

3. The historical files of the Guerrilla Affairs Division records disclose that "Bolo Organization" were not "forgotten" as purported by the petitioner - claimants. Investigating officers found a great variety of units which fell into three general categories; (1) Combat, (2) Sabotage and Demolition, and (3) Intelligence. A fourth category, volunteer units appeared in late 1945 and early 1946. Only the first three have been considered by the Guerrilla Affairs Division. Volunteer type units have been known under the designations: (1) Volunteer Guards, (2) Home Guards (3) Women's Auxiliary Services, (4) Men's Auxiliary Services, (5) Air Raid Wardens, (6) Bolo Units, (7) Spearman Units, (8) Blade Weapons Units, and (9) First Aiders.

4. The recognition of all type of guerrilla claims was based upon "Five Points" or requirements for recognition: A brief synopsis of which is as follows:

a. Point 1. Maintenance of the unit in the field and in such a manner as to have contributed materially to the defeat of the enemy.

b. Point 2. Establishment of a definite organization with ranks comparable to a PA or US Army table of organization (no guerrillas to be recognized in General rank) and maintenance of adequate records.

c. Point 3. Adequate control maintained by unit commander. Sphere of operations and unit strengths to be commensurate with terrain and situation.

d. Point 4. Continuity of activity since formation.

e. Point 5. Full time efforts on part of members.

5. Specifically disqualifying a unit from recognition were any one or a combination of the following:

a. Dispersal of personnel to other units.

b. Preying upon civilian population.

c. Unwarranted attacks upon other guerrilla units.

d. Dissolution under pressure and failure to reorganize

250/2

ACAR 345-250

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TAGO

FROM: CO USARCEN

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d. Dissolution under pressure and failure to reorganize

250/2

AGCR

SUBJECT: Bolo Battalion Petition

20 FEB 1959

e. Part time activities.

The first three of the foregoing were considered as corollaries to Point 3, the fourth to Point 4, and the fifth to Point 5.

6. Statements by Commanding Officers of a number of the larger and better organized guerrilla Units throughout the Philippines indicated that although the services of such Units (Volunteer type Units) aided considerably in the maintenance of their organizations, they did not consider such services warranted the extension of status as a member of the Philippine Army with attendant pay, allowances and veteran's benefits. Because a volunteer type unit could not comply with Points 1, 3, and 5, the Guerrilla Affairs Division determined that such units, when so identified would be automatically not favorably considered for recognition without the formality of a field investigation.

7. The records pertaining to the recognition of the 7th Military District (PA) contains the following statement of Lt. Col. Salvador Abeede who is officially recognized:

"As District Commander, 7th Military District (Negros & Siquijor) (Recognized Guerrilla). I hereby state the following facts:

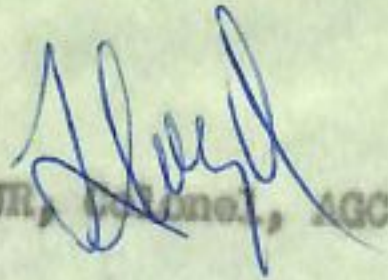
1. That all the units in my jurisdiction worthy of recognition as guerrilla organizations have been recognized.

2. That Civilian Volunteer Guards and other similar organizations in my area were organized and rendered valuable assistance and service to my organization. However, under the category of military units, these civilian organizations having been formed under civilian initiative and without any military semblance cannot be recognized as military guerrilla organizations".

8. Records for Guillermo E. Alcoran and Bernardo P. Villas, identified as two of the petitioners, show that they alleged service with the 75th Infantry 7th Military District. No record was located for Simeon Mongcopa nor is he listed on the approved guerrilla rosters. Of these three, only Guillermo E. Alcoran has status as a recognized guerrilla. Summaries of the information contained in files of Guillermo E. Alcoran and Bernardo P. Villas are attached.

3 Incls
Added 2 incl
2-3. Summaries

C. J. BARRY JR., Colonel, AGC
Commanding



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Authority 883 078

AGCR
//THRU Chief, Adm Svs Div,
TAGO

Bolo Battalion Petition
Chief, Compt Div, TAGO

12 FEB 1959
Mr. Gordon/wjh/73893

TO CO, USARCEN, TAGO

1. Reference is made to the inclosed note from Mr. William P. Shattuck, Counsel for the House Judiciary Committee, and copy of a petition from the Bolo Battalion, dated 7 January 1959.

2. Request the following be furnished by 20 February 1959:

a. Background information on the Bolo Battalion and whether this organization filed for guerrilla recognition. If the organization was considered for guerrilla recognition, give the basis on which recognition was denied.

b. Background information on Guillermo Alcoran, Simeon Mongcopa, and Bernardo Villas. If claims were filed by these petitioners, give a summary of their cases.

DAVID H. ARP, COL, AGC
Asst Chief, Compt Div, TAGO

LEONIDAS GAVALAS, Colonel, AGC
Chief, Comptroller Division, TAGO

1 Incl
Memo w/cy of petition



AGCR
//THRU Chief, Adm Svs Div,
TAGO

Bolo Battalion Petition
Chief, Compt Div, TAGO

12 FEB 1959
Mr. Gordon/wjh/73893

TO CO, USARGEN, TAGO

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b. Background information on Guillermo Alcoran, Simeon Mongcopa, and Bernardo Villas. If claims were filed by these petitioners, give a summary of their cases.

DAVID H. ARP, COL, AGC
Asst Chief, Compt Div, TAGO

1 Incl
Memo w/cy of petition

LEONIDAS GAVALAS, Colonel, AGC
Chief, Comptroller Division, TAGO



TO: SAC, WASHINGTON, TAGO
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK, TAGO
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

1. Reference is made to the enclosed note from Mr. William P. Shattuck, General Counsel for the House Judiciary Committee, and copy of a petition from the Holo Petition, dated 7 January 1959.

2. Request the following be furnished by 20 February 1959:

a. Background information on the Holo Petition and whether this organization is listed for guerrilla registration. If the organization was considered for guerrilla registration, give the date on which registration was denied.

b. Background information on William Alton, Simon Hengstler, and Bernardo Villar. If claims were filed by these petitioners, give a summary of their cases.

