



DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078

2nd MD
PP - MFD

A F F I D A V I T .

I, APOLONIO M. SEBASTIAN, being duly sworn, deposes and say;

That I am of legal age, a Filipino citizen, residing at 1374 Felix Huertas, Sta. Cruz, Manila; that I am now a 2nd Lieutenant of the Philippine Army stationed at the 4th Replacement Battalion, Camp Murphy, APO 754.

That on 10 December 1941, I was a Regimental Motor Transport officer of the 91st Infantry Regiment then at USAFFE Reservation at Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija;

That I recall the name of Sisenando de la Cruz as being the driver of the truck belonging to Marcelino de Leon, and that on or about 10 December 1941 I commandeered from the said Sisenando de la Cruz the truck of Marcelino de Leon; that I further recall that the truck commandeered was an International truck, and that it was equipped with a gravel type wood body; that at the time of requisitioning I failed to issue a receipt for the said truck;

That I knew Colonel Stevens who was at the time the 91st Division Commander and that to the best of my knowledge and belief he is now dead; that his first name was Luther;

That I knew Major Velasquez personally who was the Chief of Staff of the 91st Division; that Major Velasquez is now a colonel in the Army of the United States and acting as Assistant Deputy Commander of the Military Police Command, AFWESPAC, APO 501; that his office is in the Soriano Building, Manila; and that his full name is Jaime C. Velasquez;

That I knew Captain Juan Tecson but I do not recall what his work was; that to the best of my knowledge and belief he is now dead;

That the above truck which I requisitioned was used by the Regiment for carrying ammunition, supplies and troops, and was

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Authority NND 883078

not taken to prevent its use by the enemy; that the loss of the truck occurred prior to any combat damage;

That my authority to requisition motor vehicles was derived from Lieutenant Colonel James D. Carter, Philippine Scout officer and Regimental Commander of the 91st Infantry Regiment who is now dead to the best of my knowledge and belief;

That I do not know what the ultimate disposition of the said truck was;

That I know to be a fact that the 91st Infantry Regiment of the 1st Division was inducted into the USAFFE on September 1, 1941.

Sg. Apolonio M. Sebastian,
Sg. APOLONIO M. SEBASTIAN
2nd Lt., Inf., P. A.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of August 1945..

Sg. Sumner S. Miller
Sg. SUMNER S. MILLER
1st Lt., C. A. C.,
Investigating Officer

A True Copy
C- 1852
Pro-1101
CG-5-X-302

Amagallanes
A. Solfo Magallanes
Chief, Statistics Br.
RFD

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES) SS
CITY OF MANILA)

A F F I D A V I T

I, APOLONIO M. SEBASTIAN, a Filipino citizen, of legal age, a resident of 1374 F. Huertas, Manila, after having been duly sworn according to law, depose and say:

That I am now on Special Duty with the Processing Team, 4th Repln. Bn. APO 75.

That my present rank is 2nd Lieutenant, Infantry, Philippine Army.

That I was the Regimental Motor Transport Officer of the 91st Div. under Lt Col. James D. Carter, U. S. Army, Regimental Commander, stationed at Camp Pangatian, Nueva Ecija.

That on the 8th Dec. 1941, I was ordered to commandeered trucks and automobiles by our Regimental Commander Lt. Col. James D. Carter for the use of the regiment.

That I remember to have requisitioned International Truck bearing plate No. TH-2541 driven by Segundo Santos and owned by Mr. Manuel I. Felizardo of Manila.

That no receipt was issued to the said driver, Segundo Santos, inspite of his request, because he was required to remain in the camp with the truck.

That I remember to have assigned the said truck with the driver Segundo Santos with the 3rd Battallion, 91st Inf., to carry supplies and ammunitions for the Battallion.

That the list of the trucks requisitioned together with the list of its owners and drivers was submitted to the Regimental Commander Lt. Col. James D. Carter.

That the said truck was with the 3rd Bn. until we left for Pozorrubio, Pangasinan on Dec. 23, 1941 where we first encountered the Japanese.

That I can no longer remember as to whether the said truck was not damage during the Japanese attack and raid on us at Pozorrubio, Pangasinan.

(SGD) APOLONIO M. SEBASTIAN O-42494
2nd Lt., Inf.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 30th day of August 1945 at Manila.

