

EVACUEE REPORTS:

HICKOK,

CHARLES H.

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION GENERAL STAFF

APG 500
12 August 44

Philippine Evacuee Report #341

Subject : ROMBLON PROVINCE and PANAY
From : Charles Holland HICKOK, T/Sgt, ASN 13015206

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Name : Charles Holland Hickok
Born : 15 July 1918 in Pueblo, Colorado
Education : High School, 1932-37
Service : Inducted 24 February 1941 in Roanoke, Virginia; assigned to Aircraft Warning Company, Ft Monmouth, New Jersey; 15 July 1941 unit left for the PI.
Assignment : Radio technician
In PI : Since 1 August 1941

Interrogated by G-2 GHQ SWPA

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Hickok is a quiet, reserved type of individual. Because of a severe injury to his right arm, he has a badly deformed right hand. This necessarily resulted in restricting his activities with the guerrilla forces. Little information of value was developed from him.

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CHRONOLOGY

- 7 Dec 41 - Member of Aircraft Warning Co, stationed at Mambulao, Camarines Norte.
- 23 Dec 41 - Seriously wounded in right arm by fire from automatic rifle of Jap sniper; after nearly bleeding to death, he was rescued by civilians and carried to Aurora, Tayabas, and cared for.
- 25 Feb 42 - Evacuated to Marinduque because of news that Japs were occupying Tayabas; received medical attention and regained strength while resting in Marinduque.
- 17 July 42 - Upon Jap occupation of Marinduque, Hickok escaped into the mountains.
- Jul 42- Feb 43 - Lived with the natives in the mountains on Marinduque.
- Feb 43 - Went to Tablas Island.
- Mar 43 - Met Major JURADO and volunteered his services in constructing radio sets; made a short trip back to Marinduque to perform mission and quit in disgust when guerrillas refused to cooperate.
- Apr-Jul 43 - Lived with natives on Tablas.
- Jul 43-Apr 44 - Succeeded, with the help of others, in completing three complete portable radio trans-receivers which were successfully used by Jurado's forces.



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11 Apr 44 - Went to Panay to meet sub.
18 Apr 44 - Met Colonel PERALTA and Lt Col GEMPERLE.
Apr-Jun 44 - Travelled over the island of Panay while
waiting for the sub.
20 Jun 44 - Arrival of sub.
21 Jun 44 - Evacuated.

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Guerrilla Organization in Romblon Province

There has never been an effective and efficient organization in this Province. The officers in charge are not capable and do not have the initiative that is required to effect an organization. They are only interested in getting a higher rank in the army.

They are more interested in what they can get out of the army than in accomplishing any good.

Because of the attitude of the officers, there has been no discipline among the men. The army has been a haven for the men so that they would not have to work. It has been easier for them to exist in the army than out of it.

JAPANESE RAID : In November 1943, the Japanese raided the islands of Romblon Province. No resistance was put up by the guerrillas who escaped to Mindoro. After pressure was brought to bear against the families, most of the soldiers and officers returned and surrendered. Only Major Jurado and 7 or 8 officers and men failed to surrender.

COLONEL PERALTA ✓ : CO of 6th Military District. He is not well liked by the civilians. There are some civilians who will shoot him on sight. For protection, he has a big body guard. Because he seems to have more than he can do, he won't make decisions.

LT COL GEMPERLE ✓ : One of the best officers on Panay. He wants to come to Australia. Thought he was coming out on the last sub, but Peralta was undecided as to whether he was going to permit it.

LT COL GARCIA ✓ : A good man and a good fighter. Regarded as a better man than Peralta.

MAJOR E L JURADO ✓ : CO of guerrilla forces in Romblon Province. A nice fellow but is incapable of handling the job assigned to him. He does not have enough initiative and drive.

CAPTAIN GRUNDT # : A go-getter. Has been in the guerrilla organization on Panay since its inception. He is disliked by the officers because he has publicly disapproved of their actions. He was planning on coming out on the last sub but was sent to some other islands to obtain some sailboats and did not return in time to catch the sub.

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