DAVID H. KAP, GOV, AGO
Asst. Dir., Comp. Div., TAGO

LEWIS GAVAN, Colonel, AGO
Chief, Computer Division, TAGO

1 copy
Enclosure



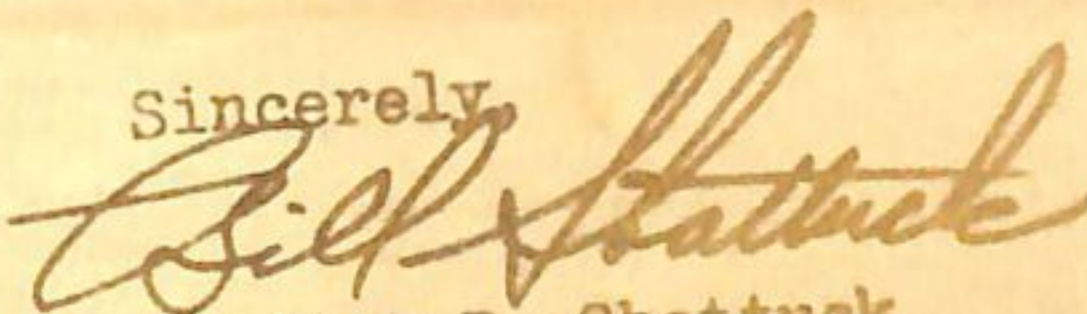
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MEMORANDUM

Dear Mr. McCool:

Here is a copy of the petition referred to the committee about which I talked with you. I trust that this will give you the general information necessary to identify this matter.

Sincerely,



William P. Shattuck
Counsel

Room 327, Old House Office
Building

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

883 078

**BOLO BATTALION IN THE FIELD
Negros Resistance Movement
SOUTH NEGROS SECTION
World War No. II
Dumaguete City, Philippines**

7 January 1959

**The Honorable Gentleman
Judiciary Committee
House of Representatives, CONGRESS
Washington, D. C.**

Dear Honorable Gentleman :

Please allow us to address this august body our case by PROXY through
Representation how our discontentment turned into a Petition, THE MOST DEMOCRATIC
RESORT. PLEASE UNDERSTAND AND HEAR US :

ORIGIN OF THE BOLO BATTALION IN THE FIELD : The Bolo Battalion in the Field
composed of uneducated and simple men from the Rural Areas who operated in the
war zone or around enemy territory during World War No. II, in the Resistance
Movement in Negros Province (SNS), These men risked their lives as much as the
guerrillas and were forced cruelly to labor for the existence of the Resistance
Movement in Negros Oriental. Some fought valiantly in arms and got killed leaving
their widows and orphans in poverty. Without these men there would have been no
food and without food there would have been no resistance movement during the
Philippine ~~struggle~~ which was then under AMERICA.

The SERVICES of the Bolo Battalion in the Field were COMMANDEERED without just
compensation by the UNITED STATES FORCES IN THE PHILIPPINES (USAFIP), There was no
other recourse, it was emergency Washington D.C. was still building a mighty
force, - BUT WHY WITHOUT BACK WAGES - that is something they cannot understand.

When the UNITED STATES FORCES finally arrived, everybody was happy especially
the USAFIP. They were so pleased that they forget to mention the Bolo Battalion in
the Field - who had supported them in the struggle for freedom. They were compensated
so handsomely that they didn't mind the situation of the Bolo Battalion in the Field.
They were arrogant and selfish. They were so greedy of money that they see and
forget them not.

FOR THIRTEEN YEARS the Bolo Battalion in the Field WAITED AND WORKED for the
AMERICANS TO SEE AND REALIZE IT THEMSELVES, but it was all in vain. A LAW IN FAVOR
OF THE BOLO BATTALION IN THE FIELD NEVER CAME OUT. The longing of compensation was
forever a nightmare - because the men who would have helped them conveyed to the
United States their desire, - were busy thinking of themselves only.

FINALLY AFTER THIRTEEN YEARS OF UNREASING MEDITATION THE VOICES OF UNHEARD
SUFFER IN UNISON DIRECTLY TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES. They want the
American people to know what's really lurking in their hearts. They looked up to
the UNITED STATES CONGRESS DIRECTLY - because other people mind them not. They want
the United States Congress to treat them DIRECTLY - because the AMERICAN PEOPLE
ARE GOOD AND UNBROKEN.

THE PETITIONER-CLAIMANTS humbly request the HONORABLE GENTLEMEN of the House
of Congress that the one to handle this case will come DIRECTLY from the Congress
of the UNITED STATES AND DIRECTLY TO US, AT DUMAGUETE CITY, PHILIPPINES.

Very truly yours,

Bernardo Villas

**BERNARDO VILLAS 066132
Colonel, USAF (Inactive)**

[Signature]
**BERNARDO ALONSO 066036
Lt. Colonel, USAF (Inactive)**

[Signature]
**BERNARDO ALONSO 066133
Major, USAF (Inactive)**

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Summary of Evidence in file of Bernardo P. Villas

1. In his Processing affidavit (PA AGO Form 23), 10 May 1946, subject alleged service in E Co., 2nd Bn, 75th Inf, 7th MD from 5 October 1942 to 1 October 1945, date discharged. The following evidence was submitted with Form 23:
 - a. Affidavit of Luis V. Montebon, 12 May 1946, attesting to subject's induction into the USFIP on 1 Aug 43. Affiant further claims Villas served until captured on 16 December 1943.
 - b. Affidavit of David R. Cirilo, 20 May 1946, attesting the same facts as affiant Montebon.
 - c. Affidavit of David R. Cirilo, 18 May 1946, attesting to the fact that Villas was not paid from 5 October 1942 to 31 July 1943 because of no authority or funds. Further, it is alleged that he was not paid from 1 January 1944 to 29 September 1945 because he was captured by the enemy on 16 December 1943.
2. Determination under the Missing Persons Act for settlement of pay (indicated as 201 File copy) showing no pay due- not recognized.
3. Letter, 1 December 1946, from S/I to Officer incharge AFWESPAC, requesting his claim number.
4. Letter, 13 December 1946 from Recovered Personnel Division, AFWESPAC, to S/I, Subject: "Status of Claim for Arrears in Pay" indicating the assignment of claim number asking that he submit clearance Loyalty Status Board.
5. Letter, 31 October 1947, from Recovered Personnel Division, Philippine-Ryukyus Command to S/I notifying him that from the retained financial records of the Philippine Commonwealth Army, it was discovered that he did not receive current pay and allowances during the liberation or immediate post-liberation period indicating that he was not present with his unit during the time it was being recognized and utilized by American Forces. He was further notified that for his claim to receive proper consideration it would be necessary for him to submit evidence as to the reason for his absence from his organization during those critical liberation periods.
6. Letter, postmarked 23 April 1948, from S/I to Commanding General, Philippine-Ryukyus Command, requesting the status of his claim for arrears in pay.
7. Letter, 30 April 1948, from Recovered Personnel Division, Philippine-Ryukyus Command, to S/I notifying him that he was not a recognized guerrilla and therefore not entitled to arrears in pay.

