

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 863078

Cabinet!
Drawer!

GUERRILLA VERIFICATION PROJECT

GRLA- 27

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VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

September 28, 1950

Office of
Assistant Administrator

In reply refer to: 3FA

Mr. Searles Edwards
VA Liaison Officer
Records Administration Center, DPRB
4300 Goodfellow Boulevard, Bldg. 105
St. Louis 20, Missouri

If you have discussed the letter of September 22, 1950 received from the Manila Regional Office with the Army authorities and have any information to be appreciated if it is submitted to this office.

Dear Mr. Edwards:

1. This is in reference to the TWX message from this office dated September 27, 1950 relative to the verification of guerrilla rosters in possession of the VA at Manila.
2. The regional office, as you will note in letter of December 31, 1949, requested that the alphabetical IBM listings prepared by that office from the reconstructed guerrilla rosters furnished the Manila Regional Office by the Guerrilla Affairs Division, Philrycom, Adjutant General's Office, be verified against the guerrilla rosters now on file in the Records Administration Center, DPRB.
3. The Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D.C. was contacted relative to this verification and after study by the officials of DPRB, a reply was received from the Adjutant General's Office recommending that in view of the fact that the reconstructed rosters on file in that office were not listed alphabetically, and the cost and time required for searching and completing the alphabetical listings in that office appeared to be prohibitive, the VA submit 15 of the doubtful rosters (with changes) now in the custody of the Manila Regional Office, to the Records Administration Center as a sampling for check against the official rosters in their possession; upon completion of the sampling a definite recommendation as to the most workable plan of completing a check would be submitted.
4. The VA agreed to the Adjutant General's suggestion, and under date of August 17, 1950 a memorandum from my office was addressed to the Director, Foreign Relations Service, requesting that the VA Regional Office at Manila submit, on or about September 1, 1950, to the Army Records Administration Center, DPRB, fifteen doubtful rosters with changes. It was further requested that this office be notified as to the date and method of shipment, in order that the Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D.C. could be so informed. Mr. McCool, of the Adjutant General's Office, was notified under date of September 25, 1950 that the fifteen rosters had been shipped to

2. P. BRONSON
Assistant Administrator for

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COPY

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Mr. Searles Edwards

WIA074 1

WUAC02

NR UNYGP

St. Louis by registered airmail, parcel post.

5. If you have discussed the letter of September 22, 1950 received from the Manila Regional Office with the Army authorities and have any information, it will be appreciated if it is submitted to this office. It is further requested that you release no reply direct to the Manila Regional Office, but that any reply prepared for that office be submitted through this office. In this way Central Office of the VA, which is vitally interested in this matter, and also the Adjutant General's Office, Washington, can be kept informed.

VEYS GRMC

REFERENCE IS MADE TO COMMUNICATION DATED SEPTEMBER 22 02A 1950 ADDRESSED

/s/ R. P. Bronson

TO YOU FROM MANAGER MANILA REG R. P. BRONSON VERIFICATION BY DPES

Assistant Administrator for

OF GUERRILLA HOSTS IN POSSESS Contact and Administrative Services

OF SEPTEMBER 22 UNTIL LETTER IS RECEIVED FROM MR. HOSTS RECEIVED BY

YOU TO BE RELEASED TO COMMANDING OFFICER OF DPES FOR VERIFICATION.

/SPA/

SEP 22 1950 22 SPA

27/17/512

DPES Comm Con Rec'd Sep 27 - 11:55 AM

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U.S.
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
Manila Regional Office
APO 926, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

Your File Reference

WYA074 T

September 22, 1950

In Reply Refer to: 5244

EUA082

TO: Mr. Charles Edwards
RR UWYGP VA Liaison Officer
Records Administration Center, AGO
St. Louis 20, Missouri

DE UEPVA 70A

SUBJ: Verification of Philippine Guerrilla Reconstructed Rosters
R 271714Z

FM BRONSON VACO WASHINGTON DC

TO EDWARDS VA LIAISON OFFICER REC ADMN CTR DPRB STL MO

VETS GRNC

REFERENCE IS MADE TO COMMUNICATION DATED SEPTEMBER 22 CMA 1950 ADDRESSED

TO YOU FROM MANILA REGIONAL OFFICE RE VERIFICATION BY DPRB

OF GUERRILLA ROSTERS IN POSSESSION OF VA. TAKE NO ACTION ON LETTER

OF SEPTEMBER 22 UNTIL LETTER IS RECEIVED FROM ME. ROSTERS RECEIVED BY

YOU TO BE RELEASED TO COMMANDING OFFICER OF DPRB FOR VERIFICATION.

