

PERSONNEL

FILES

INDIVIDUAL

KUDER,

EDWARD M.



LOCAL NEWS

The Japanese attacked Misamis on June 26th with 12 airplanes (3 at Tuauran, 4 at Misamis, 5 at Oroquieta and Dipolog), one light cruiser, seven or eight armed transports, between 1500 and 2000 mixed Japanese and Korean or Formosan slave soldiers, and a few Filipino traitors. With this large force they were able to occupy and still hold the towns of Tukuran, Pagadian, Misamis, Oroquieta and Dipolog. In order to assemble this large force they had to exert all their efforts by taking troops from Dansalan, Iligan, Cagayan, Zamboanga, Davao, Cebu, and perhaps Iloilo and Manila.

Except for occupying the towns mentioned above they accomplished very little. They did not destroy our forces and they did not capture any of our military supplies except a few sacks of corn. One month after, our soldiers are still fighting and have successfully ambushed them several times. Our total losses are only five killed and twelve wounded. On the other hand the Japanese have already lost over one hundred in killed alone. At Polot Market in Misamis our soldiers caught them by surprise with hand grenades; the Japanese needed three bull carts to carry away their dead, piled together like sardines in a can. At Tambulig, the Japanese were ambushed with a machine gun and 22 men were killed. They have no trucks and have to patrol by hiking and are always ambushed. As a result, their patrols have become fewer and the Japanese are now confined to the towns. They can hardly go out, like in Ganassi. They can hardly get food; for very few of the people have surrendered, and all of the Misamis officials have remained loyal. Our provincial governments in Lanao, Misamis and Zamboanga are still functioning as well as 10th Military District Headquarters.

During the fighting in Pagadian, some of the Maranac kidnapers took advantage of the trouble and went to Dinas and Margosatubig. But they were caught by our USFIP soldiers and eight of the kidnapers were killed at Tikala Island. This will happen to all kidnapers in Lanao in less than one year, for the Americans are again driving the Japanese further out of the Solomons and New Guinea and now are nearer the Philippines right through the strongest defense line of the Japanese.

When the Japanese landed in Misamis last month, one of the Filipino traitors who guided them was Captain Ruperto Vasquez. Captain Vasquez used



AR 310-5

RECORDED

to be with the USAFFE in Misamis before the invasion of Lanao in April, 1942. Some of our present USFIP soldiers recognised him, and although they had to retreat because of the greater number of Japanese plus airplanes and cannon, yet they remained long enough to kill Captain Vasquez. The Japanese did not care for his body, they just let it lie without attention under a house, so the dogs ate Captain Vasquez when his body rotted.

Now the pro-Japs, the amigos, the traitors must all think whether they want to be eaten by dogs. They must think if their sons sent to Manila or Davao to study will really become students or only become rotten meat for the dogs.

On the Lanao side the Japanese failed entirely. They landed about 100 men to try to rescue the Japanese prisoners, but the prisoners had already been removed to another place. Instead, Colonel Morgan and his men ambushed these Japanese and killed about thirty. The rest retreated to their transport and went away.

At Kolambugan a Japanese cruiser fired about P1000 worth of shells and then landed some soldiers. Our soldiers had an ambush prepared for them, but the Japanese instead of advancing entered only one house right on the beach, broke open a trunk and took P6 from it. They caught two chickens and then returned to their ship. Altogether they did not stay 20 minutes. Thus, at a cost of P1000 the Japanese captured two chickens in Kolambugan. It is very sure that this great victory has been reported to Emperor Hirohito.

This news is for our loyal friends and supporters, both civilians and MMF. It is not intended to convince amigos, pro-Japs, traitors and pretenders. We do not need them for our aid is near enough now so that we can say the longest part of our hard time is past. In less than a year our friends in Lanao will be rewarded and our traitors punished. And in less than two years Japan itself will be crying for mercy from its bombed cities. Last week, Paramushiru, the first island of Japan in the north was bombed heavily by American planes from Attu.