8. Letter, 15 July 1958, from S/I to Commanding Officer, Philippine-Ryukyus Command, requesting his back pay be adjudicated immediately or advised that he is not entitled or not considered for such pay.
9. Letter, 5 August 1948, to 1st Lt. McNeill from S/I attaching the following evidence:
 - a. Affidavit of Pio Siplon, 29 December 1947, attesting to Villas induction into the guerrillas and his casualty status from 1 January 1944 to 29 September 1945 (captured by enemy, date not indicated, and sick of Malaria).
 - b. Affidavit of Gerardo Palagoe, 29 December 1947, claiming to have treated S/I for Malaria from January 1944 to 29 September 1945.
 - c. SO #31, Headquarters, 75th Infantry, 7th Military District, dated 31 August 1943 listing Villas, Bernardo as having been inducted into the United States Forces in the Philippine and assigned to 75th Infantry, effective 1 August 1943.
10. Letter, 21 August 1948, Recovered Personnel Division, PHIL-RYUKYUS Command to S/I, referring to his inquiry and indicating that his guerrilla service was not officially recognized.
11. Subject's name is not found listed on any Guerrilla Affairs Division approved guerrilla rosters, therefore, he has no recognized guerrilla service.

Summary of Claim File of Guillermo E. Alcoran

Summary of Claim File of Guillermo E. Alcoran (Cont'd)

1. In his initial processing affidavit (PA AGO Form 23), 28 Sep 45, subject alleged service with I Co, 75th Inf from 24 Apr 43 to 29 Mar 45 and a period of illness and civilian status from 30 Mar 45 to date of processing on 28 Sep 45.
2. A later processing affidavit (PA AGO Form 23), 5 Apr 46, subject alleged service with G Co, 2nd Bn, 75th Inf from 22 Apr 43 to 27 May 45 and sick of Malaria from 28 May 45 to 30 Sep 45, date processed.
3. Determination under the Missing Persons Act for settlement of arrears in pay was made 31 Oct 47 by Hq RPD Philrycom showing entitlement to pay from 25 Apr 43 to 28 Mar 45. This determination sheet was cancelled because of non-receipt of initial current pay on the payroll of his organization while under the operational control of the United States Army. This action was taken on the basis of notification, 20 Jan 49, from Chief, Finance Service, Armed Forces of the Philippines.
4. Letter, 12 Mar 49, from S/I to Arrears in Pay Division acknowledging letter from Office of the Auditor indicating his claim was being redetermined and requesting status of his claim.
5. Letter, 16 Jun 49, from Headquarters, PHILCOM, subject: "Status of Claim for Arrears in Pay" to subject indicates "claim returned by Finance Service, HNDP, Camp Murphy for the reason that veteran did not receive initial current pay indicating that he was not present with his organization during liberation or immediate post liberation period.
6. Letter, 30 Jun 49, from S/I to Headquarters PHILCOM, submitting copies of medical certificate and affidavit for use in reconsidering his claim.
7. Letter, 25 Jul 49, from S/I to Headquarters, PHILCOM, requesting the status of his claim for arrears in pay.
8. Letter, 25 Aug 49, from Headquarters, PHILCOM, to S/I, conveying the same information as contained in letter of 16 Jun 49.
9. The name Guillermo E. Alcoran is listed on the Guerrilla Affairs Division roster for the 7th Military District showing his organization as 75th Inf Regt. (Initial date of recognition of unit 8 Jul 43 and revised date is 17 Nov 42.
10. Evidence on file submitted by S/I are as follows:
 - a. Affidavit of Demetrio Alviola, 10 Apr 46, attests to S/I's induction on 22 Apr 43 and processing on 1 Oct 45.
 - b. Affidavit of Cesario T. Tubat, 10 Apr 46, attests to same facts as affiant Alviola.
 - c. Affidavit of Federico Ridad, 31 Jan 46, attests to S/I's induction on 22 Apr 43, and to the fact that he was not paid for period 1 Jul 45 to 30 Sep 45.

Summary of Claim File of Guillermo E. Alcoran (Cont'd)

- d. Affidavit of S/I, 29 Sep 48, indicating the periods for which he was paid.
- e. Affidavit of S/I, 12 Mar 48, claiming he joined guerrilla 22 Apr 43 and was given verbal official sick leave on 28 May 45. Alcoran further claimed he could not report for processing until 1 Oct 45.
- f. Certificate of Ricardo Dion, 13 Apr 46, certifying that Private Guillermo Alcoran had been physically examined on 28 May 45 and found to be suffering pulmonary tuberculosis. (Dates of treatment are not alleged and the document is not in proper form to support any alleged illness).

11. On the basis of request of VA Form 3101, 8 Jun 55, a report was furnished 27 Jul 55 showing subject served as Pvt, 75th Inf Regt, 7th MD and had status as follows:

Recognized Guerrilla Service 24 Apr 43 to 29 Mar 45.
No Casualty Status 30 Mar 45 to 27 Sep 45.
Recognized Guerrilla Service 28 Sep 45 to 1 Oct 45.

G. E. Gaillard/iv
Claims Examiner

~~Confidential~~

RRJ

Report on the Lanao Military Sector, Fighting Bolo Battalion Unit, United States Army Forces in the Philippines

Report app'd & individual letters of unfavorable consideration issued 7/19/58

1. The following report concerns the overall command of the Lanao Military Sector, Fighting Bolo Battalion Unit, United States Army Forces in the Philippines, consisting of approximately 128 different units. A partial list of the larger units are listed in paragraph 3 below. The Lanao Military Sector, Fighting Bolo Battalion Unit, (LMS, FBPU, USAFIP), is also known as the "Fighting Blade Weapons Division" and the "Fighting Blood Weapon Division". A physical investigation of the unit in the field was not made nor considered necessary or desirable, but the commanding officer and other persons having pertinent knowledge of the unit's activities were contacted either personally or by correspondence. The statements of those contacted, and a complete study of the records of the unit, are reflected in the findings.

2. A few of the subordinate units of the Fighting Blade Weapons Division have been previously and separately not favorably considered for recognition by this headquarters. It was considered at that time that those units were only independent "Bolo Units". When this overall command was studied, these units were included for reconsideration. This report will support the previous discussion of these subordinate units of the Fighting Blade Weapons Division, and at the same time take into consideration the overall command and other subordinate units of that command, now pending under request for recognition.

3. The following is a partial list of subordinate units comprising the Lanao Military Sector, Fighting Bolo Battalion Unit, United States Army Forces in the Philippines:

- First Coastal Regiment
- Third Coastal Regiment
- Fourth Coastal Regiment
- First Bolo Regiment
- Second Basak Regiment
- Third Basak Regiment
- First Unayan Regiment
- First Separate Regiment
- Western Lanao Troop Movement
- Upland Infantry Regiment
- Western Lanao Separate Special Bn
- Bolo Battalions
- Separate Battalions and Companies
- Special Battalions and Companies
- Attached Battalions and Companies
- Provisional Battalions

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4. ALLEGED HISTORY:

a. Prior to the arrival of the Japanese invading Forces on Mindanao, Brigadier General Guy O. Fort, commanding the 81st Division, USAFFE, Lanao Military Sector, organized the "Bolo Battalion," for the purpose of aiding the 81st Division. The missions of the Bolo Battalion were as follows:

- (1) Guarding the beaches in order to give timely warning in case of enemy landings.
- (2) Acting as Labor Battalions when so desired.
- (3) Guarding bridges and roads.
- (4) Guarding ammunitions, supplies and other military installations.
- (5) Suppressing fifth column activities.

b. The "Lanao Military Sector" was divided into four units. Each unit was composed of several groups or companies, as many as there were municipalities or municipal districts in the unit. Each group or company was commanded by a Senior Leader, usually the Mayor of the municipality or municipal district, and two other leaders selected from the group or company. Each Bolo Battalion Unit was commanded by a Unit Commander; the four Bolo Battalion Units which comprised the "Lanao Military Sector" were commanded by Sector Commander, supposedly an officer of the USAFFE.

c. On 21 May 1942, six days prior to the surrender of the 81st Division, General Fort ordered Datu Busran Kalaw to take command of the entire Blade Weapons Forces (Fighting Bolo Battalion Units), which were then extended along the coast from Iligan to Cabuano Barracks and on the Lake-Shore of Lake Lanao. On 27 May 1942, the 81st Division, USAFFE, surrendered, and three days later Datu Busran Kalaw reorganized the Bolo Battalions. "To this organization, everybody was permitted to join-members of the former Bolo Battalions, ex-USAFFE, Civil Government employees" - Numerous companies, battalions and regiments were organized, until all the regions of Lanao, not occupied by the Japanese were covered. The organization was partly completed on 31 August 1942, and consisted of approximately ten (10) regiments, several separate, special provisional, combat, and attached battalions and companies, with a total strength of approximately 35,000 officers and men.

d. The activities of the unit consisted primarily in continuing civil and military government and the care and protection of civilians. A few claimed skirmishes with the Japanese are discussed in more detail in the findings of this report.

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BYTAG/SJ

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e. On or about December 1942, Lt Col Hedges, commanding officer of the 108th Division, 10th MD, began to organized the Moros into the Maranao Militia Forces, (MMF). Datu Busran Kalaw and approximately 8,000 members of the Bolo Battalion Units were inducted into this unit; and were subsequently recognized as the Maranao Militia Force (MMF) of the 108th Division, 10th Military District.

f. For further information relating to the alleged history of the Lanao Military Sector, Fighting Bolo Battalion Unit, United States Army Forces in the Philippines, see attached unit files.

5. FINDINGS:

a. The following persons were interviewed or questioned by letter and their statements are reflected in the findings:

- Gen Calixto Duque D C/S, HPA, formally C/S 81st Div, USAFFE
- Datu Busran Kalaw CO, LMS, FBBU, USAFIP
- Col W. W. Fertig CO, 10th Military Dist
- Edward M. Kuder An American educator in Lanao
- Datu Mangoda G-2 of Bolo Battalion
- Lt Maniaba Aguan Member of unit, later joined MMF, recognized with 10th MD
- Datu Mangoda Maulana Member of unit, but does not know position
- Mama Komayat " " " " " "
- Datu Darangina Diampuan CO, Diamaa Islam Unit
- Major F. M. Matas CO, Philippine Militia Forces, and later recognized with MMF
- Federico Salamet " " " " " "
- Major Gabal Ex O to G-4, HPA, formally A C/S-G-2, 81st Div, USAFFE
- Antonio Pace Recognized Moro with 10th MD
- Alfredo Quilban Member of Philippine Militia Forces of Mindanao & Sulu

b. Records of service were not substantiated by sufficient acceptable evidence. The Lanao Military Sector, FBBU, USAFIP, and its subordinate units, as presented for recognition, was not in any sense a well-organized guerrilla unit. Prior to the surrender of the 81st Division, USAFFE, the Bolo Battalions were used by General Fort as "Bolo Units", "Farmer Battalions", and "Labor Battalions". According to the "Guerrilla Resistance Movements in the Philippines", a collection of monographs previously published by the Philippine Sub-Section, G-2, General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, the Moros were under their own leaders, but had been paid by the USAFFE prior to the surrender. But even if they had not been paid, their activities would not constitute a claim

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for guerrilla activities, but rather would be a claim for pay as labor battalions in aiding the 81st Division. Letter Order from General Fort to Datu Kalaw, ordering him to take command of the Blade Weapon Forces does not necessarily prove that the unit continued as a well-organized unit. The Guerrilla Resistance Movement in the Philippines (extract as Incl 1) and letter from Col. W. W. Fertig, (Incl 2) state that when the Japanese invading forces landed at Davao the Moro Force dissolved rapidly, and that the activities against the enemy as claimed by the Lanao Military Sector, after the surrender of the 81st Division were not the activities of the Blade Weapon Units, but a general and spontaneous uprising of the people. The records of the unit, such as General Orders, S-1 Reports, and S-2 Reports, consist primarily of promotion papers of the members of the unit. Promotions were made periodically. Each month most officers were promoted to one higher rank.

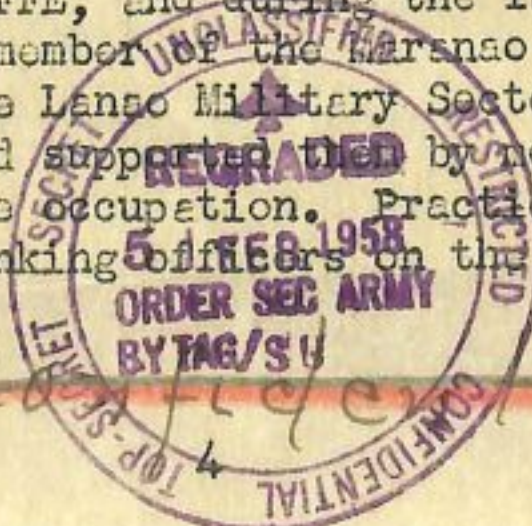
c. The unit was not maintained satisfactorily in the field in opposition to the enemy, for prior to 27 May 1942 the 81st Division, USAFFE, dominated the area and subsequent to Sept 1942 the Maranao Militia Forces of the 10th Military District, a recognized guerrilla organization of approximately 8,000 former members from the claimant Bolo Battalions, dominated the area. Resistance activities against the Japanese during the 3-months period between these dates consisted of an uprising of the people of Lanao, and not in guerrilla activity by the LMS, FEBU, USAFIP. The statements of guerrilla leaders, as discussed in paragraphs 5i, 5j, 5k, indicate that the Bolo Battalions was not maintained after the surrender of the 81st Division.

d. Activities of the unit did not contribute materially to the eventual defeat of the enemy. The "Guerrilla Resistance Movements of the Philippines", brings to the attention that the Moros were neither a valuable ally nor a dangerous enemy. The principal claim for recognition by the LMS, FEBU, USAFIP, is based upon two local battles with the Japanese in September and October 1942. The Diamaa Islam Unit, a bitter foe of Kalaw, under Datu Diampuan, also claims credit for these engagements, as indicated above and by incls. 2 and 3, written by individuals having personal knowledge. These battles can not be accepted as the activities of this or any other organized guerrilla unit. The Lanao Military Sector, FEBU, USAFIP, is therefore claiming activities which were executed by the initiative of a resentful and angered tribe, rather than by their units.