/3FA/

CFN 22 1950 22 3FA

27/17/31Z

DPRB Comm Cen Rec'd Sep 27 - 11:55 AM

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Authority NND 863078

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U.S.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
Manila Regional Office
APO 928, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

September 22, 1950

Your File Reference the
In Reply Refer To: 58R8

TO: Mr. Searles Edwards
VA Liaison Officer
Records Administration Center, AGO
St. Louis 20, Missouri

SUBJ: Verification of Philippine Guerrilla Reconstructed Rosters
the IBM alphabetized listings verified by DPRB, where the original
Rosters reconstructed between December 1947 to June 30, 1948,
are maintained.

1. This office is in receipt of a letter from the Director, Foreign Relations Service, dated August 17, 1950, on the above subject matter, enclosing a copy of a memorandum dated Aug. 17, 1950, from Mr. R. P. Bronson, Assistant Administrator for Contact and Administrative Services. This memorandum contains instructions for the shipment of fifteen (15) "Doubtful" Rosters to the Records Administration Center, AGO, St. Louis, Missouri, for verification with the Official Rosters. We enclose, for your information, copies of the above cited references, marked Exhibits (1) and (2).
2. Pursuant to instructions set forth in Mr. Bronson's memorandum, we are transmitting to you, this week, by registered airmail, fifteen (15) Guerrilla Rosters. They are described in the attached list marked Exhibit (3). A Reference Slip (VA Form 3230) is attached to each Roster. This, together with letter addressed to the Director, Foreign Relations Service, dated Dec. 31, 1949, copy attached and marked Exhibit (4), explains the reason for our recommending that the Rosters used by the V A Manila Regional Office in compiling the IBM alphabetized listings be checked against the Original Reconstructed Rosters which are in the custody of DPRB, AGO, St. Louis, Missouri.
3. Your attention is particularly referred to the "Revision" Roster of VINZON'S DIVISION, TURKO'S COMMAND (Bicol Brigade), Strength - 696. This Roster was not included in the IBM alphabetized listings. The reason for the exclusion is the fact that the MRO was informed by former officials of Guerrilla Affairs Division (GAD), PHILRYCOM, that each name appearing in a "Revision" Roster must also appear in an Original Reconstructed Roster. AGRD, PHILCOM (AF), nor the VA Manila Regional Office had a copy of the Original Reconstructed Roster. On September 12, 1950, this office was informed by AGRD that this Revision Roster was the only Roster that was approved and reconstructed by GAD on March 1, 1948 and that it is the only officially recognized Roster of the entire Unit. If this information is correct, then the said Roster should be included in the IBM listings, as one of the

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were deemed acceptable without reconstruction, such as Casualty acceptable Reconstructed Rosters. Individual Recognition.

4. So that you may be brought up to date on the subject matter and the need to have the IBM alphabetized listings checked against all Reconstructed Rosters, you are referred to the following communications or items of information:

a) Letter to Director, Foreign Relations Service, 60 Washington D. C., dated December 31, 1949, subject: "Rosters Reconstructed by Guerrilla Affairs Division, PHILRYCOM"; copy attached for ready reference and marked Exhibit (4). This letter explains, in brief, why it is deemed advisable to have the recordations in the IBM alphabetized listings verified by DPRB, where the original Rosters reconstructed between December 1947 to June 30, 1948, are maintained.

(1) 2nd Inf Regt (Suppl) 8FAZ - attached to 38th Inf Div US Army

b) Enclosed copy of memorandum from Mr. Bronson to the Director, Foreign Relations Service, dated Aug. 17, 1950, advising that The Adjutant General states that his office has in its possession 2,487 Rosters as compared to the 720 Rosters quoted by the VA. Apparently, The Adjutant General's Office and the VA Manila Regional Office have different interpretations of what constitutes a Roster. The IBM listings were made from 720 files containing Rosters and not actually from 720 different individual Rosters. For instance, the Rosters of the USAFIP NL Over-All Command are contained in 7 individual files which have been assigned numbers 261 to 267, inclusive. The 720 files were fully described in the folder entitled "NUMERICAL LISTINGS OF RECOGNIZED GUERRILLA ROSTERS TO BE USED WITH IBM ALPHABETICAL LISTINGS AND GUIDE RULE" which was furnished with each complete set of IBM alphabetized listings. The IBM listings contain the names of approximately 260,000 individuals. It is the understanding of this office that GAD at the completion of the project of reconstructing Guerrilla Rosters recognized 266,507 individuals. In view of the slight difference in the total number, as indicated in the VA and GAD estimates, the AGO may be considering in the estimate of 2,487 Rosters, the Rosters of the different components of an Over-All Command, namely, Company, and similar Unit Rosters. It is also possible, that the AGO estimate may be based on the total number of Guerrilla Rosters that may be in the custody of the AGO including Rosters that were compiled in 1945, 1946 and 1947, prior to the commencement of the Roster Reconstruction Project.