Miss Janet H. Kuder
4712 Warrington Ave.
Philadelphia
Pa

List of personal papers and other belongings of
Mr. EDWARD M. KUDER, entrusted to Pangandaman P. Aquam
of Bayang, Sanao

Sack I:

2 letter files
1 bundle personal letters.

Sack II:

2 bundles pen letters
1 bundle of papers
Court Papers, Salipado

Sack III:

Souvenirs & program
Pictures
Diaries
Dutch translation
Some maps
2 bundles personal correspondence

Sack IV:

Mimeograph Cotabato, Davao, Lanao, Sulu
Sulu Vocabulary (duplicate) and other long papers
Various Cotabato and Lanao papers
Man. B. Haines.
Duplicate Du Translation
Fiction papers
Various personal papers

Sack V:

Old Philippine Atlas (Spanish)
Fiction notebooks
Names of Sulu School children
Various Sulu papers, including History of Sulu
Cadlots for place names, Sulu Notebook, BOR Notebooks
Translation on Tel. from Dutch.
Lanao and Sulu Tursilas
Sulu Notes in Binder.
Sulu notebook (misc), paper punch
and Brass fasteners.



List of personal papers and other belongings
of Edward M. Kuder
entrusted to _____



LIST OF MR. KUDER'S FURNITURE ENTRUSTED
TO MAGADAPA RASUMAN *of Taraka, Sanao*

- 2 - plain long tables
- 2 - polished long tables
- 4 - polished wood bottom straight chairs
- 1 - dark can-bottom straight chair
- 2 - polished cane-bottom rockers, curved back
- 2 - straight polished cane-bottom chairs
- 1 - old can rocker w/broken back
- 1 - bent-back rocker
- 2 - square-backed rockers, cane-bottom
- 1 - cane-bottom 3-seat sofa
- 1 - typewriter desk w/3 drawers
- 1 - square table, brown
- 1 - square table, white
- 1 - square table, black
- 2 - small rectangular white tables
- 1 - towel rack
- 1 - hat rack
- 1 - big mattress
- 1 - flat top
- 1 - trunk w/papers
- 1 - sectional (4) bookcase, brown
- 1 - sectional (4) bookcase, varnished
- 1 - large glass front case
- 1 - special bookshelf
- 1 - 3/4 bed w/bejuco and mosquitero frames
- 3 - single beds w/mosquitero frams (Mahujira's, Mocamad's,
and Harun's)
- 3 - old folding oots
- 1 - ladder shelf



~~SECRET~~

COPY

21 DECEMBER 1943

PRIORITY

TO : GENERAL MACARTHUR

FROM : PRESIDENT QUEZON

MSG NR 2000 TWENTIETH

SEND KUDER TO STATES WHEN RECOVERED SUFFICIENTLY TO TRAVEL. WDGBI.

STRONG

*Mack
(gkw)*

DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR OF
20 AUG 75



68

~~SECRET~~

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

SECRET

CHECK SHEET

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

Cin C
[Signature]

File No.:

Subject:

From: PRS

To: C/S

Date: 14 Dec 43

1. Approval recommended.

2. Mr. KUDER has not only made a notable contribution toward the unification of MROG under FERTIG's leadership, but his influence has been an important factor in the preservation of conditions of relative peace and order in the MRO Provinces despite the War. I believe one of FERTIG's greatest accomplishments has been in maintaining the integrity of the civil government. This has only been possible through a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation between military and civil officials. In this, Mr. KUDER's active support has been of great assistance.

3. The commendation recommended is fully deserved.

CW
G. W.

Attachment - No change.

See message as noted
Meek

From: DC/S

To: Chief PRS

17 Dec 43

The C-in-C has transmitted an appropriate message to President Quezon pursuant to your recommendation.

[Signature]
D. S. H.

DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR 08
20 AUG 2005

CS



File CW

SECRET

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

CHECK SHEET

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

~~SECRET~~

File No:

Subject: Mr. Edward M. Kuder

From: J.R.H.

To: G.W.

