PERSONNEL FILES INDIVIDUAL

WEST, JAMES P.



HEADQUAR THERS V FIGHTER COMMAND APO 730

JW/tpd

221 (15 Mar 45)

15 Murch 1945

SUBJECT: Case History of let Lieutement Edward T. Pompes.

Operations Officer, Air Signals Office, V Fighter Command, TO APO 710.

1. In accordance with your radiogram R-474-J dated 7 Merch 1945 the following information on let Lieutenant Edward T. Pompea, 0-1639505, S.C. is submitted. The majority of the information consists of pertinent extracts from radio messages concerning .Lieutement Pompea and his platoon, the 19th of Company D, 597th Signel Aircraft Warning Battalion, during the time his platoon has been operational.

2. Information is as follows:

Massage number 236 dated 31 October 1944, Fortig to GHQ, SWPA:

"To GMQ attention Telesco: Message from McGes to Fertig quote: All messages to Pompea were delivered to his location by your courier. His headquarters as selected by SWPA was impossible location. When local advice finally accepted and he arrived with equipment to place newly designated on 19 October he went personally two days further and selected another legation. He then came back for equipment and announced he would operate by 25 October. I doubted this and requested his Sergeant Ring to set up another station on lowland to contact his superiors, unquote. Fortig comments: Appears McGoo doubts were well founded, Refusal of GHQ officer to heed advise of excellent officer, familiar with the local terrain and conditions, should relieve my organization of any responsibility of misorable failure of Pompos mission. Again I assure you that HoGes and his Division will help in every way possible."

Message 47 dated 2 November 1944, GHQ to Fortig:

Message informed Fertig to pass to McGee appreciation of all his efforts to help Pomped's group. Also serry that Pompea acted as he did. Purther imstructions were to be radiced by CG, V Fighter Command to Pompea to direct Pompea all orders given by MeGee would be obeyed.

Message 50 dated 29-Becomber 1944, GHQ to Fertig:

Placed the 19th G.O. Platoon, Co D, 597th Sig AW Bm, under operational control of the 10th Militery District commanded by Colonel Portig in accordance with agreement between V Fighter Command and GHQ, SWPA.

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Message 126 dated 25 December 1944, Fertig to GRQ:

Message stated Fertig would begin to utilize as many of Pompes's an as possible and would inform GHQ of final disposition. In the same message tempes's station stated that the situation in his plateon was critical because of numbers of hostile treeps near present location. Also food supply gome. Since 10th Military District was taking over control of Pompes no action was required by GHQ or V Fighter Command.

Message 255 dated 4 January 1945, Fertig to GHQ:

Colonel Fertig stated he had been unable to comply with instructions regarding Lieutenant Pompea because Pompea had just returned from Morotal after absenting himself from his platoon. Since Colonel Fertig had been unable to relay the orders to Pompea up to that date he had sent instructions in full to S/Sgt Walter King, in charge of the platoon in Pompea's absence.

Per talk with Colemel Fertig, and Captein West, V.F.C.; on 24 February 1945 At G-3 PSD, GHQ, it was disclosed by Colonel Fertig that Lieutenant Pompou's trip to Moretai was not authorized nor was it cleared through at ther GHQ for V Fighter Command channels. His mode of transportation from Mindance to Moretai and return was by an Air Sea Rescue Catalina from the 13th Air Force flying a regular patrol mission.

Message 66 dated 6 January 1945, GHQ to Fertig:

Message informed Pompes he was not authorised to travel outside area without permission from V Fighter Command coordinated through GHQ channels. This information sent per verbal orders from Signal Officer, V Fighter Command to Lieutemant West, Limison at GRQ. In the same message Lieut. Pompes was directed to explain unauthorised trip to Morotai. (To date no explanation has been received from Lieut. Pompes). Lieut. Pompes was further directed to check immediately with Colonel Fertig on disposition of men so status and transportation needs for men not needed could be determined.

Message 515 dated 15 January 1945, Fertig to GHQ:

Pompea stated he had received our Number 66 and Colonel Fertig had been informed of disposition of men and supplies.

Message 614 dated 20 January 1945, Fertig to GHQ:

Fertig stated they could not utilise Pempea and valuable equipment fully until conference held with Pempea.

