

PERSONNEL FILES

INDIVIDUAL

CONFESOR, TOMAS



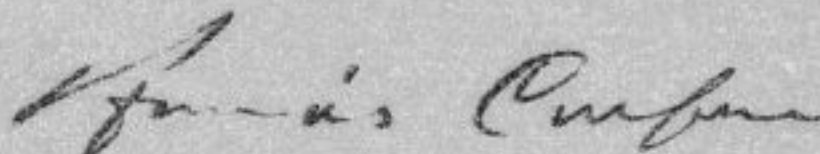
Tacloban, Leyte  
24th January 1945

My dear Col. Chaffee:

Altho, you told me that any paper on the matter we talked about yesterday, should be submitted to General Valdes, I am nevertheless furnishing you as well as Maj. Telesco with copies of the same. They are all self-explanatory to need further comment on my part. Whether you have anything to do officially or not with the matters presented therein, is beside the point. All that I would request you is to read them, if you have time, for your own information, and entertainment, if for nothing else. If you find what I put in there are all thrash, throw the whole bundle into the waste basket. And if you feel that I am a damned fool for writing those things, please let me know, or keep it for yourself. Whichever it may be would suit me. Altho, I prefer to know what sort of a man you think I am. It might do me a whole lot of good.

With the best of good luck.

Sincerely yours,



TOMAS CONFESOR

Col. Chaffee  
U. S. Army





USA COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
PANGLOSS AND RANGLON



EXPLANATION

December 16, 1944

WHEREAS, in my Manifesto addressed to the Armed Forces of Pangloss and Ranglon, dated the 15th instant, I declared therein that Colonel Narciso Peralta, Jr., FA, has committed the grave crime of SEDITION by issuing proclamations declaring the provinces of Capiz and Antique independent of the government of the undersigned, and appointed Acting Governors for each of these provinces;

WHEREAS, General MacArthur on July 16, 1944, instructed Col. Peralta to give protection to the duly constituted civil authority in Pangloss and Ranglon, in the manner as contained in the following radio message:

NR 104 - 18 JULY '44

PERALTA ..

REFERENCE MUST BE MADE TO MY MESSAGES WHICH HAVE COME TO MY ATTENTION RE THE EXISTING SPLIT BETWEEN YOUR COMMAND AND THE DULY CONSTITUTED CIVIL GOVERNMENT. I FIND IT NECESSARY TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO POLICY PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED GOVERNING THE RELATIONSHIP WHICH MUST EXIST BETWEEN MILITARY AND CIVIL AUTHORITIES. IT IS MY DESIRE THAT YOU TAKE IMMEDIATE AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CLARIFY DIFFERENCES NOW EXISTING BETWEEN YOURSELF AND GOV. CONFESSOR TO THE END THAT AN HARMONIOUS OFFICIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO SEPARATE AND DISTINCT BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT MAY PROMPTLY BE REESTABLISHED. I FURTHER EXPECT YOU TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AS IS WITHIN YOUR POWER TO SUPPORT AND DEFEND THE CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND PROTECT THE OFFICIALS CHARGED WITH THE ADMINISTERING THE SAME, UTILIZING FOR SUCH PURPOSE ANY OF THE MILITARY STORES IN YOUR CUSTODY OR PERSONNEL UNDER YOUR COMMAND WHICH MAY BE AVAILABLE AND NECESSARY. WITH THE NEXT SHIPMENT TO YOUR AREA I WILL INCLUDE A SMALL SHIPMENT TO GOVERNOR CONFESSOR TO MEET EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS OF CIVIL OFFICIALS AND THE PEOPLE AND I DESIRE THAT YOU EFFECT DELIVERY THEREOF AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE FOLLOWING RECEIPT. - MACARTHUR

WHEREAS, Col. Peralta instead of complying with said instruction has attempted and actually attempts to destroy the authority of this Office, which represents the duly constituted authority referred to herein;

(over)





WHEREFORE, I call upon every Officer and every enlisted man of the Philippine Army in Panay and Romblon to rally to the support and defense of the rights and prerogatives of the undersigned as Governor of Panay and Romblon, and to refrain from executing or carrying out orders from Colonel Peralta contrary to and in contravention with the herein above quoted message of Gen. MacArthur.

The undersigned calls upon you to rally to his support and defense for an orderly government and for the supremacy of the law.

FINALLY, Colonel Peralta, by committing said act of REBELLION, has forfeited his authority over the Armed Forces here in Panay and Romblon.

Consequently, any order coming from him, tending to undermine the duly constituted civil authority as represented by this Office is null and void.

Your refusal to obey any of his orders to this effect does not constitute mutiny.



T. C.  
TOMAS CONFESOR  
Governor



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES  
Office of the Governor  
Panay & Romblon

December 15, 1944

**MANIFESTO**

**TO THE ARMED FORCES OF PANAY AND ROMBLON:**

A very serious situation has arisen in view of the steps that Colonel Macardo Peralta, Jr., as Commander of the 6th MD, has taken with respect to the civil administration over Panay and Romblon. He has issued proclamations appointing Atty. Cornelio T. Villareal of Capiz, Acting Provincial Governor of that Province and designating Capt. Calixto Zaldivar, PA, as Acting Provincial Governor of Antique.

This action of Col. Peralta constitutes sedition. It is an act aimed at destroying the duly constituted civil authority over these provinces, that is the authority of the Governor of Panay and Romblon.