Date: 9 December 43

1. Mr. EDWARD M. KUDER, Division Superintendent of Schools for the Province of Lanao, has been evacuated from Mindanao upon the recommendation of Colonel FERTIG, "in order to prevent permanent serious injury to his health." Mr. KUDER was the only head of a Philippine Government Office in Lanao who did not leave the province upon the outbreak of war. Remaining at Dausalan, in addition to meeting emergency responsibilities as Division Superintendent, he served as Civil Affairs Officer upon appointment by Brigadier General G. O. KURT until the Japanese occupation in May, 1942. He then retired beyond enemy reach with Moro friends until Colonel FERTIG's organization was set up and he was appointed as Director of Civil Affairs for the Province of Lanao. The attached letter from Colonel FERTIG to the G-in-C commends Mr. KUDER highly for his "invaluable" services in that capacity.

2. Mr. KUDER will soon be able to travel and he wishes to request President QUESON to call him officially to the United States. The serious nature of the illness from which Mr. KUDER is recovering together with the fact that he has not been out of the Philippines since 1931 make a considerable period of residence in the United States almost imperative from the standpoint of his future health.

3. In view of Mr. KUDER's long record in the Philippine Government (he has been in the employ of the Bureau of Education since 1922 and a Division Superintendent of Schools in the three great Moro provinces since 1926), and the outstanding fidelity and courage with which he has served in the guerilla movement, it is believed that the Command might well forward his request to President QUESON, together with such commendation of his services since 8 December 1941 as he deems appropriate.

4. In the latter connection consideration might be given to the fact that Mr. KUDER is the senior, and possibly the only American civil official of the Commonwealth when circumstances permitted to stick to his post in the face of the enemy invasion and render important services to both the Philippine and American Governments during almost two years of enemy occupation. One of the finest aspects of the guerilla movement in Mindanao has been the regard which the military leaders have shown for the welfare of the civilian population and the close cooperation which has been maintained between the military and civilian officials in the area. In this Military District, too, especially in Lanao, the difficult and dangerous Moro problem has been handled with marked success. Towards both of these important accomplishments Mr. KUDER made valuable contributions.

~~SECRET~~



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

CHECK SHEET

~~SECRET~~

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

File No.:

Subject:

From:

To:

Date:

5. There is probably no other American who understands the Moros more thoroughly than Mr. KUBER, who enjoys greater influence among them, or has a longer record of successful administration in the distinctively Moro provinces. Upon the re-occupation of the Philippines his knowledge and experience would be of great value in dealing with the peculiar problems of Mindanao and Sulu, whether he were to remain an official of the Philippine Government or be attached to the army of re-occupation. These are additional reasons why it would be sound policy for this Headquarters to recognize Mr. KUBER's services at this time.

Action recommended:

1. It is suggested that the case of Mr. KUBER be brought to the attention of the C-in-C and that a message somewhat in the following tenor be submitted to the C-in-C with the recommendation that it be transmitted to President QUEZON:

EDWARD B. KUBER CMA DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS LANAO EVACUATED RECOMMENDATION COLONEL FERTIG TO PREVENT PERMANENT SERIOUS IMPAIRMENT OF HEALTH NOW CONVALESCING IN HOSPITAL HERE PD FERTIG HIGHLY COMMENDS KUBER FOR QUOTE INVALUABLE UNIQUE SERVICES AS DIRECTOR CIVIL AFFAIRS LANAO PD KUBER REQUESTS THAT YOU OFFICIALLY CALL HIM TO THE UNITED STATES AS SOON AS HE IS STRONG ENOUGH TO TRAVEL PD RECOMMENDING COLONEL AND RECOMMENDATION SHOWS IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE PHILIPPINES DURING THE LONG AND DANGEROUS PERIOD TAKING THEM FROM THE JAPANESE TO THE AMERICAN HANDS IN THE MOUNTAIN PROVINCES OF THE PHILIPPINE TERRITORY AND FURTHER SERIOUSLY INDEBTED US TO THE PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES BY THE WAY OF THE PEOPLE'S WELFARE. Please let me

Know your wishes. #

Attachment - Ltr from Col. W.W. Fertig
to the C-in-C. OS

DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR ON
20 AUG 75

~~SECRET~~



~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES FORCES IN THE PHILIPPINES
HEADQUARTERS TENTH MILITARY DISTRICT
Office of the Commanding Officer

28 September, 1943

Subject: Mr. Edward M. Kuder, Civilian Repatriate.
To : The Commander-in-Chief, SWPA.

