

BRAVO GUERRILLA CORPS OF THE PHILIPPINES

NAME OF UNIT

EMILIO B. MACASAET

UNIT COMMANDING OFFICER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1. Complaints
2. Investigating Officer's Notes
3. Request for Recognition & Supporting Papers
4. NFG Action - 1 July 46

REMARKS :



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Authority NND 883018

NFC ACTION WITH TLR BY
LT VICTOR SIMOLEN

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Authority NND 883078

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

APO 707

1 JUL 1946

²⁰¹
Emilio Bravo Macasaet
2364 Juan Luna, Int. 46,
Avellana Rd., Galangin,
Tondo, Manila

Dear Mr. Macasaet,

The "Bravo Guerrilla Corps of the Philippines", purporting to be a guerrilla organization under your nominal control, is not favorably considered for recognition as an element of the Philippine Army.

A set of general requirements for guerrilla recognition, established by General MacArthur during the liberation of the Philippines, has been used as a guide in considering the record of this unit. After careful investigation and full consideration of all available substantiating records and testimony of witnesses having pertinent knowledge, recognition of this guerrilla unit is not deemed to be warranted because of reasons mentioned below:

- a. The unit was not maintained satisfactorily in the field in opposition to the enemy.
- b. Activities of the unit did not contribute materially to the eventual defeat of the enemy.
- c. A definite organization was not established.
- d. Rank of members was considered to be too high for the actual size of the command maintained in the field.
- e. The number of officers, commissioned and non-commissioned, was excessive and not reasonable proportionate to United States Army or to prewar Philippine Army tables of organization.
- f. Performance of the units did not indicate adequate control by its leaders, because the sphere of operations and unit strength claimed by the unit were commensurate with the limitation of communication facilities.
- g. Unit did not show satisfactory continuity of activity and organization.



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i. 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.

j. Many members apparently lived at home, supporting their families by means of farming or other civilian pursuits, and assisted the guerrilla unit on a part time basis only.

k. Record of service was not substantiated by sufficient acceptable evidence.

It is requested that you comply with the provisions of Executive Order No. 68, by the President of the Philippines, dated 26 September 1945, copy attached.

Sincerely yours,

W. P. MOORE
Lt. Col., AGD
Ass't Adj Gen

1 Incl:
Executive Order No. 68

Note for M/R

Lt. Col. Hugh L. Carnahan:

1. The "Bravo Guerrilla Corps of the Philippines", consisting of fifty (50) officers under the command of Emilio Bravo Macasset has not been favorably considered for recognition. No members have previously been recognized.

2. Basis for non-recognition:

a. The "Bravo Guerrilla Corps of the Philippines" did not serve in the field as a unit, nor did the members devote their entire efforts to military activities.

b. The rank of the members of the unit was considered to be too high for the actual size of the command maintained in the field.

c. The unit did not comprise an effective, cohesive, military unit, nor did the unit have adequate control.

d. Record of service was not substantiated by sufficient acceptable evidence.

e. Many members apparently lived at home, supporting their families by means of farming or other civilian pursuits.

f. A definite organization was not established.

g. As this was an independent unit there was no overall commanding officer to consult. However, on contacting Col. Terry Adevosio, who had a guerrilla unit in the same area, he admitted that he had never heard of the unit as did other people in the town of Lipa, Batangas.

2nd Lt. V. Smolen Inf 01339119

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

14 June 1946

APO 707

Report on the "Bravo Guerrilla Corps of the Philippines".

In accordance with verbal instruction from the Chief of Section, Guerrilla Affairs, G-3, AFWESPAC, Lieutenant Victor Smolen and Captain Cesar G. Fernando proceeded to Lipa, Batangas to contact the "Bravo Guerrilla Corps of the Philippines," in order to determine whether or not this organization should be recognized by the United States Army. The following report is a summary of the investigation and basis for the recommendation.

HISTORY

The facts in this history were taken from the submitted written history and the verbal claims made by the individuals contacted during the investigation. It is claimed that on January 1942 a guerrilla organization, the "Bravo Guerrilla Corps of the Philippines," was formed by Emilio Bravo Macasaet after his release by the Japanese. They had tried to persuade him to be the provincial governor of Batangas. The size of the unit is "1,000 or more," being made up of men from the provinces of Batangas, Nueva Ecija, Tayabas, Mindoro, Palawan, Zamboanga and Davao.