For Col. Peralta has no authority whatsoever to issue the proclamations herein referred to. He, however, claims that his authority in this regard is derived from the proclamation of Gen. MacArthur. This pretension has no foundation whatsoever, because Gen. MacArthur in the proclamation referred to has reserved for himself, exclusively, the authority that Colonel Peralta claims for himself, as may be gleaned from the following pertinent excerpts therefrom:

"I do hereby announce my purpose progressively to restore and extend to the people of the Philippines the sacred right of Government by constitutional process under the regularly constituted Commonwealth Government as rapidly as the several occupied areas are liberated and the military situation will otherwise permit; x x x"

On the other hand, the act of Col. Peralta issuing proclamations appointing an acting provincial governor for Capiz and designating an acting provincial governor for Antique, is contrary and in contravention to the explicit instructions of Gen. MacArthur to him as of January 17, 1943 and of July 18, 1944, which read in part as follows, respectively:

"YOUR POWERS ARE THOSE OF A MILITARY GUERRILLA CHIEF OPERATING IN TEMPORARILY CONQUERED LAND STOP OVER CIVILIAN COMMUNITY NONE EXCEPT SUCH ACTIONS TO PRESERVE SAFETY OF YOUR FORCES STOP OVER ARMY UNITS AS PER MILITARY LAW STOP x x x x x x x x x"

"PERALTA- REFERENCE RECENT DISPATCHES WHICH HAVE BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION EXISTING CONFLICT BETWEEN YOUR COMMAND AND THE DULY CONSTITUTED CIVIL GOVERNMENT, I FIND IT NECESSARY TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO POLICY PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED GOVERNING THE RELATIONSHIP WHICH MUST EXIST BETWEEN MILITARY AND CIVIL AUTHORITIES. IT IS MY DESIRE THAT YOU TAKE IMMEDIATE AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CLARIFY DIFFERENCES NOW EXISTING BETWEEN YOURSELF AND GOV CONFESOR TO THE END THAT AN HARMONIOUS OFFICIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO SEPARATE AND DISTINCT AGENCIES OF GOVERNMENT MAY PROMPTLY BE REESTA-





BLISHED. I FURTHER EXPECT YOU TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AS IS WITHIN YOUR POWER TO SUPPORT AND DEFEND THE CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND PROTECT THE OFFICIALS CHARGED WITH THE ADMINISTERING THE SAME, UTILIZING FOR SUCH PURPOSE ANY OF THE MILITARY STORES IN YOUR CUSTODY OR PERSONNEL UNDER YOUR COMMAND WHICH MAY BE AVAILABLE AND NECESSARY. x x x x "

The message of Gen. MacArthur of January 17, 1943 defines in no unmistakable language his policy with respect to Colonel Peralta's authority here in Panay and Romblon, that is, Colonel Peralta has no authority over civil population and much less over civil affairs.

The recent message of Gen. MacArthur re-affirms that policy and, more than that, it directs Colonel Peralta to give the necessary support and protection to the duly constituted civil authority which is separate and independent from the military agency of the government. Your attention is invited specially to the following provision of the instruction which says:

"x x x I FURTHER EXPECT YOU TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AS IS WITHIN YOUR POWER TO SUPPORT AND DEFEND THE CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND PROTECT THE OFFICIALS CHARGED WITH THE ADMINISTERING THE SAME, UTILIZING FOR SUCH PURPOSE ANY OF THE MILITARY STORES IN YOUR CUSTODY OR PERSONNEL UNDER YOUR COMMAND WHICH MAY BE AVAILABLE AND NECESSARY. x x x x "



Consequently, what Col. Peralta is doing now is exactly contrary and opposite to the instruction of Gen. MacArthur herein referred to. Instead of supporting the civil government and protecting its officials, he is now trying to destroy that very civil government and terrorizing its officials.

Wherefore, he has committed sedition thereby.

The instruction of Gen. MacArthur is not only for Colonel Peralta, but for every enlisted man and officer of the PA, USAFFE in Panay and Romblon. I want you, therefore, to abide and follow that instruction. Gen. MacArthur is your Commander-in-Chief.

Undoubtedly, Col. Peralta is dragging you with him to commit sedition. You should remember that you are not only under the Filipino flag, but more so, you have as your battle standard, the flag of the United States of America.

In his manifesto to the people of Antique, Col. Peralta, by a series of illogical and unintelligent processes of reasoning, arrogated to himself the powers that only belong to the President of the United States and to Gen. MacArthur. Should we follow such preposterous argumentation to its logical conclusion, he may even go over the head of the President of the Philippines.

To show that Colonel Peralta has committed a colossal blunder in this regard, you should bear in mind that it was President Sergio Osmeña who appointed Lt.-Col. Ruperto Kangleon acting Governor of Leyte. Gen. MacArthur did not do it himself. Why? Because the great general, your Commander-in-Chief, knows wherein his authority lies in this respect. If Gen. MacArthur believed that it was President Osmeña who was the competent authority to that effect, how could Colonel Peralta arrogate to himself the power to appoint acting governors for Antique and Capiz?





You should remember that we are governed by the laws of a democratic country, owing allegiance to the United States of America, and our laws and the institutions of the United States cannot for a moment sanction the act that has been committed by Col. Peralta with respect to his proclamations for Capiz and for Antique.

There is also a standing order of Col. Peralta that every civil official and every provincial guard should be disarmed on the flimsy and idiotic reason that he would use those guns for military operations. You know that his ground for such disarming is untenable, not only untenable but ridiculous, to say the least. If Col. Peralta cannot undertake the military operation he has in mind without the few and old guns now in the hands of the civil officials and the provincial guards, he might just as well quit his job. Somebody else with the present equipment of the army in Panay and Romblon can utilize to better advantage the guns and ammunitions that our armed forces have now in their possession.

In his manifesto for the people of antique, he invoked unity. But what he is doing is not only sowing dissension among the unified people of Panay and Romblon, but is destroying that unity and committing sedition thereby.

You should remember that you are not the army of Colonel Peralta that, he may use to promote his personal and selfish as well as pernicious ends. You should not allow yourself, therefore, to be used as tools of Col. Peralta to satisfy his whim and caprice.

Bear this in mind: each and everyone of you are soldiers in a democratic country and as such you have common as well as personal responsibility to answer for your acts before our people and the proper constituted authority, whether military or civil your duty is to observe and obey legal orders only whether military or civil. It is not your duty to execute blindly any seditious proclamations and instructions from Col. Peralta.