1. This will introduce Mr. Edward M. Kuder, Division Superintendent of Schools for the province of Lanao. Mr. Kuder is being repatriated because of continued ill health. He did not surrender to the Japanese, but retired into the interior of Lanao, and remained with his Maranao friends until our organization was established.

2. Realizing that Mr. Kuder possesses extensive knowledge of the Maranaos, and has outstanding influence among them, Lieut. Col. Hedges was sent into the interior to bring him to the coast. He was so weak that it was necessary to bring him to Misamis Occidental on a stretcher. His health improved enough to enable him to return to duty as Director of Civil Affairs for the province of Lanao. His services in that position had been invaluable. It is with great regret that I have ordered him to leave, but I feel that such action is necessary to prevent permanent serious injury to his health.

3. Should Mr. Kuder be in need of funds after arrival in Australia, the Finance Officer is authorized to advance Mr. Kuder such funds as he requests, and charge same against my accrued pay. Transcript of last pay received was for the month of November, 1941.

DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR ON
20 AUG 78

Wendell W. Fertig
WENDELL W. FERTIG
Colonel, AUS
Commanding



~~SECRET~~

Handwritten note: *Copy sent to [unclear] while [unclear]*

Mr. Edward M. Kuder

J.R.H.

C.N.

9 December 43

1. Mr. EDWARD M. KUDER, Division Superintendent of Schools for the Province of Lanao, has been evacuated from Mindanao upon the recommendation of Colonel FERTIG, "in order to prevent permanent serious injury to his health." Mr. KUDER was the only head of a Philippine Government Office in Lanao who did not leave the province upon the outbreak of war. Remaining at Davao, in addition to seeing emergency responsibilities as Division Superintendent, he served as Civil Affairs Officer upon appointment by Brigadier General G. G. FORT until the Japanese occupation in May, 1942. He then retired beyond enemy reach with Moro friends until Colonel FERTIG's organization was set up and he was appointed as Director of Civil Affairs for the Province of Lanao. The attached letter from Colonel FERTIG to the C-in-C commends Mr. KUDER highly for his "invaluable" services in that capacity.

2. Mr. KUDER will soon be able to travel and he wishes to request President QUEZON to call him officially to the United States. The serious nature of the illness from which Mr. KUDER is recovering together with the fact that he has not been out of the Philippines since 1931 make a considerable period of residence in the United States almost imperative from the standpoint of his future health.

3. In view of Mr. KUDER's long record in the Philippine Government (he has been in the employ of the Bureau of Education since 1922 and a Division Superintendent of Schools in the three great Moro provinces since 1926), and the outstanding fidelity and courage with which he has served in the guerrilla movement, it is believed that the C-in-C might well forward his request to President QUEZON, together with such commendation of his services since 8 December 1941 as he deems appropriate.

4. In the latter connection consideration might be given to the fact that Mr. KUDER is the senior, and possibly the only American civil official of the Commonwealth whom circumstances permitted to stick to his post in the face of the enemy invasion and render important services to both the Philippine and American Governments during almost two years of enemy occupation. One of the finest aspects of the guerrilla movement in Mindanao has been the regard which the military leaders have shown for the welfare of the civilian population and the close cooperation which has been maintained between the military and civilian officials in the area. In this Military District, too, especially in Lanao, the difficult and dangerous Moro problem has been handled with marked success. Towards both of these important accomplishments Mr. KUDER made valuable contributions.

