

290

Master File

DAVID'S COMMAND

3rd Army Corps

~~Marking's Fil-American Troops~~

III Army Corps

4th A. C.

Antony

110

Handwritten scribbles

Large handwritten signature in red ink



DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078

TEAM No. 4.

Donald D. FLEMING
TEAM DIRECTOR

DECLASSIFIED

Authority WFO 883078

No	Name of Claimant	Amt	Date + Place of Incident	CO	Items	Disposition
9-4-131, 311	Fanny Mesina	(Loans)	Jan Feb + March '45	David, Lopez,		Denial ✓
312	Florenca "	"				
313	Obdulio "	"				
449	Fekestum + Plento Natividad	(pelay + rice)	+ 30 Mar 45	M.F.S. Com T		denial ✓
253	Silveria Parcero	" "	" 2/4 "	"		denial ✓

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 Authority AND 883078

<u>PRO NO.</u>	<u>NAME OF CLAIMANT</u>	<u>AMT CLAIMED</u>	<u>DATE AND PLACE OF INCIDENT</u>	<u>COMMANDEERING OFFICER</u>	<u>ITEMS PROCURED</u>	<u>DISPOSITION</u>
X 15050	Rufino Rebenque	1,345.00	14 Feb. 45, Pila, Laguna	Col. Ernesto Abuyen	35 cavans (palay) 1 carabao	Derial
X 15053	Antonio T. Agawin	2,450.00	28 Jan. 45 " "	" "	70 cavans (palay) 3 pigs	"
X 15657	Estanislao Abaguin	1,404.00	3 Jan., 4 Sept., and 24 Dec. 44, Pagsanjan, Laguna	" "	5 cows	"
X 11665	" " "	1,014.-	" " "	" "	7 "	"
X 15668	Jacinto Sanfelicis	680.00	24 Dec 44, Sta. Cruz, Laguna	Col. Alfredo M. David	68 cav. of rice	"
X 11802	Alejandro Buendia	200.00	10 Mar. 45, Lilis, Laguna	" "	1 cow	"
X 12940	Vito, Felipe	250.00	10 Apr 45, Pagsanjan, Laguna	" " & Col. Ernesto Abuyen	1 cow	"
X 15669	Democrito Santos	500.-	18 Aug. 44, "	"	50 cav rice	"
X 13026	Teodoro Baltazar	180.-	30 Mar. '45 Magdalena, Laguna	Alfredo M. David	1 carabao	"
X 11802	Alejandro Buendia	200	10 Mar. 45 Lilis	" "	" "	" "
X 15965	Felix J. Islos	12,000.-	Various dates in Feb. '45 Rizal, Laguna	" "	12,000. J. N.	"
X 15749	Felisa V. de Astronomo	1,000.-	Magellan, Luz. 30 Dec '44	" "	1,000. "	"
X 4-131,258	Valeriano Montania	1,475.-	Pila, Luz. 15 Nov '44	" "	40,000. "	"
X 15672	Rosalio Corrales	40,000.-	Magellan, Luz. Feb. Mar. 45	" "	" "	"
4-131,206	Hilacion Amos	1,600.-	"	" "	" "	" "
X 4-131,257	Esteban Balatibat	1,275.-	29 Mar. 45, Pila, Laguna	Capt. K. D. Passara	95 cav. palay	"
X 4-131,209	Angel Damilan	1,500.-	Feb & Mar. '45, "	Col. Alfredo M. David	200 " "	"
X 15779	Mauricia Catalin	1,050.-	Jan & Feb. 45 Sta Cruz	Lt Col. Antonio C. Robas	46 " " 26 " " 35 " "	"
X 15778	Trinidad Calatin	1,250.-	15 Jan. & 27 Feb '45 " "	" "	" "	"
X 4-131,515	Florencio Valente	6,000.-	various dates in Jan '45 Cavinte, Laguna	Col. Jesus Angsanoy	50 " rice	"
X 4-130,266	Felix Cuevas	660.-	March & Apr '45 Sta Cruz	Col. Alfredo M. David	6,000 J. N.	"
X 4-131,515	Cecilia Belle	2,967.30	12 July 1944, Pili, Rizal	" "	500 3 centavos	"
X 1505	Tranquilin Aguila	1,090.00	20 Feb. 45 Pila, Laguna	Col. Enriquez, Panti	rice, palay, pigs	"
4-131-448	Francisco Parera	750.-	March 45	Col. Alfredo M. David	1 carabao	"

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Authority WFO 883078

HEADQUARTERS
PHILIPPINES-RYUKYUS COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF CLAIMS SERVICE

HWT/SJA/nom

CECLL, 04

APO 707
3 April 1948

Mr. Justiniano Estrella
A. P. Reyes Bldg.
Raon Street
Manila

Sir:

In connection with claims arising out of an alleged commandeerings done by you as overall commander of the 3rd Army Corps, it is requested that you call at Headquarters, PHILRYCOM, PU Area, Building T-714 and ask for Mr. S. J. Aguila.

Very truly yours,

HAROLD W. TOBIN
Director,
Team No. 4

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 883078

SECRET
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D. C.
1948

Mr. Chairman
Mr. Secretary
Dear Sirs:

In connection with the...
...of the...
...of the...
...of the...

Very truly yours,
[Signature]



DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
IN THE CITY OF MANILA } S.S.

A F F I D A V I T

I, JUSTINIANO ESTRELLA, of legal age, married, filipino, residing at San Francisco del Monte, after having been duly sworn to in accordance with law, do hereby depose and say:

That during the Japanese occupation, I used the name of Alfredo M. David, as my alias name and that since then I was commonly called Alfredo M. David;

That I was the Overall Commander of the FIL-AMERICANS, III ARMY CORPS (DAVID'S COMMAND) formerly the Fil-American Irregular Troops under Col. Hugh Straughn O2515, U.S.A.;

That ever since the organization of the Fil-American Irregular Troops by Col. Hugh Straughn, I was inducted with the rank of Captain and assigned as Inspector General. That by virtue of the authority granted to me by Col. Hugh Straughn I made contacts in different towns of Laguna with the purpose of organizing units in the province of Laguna; and that one of them was the late Col. Guillermo Aynaga (alias Col. Billy Gay);

That in the latter part of 1942, Col. Guillermo Aynaga, contracted the San Pedro brothers of the City of San Pablo for the purpose of organizing a unit which was known as the 3rd Regt., 1st Laguna Brigade with the elder, Lt. Col. Maximo San Pedro as the Regimental Commander and Col. Gertrudo San Pedro as the Executive Officer;

That said unit was authorized by Colonel Hugh Straughn to solicit or commandeer food supplies, arms, ammunitions, cash loans and other necessary materials for the furtherance of the underground movement and to issue the corresponding receipts in favor of the guerrilla supporters;

The said unit was independently supporting its men and its movement due to the fact that the General Headquarters could not furnish the necessary supplies because of the distance and the difficulties which makes it impossible to transport supplies;

That the 3rd Regt., 1st Laguna Brigade have existed under the leadership of the San Pedro brothers as a component part of the Fil-American Irregular Troops since its organization in 1942 and sometimes in October, 1944, Col. Gertrudo San Pedro joined our forces under my command in which the 3rd Regt., 1st Laguna Brigade was redesignated as the 2nd Lag. Div. III Army Corps, Marking's Fil-Americans Guerrilla, with the same right to solicit supplies for the maintenance and subsistence of the unit;

That the Fil-Americans, III Army Corps, was recognized by the Commanding General of the 6th Army, USA, on the 11 February, 1945;

That the Fil-Americans, III Army Corps, (DAVID'S COMMAND) was recognized as a unit by the Philrycom, as an authorized element of the Philippine Army, serving under the United States Forces since 1 Oct. 1942;

That I am executing this affidavit to give credence to the fact the 2nd Lag. Div. III Army Corps, under the late Col. Gertrudo San Pedro is a component part of the Fil-Americans, III Army Corps (DAVID'S COMMAND) which was recognized as a unit since 1 Oct. 1942.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed this 31st day of March, 1948, at the City of Manila, Philippines.

(SGD) JUSTINIANO ESTRELLA
Affiant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 31st day of March, 1948, at the City of Manila, Philippines. Affiant exhibiting to me His Res. Cert. No. A-2913136, issued at Santa Cruz, Laguna, on Feb. 28, 1948.

(SGD) MANUEL A. CONCORDIA
Notary Public
Until December 31, 1963

Doc. No. 341 Page No. 70
Book No. L-2 Se. of 1948

NOTE: CERTIFIED ORIGINAL COPY is in my possession.

Manuel A. Concordia
MANUEL A. CONCORDIA

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *MND 883078*

(SEAL)

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FIL-AMERICAN IRREGULAR TROOPS, P.I.
UNDER COL. EDMOND P. ELLSWORTH, 0112201 U.S.A.
SUCCESSOR TO COLONEL HUGH STRAUGHN #02515 U.S.A.

AUGUST 6, 1943

COLONEL A. M. DAVID, ADJUTANT AND COMMANDING OFFICER
OF LAGUNA FORCE WILL RETAIN HIS FORMER RANK AND ASSIGNMENT
GIVEN TO HIM BY COLONEL HUGH STRAUGHN, C.O. OF F. A. I. T.

HIS AUTHORITY TO SOLICIT FUNDS, MATERIAL AIDS,
SUPPLIES, ARMS AND AMMUNITIONS, MEDICINES, FOOD AND
CLOTHINGS, WHICH WAS ISSUED BY COL. STRAUGHN WILL
CONTINUE INTO EFFECT AND IT'S DULY RECOGNIZED BY THE
UNDERSIGNED.

HE WILL USE ALFREDO M. DAVID AS HIS NEW OFFICIAL
NAME IN SIGNING OFFICIAL RECEIPTS ISSUED TO INTERESTED
PARTIES FOR FINANCIAL OR MATERIAL AIDS

(Sgd) Edmond P. Ellsworth
EDMOND P. ELLSORTH, COL.
#0112201 U.S.A. COMMANDING

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY
OF A PHOTOSTATIC COPY:

Sabino J. Aguila
SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator

This is to certify that I have seen the original
of the above appointment.

Sabino J. Aguila
SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 883078

(SEAL)

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#0112201 U.S.A. COMMANDING

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SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator

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Sabino J. Aguila
SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AND 883078

(SEAL)

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FIL-AMERICAN IRREGULAR TROOPS, P. I.
UNDER COL. EDMOND P. ELLSWORTH, 0112201 U.S.A.
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Authority WFO 883078

FIL-AMERICAN IR-REGULAR TROOPS
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
UNDER COL. HUGH STRAUGHN U. S. A. #02515 COMMANDING

April 19, 1943

Lieutenant Colonel JUSTINIANO ESTRELLA is hereby promoted to the rank of COLONEL and assigned ADJUTANT GENERAL FIL-AMERICAN IR-REGULAR TROOPS, South Central Luzon.

HE SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED ACCORDINGLY.

ASSIGNED BY:

s/James W. Atwell
Colonel
Division Chief of Staff

APPROVED:

s/Hugh Straughn, #02515
Colonel, USA
Division Commander

FIL-AMERICAN IRREGULAR TROOPS
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
HEADQUARTERS

December 1, 1942

MAJOR JUSTINIANO ESTRELLA is promoted to the rank of LIEUTENANT COLONEL. He is designated as SUPPLY AND QUARTERMASTER OFFICER S-4 of the 2nd Brigade Staff.

He will be recognized accordingly.

BY ORDER OF:

s/ James W. Atwell
JAMES W. ATWELL
Chief of Staff

s/ Hugh Straughn
HUGH STRAUGHN, #02515
Colonel, U.S.A.
Division Commander

Brigade Headquarters Ir-regular Troops
October 24th, 1942

GENERAL ORDERS

1st. Lt. Justiniano Estrella, Brigade Inspector is promoted to the grade of Captain, effective this date.

s/ Hugh Straughn
HUGH STRAUGHN
Lt. Col. USA. 02515

I certify that I have seen the originals of these appointments.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY OF
PHOTOSTATIC COPY

Sabino J. Aguila
SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator

Sabino J. Aguila
SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator
signature of Straughn on above papers believed to be forgeries.

Copy presented by Estrella in his recognition request.
Verified copies of signatures of Atwell & Straughn may be found at County of Robert C. Peyton
6-4-154, 918

FIL-AMERICAN IR-REGULAR TROOPS
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
UNDER COL. HUGH STRAUGHN U. S. A. #02515 COMMANDING

April 19, 1943

Lieutenant Colonel JUSTINIANO ESTRELLA is hereby promoted to the rank of COLONEL and assigned ADJUTANT GENERAL FIL-AMERICAN IR-REGULAR TROOPS South Central Luzon.

HE SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED ACCORDINGLY.

ASSIGNED BY:

s/James W. Atwell
Colonel
Division Chief of Staff

APPROVED:

s/Hugh Straughn, #02515
Colonel, USA
Division Commander

FIL-AMERICAN IRREGULAR TROOPS
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
HEADQUARTERS

December 1, 1942

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He will be recognized accordingly.

BY ORDER OF:

s/ James W. Atwell
JAMES W. ATWELL
Chief of Staff

s/ Hugh Straughn
HUGH STRAUGHN, #02515
Colonel, U.S.A.
Division Commander

Brigade Headquarters Ir-regular Troops
October 24th, 1942

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s/ Hugh Straughn
HUGH STRAUGHN
Lt. Col. USA. 02515

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SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator

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Authority WFO 883078

File in ~~MTAA~~
III A C files

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 883078

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES) SS.
CITY OF MANILA)

A F F I D A V I T

I, MELENDRES V. DE LUNA, Filipino, of legal age, married, resident and with postal address at Barrio Linga, Pila, Laguna, Philippines, after having been duly sworn to in accordance with law depose and say the following:

That I was a recognized Major of the 3rd Army Corps, SMS Regt., MARKING'S FIL-AMERICAN, under the Command of Col. Serafin M. Silvestre, by the 6th Army, USA as of Feb. 11, 1945; and was processed with the Philippine Army on August 26, 1945;

That I was authorized by Col. Serafin M. Silvestre to approach civilians and secure money, palay and other foodstuffs in order to have sufficient funds and supplies which were badly needed by our organization;

That I know ESPIRIDION F. KOLIMLIM to be one of those who most strongly sympathized with the underground movement against the Japanese on account of the death of his eldest son in the hands of the enemy, and when I approached him in October 15, 1942; in March 25, 1943; in May 10, 1944; in January 1, 1945; and in March 25, 1945, he willingly gave me the different amounts of money and supplies as stated in his claims and for which I issued the corresponding receipts in his favor with promise to be paid by the United States Government;

That the signatures "MELENDRES V. DE LUNA" appearing on said receipts dated Oct. 15, 1942; March 25, 1943; May 10, 1944; Jan. 1, 1945; and March 25, 1945, are my true and genuine signatures; and

That the said sums of money and supplies were duly accounted for and were used for the benefit, support and subsistence of the officers and men of said guerilla organization.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name this 31 day of December 1947 in the City of Manila, Philippines.

[Signature]
MELENDRES V. DE LUNA

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 31 day of December 1947 in the City of Manila, Philippines. Affiant exhibited to me his Res. Cert. No. A-2352776 issued at Pila, Laguna on Feb. 1, 1947.

[Signature]
CESAR DIMAANO
Notary Public
My Com. expires Dec. 31, 1947.

(Blk no) 116
Not. Reg. No. _____
Page No. 24
Book No. 2
Series - 1947.

Claim of Espiridion Kolimlim 6-4-1945
Complete receipt in this claim



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Authority WFO 883078

EXHIBIT B-5

STATEMENT

I, MELINDRES V. DE LUNA, formerly Major of the Second Army Corps or SMS Regiment, Marking's Fil-American Irregular Troops, hereby declare that the answers made to questions propounded by the investigator are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Q. When was the 2nd Army Corps, Marking's Fil-American Irregular Troops organized, do you know?

A. I cannot tell you the exact date.

Q. What about the approximate year?....1943, 1942, 1944?

A. The old Marking's Fil-Americans... 1942.

Q. So it was organized in 1942?

A. Yes. I cannot tell the exact date but it was in 1942.

Q. Who was the former Commanding Officer of the 2nd Army Corps?

A. Abdenago K. Ortiz, Division Commander of the 2nd Army Corps.

Q. What was his rank?

A. Colonel.

Q. Do you know the exact number of men of the 2nd Army Corps in 1942? The officers and men... the strength, more or less?

A. Our men composed a regiment, I cannot tell you the strength.

Q. Around 400?

A. It is a regiment.

Q. What was your rank and position in the old 2nd Army Corps?

A. You know, in 1942, I was organizer and supply officer. During that time, we guerrilla officers have many duties. You know already organizer and supply officer during that time I am not yet attached to the 2nd Army Corps in 1942. I was already given permission and I was under the command of Abdenago Ortiz of the 2nd Army Corps.

Q. When was the 2nd Army Corps disorganized and became the SMS Regiment of the Marking's Fil-Americans?

A. I have forgotten the date. I cannot tell the exact date.

Q. Approximately?

A. Under the SMS Regiment - 1943 because that is the second in command of Abdenago Ortiz.

Q. And when the officers and men of the 2nd Army Corps were fused to the SMS Regiment, who became the Commanding Officer?

A. Serafin Silvestre.

Q. Now, what became of Ortiz then?

A. They escaped. Our unit went to Ipo Dam. I was recognized only a Major.

Q. Ortiz was still with the 2nd Army or already with SMS when he went to Ipo Dam?

A. Under SMS Regiment, ^{col} Serafin Silvestre separated already from the 2nd Army Corps under the command of ^{col} Justiniano and called it ^{3rd} Army Corps in 1945 during the liberation. ^{Estrella}

Q. In 1943, when you were fused with the SMS Regiment, what was your rank and designation?

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EXHIBIT B-6

A. Major and S-4 of the SMS Regiment.

Q. When was the SMS Regiment recognized?

A. 11 February 1945.

Q. Was it not set back?

A. It was set back to October 1, 1942.

Q. Did you commandeer supplies and foodstuffs from the civilians at the time you were with the SMS Regiment in 1943?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you authorized by Colonel Serafin M. Silvestre to commandeer?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Was it a verbal authority or was there a written order?

A. There was a written order.

Q. Who were the other officers in the SMS Regiment that were given authority to commandeer aside from you?

A. Major Antonio Arrieta, Major Flore Bartolome. We were assigned sector by sector during that time. The two officers that I mentioned to you were very far from our town.

Q. You cannot remember any other officer?

A. There is one more officer, Captain, I don't know the first name but I know his family name, Gomez.

Q. What about this Fructuoso K. S. Parcero? Was he an officer of the SMS Regiment or enlisted man?

A. I don't know his rank but I think he was an officer of the SMS.

Q. Do you know if he was also given authority to commandeer supplies?

A. ~~I think he had~~ no authority to commandeer foodstuffs.

Q. You ~~did~~ not authorize him to commandeer?

A. I ~~did not~~ authorize him to commandeer.

Q. In cases where he commandeered and signed receipts, did you not recognize his signature?

A. I ~~do not~~ know.

Q. But you know that he was given authority by Silvestre to commandeer?

A. That also I do not know. *But I am the want who authorize.* HJ

Q. You cannot therefore testify on receipts duly signed by Parcero attesting that he commandeered supplies from civilians? You cannot testify?

A. I can testify if I see my receipt.

Q. Those signed by Parcero?

A. I ~~cannot~~ testify.

Q. You do not know the signature of Parcero?

A. I ~~do not~~ know.

Q. I suppose Parcero made receipts... he issued receipts certifying that supplies or foodstuffs were commandeered from a claimant and he signed all these receipts. Do you know if these signed receipts were at the time authenticated by you?

V. de Luna
Melendres

- A. If I signed.
- Q. A receipt signed by him, authenticated by you, approved and signed Melendres.
- A. Without my signature, I did not approve the receipt.
- Q. But you know of a receipt signed by Parcero which was counter-signed by you?
- A. I cannot remember.
- Q. In the claim of Florentino Camus of Pila, Laguna, do you remember having issued a receipt to claimant Camus, Florentino for supplies commandeered from him?
- A. Yes.
- Q. You were the one who signed this?
- A. That is why I am telling you that if I see the receipt I can tell you.
- Q. Do you remember the exact quantity of rice commandeered from Florentino Camus?
- A. I cannot remember.
- Q. Do you not remember the month and year when you commandeered supplies from Florentino Camus?
- A. I cannot remember.
- Q. But do you remember if you did commandeer from him?
- A. According to the receipt, if I see my signature.
- Q. Showing you this receipt here. This is signed by Parcero and counter-signed by you.
- A. This is my signature.
- Q. Now about this? Exhibit A is your signature?
- A. Yes. Exhibit B is also my signature.
- Q. What was your procedure of commandeering at the time?
- A. Just to help the claimant.
- Q. Your procedure is you go to the claimant?
- A. I did not go to the claimant. He is the one to approach me and asked me for help because they do not know how to file the claim.
- Q. No, I mean when you commandeered articles or supplies, did you get the supplies first and issue a receipt after or did you give a receipt for the supplies immediately after getting supplies?
- A. No, I approached the claimant and asked foodstuffs.
- Q. Usually, he delivers the foodstuffs to you personally and immediately you issued receipts?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you not make or issue receipts in 1946 or in 1947 for foodstuffs received in 1943, 1944 or 1945?
- A. I did not make any receipt in 1946 and 1947.
- Q. Do we understand that you issued receipts immediately after the commandeering?
- A. After they gave foodstuffs, I just make receipts.

