

EVACUEE REPORT:

TALBOT,

NATHAN W.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION GENERAL STAFF

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20 AUG. 75

Philippine Evacuee Report #342

Subject : ROMBLON PROVINCE and PANAY  
From : Nathan W TALBOT, Pfc, 3rd Class Specialist  
ASN 11009238



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Name : Nathan William Talbot  
Born : 22 November 1919 in Winchester, New Hampshire  
Education : High School, 1933-37; Hemphill Mechanical School, Diesel Engines, 1937-38  
Service : Enlisted at Worcester, Massachusetts; assigned to 27th Light Bombardment Group, 16th Squadron; arrived Ft McKinley, PI 20 November 1941; joined guerrillas after surrender of USAFFE  
Assignment: Radio operator  
In PI : Since 24 December 1941

Interrogated by G-2 GHQ SWPA

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Talbot seems to be more intelligent than the average enlisted man. According to information given by some of the other evacuees he is a good radio man. His information is considered fairly reliable.

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CHRONOLOGY

- 20 Nov 41 - Arrived at Fort McKinley with 27th Light Bombardment Group.
- 24 Dec 41 - Evacuated to Bataan.
- 4 Mar 42 - Went to San Jose, Mindoro, to report on the activities at the emergency landing field located there.
- Mar-Apr 42 - Lived in mountains of Mindoro.
- 8 Mar 42 - Field destroyed and 65,000 gallons of high octane gasoline burned because of report that the Japanese were invading Mindoro.
- 9 Mar 42 - Evacuated into the hills with Lt W C BAGETT and approximately 50 American soldiers.
- 15 Mar 42 - 1500 Japanese landed at Camenaut and proceeded to San Jose.
- 6 May 42 - Arrived on the northwest shore of Panay.
- 14 May 42 - Went to Cuyo Island.
- 20 May 42 - Jap cruiser and transport landed on Cuyo. Major SAYE, Lt BAGETT and 28 enlisted men surrendered.
- 22 May 42 - Went to Manamoc Island.



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- May 42-Feb 43 - Lived on Manamoc Island, furnished food and shelter by the natives.
- 12 Feb 43 - Went to Panay and reported to Major C B GARCIA and was assigned to the radio station under Captain M C HAWLEY.
- 3 May 43 - Submarine arrived with supplies and Lt T CRESPO.
- 14 May 43 - Placed in charge of radio station on Tablas Island.
- 14 June 43 - Appointed 3rd Lieutenant.
- 15 June 43 - Captain WHITEHEAD and group of Americans arrived on Tablas.
- 8 Oct 43 - Transferred to Sibuyan Island with radio set.
- 15 Nov 43 - Japanese campaign on the islands of Romblon Province. Most of the guerrillas surrendered. Many civilians were killed.
- 12 Mar 44 - Arrived on Panay with K H HANSON and Charles HICKOK to meet the submarine so as to be evacuated.
- 17 Apr 44 - Promoted to 2nd Lieutenant.
- 1 June 44 - Japanese penetration in the Hubog area.
- 20 June 44 - Boarded submarine.

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Guerrilla Organization in Romblon Province

In this area the guerrillas have an organization in name only. Major JURADO has been unable to get the support of the people, of the guerrillas themselves, or any cooperation from the 6th Military District Headquarters.

No effort has ever been made to oppose the Japanese soldiers. For this reason the people have given little support to the organization.

During the Japanese campaign which started about the 15th of November, 1943, most of the guerrilla soldiers as well as officers surrendered. Even those who had guns surrendered without firing a shot. What little organization which did exist was completely disrupted during this drive.

Japanese Penetration on Panay

About the 1st of June 1944, the Japanese started a campaign along the western coast of Panay which lasted for several days. The campaign was conducted exactly in accordance with a preconceived plan which had fallen into the hands of the guerrillas several days prior thereto.

The campaign was a failure in its purpose of capturing the guerrilla soldiers. It was a three prong drive, but the guerrillas retreated into the mountains before the different Japanese forces were able to close in.