(SGD) ILLIGIBLE
1st Lt. JAG

A TRUE COPY:

C 1216
CC-5-K-393

Adolfo L. Magallanes
ADOLFO L. MAGALLANES
Chief, Statistics Branch
Records and Fiscal Division

EXHIBIT "E"

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Authority NND 883078

92d INFANTRY REGIMENT (RESERVE)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078

92d INFANTRY REGIMENT (RESERVE)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078

92d INFANTRY REGIMENT (RESERVE)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078

92d INFANTRY REGIMENT (RESERVE)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883028

92d INFANTRY REGIMENT (RESERVE)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078

92d INFANTRY REGIMENT (RESERVE)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078

92d INFANTRY REGIMENT (RESERVE)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078

SWORN STATEMENT OF GENERAL LUTHER STEVENS GIVEN TO
LT. WILLIAM C. VINET, JR., CLAIMS SERVICE, AFWESPAC, 18
APRIL 1946 AT THE ADMIRAL APARTMENTS, MANILA, P. I.

I, Brigadier General Luther Stevens, ASN 1004, formerly Commanding General of the 91st Division, Philippine Army, now residing at 801 Admiral Apartments, Dewey Boulevard, Manila, hereby certify that the following statements are true to the best of my knowledge and belief:

That from 19 November to 23 December 1941, I had my Headquarters at Camp Pangatian, eight kilometers east of Cabanatuan, Province of Nueva Ecija, Luzon Island.

About 15 December 1941, I telephoned Major R. R. Derrick, Manager of the Rural Transit Company and ordered him to place all available transportation which he had at my disposal. The 91st Division was composed of approximately 7,000 Filipino troops. Major Derrick sent me approximately 150 vehicles within the two-day period after receiving this order. About 98 trucks of this group belonged to the Rural Transit Company. On or about 23 December 1941, I sent a Combat Team, consisting of one regiment, from Cabanatuan to Sison. I needed a convoy of an additional 140 vehicles to make this emergency move. Major Derrick sent Mr. B. C. Jack, his Assistant Manager, with 140 vehicles within 45 minutes after I gave him his order. Some of these vehicles were trucks which had been commandeered by individual officers and had been turned over to various Army Units which Major Derrick had at his shop in Cabanatuan for repairs. A good number of these 140 vehicles were owned by the Rural Transit Company, Bachrach Motors Co., Inc. and the Pampanga Bus Co. This entire regiment and most of the 140 trucks with them were wiped out at Sison.

The Rural Transit Company had shops in Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija; San Jose, Nueva Ecija; Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya; Echague Isabela; and Ilagan, Isabela. I knew that all of the above men-

tioned shops were servicing Army vehicles and those trucks which had been commandeered for the use of the Army, supplying needed parts and making necessary repairs to keep these trucks in serviceable condition. All of the Rural Transit Company vehicles were in pretty good condition when they were turned over to me by Major Derrick. I knew that the Filipino employees of the Rural Transit Company in each of the five above-named shops remained to perform their regular duties of servicing vehicles at these shops and afterwards around the Army Camps from 8 December up until the fall of Bataan. There is no question in my mind but that the Army took all of the above named shops which belonged to the Rural Transit Company and used them exclusively for the repair and maintenance of vehicles used in our campaigns. I do not know if any verbal agreement for the use by the Army of the Rural Transit Company and Pampanga Bus Company vehicles was entered into between the operators of these companies and any authorized officers of the Army. I had heard that the Army was renting the trucks of these transportation companies before the outbreak of the war, but to the best of my knowledge and belief, no compensation of any kind has been received by the Rural Transit Company or the Pampanga Bus Company for their vehicles which we used from 8 December 1941 until 9 April 1942. On 29 December 1941, we were forced to retreat from Cabantuan to Bataan. All of the shops owned by the Rural Transit Company mentioned above were of no further use to us after this date as they fell into Japanese hands at this time.

All personnel of the Rural Transit Company who serviced vehicles for the Army gave us the fullest cooperation in every respect. On 9 December 1941, Major Derrick, who had not yet been commissioned, assigned a seven passenger jitney, painted red, to me for my personal use. The Filipino

driver of that jitney remained with me all the time up until the fall of Bataan. I was in Bataan up until the surrender on 9 April 1942 at which time I was taken prisoner by the Japanese. I know that most of the 290 trucks sent to me by Major Derrick were still being used by the various units of my command up until 9 April 1942.

Altogether I must have had at least four hundred vehicles with my division throughout our campaigns. I know that Mr. F. F. Cottrell, Manager of the Pampanga Bus Company sent me many of his vehicles (it is impossible for me to estimate the number) and moved some of his equipment from San Fernando to Little Baguio, Bataan to set up a repair shop for the Army there.

s/ Luther Stevens
t/ LUTHER STEVENS
Brig. General, PA.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of April 1946.

s/ William C. Vinet, Jr.
t/ WILLIAM C. VINET, JR.
2nd Lt., Inf.
Investigating Officer.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

William C. Vinet Jr.
WILLIAM C. VINET, JR.
2nd Lt., Inf.
Investigating Officer.

