

MACWIRE GUERRILLA FORCES

NAME OF UNIT

BENITO SAHAGUN

UNIT COMMANDING OFFICER

1. Complaints
2. Investigating Officer's Notes
3. Request for recognition w/supporting papers - 12 Mar 46
4. NFC ltr & TLR - 11 Apr 47
5. NFC/Request for Individual reconsideration ltr dtd 31 Jan 48

REMARKS:

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 883078

G-3 Form : HEADQUARTERS : SEQUENCE NO.
 No. 2 : PHILIPPINES-REUKYUS COMMAND :
 : OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-3 : RADIO CITE
 : OFFICE RETAINED RECORD :

G-3 File No. GSCPU 091 PI

Date: 12 Jan 48

SUBJECT: Reconsideration for recognition request for : Type of Communication
 FROM : Benito Sabagun : Letter

CROSS REFERENCES

FOR ACTION BY: : SUSPENSE
 (File symbol only) : DATE

CONCURRENCES

GSCPU	File Symbol	Initial	Date

OFFICER TAKEN ACTION (and initials)

1st Lt George E Kemper *GSK*

Policy : Non-Policy : Recommending :

: : Approval :

(File Symbol)

(Action)

APPROVED

TO: _____ FOR _____

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

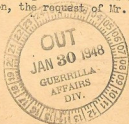
Lt Col Wallace M Hanes:

1. Basic, letter from Mr. Benito Sabagun, CO McGuire Guerrilla Forces, Calapandayan Sector, Subic, Zambales, to GG PHILRYCOM, dated 12 Dec 47, requesting individual reconsideration of his claim for recognition as a member of that unit, which unit was not favorably considered by this headquarters on 11 April 1947.

2. Inasmuch as it is not the policy of this headquarters to grant individual reconsideration to members of claimant guerrilla units who have not been favorably considered for recognition, the request of Mr. Sabagun cannot be accepted.

George E Kemper
 1st Lt George E Kemper

Concur: Capt E R Curtis
 Chief, Unit Branch



HEADQUARTERS
PHILIPPINES-RYUKYU COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

GSCFU 091 FI /140

APD 707

31 JAN 1948

Mr. Benito Sahagun
San Marcelino, Zambales
Philippines

Dear Mr. Sahagun:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 12 December 1947, requesting individual reconsideration of your claim for recognition as a member of the McGuire Guerrilla Forces, Calapandayan Sector, Subic, Zambales, which unit was not favorably considered for recognition by this headquarters on 11 April 1947.

In this regard, it is desired to emphasize that each individual member and each subordinate element of a claimant guerrilla unit receives separate and distinct consideration for recognition when the unit as a whole is taken under consideration, with the view that each individual can further corroborate the alleged services claimed by the unit as a whole. Therefore, it is not the policy of this headquarters to accept requests for reconsideration from individual members or subordinate elements of a unit which was previously not favorably considered for recognition. Taking cognizance of this, it is necessary to inform you that you as the commanding officer of the McGuire Guerrilla Forces received just and adequate consideration for recognition when your services were evaluated with the study of the unit as a whole.

In view of the above, your request for individual reconsideration of your claim for recognition as a member of the McGuire Guerrilla Forces, Calapandayan Sector, Subic, Zambales, cannot be accepted.

Sincerely,

R. E. CANTRELL
Capt. AGD
Asst Adj Gen

Lt Col Wallace M. Hanes:

1. Basic, ltr fr Mr. Benito Sahagun, CO McGuire Guerrilla Forces, Calapandayan Sector, Subic, Zambales, to CG PHILRYCOM, dated 12 Dec 47, requesting individual reconsideration of his claim for recognition as a member of that unit, which unit was not favorably considered by this headquarters on 11 April 1947.

1st Lt George E. Kemper

Concur: Capt E. R. Curtis
Chief, Unit Branch

GSCFU Comeback Copy

30 Jan 48

WAF/GEK/ame

Tel U 149

San Mariano, Zamboales

Philippines

December 12, 1947

The Commanding General
Philrycom
Guerrilla Affairs Section
APO 707

S i r :

Re- GSCFU 091 PI

With reference to your letter dated April 11, 1947, advising me the action taken against my Unit, The McGuire Guerrilla Forces, Calapan-dayan Sector, Subic, Zamboales, Philippines, I have the honor to request information as to whether deserving members who sacrifices ~~such~~ for the cause of the Guerrilla works could not ask any reconsideration to the decision rendered against the organization.