In order that any verification of Rosters made by the Army can be of value to the VA, it is vital that the verifications be made solely from the Rosters that were reconstructed during the period December 1947 to June 30, 1948, and other Rosters that Reconstructed by Guerrilla Affairs Div, HQ PHILRYCOM

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were deemed acceptable without reconstruction, such as Casualty Rosters and Rosters of Individual Recognition.

- (c) A cursory check of the IBM listings has been made by AGRD, PHILCOM (AF) against Rosters it has in its possession. AGRD has furnished the MRO a list of Rosters which have not been included in the IBM listings. These Rosters are in their possession and are considered by officials at AGRD as valid. This list has been checked against Rosters in the possession of MRO and it appears that the MRO does not have a copy of any of the said rosters, except of the "Revision" Roster of VINZON'S DIV-TURKO'S COMMAND (Bicol Brigade), mentioned in par. 3 supra. If these Rosters are authentic, then they should be included in the IBM alphabetized listings. The list follows:

- Reconstructed by GAD Hq PHILRYCOM
- (1) 2nd Yay Regt (Suppl) MFAT - attached to 38th Inf Div US Army
From Capt. Wilson G. Santos to Pfc Venancio Gasmodo
St - 36 by Roster (Missing in Action) - Sqdn 403, Tarlac
Signed by K. H. Neubauer
Approved: 2 Jan 1948
Reconstructed by GAD, PHILRYCOM
Approved: 26 June 1947
- (2) Sqdn 235 LGAF - (Major Robert B. Lapham's Gr1as)
Command Post - 235th Sqdn, 136th Inf Regt, 33rd Div.
US Army attached
Commanding Officer - Negalasca, Eliseo B.
From Negalasca, Eliseo B., Capt - Ventura, Faustino, Pvt
Strength - 142 (5 officers and 136 EM)
Approved by Hqs PHILRYCOM: 7 Jan 1948
Signed by K. H. Neubauer
Reconstructed by GAD, PHILRYCOM
- (3) Sqdn 111 (Suppl) LGAF
Initial Recgn date - From 28 Jan 45 to 7 Feb 45
From 2nd Lt Barba, Cornelio to Pvt Casayuran, Igmidio
Total Strength - 59
Approved: 20 Jan 1948
Signed by K. H. Neubauer
Reconstructed by GAD HQ PHILRYCOM
- (4) Sqdn 214, SENES, NEMA, LGAF
Roster of officers and troops of Sqdn 214 as recgn April 24, 1945 by Headquarters, USAFFE
From Capt Cirilo Manuel to Pvt Isayas Parungao
Strength - 19
Signed by K. H. Neubauer
Approved: 13 Jan 1948
Reconstructed by Gr1a Affairs Div, Hq PHILRYCOM