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EXHIBIT B-6 (cont)

Q. Immediately after they are delivered to you?

A. Yes.

Q. What about the kinds of receipts you were issuing, is it stamped always by the unit seal?

A. Yes. Without the seal, it is not valid.

Q. Do you remember the names of the civilians in Pila, Laguna from whom you commandeered supplies from 1943 to 1945?

A. I can remember the face but I cannot tell you the name.

Q. Approximately, how many civilians in Pila contributed to you from 1943 to 1945, do you know?

A. I do not know.

Q. In all these commandeering you made from the claimants from 1943 to 1945, did you issue receipts duly signed by you?

A. Yes.

Q. Are you not aware of commandeering made by you wherein you did not issue receipts?

A. Away from what?

Q. Are you not aware that you commandeered foodstuffs from civilians where you did not issue receipts?

A. All my commandeering were supported by receipts which I issued immediately after commandeering.

Q. You have no records of all the commandeering you made from 1943 to 1945?

A. I have no records because when we were in the headquarters, Japanese raided our headquarters. Then I left the records.

Q. You said you were fused and the second Army Corps became the SMS Regiment in 1943, am I right?

A. Yes.

Q. Under Serafin M. Silvestre?

A. Yes.

Q. When you were fused or when the 2nd Army Corps became the SMS Regiment in 1943, did you use a receipt stamped SMS Regiment?

A. No, just my stamp. Serafin Silvestre authorized me to use my stamp, the 2nd Army Corps stamp.

Q. Why was there no SMS Regiment stamp then in use at headquarters?

A. I do not know the other officers of the SMS if they are using SMS stamp.

Q. Do I understand that all of those receipts made by you and some officers of the 2nd Army Corps also used the 2nd Army Corps stamp?

A. Sometimes they are using and sometimes they are not.

Q. What kind of stamp they are using?

A. I cannot tell you.

Q. But in your case, you always used the stamp you were using?

A. Yes.

Q. What year were you attached... when was the SMS Regiment attached to

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SECRET

June 1944
B-6 (cont)

I cannot remember
the date of the
1945

A. Still distributed to the 2nd Army Corps during that time.

Q. This is 1945. There was no more 2nd Army Corps in 1945. This is SMS Regiment. Where did you give the foodstuffs, is it to Serafin M. Silvestre?

A. To Colonel Silvestre.

Q. If the 2nd Army Corps was disorganized already in 1945, why is it that you are still using the receipt stamped 2nd Army Corps and collecting foodstuffs for the use of the 2nd Army Corps when there was no more 2nd Army Corps in 1945?

A. Because we are not yet attached to the 3rd Army Corps but when it was already liberated, we were attached to the 3rd Army Corps.

Q. Yes, but you said that in 1943, the 2nd Army Corps men and officers were all fused to the SMS Regiment for which reason the 2nd Army Corps was disorganized and in 1945 there was no more 2nd Army Corps.

A. There was still 2nd Army Corps in 1945.

Q. How many men and officers composed the 2nd Army Corps if there was any.

A. I cannot tell you. There is still 2nd Army Corps in 1945 but I am still using that stamp during that time.

Q. But there was no more 2nd Army Corps because it became the SMS Regiment?

A. SMS Regiment -- that is also 2nd Army Corps in 1943, 1944 and 1945.

Q. In the claim of Ambrosio Gabino, do you remember having commandeered from him and if so, will you enumerate the items commandeered from Ambrosio?

A. I do not know.

Q. But do you know if you commandeered something from him?

A. Yes.

Q. You don't know the items any more.

A. No.

Q. But did you issue a receipt?

A. Yes.

Q. If I show you a receipt will you be able to identify it?

A. Yes.

Q. Showing you this receipt, is this your signature?

A. Yes.

Q. Again this one cow commandeered from Ambrosio Gabino, where did you give this cow after you commandeered it?

A. To the headquarters.

Q. Of the 2nd Army Corps or SMS Regiment?

A. 2nd Army Corps and SMS Regiment are the same.

Q. In the claim of Lunenario, Felipe, Exhibit B and B-1. Do you know Vilaran?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know his address?

A. Now he is working in CALTEX.

Q. What unit was he recognized?

Wenceslao U. de Luna

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EXHIBIT B-6 (cont)

- A. The SMS Regiment.
- Q. What about the alterations on the date on Exhibits B and B-1? Who made the alterations?
- A. I am the one who made the alterations. The figure there is 5 in both receipts.
- Q. Why are these receipts stamped 2nd Army Corps again?
- A. Yes, during that time we are using that because I was authorized by Colonel Serafin M. Silvestre to use stamp of the 2nd Army Corps.
- Q. What about these receipts B-2 and B-3. Is this also your signature?
- A. That is also my signature.
- Q. Do you know now the number or the quantity of rice you commandeered from Lumenario Felipe all in all?
- A. I do not know. All that I know is I issued receipts for all the foodstuffs commandeered from him. I do not know even the number of receipts.
- Q. But you remember having issued receipts?
- A. I remember.
- Q. In the claim of Iniego San Mateo, do you know if you also commandeered foodstuffs from him?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you also issue receipts to him?
- A. I issued receipts.
- Q. Is this your signature on this receipt?
- A. Yes, that is my signature.
- Q. Approximately, how many claimants from Pila, Laguna from whom you commandeered foodstuffs?
- A. I cannot remember.

Mel de Luna
 MELENDRES V. DE LUNA

I certify that the foregoing statement was made by the party signing the same voluntarily before me this 29th day of January 1948.

Anastacio Antola
 ANASTACIO ANTEOLA
 Certifying Claims Investigator

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EXHIBIT B-6 (cont)

A F F I D A V I T

I, SERAFIN M. SILVESTRE, of legal age, Filipino, married, resident and with postal address at Binangonan, Rizal, after having been duly sworn in accordance with law depose and say;

That, I was formerly the Executive Officer of the Straughn's Fil-American Irregular Troops, (David's Command), otherwise known as the 3rd Army Corps, Markings Fil-Americans, which was duly recognized by the 6th Army, USA, dated 9 May 1945, as of 11 February 1945, and was processed with the Philippine Army, on 22 August 1945, with the rank of Colonel;

That in my capacity as Executive Officer, I have delegated Major Melendres V. de Luna to effect the commandeering of food supplies from the civilians and issued the corresponding receipts thereof;

That the supplies commandeered from civilians were duly turned over to the command and consumed by the members of the outfit;

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name this 6th day of November, 1947.

s/ Serafin M. Silvestre
t/ SERAFIN M. SILVESTRE
COL., INF.,- O-42791

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE me this 6th day of November, 1947. Affiant exhibited to me his Res. Cr. No. A-3322497, issued at Manila, on May 17, 1947.

s/ ALBERTO VILLARAZA
t/ ALBERTO VILLARAZA
Notary Public
Until December 31, 1947

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original affidavit of SERAFIN M. SILVESTRE.

Melendres V. de Luna
MELENDRES V. DE LUNA
O-49078

Clary Expedien No/lin/lin, 6-4-154, 550

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B-7

Report of III AC.

Note statement of David (III AC File)

He stated he saw Gen Fin sign his papers, appointing him in a capacity similar to that of his alleged appointment by Strough and dated 6 Aug 1943. Elseworth has definitely been shown as someone else, not Gen Fin. (state other peculiarities)

Stated immediately after Strough was captured that he (David) no longer used the title "S-4," but the title "CO." Note "receipts" in claim of Bienvenida Nazario, G-4-198, 525 whose receipts date as late as Dec '43 use the designation "G-4."

Again, states he became Adj. Gen & CO after Fin was captured (Note - Fin was captured about ~~June~~ '44) (David presented papers alleged to be promotions by Strough, wherein he was named adj. Gen 19 Apr '43. ~~These~~ papers ~~claimed~~ have not been verified, & possibly signature of Strough was forged.)

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(A12)

Statement + File

Estrella states he became Adj. Gen of Strough's Unit in April, 1943, when the previous Adj. Gen was captured -

Who was this?

Note the alleged order of promotion of Estrella to Col & assignment as Adj. Gen. of 19 April 1943. Signature of Strough not verified on this order.

~~Note statement of Estrella that he received~~

Note the many proven cases of ante-dated receipts signed by him.

There is one more point. The alleged promotions signed by Strough are plain - no order nos.

Strough was an old Army man, over 30 years service, and would ^{probably} ~~certainly~~ have drawn up 50: for promotions of officers in his organization. Note also the peculiar heading "Under Col/Hugh Strough, USA #02515 Commanding". This doesn't sound like a heading that would be used by an old Army man. It sounds like a

leading manufactured long afterwards to attempt to
prove a point.

21 Dec 42 - Strougher issued a Gen Order inducting
~~all~~ all his units into FAIT - (Check to see what
date name became FAIT) (1 Oct 42)

* (Check date of Brigade organization of Strougher) (1943?)

* (Check date of Division " " " ")

Note only Finance Officers, ^{+ Unit CO's} were authorized by
Strougher to procure loans, & only on receipts
over Strougher's signature.

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1 Note receipts

Claim of	Dated
Dominador Abola	29 Dec 1942
" Abola	11 Apr 1943
Salvador Rojas	16 Oct 1942

are torn from the same sheet. Typing on one receipt is on the reverse side from the other two receipts. Paper had to be torn prior to typing at least one of the papers.
 Claims filed - Abola } 29 March } some Notary
 Rojas } 1948 } some town

2 Receipts dated

15 Oct '42	claim of	Jose Gutierrez
14 Nov '42	" "	Urban Maluco
20 April '43	" "	Jose Gutierrez

on are carbon copies, done at one typing.
 on Claims filed } Jose Gutierrez } 21 March } different towns
 used } Maluco } 1948 }

3 All receipts of Strong's signature in this group - none are similar to signature on file in Statistics section.

Abola is the Mayor of Calaca, Laguna

4. Receipt dated 21 April 43 in claim of Arcenio Bonifacio - David was promoted to Col on 19 April, 1943. Signature of Strong appears forged.

"Receipt" has different wording of other receipts supposedly drawn up by Strongman.

Note that each of the above "receipts" is signed by A M David. (Estrella)

In the 3^d AC files, a paper represented by Estrella to be his authority from Elsworth as "adjutant + CO of Loguna Jones" has been questioned. In the first place, the Loguna Jones is not a name used in any recognitions. Strongman was captured on 5 Aug 1943, & a charge of command to a fictitious character on day later is neither logical nor believable. On 19 April, 1943, Estrella was still apparently using his right name. It appears possible that the paper of 6 Aug '43 was manufactured by Estrella to establish his use of an alias, Alfredo M. David. There are no other papers indicating an earlier use of the name, & this paper is not worth much.

Receipts are

Receipt dated

21 April '43

15 Jan '43

Claim of
Arsenio Bonifacio
Jesus Bautista

are carbon copies.

Signature of Straugh is not like signature
in Statistics Section.

Project J

Hugh Straugh

S/Sgt James W Atwell
ASN 17019954

A.C.

Captured 8 Apr '42
Escaped 17 Mar '42

Recovered 23 Oct 1944, Infanta, Tayabas by
USN.

Mrs F Atwell, 4124 McGee, Kansas City,
Mo.

Assigned (AIB - under Anderson
was at Infanta in March, 1944 - probably
under Anderson

Jose Rojas states Oct 1942 Name changed
from Fil-American International Trust to
" " Irregular Troops

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Receipts Fortunato Arbon 21 May 44
Jose Gutierrez 29 May 44

~~Torn~~ Carbon Copies signed by David & Raymundo


Gregorio Lim 21 March 45
" " 21 Nov 44

Carbon Copies signed by David & Humban (Moja)

Gregorio Lim 12 May '43
Salvador Roxas 18 Apr 43

Torn from same sheet

Bienvenida Nazario 4 Sept 43
" " 7 Oct 43

Torn from same sheet. 

Receipts dated 4 Sept & 7 Oct 43 show designation of David as S-4. According to his own statements he was CO of troops under Ellsworth. See alleged confirmation of David as CO dated 6 Aug '43.

Note that receipt numbers ~~are~~ do not fall into chronological order.

Handwritten signatures and initials:
1. A signature starting with 'J' and ending with a loop.
2. A signature starting with 'Y' and ending with a loop.
3. A signature starting with 'J' and ending with a loop.
4. Initials 'NL'.

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UNITED STATES PHILIPPINE ISLAND FORCES
MARKING'S FIL-AMERICANS

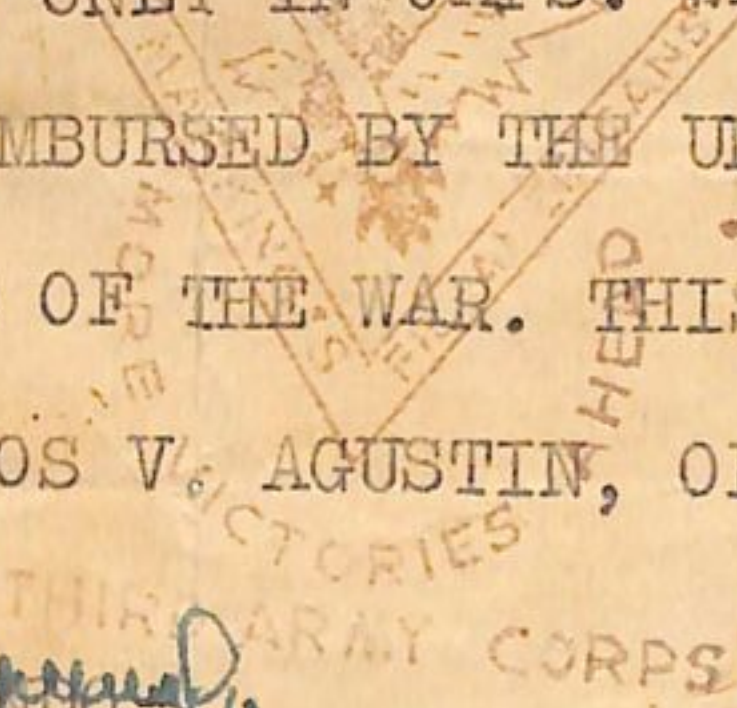
NO. 00001

DATE 21 May 47

RECEIVED FROM Forlanetti P. 100, THE SUM OF FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (50,000) ONLY IN JAPS. WAR NOTES. THIS AMOUNT IS UNDERSTOOD TO BE REIMBURSED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AT PAR VALUE AT THE END OF THE WAR. THIS IS AUTHORIZED BY THE COMMANDING GENERAL MARCOS V. AGUSTIN, OF THIS COMMAND.

WITNESS BY: David P. Raymond
D. P. RAYMOND
LT. COL., USPIF
FINANCE OFFICER

Alfredo M. David
ALFREDO M. DAVID
COLONEL USPIF
COMMANDING 3RD. ARMY CORPS



Sample of an anti-dated receipt.

The name "USPIF" was designated
by radio from McArthur dated 9 June
1944. Prior to that date, unit was
"USFIP".

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UNITED STATES FORCES IN THE PHILIPPINES
FIL-AMERICAN GUERRILLA FORCES
HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD

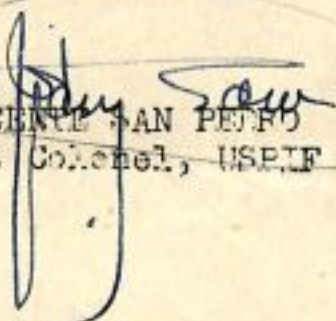
November 2, 1942

EFFECTIVE this date CAPTAIN VICENTE SAN PEDRO is assigned
as Chief Supply Officer of the 3rd Regt., 1st Laguna Brigade,
F. A. I. T

He should therefore be recognized accordingly.

(SGD) COL. GERTRUDE SAN PEDRO
(Commanding)

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY, ORIGINAL OF WHICH IS IN
the POSSESSION OF THE UNDESIGNED.


VICENTE SAN PEDRO
1st Colonel, USAIF

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
IN THE CITY OF MANILA } S.S.

A F F I D A V I T

I, JUSTINIANO ESTRELLA, of legal age, married, filipino, residing at San Francisco del Monte, after having been duly sworn to in accordance with law, do hereby depose and say:

That during the Japanese occupation, I used the name of Alfredo M. David, as my alias name and that since then I was commonly called Alfredo M. David;

That I was the Overall Commander of the FIL-AMERICANS, III ARMY CORPS (DAVID'S COMMAND) formerly the Fil-American Irregular Troops under Col. Hugh Straughn O2515, U.S.A.;

That ever since the organization of the Fil-American Irregular Troops by Col. Hugh Straughn, I was inducted with the rank of Captain and assigned as Inspector General. That by virtue of the authority granted to me by Col. Hugh Straughn I made contacts in different towns of Laguna with the purpose of organizing units in the province of Laguna; and that one of them was the late Col. Guillermo Aynaga (alias Col. Billy Gay);

That in the latter part of 1942, Col. Guillermo Aynaga, contracted the San Pedro brothers of the City of San Pablo for the purpose of organizing a unit which was known as the 3rd Regt., 1st Laguna Brigade with the elder, Lt. Col. Maximo San Pedro as the Regimental Commander and Col. Gertrudo San Pedro as the Executive Officer;

That said unit was authorized by Colonel Hugh Straughn to solicit or commandeer food supplies, arms, ammunitions, cash loans and other necessary materials for the furtherance of the underground movement and to issue the corresponding receipts in favor of the guerrilla supporters;

The said unit was independently supporting its men and its movement due to the fact that the General Headquarters could not furnish the necessary supplies because of the distance and the difficulties which makes it impossible to transport supplies;

That the 3rd Regt., 1st Laguna Brigade have existed under the leadership of the San Pedro brothers as a component part of the Fil-American Irregular Troops since its organization in 1942 and sometimes in October, 1944, Col. Gertrudo San Pedro joined our forces under my command in which the 3rd Regt., 1st Laguna Brigade was redesignated as the 2nd Lag. Div. III Army Corps, Marking's Fil-Americans Guerrilla, with the same right to solicit supplies for the maintenance and subsistence of the unit;

That the Fil-Americans, III Army Corps, was recognized by the Commanding General of the 6th Army, USA, on the 11 February, 1945;

That the Fil-Americans, III Army Corps, (DAVID'S COMMAND) was recognized as a unit by the Philcom, as an authorized element of the Philippine Army, serving under the United States Forces since 1 Oct. 1942;

That I am executing this affidavit to give credence to the fact the 2nd Lag. Div. III Army Corps, under the late Col. Gertrudo San Pedro is a component part of the Fil-Americans, III Army Corps (DAVID'S COMMAND) which was recognized as a unit since 1 Oct. 1942.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed this 31st day of March, 1948, at the City of Manila, Philippines.

(SGD) JUSTINIANO ESTRELLA
Affiant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 31st day of March, 1948, at the City of Manila, Philippines. Affiant exhibiting to me His Res. Cert. No. A-2913136, issued at Santa Cruz, Laguna, on Feb. 28, 1948.

(SGD) MANUEL A. CONCORDIA
Notary Public
Until December 31, 1963

Doc. No. 341 Page No. 70
Book No. L-2 Sec. of 1948

NOTE: CERTIFIED ORIGINAL COPY is in my possession.

Manuel A. Concordia
MANUEL A. CONCORDIA

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Authority NND 883078



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
 FIL-AMERICAN IRREGULAR TROOPS, P.I.
 UNDER COL. EDMOND P. ELLSWORTH, #0112201 U.S.A.
 SUCCESSOR TO COLONEL HUGH STRAUGHN #02515 U.S.A.

AUGUST 6, 1943

COLONEL A.M. DAVID, ADJUTANT AND COMMANDING OFFICER OF LAGUNA
 TROOPS WILL RETAIN HIS FORMER RANK AND ASSIGNMENT GIVEN TO HIM BY
 HIS FORMER COMMANDING OFFICER

UNDER HIS AUTHORITY TO SOLICIT FUNDS, MATERIAL AIDS, SUPPLIES, ARMS
 AND AMMUNITIONS, MEDICINES, FOOD AND CLOTHINGS, WHICH WAS ISSUED BY
 COL. STRAUGHN WILL CONTINUE INTO EFFECT AND IT'S DULY RECOGNIZED BY
 THE UNDERSIGNED.

HE WILL USE ALFRED M. DARIC AS HIS NEW OFFICIAL NAME IN SIG-
 NING OFFICIAL RECEIPTS ISSUED TO INTERESTED PARTIES FOR FINANCIAL OR
 MATERIAL AIDS.

Edmond P. Ellsworth
 EDMOND P. ELLSWORTH, COL.
 #0112201 U.S.A. COMMANDING

*See also file listed under
 "Straughn, Hugh"*

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STATEMENT

- Q. Will you please state your name and personal circumstances?
A. Justiniano C. Estrella, alias Alfredo M. David, married, of legal age, Filipino, and a resident of Sta. Cruz, Laguna.
- Q. I sent this letter, Col. Estrella because numerous claims for alleged commandeering done by your unit, the 3rd Army Corps as the David's Command now can you state how many men have you in your outfit?
A. I got 63,000 men.
- Q. Were your 63,000 men recognized?
A. No sir.
- Q. How many were recognized?
A. More or less 6,000.
- Q. Were most of the recognized men of yours the original men of Col. Straugh?
A. Yes.
- Q. I got a claim here of Mr. Arsenio Bonifacio in the amount of P127,000.00 wherein 3 receipts were presented as evidence of commandeering where your name appear as a commandeering officer and as a witness to commandeering done by Col. Straugh & Col. Edmond P. Ellsworth, will you see whether you were familiar with these receipts which were issued by Col. Straugh, Col. Ellsworth and by you and which is marked in this claim as Exh. C, C-1 and C-2?
A. Yes.
- Q. How about this signature here A.M. David, is this yours?
A. Yes.
- Q. The signature in this Exh C?
A. Yes.
- Q. How about this in Exh C-1?
A. Yes.
- Q. How about in this Exh. C-2?
A. Yes, that is my signature also.
- Q. In Exh C-1, you appear as Finance Officer of the Fil-American Irregular Troops, now do you know who this Edmond Ellsworth is?
A. He is General Lim.
- Q. How do you know that Edmond Ellsworth is general?
A. Because after the capture of General Straugh, I was the Adjutant General of Col. Straugh, so after General Straugh's capture I immediately went to Manila and contacted Gen. Lim right in Cancer Institute in front of the University of the Philippines. I remember one who was Dr. Bocobo, and from there I asked him to command the Fil-American Troops formerly under the Command of Col. Straugh, he agreed and he gave me an appointment paper signed by him (Witness presents a document which is allegedly signed by Col. Edmond P. Ellsworth, No. 0112201, U.S.A. Command, and also photostatic copy of said appointment).
- Q. Are you willing to leave a photostatic copy of your appointment with this office?
A. Yes.