During the fighting on Bataan, Macasaet had some of his relatives take candy, cigarettes, and "confidential messages" to General Vicente Lim. When General Lim requested Macasaet to send him some men to fight on Bataan, he sent his son, son-in-law, and two other men. When the liberation forces arrived, this unit claims to have been attached to the 11th Airborne Div. as laborers.

FINDINGS

The following named persons are those interviewed by the contact team and their statements are the basis for the findings.

1. Emilio Bravo Macasaet - Commanding Officer of the Subject Unit.

It was impossible to contact more of the men included in the submitted roster as they were located in seven (7) provinces. The contact team did, however, proceed to Lipa, Batangas but was unable to find the men whose names appear in the roster for that town.

In the submitted roster the names of only the officers of the unit can be found with their ranks ranging from Colonel, of which there are eight(8), to Lieutenant. It is to be brought out that the roster includes only the names of fifty (50) officers. It was explained that the reason for the submission of only the officers, of whom were "... My relatives and very close friends..." was "After continued entreaties of my wife Mrs. Maria Abaca de Macasaet by shedding bitter tears I was prevailed to write this application of recognition..." The assertion was made that the reason for not submitting the names of the enlisted men of the unit was that all rosters and records of the unit were lost when the home of Macasaet was burned. Macasaet also admitted that he had informed his officers in the different provinces to submit their own claims and in doing so they were to submit their claims in the name of the "Bravo Guerrilla Unit". No other unit by that name could be found in the files.

As for the claim that the unit was composed of men from

seven provinces, it was admitted by the commanding officer that contact was established when traveling throughout the provinces to escape the pursuit of the Japanese, which brings out the point that the commanding officer of the unit did not, at any time, have complete control over the unit. In his claim for having harassed the Japanese and having done intelligence work, there was no substantiating evidence submitted to support his claim. As for the intelligence work, supposedly done, it was asserted that the intelligence reports were transmitted verbally. The unit claims to have had 700 weapons during the occupation but further admitted that the unit did not have any conflicts with the Japanese in the area. It was claimed that some of the members of the unit were attached to an American unit during the liberation for a period of about two (2) months as laborers, a job for which, it was admitted, they were paid.

POLITICAL ASPECTS

This unit does not appear to have any political affiliations or aspirations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

After careful consideration of the verbal and documentary evidence presented, it is recommended that the "Bravo Guerrilla Corps of the Philippines" be not favorably considered for recognition.

Victor Smolen
VICTOR SMOLEN
2nd Lt., Inf
Contact Team #5

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REQUEST FOR RECOGNITION AND HISTORY
WITH TWO (2) INCLOSURES

INCLOSURE 1 - APPOINTMENT OF EMILIO B. MACASEET

INCLOSURE 2 - ROSTER

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2364 Juan Luna, Int 46

City of Manila, Jan. 29, 1946

The Commanding General
AFWESPAC, APO 707
City of Manila, Philippines.

new unit

Sir:

I, Emilio Bravo Macagaet, Chief Commander of Bravo Guerri-
lla Corps of the Philippines with headquarters at Sitio Look,
Barrio Balete, Municipality of Lipa, Province of Batangas, now
residing at 2364 Juan Luna Street, Int. 46 Avellana Road, Gagalangin, Tondo, City of Manila, hereby make application for recognition of our military service rendered to the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Government of the United States of America during the Second World War, 1941-1945.

Statement of Facts

On January 15, 1942, I was fetched by a squad of Japs commanded by Lt. Korobayashi and a Makapili spy from my residence in the barrio and brought to Lipa before Colonel T. Oguri and Lt. Col. Mori. After partaking lunch of sweet meat, rice cakes and tea, Col. Oguri explained the aim of Japan's co-prosperity sphere. Then he told me bluntly to cooperate to strengthen their war effort to drive away the white people from the East and rule by ourselves, and invited me to serve as governor of my province, Batangas, which honor, I humbly declined and alleged that I am old and sickly and gave him hint the governor-elect Maximo Malvar, a young blood, should be invited to serve as governor is more logical, but Col. Oguri in rage insisted in his effort to prevail me