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- (5) Sqdn 218, LGAF
 CO - Amado B. Ramos, 1st Lt
 Attached to 128th Infantry
 From 1st Lt Ramos, Amado B. to Pvt Tapang, Juan
 Signed by K. H. Neubauer
 Approved: 12 Jan 1948
 Reconstructed by GAD HQ PHILRYCOM
 Strength - 33 (5 officers and 28 EM)
- (6) Vinzon's Div-Turko's Command (Bicol Region)
 CO - Lt Col Francisco D. Boayes (Turko)
 From Pvt Abad, Juanito to Pvt Zurbano, Wilfredo
 Total Strength - 696
 Approved - 1 March 1948
 Reconstructed by GAD Hq PHILRYCOM
 Signed by 1st Lt J. H. Manzano
- (7) Casualty Roster (Missing in Action) - Sqdn 403, Tarlac
 East Sector, LGAF
 CO - Capt Marcelino U. Aganon
 Strength - 2 (Pvt Astrero, Gabriel and Pvt Parazo, Avelino)
 Approved: 26 June 1947
 Signed by Capt Jack K. Van Overen
- (8) Special Order #150 (Extract) - requesting inclusion of
 7 personnel of Sqdn 1, LGAF, in the recognized roster of
 1st Regt, PA, LGAF
 From Sgt Pedro Nacu to Pfc Benjamin Fernandez
 Approved: 23 Jan 1948
 Reconstructed by GAD, HQ PHILRYCOM
- (9) Ltr fr Hq 1st Tarlac Regt, STMD, San Miguel, Tarlac
 dated 27 Dec 45, subj: "Recgn, Request for", (304th Bn,
 2d Tarlac Regt, 12 EM) GSCPG 091 8th Ind Requesting
 for inclusion of 5 individuals in the roster of
 B Co, 304th Bn, 2nd Tarlac Regt
 From 1st Sgt Raymundo de Jesus to Pvt Valentin Lungus
 Approved: 17 Dec 1947
 Reconstructed by GAD, Hq PHILRYCOM
- (10) NACOCO Intell Unit and Regtl Hqs, 14th Inf, USAFIP NL
 NACOCO Intell Unit - from Col Enriquez, Manuel P., to
 S/Sgt Mina, Antonio
 Regtl Hqs, 14th Inf - From Enriquez, Manuel P., to
 1st Lt Antonio Garcia

Furthermore, it appears that the VA may have copies of certain Rosters, deemed by it as valid, copies of which were not furnished to AGRD, PHILCOM (AF). For instance, the IBM listings include

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the following Rosters which AGRD did not have copies of, at the time of the conclusion of the IBM project:

- File #28 - 2nd, Buenavista Regt, 3rd Brigade
Strength - 695
(This roster has since been determined to be a duplication of File #36 entitled 3rd Brigade Hqs BMA)
- File #62 - A Co 2nd Bn 12th Inf Regt, 1st Regt McKinley Div
(This roster has been determined to be a duplication of File #721 of the 12th Inf, Co A, McKinley, Div, LGAF)
- File #101 - 1st Sqdn
1st Sqdn (Suppl NEMA, LGAF)
- File #109 - Sqdn 201 LGAF
(It is questionable whether this roster is a duplication of File #107)
- File #179 - Roster of Troops atchd to Sv Co from 320th Bn
PMA, LGAF
- File #309 - 45th Inf Regt (Component of Saber Force)
- File #325 - 2nd Med Pltn Camarines Sur Intell AC Blue
Eagle Force
- File #329 - 2nd Regt (Suppl) Bicol Brigade
- File #439 - Bn Staff 2nd Moreno Bn, Erni Regt, IV AC MFAT
- File #573 - 577 - Deletion and Correction Letters of
ECLGA (5 Folders)
(AGRD has advised that it has only 3 Folders of
Deletion and Corrections, ECLGA, as follows:

- (a) I - Deletions
(b) II - Corrections
(c) Corrections

The following discrepancies have also been noted by AGRD:

IBM Vol. 31 shows: RIVERA, Martin, listed in casualty roster
(KIA) Bulacan Military Area

The casualty roster shows:

RIVERA, Martin, KIA, 31st Inf
Bulacan Military District

(Bulacan Military Area and Bulacan Military District are different military organizations)

IBM Vol. 36 shows: TUNALYUAN, Mariano

It should read:

TUMALIUAN, Mariano, Hq & Hq Sv Co
11th Inf, USAFIP NL

IBM Vol. shows: CALURA, Julian

It should read:

Galura, Julian, D Co Med Battalion
6th Prov'l Regt, TMA LGAF

IBM Vol. shows: ROMULADO, Bonifacio

It should read:

ROMUALDO, Bonifacio
B Co San Marcelino Sector, Sqdn D AMD

The following omissions from IBM listings have been noted by AGRD; apparently, they were omitted by key punch operators:

NEBRES, Bienvenido	Med & Hosp Co, GHQ, USAFIP NL
CADAYAS, Guilabe	B Co 1st Bn 66th Inf, USAFIP NL
WAGAN, Angel (CAS KILD)	5th Inf Div, PQOG
CHECA, Gabriel	H Co 65th Inf 6th MD

5. By reference to the foregoing, it is to be noted that a verification of the IBM listings is in order for the following reasons:

- (a) The fool-proof procedure that was to be used in compiling the Reconstructed Guerrilla Rosters by Guerrilla Affairs Division was not consummated as planned. (See paragraph 7 of letter dated December 31, 1949, attached.);
- (b) Copies of all Reconstructed Guerrilla Rosters were apparently not furnished to the VA or to AGRD as originally agreed upon;
- (c) The illegibility of recordations, due to much previous handling, of many of the rosters used by the VA in compiling the IBM listings, resulted in many errors being made by the key punch operators in transferring the information from the Rosters to the IBM listings.