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Authority NND 883078

2nd NP

SWORN STATEMENT OF GENERAL LUTHER STEVENS GIVEN TO
LT. WILLIAM C. VINET, JR., CLAIMS SERVICE, AFWESPAC, 18
APRIL 1946 AT THE ADMIRAL APARTMENTS, MANILA, P. I.

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tioned shops were servicing Army vehicles and those trucks which had been commandeered for the use of the Army, supplying needed parts and making necessary repairs to keep these trucks in serviceable condition. All of the Rural Transit Company vehicles were in pretty good condition when they were turned over to me by Major Derrick. I knew that the Filipino employees of the Rural Transit Company in each of the five above-named shops remained to perform their regular duties of servicing vehicles at these shops and afterwards around the Army Camps from 8 December up until the fall of Bataan. There is no question in my mind but that the Army took all of the above named shops which belonged to the Rural Transit Company and used them exclusively for the repair and maintenance of vehicles used in our campaigns. I do not know if any verbal agreement for the use by the Army of the Rural Transit Company and Pampanga Bus Company vehicles was entered into between the operators of these companies and any authorized officers of the Army. I had heard that the Army was renting the trucks of these transportation companies before the outbreak of the war, but to the best of my knowledge and belief, no compensation of any kind has been received by the Rural Transit Company or the Pampanga Bus Company for their vehicles which we used from 8 December 1941 until 9 April 1942. On 29 December 1941, we were forced to retreat from Cabanatuan to Bataan. All of the shops owned by the Rural Transit Company mentioned above were of no further use to us after this date as they fell into Japanese hands at this time.

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driver of that jitney remained with me all the time up until the fall of Bataan. I was in Bataan up until the surrender on 9 April 1942 at which time I was taken prisoner by the Japanese. I know that most of the 290 trucks sent to me by Major Derrick were still being used by the various units of my command up until 9 April 1942.

Altogether I must have had at least four hundred vehicles with my division throughout our campaigns. I know that Mr. F. F. Cottrell, Manager of the Pampanga Bus Company sent me many of his vehicles (it is impossible for me to estimate the number) and moved some of his equipment from San Fernando to Little Baguio, Bataan to set up a repair shop for the Army there.

s/ Luther Stevens
t/ LUTHER STEVENS
Brig. General, PA.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of April 1946.

s/ William C. Vinet, Jr.
t/ WILLIAM C. VINET, JR.
2nd Lt., Inf.
Investigating Officer.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

William C. Vinet, Jr.
WILLIAM C. VINET, JR.
2nd Lt., Inf.
Investigating Officer.

United States of America)
Commonwealth of the Philippines) S.S.
City of Manila)

I, JACINTO B. LEONCIO, a Major in the Philippine Army, O-1715, whose Post Office address is Headquarters Philippine Army, APO 75, after being duly sworn according to law, depose and say:

That I am the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4, of the 91st Division, stationed at Manacnac, Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija, prior to the outbreak of the war.

That sometime on 23 December 1941 with the Division Finance Officer we checked up all accounts of the different units at the different groceries and found out that many are not paid. We paid all these bills with the money in our possession could cover.

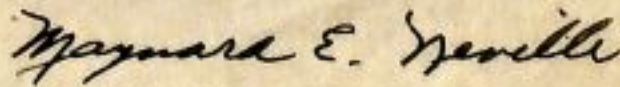
That I remembered that I have issued receipts to the Fancy Grocery Store corresponding to the balance of what we have not paid for the 91st Division. These receipts were taken by me and turned over to the Supply Officer of the 91st Division, Field Artillery for payment.

That due to confusion in those days, payment of such amount were not made by Lt. Angeles, as the outfit was sent to the North to reinforce the 71st Division.

IN TRUTH AND WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby sign this affidavit this 20th day of March 1946.


J. B. LEONCIO
Major, Inf.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 20th day of March 1946.


MAYNARD E. NEVILLE,
1st Lt., F. A.,
Investigating Officer.

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EMBASSY OF THE PHILIPPINES
WASHINGTON

October 10, 1947

T-14
PRO-9532

Commanding General
Philippines-Ryukyus Command
APO 707, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

ATTN: Chief of Claims Service

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of September 19, requesting assistance in uncovering information regarding vehicles commandeered by the Philippine Constabulary in Nueva Ecija in December 1941, it is with pleasure that I recount hereunder the details of the matter insofar as I can remember to the best of my ability.