e. A definite organization was not established. Prior to 27 May 1942, Datu Busran Kalaw was an intelligence agent of the 81st Division, USAFFE, and during the latter months of the same year he became a member of the Maranao Militia Force. Officers and enlisted men of the Lanao Military Sector, FEBU, LMS, lived with their families and supported them by means of normal civilian pursuits throughout the occupation. Practically all of the battalion commanders and ranking officers on the roster of

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this unit were mayors of the various towns or held other political positions during the Japanese occupation. The members of the unit who were interviewed, with the exception of the leaders, could not give their positions within the various units and most of them stated that there was very little organization within the unit.

f. Adequate records were not maintained. Monthly rosters, appointment and promotion papers, dated back as far as 1942, were submitted as records; but an examination of these papers showed that most of the monthly rosters were made at one time, using carbon papers and leaving the dates blank, so that the date could be placed in later. Furthermore the paper used did not show the wear and tear of paper that had been used since 1942.

g. Unit did not show satisfactorily continuity of activity and organization. Colonel W. W. Fertig, commanding the 10th MD, states that this unit did nothing to stop the Japanese (See Incl 2) advance and were more harmful than helpful to the USAFFE. "The Guerrilla Resistance Movement in the Philippines", supports this statement of unsatisfactory continuity of activity and organization by declaring that the Moro forces dissolved rapidly after the Japanese landed in Davao. The unit could not show any conclusive supporting evidence which would sustain their claims of activity subsequent to the surrender of the 81st Division.

h. Members of the unit did not devote their entire effort to military activities in the field to the exclusion of normal civilian occupation and family obligations. The members of the unit holding political positions, such as mayors, continued to remain in office during the Japanese occupation. The members of the unit who were common farmers and laborers continued their normal pursuits.

i. Attached hereto, as inclosure 2, is the first indorsement, dated 15 January 1947, from Colonel Wendell Fertig in answer to letter from this headquarters requesting information regarding the Fighting Blade Weapons Unit. Colonel Fertig, formerly with General Fort, later became commanding officer of the 10th Military District. In his indorsement Colonel Fertig emphasized that the Blade Weapons Unit (also known as the Lanao Military Sector, FBBU, USAFIP) did nothing to stop the Jap advance and contributed nothing to the resistance prior to the surrender. He further states that the period from the surrender to the organization of the Maranao Militia Forces on December 1942 was one of non-resistance, except for the resistance of a group of Moros under Manalao Mandalinao, whose name is not included as one of the leaders of the Lanao Military Sector, FBBU, USAFIP, whereas he is recognized as the regimental commander of the 127th Regiment, MMF, 10th MD. Colonel Fertig further states that the encounter between the Japanese and the Moros was occasioned by a general uprising of the people and not by the Blade Weapons Units. Col. Fertig recommends that the Blade Weapon Units and associated units in the province of Lanao be not recognized.

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j. Attached herewith as inclosure 3, is a memo to Lt Col Shaftoe, former Chief of Guerrilla Affairs Branch, from Edward M. Kuder regarding the Bolo Battalions under Busran Kalaw. (It must be noted that the "Diana Islam" unit mentioned in his report is not a part of the Lanao Military Sector, FBBU, USAFIP) Mr. Kuder was an American educator who had spent years educating the Moros before the war and who later became Director of Civil Affairs for Lanao under Colonel W. W. Fertig. This memo indicated that the Lanao Military Sector, FBBU, USAFIP, is a racketeering organization, which had inducted practically all of its members into the unit during the years 1945 and 1946, and that the leaders have been collecting fees from the members inducted. Mr. Kuder has full knowledge of the activities of Lanao, during the occupation, and he recommends that this unit be refused recognition completely.

k. A letter "To Whom It May Concern", from General Calixto Duque formerly Chief of Staff, 81st Division, (USAFFE), and at present Deputy Chief of Staff, Army of the Philippines, was presented as supporting evidence of Kalaw's activities. On interviewing General Duque, he stated that he had been with the 81st Division until the surrender and was then prisoner of war in Mindanao until January 1943. He acknowledges the appointment of Datu Busran Kalaw as special agent of the G-2 Section 81st Division, but he did not know of any of Kalaw's activities after the surrender. He further stated that the Moros of Lanao were very destructive after the surrender of the 81st Division. He asserted that the Moros had ambushed some of the USAFFE members of the 81st Division while they were escaping to the hills. He also claimed that there was no organization of the Moro people and that they were a great hindrance to the people of Lanao, especially the Christians, for the Moros had attacked various Christian barrios, had raped and killed the inhabitants and had looted houses. General Duque had heard of the defeat of the Japanese at Tapanan, but he did not know how it was accomplished.

l. An affidavit from Major Dominador Garcia, formally AC of S, G-3, 81st Infantry Division, USAFFE, was forwarded as evidence of the existence of the Bolo Battalions. When interviewed, Major Garcia stated that he knew nothing of the Activities of Kalaw, or the Bolo Battalion, after the surrender of the 81st Division.

m. Attached herewith as inclosure 4, is a confidential report from Operative Number one, Intelligence Section, MPC, PA, Lanao Province, Operative Number, Lt Manioba Aguan, a native of Lanao and former member of the Bolo Battalions, later became a member of the Maranao Militia Force. It is noted, that within the report, Lt Aguan brings out the fact that after the surrender of the 81st Division, many of the members of the Bolo Battalion became Collaborators, infamous looters, robbers, bandits, etc., while others continued their normal pursuits. He further states that the roster and orders submitted to this headquarters were ante-dated, and that the cadre of the Bolo Battalion are members of the already recognized Maranao Militia Forces.

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n. Datu Darangina Diampuan, a non-recognized guerrilla leader, who had operated in Lanao, claims that Datu Kalaw had never had an organized unit after the surrender of the 81st Division. He further stated that Kalaw is using the Bolo Battalion as a money-making proposition, in that, he is charging the members for their membership. Datu Darangina Diampuan also claims that the Moros of the former Bolo Battalion under Kalaw were more destructive during the Japanese occupation than they were constructive. ✓

o. It should be emphasized that the Moros of Lanao were organized into the Maranao Militia Force, with a strength of approximately 6,000 members. The Maranao Militia Force was recognized with the 10th Military District as part of the 108th Division. The dates of recognition of the Maranao Militia Force were revised back to 16 September 1942. This recognition and revision constitutes adequate and just recognition of military services the Moros of Lanao to the war effort.

p. No useful purpose will be served by any further investigation of this unit.

q. There are no individual members worthy of recognition with the exception of those already recognized with the Maranao Militia Force. Although some casualties are claimed in the rosters, it is assumed that these casualties occurred in the general uprising of the people, and not as members of an organized unit. These casualties or their heirs may continue to submit individual request for casualty recognition. ✓

6. POLITICAL ASPECTS: Most of the leading figures in the submitted rosters are political aspirants, indicating that the unit may be used to support these politicians in their attempts to gain office.

7. RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Lanao Military Sector, Fighting Bolo Battalion Unit, United States Army Forces in the Philippines, otherwise known as the Fighting Blade Weapons Division, be not favorably considered for recognition.

Robert L. Morton

ROBERT L. MORTON
Captain, Ord

See incls filed w/ Team Leader's
Report in GAD.



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Extract of Guerrilla Resistance Movements in the Philippines

The Moros and the Maranao Militia Force: The Moro problems on Mindanao have long been a source of discontent and unrest. The Moros are a distinct Mohammedan group and are found throughout the Sulus, along the southern coast of Zamboanga, the southern half of Lanao Province and across Cotabato to the Davao Gulf. The Maranao (Lanao) Moros are perhaps the bravest, proudest and the most intelligent of the Philippine Moro groups: Maranao (Lanao), Maguindanao (Cotabato) and the Tao-Sugs and Samals (Zamboanga and Sulu). Intelligence, courage and pride, however, do not make the Lanao Moro either a valuable ally or a dangerous enemy. His intelligence is more nearly sly cunning, going hand in hand with treachery. The Moro has little respect for the Christian Filipino and may always be antagonistic towards him.

Moro villages are small, usually built up around a farming community, and the inhabitants are usually related to each other. While each community is loyal to its own leader, the leaders of these inter-related communities form an association and have a group leader, or Datu, to whom all community leaders are loyal. For the past forty years Moros have been under the control of the Philippine Constabulary, but most of the Moros remember that they were once the absolute rulers of their areas and were free to rob and murder groups less powerful than themselves. With any relaxing of police authority many of them soon return to their ancient customs of robbery and murder, with loyalty only to their immediate leaders.

To prevent bloodshed between Moros and Christians, no Moros were allowed to live on the north coast of Lanao and none lived in Bukidnon. During the chaos following the surrender, Moros came down the north slopes of the Lanao hills and began molesting the Christians. MORGAN's retaliatory measures were so violent, however, that the feelings of the Moros were aroused more than ever, and it has been only with considerable care that the support and neutrality of the Moros was maintained. In the Dinas vicinity of southern Zamboanga no Christian dares set foot now as a result.

In January 1942, when it became evident that it would be difficult if not impossible to stem the tide of the Japanese invasion of the Philippines, Gen. FORT tried to bolster the Mindanao Force by organizing and placing thousands of Moros in holding defensive positions along key highways in the southern part of Mindanao. He organized the Moro Bolo Battalion, active young Moros armed with knives. The Moros were under their own leaders but were paid by USAFFE. They had little time for training and when the Japanese landed in Davao, the Moro force dissolved rapidly. Many prominent Moros were attached to this group and later became active in guerrilla activities.

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Lt. Col. HEDGES began to organize the Moros in December 1942 - January 1943. He collected most of the former members of the Bolo Battalion and formed the Maranao Militia Force. The early leaders of the Moros in guerrilla activities were: MINDALANO, former member of the Bolo Battalion, a hot tempered young Moro; Busran KALAN of Momungan; Datu LAGUINDAB of Ganassi; Joseph SANGUILLA of Munday and Madalum; and Datu BUNTALIS of Masiu.

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By late 1942 the Moros had collected a fairly large number of weapons. After the surrender they ransacked the battlefields and waylaid civilians and former USAFFE soldiers for weapons. The threat to the guerrilla organization was real. The efforts of Busran KALAW, MINDALANO, the Sultan of Ganassi and many others to bring the Moros into line is a monumental tribute to their respect for the American people. They were supported in their efforts by very small allotments of arms and supplies from the guerrilla headquarters. The one time location of the District Headquarters in Lanao and the presence of guerrilla leaders (such as Lt. Col. HEDGES and Mr. KUDER) who knew the Moros well, were fortunate in this connection.

For political reasons the Maranao Militia Force is maintained as a separate part of the 100th Division, and is probably the best armed single group of guerrillas on Mindanao. The present organization and strength of this force is as follows:

124th Regt, MMF, Hq Rupagon, Lanao	Off	EM
CO: Capt. Macaurog ARUMPAC	36	1,538
126th Regt, MMF		
CO: Maj. Busran KALAW	118	1,124
127th Regt, MMF, now sieging Malabang		
CO: Capt. Manalao MINDALANO	73	788
128th Regt, MMF, now sieging Malabang		
CO: Maj. Anonngo BAGUINDAALI	100	951
129th Regt, MMF, Hq Taraka, Lanao	78	1,202
1st Prov. Regt.	63	928
2nd Prov. Regt.	53	533
2nd, 4th, 6th 8th Separate Battalions	71	1,470
5 Separate Companies	5	307
	<u>597</u>	<u>8,841</u>
Total		

Lt. Naguib GUANDY, Chinese-Moro mestizo and pre-war mayor of Malabang, has been responsible for organizing Moro resistance south of Malabang on the Lanao coast. He has protected the Christians and has kept on good terms with the Japanese to obtain supplies. KALAW is a native of Momungan, Lanao, was mayor of Momungan at outbreak of the war and is ex-provincial treasurer of Lanao. He is an associate of Capt. MORGAN, and actively resisted the Japanese since 1942. MINDALANO is an ex-school inspector, clever and courageous, very hot tempered. He was the first to fight the Japanese after the USAFFE surrender. ARUMPAC was mayor of Lumbatan; clever, a little politico, a good manager and belongs to the Masonic order. BAGUINDAALI is popular as one of the first Moro guerrilla leaders.

W. S. ...

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Protacio Cabiao
 PROTACIO CABIAO
 1st Lt., Inf., AUS
 Chief, Records Section

(Incl 1)



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1st Ind.

15 January 47

SUBJECT: "Blade Weapons Division"

TO : The Commanding General, AFWESPAC, APO 707. From Co. Wendell W. Fertig, Det Pat Fitzsimons Gen Hospital, Denver 8, Colorado.

1. Conditions have not changed since I wrote my letter of 28 Mar 46, this same general subject, and I will reiterate the recommendation contained in that letter (Incl 3). Therefore in my opinion this group is not entitled to recognition for any activities following the organization of the 10th Military District on 16 Sept 42. All men who assisted my unit after that date have been included in regular unit rosters and duly recognized. Thus the Blade Weapon units are entitled to no consideration except for services rendered between the date of their organization (about Jan 42) and the date of 16 Sept 42.