So that errors in the current certification of Guerrilla Service may be kept at a minimum, it is urged that every reasonable effort be made to complete the project of verifying the Philippine Guerrilla Reconstructed Rosters at the earliest possible date.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

6. It may be suggested that possibly the most expeditious and efficient manner in which this project can be completed, is to check the Original Reconstructed and Acceptable Rosters that are currently in the custody of AGO, DPRB, St. Louis, Missouri, against the IBM listings. If any of the Rosters have been omitted therefrom or errors are contained therein, supplemental alphabetized listings should be made. Due to considerable amount of handling of the Rosters maintained in the Manila Regional Office, many of the recerdations are not too legible and considerable difficulty is contemplated in the project if the Manila Regional Office Rosters are used for this purpose.

VA Regional Office
APO 928, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

SUBJ: Verification of Philippine Guerrilla Rosters
/s/ R. B. Lovett
R. B. LOVETT
Manager

Encls: (4)

- Exh. 1- Ltr dtd 8-17-50 from Dir FRS CO
- Exh. 2- Memo dtd 8-17-50 from Mr. Bronson to Dir FRS
- Exh. 4- Ltr dtd 12-31-49 from Mgr MRO to Dir FRS
- Exh. 3- List of 15 "doubtful" Guer. Rosters

3. Please note that Central Office is to be notified by radiogram as to the date and method of shipment of the first group of fifteen "doubtful" rosters.

/s/ J. G. CORBITT
J. G. CORBITT
Director

Foreign Relations Service

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VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
Washington 25, D. C.

Exhibit (2)
Exhibit (1)

August 17, 1950

Director, Foreign Relations Service

August 17 1950

Assistant Administrator for
Contact and Administrative Services

Your file reference:

In reply refer to: DF

Verification of Philippine Guerrilla Reconstructed Rosters

TO: Manager
VA Regional Office
APO 928, c/o Postmaster

San Francisco, California
1. This letter from the Adjutant General's Office dated July 31, 1950 relative to the above subject.

SUBJ: Verification of Philippine Guerrilla Reconstructed Rosters

2. It definitely appears that the alphabetical listings cannot be used for 1. This is with reference to my radiogram 1717 and to your radiogram 4208 on the above subject.

2. There is attached for your information and guidance copy of memorandum dated August 17, 1950, from the Assistant Administrator for Contact and Administrative Services containing instructions for the shipment of the first group of "doubtful" rosters to the Records Administration Center, St. Louis, for verification with the official rosters there.

3. Please note that Central Office is to be notified by radiogram as to the date and method of shipment of the first group of fifteen "doubtful" rosters. will be checked for discrepancies and changes against the official rosters as maintained by the Records Administration Center. In view of the estimated cost and the magnitude of the operation, and to assist the Adjutant General's Office in developing the best method to be used in furnishing the VA an accurate estimate of the cost, this office concurs in the suggestion by the Department of the Army that a group of fifteen questionable rosters be sent to the Records Administration Center for verification.

s/ J. G. CORBITT

t/ J. G. CORBITT

Director

Foreign Relations Service

Encl: Therefore it is desired that the Manila Regional Office forward fifteen "doubtful" rosters in the category described above and all attachments pertaining thereto, on or about September 1, 1950, to the Records Administration Center, Demobilized Personnel Records Branch, Building 105, St. Louis 33, Missouri. It is further requested that the Manila Regional Office notify this office by cable as to the date and method of shipment of the fifteen "doubtful" rosters.

E. P. BRONSON

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Exhibit (3)
Exhibit (2)

LIST OF FIFTEEN (15) GUERRILLA ROSTERS
TRANSMITTED TO DFRS, ST. LOUIS 20, MISSOURI
Director, Foreign Relations Service August 17 1950

Assistant Administrator for
Contact and Administrative Services (Guerrilla Area) 3FA
(Folder II)

Verification of Philippine Guerrilla Reconstructed Rosters

General Headquarters

Mountain Corps Regiment

General Service Troops

Bulacan Military District

1. This office is in receipt of a letter from the Adjutant General's Office dated July 31, 1950 relative to the above subject.