In the area where Talbot was, Captain CADJIAO's "K" Co of the 1st Combat Team engaged the Japanese in the Tibeo area in a fight which lasted for seven hours. During this fight 97 Japanese were killed or wounded while the guerrillas suffered only one casualty. The guerrillas used hand grenades effectively, which accounted for the large number of Japanese casualties.

COLONEL PERALTA : CO of 6th Military District. He is regarded as being anti-white. He has had several arguments with Governor CONFESOR whom he suspects of supporting President QUEZON. Peralta feels that both Quezon and General MacARTHUR could have better served the Philippines if they had remained on the Islands and fought with the guerrillas.

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LT COLONEL GARCIA ✓: He is definitely anti-white. He shares Peralta's views toward General MacArthur and Quezon for leaving the Islands.

MAJOR E L JURADO ✓: CO of the guerrillas in Romblon Province. He doesn't have the ability to handle the situation. He does not have the cooperation of either his men or the people. He would make a good peace time officer, but he will never be able to do good work in his present job because he offends too many people by his apparent feeling of superiority. In addition, he spends too much of his time playing mah jong rather than attempting to improve his organization.

CAPTAIN GRUNDT ✓: An American on Panay. He is a good man but has been handicapped because of the anti-white feeling which exists among his superior officers. He wants to come out and would have on the last submarine but he was sent to some other islands looking for boats just before the submarine arrived.

CAPTAIN CADJIAO ✓: He is CO of Company "K", 1st Combat Team. He has shown a greater willingness to engage the enemy than any of the other officers. He seems to be a good man.

LT AMIS ✓: He was sent to Panay about a year ago. He is supposed to be in charge of a radio station along the coast. He goes there once a week to see how things are. He is taking life easy and displays little interest in his work.

LT CRESPO ✓: Though it was understood that Crespo was sent to Panay as a Signal Officer, he is now acting as Adjutant and has no duties in connection with the radio or the coast watcher system.

PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS : Though American Officers would be highly resented, they are needed. Unless several of them, with sufficient rank to command respect, were sent, they would not receive any more cooperation that Major PHILLIPS did. It was believed that Major Phillips would not have been captured by the Japanese if he had received the support and cooperation of the guerrillas.

GOVERNOR CONFESOR ✓: He is well liked by the people but has had trouble with Peralta because he is suspected of being a supporter of Quezon.

ROXAS ✓ The people are 100% for Roxas because of his stand against the Japanese. They also admire him because he did not leave the Islands.

INDEPENDENCE : The more intelligent class of people does not want independence. They realize that their own leaders would be fighting among themselves. The more illiterate class, because they do not understand the full significance of independence, is in favor of it, though part of this group would prefer to remain a part of the United States.

MR LOBRAGARD ✓: Lives at San Jose, Mindoro. He met the Japanese invasion troops and turned over to them all of the alcohol and other supplies. He later led the Japanese troops in a search for the American soldiers who had evacuated to the mountains.



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Submarine Incident on Panay About 6 pm on 20 June 1944, the sub surfaced about three miles from Culasi, a Japanese garrison. Lt Col Garcia, who was in charge of the unloading, left about an hour later and was not seen again. Lt Crespo and Lt Amis were left in charge of the unloading. There were enough small sailboats to handle the job if it had been properly supervised. The boats reached the sub so filled with people that it was necessary to leave some of them on the deck of the sub so as to have room for the cargo. The boats were permitted to return to shore only half loaded.

About 4:30 am, 21 June 1944, the sub Captain decided that it was time to leave. He told the Filipinos, some 60 in number, to get off. There were not enough boats to hold all of them.

The ones who were left were thrown overboard along with about 30 tons of supplies. Some of the supplies were said to have been thrown on top of the Filipinos in the water. It was also reported that some hot words passed between the Captain of the sub and some of the Filipinos.

As the sub was leaving two Jap boats approached, one of which was sunk. It was then nearly daylight.

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