When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 8, 1941, the 91st Infantry Division of which I was Chief of Staff, was in its cantonment in the vicinity of Cabanatuan. The Division had at that time, ten US Army trucks, one Jeep, and one Sedan for the use of the Commanding General. Immediately after the start of hostilities, we were authorized to commandeer civilian vehicles in the name of the Commanding General, USAFFE, and to issue proper receipts whenever possible. We requested the then Provincial Commander, Major Godofredo Monsod, to assist us in the procurement of civilian cargo trucks and passenger cars, and it was by virtue of that arrangement that the late Major Monsod and his officers obtained the motor vehicles from civilian owners. Because of frequent strafing attacks by the Japanese, the papers that were issued as receipts were not prepared according to the accepted form. In some cases, it was not feasible to issue any receipts at all.

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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

October 10, 1947

Commanding General
Philippine Army Command
APO 707, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

ATTN: Chief of Claims Service

Dear Sir:

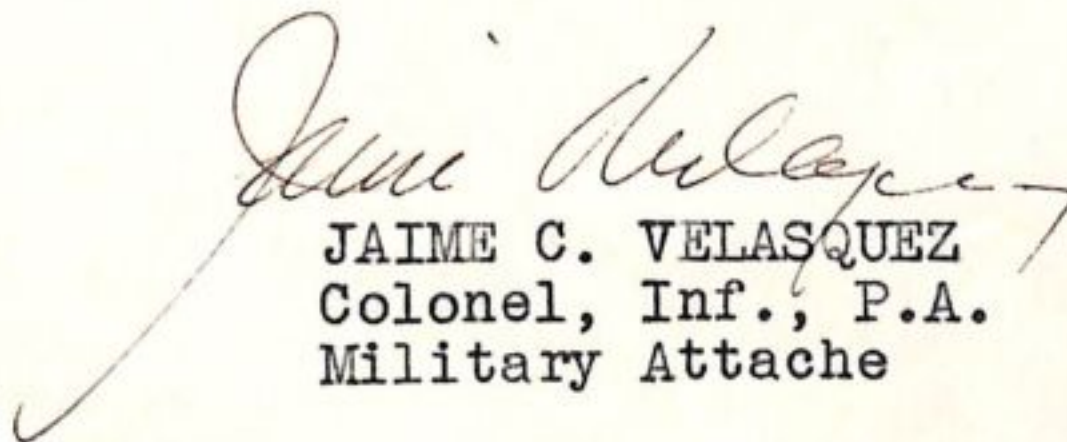
In reply to your letter of September 15, 1947, requesting assistance in uncovering information regarding vehicles commandeered by the Japanese in Manila in December 1941, it is with pleasure that I recount hereunder the details of the matter insofar as I can remember to the best of my ability.

When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 8, 1941, the 1st Infantry Division of which I was Chief of Staff, was in its encampment in the vicinity of Cabanatuan. The Division had at that time, two US Army trucks, one jeep, and one sedan for the use of the Commanding General. Immediately after the start of hostilities, we were authorized to commandeer civilian vehicles in the name of the Commanding General, USA, and to issue proper receipts therefor. We requested the local Provincial Commander, Major Donald Howard, to assist us in the procurement of civilian cargo trucks and passenger cars, and it was by virtue of that arrangement that the late Major Howard and his officers obtained the motor vehicles from civilian owners. However, because of the difficulty of the Japanese, the reports that were issued as to the receipt of these vehicles were not reported according to the standard forms. In some cases, it was not feasible to issue receipts at all.



I hope that the above information will be of some assistance to you. Should you desire further information, I should like to refer you also to Brig. Gen. Luther B. Stevens who was the Commanding General of the 91st Philippine Army Division during the campaign of 1941 and 1942, and who is reported to be the current Provost Marshall of PHILRYCOM.

Very respectfully,


JAIME C. VELASQUEZ
Colonel, Inf., P.A.
Military Attache

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Authority NND 883078

I hope that the above information will be of some assistance to you. Should you desire further information, I should like to refer you also to Brig. Gen. Luther B. Stevens who was the Commanding General of the 91st Airborne Army Division during the campaign of 1941 and 1942, and who is reported to be the current contact person at [redacted].

Very respectfully,

JAMES G. VALARDES
Colonel, Inf., P.A.
Military Attache



16 Elm Avenue,
Kentfield, California,
29 July 1948.

File w/ a/s Lew.

Subject: Claim of the Estate of Don Ramon J. Ongsiako.

TO : Commanding General, Philippine Ryukyus Command,
Manila, P.I.