2. That period comprises two general but diverse phases. The first covers the passive and active phase of the Mindanao campaign prior to the surrender of General Fort and his forces on 29 May 42. During the invasion period - April 30 - 4 May 42 - while I was actually with General Fort, he placed great confidence in the help to be gained from the Blade Weapon units which he had organized. This help was not forthcoming. THEY DID NOTHING TO STOP THE JAP ADVANCE. When the debacle followed after 4 May 42, the Moros engaged in wide scale looting. In July 42, Lt Col Charles Smith, CE (then a civilian employee of the USED) stated that General Fort was forced to surrender since his reserve food stores and ammunition had been looted by the Lanao Moros. From evidence, which I believe was conclusive, the Blade Weapon units contributed nothing to the resistance cause during this first phase.

3. The second phase of inertia that extended from 29 May 42 until 16 Sept 42, was one of quietness except for the continued resistance of Manalao Mandalinao (Now Representative from Lanao in the Philippine Legislature) and his group in conjunction with that of Datu Aguam. The Japs failed to win this group. In August, a company of Japanese were wiped out on the east shore of Lake Lanao, but this was done by a general uprising of the people and not by the Blade Weapons Units.

4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION- A careful study of this problem was made during the occupation period, and I found little evidence that the Blade Weapon units contributed to the fostering of the resistance movement. It is therefore recommended that this and associated units in the province of Lanao be NOT recognized.

Wendell W Fertig
Colonel CE

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~~Confidential~~Manila
9 June 1946

MEMO for Lt. Col Shaftoe, Chief, Guerrilla Affairs Division,
AFWESPAC, on Lanao Guerrillas.

THE DIAMA ISLAM

This is an organization which deserves considerable credit for providing the big impetus that turned most of the Lanao Moros against the Japs.

I was in Lanao, with the Moros and the guerrilla movement from the moment the Japs invaded Lanao, April 29-30, 1942 up to Sept 29, 1943. I was never in Japs hands, but had to leave Lanao for Australia by submarine on Sept 29, 1943, due to illness.

Hence, although I did not see the fights the Diama Islam put up, in fact was about 50 kilometers away, still I had eye-witness reports of it within two days afterward, and observed how the whole province rang with the exploit of Sept 12, 1942, and how the Moros were stirred up and inspired by it.

It is true there had been encounters and ambushes prior to this, but this was the first big pitched battle. The speed with which the Japs were overwhelmed and wiped out, all but one man, made an enormous impression on everyone including the Japs. Our intelligence at that time indicated that they asked for two divisions for Mindanao, one for Lanao alone and the other for the rest of the island. I do not think the Jap force was so large as the Diama leaders claimed, for I checked the number of dead several times with people who counted the corpses at the time. The figure I get most often from them was 129 Japs, and some Filipinos, used as cargadors by the Japs, who were caught in the circle of fire. The Moros did not bother to count them.

After this disaster the Japs bombed the whole east side of the Lake, where the fight occurred (Tamparan) for nearly a month, using from 3 to 11 planes daily, other tried again in mid-October 1942. This time they came with around 500-600 troops, in trucks, using the road around the north end of the lake.

They were again attacked by the Diama warriors and this time did not try to stand their ground, but fled to a wooded hill, losing some of their trucks in the process. At the hill, they were able to rally and hold off through attackers until the latter's ammunition ran low, and until reinforcements came to enable them to retreat. The Moros lost about 20 men in this fight and claimed heavy losses for the Japs, but as the Japs carried them dead and wounded away, we had to wait for our intelligence in Dansalan (Jap main garrison) to

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Page 1 of Incl 3



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report. This report put the Jap total casualties at under a hundred.

But the Japs never came back, and never again patrolled in the interior of Lanao, although they maintained their garrison at Dansalan by virtue of the highway to Iligan, and at Ganassi by means of the Lake, from Dansalan.

Thus, within five months after Corregidor, the interior country of Lanao was freed of the Japs and remained free. This was a remarkable achievement and is due largely to the Diama Islam.

Since the Japs never returned they had no more fighting to do, but did guard the lake to prevent supplies from reaching the Japs.

As the Diama Islam was self-supporting in the way of food, guns and ammunition, many of its members found economic pressure too strong hence joined the Maranao Militia Force under Col. Fertig, some months later, for the sake of better pay and supply.

Pride, perhaps misplaced, kept the others from joining and held them to something of a home guard organization.

Yet, it must not be forgotten that they battled and best the Japs before Fertig even started, and it must also be realized that had it not been for the beatings and fight they gave the Japs, Fertig's initially puny organization would in all likelihood have been crushed.

The Diama Islam rendered a real service.

Their leader claims 4,599 men on his roll. Personally, I think this is greatly exaggerated. I don't believe they could possibly have more than 2000 men. This jibes well with the population figures for that area, but, knowing as I do how factional the Moros are among themselves, I would examine even that figure with caution.

I believe the Diama Islam is entitled to some recognition after careful investigation.

The Bolo Battalion, under Busram Kalaw

I understand this outfit claims 40,000 members. If such is their claim it is the wildest fabrication. The "seat" of this organization was in the area along the Dansalan Iligan road. If it had 40,000 members why could it never close that road, nor take the Jap outpost of 20 men guarding the Pantas bridge, when between 1000 and 2000 Diama Islam could beat the Japs so badly in the Diama's home territory?

Page 2 of Incl 3

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Busran Kalaw, the Bolo Battalion leader, may claim credit for the Diama Islam's exploit at Tamparan. It may be true that he was there, but his back was to the Japs, and it was in trying to overtake him that the Japs ran into the Diama.

Busran never got closer than 5 kms to the Japs, and I never saw him with as many as 200 men, although I saw him a dozen of times during the guerrilla times.

There was a real Bolo Battalion organized by General Fort before the Japs came, April 29-30, 1942, but it never exceeded 5,000 men and virtually all of these joined the MMF under Fertig.

After Fort's surrender, to give him credit, Busran Kalaw tried to stir up resistance against the Japs, but he had a following only in his own area, Baluy, the thinnest populated area of Lanao. He could not possibly have had one thousand men.

It was not until late 1945 and now in 1946 that so many members were "enlisted" in their outfit. It has much racketeering in it, with contributions collected from the members to pay for preparing rosters, giving birthday or baptismal presents to its leaders and their children, sale of "commissions" etc. As it stands now it is 99% fake. One of its officers a "major" or "Lt. Col." Bulog Mangobara, was actually a dog of the Japanese and guided their patrols.

I would turn this outfit down, cold and completely.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Edward M. Kuder
Actg. Div. Supt, of Schools for Lanao
ex-Director of Civil Affairs for Lanao under
Col W. W. Fertig

Copy Reproduced - 24 April 1947

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HEADQUARTERS
LANAO PROVINCE
MILITARY POLICE COMMAND PA
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MA/33a-

APO 159
12 Apr 46

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Subject: Bolo Battalion, History of (Lanao Province)

TO : PFM, Lanao Prov, MPC, PA - APO 159

Fairly reliable if not very accurate story of the history of the Moro Bolo Battalion organization in Lanao, is here, submitted by this section not for jealousy nor selfishness, neither for aggrandizement, but as intelligence section of the Agency of the government, it will in some how dissipate any shadow of doubt on the part of the Philippine Govt much the United States. This story will not only help clear the doubts of AFWESPAC, but will in one way guide AFWESPAC to recompense justly the very patriots.