Message 639 dated 21 January 1945, Fortig to GHQ:

Arrangements were being made to bring Lieut. Pempea to Junta for a conference to determine most efficient use of personnel to get full coverage of Cotabato Province.

Message 678 dated Message 1945, Fertig to GHQ:

Requested approval to send Pompes to Comeho since pick up at Junta difficult at that time. Pompes would confer with Lieut. Newsy, Division Commanding officer.

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GERQ gave approval to Fortig's 678, Also informed Fortig he was

Stated V Fighter Command desired Pemper's plateon be continued

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direct command of Pompea and placement of men and equipment up to him.

operational only two more months and then evacuated. This message sent per instructions from Major Howard, Signal Officer, V Fighter Command to Lieut. West, Liaison Officer. GHQ also directed Fertig to have Lieut. Pompea turm

over equipment to 10th Military District and to proceed to Dipoleg for pick up

Plans for Pompea utilization stopped. Would take 30 days for

personnel to reach strip. Asked for approval of plan to utilize Pompea per 22 December 1944 imstructions from GHQ. Per directions from PSD, Ge3, GHQ

Lieut. West sent message to V Fighter Command requesting clarification on

Message 128 dated 25 January 1945, GHQ to Fortigt

Massage 126 dated 31 January 1945, GHQ to Fertigs

by plane. Fertig further requested to inform GHQ when plan fessible.

Mensage 839 dated 1 February 1945, Fertig to GHQ:

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opert under arrest to Colonel Fertig at Labo. V Fighter Command informed

- 3. A message to Pertig dated 11 March 1945 was sent through GHQ charmels requesting pertinent information on Pompea to be forwarded sealed information requested as to present whereabouts of Pompea.
- 4. Information in PSD, G-3, is based on varial reports of Col. Fertig and Lieut. Col. Medice, in which they have repeatedly pointed out that Person failed to obey orders on numerous occasions resulting in the failure of his necessary information, and clarify the ham evidence from the verbal reports.

JAMES P. WEST, Captain, Signal Corpe, Ground Observer Officer.

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14 MARCH 1945

TO : Major Telesco

Attached copy of signal service message I sent to V Fighter Command clears up last three messages they have sent on supply request for 5279 Air-Borne Fighter Control Center, Mags from V FG sR-618-J, R-765-J, and R-6243-J, P.W. J.P.W.

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OPERATIONAL PRICEITS

14 MARCH 1945

SIGNAL SERVICE MESSAGE

TO : COMPITERCOM FIVE

FROM : LIAMSON OFFICER V PC PHILIPPING SUB DIVISION 6-3

R : 80 14TH

SIGNAL OFFICE ATTH CAPT WALKER REMARD YOUR ROGER SIX ONE EIGHT JIB DATED ONE ONE MARCH AND ROGER SIX FOUR THREE JIG DATED ONE THREE MARCH CHECKED ON ONE THREE MARCH AND ROGER SIX FOUR THREE JIG DATED ONE THREE MARCH CHARLES THREE DASH TWO BUT INCITED BASE KING CHARLES THREE SEVEN ONE JIB DATED ONE NOUGHT MARCH FD REQUISITIONED AND DRUFT OF EMERGENCY DASHS TRANSPORMER TARE DASH TWO CHA FIFTY REPRAY FIFTY DAKER ABLE DASH THREE MOUGHT BATTERIES AND THELVE ROLLS OF FRICTION TAFE FD BECAUSE OF WEATRER UNBALLS TO FIX I THREE TO UNIT ON ONE THREE MARCH BUT EXPECT I THREE TO ARRIVE AT DIFFLOR STRIP ON ONE FOUR MARCH FF ONE THREE REX AIR FORCE HAS EMERGENCEED MOTIFIED FIVE TWO SHAWES HIME ABFOC OF EXPECTED MIRITARLY OF EQUIPMENT FD WILL CARCEL KING THREE SIX FIVE ONE THOSE WOO AT BASE KING FD SENIOR WEST

COPPETAL BESTERNICH OF SERVER

P. W. CAPT. ST. C.

TOO 140051 Z MCN 004

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Info Copy to G-3, PSD.