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5. There is probably no other American who understands the Moros more thoroughly than Mr. KUDER, who enjoys greater influence among them, or has a longer record of successful administration in the distinctively Moro provinces. Upon the re-occupation of the Philippines his knowledge and experience would be of great value in dealing with the peculiar problems of Mindanao and Sulu, whether he were to remain an official of the Philippine Government or be attached to the army of re-occupation. These are additional reasons why it would be sound policy for this Headquarters to recognize Mr. KUDER's services at this time.

Action recommended:

1. It is suggested that the case of Mr. KUDER be brought to the attention of the C-in-C and that a message somewhat in the following tenor be submitted to the C-in-C with the recommendation that it be transmitted to President QUEZON:

"EDWARD M KUDER CMA DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS LANAOS EVACUATED RECOMMENDATION COLONEL FERTIG TO PREVENT PERMANENT SERIOUS IMPAIRMENT OF HEALTH NOW CONVALESCING IN HOSPITAL HERE PD FERTIG HIGHLY COMMENDS KUDER FOR QUOTE INVALUABLE UNQUOTE SERVICES AS DIRECTOR CIVIL AFFAIRS LANAOS PD KUDER REQUESTS THAT YOU OFFICIALLY CALL HIM TO THE UNITED STATES AS SOON AS HE IS STRONG ENOUGH TO TRAVEL PD IN TRANSMITTING HIS REQUEST I WISH TO COMMEND MR KUDER FOR OUTSTANDING FIDELITY CMA COURAGE AND DETERMINATION SHOWN IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE PHILIPPINES DURING THE LONG AND PERILOUS PERIOD DURING WHICH OUR JOINT FORCES HAVE DENIED TO THE ENEMY LARGE PORTIONS OF PHILIPPINE TERRITORY AND OVERCOME SEEMINGLY INSUFFERABLE OBSTACLES IN SAFEGUARDING THE WELFARE OF THE LOYAL POPULATION THEREOF"

J.R.H.

Attachment - Ltr from Col. W.W. Fertig
to the C-in-C.

75



~~RESTRICTED~~

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

AFO 500
18 November 1943

AG 201-Kuder, Edward H.
(18 Nov 43)

SUBJECT: Orders.

TO : MR EDWARD H KUDER, Perth, Western Australia.

Above-named civilian WP as soon as practicable and report to
this HQ upon arrival.

Travel by all aircraft, AA priority, is cited. EWH.

By command of General MacARTHUR:

B. W. FITCH,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

PRS (2) ✓
C Reg C (1)
1st Lt A.P. (1)
Mr Kuder (5)
AG Records (1)

DECLASSIFIED PER DA CIRC #127
23 DEC 53



35

- 1 -

~~RESTRICTED~~

P.R.S.

AG

17 Nov 43

Attention is invited to attached copy of radio from Dr. HAYDEN
in re issuance of orders for Mr. EDWARD M. KUDER to proceed from PERTH to
BRISBANE by air. Will you kindly take the necessary action in the matter.

C. W.

1 Incls
Re: Telegram fr Dr. Hayden.



25

AIB

UNITED STATES FLEET
COMMANDER, SEVENTH FLEET

169755

~~TOP SECRET~~

NORMAL

KUBER READY TO TRAVEL IN WEEK OR 10 DAYS X REQUEST
DISPATCH ORDERS FOR WIMPERTH TO BRISBANE VIA GOVERN-
MENT OR COMMERCIAL AIR BE SENT ARMY REPRESENTATIVE
PERTH X SECURING HIS STATEMENT AND WILL ACCOMPANY
HIM ON PLANE FOR WHITNEY AIB X FROM HAYDEN PERTH

TRAFFIC CONTROL
12 NOV. 1943
No. 2719

DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR ON
20 AUG 75



CBO JWS/RS	CG 6-9	METHOD AS	RDO RDO	TOR 1124/16	MONTH NOVEMBER
FROM STF 71	ACTION: COM 7TH FLT.				DISTRIBUTION MORN-ADM (A)-25 AIB
DATE 169755	INFO:				
GROUP					

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES FORCES IN THE PHILIPPINES
HEADQUARTERS TENTH MILITARY DISTRICT
Office of the Commanding Officer

23 September, 1943

Subject: Mr. Edward N. Haber, Civilian Repatriate.