Some where in the later part of December 1941, letters from the Provincial Governor were sent to all Municipal and Municipal District Mayors urging each Mayor to organize in their own districts, Volunteer Guards. To give more inspiration and incentives to accomplish result to the maximum the order was propogandized thru out Lanao, that this Volunteer Guards is enunciated by the most Filipino beloved Late President Manuel L. Quezon. The Volunteer Guard was very successful.

Then and afterward some where in the earlier part of February 1942, if not January 1942, Brig Gen Guy O Fort, CO of the 81st Division (USAFFE) stationed in Lanao Province authorized the organization of the Bolo Battalion. He himself (Gen Fort) being a good and sincere friend to the Maranaws for many years went around the Moro villages stressing on the importance of Loyalty to the gov't one owes an allegiance. He himself (Gen Fort) witnessed and even sworn before the Koran (Sacred Mohammedan Bible) with many leading Datus that they being members of the Bolo Battalion will, in all means resist the enemy, the Japanese, and even sworn that they (Datus) will never surrender to the Japanese if in case the Japanese might succeed vanquishing the USAFFE. Again Mayor (District Mayors) were made immediate leaders of their respective districts. Many Mayors and Datus were given shot guns and even spring-field rifles Cal 30 MI to give them more interest in leading their own people. In the months of March and April, 1942, Mayors especially of Watu, Tugaya, Bacolod, Madalin, Madamba, Ganassi, Pualas, Tatarikan, and Pinidayan were each given seven days to guard at Barorao beach, at Malabang, Lanao to watch and report immediately any sign of Japanese ships seen on the Liliana Bay. This was by rotation. Even teachers headed by their District supervisor were one time volunteered to guard at Barorao.

So far, every Mayor, was allowed fifty (50) companions, They were being transported there by Army Trucks purposely designated for use of the Bolo Battalion. Officers in the USAFFE assigned by Gen Fort to inspect and guide the Moro Bolo Battalion were Major Suarez now Colonel, he is somewhere in Sulu, 1st Lieut. Mamarinta Lao, now Capt, Commanding the 64th MP Co, Lanao Prov, MPC, PA, 3d Lt Mohamed Ali Dimaporo now 1st Lieut, Commanding the 69th MP Co, Lanao Prov, MPC, PA, 3d Lt Santos Imperial, now in the 5th Repl Bn and 3d Lt Mentero. There officers perhaps do not know even the number of the Bolo Battalion that time they were handing the organization. Major ~~Suarez~~ that time was the one approving certificate of an individual recorded by the District Mayor to be a member of the Bolo Battalion.

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History of Bolo Bn, Cont'd

Now figuring and comparatively speaking there are 33 Municipal Districts in the province of Lanao and not all actively organized the memberships for the Bolo Battalion. Let us take for granted that the 33 municipal districts did actively in the organization of the Bolo Battalion and again let us not count that every district Mayor had their fifty memberships, let us even make it 100 for each Mayor or let us put it for 200 or 300 which is really not the truth, then of the 33 Mayors there will be let us say 300 for each, thus there were 9,900 members. Now granting that there were 9,900 Bolo Battalion, but during the Japanese invasion between Malebang and Ganassi there were roughly 60 Moro Bolo Battalion members present. Mayor Suarez had a personal knowledge of this number for he was with them that night of May, 1st 1942.

Again when the USAFFE in Lanao surrendered to the Japanese on the later part of May 1942 of this rough estimate of 9,900 Bolo Battalion some of them continued to resist the enemy called loyal and patriots afraid of the Koraan, some went to the Japanese as Collaborators, some of them became famous looters, robbers, Army murderers, bandits, kid-nappers of Christians and Subanon on the eastern part of Zamboanga, some went as active traffickers of white slavery and while few stayed further Japanese garrisons and devoted on farming. This was the truth of where the Bolo Battalion went and what each did.

Those few who went to the mountains continued resisted the enemy did something very splendid in stirring the minds of the Lanao Moro Public to mention some of them, there were Datu Busran of Balo-i, Datu Manalao Mindalanao of Uya-an, and Lumbatan, Sultan sa Ganassi the late Aguam Dpatuan, the late Datu Laguindab all Ganassi, Datu Ananggo Bagindali of Ramain, Datu Baod of Pagalogan, Datu Malamit Umpe of Kapatagan and some few Datus of Tamparan Districts. These Datus mentioned above really did something in arousing the people of Lanao. This was more than 3 months before the organization of the 10th MD under Col Fertig was organized and more than 6 months before the organization of the 108th Division under Col Hedges. It is further stated that at Tamparan Districts after the Tamparan incident of September 12, 1942 when Japanese patrol was wiped out entirely there was one group there called Diama Islam who really fought the Japanese and until now they are intact nor they were recognized as guerrillas.

Above Datus mentioned after the 108th Division was organized units, called the Bolo Battalion were inducted into the USFIP and there was a great joy for they were all happy being told by Col Hedges that they become a part of the United States Army and whatever privileges given or due to American soldiers and officers, they are also entitled. This goes to say that the Loyal Bolo Battalion that remained in the mountains became the nucleus of the Lanao Guerrilleros. Almost 95% of the Bolo Battalion became the Lanao Guerrilleros under the 108th Division who were long time processed by the 8th Army. The only outfit that did not submit for processing because they were not recognized was the Diama Islam.

Last May 1945, Mayor Navarro, Inspector General of the 10th MD had a complete and correct list of the Maranao Guerrilleros. He got more than 8,000 men both officers and EM. This was the whole MMF (Maranao Militia Force) already recognized by the 8th Army since 17 April 45. This story is speaking of the real comparison and a truth that of the more than 8,000 Maranaos recognized guerrilleros which then 95% or 90% of them were the members of the Bolo Battalion could be considered Bolo Bn members from February 1942 up to the time they were inducted to the USFIP by the 108th Division. Now make it 9000 and estimate the Diama Islam make them 3,000 the highest estimate that will only bring 12,000. Now for the Christian Guerrilleros of Lanao make them 2,000 or more and Lanao will have about 17,000.

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The Christian Guerrilleros genuined at that organized by Morgan are not counted here.

To give more support for this story Mr. Edward M. Kuder the only American with the Marenaws in the mountains in 1942 can also be asked.

However, for the present submitted strength of Bolo Pattalion to the AFWESPAC there were those names found in the defunct 108th Division for they were either officers or EM in that outfit.

OPERATIVE

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P. S.

Anti dated rosters and orders, framed up reports and statements and entering names in the 1945 submitted Bolo En, Rosters are mostly in the rosters of the MMF now in the files of the defunct 108th Division, 10th MD, Great Anomally.

Note Operative #1 is:

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