SECHE WEADQUARTERS
W PRESENCE COMMAND APO 730 3/3.01 (10 Mar 45) 10 Heroh 1945 SUBJECTS Philippino Lelands Air Wesning Ground Choeswar System. 70 V Pighter Communi, APO 720. 1. In accordance with the provisions of Hamerandum, Subjects Aircraft Warming in the Philippine Islands, dated 20 June 1964, from the Chief of Staff to the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, General Headquarters, Scuthwest Pacific Asse, the following inclosed plan is submitted to increase the efficiency of the Ground Observer system presently operating in the Philippine Islands, and to insure the continuance of such a system. JAMES P. WEST, Captain, Signal Corps, Ground Observer Officers 3 Inolas Incl # 1 - Philippine Is. Incl # 3 - WAFIP G.O. A.W. DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LIR OF 20 AUG. 75

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PHILIPPINE ISLANDS AIR NARNING GROUND CREEKYNE PLAN

- 1. The Philippine Islands Air Defense Plan will be based primarily on Radar coverage to give the necessary air varning information. Because of the terrain features of the Philippine Islands, number of Radar Stations allocated for the Philippine Islands Air Defense Plan, and the technical difficulties involved in siting a complete radar system over such a large area it will be impossible to give complete radar air varning information without exposing blind spots and incomplete area coverage spots. Where such conditions exist the placement of a ground observer system will complete the air varning coverage for the Air Defense Plan. The Ground Observer system will be organized based upon the following arrangements:
- a. Primary System The Ground Observer units will be utilized to give all speed air narning coverage where the radar units fail to fulfill the requirements for complete soverage of any area.
- b. Summementary System As a back-up plan the Ground Shearver units will supplement the reder system in areas of high traffic density. In the event of failure of any reder unit in such areas the Ground Observer Units can be utilized as the primary system until the reder unit is back in operation.
- 2. A Philippine Islands Civilian and/or Guerilla Air Narming Ground Observer system based upon similar limes to the Civilian Air Narming Service in the United States at the outbreak of the war will be put into effect as seen as equipment can be precured and personnel in the Philippine Islands have had sufficient time for minimum indoctrination. At the present time Air Narming information is derived from two central sources:
 - a. The Allied Air Posses Aircraft Warning systems utilizing Ayey Rader

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and Ground Observer Units.

b. Air Warning flashes from the UMAFIF radio note. These note are at present operating under the control of the Sixth and Righth Armice on shown in Inclosure # 3.

3. As operations continue and U. S. Army units secure Guerilla territories and units the USAFIF radio note will gradually cause operations. Utilization of the equipment and personnel from the UEAFIF radio note supplemented by civilian personnel all spetted in the proper locations will be moreovery to insure complete air warning information in the Philippine Islands. At the same time with the movement of Allied Air Force Units into now operational areas a permanent radar and ground observer mystem under the control of a separate Philippine Islands Air Defense Command will be initiated.

L. Decruse the Ground Observer system will be integrated into the radar reporting system, the Ground Observer reports will be filtered at the radar filter boards located in the areas shown in inclosure # 2, Amelysis of the concentration of main target areas (Key military strong points) in determining the Air Defence Plan indicates the Philippine Islands can be broken into five central areas to be used as Ragion or Wing Area filter and operations centers as follows:

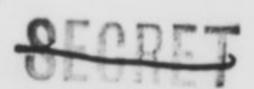
a. Layto-Samer area with filter and operations board at Taeloban or Telesa, Layte.

b. Palaman area with area filter and operations board at Puerte Princerea, Palaman.

c. Mindanes area with area filter and sperations board at Duras, Mindanes.

d. Northern Luson area with area filter and operations board at Aparl or Vigen.

e. Control and Southern Luson and Mindore Island area with area filter



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and operations board located at Manila. The Defence Command Operations board will be lessted at Manila with traffic being eleared through proper telling, administrative, point to point, and elect channels from the other Wings.

5. Since thirty-five to forty-five minutes warning is desired in the detection of approaching aircraft for an officient sir warning system the primary system will be the early warning reder set-up. Each Wing will be charged with the responsibility of filtering the sir verning information for its own area and of acting upon the information upon the operations board. As a result the permanent air defense plan will be based upon a parimeter defense around the outer edge of the Philippine Brissis. Ground Cheerver pests will, comsequently, be neinly concentrated on the outer sections of the islands rather them utilizing an overall coverage plan. The change over to the personent ground observer system will be accomplished in three whereas as follows t

PHASE 1

Utilise present errengement UEAFIP redie stations. At the present time the control of these stations is divided between Sixth and Eighth Army Headquarters as shown in incleaure # 3.