2. It definitely appears that the alphabetical listings cannot be used for identification purposes as the time involved and the cost of this method are too great. The Adjutant General's Office has informed this office that the rosters in their possession number 2,487 as compared with the figure of 720 quoted by the Veterans Administration. Based on test searches, the Army has estimated that the approximate cost would be \$14,000 for checking the working copies of the reconstructed and Authenticated rosters now in the possession of the Veterans Administration.

3. The suggestion has been made by the Department of the Army that a sample group of fifteen "doubtful" reconstructed rosters, with changes indicated on the rosters themselves, and all letters of correction received by the VA from Philrycom pertaining to the same rosters, be submitted. Such rosters will be checked for discrepancies and changes against the official rosters as maintained by the Records Administration Center. In view of the estimated cost and the magnitude of the operation, and to assist the Adjutant General's Office in developing the best method to be used in furnishing the VA an accurate estimate of the cost, this office concurs in the suggestion by the Department of the Army that a group of fifteen questionable rosters be submitted by VA.

4. Therefore it is desired that the Manila Regional Office be requested to forward fifteen "doubtful" rosters in the category described above and all attachments pertaining thereto, on or about September 1, 1950, to the Records Administration Center, Demobilized Personnel Records Branch, Building 105, St. Louis 20, Missouri. It is further requested that the Manila Regional Office notify this office by cable as to the date and method of shipment of the fifteen "doubtful" rosters.

File #502 - Maclat Battalion

File #503 - 7th Infantry Regiment, 34th Division Prov'l
(independent)

R. P. BRONSON

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File #692 - Roster of Casualties (Killed in Action) Exhibit (3)
Luzon Intelligence Notebook

LIST OF FIFTEEN (15) GUERRILLA ROSTERS
TRANSMITTED TO DPRB, ST. LOUIS 20, MISSOURI
FOR VERIFICATION PURPOSES

File #717 - Roster of
Luzon Guerrilla Army Forces

File #44 - East Central Luzon Guerrilla Area (ECLGA)
(Folder II)

- General Headquarters
- Mountain Corps Regiment (Unrecognized Roster)
- General Service Troops in the 3rd Bn,
- Bulacan Military District
- Bataan Military District

File #48 - Fil-American Irregular Troops' Command (Micol Brigade)
Batangas Guerrillas - Ibaan Regt
Luansing Co

File #61 - Fil-American Irregular Troops
McKinley Division
McKinley Brigade
1st Regt
12 Inf Regt
2nd Bn
Co E

File #284 - Masbate Guerrilla Regiment

File #286 - Palawan Special Battalion

File #309 - Barrions Manila Division
45th Inf Reg't (Saber Force)
Strength = 63

File #480 - San Jose Batangas Guerrillas
(Capt Masilungan)
Co Hq
1st Pltn Rifle Co
2nd Pltn Rifle Co
3rd Pltn Rifle Co
Weapon Pltn Rifle Co

File #481 - San Jose Guerrilla Unit: Batangas
Special Combat Troops (Capt Kalalo)

File #502 - Maculot Battalion

File #503 - 7th Infantry Regiment, 34th Division Prov'l
(independent)

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U. S.
 File #692 - Roster of Casualties (Killed in Action)
 Luzon Intelligence Echelon
 6th Military District
 San Francisco, California

File #717 - Roster of Casualties (Supplemental)
 Luzon Guerrilla Army Forces

File #718 - Boone's Guerrilla (Troop Roster)
 Tarlac West Sector
 Bonzo Co

File #720 - 44th ROTC or Hunter's Division (Unrecognized Roster)
 46th Inf Regt (Incorporated in the 3rd Bn,
 Provisional Saber Force)

SUBJ : Rosters Reconstructed by Guerrilla Affairs Division,
 PHILRYCOM
 Revision Roster - Vinzon's Division, Turko's Command (Bicol Brigade)

1. This office has now completed the first step in reducing the names of all individuals to an alphabetical listing who are believed to have performed valid recognized guerrilla service with the Armed Forces of the United States in the Philippines Islands during World War II. This list consists of 260,975 names segregated into 58 volumes per set and was made from rosters delivered to the HQO by the Guerrilla Affairs Division, PHILRYCOM, which include casualty rosters which were not reconstructed as they were deemed acceptable as initially made and rosters of individual recognitions.

2. Four individual sets, double spaced, of the 260,975 names have been completed. Two sets were forwarded to you through AFJ channels via parcel post, registered mail, on December 29, 1949. For the reasons hereinafter set forth, the following recommendation is made:

a. That one set be immediately forwarded to the Records Administration Center, AGO, 4300 Good Fellow Boulevard, St. Louis 20, Missouri, for its permanent custody, with a request that the information contained therein be immediately checked against the original rosters and that a prompt decision be rendered as to the authenticity thereof.

b. That the second set be retained in Central Office and operational use thereof deferred pending decision as to authenticity from AGO, St. Louis, Missouri.