Gen. MacArthur on July 18, 1944 sent me as governor of Panay and Romblon, the following message:

"WE HAVE INSTRUCTED COLONEL PERALTA TO ASSIST YOU IN SOLVING EXISTING DIFFERENCES WHICH HAVE ARISEN BETWEEN THE CIVIL AND MILITARY AGENCIES OF GOVERNMENT IN PANAY CMA TO THE END THAT AN HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIP MAY PROMPTLY BE REESTABLISHED PD I AM CONFIDENT THAT HE WILL TAKE APPROPRIATE DISPOSITIONS WITHIN THE AVAILABLE RESOURCES AT HIS COMMAND TO DEFEND THE PROCESSES OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND AFFORD THE PROTECTION FOR YOURSELF AND OTHER OFFICIALS DULY CHARGED WITH THE ADMINISTERING THE SAME D X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X"

In view thereof and in view of the instruction of Gen. MacArthur to Col. Peralta, dated July 18, 1944, as herein above quoted, as Chief Executive of Panay and Romblon and representing the duly constituted civil authority over these provinces, I enjoin you "TO SUPPORT AND DEFEND THE CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND PROTECT THE OFFICIALS CHARGED WITH THE ADMINISTERING THE SAME" instead of countenancing the grave acts of SEDITION that Col. Peralta has committed.



In the words of Gen. MacArthur, I "expect you to take such action as is within your power to support and protect the officials charged with administering the same, utilizing for such purpose any of the military stores in your custody or personnel under your command which may be available and necessary".

Mr. Cornelio A. Villareal of Capiz and Capt. Galixto Zaldivar of Antique are not representatives of the duly constituted civil government over their respective provinces. Consequently, it is not your duty neither have you any responsibility to support and defend the "government" which they claim to represent as per proclamation of Col. Peralta. For Col. Peralta, as shown herein, has no power nor authority to proclaim them as acting governors of those provinces.

In addressing to you this appeal, I have nothing but the best interest of the people of Panay and Romblon, and not only of Panay and Romblon but of the entire Philippines. For our conduct at this critical moment will test our capacity for self-government under a democracy.

During the last three years, you and our people had gone through terrible dangers and perils for democracy, for law and order as we understand them under that regime. You and ourselves labored together that we may show to the world our loyalty to that ideal.

Now that we have successfully braved the STORM of those tempestuous days, should we allow the madness of Col. Peralta to wreck the SHIP that is about to land us safely in port?

We in Panay and Romblon have proved up to now to the world that, representing as we do a fair cross-section of the Filipino people, we possess the inherent gifts and qualities of character necessary and vital for the strength and success of democratic institutions.

In his address to the people of Antique, he advanced in support of the step he has taken thereon that, since the re-organization of the civil governments in both Capiz and Antique, is was accomplished through his "consent and support", he may at any time destroy these governments and rebuild them to suit his whim and caprice.

Now in the name of common sense, could Col. Peralta argue with decency to that effect? Just because I helped Juan build his house, have I thereby acquired the legitimate right to destroy it? This line of argumentation is utterly idiotic, to say the least.

Should we allow the preposterous and unintelligent interpretation of Col. Peralta of Gen. MacArthur's Proclamation to destroy our prestige and dignity as a people?

If Col. Peralta has the slightest sense of responsibility and has the least interest in the welfare and good name of our people here, he should have communicated with Gen. MacArthur for definite and specific authority to take the steps that he has taken. The Colonel has radio facilities for this purpose. In less than five days, he could have secured a categorical answer in that regard.

Instead, he has allowed his muddled mind to get the best of him, trying to drag every one of you and our people to infamy with him, thereby.






at this moment of great decision, let us not forget that you and I are part and parcel of this blessed region of Panay and Romblon. We were the first to reestablish and maintain a respectable civil administration after the Japanese occupation of our provinces. We were the first to organize guerilla forces under a UNIFIED COMMAND. ~~Such~~ This is our legitimate pride. We have won the admiration of the world for this.

Should we let Col. Feralta dash to pieces, at this precise hour of victory, this well earned prestige of our people in Panay and Romblon, in his madness to achieve his ambition to be the DICTATOR of Panay?

God forbid!! Let us not copy here the example of Mexico where army generals make and unmake the presidents.

Finally, I appeal to you in behalf of the prestige of our people. I appeal, too, for calmness and serenity of mind. Our good name and that of the Philippines are at this moment, in the crucible by this sedition of Col. Feralta. Upon your conduct depend whether we have the patriotism and capacity for self-government.

I appeal to you, above all, in the name of law and order.

  
TOMAS CONFESOR  
Governor

TC/jvb





UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES  
Office of the Governor  
Panay & Iloilo



December 24, 1944

SUBJECT: CHARGES AGAINST COL. MARCOS P. PAVITA, JR.,  
Commander of the 6th MD, PA, USAFFE

1. Col. Marcos Pavita, Jr., attempted to destroy the civil government in Panay and Iloilo prior to the arrival and the landing of the American Forces of Liberation in Leyte on October 20, 1944.

A. Prior to that date, he proclaimed martial law and the establishment of a military government.

1. He proclaimed martial law and attempted to establish a military form of government on December 15, 1944. He even went to the extent of creating a "cabinet" composed of "department secretaries" presided by an army officer.

2. He opposed the surrender of civilians and civil officials, and encouraged guerrillas (Paniney, Pabaton, Calinao, Passi, Carian, Kabanisa, Anillo, Bantao, Marolao Vago, Balansa, Sara, Gumbacion, Ajay, San Dionisio, etc.,) He issued written instructions to all regional commanders to that effect. Army officers camped in the field, and held meetings, urging the people and the local civil officials to surrender to the enemy. He even instructed Lt. Col. L. B. Rodenia, his Executive Officer, to confer with the Chief of the Japanese Military Police of the City of Iloilo, to arrange for a truce, according to information, the purpose of which we did not know. They later on killed seven of their own puppets.

B. Failing to accomplish his objective of destroying the civil government by means of the foregoing schemes, Col. Pavita resorted to the adoption of the following measures:

1. He deprived the civil government in Panay and Iloilo of the facilities for contact with the Commonwealth Government at Washington. The reports of this Office, sent through his radio station, were either not transmitted at all or were badly "distorted" by him. He even misinformed the late President Quason to the effect that the undersigned could not be found in Panay as can be gleaned from the tenor of the radiogram received by him from President Quason on October 11, 1944.