Attention: Chief of Claims Division.

Reference letter your office 16 July 1948 on above subject, the following information is submitted:

1.a. Captain Adriano Valdez, 91st Infantry, USAFFE, was S-4, 91st Infantry during the period covered by the claim.

b. As regimental supply Officer he was responsible for the purchase and delivery of foodstuffs to the organizations of the regiment. Purchases were made daily based of the strength of each outfit. Captain Valdez had orders to not exceed the authorized money allowance of the regiment when he made purchases each day.

c. No confidential orders were issued to Captain Valdez to commandeer foodstuffs for the regiment.

d. If, on 23 December 1941, he, with the cooperation of Major Munsod, Philippine Constabulary, commandeered foodstuffs for the 91st Infantry, it was without my knowledge and consent,

e. Authorized strength of regiment 23 December 1941: 1800
Actual Strength: Approximately 1500

2. Major Munsod, Philippine Constabulary, was the constabulary inspector of Nueva Ecija Province during the time the 91st Infantry was in camp near Cabanatuan. Major Munsod was not authorized to buy foodstuffs for the regiment nor was he requested by me to assist in the commandeering of the same.

3. I have no knowledge of the purchase of the commandeering of any foodstuffs from the claimant Carmen De La Paz VDA. De Ongsiako or her hacienda manager Gregorio Quiaóit. I am positive that I never visited the Don Ramon Ongsiako Hacienda.

4. I am sorry that I cannot be of more assistance. However, if the persons listed hereon can be located they might be of some help.

Regimental Adjutant, 91st Infantry, Lieut. Basconcilla, Philippine Army.

Transportation Officer, 91st Infantry, Lieut. A. M. Sebastian, Philippine Army, T. Azucena St. San Pablo City, P.I.

S-3, 91st Infantry, Captain Gallardo, Philippine Army.

5. After studying the two affidavits carefully, I fail to understand certain alleged transaction that took place on 23 December 1941.

a. 10,000 cavanos (2130 bushels) is a large amount of rice.

b. There being no transportation of any kind except that operated by the military how was the claimant going to move the rice to Manila?

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Who furnished the labor to load the rice?
Where did Captain Valdez get 100 extra trucks? On 23 December
motor strength of the regiment was approximately 60 vehicles of all
classes.

e. What disposition was made of the rice after it was commandeered?
6. I still feel that the claim is false.

James D. Carter, 08494,
Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret'd)

A true copy:

/s/ James D. Carter
/t/ JAMES D. CARTER
Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret'd)

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

Nicholas C. McGree
NICHOLAS C. MCGREE
Capt. CAC

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Authority NND 883078

A F F I D A V I T

VICTOR Z GOMEZ, BEING DULY SWORN, DEPOSES AND SAYS:

THAT HE IS A LT. COLONEL IN THE PHILIPPINE SCOUTS, U. S. ARMY, STATIONED AT PHILIPPINE ARMY HEADQUARTERS, MANILA, P. I., AND IS NOW ASSIGNED AS ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-1, PHILIPPINE ARMY;

THAT IN DECEMBER 1941 DEPONENT WAS THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE 91ST F. A. REGIMENT OF THE 91ST DIVISION, PHILIPPINE ARMY;

THAT ON 20 DECEMBER 1941, BECAUSE DEPONENT DID NOT HAVE ALL THE VEHICLES NECESSARY TO MOVE HIS REGIMENT, BRIGADIER GENERAL L. R. STEVENS, CG, 91ST DIVISION, GAVE DEPONENT A VERBAL ORDER TO REQUISITION THE NECESSARY TRUCKS. THAT ON THE STRENGTH OF GENERAL STEVENS' VERBAL ORDER, DEPONENT AUTHORIZED HIS MOTOR OFFICER, LT. FLORENCIO DE LA CRUZ, TO REQUISITION THE NECESSARY TRUCKS. THAT THE TRUCKS REQUISITIONED WERE USED BY SAID REGIMENT TO HAUL SUPPLIES AND PERSONNEL. ULTIMATELY THE TRUCKS WERE TAKEN TO BATAAN WHERE THEY WERE USED UNTIL ITS SURRENDER AND DEPONENT DOES NOT KNOW WHAT FINAL DISPOSITION WAS MADE OF THEM.

THAT DEPONENT HAS EXAMINED THE AFFIDAVIT OF LT. FLORENCIO DE LA CRUZ AND FOUND IT TO BE A TRUE STATEMENT.

Victor Z Gomez
VICTOR Z. GOMEZ

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 27th DAY OF AUGUST, 1945.