So Aircraft warming information collected by the Lusen area (Sixth Army) stations is obtained by menitoring the WAFIP redic note. This activity is closely coordinated between the 86th Fighter Wing and Sixth Arey.

b. Air warming information collected by stations in the Vissyas, Paleren, and Mindanso (all Highth Assy) is sent to the respective Fighter Control Contest in each area by the chief station in each military district reporting to the Fighter Control Center met-

e. Arrangements have been made with Righth Army Headquarters for USAFIP radio stations in the Palesen, gape to report to the 75th Fighter Control Conter. geports to the 40th Fighter Centrel Center at Leyte. To

bearvor aircraft vagaing information from the Dimignos stations to the proposed Fighter Centrel Conters for that area arrangements will have to be coordinated with Far Hestern Air Perces Headquarters and Eighth Army Headquarters. Mindenes stations at present report in to the 40th Fighter Control Conter.

The only means of communication between outlying posts and not control. stations in Phase 1 is radio with stations being located to give overall coverage

PRASE 2

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The USAFIP radio stations used as Ground Observer posts will be further used to supplement and aid Away reder and ground observer units. Stations will be moved to the outer parisater of the islands and located in strategic locations to give good coverage to the air warning system already in existence. Three to six outlying pests located six to ten miles from the central posts (not control stations) will be sited using single wire ground return telaphone communication to report to the central post. The central post using radio will report to the central collecting point in each district which in turn will relay the information via redic to the proper Wing Information Conter. Sixth and Eighth Army Headquartees will supply the URAFIF radio stations with the mesoscopy communications equipment to put the plan into effect per directive from General Mandquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, in order to keep an officient sir warning system in operation. At the permanent radar stations are sited the UEAFIF Ground Chouver radio stations and posts will be eliminated until the required number of posts messessary to complete the Air Defence Plan has been reached.

BIASE 3

The HEAFIP Ground Cheerver system will be placed under control of the Philippine Army and/or the Philippine Commonwealth Government, The first and second phases of utilizing UMAFIP stations will be coordinated through Appy

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channels utilizing Signal Corps personnel for operational control, advisors, training, and for supply problems peculiar to the Ground Cheerver System. In the third phase the Army and/or guarilla personnel will be replaced by civilian or government caplayees operating under the direction of the Bureau of Posts, Philippine Commonwealth Government. Training and operations of the final phase will be coordinated between Far Eastern Air Forces, later to be replaced by the Philippine Air Defense Command, and the Philippine Islands Commonwealth Government to impure the continuance of the system,

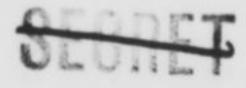
6. Oround Observer information will be integrated with the radar traffic on the Redar Filter Board at the Wing Information Centers and/or the Fighter Director Points and as a result a separate Ground Observer Filter Board will not be meded, resulting in a saving of time and economy. It is felt the radar traffic will be very heavy compared to the Oround Observer information so that the addition of one or two G.O. pletters (depending upon traffic density in area) to the filter board will be sufficient to headle the ground observer information. This will also result in a more efficient filtering system since the use of a separate board in conjunction with the limited visual range of ground observers does not warrant enough tracks for good filtering.