2. He deprived the civil government in Panay and Iloilo of adequate funds necessary for its maintenance and operations. Pavita, from the very beginning, wanted to grab all the output of the mint without giving the civil government any share therefrom. All communications of the undersigned to the



Chairman of the Iloilo Currency Committee, Mr. Juan Benítez, requesting for funds, were either left unanswered or returned by Peralta's headquarters with a note that said Manager could not be found. He ordered the seizure of funds in the hands of municipal treasurers by means of force.

3. He has been obstructing the efforts of the civil government to solve certain problems affecting price control. He ordered the confiscation and destruction or tearing of the Treasury Certificates, issued and circulated by this Office through the Provincial Treasury of Iloilo. He allowed and continues to allow his soldiers to go to the public markets to grab merchandise at their own prices, sometimes without paying or issuing receipts therefor. His soldiers pay people even less than half of the cost price of their goods, thereby seriously prejudicing the interests of merchants, disrupting trade, and embarrassing the operations of black markets.

4. He attempted to secure authority from the late President Quezon to pay municipal officials direct from army funds, without previous consultation with my Office, his aim being to have influence and control over said officials for ulterior motives. At present, he is using them to hostile the civil government. He made the recommendations after the undersigned had appointed Atty. A. Aponteora and Mr. K. Hibionada as acting provincial fiscal and acting provincial auditor, respectively, a report on these appointments to the late President Quezon had not been transmitted, I presume, by Col. Peralta through this Office the same was forwarded.

5. He made recommendations to the late Pres. Quezon for the appointments of provincial fiscal and provincial auditor of Iloilo, without consultation with my Office, his aim being to have influence and control over said officials for ulterior motives. At present, he is using them to hostile the civil government. He made the recommendations after the undersigned had appointed Atty. A. Aponteora and Mr. K. Hibionada as acting provincial fiscal and acting provincial auditor, respectively, a report on these appointments to the late President Quezon had not been transmitted, I presume, by Col. Peralta through this Office the same was forwarded.

6. He persistently refused to give or detail an adequate number of armed soldiers for the defense of the Governor in case of enemy penetration in the security area of the latter. In July and August, 1943, the undersigned was subjected by the enemy to a determined onslaught for over forty-five days, yet Col. Peralta merely folded his arms without ordering his men to come to the rescue.

II. Colonel Ricardo Peralta, Jr., committed the grave crime of sedition.

1. Deliberately misinterpreting the recent Proclamation of General MacArthur, he declared the provinces of Cebu and

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Antique free from the supervision and control of this Office and appointed Cornelio T. Villareal, my supervising deputy governor, as acting provincial governor for Cagis, and Calisto O. Zaldivar, a captain in the army, as acting provincial governor for Antique, thereby creating disturbances within said provinces.

1. He used, and still uses, the armed forces under his command to compel the people to look up to his appointed provincial governors as the duly constituted civil authorities in their respective provinces.



2. He compelled certain civil officials under the supervision of this Office to surrender to his newly "constituted" provincial governments in Cagis and Antique, and to work under his acting provincial governors.

3. He used, and still uses, his men to threaten the civil population with violence should they refuse to look up to Capt. Zaldivar and Mr. Villareal as the duly constituted civil authorities in Antique and Cagis, respectively.

4. He ordered the arrest of civil officials holding appointments from this Office, Provincial Treasurer Dinto, Fiscal Dietrich, Deputy Governor "Antonio" of the 3rd Dist., District of Antique, as well as various persons of Antique, were arrested, searched and detained by army authorities in that province.

5. Colonel Paralta repeatedly refused to comply with the orders of the Court of First Instance of Antique, thereby trampling down the constitutional rights of Filipino citizens.

1. He did not honor the orders of the Court of First Instance of Antique, issued by Judge Fulgencio Vega, with respect to the habeas corpus proceedings in behalf of District Attorney Mariano T. Benedicto, who was arrested and hog-tied, without legal grounds, and still is being detained by army authorities on order of Colonel Paralta.

2. He and his officers in Antique ignored and continue to ignore the order of the Court in Antique to desist from confiscating the Provincial Treasury Certificates issued by the Provincial Treasurer of Iloilo upon authority of this Office.

6. The foregoing appears to be the result of a premeditated plan as revealed by their own statements as follows:

1. Colonel Paralta, on June 6, 1948, wrote:

"Frankly, the conditions in Iloilo are terrible. The people have learned that they can overturn anyone they don't like by means of arms. Someday, Panny will be called upon to suppress revolts in Iloilo -- such as words, Panny might lead in the revolting



unless I am successful in ingraining into the thick skulls of these boys (army men) that the civil government should be supported because it helps them."

(Just now, Paralta is the one trying to overthrow the duly constituted civil government.)

2. Maj. Tomas de Castro, on August 5, 1944, wrote:

"Did you hear the tragic news concerning the untimely death of President Mena last August 1st? This is rather unfortunate for the country considering the fact that we shall need the strong hand of the late President after the war to keep discipline and avoid civil war. I hope Old Man Canada would be strong enough to keep order and discipline when peace shall have been restored in our country."



(This account of Major de Castro shows lack of evidence in President Mena's case.)

III. Col. Paralta systematically persecuted, and still continues to persecute, civil officials not suitable to his taste, and who refused to take orders from him.

A. He issued a blanket order for the arrest and detention of civil officials, and have them delivered to the prosecuting attorney for custody, but the latter may request that custody of such persons arrested be taken over by the Army.

B. He issued another blanket order for the arrest of civil officials who fail to dedicate themselves personally to production of food, directing that such civil officials be arrested and put to pounding rice.

C. He ordered for the arrest and shooting of Deputy Governor Juan Grillo on various occasions, by companies of armed men.

D. He ordered for the arrest and disarming of provincial guards instructing his soldiers to shoot those who resist, without filing specific charges against them.