Q. Was he a member of your outfit?

A. No.

Q. Was he recognized?

A. No, because he joined the AIB PAAC under Major Villanueva.

Q. Do you know a certain J.M. Bays?

A. Yes, I know him.

Q. Was he a member of your outfit?

A. Well, you see, I do not know him for the first time that he was a member until he went to me in the middle part of 1944, from there he presented to me that he was the Overall Commander of Fil-American under Gen. Lim, in which case I did not recognize him.

Q. Where is J.M. Bays now?

A. He is now in Manila.

Q. Is J.M. Bays his real name?

A. Well, Araullo is his last name and I do not know his first name.

Q. Have you ever seen this name (Mr. Kyle presenting the alleged appointment given to him by Col. Ellsworth)?

A. Yes sir.

Q. You know the person who signed this?

A. Yes sir. You see, I went to his place, to General Lim's place somewhere in front of the University of the Philippines. I did not bring any paper with me because General Lim knew my name already because he was our adviser, when Col. Straughn was killed in the hands of the Japanese.

Q. So you entered the Cancer Institute?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Was General Lim in bed?

A. No.

Q. What date was Col. Straughn captured?

A. August 5th.

Q. And when did you go to the hospital?

A. When Col. Straughn was captured way back in the 5th of August I was in Cavite and arrived at Manila the same date and stayed at the house of Miss Poloteo, I told her at once that we are going to do because the commanding officer of our outfit was captured and nobody will command in our outfit.

Q. Did you see the general in the hospital?

A. Yes, after one or two days.

Q. He gave you authority to continue in your former capacity as you were before?

A. From that time on after I got the appointment of General Lim I went to the mountains to command my men there.

Q. Did he give you this? (Showing the appointment paper). Who made this out in the typewriter?

A. It was a typewriter in the other Adjutant room. Well, I think they have some connections there.

Q. Then who typed this for him?

A. Somebody typed it for him.

Q. Then you saw him signed his name and you said that is Lim's signature?

A. The signature of Gen. Lim was different, he changed the form of his handwriting in order to hide his identity so that nobody could detect his actual signature or writing.

Q. Did you actually see the time he wrote it?

A. I was present. I will not accept that paper if no signed in front of me. After he had given me that paper I went to the province to continue my service.

Q. Have you seen the signature of Miss Filoteo?

A. Well, I have seen her signature.

Q. Did she ever sign receipts for Gen. Lim?

A. That is one thing I do not know because I did not stay long.

Q. You know if General Lim signed the receipts for the procurement of money?

A. You see when I was in the province I received so many receipts signed already.

Q. How did you get it?

A. From somebody by the name of Col. Cruz.

Q. Col. Cruz brought the receipts?

A. Yes.

Q. How about the money?

A. Before and after the capture of Col. Straughn, the name of the organization was Fil-American Irregular Troops. After his capture, there were many commanding officers who came out. They wanted to be the commandeering officers of the units.

Q. Who took over Lim's command?

A. Well, I can say that I took over after Lim died.

Q. But how long was he in command?

A. Well, after his capture I continued to assume command.

Q. You don't know of any incident whereby Col. Lim stopped the using of this kind of stamp?

A. I don't know because I was still in the mountains, probably in the latest part of 1943 and earliest part of 1944. I was very handicapped by the Japanese because I raided Calawan on Dec. 11, 1944, when I was able to kill many Japanese and took their arms. After the raid, the train did not come anymore. The railways were taken off by the Japanese.

Q. When was Lim captured?

A. I do not remember, but maybe about 1944.

Q. Is this stamp on here used by Col. Straughn?

A. My own stamp after the capture of Col. Straughn was used by me.

Q. When did you start using this stamp?

A. Col. Straughn was captured already when I used that stamp. There was no stamp when I left the province. I stamped that about the early part of 1944.

Q. Who is Atwill?

A. He was the Chief of Staff. He was very young then, about 21 years old. He was not yet capable of being a Chief of Staff.

Handwritten signature

- Q. Why did Col. Straughn make him the Chief of Staff?
 A. Who, Atwill? Well, when we raided Lumbang, he was the only one who came out and the rest did not like to go with us. Atwill was the only one who went with us, so he was appointed by Col. Straughn because there was no other American in our outfit.
- Q. Did he do any fighting in Bataan?
 A. I don't know about that. He was a POW. As a matter of fact, we were trying to release the Americans. But the rest were afraid. Atwill was the only one who came with us. So, you see, if the Colonel will not assign him some job, he will be useless. The members of the organization will do things at their own will if nobody would ~~take~~ take charge. It was an agreement that he should be the Chief of Staff.
- Q. After that what happened to Atwill?
 A. Atwill went to Infanta and contacted Bernard Anderson. After the capture of Col. Straughn, I don't remember who became the Chief of Staff, but Gen. Lim was in command.
- Q. Did you ever hear of Juan Choco, present governor of Nueva Ecija?
 A. No, I don't know whether he has some connections with Col. Straughn.
- Q. Do you know of any members of the staff aside from yourself?
 A. I know Borrromeo. He was a captain in the Signal Corps. He was an aide de camp to the General.
- Q. Did Borrromeo spend his time in going back and forth to the mountains?
 A. No, he spent his time here in the city.
- Q. Did you ever see him sign any receipts?
 A. No, but I could recognize his signature because he sent me so many letters.
- Q. Do you know anything about his ~~fi~~ wife?
 A. I don't, he even doesn't know my wife.
- Q. You said that he was a captain in 1943; if Lim did want to hide his identity, why did he use his serial number?
 A. Well, that is what I do not know. Maybe because he knew that the Japanese will not know his serial number because the papers of the organization was not captured by the Japanese.
- Q. Do you know Mr. Robert C. Peyer?
 A. I have heard his name.
- Q. Are you aware that any money was given by the Swiss Colony or by Mr. Peyer to the guerrilla?
 A. I heard about him but I have never met him.
- Q. Did you ever see the money given to the guerrilla?
 A. No, I just received the receipts sent to me ~~by~~ Gen. Lim with my counter-signature. *upon receiving the money.*
- Q. Where did you place the ~~money~~ money?
 A. We used it for my organization, Fil-American Troops. Because Col. Straughn came to my place where I was then the councilor of our town, Pililla, Malaya, and from that time he wanted to go to Manila because he got a letter from the General (McArthur). He crossed the mountains. Then he wanted to go to Manila. I told him, "Sir, you better not go to Manila, you might be captured by the Japanese". He told me, "I got no clothes here." So I sent my brother to 65 Silang, Sta. Ana, Manila, where his adopted children were staying, one of whom was Mrs Pigon who has a son.

Q. The money you received for the use of your command, who gave you that money, was it in cash?

A. It was in cash or food supplies. They could not give the money directly to me as I sent somebody to get it. Sometimes I send one of my men who is dead now, Mauro Reyes, a captain in my command.

Q. You sent him where?

A. I sent him to Manila to ask loans and supplies. But I did not send him to any particular individual.

Q. You did not depend on the overall command for supplies?

A. I never got any.

Q. Did Col. Straughn give you any money?

A. He gave me part of it and spent the rest for the organization.

Q. You were not active in the field then?

A. I was active, but you see I was using my non-de-guerre because the Japanese were looking for my name - A. M. David - because some appointment papers signed by me were captured by the Japanese and they saw my signature on it. I also signed receipts for supplies commandeered from the town people.

Q. What became of Ortiz?

A. He joined the Marking's, I do not know in what capacity.

Q. Do you know the exact date when the SMS Regt was organized?

A. I don't remember.

Q. When was the exact date when your command (not Straughn's) was organized?

A. My fighting unit was organized actively in the early part of 1942 and before the Fall of Bataan. But the organization was not like that of a combat troop or unit. Early on October 1st, when there were too many spies (pro-Japanese) we began our operation.

Q. Do you know of a certain Eugenia Ellsworth?

A. I do not know her.

Q. We got a problem here, Col., with respect to the 2nd Army Corps. When was the 2nd Army Corps organized?

A. The said Army Corps was organized I don't know the exact date.

Q. Do you know whether the 2nd Army Corps was still in existence after 1944?

A. It existed about the middle part of 1944; the 2nd Army Corps was dissolved because they had very few armed men, even less than a company.

Q. And you don't remember any money coming to Straughn's organization signed by Col. Straughn?

A. As I told you the money received by Col. Straughn was given to our men (intelligence operatives).

Q. How did Marking's command operate in the earliest part of the Straughn and Lim organizations.

A. Marking was advised by Gen. Lim at the very beginning of this organization. Everybody was under Col. Straughn. Marking was under Col. Straughn. He had his troops and I had my own troops. Adevos had his own troops at the middle part of 1943.

Q. Do you know whether Col. Straughn authorized the procurement of supplies on the date he specified on the receipts given by him?

A. Yes.

Q. And you should sign these receipts?

A. Yes.

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Authority UNO 883078

- Q. They should be signed also by Col. Straughn?
A. Yes, he issued receipts in blank forms already signed and the commanding officer has to countersign them.
- Q. Did you give any of that money?
A. Yes.
- Q. What did he do with the money?
A. He spent it for his expenses and the expenses of his intelligence operatives and as an organizer, he should finance these men. As I told you Col. Straughn gave a portion of the money that he got to his men but it is different with Gen. Lim.
- Q. When Gen. Lim took over, where did the money go?
A. ~~It~~ I don't know, I was no longer the S-4; I was operating independently because I had already an active organization.
- Q. You never received any money coming from them?
A. No.
- Q. What organization took the place of the 2nd Army Corps.
A. When the 2nd Army Corps was dissolved, the remaining force who ~~were~~ were those armed men joined my organization, one is the SMS Regt under the ~~2nd~~ 2nd Army Corps.
- Q. Under whom?
A. Under Silvestre.
- Q. When was the date when you ordered your unit commanders not to commandeer?
A. It was in the latter part of May 1944, maybe. I will see if it is in my file.
- Q. After that order went out all commandeering receipts were carried in your signature?
A. Yes, countersigned by my G-4 or any member of the G-4.
- Q. Were your receipts mostly in red ink?
A. Most of them were in red ink. Some were in green ink.
- Q. Did Lim ever leave the hospital or go to the mountains or to any part of the city of Manila?
A. As far as I understand, he stayed in the hospital. I don't know if he went out.
- Q. All receipts made by Lim were made in the hospital?
A. I do not know.
- Q. Do you know Mr. Peyer?
A. I don't know him.
- Q. Do you know Boone?
A. I heard his name but I never met him.
- Q. Do you know if Marking got any money from Straughn?
A. Marking was just issuing receipts. He did not come down to Straughn.
- Q. When did you stop being G-4, after Straughn was killed?
A. I became G-4 in Dec 1942, and after Lim was captured, I became adjutant general and commanding officer.
- Q. What was your organization then called?
A. David's Command.
- Q. On top of your receipts you always had "WFAIT"?
A. Yes, under Col. Straughn.

- Q. Did you change your receipt when Lim took over?
A. The same receipts under Col. Ellsworth.
- Q. You were in the headquarters of Straughn acting as G-4 and adjutant general, when did you go to the field?
A. I did not stay permanently in the headquarters of Col. Straughn. As a matter of fact after reporting to headquarters, I went out to the field.
- Q. You were not in a position to know if money was brought in from other sources?
A. No.
- Q. Where was the headquarters of Lim?
A. I do not know the exact place because Col. Lim was in Manila.
- Q. How could he advise you?
A. Thru runners.
- Q. Do you know Petronila Cabrera?
A. Yes, I met her.
- Q. Did she give any money to you?
A. Miss Cabrera sold her lot and house in Tondo for ₱43,000.00 in Japanese war notes about October 1943 and she gave me part of the money.
- Q. Was Straughn alive at the time?
A. He was already captured.
- Q. Did you get the money personally?
A. Villamin got the money.
- Q. Did the money she donated go to you in whole or only a part?
A. Part only.
- Q. Do you know of others who donated like Miss Cabrera?
A. I know but I don't remember their names.
- Q. Do you know A. H. Escoda?
A. I know of an Escoda, a woman.
- Q. Did she give any money?
A. I understand that she was supporting, but I did not receive any money from her.
- Q. Do you know Jesus Santiago?
A. I don't know him.
- Q. Do you know Segundo Borrromeo?
A. I don't know him.
- Q. Do you know Amelia Borrromeo?
A. I don't know her.
- Q. Do you know Ponciano Borrromeo?
A. I don't know him.
- Q. Do you know Angel Filoteo?
A. I know him.
- Q. Do you know if he gave money to the guerrilla organization?
A. I don't know, I only know him personally.

J. P. Street

Q. You do not consider J. M. Bayes (Bonifacio Arroyo)?

A. No.

Q. Do you know of other men in Lim's organization who recognized Aurallo as Lim's successor?

A. Some people coming from Manila believed that this Bayes succeeded General Lim, but we in the mountain did not recognize him.

Q. Did you hear him lead a force against the Japanese?

A. He got no armed men.

Q. What did you do when you did not like to recognize him?

A. I told him that if he did not get out of my sector I would capture him. During the liberation I met him in a guerrilla conference.

Q. Have you heard of Stevens?

A. No.

Q. Have you heard of a Dr. Yulo?

A. No.

Q. Did you hear of Yutivo and Sons Hardware giving money to guerrilla organizations?

A. I heard but did not receive any from him.

Q. You know J. Preissler?

A. No.

Q. Is this signature on receipt dated June 24, 1943, the signature of Col. Straughn?

A. Yes, the signature is the genuine signature of Col. Straughn.

Q. Did you use this kind of receipt (investigator showing receipt dated Jan 10, 1944)

A. I did not use this kind of receipt.

Q. Did you number your receipts?

A. I started numbering them when I ordered my men to stop commandeering already.

Q. Were your receipts made on the same kind of paper?

A. Not always.

Q. Did Borromeo go in and out of the hospital to see Lim without any difficulty?

A. Yes.

Q. When Lim took over, Lim was in Manila, you were on the field and where was the headquarters?

A. I don't know.

Q. Did Straughn and Ellsworth use the same procedure of issuing blank receipts already signed by them?

A. Yes.

Q. With regard to commandeerings made by Borromeo you did not know what dispositions were made?

A. I do not know.

Q. How about money collected by you in the name of Ellsworth?

A. It was used by my own unit.

Q. Why did you not make receipts of your own?

A. I did, but if I have some signed by Col. Straughn or Col. Ellsworth I issue them first then I issue my own receipt, if I had no more receipt signed by them.

Q. Who gave the receipts to you?

A. One of my men.

Q. How about Miss Filoteo, did she give you receipts signed by Ellsworth?

A. No.

Q. You filled in the amounts in the receipts?

A. Yes, I filled the amount in the amount I took from the fellow.

Q. You met Borrromeo and talked with him?

A. Yes, we stayed in the same house.

Q. Was he a trusted officer of Lim?

A. That is what I understand. As a matter of fact when Gen. Lim was picked up in Mindoro, he (Borrromeo) was with him.

Q. You know Fuelles?

A. I don't know him.

Q. What was the form of receipts you issued after you issued the memorandum you mentioned?

A. The receipts were numbered and signed by me as overall commander of the 3rd Army Corps and countersigned by any member of my G-4.

Q. You mean to say that all commandeering made after your memorandum were unauthorized?

A. They were unauthorized.

Q. Do you have any record of your commandeering?

A. I will see my G-4.

Q. Do you know Rouser?

A. I do not know him. I only recognize Lim and Straughn.

Q. In your recognition from October 1, 1942 up to the termination date of your recognition, you represent that you were the original members of the Straughn guerrillas, what documents did you present in your application for recognition?

A. Photostatic copies of records of our unit plus information gathered by investigators from the people who know of our organization.

Q. When did you assume command?

A. After Straughn and Lim.

Q. After the capture of Lim, who was your G-4?

A. Abuyen. *issued by [signature]*

Q. Have you heard of anyone by the name of Miss Mallari?

A. I never heard of her.

Q. Dr. Bacobo was attending to Lim?

A. He was at the hospital, I don't know if he was attending to Lim.

Q. After the capture of Straughn, your headquarters seemed to fall apart? Marking cut off?

A. Yes, I formed my own headquarters.

Q. Aside from your unit what other armed men were operating?

A. No other fighting unit.

Q. So all moneys commandeered must have come down to you?

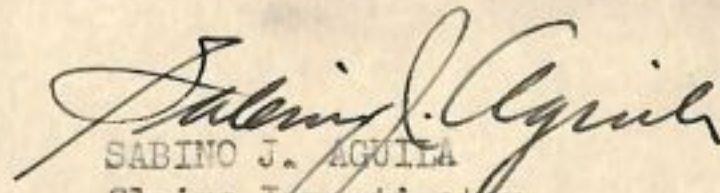
A. No.

Handwritten signature/initials on the left margin.

- Q. That money which was given to you by Mr. Escudero for which you gave the receipt signed by Col. Straughn, what did you do with it?
- A. I bought some arms and food for my men, because I got connections with some of my officers in Cavite to buy some arms.
- Q. You mentioned several names there like, Arsenio Escudero, Arsenio Bonifacio, Jesus Bautista, Mrs. Paz Amusategui and Amado Garcia from whom you requisitioned cash, where did you place those cash?
- A. I used the cash for my organization.
- Q. What organization?
- A. The Fil-Americans under my command.
- Q. Was that formerly under Col. Straughn?
- A. That was formerly under Col. Straughn.
- Q. How about the men?
- A. Yes, they were formerly the men of Col. Straughn. Because after the capture of Col. Straughn, there was no ranking officer left in the field except myself. So I gathered all the men under Col. Straugh and being the Adjutant General, I continued on our service.


JUSTNIANO C. ESTRELLA
Alias ALFREDO M. DAVID (nom-de-guerre)

I certify that the foregoing statement was made by the party signing same voluntarily before me on this 20th day of April, 1948 at Claims Service, PUA, Quezon City.


SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WNO 883078

HEADQUARTERS
CLAIMS SERVICE, PHILRYCOM

SJA:ydr

INTER OFFICE CHECK SHEET
Do Not Remove from Attached Sheet

GSC.I.04


Subject: Request for Verification

FROM: TD 4

TO: ~~RED~~
Checking Section


18 Feb 48

Request verification of military status of Andres
D. Franco, allegedly with the SMS Regiment, 3rd Army
Corps, Marking's Fil-Amernian Troops.


1st Ind

19 Feb 48

No record re: subject individual
at RPD. Same individual has no card
of recognition.


Claims Div.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AND 883078

S T A T E M E N T

I, MELENDRES, V. DE LUNA, formerly S-4 of the SMS Regiment, 3rd Army Corps, Marking's Fil-American Troops, of legal age, married, and a resident of 1233 Interior 7, Dagunoy, Singalong, Manila, hereby declare that the answers made to questions propounded by Investigator are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection:

Q. Did you issue receipts for loans to civilians when you were a member of the SMS Regiment?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you sign alone for loose receipts you issued for loans?

A. Yes.

Q. Did Col. Silvestre authorize you to sign alone?

A. Yes, he authorized me to do so.

Q. How were these loans issued to the claimants or to persons in your vicinity at the time of the borrowing?

A. The first time when I approached the civilian I issued receipt and I got the money, if it was money; if palay, I sent someone to get the palay.

Q. So you personally got the loans?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember the names of persons from Pila, Laguna to whom you issued receipts for loans?

A. I do not remember now unless I am shown the receipts I issued.

Q. Did you issue receipts for loans in 1942?

A. Yes.

Q. In 1943?

A. I issued also in 1943, 1944 and 1945.

Q. Do you know Elena Elona?

A. Yes, I know her personally.

Q. How about Eusebio Mendoza?

A. Yes, I know him also because we are townmates.

Q. Are you related to them?

A. No, we are only townmates.

Q. Did you commandeer supplies or did you get loans from these people?

A. Yes, I got loans from them and I issued receipts. I remember these.

Q. Do you still remember the receipts you issued? Will you describe?

A. I cannot describe.

Q. Who made the receipts?

A. I was the one who made the receipts.

Melendres V. de Luna

Q. Did you thpe them?
A. Yes.

Q. Did you put your seal in all the receipts?
A. Every receipt I issued to the civilians I put the seal and without the seal it is not valid.

Q. What was the kind of money you received in 1942?
A. Japanese War Notes.

Q. From 1942 to 1945, what kind of money did you receive?
A. All loans taken from civilians from 1942 to 1945 were in Japanese War Notes.

Q. What about receipts you issued to Elena Elona, do you remember how many receipts were issued?
A. I cannot remember.

Q. What about the number of receipts you issued to Eusebio Mendoza?
A. I cannot remember.

Q. You have no records of these loan receipts?
A. I have no records now because when our Headquarters was raided by the Japanese, they burned all our records.

Q. What about receipts you issued for these loans, were they in original or in duplicate?
A. They were in original and duplicates.

Q. Are all of those writings in the receipts in your handwriting?
A. Yes.

Q. Showing to you the claim of Eusebio Mendoza, will you please identify the receipts found in Exhibits C, C-1, C-2 and C-3? Are the signatures appearing therein yours?
A. All of them are my genuine signatures.

Q. Showing to you the receipts contained in the claim of Elena Elona, will you identify your signatures on Exhibits B and B-1?
A. Signatures on Exhibits B and B-1 are also my genuine signatures.


Q. Are you issuing receipts now for loans taken from civilians in 1942 to 1945?
A. No.

Q. How did you account for the money collected in connection with these loans?
A. I distributed it to the Headquarters. I gave to the A Company and C Company during that time. We bought clothing, firearms, shoes, palay and other things.