To : The Commander-in-Chief, SWPA.

1. This will introduce Mr. Edward N. Haber, Division Superintendent of Schools for the province of Luzon. Mr. Haber is being repatriated because of continued ill health. He did not surrender to the Japanese, but retired into the interior of Luzon, and remained with his Haranco friends until our organization was established.

2. Realizing that Mr. Haber possesses extensive knowledge of the Haranco, and has outstanding influence among them, Lieut. Col. Hodges was sent into the interior to bring him to the coast. He was so weak that it was necessary to bring him to Misamis Occidental on a stretcher. His health improved enough to enable him to return to duty as Director of Civil Affairs for the province of Luzon. His services in that position had been invaluable. It is with great regret that I have ordered him to leave, but I feel that such action is necessary to prevent permanent serious injury to his health.

3. Should Mr. Haber be in need of funds after arrival in Australia, the Finance Officer is authorized to advance Mr. Haber such funds as he requests, and charge same against my accrued pay. Transcript of last pay received was for the month of November, 1941.

/s/ Wendell W. Fertis
WENDELL W. FERTIS
Colonel, AUS
Commanding

CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY:

DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR ON
22 AUG. 75

COURTNEY WHITNEY
Colonel, A.C.
Chief, INS, AUS
S.W. O., SWPA

~~SECRET~~

OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR
PROVINCE OF LANAOS
Bacolod

August 12, 1943

The Commanding Officer
10th Military District, CPG
(Thru the Commanding Officer
108th Division, CPQ)

S i r :

For information and record purposes I am enclosing herewith copy of the letter of Mr. Ciriaco B. Raval, the highest executive of the Civil Government of the Nipponese in Lanao, which I received yesterday.

It can be seen in the letter herein referred to that Mr. Ciriaco B. Raval requires an answer from me in order to know my stand on the issue he is expounding which to my own opinion is immaterial and therefore does not deserve any answer. I have already answered his first letter that he sent me last December and copies of his letter and my answer were furnished your Office.

Further advice however is requested as to whether or not this 2nd letter of Mr. Raval deserves to be answered.

Very respectfully,

/s/ Marcelo T. Paiso
MARCELO T. PAISO
Provincial Governor

MTP/kts

Copy furnished :-

The Director of Civil Affairs for Lanao
In the Field

The Ass't. Director of Civil Affairs for Lanao
In the Field

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

COURTNEY WHITNEY
Colonel, Air Corps
Chief, Philippine Regional Section



CS

PHILIPPINE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION
PROVINCE OF LANAOS
DANSALAN

June 28, 1943

Dear Paiso:

You should realize now that further resistance against the Nipponese Forces is futile. Our civilian population particularly those along the north coast of Lanao are suffering. It is not only my duty but also my sincere desire to relieve them of their suffering. This can be done if you surrender peacefully.

I ask you to surrender now and cease hostilities. I guarantee you protection. If you are afraid to surrender to the Nipponese authorities, you can come with the bearer to Dansalan and meet me here. If this is impracticable, you can surrender in Iligan where I have my Special Delegate who is Acting Provincial Fiscal Francisco Obach,

I might add that the Philippines will have her independence this year. Since there is now no other justifiable reason for your resistance, except that you are fighting for the independence of our country, you should now surrender because such independence is already assured.

Please answer this letter and let me know your stand.

I hope that you will decide to surrender, which, I am sure, will be for your own good and the good of those who are directing you and those who are following you. I am

Your friend,

CIRIACO B. RAVAL
(Provincial Governor)

Mr. Marcelo T. Paiso
Causwagan, Iligan

A true copy:

/s/ Keith Santos
Keith Santos
Record Clerk

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

COURTNEY WHITNEY
Colonel, Air Corps
Chief, Philippine Regional Section



PHILIPPINE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION
PROVINCE OF LANAŌ
DANSALAN

June 28, 1943

My dear Major Tejero:

Attached hereto is a copy of my self-explanatory letter of even date to Mr. Marcelo T. Paise.