E. He ordered the arrest of District Attorney Mariano V. Benedicto, without stating the reasons therefor, and without any court order to that effect, including the provincial guards, deputy governors and mayors of Antique accompanying said Atty. Benedicto. Atty. Benedicto was hog-tied and maltreated on his way to Capiz, where Colonel Paralta ordered that he be taken.

F. He ordered the commandeering of all palay stored by the civil officials for their own consumption.

G. He has organized a sort of Gestapo headed by Major Tomas de Castro, to shadow each civil official to find out what he is thinking and doing.

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II. Major Juan Barra told certain army men to kill Deputy Governor Juan Grife and he would be responsible for their defense, he, Barra, being the Chief Judge Advocate of the Army here.

III. Major Juan Barra made a statement in a circle of army men that District Attorney Mariano V. Bracileto would not live to see the victory parade.

IV. Lt. de Ponce of the Army told a certain lawyer that, if necessary, the undersigned would be shot.

V. Col. Narciso Peralta, Jr., is intemperate and dangerously impulsive.

A. He has instructed his combat team commanders to be in readiness to attack civil officials.

B. He wrote the undersigned and other civil officials insolent and threatening letters.

C. Without previous investigation, he issued orders to arrest and disarm provincial guards with instruction to shoot those who would resist. This happened when Lt. Sandoz, an MP, HASTEN, had a clash with Lt. Sandoz of an army combat unit in a municipality of Antioquia, whereby one soldier was killed from shots fired by the son of Lt. Sandoz himself. It also happened in Kiole when, in a clash, four provincial guards were killed by army men under Lt. Luis Lumberto.

D. He frequently provoked conflicts with civil officials by sudden changes on policies regarding financial matters and food procurement for armed forces.

E. He provoked arguments entered into between his self appointed representatives and that of the duly appointed representatives of the civil government on the unjustifiable distribution of the output of the mine and the control and jurisdiction over the Kiole Currency Committee, without previous notice to the proper civil authorities, thereby leading to misunderstanding between the civil officials and army men in the field.

F. He simply ignored agreements between his representatives and the civil officials with respect to the administration of army properties and those of absentee landholders.

G. Colonel Narciso Peralta, Jr., has disciplined certain army officers of their commands for showing no sympathy for his policy of hostilizing the civil government and of persecuting certain civil officials.

H. Lt. Col. Luis V. Dator, Capt. Nicanor, Lt. Ignacio Labrador, and others, were removed from their respective commands of combat units.

I. Capt. Pascual V. Guebara and Lt. Roberto Guebara were promoted to inactive status due to alleged grievances Peralta has against the undersigned, with which Captain P. V. Guebara and Lt. R. Guebara have nothing to do at all.





VI. Colonel Narciso Porcillo, Jr., has been engaged in partisan politics, allowing and using his position to promote the political interests of certain politicians in the Army.

1. He has surrounded himself with a political clique headed by Major Juan Barra, by commensuration in the Army.

1. He commissioned former Assemblyman Galisteo Zaldivar as captain in the Army, the same Zaldivar of Antigua who was once prosecuted for activities in favor of the Japs. He had delivered public speeches in favor of the enemy in the province of Antigua, Nov. he is the same Zaldivar whom Porcillo has recently "prosecuted" acting attorney of Antigua. He is the very same Zaldivar whom the Vice President Guevara told the undersigned in Mexico, should be prosecuted for "crimes", for having cashed in Cuba a Treasury Warrant issued by Dr. J. B. Vargas whom the latter was then Chairman of the Japanese Executive Commission.

2. He also commissioned Atty. Delfino Guevara as captain in the Army, designating him as one of his judges advocates. Atty. Guevara is a professional politician with unenviable record, dismissed from office at one time due to serious irregularities, for accepting bribes from maintainers of gambling dens.

3. Another politician commissioned by him is Atty. Amado Parodi, whose unenviable record is well known in the City of Madrid where he resided for a number of years before the war.

4. Torro Vargas is also a professional politician commissioned by Porcillo. He is another gambling fiend.

5. He has secured in secret authority to pay the salaries of certain civil officials direct by his financial officers to win political sympathies for his politicians in the Army.

6. He asked certain civil officials the question as to whether or not they "are for General Barra for Porcillo". Deputy Governor Guevara and Attopact were asked the same question. The latter was asked by Major Juan Barra, the former by Colonel Porcillo himself. Supervising Deputy Governor Galce had been invited to see Barra, politically, with Porcillo. Porcillo also asked the same question of Sen. Don. Gov. Delfino Reynaldo, publicly, in Spain, during a conference.

7. He is whitewashing puppets and enemy collaborators for political considerations, going to the extent of reinstating them in public office under Villalobos and Zaldivar. Many municipal and provincial officials and employees in Spain and Antigua, who were punished and collaborated with the enemy, have been reinstated in office through his action.

VII. Colonel Narciso Porcillo, Jr., lacks executive and administrative capacity.

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A. He failed to procure enough food supply for the Army during the harvest seasons of 1942-1943 and 1943-1944, despite his possession of adequate funds and his 15,000 men, the bulk of whom were practically doing nothing but mischief.

B. He failed to take advantage of the facilities of the civil government placed at his disposal in regard to food procurement for the Army.

C. His Field men manipulated prices of supplies and other commodities for personal gain.

D. He resorted to forced commandeering by ordering the forcible opening of farmers' bodegas and getting forcibly one-half of every stock of paly in excess of ten cavans, even paly for seeds was forcibly taken. Work animals were shot and butchered.

E. Upon Foralita's order, the paly (amount 800 bales) intended for the supply of the civil government personnel in Dingle, Iloilo, was taken by force at the point of the gun, by Captain Mariano Robles and Lieut. Virgilio Virto sometime in June, 1944.

F. The Army has suffered losses in millions of pesos by defalcation, misappropriation, and "losses of funds during enemy penetrations". Eight hundred thousand dollars were lost in Col. Belmont's security area in this manner, according to persistent reports.

VIII. Colonel Enrique Foralita, Jr., lacks the ability to enforce discipline.

A. He has started by pampering his troops, thereby encouraging abuses. Almost his first report when a case of abuse of authority was brought to his attention was: "Army officers are mostly young with all the defects of youth".