The other two sets are being retained in this office pending the decision from AGO as to the authenticity of the information contained therein; if deemed acceptable, one of the sets will be delivered to the Adjutant General, Records Depository, PHILCOM (AF), for their use in certifying recognized guerrilla service to the Veterans Administration and the second set will be retained for use by the HQO.

C O P Y

C O P Y

U. S.

Exhibit (4)

Dec. 31, 1949

Manila Regional Office
APO 900, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California
December 31, 1949

3. Current shipment to you is being made in the form of ten (8-1 packages containing two (2) complete sets of 38 volumes each. Each set contains five (5) packages so that a total of 10 packages should arrive at your office approximately six weeks. We are including for each set a copy of the columnar entries in the rosters.

TO : Director, Foreign Relations Service
Veterans Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

ATTN : Assistant Administrator for Claims

SUBJ : Rosters Reconstructed by Guerrilla Affairs Division,
PHILRYCOM

1. This office has now completed the first step in reducing the names of all individuals to an alphabetical listing who are believed to have performed valid recognized guerrilla service with the Armed Forces of the United States in the Philippine Islands during World War II. This list consists of 260,975 names segregated into 38 volumes per set and was made from rosters delivered to the MRO by the Guerrilla Affairs Division, PHILRYCOM, which include casualty rosters which were not reconstructed as they were deemed acceptable as initially made and rosters of individual recognitions.

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The other two sets are being retained in this office pending the decision from AGO as to the authenticity of the information contained therein; if deemed acceptable, one of the sets will be delivered to the Adjutant General, Records Depository, PHILCOM (AF), for their use in certifying recognized guerrilla service to the Veterans Administration and the second set will be retained for use by the MRO.

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Dec. 31, 1949

Rosters Reconstructed by Guerrilla Affairs Division, PHILRYCOM
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3. Current shipment to you is being made in the form of ten (10) packages containing two (2) complete sets of 38 volumes each. Each set comprises five (5) packages so that a total of 10 packages should arrive at your office in approximately seven to nine days. We are including for each set a guide rule to interpret the columnar entries in the rosters.
4. A second IBM run of four (4) single spaced sets has already been initiated and the sets should be completed in approximately six weeks. Since you previously stated that Central Office required four (4) sets of the rosters, three (3) of these single spaced sets will be forwarded to you unless you notify us that a lesser number will suffice. The fourth set will be referred to AGRD, PHILCOM (AF) so that they may have two sets for their use - one double spaced and one single spaced. If upon reconsideration of the needs of Central Office it is determined that two sets of the roster will suffice, then it is contemplated to deliver one set to Headquarters National Defense Forces, Philippine Army, and one set for the use of the Philippine Veterans Board.
5. There is a certain reasonable basis for doubting the correctness of all rosters that have been reduced to the alphabetical listing in the bound volumes that are being sent to you and, therefore, it is recommended that before the information contained in the bound volumes is accepted as authentic and used for operational purposes, the information therein should be verified and checked against the original reconstructed rosters compiled by Guerrilla Affairs Division, PHILRYCOM. These original rosters together with all records and data pertaining to the project consummated by the said Guerrilla Affairs Division are now at AGO Records Administration Center, St. Louis, Missouri.
6. In explanation of the foregoing recommendation, you are informed that on or about November 1947 the Guerrilla Affairs Division, PHILRYCOM, decided that it was necessary to reconstruct all guerrilla rosters compiled up to that date. This decision was made necessary by the discovery of many irregularities and anomalies which had been committed with the rosters such as the substitution of names and the inclusion of many names of individuals who were not recognized at the time the original rosters were compiled.
7. Major Harold Cushman, who was then in charge of one of the sections of the Army's Guerrilla Affairs Division responsible for reconstructing the guerrilla rosters, advised the Adjudication Officer of this station that a reconstruction procedure had been established by Guerrilla Affairs Division which was considered to be fool-proof and which would either prevent the commission of anomalies or would enable an examiner to readily detect any irregularity or anomaly that may be committed with the rosters. The procedure was established in October 1947, prior to completion of this project.