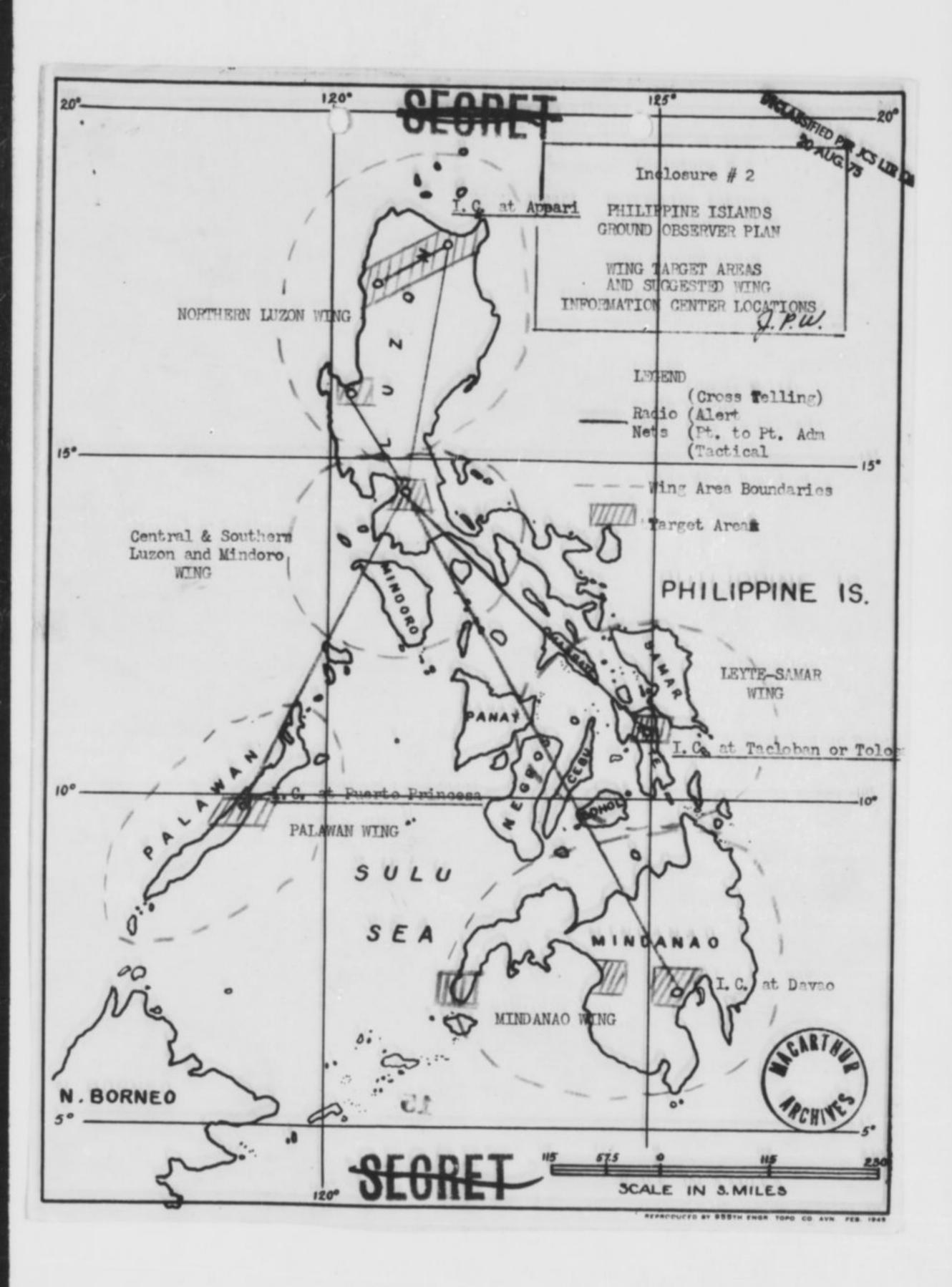
7. Due to the requirements of siting the Ground Cheervar pasts in confunction with the radar system a final plan for G.O. sites cannot be drawn up until more information on the Radar Air Defunse Plan is secured. This plan will depend upon the equipment and personnel consituents as drawn up by the Combined Chiefs of Staff (Mashington, D.C) analysis for the Philippine Islands Air Defense Plan.