William J. Ackerman
WILLIAM J. ACKERMAN
1ST LT. J. A. G. D.
INVESTIGATING OFFICER

COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES)
City of Manila) : S.S.

A F F I D A V I T

FLORENCIO DELA CRUZ, being duly sworn deposes and says:
That he is now a 2nd Lt. in the Philippine Army and is
stationed at Camp Murphy, Quezon City, P. I.

That in December 1941 deponent was Motor Officer of the
91st Reg., F.A., USAFFE stationed at Bongabong, Nueva Ecija.
That he was authorized by Col. Victor Gomez, the Commanding
Officer of said Regiment to requisition vehicles and issue re-
ceipts therefor.

That on 22 December 1941 deponent requisitioned 2 Inter-
national trucks owned by Digmala Lumber Co. Inc. That deponent
personally recalls the taking of said trucks and remembers issuing a
a receipt therefor and delivered the trucks to said Regiment. ^{wj}
That the trucks were used by said Regiment for hauling supplies
and personnel. Ultimately the trucks were taken to Bataan where
they were used until its surrender and deponent does not know
what final disposition was made of them.

That deponent has examined Exhibit L and it is in his hand-
writing and bears his true and genuine signature.

Florencio dela Cruz
FLORENCIO DELA CRUZ

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of August,
1945.

William J. Ackerman
WILLIAM J. ACKERMAN,
1st Lt., J.A.G.D.,
Investigating Officer.

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Commonwealth of the Philippines)
City of Manila) ; S. S.

A F F I D A V I T

Segundo B. Ramos being duly sworn, deposes and says:

That he is a First Lieutenant, Dental Corps, Philippine Army, at present a patient in the 311th General Hospital, but assigned to the 4th Engineers Construction Battalion, Philippine Army.

That in December 1941, deponent was the Regimental Dental Officer of the 91st F.A. Regt., 91st Division, Philippine Army. Lieutenant Colonel Victor Z. Gomez was the Commanding Officer of said regiment at that time.

That said regiment did not have all the vehicles necessary to move its equipment and personnel. The Regimental Commander, Lt. Col. Gomez gave deponent verbal authorization to assist in requisitioning the necessary vehicles as deponent was acquainted with, and well known by the residents of Nueva Ecija Province, where requisitioning took place.

That on 21 December 1941, deponent, with Virgilia T. Mozo, the Municipal Mayor of Bongabon, Nueva Ecija, now deceased, and Gregorio V. Eugenio, who was serving as Chief of Police of the same municipality (Bongabon), commandeered the vehicle of Sixto Gamilla at his home and gave him a receipt therefor. Deponent has examined the receipt submitted as Exhibit_____, and knows it to be the same receipt executed in the handwriting of deponent and bearing his true signature.

That after the vehicle was taken it was used to haul equipment and personnel of the 91st F.A. Regt. Later, it was taken

by the army to Bataan but its ⁻¹¹⁶⁻ultimate disposition is unknown.

Segundo B. Ramos
SEGUNDO B. RAMOS

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of August,
1945.

William J. Ackerman
WILLIAM J. ACKERMAN,
1st Lt, JAGD,
Investigating Officer.

-116-

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Re PRC - 9539, 9540 & 9541

1st Ind.

VICTOR Z. GOMEZ, O-14876, Lieut-Colonel, FA, 8133rd Dv Det (RPD) Headquarters
PHILRYCOM, APO 707
21 October 1947.

TO: The Commanding General, Philippines-Ryukyus Command, APO 707
ATTENTION: Chief of Claims Service.

1. Regarding Claims mentioned in basic letter, I have no personal knowledge of the vehicles and other property commandeered by the Headquarters, 91st Division (PA), due to the fact that the 91st Field Artillery was stationed in Bongabong, Nueva Ecija, some ten kilometers from the Headquarters of the 91st Division, and I was never told of the private property then being or had been commandeered.

2. I have personal knowledge of the following facts:

a. On or before 22 December 1941, the 91st Field Artillery was given a few civilian trucks and automobiles by the Division Commander. As to how they were acquired and who the owners were, I have no positive information; and

b. With instruction from the Division Commander, the 91st Field Artillery commandeered some trucks and automobiles, numbering about twelve, I believe. So far I have been able to ~~and~~ identify some five of them through the former Motor Officer of the Regiment.

Incls: No Change

s/ Victor Z. Gomerz
t/ VICTOR Z. GOMEZ

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

Nicholas C McGree

NICHOLAS C. MCGREE
Captain, CAC
Chief, Investigation
Section

file w/ 91st Div

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Authority NND 883078

E. J. ...

SWORN STATEMENT OF GENERAL LUTHER STEVENS GIVEN TO
LT. WILLIAM C. VINET, JR., CLAIMS SERVICE, AFWESPAC, 18
APRIL 1946 AT THE ADMIRAL APARTMENTS, MANILA, P. I.