I ask you also to surrender in the same manner which I have asked Mr. Paise and for the same reasons.

Please answer this letter and let me know your stand.

Sincerely yours,

CIRIACO B. RAVAL
(Provincial Governor)

Major Ariston Tejero
c/o Mr. Marcelo T. Paise
Causwagan, Iligan, Lanao

A true copy:
/s/ Keith Santos
Keith Santos
Record Clerk

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

COURTNEY WHITNEY
Colonel, Air Corps
Chief, Philippine Regional Section



COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF SENATE

Ditsaan-Ramain, Lanao
May 3, 1943

Lt.-Col. W. W. FERTIG
Commanding, 10th Military District
In the Field



My dear Colonel FERTIG:

Let me congratulate you for your success in the organization of the Tenth Military District of which you are the Commanding Officer.

Since the organization of the guerilla or the USFIP, I have been desiring to communicate to you or see you personally. However, due to the fact that I had nobody to trust with confidential messages for fear that they might be intercepted, I ventured not then. Hence, I could not meet you personally. In the absence therefore of such communication and personal contact, please do not misunderstand my stand.

The possibility now of communicating you is an opportune time that Lt. Benjamin C. Hermosura with his companions, Sgt. Andres Apostol, Cpls. Pedro Encabo, Teodorico Baat and Mr. L. T. Oosio are here in Ramain Valley with special mission sent by the 109th Infantry and by the C.O. of the 3rd Batt. of the 108th Regiment. As it is my desire that there shall be contact between us as often as time and necessity demand, I shall, therefore, request that Lt. Hermosura shall be the one to be sent here to carry such messages.

I surrendered to the Japanese Imperial Forces after Gen. FORT together with his men submitted themselves to the enemy on that fateful day of May 27, 1942. Before the surrender, however, through my son, Domocao Al. Alonto who was then commissioned to the USAFFE, I assured the late Gen. FORT all the cooperation that could possibly come from me, and even after the surrender, I wanted to carry on the fight with my people who has been faithful to me and loyal to our cause and I have resolved then to stay in the forest which I could possibly do even for years. But with the Japanese threats to burn houses and harass my people, after a thorough and mature deliberation, I had no other alternative except to surrender to protect life and property from lawlessness and cruelty of our enemy. As senator-elect, it is my paramount duty and a sacred one above everything else to render my people such service which service I have been executing day in and day out since that fateful day of my surrender for the sake of the civilian population especially women and children. *

Since my submission to the enemy, I have been for several times offered positions under the Japanese Imperial Forces, but somehow through tact and diplomacy I have been able to evade and refuse them. I have been able to maintain peace and order here not because of orders from the Japanese. From me personally, I have not given not even a grain of palay to the Japanese. They get their rice supply largely from foreign.

In view of the foregoing, it is my desire to let you know that my surrender due to our defeat does not exactly mean that I am conquered here and thus together with my people I am a Pro-Japanese. I believe I am being misunderstood with regards to my stand. Is it a crime that I have to protect my people against lawlessness and cruelty of our superior enemy after the surrender of our outstanding army? If possible I do not want to mention about surrender as it tortures me much. As for me I consider nothing meaner and more vile than to yield to the enemy without fighting to the last ditch, but could not do that then.

Tortured by worries, I have been patiently waiting for American aid and any other development as what we have at present and word from you as to what is to be done.

My people are still intact with me not only remain but in the whole lake region. Body and soul they are for the Americans and the Allied Nations and the noble cause for which we are all fighting hard. I am just awaiting word from you and the authority to organize my men by the return of Lt. Hermosura.

