

EVACUEE REPORTS:

LICODO,

BENJAMIN

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28 March, 1944

STATEMENT OF BENJAMIN (N) LICODO, CCS, USN

The M.T.B. Ron 3 arrived at Pier No. 7 in Manila P.I. Last Sept. 27 - 1941 - and all the crew was living in the White House Hotel, and all the Officers were living in the U. Apartment, until we all move to Cavite, Navy Yard, and all the Officers are staying in the Bachelor Officers Quarters, and we are all living very happy, until the Japanese Bomb Pearl Harbor, Baguio, Davao and Apari, and then on the Dec 10 - '41 the Japanese Bomb Cavite Navy Yard, and I was in the Navy Yard during the Bombing, at 4:30 P.M. the P.T. 41 came along side at San Felipe dock and I reported to my Boss Lt. J. D. Buckley and Lt. Cox, and tell the story about what I have seen, and Lt. Buckley said to me that we have more action ahead, and so we move to Maraveles and then we move again to Seceman Bay stay there until we take General Mrs. McArthur, Family and party to unknown destination, and then at the third day we reach Cagayan Oriental Mess. Mindanao, stay at Bogo until we go and get President Quezon, Family and party in Davao Negros, and my Boss told me to be very careful because President Quezon is our Passenger, and Lt. Cox put me on lookout all the way to Mindanao, and then after 3 days we went to Gingoog Oriental Mess. to see Lt. Kelly if his Boat is ready, and we went all to Cebu for General Repair, we are all very happy while we are in Cebu because we enjoy ourselves by cleaning our boat ready for action at all times.

We stay in Cebu until we received that Enemy ships are heading to Cebu, and we meet the Enemy between Cebu and Negros, and there we give them the work. There we saw eye to eye a Japanese cruiser and destroyers and Lt. Buckley said, all hands on battle station, at 10 minutes later Lt. Buckley said stand by the Port side Torpedo. Oh, there I can see the fighting spirit of the Officers and Sailors of the Motor Torpedo Boat, Roni three, and I know that we sank that ship, and the P.T. 41 meet some Destroyer on our way out, and at last we reach Occ. Miss. and then we went to Eligan Lanao, and our Dr. send me to Hospital because I am sick with Malaria, and then we move again to Dansalan Lanao the California of the Philippine, stay there in Dansalan Lanao until the Japanese are landing several points, and so last April 1, 1942, Jack and some American wants me to go with them to the Mountain to hide from the Enemy, and we go to Gingoog Or. Miss. and the 6 Americans stay in the Mountain of Caligiran, 3 months after we separated, 3 Americans went to Surrender in Davao. They are Jacko, Zamora and Clark, and the three left in the mountains are Winget, Thurman and Frank Noel.

Last Nov. 1943, I meet Lt. Comdr Parson in the house of Mr Pascual Vellanueva in Espiranza Agusan, and he told me that he'll not leave without me, but, I was left behind and makes me very unhappy, and I am

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the mess Officers of the American s mess of that time, and then Major C. C. Childress take me with him untill I left the Scentiliting jungle of Tongao Agusan, Philippine Islands, and here I am in Australla having Midical Obervation and sleeping very wonderfully eating very nicelly and reading, writing very carefully, and please send me back to U.S.A. to see once more Washington D.C. City of Deplomacy.

The end

BENJAMIN LICODO CCS USN

Motor Torpedo Boat. Ron 3

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