The undersigned who was the acting commander of the Unit in question was not present when investigation was conducted because he had not been notified. His full guerrilla activities and sacrifices was not given opportunity to be heard. In this connection, he respectfully request that proper reconsideration be given to him in order that he can submit full evidences of his activities as partial outlined below :

1. Inducted as 1st Lieutenant and assigned in the intelligent works on land and on seas.
2. Smuggled ammunitions and firearms from the abandoned arms and ammunitions of the USAFFE in the Aglalocm Point, Maraveles, Bataan and partially distributed with the well known Guerrilla leaders of Manila whos Unit was now duly recognized by the AFWESTIFAC.
3. Arrested and placed in the Japs Garrison at Bslot, Tondo, Manila, given no food nor water for the last 3 days, tortured in so many ways that no human being can indure the hardship. It was the kindness of the almighty GOD that save me.
4. Participated in the actual battle against the Japs in liberating the Philippine Manufacturing Company at Velasquest St., Tondo, Manila when the American ~~Victorious~~ Forces arrived Manila. The Commanders of the ~~Mansey~~ and Pres. Quezon Guerrilla Units with whom I cooperated requested me to be attached with them but I refused them knowing that I have also my own Unit in Zamboales.
5. Most members of my Unit were attached to different Unit of the Magsaysay Forces and duly recognized.
6. My hearing was greatly affected caused ~~the~~ the punishment I received when arrested and tortured.

If the above facts will meet your kind reconsideration and be allowed to submit full evidences will be very glad to do so.

Any attention that may be extended to this matter will be highly appreciated.

Very respectfully,


 BENITO SAHAQUIN

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HEADQUARTERS
PHILIPPINE-MYUNTS COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

OSOPU 091 IT / 1736

AFG 707

11 APR 1947

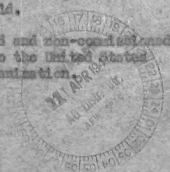
Mr. Benito Sabagan
Subic, Zambales
Philippine Islands

Dear Mr. Sabagan:

The Commanding General has directed that you be informed that the Macaire Guerrilla Force, Calapandayan Sector, Subic, Zambales, 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 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. Record of service was not substantiated by sufficient acceptable evidence.
- b. The unit was not maintained satisfactorily in the field in opposition to the enemy.
- c. Activities of the unit did not contribute materially to the eventual defeat of the enemy.
- d. A definite organization was not established.
- e. Adequate records were not maintained (names, ranks, dates of enlistment or joining, dates of promotions, and necessary related information).
- f. Rank of members was considered to be too high for the actual size of the command maintained in the field.
- g. The number of officers, commissioned and non-commissioned, was excessive and not reasonably proportionate to the United States Army or to pre-war Philippine Army tables of organization.



OSOPU Copy Filed w/201 File (SABAGUN, Benito)
TRUE Copies Filed w/Cor File (MacWire Gr1a Forces, 647
Calapandayan Sector, Subic, Zambales); Unit; NFC & TLR.

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h. Sphere of operations and unit strength claimed by the unit were not commensurate with the nature of the terrain, limitation of communication facilities, and the degree of anti-resistance activities of the Japanese in the area during the period concerned.

i. Unit did not show satisfactory continuity of activity and organization.

j. 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.

This decision on the proposed unit roster does not preclude submission for casualty recognition by those individuals who are qualified and feel justified in entering such claims. Upon request by interested individuals, appropriate forms will be forwarded.

Your attention is invited to Presidential Executive Order No. 68, Commonwealth of the Philippines, copy of which is attached, for any necessary action in connection therewith.

Sincerely,

I Incl
Executive Order No. 68
dtd 26 Sept 45

THOMAS J. BROWN
CWO, USA
ASST ADJ GEN

Colonel Gerald F. Hillard:

1. MacDore Guerrilla Forces, Calapanayan Sector, Sabic, Zamboales (Independent), consisting of 56 members, has not been favorably considered for recognition. No members have previously been recognized.
2. This unit does not fulfil the requirements of the five basic points for recognition. See attached Team Leader's Report.
3. No useful purpose will be accomplished by further investigation of this unit. This is an initial investigation of an initial roster.
4. There are no members worthy of recognition and the unit suffered no casualties.