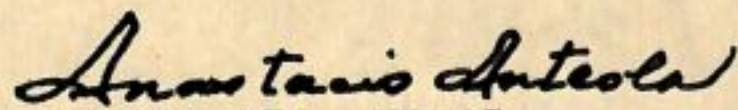
Q. Do you know of any claimant or a civilian from Pila, Laguna from whom you bought shoes, palay, clothing, firearms, etc.?
A. I do not know the particular names of these persons but I know them to be Chinese and Tagalogs from Bataan, Cavite and Manila who used to go there to sell us these goods.

Melendres U. de Luna

- Q. Was not Colonel Serafin Silvestre notified of these loans you got from civilians?
A. Colonel Silvestre knows it.
- Q. You have no more records?
A. No more. They were all burned and destroyed.
- Q. Have you anything more to say?
A. No more.


MELENDRES V. DE LUNA

I certify that the foregoing statement was made by the party signing the same voluntarily before me this 2nd February 1948.


ANASTACIO ANTEOLA
Claims Investigator

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AND 883078

HEAD QUARTERS
 PHILIPPINES-RYUKYUS COMBAND
 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF CLAIMS SERVICE

OFFICE ROUTING SLIP

FROM:	TO:	INTEL:	FOR:
	Chief of Cls Sv		Appropriate Action
			Approval
✓	Executive Off		Comment
			Concurrence
	Adjutant		Consideration
	Administration Sec		Correction
	Military Pers Sec		Discussion with me
	Civilian Pers Sec		Dispatch
	Operations Sec		Distribution
	Message Center		Filing
			Follow-up
	Dir, Commission Div		Inform all concerned
	Legal Section		Information
	CCC		Initialing
	FCC		Notation & Return
	PCC		Recommendation
			Signature
②	Dir, Investigation Div	No	Comment and return or rec. action
	Screening Sec		
③	Team No. 4		
✓	Dir, Records & Fiscal Div		
	Information Sec		
	Registration Sec		
	Card & Docketing Sec		
	Processing Sec		
	Filing & Assgmt Sec		
	Fiscal Section		
	Reports & Stat. Sec		

[Handwritten Signature]

Name or Initials

26 Nov 47
 DATE

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority NND 883078

NOV 12th Nov 47

PHILIPPINE-RYUKYU COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF CLAIMS SERVICE

OFFICE ROUTING SLIP

FROM:	TO :	INITIAL:	FOR:
	Chief of Cls Sv		Appropriate Action
	Executive Off		Approval
	Adjutant		Comment
	Administration Sec		Concurrence
	Military Pers Sec		Consideration
	Civilian Pers Sec		Correction
	Operations Sec		Discussion with me
	Message Center		Dispatch
	Dir, Commission Div		Distribution
	Legal Section		Filing
	CCC		Follow-up
	FCC		Inform all concerned
	PCC		Information
	Dir, Investigation Div		Initialing
	Screening Sec		Notation & Return
	Team No.		Recommendation
	Dir, Records & Fiscal Div		Signature
	Information Sec		
	Registration Sec		
	Card & Docketing Sec		
	Processing Sec		
	Filing & Assgmt Sec		
	Fiscal Section		
	Reports & Stat. Sec		

[Handwritten Signature]
Name or Initials

25 Nov 47
DATE

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WNO 883078

HEADQUARTERS PHILRYCOM

CHECK SHEET

Do Not Remove From Attached Sheets

File No. GSCG Subject Report of Fraudulent Claims.

(1) FROM: OCG

TO : Claims Service
THRU: DC and C/S *gfd*

21 Nov 47

For any action deemed appropriate.

1 Incl:
Ltr to Gen. Moore fr
Andres D. Franco, dtd
5 Nov 47.

B. R. Brown
B. R. BROWN
Lt. Col., GSC
Exec. Officer

DECLASSIFIED

Authority WNO 883078

FROM: 000 : 000
TO: :
SUBJECT: JC and GAO

For any action deemed appropriate.

1. Col. GAO
2. Col. GAO
3. Col. GAO

1. Incl: 1
2. Incl: 1
3. Incl: 1

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AND 883078



GSCG

Report of Fraudulent Claims.

21 Nov 47

(1) FROM: OCG

TO : Claims Service
THRU: DC and C/S

For any action deemed appropriate.

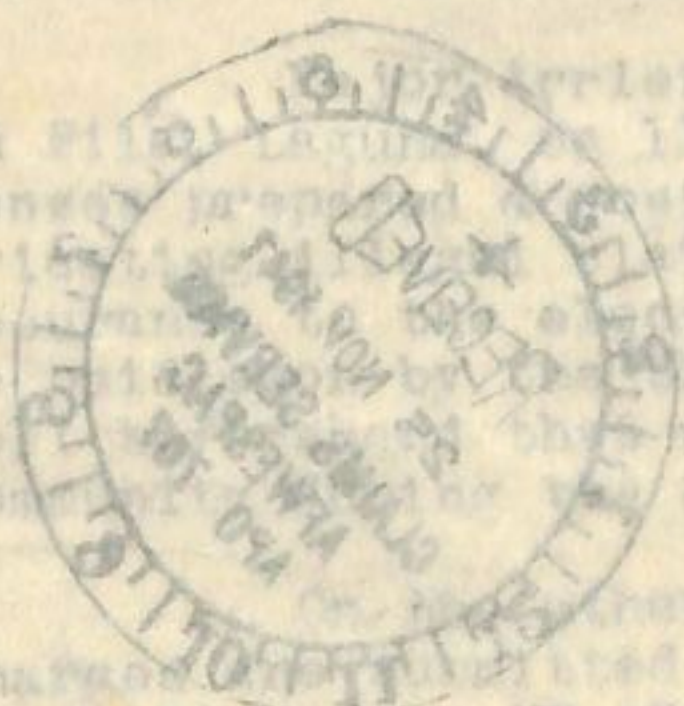
1 Incl:
Ltr to Gen. Moore fr
Andres D. Franco, dtd
5 Nov 47.

B. R. BROWN
Lt. Col., GSC
Exec. Officer

the immeasurable, meritorious and valuable services they rendered during the Japanese occupation, which for these reasons the Army is paying them for such services, yet it must not be forgotten that we received such supplies from our civilian sympathizers as charities, and were intended as a donation to common cause against the enemy, except of course in few cases wherein we really issued receipts for what ever amount of supplies we actually received. Much to my surprise, how come that these big claims being paid by the US ARMY? These of course happened and still happening because of the fraudulent machinations of the above named person.

At present Mr. Arrieta, is still fabricating many claims for supplies, because he usually get the lion share of whatever amount the illegitimate claimant collect from the Army. Before a claim is filed there existed already a pre-understanding between him and the claimant that when the claim is paid, the amount of supplies will be exclusive of expenses but when expenses are submitted by the poor claimant, such claimant must pay for the trouble cause him in coming to Manila and going back to the province. In other words, the claimant is must pay for allowing the illegitimate

Arrieta, is a candidate for Municipal Mayor, in Manila, on 11 November 1947, and through false pretenses, he was elected as Mayor of Labor Battalion, aside from fabricating claims for supplies in our town with the assistance of the claimant that he will be able to get the ARMY. In the town there is no such labor Battalion, and the resistance movement is still in the ARMY as a civilian employee, but I am against the candidacy of Major Arrieta, on the ground of the immense wealth he is accumulating at present from the



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Report of Fraudulent Claims.

GSCC

21 Nov 47

TO : Claims Service
THRU: DC and C/S

FROM: OCG

For any action deemed appropriate.

B. R. BROWN
Lt. Col., GSC
Exec. Officer

I Incl:
Ltr to Gen. Moore re
Andres D. France, dtd
5 Nov 47.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 883078



Page 203
605

PRQMD, Storage Division
Zablan Air Field, Quezon City
5 November 1947

SUBJECT : Denunciations

TO : Major General George F. Moore
Commanding General, PHILRYCOM

I have the honor to denounce vigorously the biggest fraud ever committed and still being done by Mr. Antonio A. Arrieta, Ex-Major, SMS-Regiment Marking's Fil-American Guerrillas, of San Roque, Pila, Laguna, in the collection of pay claims arising out of supplies supposed to be given and issued to recognized guerrilla organizations in the town of Pila, Laguna, during the resistance movement.

While it is true that thousands of guerrillas in our province had been duly recognized by the US ARMY because of the immeasurable, meritorious and valuable services they rendered during the Japanese occupation, which for these reasons the Army is paying them for such services, yet it must not be forgotten that we received much supplies from our civilian sympathizers as charities, and were intended as a donation to common cause against the enemy, except of course in few cases wherein we really issued receipts for what ever amount of supplies we actually received. Much to my surprise, how come that these big claims being paid by the US ARMY? These of course happened and still happening because of the fraudulent machinations of the above named person.

At present Mr. Arrieta, is still fabricating many claims for supplies, because he usually get the lion share of whatever amount the illegitimate claimant collect from the Army. Before a claim is filed there existed already a pre-understanding between him and the claimant that when the claim is paid, the amount is split fifty-fifty exclusive of expenses, but when expenses are summed up against the poor claimant, such claimant barely receive enough for the trouble cause him in coming to Manila and going back to the province. In other words, the claimant is just paid for signing the illegal claim.

Major Arrieta, is a candidate for Municipal Mayor, in Pila, Laguna, on 11 November 1947, and through false pretenses prepared a roster of Labor Battalion, aside from fabricating illegal claims for supplies in our town with the assurance to the electorate that everyone in the roster will be paid soon by the US ARMY. In this connection, I should tell beforehand that no such labor battalion existed in our community during the resistance movement.

On the other hand, I wish to emphasize that these charges are submitted for your information, not because I am still in the US ARMY as a civilian employee, nor I am against the candidacy of Major Arrieta, or I am envious of the immense wealth he is accumulating at present from the US Army through fraudulent claims paid, but because of the

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honest motive and intention of protecting the illiteracy and ignorance of innocent persons in my community, who were deceived, stirred up, and solicited to file illegal claims for supplies.

In view of the foregoing, it is earnestly requested that I be given proper information and advice regarding the matters I mentioned above, and I will highly appreciate your command if personal reports, witnesses, are necessary.

Very respectfully yours,

Andrés D. Franco
ANDRES D. FRANCO

Provincial Address:

San Roque, Pila, Laguna

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HEADQUARTERS
PHILIPPINES-RYUKYUS COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF CLAIMS SERVICE

APO 707
3 February 1948

Mr. Jesus Bautista
Sta. Cruz, Laguna

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your claim arising out of an alleged commandeering by Guerrilla forces.

It is requested that in order to facilitate the processing of your claim, you furnish this office with the following:

1. Evidence showing the source of the ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) loaned by you to Colonel Hugh Straughn.

If no reply is received from you within thirty (30) days from the date hereof, it will be assumed that you have abandoned your claim and your case will be closed and the papers filed.

In your reply, please refer to PRO-G-4-148,018.

Very truly yours,

s/ Harold W. Tobin
t/ HAROLD W. TOBIN
Director,
Team No. 4

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator

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STATEMENT

I, MELENDRES V. DE LUNA, formerly Major of the Second Army Corps or SMS Regiment, Marking's Fil-American Irregular Troops, hereby declare that the answers made to questions propounded by the investigator are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Q. When was the 2nd Army Corps, Marking's Fil-American Irregular Troops organized, do you know?

A. I cannot tell you the exact date.

Q. What about the approximate year?....1943, 1942, 1944?

A. The old Marking's Fil-Americans... 1942.

Q. So it was organized in 1942?

A. Yes. I cannot tell the exact date but it was in 1942.

Q. Who was the former Commanding Officer of the 2nd Army Corps?

A. Abdenago K. Ortiz, Division Commander of the 2nd Army Corps.

Q. What was his rank?

A. Colonel.

Q. Do you know the exact number of men of the 2nd Army Corps in 1942? The officers and men... the strength, more or less?

A. Our men composed a regiment, I cannot tell you the strength.

Q. Around 400?

A. It is a regiment.

Q. What was your rank and position in the old 2nd Army Corps?

A. You know, in 1942, I was organizer and supply officer. During that time, we guerrilla officers have many duties. You know already organizer and supply officer during that time I am not yet attached to the 2nd Army Corps in 1942. I was already given permission and I was under the command of Abdenago Ortiz of the 2nd Army Corps.

Q. When was the 2nd Army Corps disorganized and became the SMS Regiment of the Marking's Fil-Americans?

A. I have forgotten the date. I cannot tell the exact date.

Q. Approximately?

A. Under the SMS Regiment - 1943 because that is the second in command of Abdenago Ortiz.

Q. And when the officers and men of the 2nd Army Corps were fused to the SMS Regiment, who became the Commanding Officer?

A. Serafin Silvestre.

Q. Now, what became of Ortiz then?

A. They escaped. Our unit went to Ipo Dam. I was recognized only a Major.

Q. Ortiz was still with the 2nd Army or already with SMS when he went to Ipo Dam?

A. Under SMS Regiment. ^{Col} Serafin Silvestre separated already from the ^{2nd} Army Corps under the ^{Col} command of ^{Abdenago Ortiz} and called it ^{3rd} Army ^{Regiment} in 1945, ^{Estrella} during the liberation.

Q. In 1943, when you were fused with the SMS Regiment, what was your rank and designation?

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Handwritten:
Melendres V. de Luna

W. de Luna

- A. Major and S-4 of the SMS Regiment.
- Q. When was the SMS Regiment recognized?
- A. 11 February 1945.
- Q. Was it not set back?
- A. It was set back to October 1, 1942.
- Q. Did you commandeer supplies and foodstuffs from the civilians at the time you were with the SMS Regiment in 1943?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Were you authorized by Colonel Serafin M. Silvestre to commandeer?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. Was it a verbal authority or was there a written order?
- A. There was a written order.
- Q. Who were the other officers in the SMS Regiment that were given authority to commandeer aside from you?
- A. Major Antonio Arrieta, Major Floro Bartolome. We were assigned sector by sector during that time. The two officers that I mentioned to you were very far from our town.
- Q. You cannot remember any other officer?
- A. There is one more officer, Captain, I don't know the first name but I know his family name, Gomez.
- Q. What about this Fructuoso K. S. Parcero? Was he an officer of the SMS Regiment or enlisted man?
- A. I don't know his rank but I think he was an officer of the SMS.
- Q. Do you know if he was also given authority to commandeer supplies?
- A. ~~I think he had~~ authority to commandeer foodstuffs.
- Q. You ~~did~~ not authorize him to commandeer?
- A. I ~~did~~ authorize him to commandeer.
- Q. In cases where he commandeered and signed receipts, did you not recognize his signature?
- A. I ~~recognized~~ *Recognized His signature.*
- Q. But you know that he was given authority by Silvestre to commandeer?
- A. That also I do not know, *But I am the want who authorize.*
- Q. You cannot therefore testify on receipts duly signed by Parcero attesting that he commandeered supplies from civilians? You cannot testify?
- A. I can testify if I see my receipt.
- Q. Those ~~signed~~ *signed* by Parcero?
- A. I ~~can~~ testify.
- Q. You ~~do~~ not know the signature of Parcero?
- A. I ~~do~~ know.
- Q. I suppose Parcero made receipts... he issued receipts certifying that supplies or foodstuffs were commandeered from a claimant and he signed all these receipts. Do you know if these signed receipts were at the time authenticated by you?

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- A. If I signed.
- Q. A receipt signed by him, authenticated by you, approved and signed Melendres.
- A. Without my signature, I did not approve the receipt.
- Q. But you know of a receipt signed by Parcero which was counter-signed by you?
- A. ~~Yes~~ ^{Yes}.
- Q. In the claim of Florentino Camus of Pila, Laguna, do you remember having issued a receipt to claimant Camus, Florentino for supplies commandeered from him?
- A. Yes.
- Q. You were the one who signed this?
- A. That is why I am telling you that if I see the receipt I can tell you.
- Q. Do you remember the exact quantity of rice commandeered from Florentino Camus?
- A. I cannot remember.
- Q. Do you not remember the month and year when you commandeered supplies from Florentino Camus?
- A. I cannot remember.
- Q. But do you remember if you did commandeer from him?
- A. According to the receipt, if I see my signature.
- Q. Showing you this receipt here. This is signed by Parcero and counter-signed by you.
- A. This is my signature.
- Q. How about this? Exhibit A is your signature?
- A. Yes. Exhibit B is also my signature.
- Q. What was your procedure of commandeering at the time?
- A. Just to help the claimant.
- Q. Your procedure is you go to the claimant?
- A. I did not go to the claimant. He is the one to approach me and asked me for help because they do not know how to file the claim.
- Q. No, I mean when you commandeered articles or supplies, did you get the supplies first and issue a receipt after or did you give a receipt for the supplies immediately after getting supplies?
- A. No, I approached the claimant and asked foodstuffs.
- Q. Usually, he delivers the foodstuffs to you personally and immediately you issued receipts?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you not make or issue receipts in 1946 or in 1947 for foodstuffs received in 1943, 1944 or 1945?
- A. I did not make any receipt in 1946 and 1947.
- Q. Do we understand that you issued receipts immediately after the commandeering?
- A. After they gave foodstuffs, I just make receipts.

Melendres J. de Luna

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- Q. Immediately after they are delivered to you?
A. Yes.
- Q. What about the kinds of receipts you were issuing, is it stamped always by the unit seal?
A. Yes. Without the seal, it is not valid.
- Q. Do you remember the names of the civilians in Pila, Laguna from whom you commandeered supplies from 1943 to 1945?
A. I can remember the face but I cannot tell you the name.
- Q. Approximately, how many civilians in Pila contributed to you from 1943 to 1945, do you know?
A. I do not know.
- Q. In all these commandeerings you made from the claimants from 1943 to 1945, did you issue receipts duly signed by you?
A. Yes.
- Q. Are you not aware of commandeerings made by you wherein you did not issue receipts?
A. Away from what?
- Q. Are you not aware that you commandeered foodstuffs from civilians where you did not issue receipts?
A. All my commandeerings were supported by receipts which I issued immediately after commandeering.
- Q. You have no records of all the commandeerings you made from 1943 to 1945?
A. I have no records because when we were in the headquarters, Japanese raided our headquarters. Then I left the records.
- Q. You said you were fused and the second Army Corps became the SMS Regiment in 1943, am I right?
A. Yes.
- Q. Under Serafin M. Silvestre?
A. Yes.
- Q. When you were fused or when the 2nd Army Corps became the SMS Regiment in 1943, did you use a receipt stamped SMS Regiment?
A. No, just my stamp. Serafin Silvestre authorized me to use my stamp, the 2nd Army Corps stamp.
- Q. Why was there no SMS Regiment stamp then in use at headquarters?
A. I do not know the other officers of the SMS if they are using SMS stamp.
- Q. Do I understand that all of those receipts made by you and some officers of the 2nd Army Corps also used the 2nd Army Corps stamp?
A. Sometimes they are using and sometimes they are not.
- Q. What kind of stamp they are using?
A. I cannot tell you.
- Q. But in your case, you always used the stamp you were using?
A. Yes.
- Q. What year were you attached... when was the SMS Regiment attached to

Melendres J. de Luna

the U. S. Army unit?
A. I cannot remember the date.

Q. What year?

A. 1945.

Q. If you were authorized by Col. Serafin M. Silvestre to commandeer supplies, in what year was that? Approximate date?

A. I cannot tell you the date.

Q. But what year was that?

A. 1943 when I was under his command.

Q. How many men and officers from the 2nd Army Corps were fused to the SMS Regiment in 1942, do you know?

A. I cannot recall.

Q. The 2nd Army Corps was a regiment, am I right?

A. Yes.

Q. Were all the officers and men of the 2nd Army Corps fused to the SMS Regiment in 1943?

A. Yes.

Q. All of them?

A. Yes.

Q. And the 2nd Army Corps as a regiment was fused to the SMS Regiment in 1943?

A. All of them.

Q. So all men of the 2nd Army Corps who were fused to SMS Regiment in 1943 were all recognized?

A. Not all of them.

Q. What do you mean not all of them?

A. Some of our men were not yet recognized but the rest were already recognized.

Q. Do we understand that you are setting recognition under 2nd Army Corps?

A. Under the SMS Regiment. We are now 3rd Army Corps because we attached our regiment to Colonel David so we are under the command of Colonel David now during the liberation. 1945 already.

Q. That SMS Regiment is also under the 3rd Army Corps?

A. Now.

Q. Very good!

A. So we are using the 3rd Army Corps.

Q. In this particular claim of Florentino Camus, where were the items hereon mentioned distributed, do you remember?

A. I could not remember.

Q. It says here for the use of the 2nd Army Corps, Fil-Americans, payable to the U.S.A. It was commandeered in 1945, February, 1945. Now, where were the items mentioned herein, 25 cavans of palay, distributed or given?