B. He approved a decision of his Chief Judge Advocate, Juan Mora, to the effect that a soldier is justified in mistreating a teniente del barrio (beating him and tying him up to a post) or any civilian for that matter should that soldier fail to get the supper that he would like to eat, but instead have to content himself with boiled or broiled sweet potatoes, imputing upon the civilian concerned the failure to bring in the food as desired by the soldier.

C. He justified, and still justifies, abuses and dishonesty on the part of his soldiers, stating as a reason therefor, the fact that soldiers are paid only P20.00 per capita per month. (At one time very recently in Cagayan, he blamed, in a speech, the public schools for the abuses of his soldiers.)

D. He failed (wilfully) to impose adequate punishment on the erring soldiers. The great majority of the cases tried by his court martial ended up in acquittal, the defense for homicides or murders invariably being that the victims were enemy. As a result, even Army officers are sometimes shot by their own men.





1. Lt. Nietos was shot and killed by one of his own soldiers.

2. In a dance in Lobo, Cagis, soldiers refusing to obey the orders of their commanding officers, staged a general shooting affray.

3. A soldier killed a civilian in Tigbauan, Iloilo, and up to now no action has been taken on the case. The commanding officer concerned refused to surrender the soldier for court action.

4. Lt. Santa Palmy was also shot by one of his own soldiers.

5. As a result of Poralta's lack of ability to enforce discipline among his troops, his soldiers committed and continue to commit abuses a few of which being as follows:

1. RAPE

a. The hacienda of Francisco Jalandoni in Dingle, Iloilo, was ransacked and looted.

b. A merchant was robbed of over P15,000.00 in Barric Bagot, Patotan, Marikina in August, 1944.

c. Fish was taken by force from the fishponds of Ubaldo Robles, Melquiades Decades, Mrs. Barrosa, etc.

d. Travelling merchants have been held up, their money and goods taken.

e. Case of the Tabiano family.

f. Pigs, pigs and cattle have been shot in the fields, and taken away, without the consent of owners and even against their protestations.

2. MURDER

a. Father Cirilio Soriano of Jambury.

b. Jacob Cortez of Patotan.

c. Primitivo Gonzales of Patotan.

d. Serafin Tinopon of Oton.

e. Katon Boys in the army prison camp.

f. Killing of the Belated Saldanias.

g. Manuel Repolista, Major of Police of Igharan, and Firmin Repolista, Jr. were shot in cold blood by a certain Lt. Benny Colon.

h. Killing of Sergeants David Macario and Gorkley in Maranga, Cagis, in April, 1943.

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1. Jacinto Janco, Chief of Police of Alirodian, Iloilo, was reported murdered by Nava men sometime in 1942.

3. MISDEMEANS

- a. Pototan war prisoners,
- b. Capiz residents
- c. Calive Chinese merchants,
- d. Puppets,



4. UNLAWFUL COMMANDERING

- a. Mrs. Guirebin Dorequite of Dumanog.
- b. Mrs. Barrosa of Barotac Nuevo.
- c. Mr. Quintin Gentila of Dinglo.
- d. Mr. Ubaldo Rabias of Barotac Nuevo.
- e. Mr. P. Dionisio of Hacienda Montinola, Barotac Nuevo.

5. ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING OF ARMY SUPPLIES AND WAR REPERTISES

- a. The case of Lt. Jordan and men in Barotac Nuevo, selling palay procured for the Army to other people for the purpose of gains.
- b. The case of certain army men in Zarraga getting truck tires and taking them to Iloilo City for sale to the Japanese.
- c. The cases of army men smuggling rice to Negros and other Japanese occupied areas.
- d. Medicines, like sulfathiazole, sulfanilamide, etc., sold to the public at fabulous prices, are strongly rumored to be coming from army sources and as parts of the medical aid received from the SWP.

Note: The foregoing are but a few of the numerous abuses committed by Peralta's soldiers in my jurisdiction.

F. The lack of discipline and the abuses of soldiers made the people of Panay and Zamboanga fear rather than sympathize with, hate rather than love, the Army. They presently look upon the Army as a monster foisted upon them -- as an institution of murder, oppression, banditry, and exploitation against which the people have developed a strong aversion. Popular songs in the dialect, expressing the people's antipathy, have come to being by reason thereof. Soldiers have been known to suppress the songs by means of threats and violence.

2



II. Colonel Macario Feralta, Jr., failed to enforce secrecy discipline among his troops to the detriment of our country and the safety of our people.

A. Security areas of army units have been repeatedly surprised by the Japanese.

1. Army officers and their families have been surprised and caught by the enemy.

2. The landing place of submarines that brought in arms and other forms of aid has come to the knowledge of the enemy, and at one time, attacked by the enemy at the precise moment when supplies were being landed.

3. Evacuation of American refugees to Australia was previously known to the enemy and the arrival of American technicians here came immediately to the knowledge of the Japanese.

B. Combat orders and plans for disposition of troops fall into enemy hands.

X. Many army officers and enlisted men are inveterate gamblers, and it is of common public knowledge that many army officers have lost and are losing at gambling tables thousands of pesos every night.

A. Low-paid enlisted men lost by the hundreds and thousands of pesos.

B. Famous gambling army characters; Major S. Imperial; Capt. S. Daguan; Capt. D. C. Vinzon; Lt. S. Rucfa; Capt. A. Bolisario; Major Juan Barra; Major R. Linson; Lt. Gausing; etc...

C. Major Imperial is maintaining a gambling den and running a cockpit.

XI. Many army men have amassed great wealth and fortunes through illegal acts, despite the fact that this situation has been severely brought to the attention of Colonel Feralta.

A. It has become a common talk of the people that Army men have amassed great wealth and fortunes by looting and banditry, and illegal commandeering, and such other illegal means as extortion.

1. Colonel Serran has been reliably reported to have extorted from various Chinamen cash and goods amounting to no less than P200,000.00. (Other cases: Pictan way prisoners; Calive Chinese merchants; Capiz residents; etc..)