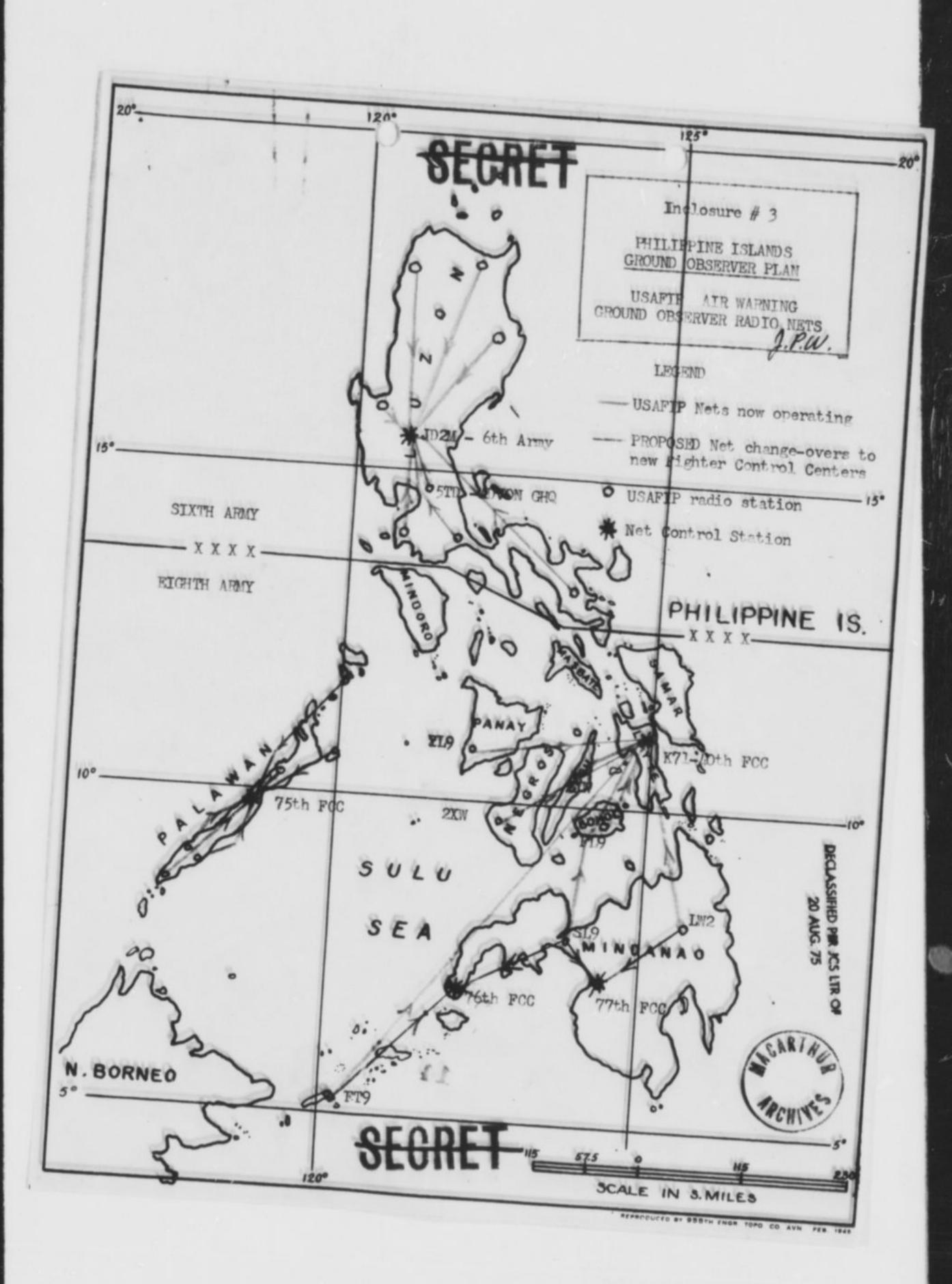


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Captain, Signal Corps,







399-01 (9 Nor 45)

DECLASSIFIED PAR ICS LIR COM

SUBJECT: UBAFIF A.W. Redio Note Status.

* Major Woods, Operations Officer, Air Signals Office, V Fighter Command, APO 730.

1. Methods of obtaining aircraft warming information from UEAFIF radio ste under Highth Army control at the present time are as follows:

a. VISAYAS Grown

The chief not control station in each island military district to reporting in to the 40th Pighter Control Conter on a V.F.C. radio frequency so shown in inclusive # 1. For assumptionable made with Major Horsey, 0-2, Sighth Ayay on 7 March 1945 the subordinate stations in each of these island districts were further reminded to report all friendly as well as enough flights to be relayed to its island not control station.