A. When we were there in Pila.

Q. Was it distributed to the 2nd Army Corps or SMS Regiment?

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- A. Still distributed to the 2nd Army Corps during that time.
- Q. This is 1945. There was no more 2nd Army Corps in 1945. This is SMS Regiment. Where did you give the foodstuffs, is it to Serafin M. Silvestre?
- A. To Colonel Silvestre.
- Q. If the 2nd Army Corps was disorganized already in 1945, why is it that you are still using the receipt stamped 2nd Army Corps and collecting foodstuffs for the use of the 2nd Army Corps when there was no more 2nd Army Corps in 1945?
- A. Because we are not yet attached to the 3rd Army Corps but when it was already liberated, we were attached to the 3rd Army Corps.
- Q. Yes, but you said that in 1943, the 2nd Army Corps men and officers were all fused to the SMS Regiment for which reason the 2nd Army Corps was disorganized and in 1945 there was no more 2nd Army Corps.
- A. There was still 2nd Army Corps in 1945.
- Q. How many men and officers composed the 2nd Army Corps if there was any.
- A. I cannot tell you. There is still 2nd Army Corps in 1945 but I am still using that stamp during that time.
- Q. But there was no more 2nd Army Corps because it became the SMS Regiment?
- A. SMS Regiment - that is also 2nd Army Corps in 1943, 1944 and 1945.
- Q. In the claim of Ambrosio Gabino, do you remember having commandeered from him and if so, will you enumerate the items commandeered from Ambrosio?
- A. I do not know.
- Q. But do you know if you commandeered something from him?
- A. Yes.
- Q. You don't know the items any more.
- A. No.
- Q. But did you issue a receipt?
- A. Yes.
- Q. If I show you a receipt will you be able to identify it?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Showing you this receipt, is this your signature?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Again this one cow commandeered from Ambrosio Gabino, where did you give this cow after you commandeered it?
- A. To the headquarters.
- Q. Of the 2nd Army Corps or SMS Regiment?
- A. 2nd Army Corps and SMS Regiment are the same.
- Q. In the claim of Lumenario, Felipe, Exhibit B and B-1. Do you know Vilaran?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know his address?
- A. Now he is working in CALTEX.
- Q. What unit was he recognized?

*Welford
J. de Juan*

A. The SMS Regiment.

Q. What about the alterations on the date on Exhibits B and B-1? Who made the alterations?

A. I am the one who made the alterations. The figure there is 5 in both receipts.

Q. Why are these receipts stamped 2nd Army Corps again?

A. Yes, during that time we are using that because I was authorized by Colonel Serafin M. Silvestre to use stamp of the 2nd Army Corps.

Q. What about these receipts B-2 and B-3. Is this also your signature?

A. That is also my signature.

Q. Do you know now the number or the quantity of rice you commandeered from Lumenario Felipe all in all?

A. I do not know. All that I know is I issued receipts for all the foodstuffs commandeered from him. I do not know even the number of receipts.

Q. But you remember having issued receipts?

A. I remember.

Q. In the claim of Iniego San Mateo, do you know if you also commandeered foodstuffs from him?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you also issue receipts to him?


A. I issued receipts.

Q. Is this your signature on this receipt?

A. Yes, that is my signature.

Q. Approximately, how many claimants from Pila, Laguna from whom you commandeered foodstuffs?

A. I cannot remember.


MELENDRES V. DE LUNA

I certify that the foregoing statement was made by the party signing the same voluntarily before me this 23rd day of January 1948.


ANASTACIO ANTEOLA
Certifying Claims Investigator

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STATEMENT

- Q. State your name and personal circumstances?
A. Marcial P. Villaran, formerly Captain but recognized as Private, SMS Regiment, 3rd Army Corps, Marking's Fil-Americans.
- Q. Were you under Major Melendres Luna of the SMS Regiment?
A. Yes, I was one of his men.
- Q. Were you with Major Melendres Luna in all his commandeering for supplies in Pila, Laguna?
A. I was with him and at times, I would go alone when I was sent by Major Melendres Luna and some officers of headquarters to collect supplies.
- Q. When you were sent alone to collect supplies, did you issue receipts signed by you?
A. I issued and signed receipts myself alone. Sometimes these receipts were already signed by Major Melendres Luna and when I received the goods or supplies, I also counter signed. There are instances where I alone issued and signed receipts.
- Q. Could you mention the names of civilians in Pila, Laguna from whom you commandeered supplies and which you issued receipts signed by you alone?
A. I do not remember but if I see the receipts, I will know it.
- Q. What about the persons from Pila, Laguna from whom you commandeered supplies and which you issued receipts signed by Major Melendres de Luna and you?
A. I do not remember also the names but if I could be shown those receipts I would be able to know.
- Q. Do you know a person by the name of Felipe Lumenario?
A. I know him because he is my town mate in Pila, Laguna.
- Q. Do you remember if you commandeered supplies from Felipe Lumenario?
A. I do not remember because it was a long time already.
- Q. If a receipt is shown to you, will you be able to recognize your signature?
A. If I can see it.
- Q. Is this your signature in Exhibit C-3 in the claim of Vicente Salgado, PRO-G-4-131,486?
A. That is my signature.
- Q. What about this in Exhibit B-1 of the claim of Felipe Lumenario PRO-G-4-131302?
A. That is my signature.
- Q. How about this receipt here wherein the name M. Villaran appears in Exhibit B?
A. That is my signature.
- Q. Showing to you these receipts which are marked Exhibits B-2 and B-3, in the claim of Felipe Lumenario, are these signatures M. Villaran yours?
A. Yes, those are my signatures.

M. P. Villaran

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Q. Where is Felipe Lumenario living?
A. He lives in the Barrio of Linga.

Q. How many kilometers is his house from your house?
A. Around 300 meters only.

Q. Are you related to Felipe Lumenario?
A. He is my brother-in-law. He is the husband of my sister.

Q. What were the items you commandeered from Felipe Lumenario?
A. Palay.

Q. How many times did you commandeer palay from Felipe Lumenario, do you remember?
A. I do not remember.

Q. Can you remember the quantity of palay commandeered from Lumenario?
A. I cannot remember either.

Q. When you got these cavans of palay from Lumenario, Felipe, were you with Major Melendres then?
A. At times I was with Major Melendres Luna and at times I went alone.

Q. When you went to Felipe Lumenario to commandeer supplies, do you remember if you carried receipts with you signed by Melendres?
A. I carried along receipts with me signed by Major Melendres de Luna and after receiving the supplies from Lumenario, I countersigned the receipts.

Q. You said that at times when you commandeered supplies from Felipe Lumenario, you brought with you receipts signed by Melendres de Luna and after receiving supplies from Lumenario, Felipe, you countersigned the receipts and the other times when you were sent by Melendres de Luna to commandeer supplies from Felipe Lumenario and after receiving supplies from him you signed the receipts and issued it to Lumenario yourself.
A. Yes, it is true that at times I brought with me receipts signed by Melendres de Luna and later countersigned by me and at times when I went alone, I signed receipts alone and issued it to Lumenario Felipe.

Q. In this case of Felipe Lumenario, how many kinds of receipts have you issued?
A. I do not remember.

Q. Why don't you remember the commandeerings that you made from your brother-in-law?
A. Because there were too many commandeerings made and I do not now remember. It's been a long, long time.

Q. You stated that whenever you commandeered that you either go alone or with Major de Luna. Was there an instance wherein you went with other persons to commandeer supplies?
A. No sir, We have been together sometimes and sometimes I am alone.

Q. In these commandeerings, cavans of palay were commandeered. How come that you were not accompanied by others in getting the supplies? The supplies were heavy for a single individual to carry.

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M.P. Villanar

A. I am always alone and I had my carabao with my sled.

Q. Where do you bring the rice after commandeering?

A. To the headquarters.

Q. Where is the headquarters?

A. It is in Nanhaya.

Q. How far is the town from Nanhaya?

A. It is around 4 kilometers.

Q. Showing you this receipt marked Exhibit B and B-1 in the claim of Felipe Lumenario, do you remember who placed this "one carabao weighing 160 kilos, ₱800.00 and 25 cavans of palay, ₱1,125.00 PIC?

A. I was the one who filled that out.

Q. And this one here. This signature in ink above name Melendres de Luna in both receipts, whose signature is this?

A. That is the signature of Melendres de Luna.

Q. Were you present when he signed this?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you have a residence certificate?

A. Yes sir. (witness presents his residence certificate No. A-60343, issued at Manila on January 13, 1948).

Q. Where do you live in Manila?

A. I reside at 231 Jesus, Pandacan, Manila.

Q. After you have delivered the palay to headquarters, to whom did you deliver the palay?

A. Sometimes Major de Luna, sometimes, Colonel Silvestre.

Q. Can you furnish us your sample signatures?

A. Yes sir.

Q. These dates appearing on receipts Exhibits B, B-1, B-2 and B-3, viz, June 27, 1945, February 7, 1945, February 28, 1945 and March 25, 1945, did you write these dates yourself?

A. I was the one who wrote those dates.

Q. Do you remember the figure blotted out below the figure 5 on the date appearing on Exhibit B?

A. That figure blotted out is 5, that is why I wrote 5 on the top of it.

Q. Have you been issuing new receipts lately in order to help claimants?

A. No.

Q. Do you remember having taken rice from Mr. Vicente Salgado?

A. Yes.

Q. And showing you this receipt marked Exhibit C-3, will you please identify whether this signature here which appears as Captain M. P. Villaran is yours?

A. That is my signature.

M. P. Villaran

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- Q. And this word here Vicente Salgado were written by you?
A. I was the one who wrote that.
- Q. How many times did you get this palay from Mr. Salgado?
A. Not only once. It was several times.
- Q. Approximately, how many cavans of palay were taken by you every time that you got from Mr. Salgado?
A. It depends upon the capacity of the sled.
- Q. And where did you bring this palay which you requisitioned from Mr. Salgado?
A. I brought it to the headquarters.
- Q. And to whom did you deliver this palay which you got from Mr. Salgado?
A. Major de Luna.
- Q. Have you anything more to say?
A. No more.

I certify that my answers to the foregoing questions are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

M. P. Villaran
MARCIAL P. VILLARAN

I certify that the foregoing statement was made by the party signing the same voluntarily before me this 23rd day of January 1948.

Sabino J. Aquila
SABINO J. AQUILA
Certifying Claims Investigator

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M. P. Villaran
M Villaran
Marcel Villaran
MP Villaran

I here by certify that the above
signature were affixed by me the
receipts I issued for commanding
& made as a member of the S.M.S.
Command of Col S.M. Silvestre
Jan 23-1948-

M.P. Villaran

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STATEMENT

- Q. What's your name and personal circumstances?
A. Ismael Sombilla, married, formerly Captain, 3rd Army Corps, Marking's Fil-American Troops, of legal age and now residing at Rizal, Laguna.
- Q. How long have you known claimant Rufina San Francisco Vista?
A. Since 1928 when claimant Rufina San Francisco Vista was teaching in Rizal and I was a student in the Laguna High School.
- Q. In 1942 and 1943, where were you then at that time?
A. I was in Rizal.
- Q. Were you a member of the 3rd Army Corps, Marking's Fil-American Guerrillas then?
A. Yes, I was.
- Q. Do you know Colonel Eriberto Sombilla and Captain Isidro Orriqui~~es~~ of the 3rd Army Corps?
A. Yes. They belonged to the same unit?
- Q. Were you given authority to commandeer supplies in 1942 and 1943?
A. Yes because I was then an S-4 of the 3rd Army Corps, Marking's Fil-Americans.
- Q. Do you remember the dates when you commandeered supplies from claimant?
A. In the latter part of 1942 and early part of 1943 up to March 1943.
- Q. Did you issue receipts to claimant Rufina Vista?
A. Yes, I gave receipts signed by Col. Eriberto Sombilla and Col. Alfredo M. David~~d~~.
- Q. Why did you not personally sign for these receipts?
A. Because it was the procedure at the time that all receipts came from headquarters duly signed by Col. David and these receipts were delivered to claimants through me after I had collected the items or articles mentioned in the receipts.
- Q. Did you not issue receipts yourself in all the commandeerings you made as S-4 of the 3rd Army Corps?
A. I did not issue receipts. I only collected from contributors and delivered unto them receipts signed by Col. David and Col. Eriberto Sombilla.
- Q. Do you remember the quantity of items taken from Rufina San Francisco Vista?
A. I cannot remember the quantity but I remember the items to be rice, sugar, cotton, men's socks, salt and those items which were requisitioned by me.
- Q. Do you know if Mrs. Vista was wanted by the Japanese in 1943?
A. Yes. She was wanted by the Japanese. In fact, I know that she was taken by the Japanese and was dried under the sun in 1943.
- Q. Do you know some men from Rizal, Laguna from whom you commandeered supplies for consumption of your unit?
A. Cristito Lucido, Lucas Disey, Fortunato Riban, Dionisio Limeuando and others whose names I could not remember but I could identify if I

Ismael Sombilla

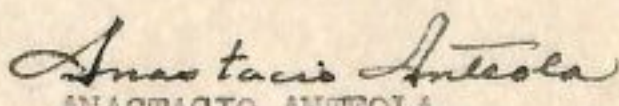
see them face to face.

- Q. Do you know if you issued receipts duly signed by you to these contributors of Rical, Laguna?
- A. No. I only collected the supplies given to them and the receipts issued were signed by Colonel David and Colonel Eriberto Sombilla and these receipts were delivered to claimants through me.
- Q. Going back to the receipts issued to claimant Rufina San Francisco Vista, do you know if these receipts were kept by claimant?
- A. I know that she destroyed these receipts because she called for me sometime in March 1943 wherein she got my advice as regard all receipts if they be found in her possession by the Japanese. I understand she was then suspected a spy by the Japanese.
- Q. Did you advise her to destroy the receipts?
- A. I did not advise her to destroy the receipts but I told her it would only depend on her own discretion.
- Q. Do you know if she destroyed the receipts?
- A. I know because she told me and in fact she showed me a list wherein she jotted down the items mentioned in the respective receipts issued to her.
- Q. Do you know if this is the list she showed you in 1943 which list she jotted from the respective receipts issued (showing him the memorandum list submitted by claimant - Exhibit BB).
- A. So far as I remember, those are the listings she showed me in 1943, I am very sure.
- Q. Do you have anything else to say?
- A. No more.

I certify that my answers to the foregoing questions are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.


ISMAEL SOMBILLA

I certify that the foregoing statement was made by the party signing the same voluntarily before me this 22nd day of January 1948.


ANASTACIO ANTEOLA
Certifying Claims Investigator

STATEMENT

Q. State your name and personal circumstances.

A. Antonio A. Arrieta, married, of legal age, and residing at Pila, Laguna.

Q. What was your unit in the Marking's Fil-Americans?

A. SMS Regt, 3rd Army Corps, Marking's Fil-Americans.

Q. Is the SMS Regt the same as the 2nd Army Corps in 1942?

A. The 2nd Army Corps was organized distinct and separate in 1942 under Col. Abdinago Ortiz. The 2nd officer in command of the 2nd Army Corps was Col. Serafin M. Silvestre who was the CO of the SMS Regt.

Q. Do you know if some men and officers of the 2nd Army Corps were fused to the SMS Regt after 1942?

A. Yes, some men and officers of the 2nd Army Corps were fused to the SMS Regt in 1943 under the command of Col. Serafin M. Silvestre.

Q. Approximately how many officers and men of the 2nd Army Corps were fused to the SMS Regt in 1943?

A. Approximately 600 officers and men.

Q. Can you name some of these officers?

A. They are Maj. Floro Bartolome, Maj. Briccio Malitid, Maj. Melendres de Luna, Capt. Marcial Villaran, Lt. Francisco Laranio, Lt. Angel Amores, myself and others.

Q. Do you ^{know} Lt. Fructuoso K. Parcerero?

A. Yes, he was under the command of Col. Rivera of the 3rd Army Corps, Marking's Fil-Americans.

Q. Do you know if the 600 men and officers of the 2nd Army Corps fused to SMS Regt in 1943 were all recognized?

A. Some of them were not recognized.

Q. Do you know the exact number of those who were recognized out of the 600 men and officers?

A. I do not remember the number. In my men, I think it is around 300.

Q. When were you recognized?

A. On ~~9 January~~ 1945.
11 February.

Q. Was the recognition set back of the SMS Regt?

A. Yes, it was set back to 1 October 1942.

Q. When you were under Col. Serafin M. Silvestre in 1943, did you receive orders to commandeer supplies from the civilians?

A. Yes, not only from Col. Silvestre but also from the GHQ.

Q. When were the dates of your authority to commandeer?

A. In 1943 and 1944 I was ordered by Col. Silvestre and I also received orders from the GHQ on 20 October 1944 signed by Col. Lucio Peñaranda, Quartermaster General, Marking's Fil-Americans which authority was countersigned by Col. Marking himself.

Q. What was your procedure of commandeering? Did you issue receipts?

A. Yes

Q. In all those commandeerings you made in 1943, 1944, and 1945, did you issue receipts?

A. Yes

Q. Were these receipts issued immediately after the commandeerings or these receipts were issued in 1946 or 1947 when the claimants came to you for aid?

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- A. No, receipts were issued immediately after the commandeerings.
- Q. Do you remember if there were some claimants who contributed supplies to you who were not issued receipts in 1943, 1944, and 1945?
- A. I do not remember having commandeered without issuing receipts. I always issued receipts in 1943, 1944, and 1945.
- Q. In your commandeerings in 1943, 1944 and 1945, did you keep records?
- A. All of them were lost during the operations.
- Q. You are from Pila, Laguna. Could you name some claimants from Pila, Laguna who contributed supplies in 1943, 1944, and 1945?
- A. I cannot now remember their names. I can only identify the receipts I issued to them if they contributed supplies for my unit.
- Q. Were the supplies commandeered by you in 1943 utilized by members of the 2nd Army Corps or the SMS Regt?
- A. Supplies commandeered in 1943 were distributed and used by officers and men of the SMS Regt and the GHQ. However, some of these supplies were given directly to members of the 27th Regt, PQOG, Hunter's ROTC which units were not under Marking's Fil-Americans who were then operating in the vicinity of Pila, Laguna in 1943, 1944 and 1945.
- Q. You were authorized to commandeer and sign receipts by Col. Serafin M. Silvestre. Is that right?
- A. Yes
- Q. What instructions did you get from Col. Silvestre as regard the issuing of receipts?
- A. The instruction is, after commandeering I have to issue receipt.
- Q. Were those receipts to be countersigned by Col. Serafin M. Silvestre?
- A. In 1945, some were countersigned but in 1943 and 1944 some were not countersigned because sometimes he went to Manila.
- Q. Were the receipts issued to the civilians marked or sealed 2nd Army Corps or SMS Regt?
- A. Some of the receipts I used were sealed SMS Regt and some were also sealed 2nd Army Corps to economize those which were already sealed 2nd Army Corps because then there were many 2nd Army Corps receipts in my possession.
- Q. Were these receipts also sealed Marking's Fil-Americans?
- A. Yes, they were sealed with the seal of Marking's Fil-Americans, SMS Regt, 3rd Army Corps or 2nd Army Corps, Marking's Fil-Americans. Receipts without the seal of the 2nd Army Corps or SMS Regiment are not valid.
- Q. Did you prepare the receipts just after the commandeering or these receipts were prepared long before the commandeering in blank forms?
- A. These receipts were prepared in blank forms and whenever we commandeered we filled up the receipts.
- Q. If I am going to show you some of these receipts wherein the name of claimants are written and the dates when these supplies were commandeered are inscribed, can you exactly tell the quantity of foodstuffs taken?
- A. I cannot remember. I can only verify my signature in the receipts if the signature is genuine or not.

Q. This claim of Marquita Carrillo, is this your signature?

A. That is my signature in Exhibit "C".

Q. Did you personally commandeer this from Marquita Carrillo?

A. Yes

Q. Did you go to the house of Marquita Carrillo at the time of commandeering?

A. Yes, with some of my men.

Q. Can you tell now the exact number of cavans of clean rice taken from Marquita Carrillo?

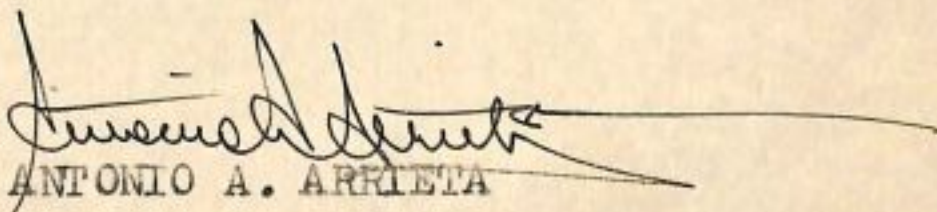
A. I cannot remember but I do remember that in this case I and my men went to the house and got clean rice. I cannot even remember the dates now.

Q. When you commandeered the rice from Marquita Carrillo, do you remember if you had the authority then from Col. Peñaranda?

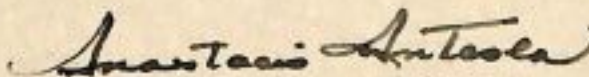
A. Well, I do not remember the date when I commandeered those supplies.

Q. Do you have anything more to say?

A. No more.


ANTONIO A. ARRIETA

I certify that the foregoing statement was made by the party signing the same voluntarily before me this 21st day of January 1948.


ANASTACIO ANTECLA
Claims Investigator

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This is to certify that the following are facsimile of my genuine signature:

Arthur D. Smith
Arthur D. Smith
Arthur D. Smith

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Authority NND 883078

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NMO 883078

By July, 1943,
Marking was already using
the title "General".

See letter of Strougher, Aug. 2,
Strougher File

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)

CITY OF MANILA) : S.S.