but I was adamant and in a sudden slapped me across my face and told me that I am a pro-American and "baka" crazy for democratic principles as he knew that I am a Harvard man and that I am holding commission in the U.S. Army and trembling told him that I will not be attending my plantations in the barrio but should be fighting along side with the Ussaffe at Batman if I were a soldier. Col. Oguri lectured of their good aim for a couple of hours and to my surprise beg my pardon and was told to forget the incident for he did not mean to harm me but only he desired to bring home what is best for we Filipinos. Then and there I swore to the memory of my dead parents that I will fight the Jap invaders by any means either openly or underground resistance as circumstances warrant, and thus founded my Guerrilla Corps ever determined and convinced that I can lead men successfully possessing the spiritual and intellectual qualifications. In this connection, it would not be amiss to mention here that I am an ex-constabulary officer and a graduate of 1910 Class of Constabulary Officers' School and served in the line under Generals James F. Harbard, Mark L. Hersey and Harry H. Bandholz; on World War I; as Capt. and Regimental Adjutant on the 7th Infantry Federalized Philippine Guard under Generals Francis Burton Harrison and Jones. I am the holder of degrees, 1919, A.B. from the Ateneo de Manila and 1920, LL.B. from the Philippine Law School and during my incumbency as Philippine Commercial Attache' in the U.S. Department of Commerce at Boston Mass. from August 22, 1923 until March 31, 1926. I attended Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration Class of 1925 and Graduate Law, Class of 1926.

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Activities During World War II

On January 20, 1942, Lipa town fiesta I conferred with several of my trusted relatives and explained to them my underground plan to which they heartily backed me up. I gave them money to purchase all available stock of American cigarets and native peanut candies and with this stock I left for Manila with my son and Adjutant Major Alex A. Macasaet and talked confidentially with my son-in-law a medical doctor, Col. Pedro R. Dionisio, M.C.

I appointed Dr. Dionisio's Chaffeur, Martin Venus, who used to be a truck driver, as Staff Sergeant and with Adjutant Alex, they left for Bataan bringing along the cigarets and candy with my compliments to General Vicente Lim, PA to whom my adjutant delivered my confidential message. As the Japs are not yet investing Bataan very seriously, I continued sending smokes and candies and military informations to Gen. Vicente Lim, PA and by the first days of March my son after coming from Bataan told me that Gen. Lim, PA desired that I send him men in the front to which I complied very willingly and on March 16, 1942, I ordered my son and adjutant Major Alex A. Macasaet, Inf; my son-in-law Col. Pedro R. Dionisio, M.C 1st Lt. Amado Hocson, Inf, and two enlisted men Sgt. Rosendo Venus M.C and S/Sgt. Martin Venus to report to Gen. Vicente Lim, PA for duty in the Bataan Front.

On Good Friday, April 3, 1942, Sgt. Rosendo Venus, MC returned to Manila with a gun shot in the jaw and reported that their mission met bad luck for on reaching the 22nd hill accompanied by Lt. Col. Leon Reyes, PA. they were ambushed and fired at by certain armed forces, presumably bandits or Jap advance

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patrol and they scattered and having been wounded and could not fire his companions he returned to the city where I put him in the Phil. General Hospital where he died after a week hospitalization. His father Capt. Leoncio Venus, Mrs. Tinay Venus and I quietly took charge of the burial of Sgt. Rosendo Venus. M.C.

During liberation by American armed forces my Guerrilla units at Palawan, Mindoro, ^{Nueva Ecija, Tayabas} Davao, and Batangas took active part with Major. Gen. Joe M. Swing's 11th Airborne Division of the 8th Army Corps of Gen. Robert L. Ikelberger Paratroopers which landed on Jan 28 & 29, 1945, at Nasugbu, Batangas Province, ^{and Tagaytay, Cavite} of Jap snipers and demolition platoons in the different municipalities.

Incomplete officers' roster in the appendix "B" is hereto attached and made part of this application for recognition.

All my military paper, records, roster of officers, list of enlisted men in the different division, regiment, batalion, and company units were burned during the conflagration when my four substantial houses were razed to the ground, together with my college diplomas, Constabulary and Guard Commissions, Certificates of shares of stocks holding here and in America and Torrens Tittles to my land holdings and cash and jewelries and only one U.S. Commission of First Lieutenant, Infantry, dated 1918, which was used by one of my daughters as wrapping paper was saved and used here as appendix "A" of this application for recognition of my Guerrilla Corps by the Governments of the Philippine Commonwealth and the U.S. of America.

After continued entreaties of my wife Mrs. Maria Abaca de

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Macasaet by shedding her bitter tears I was prevailed to write this application of recognition of my Guerrilla Corps in memory of my two sons, Col. Pedro R. Dionisio, MC and my Adjutant Major Alex A. Macasaet, Inf. In this connection allow me to state the fact that I feel it a one man's war. My war against the barbarous Jap invaders and this is the reason why I abstained from applying for recognition on the earlier dates.