I, Brigadier General Luther Stevens, ASN 1004, formerly
Commanding General of the 91st Division, Philippine
Army, now residing at 801 Admiral Apartments, Dewey Boule-
vard, Manila, hereby certify that the following statements
are true to the best of my knowledge and belief:

That from 19 November to 23 December 1941, I had my
Headquarters at Camp Pangatian, eight kilometers east of
Cabanatuan, Province of Nueva Ecija, Luzon Island.

About 15 December 1941, I telephoned Major R. R. Der-
rick, Manager of the Rural Transit Company and ordered him
to place all available transportation which he had at my
disposal. The 91st Division was composed of approximately
7,000 Filipino troops. Major Derrick sent me approximate-
ly 150 vehicles within the two-day period after receiving
this order. About 98 trucks of this group belonged to the
Rural Transit Company. On or about 23 December 1941, I
sent a Combat Team, consisting of one regiment, from Caba-
natuan to Sison. I needed a convoy of an additional 140
vehicles to make this emergency move. Major Derrick sent
Mr. B. C. Jack, his Assistant Manager, with 140 vehicles
within 45 minutes after I gave him his order. Some of
these vehicles were trucks which had been commandeered by
individual officers and had been turned over to various Army
units which Major Derrick had at his shop in Cabanatuan for
repairs. A good number of these 140 vehicles were owned by
the Rural Transit Company, Pachrach Motors Co., Inc. and
the Pampanga Bus Co. This entire regiment and most of the
140 trucks with them were wiped out at Sison.

The Rural Transit Company had shops in Cabanatuan, Nueva
Ecija; San Jose, Nueva Ecija; Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya; Echague
Isabela; and Ilagan, Isabela. I knew that all of the above men-

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tioned shops were servicing Army vehicles and those trucks which had been commandeered for the use of the Army, supplying needed parts and making necessary repairs to keep these trucks in serviceable condition. All of the Rural Transit Company vehicles were in pretty good condition when they were turned over to me by Major Derrick. I knew that the Filipino employees of the Rural Transit Company in each of the five above-named shops remained to perform their regular duties of servicing vehicles at these shops and afterwards around the Army Camps from 8 December up until the fall of Bataan. There is no question in my mind but that the Army took all of the above-named shops which belonged to the Rural Transit Company and used them exclusively for the repair and maintenance of vehicles used in our campaigns. I do not know if any verbal agreement for the use by the Army of the Rural Transit Company and Pampanga Bus Company vehicles was entered into between the operators of these companies and any authorized officers of the Army. I had heard that the Army was renting the trucks of these transportation companies before the outbreak of the war, but to the best of my knowledge and belief, no compensation of any kind has been received by the Rural Transit Company or the Pampanga Bus Company for their vehicles which were used from 8 December 1941 until 9 April 1942. On 29 December 1941, we were forced to retreat from Cabanatuan to Bataan. All of the shops owned by the Rural Transit Company mentioned above were of no further use to us after this date as they fell into Japanese hands at this time.

All personnel of the Rural Transit Company who serviced vehicles for the Army gave us the fullest cooperation in every respect. On 9 December 1941, Major Derrick, who had not yet been commissioned, assigned a seven passenger jitney, painted red, to me for my personal use. The Filipino

driver of that jitney remained with me all the time up until the fall of Bataan. I was in Bataan up until the surrender on 9 April 1942 at which time I was taken prisoner by the Japanese. I know that most of the 290 trucks sent to me by Major Derrick were still being used by the various units of my command up until 9 April 1942.

Altogether I must have had at least four hundred vehicles with my division throughout our campaigns. I know that Mr. F. F. Cottrell, Manager of the Pampanga Bus Company sent me many of his vehicles (it is impossible for me to estimate the number) and moved some of his equipment from San Fernando to Little Baguio, Bataan to set up a repair shop for the Army there.

s/ Luther Stevens
t/ LUTHER STEVENS
Brig. General, PA.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of April 1946.

s/ William C. Vinet, Jr.,
t/ WILLIAM C. VINET, JR.
2nd Lt., Inf.
Investigating Officer.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

William C. Vinet Jr.
WILLIAM C. VINET, JR.
2nd Lt., Inf.
Investigating Officer.

Re PRO - 9539, 9540 & 9541

1st Ind.