A F F I D A V I T

I, SERAFIN M. SILVESTRE, of legal age, married, and at present residing at Binangonan, Rizal, and with postal address at A. P. Reyes Building, Corner Raon and Sales Streets, Manila, after having been duly sworn to according to law depose and say:

That I was formerly the commanding officer of a guerrilla organization known as the SMS Regiment, 3d Army Corp, Markings Fil-American, and said unit was recognized as of 11 February 1945 as per authority of Ltr, 6th Army, AG 384-2, dated 9 May 1945;

That I was processed into the Philippine Army on 22 August 1945 and was given ASN-042791 with the rank of colonel and subsequently discharged on July 16, 1946;

That in my capacity as CO of the SMS Regiment, I have authorized the following men to act as supply officers to commandeer supplies for the subsistence of the SMS Regiment; viz: For San Roque, Pila - Major Antonio Arrieta, for Linga, Sta. Cruz - Major Melecio Luna, for the town proper of Pila - Major Floro Bartolome, for Nagcarlang - Captain Melecio Espiritu, for Calauan - Major Briccio Malitig, and for Manila - Major Jose Ano and assisted by Capt. Anastacio Bustillos;

That the above named officers were also authorized to appoint one or two subordinates to act and assist in receiving supplies;

That Pablo Juane was authorized by Major Antonio Arrieta to act as his assistant and receiving officer;

That the procedure of commandeering is that the receipts issued by the said designated officers are countersigned by

the undersigned. All other receipts issued by subordinate officers not countersigned are not valid. No receipts were countersigned until the requisitioned goods were already in the hands of the receiving officer for the unit;

That all the supplies commandeered as represented by these receipts were used by the SMS Regiment for subsistence because at that time this unit was not furnished subsistence and other supplies by the U.S. Army;

That the overall commander to which this unit belongs is Col. Justiniano C. Estrella, otherwise known as Col. Alfredo M. David;

That I was authorized by the commanding officer to commandeer supplies for the use of the SMS Regiment only; that during the liberation this unit operated in advance of the U. S. Army from January 9 to March 31, 1945. After that date, subsistence and supplies directly came from the Army unit to which this unit was attached;

That on claims No. 8766 to 8783 inclusive, and 8987 to 8988, I have examined the affidavits therein contained and I certify that the signatures appearing thereon are mine, and true and genuine;

That I have also examined the commandeering receipts claims 8766 to 8783 inclusive, 8987 and 8988, and that the countersigned signature appearing thereon is mine, true, and genuine;

That the signature of Pablo Juane appearing on the commandeering receipts mentioned thereof are true, and that said Pablo Juane was authorized to act as receiving officer for the SMS Regiment; that Pablo Juane is carried on the recognized roster of the 3d Army Corp Fait as PFC with period of recognition January 9, 1945 to 26 September 1945;

That the name of Major Antonio Arrieta appearing on some

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Authority NND 883078

the undersigned. All other receipts issued by subordinate officers not countersigned are not valid. No receipts were countersigned until the requisitioned goods were already in the hands of the receiving officer for the unit;

That all the supplies commandeered as represented by these receipts were used by the SMS Regiment for subsistence because at that time this unit was not furnished subsistence and other supplies by the U.S. Army;

That the overall commander to which this unit belongs is Col. Justiniano C. Estrella, otherwise known as Col. Alfredo M. David;

That I was authorized by the commanding officer to commandeer supplies for the use of the SMS Regiment only; that during the liberation this unit operated in advance of the U. S. Army from January 9 to March 31, 1945. After that date, subsistence and supplies directly came from the Army unit to which this unit was attached;

That on claims No. 8766 to 8783 inclusive, and 8987 to 8988, I have examined the affidavits therein contained and I certify that the signatures appearing thereon are mine, and true and genuine;

That I have also examined the commandeering receipts claims 8766 to 8783 inclusive, 8987 and 8988, and that the countersigned signature appearing thereon is mine, true, and genuine;

That the signature of Pablo Juane appearing on the commandeering receipts mentioned thereof are true, and that said Pablo Juane was authorized to act as receiving officer for the SMS Regiment; that Pablo Juane is carried on the recognized roster of the 3d Army Corp Falt as PFC with period of recognition January 9, 1945 to 26 September 1945;

That the name of Major Antonio Arrieta appearing on some

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commandeering receipts is genuine and he was authorized by the Headquarters to receipt for commandeered supplies;

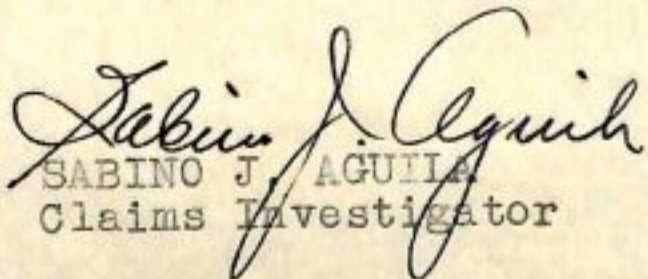
That Major Arrieta was the S-4 of the SMS Regiment which was recognized on 11 February 1945 per letter, 6th Army, AG # 384-2, dated 9 May, 1945.

s/ Serafin M. Silvestre
t/ SERAFIN M. SILVESTRE
Ret. Colonel, Inf. 0-42791

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 18 day of June 1947
in the City of Manila.

s/ Nicholas C McGree
t/ NICHOLAS C. MCGREE
1st Lt. CAC
Investigating Officer

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:


SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AND 883078

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)

:S.S.

CITY OF MANILA)

A F F I D A V I T

I, SERAFIN M. SILVESTRE, of legal age, Filipino, married, resident and with postal address at Binangonan, Rizal, after having been duly sworn in accordance with law depose and say:

That I was formerly the Executive Officer of the Straughn's Fil-American Irregular Troops, (David's Command), otherwise known as the 3rd Army Corps, Markings Fil-Americans, which was duly recognized by 6th Army, USA, dated 9 May 1945, as of 11 February 1945, and was processed with the Philippine Army, on 22 August 1945, with the rank of Colonel;

That in my capacity as Executive Officer, I have delegated Major Melendres V. de Luna to effect the commandeering of food supplies from the civilians and issued the corresponding receipts thereof;

That the supplies commandeered from civilians were duly turned over to the command and consumed by the members of the outfit;

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name this 6th day of Nov 1947.

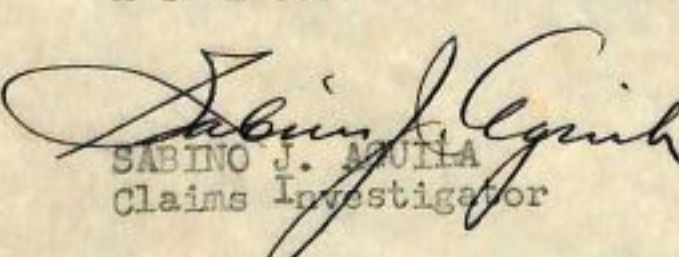
s/ Serafin M. Silvestre
SERAFIN M. SILVESTRE
COL., INF., 0-42791

(Notarial Seal)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE me this 6th day of Nov 1947. Affiant exhibited to me his Res Cert. No. A-3322497, issued at Manila, on May 17, 1947.

s/ Alberto O. Villaraza
Notary Public
Until December 31, 1947

A TRUE COPY:


SABINO J. AQUILA
Claims Investigator

DECLASSIFIED
Authority MND 883078

A F F I D A V I T

I, SERAFIN M. SILVESTRE, of legal age, Filipino, married, resident and with postal address at Binangonan, Rizal, after having been duly sworn in accordance with law depose and say:

That I was formerly the Executive Officer of the Straughn's Fil-American Irregular Troops, (David's Command), otherwise known as the 3rd Army Corps, Markings Fil-Americans, which was duly recognized by 6th Army, USA, dated 9 May 1945, as of 11 February 1945, and was processed with the Philippine Army, on 22 August 1945, with the rank of Colonel;

That in my capacity as Executive Officer, I have delegated Major Melendres V. de Luna to effect the commandeering of food supplies from the civilians and issued the corresponding receipts thereof;

That the supplies commandeered from civilians were duly turned over to the command and consumed by the members of the outfit;

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name this 6th day of Nov 1947.

Serafin M. Silvestre
SERAFIN M. SILVESTRE
COL., INF., O-42791



SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE me this 6th day of Nov 1947. Affiant exhibited to me his Res Cert. No. A-3522497, issued at Manila, on May 17, 1947.

[Signature]
Notary Public
Until December 31, 1947

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
: SS.
CITY OF MANILA)

A F F I D A V I T

I, ANTONIO A. ARRIETA, a retired Major of the Philippine Army, married and resident of San Roque, Pila, Laguna, after having been sworn to according to law depose and say:

That I am one of the authorized officers by the General Headquarters of the Marking's Fil-American Troops stationed in south Centra Luzon, to commandeer supplies for the support and subsistence of our unit especially for the S. M.S. Regiment under the command of Colonel Serafin M. Silvestre.

That I authorized Lieutenant Pablo Juane to be one of our Supply Officer of the SMS Regiment from the year 1944 up to the date of Liberation.

That we did not give nor agree to prices of the Commandeered Supplies and we advised the owners that the prices will be based on Army prices.

That the SMS Regiment in which I am accounted for, operated from January 1, 1945 up to 31 May 1945, the towns of the Province of Laguna Liberation of Sta. Cruz, Laguna, Liberation of American interns in Los Banos, Laguna on February 23, 1945, Liberation of the town of Bay, Laguna, and the Liberation of Calauan, Laguna.

That I further certify that the signature of Lt. Pablo Juane appearing on the official receipts with the stamp of our unit and countersigned by the Commanding Officer, Colonel Serafin M. Silvestre are true and genuine signature of said receiving officer.

s/ Antonio A. Arrieta
ANTONIO A. ARRIETA

I certify that the above statements are given voluntarily by the person signing same without threats and intimidation.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

Sabino J. Aguila
SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator

s/ Nicholas C McGree
t/ NICHOLAS C. MCGREE
1st Lt., CAC
Investigating Officer

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Authority NND 883078

MARKING'S GUERRILLAS
FIL-AMERICAN INDIVIDUAL TROOPS
LUZON

October 20, 1946

Subject: Order to be a Supply Officer
for the General Headquarters.
To: Maj. Antonio Arrietas

Effective upon the receipt of this order, you
are appointed SUPPLY OFFICER for the General Headquarters
in San Roque, Laguna.

Quinones, Col.
Col. L. PSYRANESA
Quartermaster General &
General Staff Member



Exh. P. 12.

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Exh. BB.

25

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
PROVINCE OF LAGUNA)

A F F I D A V I T

I PABLO JUANE, Filipino, married, of legal age, and residing at San Roque, Pila, Laguna, depose and say:

That I was recognized Pfc on a submitted roster under the name of Pablo Jaime which was a typographical error. Action has been taken to correct said error;

That I was a member of the SMS Regiment, Marking's Fil-American operating in the province of Laguna;

That I was appointed supply officer by Major Antonio Arrieta. As a supply officer I procured supplies for the units of the SMS Regiment;

That, when I received orders to procure supplies, I would contact people that had items of supplies. I would make arrangements to procure supplies. At the time of receiving supplies, I would issue receipts signed by me, and countersigned by Colonel Silvestre, Regimental Commander;

That I did not give nor agree to prices of the commandeered supplies and I advised the owners that prices will be based on Army prices.

That all receipts issued were countersigned by Col. Silvestre, Regimental Commander. All receipts not countersigned are not valid.

That all supplies commandeered were used by the SMS Regiment for subsistence.

That I have examined Claims PRO-8766 to 8783, inclusive, and PRO-8987 to 8988. That the signature that appears thereon is mine, true, and genuine. The countersigned signature of Col. Silvestre is true and genuine.

Pablo Juane
PABLO JUANE

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of June 1947 at Pila, Laguna.

Nicholas C. McGree
NICHOLAS C. MCGREE
Certifying Claims Investigator

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S T A T E M E N T

- Q. Please state your name and other personal circumstances.
A. Andres D. Franco of legal age, married, resident of San Roque, Pila, Laguna.
- Q. Do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth in the statement that you are going to make?
A. Yes sir.
- Q. This office is in receipt of a letter dated 5 November 1947, signed by a certain Andres D. Franco. Do you know something about this letter?
A. That is my letter.
- Q. And is this your signature?
A. That is my signature.
- Q. This letter is denominated as "denunciations." Can you specify the denunciations that you like to make so that this office can be guided accordingly?
A. Yes.
- Q. Please state them.
A. That Major Arrieta, through his own initiative, made innocent people file fraudulent claims against the U. S. Army which claims were not actually incurred by us during the resistance movement; that if ever supplies were received by us, they were mostly given voluntarily, in small amounts, without giving any receipts thereof except in very few cases like Mr. Tranquilino Calo for instance who, upon reliable information was able to collect P4,000 or P5,000 Philippine currency from the U. S. Army, representing claims arising out of supplies which were given to the guerrillas during the Japanese occupation. Like also the claim of Leonardo Rebong who was able to collect more than P2,000 from the U. S. Army representing the amount of supplies they have given the guerrillas during the resistance movement which in these both cases we have not actually received during the Japanese occupation.
- Q. Do you know whether these claims of two persons here were prepared by Arrieta?
A. I was informed that they were prepared by Arrieta.
- Q. Will you specify the dates when you were with Major Arrieta?
A. From the outbreak of the war I was with Major Arrieta up to the time of liberation because we were living in the same barrio, same town, and the same province, San Roque Laguna.
- Q. Were you also an officer of the same unit?
A. I was the company commander of the guerrillas in that sector.
- Q. Did you actually see Major Arrieta issue receipts to claimants whom you believe were not responsible for giving foodstuffs to your unit?
A. You mean during the resistance movement?
Q. No. After the movement.
A. I did not see him issue receipts but I saw that he had several claims forms in his possession which he brings with him in contacting claimants and having them sign the forms. But I don't know if he is issuing receipts in support of these claim forms.
- Q. Approximately, what is the amount of foodstuffs requisitioned for

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Andres D. Franco

your unit which in your opinion was really used by officers and men of your unit at the time they were operating against the Japanese?

A. I could not make any fixed determination of all the supplies we have received from the civilians because supplies were given to us in small quantities only. Mostly all the people in the community gave us supplies or food from time to time not in terms of lump sum or big amounts.

Q. How much was the strength of your outfit, the SMS Regiment?

A. In our place alone, just around 250, like that.

Q. That is the company under your command.

A. No sir.

Q. How about Arrieta?

A. He was not a combat officer. He was in the headquarters of the regiment.

Q. How about the other men of the Regiment? Where were they stationed? Not in Pila, Laguna?

A. I don't know. As far as I am concerned, our regiment was composed only of that men. There were very few at Calawang.

Q. Did you have an officer in your company charged with the responsibility of collecting foodstuffs for your company alone? You are the company commander. At least you have a company supply officer.

A. No. We did not have that.

Q. Do you mean to say that Major Arrieta as Regimental Supply Officer of the whole regiment was responsible for supplying the whole outfit?

A. He was not solely responsible. I used to receive supplies also.

Q. Was Major Arrieta included in your company?

A. He was included in the regiment.

Q. Who was the regimental commander?

A. Major Ortiz. Second in command was Serafin M. Silvestre.

Q. When was your unit recognized?

A. Our unit was recognized 11 February 1945.

Q. With how many men?

A. 143 in all, - the whole regiment including Major Arrieta.

Q. Whenever you commandeered, did you issue receipts?

A. I don't remember having issued receipts. I did not commandeer sack by sack. I used to receive one ganta and at other times a khupa.

Q. You did not promise payment whenever you received those?

A. No.

Q. Legally speaking, you existed for a month from February to March 1945 because you were recognized in February.

A. No. When we were called for processing, that was early part of August but the date of our recognition runs from February 11, 1945.

Q. When were you placed in inactive status?

A. December 14.

Q. Was Major Arrieta always with you during the whole period of the resistance movement?

A. Not all the time because he was with the Japanese military police.

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- Q. When did he join your outfit?
A. With respect to joining the outfit, he practically joined us from 1941, 1942 like that but when the Japanese went against the guerrillas, he was designated the barrio lieutenant at the same time military police and he was responsible for the confiscation of some arms from the guerrillas.
- Q. You mean to say that when he was in the service of the Japanese he was also in the service of the guerrillas?
A. Yes.
- Q. But he was responsible for the capture of the arms from the guerrillas?
A. He was the one who collected. That was when we were still in the garrison. We were 63 in all. We were sent to jail.
- Q. What year was that?
A. 1943.
- Q. Knowing that Arrieta was with the military police and that he was responsible for the surrender of arms, why were you still in good terms with him?
A. You mean during the resistance movement? When we were zonified.... I want to mention the date. It was July 20, 1943 when I was ordered by Major Ortiz to attend a conference of all guerrilla sector commanders. I was with my Sergeant Ernesto Herradura riding in a carromata to the town of Pila but unfortunately, we did not reach the town because we were snatched by the Japanese, tied up and brought back to Nanhaya, Pila, Laguna where we had our headquarters and had the people zonified. During the zonification, I, with Ernesto Herradura, tied up in the truck while the Japanese assembled the people in the plaza picked up many men who were more than 60. Major Arrieta that time was a military police with Japanese around the plaza after which all of us were brought to the Japanese garrison in Sta. Cruz, Laguna where we were tortured.
- Q. You mean after the zonification you joined hands with Arrieta?
A. You mean after our release with the garrison?
- Q. Yes.
A. He joined with us also but we could not make any move.
- Q. Despite the fact that he was in league with the Japanese, he was with you all the time until the liberation?
A. He was with us until the liberation.
- Q. In connection with your being caught by the Japanese. Do you know whether Major Arrieta in 1943 as a Japanese military police was responsible in your being apprehended by the Japanese?
A. I think he had some connection with it because had he been not connected with the Japanese he should have been caught because he was designated as Major that time.
- Q. Why is it that despite the fact that you knew that he was connected with the Japanese you did not do anything against him when he joined the resistance movement after your release?
A. Because after our release, the Japanese became strong in our place and we could not make any move except lie low for the time being.
- Q. Now after the expulsion of Japanese in your town Major Arrieta might have joined you. Why have you not taken action against him if he were really connected with the Japanese?
A. I did not take any action against him because the operation when the

Japanese were retreating was very hot and he ~~was~~^{he} neglected the Japanese and joined us all the time.

- Q. From the time of your release in that zonification that you mentioned, you said you have been with Major Arrieta. Your relation with Arrieta from that time up to the liberation was friendly and that there were no occasions wherein you have been at loggerhead I mean not in good terms with each other.
- A. Practically I don't trust him personally because of his affiliation with the Japanese during the time we were imprisoned.
- Q. Do we understand that you did not trust him when you were caught and you did not trust him when he joined your unit in 1944 and you do not trust him yet these days?
- A. Yes because of his affiliation with the Japanese, which from time to time I have in heart.
- Q. But as you said from the beginning that you received supplies from him despite the fact that you have a grudge against him is it not it?
- A. No, I don't have any grudge against him.
- Q. Whenever he delivers supplies to you, did you not ask him where he got the supplies, you as company commander of your outfit?
- A. With regards to supplies as I have emphasized, they were not received in sacks. They were in small quantities which from time to time were brought by people to our headquarters.
- Q. Were you always present during the delivery of these supplies?
- A. All the time.
- Q. What I mean is at the time supplies were delivered to Major Arrieta. Were you always present?
- A. You mean even those by gantas? Almost all the time.
- Q. And after the receipt by Major Arrieta it is also delivered to you as company commander.
- A. No. With respect to the food of the guerrillas, whatever we received from the civilians were cooked right away.
- Q. What I mean is you stated before that you received supplies from Major Arrieta.
- A. Yes.
- Q. My question is were you always present at the time the people delivered supplies to Major Arrieta?
- A. Yes, almost all the time.
- Q. And then at the same day or immediately after delivery to Major Arrieta it is also delivered to you by Major Arrieta?
- A. No, they were taken by my men in gantas and they were cooked right away.
- Q. You mean to say you received the supplies direct from the townspeople. How about the supplies from Arrieta? Do you know more or less the amount given to you by Major Arrieta?
- A. No.
- Q. But you stated that you received.
- A. In small denominations, not in terms of sacks.
- Q. More or less, how much supplies did you receive from Major Arrieta?
- A. I remember I have my men cook personally from him once three gantas and another five which we cooked.

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- Q. Are you aware of the fact that Major Arrieta after commandeering supplies from the civilians directly gave these supplies to your unit in your presence or not?
- A. To the headquarters.
- Q. Headquarters of what?
- A. To the headquarters of the regiment because my headquarters as company commander is the same.
- Q. When did Major Arrieta begin collecting foodstuffs from the people?
- A. Early part of 1945. He was not the only one collecting supplies. I also collected and my enlisted men but in small denominations only.
- Q. Was your unit ever attached to the U. S. Army?
- A. Yes, to the 1st Cavalry Division.
- Q. How many men were attached?
- A. All those that were recognized, about 143 including myself.
- Q. During the period that you were attached, have you been receiving supplies, arms and ammunitions?
- A. Yes when we actually joined the operations, we were ~~fed~~^{fed} by the U. S. Army. Then, after the actual operations, we went to our headquarters but most of the time we ate at our own homes.
- Q. How about the supplies that were given by the U. S. Army? Was it sufficient for your command?
- A. Not all.
- Q. How about those that were not attached?
- A. They stayed at their homes, in Pila, Laguna.
- Q. When were you attached to the 1st Cavalry?
- A. When we liberated the American prisoners there, Bay, Laguna, Calawang, Laguna, San Pablo, Alaminos and during those time that we operated with them.
- Q. And during all that time, you had no knowledge whatsoever what had been happening at your headquarters in Pila?
- A. I know because we used to return almost at the end of the day every afternoon like that.
- Q. From Pila, Laguna to Bay, how many kilometers are there?
- A. From the Headquarters up to Bay, that is almost four kilometers but we go by bancas or boat.
- Q. And from your headquarters at Nanhaya, how many kilometers?
- A. About nine or ten kilometers. We used also bancas.
- Q. From your headquarters to Calawang?
- A. We rode U. S. Army truck.
- Q. And you mean to say that during the operations in your places you used to go home every afternoon?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And during those attachment Major Arrieta was also with you?
- A. He didn't join the combat forces.
- Q. Where was he?
- A. He used to be at the headquarters in Nanhaya.