James R. Benton
2nd Lt James R. Benton

1. Concur: Captain John O Neider
Acty Chief, Inv Section
2. Concur: Major C. H. Westcott
Acty Chief, Unit Branch

Report on "MacWire Guerrilla Forces, Calapandayan
Sector, Subic, Zambales

1. Second Lieutenant James R. Benton proceeded to Subic, Zambales, on 12 March 1947, to investigate the MacWire Guerrilla Forces, Calapandayan Sector, Subic, Zambales.

2. ALLEGED HISTORY: (See attached unit file)

3. FINDINGS:

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

Capt Manuel Barretto	CO, Maloma Sector, ZMD, Magsaysay's Guerrillas
Capt L. E. Lausares	Mayor, Subic
(Capt) Mrs Elizabeth Fontillas	Hq ZMD
Capt Lazaro Cawagas	CO, San Narciso Sector, ZMD, Magsaysay's Guerrillas
Capt Numeriano Fabre	CO, La Paz Sector, ZMD, Magsaysay's Guerrillas
1st Lt Benito Novalles	Chief of Police, Subic, Zambales, and Sunic Sector, ZMD, Magsaysay's Guerrillas
Capt Eduardo Lesaca	Ex-Off, Subic Sector, ZMD, Magsaysay's Guerrillas
Juan Acheta (1st Lt)	MacWire Guerrilla Forces
Eugenio Panelo (2nd Lt)	" " "
Rufino Leyda (2nd Lt)	" " "
Lt Rosendo Soriano	Subic Sector, ZMD, Magsaysay's Guerrillas

b. Record of service was not substantiated by sufficient acceptable evidence. This organization under the command of Captain Benito Sahagun remained absolutely passive during the occupation. It was not in any sense an organized guerrilla unit due to the fact that the majority of the members were members of other guerrilla units. No supporting evidence was presented to substantiate their claims of having actively engaged in intelligence work, propaganda, or sabotage. Interviews with Juan Ancheta, Eugenio Panelo, and Rufino Leyda indicate that the unit never existed. The three men, residents of Subic, and listed on the roster of the subject unit as officers, stated that they had never heard of the MacWire Guerrilla Forces and that they had not been aware of the fact that their names had been placed on this roster. Captain L. E. Lausares, CO, Subic Sector, Squadron C, ZMD, Magsaysay's Guerrillas, verified the fact that these three men had been members of his command together with the following men whose names also appear on the roster of MacWire Guerrilla Forces: (1) 1st Sgt Jose Salang, (2) Sgt Cecilio del Carmel, (3) Sgt Jacinto Fedilus, (4) Cpl Feliciano Baloy, (5) Pfc Elinio Atienza, (6) Pvt Pio Tenil, (7) Florentino Timaan, (8)

RESTRICTED

✓ Pvt Lope Doctolero, (9) Pvt Antonio delos Santos, and (10) Pvt Gregorio Picalle. Mrs Elizabeth Fontillas, an American woman and recognized Captain of Headquarters, Zambales Military District, stated that she had never been aware of the existence of this unit. Civilians in the vicinity of Subic were not familiar with the subject unit as having been an organized guerrilla unit.

✓ c. This unit was not maintained satisfactorily in the field in opposition to the enemy. Following statements of leading guerrilla leaders in this province, who are already recognized, indicate that the unit did not exist as an active guerrilla unit during the occupation.

✓ d. A definite organization was not established by this unit because the officers and enlisted men during the occupation were either members of other guerrilla units or lived with their families and pursued normal civilian occupation.

✓ e. Performance of the unit did not indicate adequate control by its commanding officer because officers and enlisted men of this unit were members of other guerrilla units.

✓ f. Unit did not show satisfactory continuity of activity and organization because none of the members interviewed could show any outstanding achievement accomplished during the occupation nor show any supporting evidence which would substantiate claims made in the unit history.

g. This is an initial investigation of an initial roster. There are no members worthy of recognition and the unit suffered no casualties.

h. No useful purpose will be accomplished by further investigation of this unit.