I have here available a number of men to make even a division and what you cannot supply us now because of the limited number of firearms and ammunition, I can assure you that you are relieved with such a problem. When I move my people will sally forth to strive without failure for the redemption of our country. I can rest assure you just to leave Dansalan to us, it is just as good as taken about which Lt. Hermosura will explain it to you and as requested by me, he will tell you more of my plans which I trust would meet your approval and satisfaction. **

In conclusion, my personal regards to you with prayerful wishes that you will always be in the best of health together with all luck. Please extend same to the members of your staff.

Respectfully,

/s/ Alauya Alonto
/t/ ALAUYA ALONTO
Sultan Sa Remain
SENATOR

Copy Furnished:
Mr. E. Kuder.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF LANAO

STRICTLY
CONFIDENTIAL

Rugan, Gata, Lanao
27 April 1943

Lt.-Col. W. W. FERTIG
C.O., 10th Military District

DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR ON
20 AUG 75



My dear Col. FERTIG:

Long before yet I contemplated to communicate with you to congratulate you as C.O. of the 10th Military District, so fortunate we are as under which falls the province of Lanao, but for fear of my letter being intercepted, I refrained from being so as further more I did not have any confidential man to carry such message. In view of this, in the absence of such contact, I understand I have been branded as a pro-Jap. For this reason, I am taking this opportunity to write you through Lt. Ben G. Hermosura, in whom I have confidence and trust and what volumes that I cannot now tell you in writing, Lt. Hermosura will tell them to you personally.

It is true that before the organization of the guerilla or USFIP, together with my brother, Senator Alauya Alonto, Sultan sa Raman, after the surrender of the USAFFE in the province of Lanao under Gen. FORT, I submitted against my will to the Japs to stop lawlessness and to maintain peace and order for the protection of both lives and properties for the sake of my people.

Before the outbreak of the War, I was elected third member in the province of Lanao and by virtue of such position I swore upon oath to protect the constitutions of both the Philippines and the United States and to recognize American Sovereignty, which I have been holding dear to my heart. During the invasion of Lanao by our enemy, I had held position of confidence and trust under the late Gen. FORT as Commander-in-Chief of the Bolo Battalion in the "basac" region from Raman to Sawir, farther Masiu, and even during the retreat of the USAFFE to the best I could, I had helped both Filipino and American civilians and soldiers from lawlessness against the natives, particularly the American missionaries and the families of all the Army Officers who evacuated for safety in my place at Rugan and Raman, about which when I pay you my respects personally upon the return of Lt. Hermosura, I can and will present to you documentary evidences and also what I did even during the Japanese occupation in the province. What good I have done, I am doing at present, and will always do for my country and America. As a matter of fact my surrender to the Japs was a blessing in disguise as most of the firearms surrendered to the Japs are all now in our possession and I can assure you that we will use same, upon receipt of orders from you, to exterminate the Japs. My men are at your disposal and they are always ready at any time. It is only a question of organizing and linking them together so they will become part and parcel of your duly constituted organization now under your

command. I am only waiting authority from you re such organization. The time to strike will come from you. Set the time and we will ignite the inflammable desire of ours to free our people and country from the clutches of our enemy.

Altho at this time, we are under the Japs, heartily speaking, I together with my brothers, relatives and people, am for America, the Philippines and the Allied Nations.

Till then, until we meet personally soon, when Lt. Hermosura comes here again, I wish you the best of health and luck. My regards also to all your officers.

Respectfully,

/s/ Berua Alonto
/t/ BERUA ALONTO
Third Member, Prov. Bd. of Lanao

Copy furnished:
Lt.-Col. Hedges, and
Mr. Edward Kuder.



~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN THE FAR EAST
HEADQUARTERS 81ST DIVISION
MORUNGAN, LANA O

9 January, 1942

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Mr. Kuder, in charge of Civil Affairs Administration for the Lanao sector is on USAFFE business. Any assistance in the furtherance of his mission he may require from you will be given promptly and without equivocation.

/s/ G.O. Fort
G. O. FORT
Commanding General
81st Div.
Lanao Sector

Original and one certified copy to Mr. Kuder

DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR ON
28 AUG 75



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