General D. Francis

- Q. From the time you departed from Nanhaya, Laguna up to the time you returned, you did not know his whereabouts?
 A. He is supposed to be in the headquarters.
- Q. And who fed them at headquarters, U. S. Army or civilians?
 A. The U. S. Army bring us some canned food in the headquarters. If we were in the operations, we were fed in the field. But in the headquarters, we ate rice which were given by the civilians and some canned foods given by the U. S. Army.
- Q. During the time you were attached to the U. S. Army and which time you were receiving rations from the U. S. Army, did you commandeer supplies from the civilians for your men?
 A. I asked from the people if we are running short of supplies. Sometimes I told my men to collect ~~by~~ ganta.
- Q. What about Arrieta?
 A. He also collected.
- Q. Did you issue receipts yourself and signed them?
 A. I don't remember I have issued.
- Q. What about Major Arrieta?
 A. I did not see him issue any receipts.
- Q. You know that he collected foodstuffs during that time?
 A. What I know is I have received supplies which we collected. Not only Major Arrieta but also the enlisted men and I collected.
- Q. You have been in the headquarters of the regiment. Do you know if they have records of these collections in 1944 and 1945?
 A. No. We don't make any records.
- Q. Do you mean he issued receipts immediately after collecting?
 A. With regards to receipts, I have said that I did not see Major Arrieta issue a receipt in any instance.
- Q. What about the other officers in the regiment. Do you know if they collected foodstuffs?
 A. Yes. As I said not only the officers, even the enlisted men collected food from the civilians.
- Q. Did these officers issue receipts?
 A. No, *I don't see them. ^{and enlisted men}*
- Q. Who are some of those officers with Major Arrieta, do you know?
 A. You know I want to clarify this also. There were some officers who were not recognized.
- Q. Those recognized.
 A. Lt. Francisco Larano, Col. Ortiz, Lt. Col. Soriano (not recognized).
- Q. What about Col. Silvestre?
 A. Also
- Q. What about the enlisted men who collected?
 A. Pvt. Leopoldo de Leon.
- Q. Is he one of your men?
 A. I want to mention only ~~my~~ men. Pvt. Pablo Bitervo, Feliciano Eulogio, Pedro Eulogo and Pedro de la Cruz.
- Q. Returning to those commandeering of yours, did you make a list of the commandeering or collections?

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A. No.

Q. Do you have any knowledge whether Major Arrieta made a list of all his collections or commandeerings?

A. No.

Q. He was a candidate for mayor of your municipality. Do you know if he issued receipts in 1947 to support the claims of civilians whom he helped to file claims in this office?

A. According to reliable information, he issued receipts for supplies in 1947 claimed by Tranquilino Calo and Leonardo Rebong but I did not see the receipts. And they were able to collect the amount from the U. S. Army.

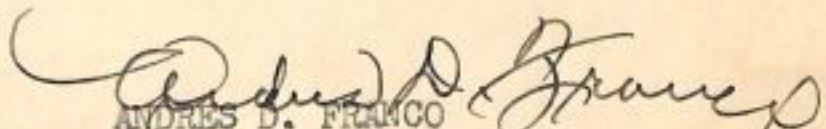
Q. And who more, if you have knowledge. What I mean is to whom receipts were given. Can you specify the names of those persons to whom he issued receipts in 1947 or earlier but after the liberation?

A. So far as I know he has just issued the receipts at present because a few days before the election, Jaime Rebong who was a guerrilla officer also during the resistance movement but not recognized informed me that Major Arrieta prepared a claim for him in the amount of P5,000 and he requested if I could certify his claim and I refused and explained to him that I could not certify for supplies in the guerrillas which were not actually incurred by us.

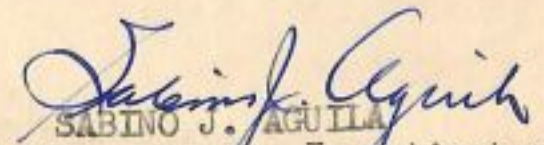
Q. Do you have documents relative to you denunciations that you are making now? I mean evidence to substantiate your charge.

A. I can give samples of the paper used during the resistance movement, the seal and the type of the typewriter. I will bring tomorrow afternoon.

I certify that my answers to the foregoing questions are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, belief and recollection.


ANDRES D. FRANCO

I certify that the foregoing statement was made by the party signing the same voluntarily before me this 9th day of December 1947.


SABINO J. AGUILA
Certifying Claims Investigator

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Dropped by an American plane, along the shore of
San Roque, Pala, Laguna, Jan. 12, 1945
at about 2:00, O'clock P. M.

Office of the President
of the Philippines

PROCLAMATION

MY BELOVED PEOPLE:

The American forces of liberation under the brilliant leadership of General MacArthur have destroyed the enemy army defending Leyte, established control of Mindoro, and now stand firmly on the soil of Luzon within striking distance of our Capital City. This is the answer to our prayers of many long months. The decisive hour in the Battle of the Philippines has arrived.

General MacArthur has called upon us to rally behind him and I know that every patriot, guerrilla and civilian, will heed that call so that the enemy may feel the full strength of our outraged people. Rally to his forces with your utmost so that his burden of battle may be lightened. Rise to noble heights as a liberty-loving people. Acquit yourselves with courage and honor worthy of the sacred memory of our departed heroes.

Defend our cause! and strengthen our arms!

God speed the day of our deliverance!

S. Osmena
SERGIO OSMENA
President of the Philippines

15-F-6

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Authority AND 883078

UNITED STATES PHILIPPINE ISLAND FORCES USPIF
MARKING'S FIL-AMERICANS
LUZON
HQ 2ND ARMY CORPS

5 March

Subject: Memorandum
To : Capt. Franco, San Roque

1. Upon receipt hereof, furnish a becca for 12 men who are proceeding to Manila.

S. M. ...
S. M. ...
Col. USPIF
Chief of Staff

NO ARM' CORPS



*during the operation
January up to March 1945-*

G. Frey

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UNITED STATES PHILIPPINE ISLANDS FORCES
RIZAL EASTERN LAGUNA COMMAND

INFORMATION SHEET

NAME FRANCO, ANDRES D. RANK CAPTAIN AGE 34 STATUS MARRIED
DATE OF INDUCTION October 1, 1942 UNIT S. M. S. REGIMENT, MARKING'S ALL-AMERICANS
ADDRESS: OFFICE Nanbaya, Pila, Laguna RESIDENCE San Roque, Pila, Laguna

BENEFICIARIES:
Leoncia San Jose
Teodoro Franco
Lorna "
Eduardo Franco
Pedro "

RELATIONSHIP:
Wife
Son
Daughter
Son
"



ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHED SINCE INDUCTION

Served with Lt. Jack Smith and Sgt. Robert White, when they escaped from the hands of the unscrupulous Japs. Conducted various raids in apprehending and picking up Sakdal, Ganaps and Makapili to safeguard the interest and affairs of the Guerrillas. The first Guerrilla leader who came to the rescue of Maj. Charles Howe, Maj. Tom Tompkins, and Sgt. Britain, when they crashed along the beach of San Benito, Pila, Laguna, last January 23, 1945. Took active part in the liberation of the American War prisoners encamped at Los Baños, Laguna. Furnished supplies and transportation facilities to Guerrillas and U.S. Army before the liberation of Pila, and its neighboring towns. Joined all operations of S. M. S. Regiment.

I hereby certify that the above data are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Andres D. Franco
ANDRES D. FRANCO
Signature

ATTESTED:
S. M. Bivestre Gol.
S. M. BIVESTRE GOL.
Commanding S. M. S. REGIMENT

was used
~~...~~
during the month of May 1945.
A. Franco

S T A T E M E N T

- Q. State your name and other personal circumstances.
A. Miguel Oca de Leon, resident of Nanhaya, Pila, Laguna, 56 years of age, married.
- Q. Do you promise to tell the truth and nothing but the truth in this investigation?
A. Yes sir.
- Q. Were you a member of the SMS Regiment, Marking's Fil-American Troops?
A. Yes sir.
- Q. What category were you in?
A. At first First Lieutenant and later Captain.
- Q. And what outfit were you in?
A. I was under the command of Colonel Abdenaga Ortiz's regiment.
- Q. What place was that originally stationed?
A. In my house at Nanhaya, Pila, Laguna.
- Q. This regiment of Ortiz, is it different from the SMS regiment?
A. The same.
- Q. What was the position you were discharging in the regiment?
A. Supply Officer.
- Q. Can you specify the dates when you acted as supply officer of the regiment?
A. Yes sir. Since 1943 I was the supply officer.
- Q. As a supply officer, you collected supplies for the regiment?
A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Now, whenever you get supplies, did you issue receipts?
A. There were some that were given and there were some that were not given. The receipts were signed by Colonel Ortiz and General Marking.
- Q. Do you remember the commandeering that you made when you were supply officer in 1943?
A. I do not remember.
- Q. Were the receipts signed by Colonel Ortiz and Marking issued in 1944?
A. Yes.
- Q. You stated that you remember the commandeering that you made. Can you state the names of the persons from whom you commandeered?
A. I do not remember. The situation was disorderly.
- Q. At least you remember the names of the persons from whom you commandeered. Can you state the names of those persons?
A. Leonardo Rebong, 6 gantas of rice; Graciano Espiritu, 1 carabao. I cannot remember the rest. I was wanted by the Japanese.
- Q. Now, you were being presented here by Mr. Franco. What do you know about his complaint against Mr. Arrieta?
A. I don't know anything about it.
- Q. Do you know Major Arrieta?
A. I know.

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Miguel Oca de Leon

22-23

Q. Do you know whether he commandeered supplies for the regiment?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Were you present when he got supplies from the people?

A. I was not.

Q. Do you know whether Major Arrieta is now issuing receipts for the supplies that he was supposed to have taken?

A. No.

Q. Do you know Mr. Andres Franco?

A. Yes.

Q. Why?

A. Because his barrio is adjacent to ours.

Q. Do you know if Major Arrieta in 1947 visited the barrios issuing receipts or preparing claims forms for the barrio people?

A. I have seen him but I did not know what he did.

I certify that my answers to the foregoing questions are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, belief and recollection.

Miguel Oca de Leon
MIGUEL OCA DE LEON

I certify that the foregoing statement was made by the party signing the same voluntarily before me this 9th day of December 1947.

Sabino J. Aguila
SABINO J. AGUILA
Certifying Claims Investigator

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
: S.S.
CITY OF MANILA)

A F F I D A V I T

I, TOMAS J. GUTIERREZ, of legal age, married, and residing at 301 M. Earnshaw, Sampaloc, Manila, do hereby make the following statements:

That on or about the 15th day of October 1947, I personally went to the office of Mr. Alfredo David located at Raon St., Quiapo, Manila, in my capacity as an investigator of the Claims Service, PHILRYCOM, APO 707 then located at Bldg. 24, Corner of Zurbaran and Quezon Boulevard, Manila.

That my purpose of seeing Mr. David was to confer with him regarding certain receipts allegedly signed by him in his capacity as a guerrilla officer.

That said receipts were presented by different claimants as evidence to support their claims against the US Government.

That Mr. David was not available every time I went to see him. I talked to his lady secretary whose name I do not recall now and notified me that Mr. David was out in Laguna campaigning. While there, I noticed civilians presenting papers to the lady secretary above-mentioned. I have not investigated what those papers were but I over heard them mentioned about Japanese War Notes which were presented to the lady secretary so that corresponding papers may be prepared by her apparently to be presented to the Claims Service, PHILRYCOM, APO 707.

That from previous dates, I went to see Col. Agustin Markings who was then at Malacanan and inquired from him as to his personal knowledge about the receipts signed by Alfredo David. He warned me verbally as an investigator to go slowly when it comes to some claims signed by said Alfredo David ("for I know that some of the claims are rackets"). With that point of view, I went away thinking all the time how I could judiciously process claims whose receipts were allegedly signed by Alfredo David.

Furthermore, I have nothing to say.

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CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

Sabino J. Aguila
SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator

s/ Tomas J. Gutierrez
t/ TOMAS J. GUTIERREZ
Claims Investigator

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Authority WFO 883078

August 23, 1947

SUBJECT: MIA - 1947

TO: Mr. Donald B. Fleming, Room 411
Military Service, Williams, APO 707

After your letter received 15 August 1947, subject as above, the undersigned believes that Alfredo M. David himself is in a position to throw light on the case.

In undersigned's opinion, before you to David for comment on this matter. For cases of similar nature that may arise, I should like to make comments the fact that I issued a General Order to all Unit Commanders under my immediate command to issue receipts for items such as foodstuffs, Army articles, etc; which were used for the insurance of the advance movement. This order was made way back 1944. The last part of 1944, I issued liberty bonds instead.

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[Handwritten signature]



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STATEMENT

- Q. Please state your name and other personal circumstances.
- A. Pedro Macalinao, of legal age, married, resident of Pagsanjan, Laguna.
- Q. Do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in this investigation?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What is the name of the outfit where you belong?
- A. 1st Regiment, 4th Laguna Division, 3d Army Corps.
- Q. What was your designation?
- A. S-4.
- Q. Why were you designated as S-1 in this receipt dated 10 February 1945?
- A. Sometimes I was shifted to S-1 because in the guerrillas we did not have definite assignments.
- Q. I will show you these receipts which are in the claim file of Sancho Zalamea, Sr., please identify these signatures (investigator showing receipts).
- A. Those receipts are all mine.
- Q. When you signed receipts, is it not true that you needed the counter signature of your CO?
- A. Yes. We have the signature of our CO, Major Capili.
- Q. Who was your CO?
- A. Primitivo Capili.
- Q. Is he the only officer who authorized the commandeering you made?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Are there no other officers?
- A. None except him and the overall commander, Alfredo M. David.
- Q. This commandeering you made on 10 February 1945 in the name of Sancho Zalamea for one cow, was it authorized by Col. David or Capili?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Has he knowledge of this commandeering?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Have you written authorization to commandeer from your CO?
- A. I have but may be I left it at home.

Pedro Macalinao

14-19

Edo Maralino

- Q. How many commandeerings did you make as S-4 of the 1st Regiment, 4th Laguna Division?
- A. Plenty.
- Q. Did you usually issue receipts at the times of commandeerings?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you recall the periods when you made the commandeerings?
- A. I do not remember.
- Q. Did you issue receipts?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you affix your seal?
- A. Yes.
- Q. How about the other receipts that bear no seal whatsoever?
- A. They bear no seal because the place where we got these receipts was very far, which is Bakud na Bato, otherwise known as Simbahan na Bato which is more than 54 kilometers from Pagsanjan, Laguna.
- Q. What disposition was made of the cows?
- A. They were consumed by our men.
- Q. What is the number of men in your unit?
- A. More than 500.
- Q. All recognized?
- A. No.
- Q. How many men were recognized?
- A. 300 only.
- Q. You were S-4 of the 1st Regiment?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you give supplies to other regiments?
- A. We gave to our own men and to men in the headquarters for their subsistence.
- Q. Do you remember having commandeered from other persons?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Name them.
- A. Salvador Ungzon, Benigno San Luis, Domingo Llamas, Vicente Llamas, Jr. Pedro Llamas, Guillermo Limlingco, and many others whose names I do not remember. These persons named are the principal ones from whom I commandeered.

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Pedro Macalinao

- Q. Did you issue receipts?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you affix seal of your unit?
- A. Yes. We even had official receipts being issued by the headquarters of the 4th Laguna Division.
- Q. Whenever you commandeered, did you bring typewriter with you?
- A. No.
- Q. Why are these receipts typewritten?
- A. They ~~WERE~~ came from our headquarters.
- Q. Where were they typewritten?
- A. In Gakot Mountain.
- Q. Your CO is Primitivo Capili?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Where is he?
- A. In Pagsanjan.
- Q. Can you bring him with you to this office
- A. Yes.
- Q. Were you the only one authorized to commandeer for your unit?
- A. No. There were some others: Alipio Fernandez, Ricardo Fabella, Flores whose first name I do not know.
- Q. In these commandeerings made from Sancho Zalamea, Sr., did you receive supplies personally?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Can you furnish this office samples of your signature?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you always write your full name in the receipts that you issued?
- A. Not always. Sometimes I wrote P. Macalinao, at other times I wrote Pedro Macalinao.
- Q. You are under the ~~overall~~ command of Col. David but the overall commander is Marking, did you not receive orders from Marking to stop commandeering in 1945?
- A. During the liberation of Pagsanjan when we were already with the Americans, we received orders to stop commandeering. That was 5 April 1945.
- Q. To what unit of the liberation forces was your unit the 1st Regiment, 4th Laguna Division attached.

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- A.. From 5 April 1945 to 31 May 1945, we were attached to the 5th Cavalry, 12th Cavalry, 7th Cavalry, and 27th FA.
- Q. When were you first assigned as S-4.
- A. Since 1942.
- Q. Why is it that in this receipt dated 10 February 1945, you appear as S-1, will you explain the discrepancy between your statement as S-4 of your regiment and this?
- A. Sometimes the S-1 was absent and I acted as S-1 depending upon the circumstances.
- Q. Do you keep records of your commandeering?
- A. We made records but they were sent to AFWESPAC.
- Q. Were they not returned to you?
- A. No.
- Q. How about your Major D. Capistrano, commandeering officer, did he make commandeering in your presence?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did he issue receipts also?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Coming back to the order of Colonel Marking which I mentioned a while ago, do you remember whether an order was relayed to you to the effect that no commandeering should be made in 1945?
- A. No. But when we were attached to the Americans we did not make any commandeering anymore.
- Q. What were the items you commandeered?
- A. Hogs, cows, carabaos, horses, chickens, palay, rice, some clothes, shoes, typewriters, paper, pencils.
- Q. These receipts dated Sept 3 1944, Sept 21, 1944, Oct. 8, 1944, November 2, 1944, November 18, 1944, December 20, 1944, February 17, 1945, January 8, 1945, January 31, 1945, 28 March 1945, the name of the person from whom you commandeered, the supplies, the amount of the supplies, the dates when the receipts were supposedly issued, your signature and the counter signature of Major Capili were ~~was~~ written in red ink almost at the same time, how do you account for this?
- A. The red ink was used because that was the sign we used in our receipts signed by me as supply officer to distinguish ours from those of other units. Our seal was also used with the red ink.
- Q. These receipts dated 20 December 1944, 17 February 1945, 8 January 1945, 31 January 1945, March 1, 1945, and March 28, 1945, are in onion skin, where did you happen to get this kind of paper?

Pecho
Manalino

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- A. This kind of paper was taken from the school of Mr. Abella in Pagsanjan.
- Q. When did you get it from Mr. Abella?
- A. I do not remember but it was a long time ago.
- Q. How did you keep this paper after taking it from Mr. Abella?
- A. We brought it to our camp.
- Q. How did you keep it there?
- A. It was placed in a bag made of pandan and it was wrapped.
- Q. Do you always use red ink in your receipts.
- A. Yes.
- Q. How much supply do you have of red ink?
- A. Plenty.
- Q. Why did you use red in particular in writing and in your seal?
- A. We used red ink to distinguish ours from other units that were using other kind of ink.
- Q. Who gave you orders to use red ink?
- A. Our CO.
- Q. Do you always use red ink in correspondence and in your seal?
- A. Yes.
- Q. How about this receipt dated 10 February 1945 which is written in pencil and other kind of ink, how do you account for this?
- A. That receipt was Capistrano's. At times when Capili was absent Capistrano acted as our CO, but his definite assignment was as CO of the Crack Battalion Fighter Unit. When I signed that receipt I did not use the red ink which is specially for the use of our Pagsanjan Unit.
- Q. These receipts dated 20 December 1944, 17 February 1945, 8 January 1945, 31 January 1945, 1 March 1945, 28 March 1945, appear to have been typed in one typewriter, is this true?
- A. They were not typed in one typewriter.
- Q. But you admit that they were already made when you went to commandeer.
- A. Yes. But they were not yet filled. Sometimes these receipts bear the same date because we used to leave receipts with our men as when we went on missions in order that our men could commandeer for their subsistence.
- Q. Were these receipts issued in one day or not? Were they antedated?
- A. Sometimes when we went on a mission and there were men who

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contributed we issued receipts later and we used to place the dates when the supplies were commandeered.

- Q. In this particular case were these receipts issued at the time of commandeerings?
- A. I do not remember in this particular case, but I know that sometimes the receipts were issued after a week or after a month to ratify what we previously got.
- Q. Are you not sure that these particular receipts were really issued at the time you actually got the cows?
- A. I am not sure, but I know they were issued because we really got cows from him.
- Q. I will show you these receipts ~~date~~ which were signed filed here for the claim of Mr. Zalamea, please identify the receipts which were issued only afterwards as a ratification of what you got.
- A. I do not remember which.
- Q. In these receipts where the weight of the cow is placed, how do you know or how do you determine the weight of the cows?
- A. That is only our calculation because the ones who were taking care of them asked us to place the weight.
- Q. Do you usually number the receipts?
- A.. If they were consecutive we did, sometimes we did not.
- Q. Why is it that you did not number them?
- A. Because I am not the only one who made the commandeerings.
- A. Have you anything more to say?
- A. None.

Pedro Macalinao
PEDRO MACALINAO

I certify that the foregoing statement was made by the party signing the same voluntarily before me this 17th day of December 1947, at Claims Service, PHILRYCOM, APO 707.

Sabino J. Aguila
SABINO J. AGUILA
Claims Investigator

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Pedro Macalinao

(Pedro Macalinao)

This is to certify that
the above signature
is my genuine
signature

Pedro Macalinao

Dec. 17 1947

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Authority AND 883078

Pedro Macalinao
1st Lieutenant
S-4, 1st Regt., 4th Log Div
-13-

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
MUNICIPALITY OF PAGSANJAN)SS
PROVINCE OF LAGUNA)

A F F I D A V I T

I, JUSTINIANO C. ESTRELLA, of legal age, Filipino, married, and a resident of Sta Cruz, Laguna, after having been duly sworn to in accordance with law depose and say:

That I am the Commanding Officer, with the rank of COLONEL, of Straughn's Fil-American Irregular Troops (David's Command) formerly known as 3rd Army Corps Markings Fil-Americans;

That during the guerrilla days my nom de guerre is ALFREDO M. DAVID, and I was known by said name;

That the signature appearing on receipt No. 00672, dated 18 Aug'44 is the true and genuine signature of Lt. Col. LEON UNIVARO, (alias NANDEZ) who is authorized to sign for my signature;

That the fifty (50) cavares contained on said receipt, in favor of DEMOCRETO SANTOS, was duly accounted for by us for the consumption of our outfit;

That we solicited aid and support from the civilians, because at that time we did not receive any supply from the U. S Army;

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name this 30th day of July 1947, in the City of Manila.