VICTOR Z. GOMEZ, O-14876, Lieut-Colonel, FA, 8133rd SV DET (RPD), Headquarters
PHILRYCOM, APO 707. 21 October 1947.

TO: The Commanding General, Philippines-Ryukyus Command, APO 707.
ATTENTION: Chief of Claims Service.

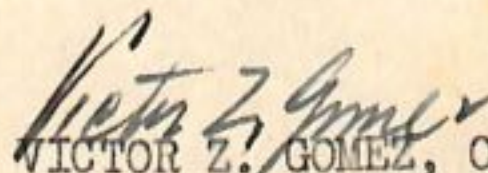
1. Regarding Claims mentioned in basic letter, I have no personal knowledge of the vehicles and other property commandeered by the Headquarters, 91st Division (PA), due to the fact that the 91st Field Artillery was stationed in Bongabong, Nueva Ecija, some ten kilometers from the Headquarters of the 91st Division, and I was never told of the private property then being or had been commandeered.

2. I have personal knowledge of the following facts:

a. On or before 22 December 1941, the 91st Field Artillery was given a few civilian trucks and automobiles by the Division Commander. As to how they were acquired and who the owners were, I have no positive information; and

b. With instruction from the Division Commander, the 91st Field Artillery commandeered some trucks and automobiles, numbering about twelve, I believe. So far I have been able to identify some five of them through the former Motor Officer of the Regiment.

Incls: No Change


VICTOR Z. GOMEZ, O-14876
Lieut-Col., FA

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Alm

A600

16 Elm Avenue,
Kentfield, California,
8 May 1949.

3969

Subject: Request for Information.

To: Commanding General, Philippine Command,
APO 707, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

A true copy of my letter dated 29 July 1948, in reply to your letter of 16 July 1948, is enclosed.

1 Incl.

James D. Carter
James D. Carter,
Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret'd)

File w/ James D. Carter

EX-111

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IN
24 MAY 1949
RESIDENT SECTION
PHILCOM
APO 707

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24 MAY 1949
AGRD

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RECEIVED
20 MAY 1949
AG MAIL & DIST. CR
HQ PHILMEDI
APO 707

16 Elm Avenue,
Kentfield, California,
29 July 1948.

Subject: Claim of the Estate of Don Ramon J. Ongsiako.

To: Commanding General, Philippine Ryukyus Command,
Manila, P.I.

Attention: Chief of Claims Division.

Reference letter your office 16 July 1948 on above subject, the following information is submitted:

1.a. Captain Adriano Valdez, 91st Infantry, USAFFE, was S-4, 91st Infantry during the period covered by the claim.

b. As regimental supply officer he was responsible for the purchase and delivery of foodstuffs to the organizations of the regiment. Purchases were made daily based on the strength of each outfit. Captain Valdez had orders to not exceed the authorized money allowance of the regiment when he made purchases each day.

c. No confidential orders were issued to Captain Valdez to commandeer foodstuffs for the regiment.

d. If, on 23 December 1941, he, with the cooperation of Major Munsod, Philippine Constabulary, commandeered foodstuffs for the 91st Infantry, it was without my knowledge and consent.

e. Authorized strength of regiment 23 December 1941: 1800
Actual Strength: Approximately 1500.

2. Major Munsod, Philippine Constabulary, was the constabulary inspector of Nueva Ecija Province during the time the 91st Infantry was in camp near Cabanatuan. Major Munsod was not authorized to buy foodstuffs for the regiment nor was he requested by me to assist in the commandeering of the same.

3. I have no knowledge of the purchase of the commandeering of any foodstuffs from the claimant Carmen De La Paz VDA. De Ongsiako or her hacienda manager Gregorio Quiaoit. I am positive that I never visited the Don Ramon Ongsiako Hacienda.

4. I am sorry that I can not be of more assistance. However, if the persons listed hereon can be located they might be of some help.

Regimental Adjutant, 91st Infantry, Lieut. Basconcilla, Philippine Army.

Transportation Officer, 91st Infantry, Lieut. A.M. Sebastian, Philippine Army, T. Azucena St., San Pablo City, P.I.

S-3, 91st Infantry, Captain Gallardo, Philippine Army.

5. After studying the two affidavits carefully, I fail to understand certain alleged transaction that took place on 23 December 1941.

a. 10,000 cavanes (2130 bushels) is a large amount of rice.

b. There being no transportation of any kind except that operated by the military how was the claimant going to move the rice to Manila?

c. Who furnished the labor to load the rice?

d. Where did Captain Valdez get 100 extra trucks? On 23 December the motor strength of the regiment was approximately 60 vehicles of all classes.

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IN
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