The improvious area formerly operating on 9000 NGS under the specially are covering the improvious area, 65th Pighter Wing has been improved of this charge and has consed monitoring 9000 NGS,

b. PALASSAE ASSOC

Stattom in this sector formerly reporting in to GR1 on 8309 RES over to operate on 4020 RES with the Alast Division at Hindore, Since the V-3 Operation these stations here reported in to the V-3 Test Porce Command headquarters (frequency unknown at present). For arrangements made with Captain Resident, Signal Intelligence Officer, Righth Appr on 7 North 1945 the Test Porce Commander is toing directed to content the 76th Fighter Control Content in order to make arrangements for the MAPIF rails stations to report in to the Pighter Control Content as shown in implements / 3, 85th Fighter Fing has been informed to come monitoring \$500 MMS.

e. HUNDAMAC Arms

Two main control stations in Minister report A.V. Chapter to the 10th Plebter Control Conter or combatant in paragraph 1 & and shown in inclosure / 1. The name residence to HEAPLY substitutes a technique montained in paragraph 1 & ware

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sent to Mindongo stations by Eighth Assy.

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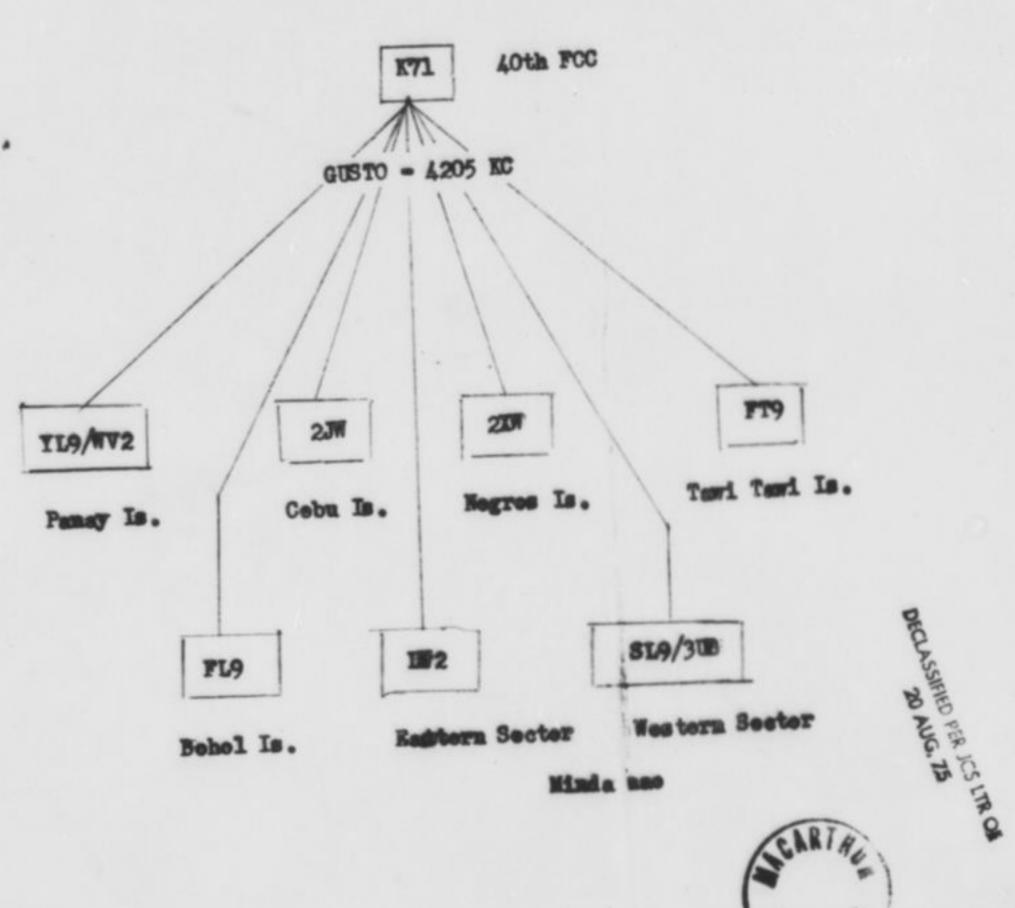
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USAFIP RADIO NETS FOR REPORTING A.W.