2. Col. L. R. Balunia has sent to his family in the Bicol Region many thousands of pesos.

3. Col. Feralta has been reported to have sent to his father in Manila, at one time, P50,000.00 in gold cash, genuine old notes.

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B. An Army unit under Maj. S. Espinal intercepted a "train", named SUBERT II, and confiscated the whole cargo thereof, consisting of articles, such as clothing, coffee, pencils, soap, matches, shoes, powder, toilet articles, etc., besides the cash in the pocketbooks of the passengers, amounting in total value to around FOUR MILLION PESOS, without leaving anything for the provisions of the owners of the goods.

C. Certain army officers issued loose change, either printed or in the form of typewritten bills, without proper authority and accounting, and Porcillo merely acquiesced by taking no action on them (one way of swindling the people.) For Col. Porcillo ordered the presentation of the Provincial Treasury Certificates duly issued by this Office.

XVI. Colonel Mariano Porcillo, Jr., with countenances of Porcillo indifferent to the cruelties being inflicted by his men in the field upon civil officials, surrendered army men in Paoay by virtue of Gen. Wainright's order, and civilians, which cruelties they inflict without compunctions.

A. Murders are prominent men who have undergone maiming and torture at the hands of Porcillo's soldiers:

Villalon, Benedicto, Father Divino Soriano, Rogas Marin, Dionacio Pichel, Jose Rino, and many others.

B. He had admitted in the Army notorious characters, rough-necks, thugs, and downright criminals serving jail sentences when war broke out, some of puppets, and many collaborators, puppets themselves, Japanese constabulary men of bad records, and even members of bandit gangs, that harassed the country early in 1942, (Astrucos, Mervin, Cardic, "Barbar", members of the Igaita bandit gang, the Hava band, Pedro Omas, Dolfin Guindon, Jose Dimon, etc.)

C. Surrendered army men and certain civilians were placed in concentration camps, and from the latter money was extorted.

XVII. Colonel Mariano Porcillo, Jr., directly or indirectly countenances lootings and massacres committed by his men in the field.

A. The massacre of the people of Barrin Malibud, Malinao, Capiz.

1. A certain Lt. Imanglang of the Army, reported by with direct order from Col. Porcillo, committed a mass murder in Barrin Malibud, Malinao, Capiz, just after the heaviest concentration made by the enemy some time in the latter part of 1945.

B. The looting and raping in Calive, Capiz.

1. Army men of the 61st Infantry Combat Team, upon reoccupation of Calive, Capiz, looted the people of all belongings that caught their fancy.

2. Men with masks, holding bayonets and Thompsons searched the houses of Calive, and conducted a night looting and raping.



XV. Army officers, inspired by Col. Narciso Faraite, Sr., have acquired foolish notions about military authority.

1. Faraite himself, fiercely maintaining the theory that the Army is superior and superior to the civil government, declared in the beginning that "it is impossible to state where military authority ends and civil authority begins."

2. Lt. Col. Julian Chavez, in his Directive No. 1, dated December 25, 1944, stated:

"In places of great completely occupied by or under the sway of, and within the zone of operations of this Army, military authority is supreme. Military authority, however, should not be military oppression. In these places, every member of the armed forces is to be strictly guided by the principles of justice, honor and humanity --- the virtues always adorning a soldier and must treat other men for the very reason that he possesses the power of his arm against the unarmed."



3. Some certain army officers in the field, acting quite independently, have to themselves the power to issue all sorts of military rules and regulations covering a wide variety of subjects, like curfew, curfew, possession of arms by civilians, curfew, holding of market days, issuance of passes to civilians, curfew, gambling, hangovers, etc. The result, invariably, has been confusion and misunderstandings between civil officials and army officers.

IV. Colonel Narciso Faraite, Jr., demonstrated his anti-party and hostility to the United Nations and other Army men who were ordered by virtue of the order of General Wehring, having ordered for their arrest and concentration. Some of those arrested and concentrated have been killed, others have suffered maltreatment and humiliation while in army concentration or prison camps.

XVI. A unit led by Colonel Faraite himself, massacred the wife and children of Chinachi San Juan, sometime in May, 1944, somewhere in Mindanao, Manila.

XVII. Col. Narciso Faraite, Jr., failed to develop a definite strategy resulting in ill-considered and indiscriminate actions on the part of his combat units, and as a consequence thereof, the people have been subjected to cruel and inhuman reprisals and retaliations by the Japanese. Several of his combat units would make a hostile move against the enemy and then his combat units behind the civilians, resulting in the massacre of over ten thousand in Panay.

XVIII. Colonel Narciso Faraite, Jr., has until now failed to take any step to pay millions of pesos worth of goods confiscated by the Army from the people in spite of the fact that he has printed over P20,000,000.00 of emergency notes, and whenever he was reminded of these enormous obligations which his command has incurred since the beginning of the guerrilla warfare in Panay, he would hold up showing unreasonable irritation.

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A. So Deputy Governor Juan Ortiz, who suggested, in June, 1945, that it was timely to pay even only part of the needs contemplated inasmuch as the Army had already received sufficient funds from the Illice Currency Committee, he writes:

"If you had been shown I was you would agree with my statement of the pernicious habit of people expecting the Army to pay."

B. When I made a similar suggestion in one of my letters to his excellency ago, he answered me as follows:

"When you assumed responsibility for food, I thought you meant fine food."

XX. Colonel Narciso Parrita, Jr., under the pretext of giving financial help to other USARV units in Luzon and other islands, raised from "voluntary" contributions and tax collections the amount of over Two Hundred Thousand Pesos in Pampanga and Bacolor, which, until now, has not been accounted.

XXI. As per statement made by Major Tomas de Castro, (then Captain) to Sr. Mariano V. Benedicto, my Executive Secretary at that time, in or about June, 1942, somewhere in Barrio Guany, Lupa, General Christy, before his surrender, left with the then Lt. Col. Narciso Parrita, Jr., the sum of Sixty Thousand Pesos (700,000.00) for delivery to the undersigned, Colonel Parrita failed to make the delivery to the undersigned, except the amount of around 210,000.00 given by installments. He did not even inform me that there was such amount left by Gen. Christy.