Justiniano C. Estrella
JUSTINIANO C. ESTRELLA
COLONEL, INF., O-47115
Commanding

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE me, this 31st day of July 1947, Affiant having exhibited to me his Res. Cert. No. 5026034, issued at Sta Cruz, Laguna, on April 9, 1947.

E. Aquino
E. AQUINO
Mayor
Pagsanjan, Laguna
XXXXXXXXXXXX
Notary Public
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Until December 31, 1948

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ALBERT

I, ALBERT, of the County of ... State of ...
do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct
copy of the original as the same appears in the files of the
Department of the Interior.

That I am the undersigned Officer of the
Department of the Interior and that the original
of the above described document is in my possession
and control.

That the original of the above described document
is in the possession and control of the undersigned
and I am a duly qualified Officer of the Department
of the Interior.

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STATEMENT

I, Justiniano C. Estrella (alias Alfredo M. David), formerly Commanding Officer of 3rd Army Corps, Marking's Fil-Americans, of legal age, single, at present residing at 5 Pena Street, Sta. Mesa, Manila, after having been duly sworn to according to law, hereby depose that the following answers to questions propounded by the investigator are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Q. Did you issue receipts for all foodstuffs commandeered and used by your unit, the 3rd Army Corps?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you think these receipts issued were not signed by others in the name of Alfredo M. David?

A. No. How could others sign without my authority. My receipts beginning September 1944 up to 1945 were consecutively numbered from 00001 up.

Q. Did you authorize other officers of your unit to commandeer supplies?

A. Yes, like Super, Ernesto Abuyen, my G-4, Glicerio Mojica and others.

Q. Do you know if these officers also authorized subordinates to commandeer foodstuffs for your unit?

A. Yes. I think they did, but when the commandeering were duly certified as received I issued receipts for those items commandeered.

Q. Did you issue the receipts immediately after the commandeering or long after the commandeering?

A. Sometimes yes, but other receipts were issued not immediately after each commandeering as I had to verify if all the items given by an individual were really received, and if so, I gave receipt for all items given by that person at different times. Sometimes then I issued receipts two months or 3 months after the final commandeering. The time the last delivery is made, items coming from one person are verified and then I issue one receipt for such items delivered. Besides, those group of men ~~were~~ sent for various missions commandeered supplies for them and when they returned after several months, they showed me the list of commandeering made and I had to issue the corresponding receipts.

Q. Do you have a record of all the commandeering you and your men made in your files?

A. I had before, but all such records, including my G-1 reports, G-2 and G-3 reports, were submitted to G-3, PHILRYCOM.

Q. Do you have no records available in your files?

A. No more.

Q. When did you join the Marking's Fil-Americans?

A. In May 1944.

Q. Were you receiving orders direct from Marking V. Agustin, the Overall Commander from May 1944 up to your attachment to the American Army?

A. Yes, from May 1944 up to January 1, 1945 when my unit was attached to the Alamo Scouts thru orders of the Liaison Officer of the SWPA by the name of Miller. But our actual attachment was on February 11, 1945.

Estrella

Q. You mean you seceded from Marking V. Agustin on February 11, 1945?

A. Yes, but I was still using the seal Marking's Fil-Americans, 3rd Army Corps.

Q. Did you receive orders from Colonel Marking not to commandeer foodstuffs in 1945?

A. No. I did not receive orders. I remember I received orders from American officers in February 1945 to commandeer supplies for the 3rd Army Corps because the supplies given to us were insufficient.

Q. How many men did you have with you then?

A. I had about 4,000 men around Pila.

Q. How many of those were recognized?

A. 2,500 armed men were recognized. The others acted as laborers.

Q. Coming back to commandeering officers you authorized to commandeer, would you name all of them?

A. Ernesto Abuyen - G-4, Glicerio de Lumban, Super - assistant finance officer, Arrieta - supply officer, and Silvestre. They are from different units and they were authorized to commandeer supplies for consumption of their respective men.

Q. Do you know Arrieta?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you say the receipts you issued were really made and given to claimants immediately after the commandeering or some months later?

A. It depends. Receipts were given to claimants immediately after but at other times, these receipts were issued later especially if I assign men for mission and those commandeered by these men were issued later when the contributors would go to the headquarters for the receipts of commandeered supplies. The combat officers and men had no receipts with them and when supplies commandeered by them are reported, I issued the corresponding receipt.

Q. Most of these receipts are signed in red ink, why did you sign them in red ink?

A. As a sign of bravery. However, I also used blue ink when red ink was not available.

Q. What about the typewriter you used in typing the receipts, what was the brand or make?

A. We had ~~xxx~~ those typewriters, all of which were portable.

Q. Do you have any of these typewriters now?

A. No, because they were left at our headquarters and were used by the American CIC when I left our headquarters and when I returned, the CIC men were no longer there and they got those typewriters with them.

Q. Do you know a man by the name of Andres Franco of Pila, Laguna?

A. I do not remember.

Q. How many men were recognized under your command

A. 5,000 men.

Q. Was the recognition of the 3rd Army Corps extended to May 1942?

A. Extended to 1 October 1942, that was the organization

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of the unit then under Colonel Straughn. I was then the supply officer of Colonel Straughn and at the same time his assistant adjutant general. When the adjutant general was captured, I became the adjutant general. That was in April 1943.

Q. Where was Ernesto Abuyen at that time.

A. He was still in the garrison. Abuyen reported to me in August or September 1943 and he became my G-4.

Q. Is Col. Straughn still alive?

A. No, he was captured I think on 5 August 1943. I do not remember the exact date and month but it was in 1943. When he was no longer located, I assumed command of the 3rd Army Corps in 1943.

Q. And Abuyen was your G-4 from 1943 to 1945?

A. Yes.

Q. Did he not delegate his powers to other officers?

A. He authorized his assistant, Colonel Mojica.

Q. Who was your finance officer?

A. David Raymundo, his assistant was Super. ||

Q. Have you personally commandeered supplies and cash?

A. Yes, especially when Col. Straughn was alive.

Q. Did you issue receipts?

A. Yes, with the signature of Col. Straughn. I delivered cash money to Col. Straughn who would sign the receipts for cash.

Q. What kind of money was given to you by the civilians from whom you gave cash receipts?

A. Japanese money and genuine Philippine money.

Q. Do you remember the names of civilians from whom you got cash money in 1942?

A. I do not remember.

Q. Do you have records of these loans?

A. Yes, but they were lost.

Q. In 1943, do you have records of your loans?

A. I remember some of them.

Q. Can you name some of them?

A. Jesus Bautista, but I do not remember if I issued receipt; some people from Cabuyao, Arsenio Escudero. Escudero was assigned as supply officer by Col. Straughn. He is from San Pablo, Laguna. Whenever I went to San Pablo I asked loan from him for our unit.

Q. Did you issue him a receipt and did you sign such receipt?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you authorize others to sign receipts?

A. Yes, when I was with the 1st Cavalry Division, away from our headquarters, I authorized Mendez and Abuyen as they were the ones left behind. Mendez was my G-2.

Q. In what month and year did you authorize Mendez to sign?

A. March 1945.

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Q. Did you receive orders from Col. Marking V. Agustin not to commandeer supplies in 1945?

A. I did not receive orders from him in 1945 because I was then attached to the 1st Cavalry Division which gave my unit arms, ammunitions, clothings, but not rations.

Q. What month and year did you last see Col. Marking V. Agustin?

A. I did not see him since our fusion in 1944 because in 1945, he was sent to the United States. That was November 1944 when I saw him last. I did not receive orders from him after that because I was then running my unit independently in 1944 and with the Americans in 1945.

Q. But you were using his seal?

A. Yes, but with 3rd Army Corps sign and not the General Headquarters sign. *But before the fusion I used my round seal.*

Q. Is this your signature? (Showing a receipt signed Alfredo M. David).

A. Yes, and the other signature is that of Ernesto Abuyen, my G-4.

Q. What kind of paper did you use as receipts?

A. Coupon bond.

Q. What about onion skin, did you also use it?

A. Yes, under Col. Straughn.

Q. Had Col. Straughn lots of onion skin?

A. I do not know but he used onion skin. In my case I used other papers with writings in the back when there were no coupon bonds.

Q. In typing the receipts did you use the portable typewriter?

A. Yes. In the receipts I issued I remember there were say 150 cavans of palay commandeered, but we did not receive that amount at a time. It must be in installment, but the receipt was given after the last installment.

Q. (Showing a receipt in the claim of Pedro Namanlig) Is this your signature?

A. Yes, and the other signature is that of Mojica.

Q. What about the units under the 3rd Army Corps, were they not attached to the unit of Marking's like the S. M. S., were they also attached to the Marking's Fil-Americans?

A. Yes, they were attached, but not directly; they were attached through me.

Q. Did you say all receipts you issued were numbered?

A. Yes from September 1944 up.

Q. What about the liberty bonds, were you given some by Col. Marking?

A. He gave me during the fusion, about ₱50,000 worth of liberty bonds.

Q. Were these liberty bonds all sold by you?

A. Some about ₱35,000 to ₱40,000. The others were lost.

Q. Do you remember if these liberty bonds were dated when handed to you?

A. I remember they were dated and signed by Col. Yay and Marking.

Q. Did you turn over the money to Marking?
A. Yes, not only money but palay and wine especially when *BE* *Capt.* Miller was in his headquarters, because they like wine too.

Q. Did your supply officers make reports of their commandeering to you?

A. Yes, they submitted reports, but I submitted all these, together with my G-1, G-2 and G-3 reports, to G-3 Guerrilla Section, PHILRYCOM.

Q. Were these reports labelled your unit?

A. Some.

Q. Do you remember the persons from whom you commandeered in 1944?

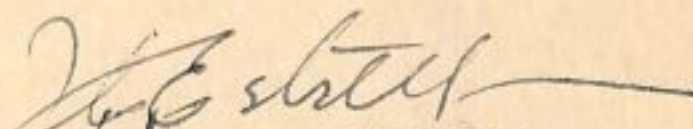
A. I do not remember.

Q. Can you request Col. Mojica, Super, Silvestre, and your other supply officers who commandeered for your units to report to our office at Claims Service, PHILRYCOM, Philippine University Site?

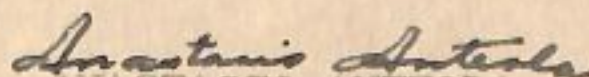
A. I will contact them and request them to see your

Q. Have you anything more to say?

A. None.


JUSTINIANO C. ESTRELLA
(alias Alfredo M. David)

I certify that the foregoing statement was made by the party signing the same voluntarily before me this 12 day of January 1948, at S Peña St., Santa Mesa, Manila.


ANASTACIO ANTEOLA
Claims Investigator

S T A T E M E N T

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Raymundo D. Tanchico

- Q. Will you please state your name and personal circumstances?
A. Raymundo D. Tanchico, married, employee, formerly Major of the Marking's Fil-American Guerrillas, now residing at Cabuyao, Laguna and working at 401 Trade and Commerce Building, Manila.
- Q. You were a member of what unit?
A. Fil-American Irregular Troops under the command of Colonel Justiano C. Estrella alias Colonel Alfredo M. David.
- Q. What was your capacity or position in David's command?
A. I was the S-4 of the Service Company Headquarters.
- Q. What were your duties as S-4?
A. I was the Supply Officer of the 3rd Regiment of David's command.
- Q. How many men were there in your regiment?
A. During that time, we had at least 700 persons plus.
- Q. In the recognized roster, how many men were there in the whole regiment?
A. Originally, there were 1,328 men of which only 278 or 280 were recognized.
- Q. I will show you these receipts which are marked "Exh. B-1, B-2 and B-3" wherein the signature of a certain Raymundo D. Tanchico appears. Will you please tell me whether these signatures were or are yours?
A. Those are my genuine signatures.
- Q. In these same receipts, the heading appears to be "Fil-American Irregular Troops Under Colonel Hugh Straughn, USA #02515 Commanding, South Central Luzon," is this a part of the Marking's Fil-American Troops?
A. Before, this was a separate unit from the Marking's Guerrillas and then when Col. Hugh Straughn was killed, the Marking's Guerrillas and the Fil-American Irregular Troops joined. That was in September 1944. Colonel Straughn died in 1943.
- Q. In these receipts marked "Exhibits B-1, B-2, and B-3" ^{the certain} ~~suppose a person~~ ^{one who} gave money to your unit was a certain "Sampaguita!" Do you know who she is?
A. I know her. She is Maria Alipit. ^{Maric Martinez is known as "Papa"} ~~Mr. Felia de Tanchico as Dr. Kilden.~~
- Q. You received, according to this receipt ~~on~~ July 23, 1944, ₱32,000. What currency was this?
A. Japanese currency.
- Q. Now in January 26, 1945, ₱200 was given to you. What currency was it?
A. That was Philippine money.
- Q. You mean pre-war Philippine currency?
A. Pre-war Philippine currency. During that date, the Japanese money was not being accepted any more in some places.
- Q. When was the 3rd Regiment attached to the American Liberating Forces?
A. That was in January 1945.

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- Q. Exactly, what day in January?
 A. I cannot recall what date. It was during the second week of January that the whole corps was attached.
- Q. To what units were the men of the 3rd Army Corps attached?
 A. The 11th Airborne, 6th Cavalry Division, 6th Army.
- Q. How about the 3rd Regiment of the 3rd Army Corps wherein you were acting as the S-4, what unit of the Liberating Forces was it attached?
 A. Some in the 1st Cavalry, others with the 6th Army of the 11th Airborne.
- Q. And exactly where were you attached?
 A. 1st Cavalry Division.
- Q. Were you not receiving supplies from the liberating forces?
 A. We had our own supplies.
- Q. Were you not receiving clothing or medicines?
 A. We received medicines but those were only first aid.
- Q. How about food? Have you not been receiving food for your men?
 A. We did not receive from the U. S. Army.
- Q. Were you not accounted for in the supply?
 A. It was like this. We were given rifles and did some patrolling, guarding and some of my men helped in combat duties. I was not a combat commander so I stayed in Headquarters.
- Q. How about clothing, have you not been receiving clothing?
 A. No.
- Q. How about arms?
 A. We received.
- Q. And what more?
 A. Ammunitions of course.
- Q. Have you made commandeering other than these from Maria Alipit alias Sampaguita?
 A. We have made receipts for different persons.
- Q. Can you name them - the persons from whom you got supplies?
 A. Emiliano T nchico, Jr., Felisa T nchico, both of Cabuyao, Laguna, Maria Martinez alias Papaya of Manila, Vicente Gatdula of Cabuyao Amado Carpena of Cabuyao and some more which I forgot.
- Q. Were there many commandeering that you made that you cannot remember now?
 A. Maybe there are one or two more.
- Q. What were the items commandeered by you? Is it clothing, supplies or food?
 A. Foodstuffs, medicines, money and clothing also.
- Q. These foodstuffs that you are mentioning, what kinds of foodstuffs were those?
 A. Rice, palay, butchered meat or cows and carabao, and vegetables.
- Q. And these supplies that you commandeered, were they given to the troops of the 3rd Regiment of the 3rd Army Corps?

-2-

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Raymond T. Sanchez

- A. Those were given to the 3rd Army Corps.
- Q. You mean to say you are the Supply Officer of the 3rd Army Corps?
- A. No. I am the Regimental Supply Officer.
- Q. Why is it that your requisitions from the different individuals were given to the whole 3rd Army Corps?
- A. Because it was like this. When we had stocks in our regiment, the headquarters will request supplies .
- Q. Do you keep a list of the commandeerings that you made?
- A. We have only the list for 1945.
- Q. Do you have that list now with you?
- A. I am sorry, I do not have it. I gave it to the Headquarters of the 3rd Army Corps.
- Q. Where is the Headquarters of the 3rd Army Corps?
- A. At the A/P. Reyes Building temporarily.
- Q. Do you think you can bring in that book where you recorded your requisitions in 1945?
- A. According to Colonel Silvestre, the Executive Officer, the records of the 3rd Army Corps were given to Lieutenant Bruce Bromley of the Contact Team. All our papers, maps and intelligence papers and everything in the Headquarters were turned over to the contact team.
- Q. And do you know the whereabouts of your papers now?
- A. It may be now in the headquarters of the Contact Team.
- Q. In the commandeerings that you made, did you issue receipts immediately after the commandeering?
- A. Sometimes it takes two or three days.
- Q. Usually, what kind of paper do you use for the receipts that you issued?
- A. Old coupon bond or any kind of paper available.
- Q. Who authorized you to commandeer?
- A. The overall commander Colonel Justiniano Estrella of the 3rd Army Corps.
- Q. Did he issue a written order to the effect that you can commandeer?
- A. He issued.
- Q. Where is that order now?
- A. I gave a copy to Miss Alipit. It was in the form of an affidavit.
- Q. What I mean is the order signed by Colonel Justiniano C. Estrella.
- A. I don't have it now.
- Q. Where is it?
- A. It was lost.
- Q. Coming back to these receipts marked Exhibits B1, B2 and B3, what dispositions did you make of the money that were received by you?
- A. Suppose we don't have rice, we used the money in buying rice.
- Q. Is it not more convenient to commandeer the actual foodstuffs rather than get cash from the people?
- A. During those days, we cannot just commandeer from place to place. According to our overall commandeer, some places were not within our sector so that we had to purchase our food supplies when in that place.

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Q. Did you use all these money that are listed here in these receipts?
A. I remember that cash that is P32,000 Japanese notes, that was only ~~forty~~ ^{forty} cavans of palay.

Q. And how about this P7,000 that was taken in September 1944?
A. That was fifteen cavans of rice.

Q. And this taken on January 26, 1945?
A. That was butchered meat, vegetables and sugar.

Q. You said you were a member of the 3rd Army Corps and that Alfredo M. David was your overall commander. Do you know his present whereabouts?

A. I know that he is ~~the president of~~ ^{at present at} Sta. Cruz, Laguna. Once in a while he is visiting a temporary headquarters at A. P. Reyes Building. That is all I know at present.

Q. As a supply officer of your regiment do you authorize other persons to commandeer for you like government officials?
A. No.

Q. You mean to say you authorized private persons to commandeer for you?
A. I did not authorize private persons.

Q. Whom did you authorize?
A. I authorized a member of my own regiment.

Q. Can you name the member?
A. Laureano de Lara.

Q. And do you know the commandeering's that he made for your unit?
A. Yes.

Q. Can you name the persons from whom he commandeered supplies?
A. Where I got supplies like this Miss Alipit, Mrs. Tanchico, Mr. Tanchico.

Q. Are you positive that no public officials were authorized by you to commandeer?
A. Only members of my unit, the 3rd Regiment.

Q. Who was the Regimental Commander of the 3rd Regiment?
A. Major Amado Garcia.

Q. Is he here in Manila?
A. Yes. 549 Mayhaligue, Manila.

Q. Was Major Garcia cognizant of the commandeering's that you made.
A. Yes.

Q. In this claim of Maria Alipit, there are three receipts signed by you. Are these the only commandeering's that you made from her?
A. Aside from that I remember there were some more.

Q. What were those other commandeering's that you made?
A. Foodstuffs, money, also medicines.

Q. Can you request Colonel Alfredo David to come to this office so that we can interview him with respect to the commandeering's that you made for your unit?
A. If I can see him.

Q. Can you contact him?
A. I can contact the Executive Officer.

- Q. Can you request this Executive Officer to come here also?
A. I will try my best.
- Q. Do you know the headquarters of Marking's Fil-Americans?
A. It is located at Halina Quality Building at Rizal Avenue before. I don't know now. They might have transferred.
- Q. Do you know the S-4's of the different regiments of the 3rd Army Corps of the Marking's Guerrillas?
A. I don't quite remember their regiments. I know the supply officer at Pila, Laguna, Major Arrieta. Of course my headquarters is next to that place.
- Q. How about the other supply officers? Do you remember their names and addresses?
A. I don't remember their names and addresses?
- Q. How about the supply officer of the Headquarters of Colonel David - the G-4 or something. You should know that.
A. I received orders directly from Overall Commander David.
- Q. How about your Regimental C.O. Did he make commandeering other than yours?
A. Yes
- Q. I will show you again these receipts here. Will you state specifically whether these receipts were issued at the time of commandeering or a number of days have elapsed before you issued these?
A. I issued these at the exact date when we received the supplies.
- Q. Do you know a certain Laureano de Lara?
A. Yes.
- Q. Who is he?
A. He was my company supply officer.
- Q. Was he an officer?
A. No. Before, he was an officer, supply officer of Company C. During the recognition, his rank was reduced.
- Q. But he was under you?
A. He was one of my men.
- Q. Showing you this affidavit signed by a Raymundo Tanchico. Whose signature is this?
A. That is my signature.
- Q. This signature here which you made on 31st of October 1947 and the signatures appearing in Exhibit B1, B2 and B3 in the claim of Maria Alipit appears to be different signatures. Can you explain the difference?
A. My signatures in B1, B2 and B3 were hurriedly written while the other was not but those are all my signatures.
- Q. Where did you get these papers which you use as receipts?
A. From the Regimental Headquarters under Major Garcia.
- Q. Do you have anything more to say?
A. No more.

Raymundo D. Tanchico
RAYMUNDO D. TANCHICO

I certify that the foregoing statement was made by the party signing the same voluntarily before me this 9th day of December 1947.

Sabino J. Aquila
SABINO J. AQUILA
Certifying Claims Investigator

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DAVID'S COMMA

8-90

3RD ARMY (AFAT)

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Authority WNO 883078

Col. Justinian C. Estrella
alias Col. Alfredo David
address: 2nd Floor, A.P. Reyes Bldg, Rosa Sta
Maura
and
Far Eastern Construction Corp. (5 Pina St.,
Sta. Mesa, Manila)
59