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of "Unrecognized Guerrillas" (46th Inf. Regt., 44th ROTC, Hunters Div.), referred for inclusion which did not appear to be authentic. Thereupon, he checked other rosters and found what appeared to be serious deviations from the original plan and procedure which was contemplated to make the project fool-proof.

11. For instance, some of the rosters that contained the rectangular rubber stamp mark "Reconstructed by Guerrilla Affairs Division, Hqs. PHILRYCOM" failed to have the round rubber stamp of approval (see Par. 7, (b) above) but in lieu thereof and had the word "Approved" typed in an ordinary round rubber date stamp and failed to have the initials of the Approving Officer on the "Approved" stamp; other rosters failed to have the rectangular rubber stamp mark showing: "Reconstructed by Guerrilla Affairs Division, Hqs PHILRYCOM"; other rosters have an ordinary date stamp with a typewritten notation: "Reconstructed by Guerrilla Affairs Division, PHILRYCOM"; other rosters merely contained a rubber stamp signature in lieu of the original authentic signature of the officer who was supposed to have certified to the correctness of the rosters.

12. In one instance there is a roster dated January 5, 1948, addressed to the Commanding General, AFWESPAC, entitled "Roster of Enlisted Men, Unrecognized" with the following notation: "Submitted herewith is the roster of unrecognized enlisted men, 46th Inf. Reg't, 44th ROTC or Hunters Division incorporated in the 3d Bn. Provisional Saber Force". This roster contains on each sheet the round rubber stamp "Approved" and the accepted rectangular stamp mark on the left hand side of the sheet and the name of the Certifying Officer is on the lower right hand corner. (Attached is a letter dated 2 Dec. 1949 from the Chief, Veterans Branch, S & C Div., AGRD, PHILCOM (AF), expressing an opinion that the roster is valid and contains the names of recognized guerrillas.)

13. Another roster that appears to be questionable is the roster of the Maculto Bn. with a strength of 512 members, extended recognition from 3-4-45 to 9-26-45 by letter from Hqs. PHILRYCOM, dated 5 January 1945, which roster contains an ordinary rubber date stamp with the word "Approved" typed immediately above the date of 22 Nov. 1947. This would indicate that the roster was approved prior to the letter of authority granting recognition.

14. Another roster that appears questionable is the following: Composit Bn., 7th Inf. Regt. 34th Division, Isabela Area (Independent). This roster has only a round rubber date stamp dated 12-2-47 with the word "Approved" typed therein and the signature on the stamp of Mario C. Allbright, 1st Lt. FA.

15. Another roster that appears questionable is the following: San Jose, Batangas Guerrilla, Company Headquarters, total strength of 193, which fails to show that it was reconstructed and only contains the rubber date stamp dated 11-22-47 with the word "Approved" typed immediately above the date.

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16. The Adjudication Officer at this station held a conference with representatives of AGRD, PHILCOM (AF), citing the above specified variations from the original proposed plan that was to be followed by Guerrilla Affairs Division in making the project fool-proof. Since the officers responsible for consummating the project of reconstructing the guerrilla rosters have been transferred from this area, a satisfactory explanation for the above cited variations cannot be made by the staff currently on duty at PHILCOM (AF). It is believed that if the original plan was actually carried out, then it may have been followed in the reconstruction of the original set of rosters which were forwarded to Records Administration Center, AGO, St. Louis, Missouri. It is further believed that due to the urgency for the completion of the project with a target date of June 30, 1948 being set to reconstruct rosters containing several hundred thousand names which were finally reduced to approximately 260,000 names, that the original plan was substituted in making up the duplicate sets, which may account for the use of rubber stamp signatures of alleged certifying officers and the other variations that have been specified.

17. Furthermore, when rosters were first delivered to the MRO, we were informed that they contained the names of 269,000 recognized individuals. Later, additional rosters were forwarded which had inadvertently been omitted in the initial delivery. Since the current project consists of 260,975, it is assumed that there may be some rosters of recognized individuals in AGO, St. Louis, copies of which were not forwarded to the MRO, thereby requiring a supplement to the current sets.

18. The need for prompt checking and verification of the alphabetical listing of recognized guerrillas is obvious. This office will appreciate being notified of the findings of AGO, St. Louis, at the earliest possible date, so that if printed alphabetical listing is deemed to be acceptable, it may be placed into immediate use.

FOREST F. BARTL
Acting Manager

Enc.
Letter of Major P. M. Baken
Chief, S & C Div., AGRD, PHILCOM (AF)
dated 12/2/49

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ALIASES
(~~On Guerrilla Rosters~~)

~~GR1A-1~~

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