*Tomas de Castro*  
TOMAS DE CASTRO  
Governor





Copy for Col. CHAFFEE

USA-Commonwealth of the Philippines  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
Panay and Romblon

January 24, 1945

Maj. Gen. Basilio J. Valdes  
Secretary of National Defense  
Tacloban, Leyte



My dear Gen. Valdes:

I have the honor to furnish you with a copy each of my manifesto, dated December 15, 1944, addressed to the armed forces of Panay and Romblon, and of my charges, dated December 24, 1944, against Col. Macario Feralta, Jr., for your information and guidance.

1. The substance of the manifesto is as follows:

The action of Col. Macario Feralta, Jr., in proclaiming Atty. Cornelio T. Villareal and Capt. Calixto Zaldivar as acting provincial governors of Capi and Antique, respectively, is illegal and constitutes the crime of sedition, inasmuch as it is a direct assault against the authority of the Governor of Panay and Romblon, recognized by the President of the Philippines and by General Douglas MacArthur himself, aiming to destroy said authority. As a matter of fact, a partial destruction of said authority has been effected in the provinces affected by said proclamation. In addition, the said proclamation of Col. Feralta is violently at variance with the instructions given to him by General MacArthur on January 17, 1945, and July 18, 1944.

2. The principal charges contained in the basic inclosure against Col. Macario Feralta, Jr., are as follows:

(1) Col. Macario Feralta, Jr., attempted to destroy the civil government in Panay and Romblon:

a. By proclaiming martial law and establishing a military form of government in said islands.

b. By repeatedly and progressively adopting measures extremely prejudicial to the existence of the civil agency of government in Panay and Romblon.

(2) Col. Feralta committed a grave crime of sedition against the duly constituted government of Panay and Romblon:

a. By deliberately misinterpreting the recent proclamation of General Douglas MacArthur relative to the restoration of the normal processes of government in the liberated areas, Col. Feralta, in turn, proclaimed acting provincial governors for Antique and Capi in the persons of Capt. Calixto Zaldivar and Cornelio T. Villareal, respectively, taking away, without due process, said provinces from the jurisdiction of the undersigned, an act which is illegal and punishable by law.

(Over Please)





b. By refusing to comply with the orders of the Court of First Instance of Antique directing him to produce the person of Acting District Attorney Mariano V. Benedicto whom he has arbitrarily ordered arrested and detained, and directing him to desist from interfering with the circulation of the Iloilo Provincial Treasury Certificates.

(3) Col. Peralta, as shown by his various orders and actions, systematically persecuted, and still continues to persecute, civil officials not suitable to his tastes, for refusing to take orders from him.

(4) Col. Peralta, as shown by his letters to civil officials and by his orders to his officers, is insolent and dangerously impulsive.

(5) Col. Peralta has divested certain army officers of armed commands, for showing no sympathy for his policy of hostilizing the civil government and of persecuting the civil officials.

(6) Col. Peralta has engaged himself in partisan politics, allowing the use of his position to promote the political interests of his politicians in the army.

(7) Col. Peralta lacks executive and administrative capacity.

(8) Col. Peralta lacks the ability to enforce discipline among his troops.

(9) Col. Peralta failed to enforce discipline among his troops to the detriment of the cause and safety of our people.

(10) Many of Col. Peralta's officers and enlisted men are inveterate gamblers, and it is of common knowledge that many army officers have lost and are losing by thousands of pesos at gambling tables.

(11) Many of Col. Peralta's men have amassed great wealth and fortunes through illegal acts, despite the fact that this situation has been severally brought to his attention.

(12) Col. Peralta either countenances or remains indifferent to the cruelties inflicted by his men in the field upon civil officials, USAFFE men in Panay surrendered by virtue of Gen. Wainright's order, and civilians, which cruelties his soldiers inflict without the least compunction.

(13) Col. Peralta directly or indirectly countenances lootings and massacres committed by his men in the field.

(14) Col. Peralta inspired and encouraged his officers and men to adopt foolish notions about military authority.

(15) Col. Peralta demonstrated his antipathy for the soldiers who fought in Lutaan and surrendered upon order of General Wainright, by having them arrested



and placed in concentration camps where some of them had been liquidated and others humiliated.

(16) Col. Peralta himself, leading a unit, massacred the wife and children of one Chinaman, named Sua Gon, sometime in May, 1942, somewhere in Alimodian, Iloilo.

(17) Col. Peralta failed to develop a definite strategy, resulting in ill-considered and indiscriminate actions on the part of his troops, and, as a consequence, the people has been subjected to cruel and inhuman reprisals and retaliations by the enemy, producing over ten thousand civilian dead casualties in Panay and Romblon.

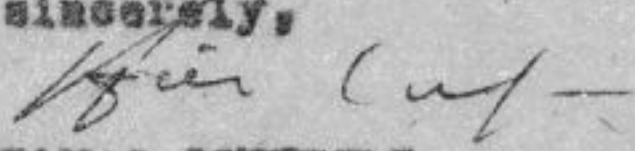
(18) Col. Peralta, until now, has failed to take any step to pay off millions of pesos worth of goods commandeered by his men from the people in spite of his having printed the huge sum of P39,000,000.00 and more of emergency circulating notes, and whenever he is reminded of such enormous unliquidated obligations he boils up showing neurotic irritation.

(19) Col. Peralta, with the pretext of giving financial help to the Luzon USAFFE units and other island armed units, raised from "voluntary" contributions and tax collections the amount of over Two Hundred Thousand Pesos in Panay and Romblon, which, until now, has not been accounted for.

(20) Col. Peralta failed to deliver the sum of P60,000.00 which General Christy, immediately before his surrender to the Japanese in Panay in May, 1942, entrusted with said Peralta for delivery to the undersigned. Only a partial delivery of around P13,000.00, made in installments, has been made by him.

With my high esteem for you and ardent prayers for your success, I remain

Very sincerely,

  
THOMAS CONCEDOR  
Governor