VISAYAS & MINDANAO



SEUNET

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WAPIP RADIO MES

TOP Line

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MEMORANDUM TO: Major Telesco. 1. At a meeting held with Lieutenant Colonel Lambert, Hq V Fighter Command, Major Spam, 85th Fighter Wing, Captain West, Hq V Fighter Command and Lieutenant Powers, 85th Fighter Wing at Signal Office, Hqs V Fighter Command on 15 February 1945 it was definitely decided to relieve V Fighter Command Ground Observer stations RS-965 (Estancia, Panay), RS-968 (Tuburan, Cebu) and control station No. 14 (Zolong, Negros) from an operational status since their usefulness had ceased as a result of recent operations. Details on making arrangements to evacuate the units back to Layte were left to Captain West, Liaison Officer to the Philippine Sub-Division, G-3 GHQ. 2. Major Telesco, G-3 PSD, was informed of the action requested by the Signal Office V Fighter Command and as a result the following action occured to relieve the station at Estancia, Panay: a. Message Number 100, dated 21 February 1945 to Peralta directed him to inform the station to close down immediately upon receipt of message, turn over radio equipment to Peralta, and proceed to Dumarao strip for pick up. Station closed 22 February 1945. b. As a check 85th Fighter Wing informed station through their radio net to close down. c. Message Number 279 dated 23 February 1945 from Peralta stated personnel were at field awaiting plane. Personnel were picked up and returned to Leyte on same day.



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

CHECK SHEET

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

File No.: 210,453

Subject: Request for Orders

m

From: Capt. West

To: Major Telesco

Date: 28 February 1945

Request I be relieved of TDY with The Philippine Sub-division, G-3, and that orders be cut relieving me from TDY with G-3, GHQ, and to return to HQ V Fighter Command, APO 710, on or about 7 March 1945.

Since control of the Philippine Islands Guerrilla activities has passed to Sixth and Eighth Army Headquarters any liaison work involving Aircraft Warning service from the USAFIP radio nets will have to be coordinated between the Air Forces and the respective Army headquarters. It is expected all V Fighter Command Ground Observer units will be withdrawn from operational positions in USAFIP locations back to Leyte by 7 March 1945 with the exception of the 19th G.O. Platoon, Co "D" 597th Sig AW Bn, now under the operational control of the 10th Military District. In the future necessary liaison between the 19th G.O. Pl. and Hq V F.C. will be controlled through G-2, Eighth Army and Colonel Fertig of the 10th M.D.

The continuation of the Ground Observer system in the Philippine Islands is being carried out by Air Forces and FEAF. At the present time Air Warning information from the USAFIF radio xis nets is coordinated by close liaison between the 86th Fighter Wing and Hq 6th Army for the Luzon area. For the Visayas and Mindanao areas this service will be coordinated between 85th Fighter Wing and 8th Army.

J.P.W.



0000 GENERAL HEADQUARTERS SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA APO 500 9 February 1945 AG 201-West, James P. (9 Feb 45) SUBJECT: Order. : 1ST LT JAMES P WEST 01634456 Sig C, V Fighter Command APO 72. Above-named off now on TDY this hq WP Hq V Fighter Command APO 72 on further TDY for purpose carrying out instructions. Upon compl will ret to present sta. Tvl by mil acft, army or naval transport, belligerent vessel or aeft, and Govt Mf auth, Tvl by air is necessary to accomplish an emerg war mission. Transportation Corps will furnish necessary transportation. TDN. Alws of 50 pownds personal baggage auth while traveling by air. By command of General MacARTHUR: R. W. BOLLING, Major, A.G.D., Asst Adjutant General. DISTRIBUTION: G-3 (1) AG Adv Ech GHQ (1) DECLASSIFIED PER DA CIRC. #127 Hq Comdt (1) Hq V Fighter Command (1) 1st Lt Wost (2) AG Records (1)

LAT/w1b

Request for Orders.

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AG, GH

8 Peb 45

1. Requested that necessary orders be published placing let Lieutenant JAMES P. WEST, 01634456, on temporary duty with this headquarters offective as of 10 December 1944.

2. It is further requested that necessary orders be issued placing Lt West on further temperary duty to the Commanding General, V Fighter Command, APC 321, for the purpose of coordinating aircraft warning reports; upon completion of such temperary duty return to this headquarters.

Inel:

V Fighter Command placing above mentioned officer on ID at APO 500.

S. J. C.

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MEMO FOR RECORD:

Lt West reported to this section on 10 December 1944 for purposes of assisting the supervision and eperation of the Philippine Air Warning System. This action was directed by the Chief of Staff by Memorandum dated 20 June 1944.

Previous to Lt Wests' assignment, Major E. Elvove was Aircraft Warning Liaison officer.

L.A.T.