4. POLITICAL ASPECTS: This unit does not appear to have any political affiliations or aspirations.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS: It is recommended that the MacWire Guerrilla Forces, Celapendayan Sector, Subic, Zambales, be not favorably considered for recognition.

James R. Benton
JAMES R. BENTON
2d Lt, INFANTRY

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Authority NND 883078

C-3397

MAGWIRE GUERRILLA FORCES
CALAPANDAYAN SECTOR
SUBIC, ZAMBALES
P. I.

RECORDS
UNIT FILE

March 12, 1946

The Guerella Affair
Headquarter
AFWESpac
APO 707, Manila

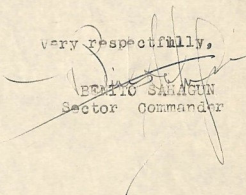
Gentlemen:

I have the honor to submit herewith attached the History and Roster of the Macwire Guerella Forces in the Calapandayan Sector, Subic, Zambales, P. I.

I wish also to further request that proper recognition be extended to our organization.

As we are not so particular about the regulation of the AFWESPAC, I wish to ask consideration that we be guided accordingly.

Very respectfully,


BENITO SABAGUN
Sector Commander

MACWIRE GUERRILLA FORCES
CALAPANDAYAN SECTOR
SUBIC, ZAMBALLES
P. I.RECORDS
UNIT FILEHISTORY

The MACWIRE GUERRILLA FORCES was organized sometime 1942 by an American Officer named Captain Macwire in his mountain Headquarter in the wilderness of Zambales mountain.

In the town of Subic, Zambales, P. I., Ex-Mayor, Numeriano Flores was appointed by Captain Macwire to extend the organization of the MACWIRE GUERRILLA FORCES. Fortunately, the Calapandayan Sector was one among he successfully organized and independently carried the activities of the resistant movement.

Not long after the organization of the Calapandayan Sector, a Ganap or Sakdalista Spy reported the activities of Ex-Mayor Numeriano Flores to the Japanese Garrison of Subic, Zambales. The Japanese Commanding Officer of the Garrison ordered the arrest of Ex-Mayor Flores. A squad of Japanese soldier searched his house, posted a guard in his house day and night. When Ex-Mayor Flores learned the matter, he at once went to his mountain headquarter for safety and remained there till he contracted a disease which forced his family and himself to left Subic secretly for Manila, and resided there till his death.

After the death of Ex-Mayor Flores, the Calapandayan Sector continued factioning where in this connection, 100% of members of the organization were arrested by the Japanese soldiers and garrisoned for so many days in the sunshine and given no food nor water. Mostly were released and some were sent to Iba, Zambales for further investigation and remained there 3 months and released halfdeath due to the inhuman punishment they suffered.

When the American Victorious Forces landed in Leyte, the Japanese soldiers restricted the movement of all able male resident of Calapandayan where even to find means something to eat was impossible. We suffered great starvation, some of our members evacuated to places where they can freely find something to eat and the undersigned also went to Manila for safety as he was also being watched by the Sakdalista Spy.

When the 41st Division of American Forces landed in Zambales, Acting Commander Lieut. Juan Ancheta with Lt. Eugenio Pabelo with some of the available members continued their activities.

Destroying all means of Japanese Communication.
Cutting trees near the road in order to impossible the Jap trucks to meet in the north the American landing forces in San Narciso and San Felipe.

When the American forces reached Subic, all available men voluntarily assisted the advancing American Forces up to Olongapo where some of the men returned home and of them continued

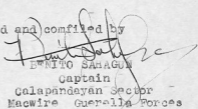
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RECORDS

CENTROFILE

their services with the advancing American forces till the liberation of all Central Luzon where they were given released and go home but they have not been paid for said services. The undersigned who was then in Manila, co-operated with the resistance movement with the President Quezon Own Guerilla Unit in Velasques St., Tondo, under the Command of Captain Teodoro Bato-yong. He participated with the men of said Guerillas in the famous battle of Philippine Manufacturing Company of Velasques Street, Tondo, Manila till the defending Japanese forces were wiped out in said Factory.

Prepared and compiled by



BENITO SARAGUN

Captain

Calapandayan Sector

Macwire Guerilla Forces