City of Manila, Philippines.

January 29, 1946.

Very respectfully submitted,


Emilio B. Macasaet

Commander in-Chief
Philippine Guerrilla Corps
2364 Juan Luna Int 46
Avellana Road
Gagalangin, Tondo, Manila.

Inclosures:
Appendixes "A" & "B"
M
January 30'46.

Bill Macasae
appendix - "a"

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THE
PRESIDENT
OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



To all who shall see these presents, greeting:
Know Ye, that reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, valor, fidelity
and abilities of Emilio B. Macasae
I do appoint him First Lieutenant of Infantry in

The United States Army

to rank, as such from the twentieth day of November
nineteen hundred and eighteen. He is therefore carefully and diligently to
discharge the duty of the office to which he is appointed by doing and performing all
manner of things thereunto belonging.

And, I do strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers under his command
to be obedient to his orders as an officer of his grade and position. And he is to observe and
follow such orders and directions from time to time, as he shall receive from me, or the
future President of the United States of America, or the General or other Superior
Officers set over him, according to the rules and discipline of War.

This Commission to continue in force during the pleasure of the President of the United
States for the time being, and for the period of the existing emergency, under the provisions
of an Act of Congress approved May eighteen, nineteen hundred and seventeen.

Given under my hand at the City of Washington, this twentieth day of
November, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighteen,
and in the one hundred and forty-third year of the Independence of the United States.

By the President:

The Adjutant General's Office.

Recorded:

OCT 20 1919

Charles H. Swartz
Adjutant General.

Blount

The Assistant Secretary of War.

Officers' Roster of Philippine Bravo Guerrilla Corps

Chief Commander Emilio Bravo Macasaet

Staff Officers

Major Alex A. Macasaet, Adjutant.
Colonel Pedro R. Dionisio, M.D.
Lt. Col. Valentin Macasaet, D.V.M.
Major Gregorio Matangihan, C.E.
Major Zoilo Lorzano, G-1
Major Vicente Matangihan G-2
Major Agraficio Landicho, G-3
Major Hermenegildo B. Macasaet, D.V.M., 944
Capt Ramon G-4 Galingho, 245
Capt. Miguel Lorzano, Intell. Officer
1st Lt. Vicente Macasaet, Intell. Officer

Field Line Officers:

1. Batangas Province

Col. Fausto Macasaet - *life lines*
Lt-Col. Doroteo Macasaet
Major Vicente Enriquez-ex P.G.
Major Bernardo Macasaet
Major German Laygo
Major Saturnino La Corte
Capt. Fidel La Corte
Capt. Juan Saludo - ex P.S.
Capt. Eugenio Burgos - ex P.A.
Capt. Vicente Recto
1st Lt. Roman Maya
" Pedro de Ocampo
" Venancio Ocampo
" Venancio Villanueva
Lts. Aquilino Ocampo
" Manuel Malaluan
" Vicente Kasapao
" Pedro Atienza
" Juan Lopez +
" Timoteo Bautista
and other names which I can't recall.

2. Nueva Ecija Province

Col. Vicente Mitra
Lt. Col. Aquilino Gavrilla
and his three sons all officers
Major Jose Cochingco

3. Tayabas Province:

Col. Amado Tarray
and his two sons all officers
Lt. Col. Eduardo Abaca
Major Nestor Abaca

Officers' Roster Cont'd

4. Mindoro Province:

Col. Alfredo Macasaet
Lt. Col. Leonardo Macasaet
Major Ricardo Macasaet
and other officers and em.

5. Palawan Province:

Col. Valentin Macasaet
Supt. Iwahig Penal Colony
and other officers and em.

6. Zamboanga:
Province

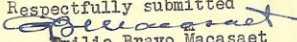
Col. Maximino Macasaet
Provincial Treasurer
Lt. Col. Fernando Luistro
and other officers and em.

7. Davao Province:

Col. Simeon Macasaet, M.D.
Lt. Col. Enrique A. Macasaet, Ch Pharmacy
Major Pastor Escano, Ch Pharm
Major Damaso Castillo
Capt. Anacleto Macasaet
and other officers and em.

I gave instructions to my Guerrilla Unit Commanders to file their own respective applications for recognition of services rendered during World War II to the Governments of the Philippines Commonwealth and the U.S. of America if they so desire.

Respectfully submitted


Emilio Bravo Macasaet
Chief Commander
Philippine Bravo Guerrilla Corps.

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INVESTIGATING OFFICER'S NOTES

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COMPLAINTS