

AC 10115

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority *AND 883078*

ALSO SEE PROJECT "J" ARCHIVE  
BOOK 999-5-38 FOR S/S LEPUS

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority AWD 88307P

*Lopus*  
*See Item 10, this form.*

**COPY**

CLAIM NO.  
**657425** -2  
(DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE)

APPLICATION FOR EX-PRISONER OF WAR COMPENSATION  
FOR COMPULSORY LABOR AND/OR INHUMANE TREATMENT  
U. S. WAR CLAIMS COMMISSION

OFFICE OF FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT  
COMMISSION HAS BEEN  
**RECEIVED**  
AUG 4 1954

I (we) hereby make application for compensation payable to ex-prisoners of war or their survivors under section 6 (d) of the War Claims Act of 1948 (Public Law 896, 80th Congress, July 3, 1948), as amended by Public Law 303, 82d Congress, April 9, 1952, and Public Law 359, 83d Congress, May 13, 1954.

If the ex-prisoner of war is now LIVING, put "X" here (  )

If the ex-prisoner of war is now DEAD, put "X" here

OFFICE OF CENTRAL CONTROL

RECEIVED  
AUG 1954

PART I

IDENTITY OF CLAIMANT(S)

OFFICE OF CENTRAL CONTROL  
& FOREIGN EXCHANGE  
**SENT OUT**  
SEP 21 1954

1. NAME OF CLAIMANT Arturo Maria Ilagan Ilagan  
(First name) (Mother's maiden name) (Last name)

(If your last name is taken from your mother, write "SAME" in the space for mother's maiden name. If you have only one name, enter that name in the space for first name, and write after it "ONE NAME.")

ADDRESS OF CLAIMANT 300 SARGENTO MARIANO  
(Street and number) (Number)  
Pasay City, P.I.  
(Municipality) (Province)

2. RELATIONSHIP OF CLAIMANT TO EX-PRISONER OF WAR Self  
(If the claimant is the ex-prisoner of war, write "SELF.")

INFORMATION REGARDING EX-PRISONER OF WAR (Be very careful to fill this in completely):

3. NAME OF EX-PRISONER OF WAR Arturo Maria Ilagan Ilagan  
(First name) (Mother's maiden name) (Last name)  
(Enter above, in every case, the full name of the ex-prisoner of war who is the subject of this claim.)

4. WIFE'S NAME Marina Carmon Maganola Alalis  
(First name) (Mother's maiden name) (Last name)

(Enter above the full name of the wife of the ex-prisoner of war.)

1903

(b) Date of release of ex-prisoner of war: November 1943

6. Places and camps and dates of confinement of ex-prisoner of war:

Place or camp	From	To
<u>Butokaiden Camp, Sasa Josi</u> Japan (near Yawata Naval Base)	<u>April 1942</u>	<u>May 1942</u>
<u>Sangley Point, Cavite</u> Naval Base	<u>June 1942</u>	<u>November 1943</u>

7. DATE OF BIRTH April 3, 1921 PLACE OF BIRTH Taal, Batangas

(Enter above the month, day, and year of the date of birth of the ex-prisoner of war. Enter name of month in full. For example, "December 23, 1917." Also enter the municipality and province where ex-prisoner of war was born.)

8. (a) WAS A CLAIM FILED FOR PRISONER OF WAR \$1 PER DAY BENEFITS? No

(Yes or No). If so, give the claim number No

(b) HAS ANY CLAIM, BASED ON THE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE EX-PRISONER OF WAR, BEEN MADE AGAINST THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OR ANY OF ITS AGENCIES, SUCH AS THE UNITED STATES ARMY, THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, ETC.? Yes JAA  
 (Yes or No). If answer is "Yes," indicate below the name of the United States government agency, type of claim, and claim number assigned.

Agency	Type of Claim	Claim Number
<u>U.S. Army Transport Service</u>	<u>Back pay</u>	<u>I cannot remember</u>

(c) Military Service Number of ex-prisoner of war I cannot remember

United States Army

(d) Name of the organization or unit in which the ex-prisoner of war served Transport Service

PART II

LIVING EX-PRISONER OF WAR

If ex-prisoner of war is alive answer. Before answering the questions in Part II, please read carefully item No. 7 of the instructions.

9. (a) WERE YOU REQUIRED TO WORK DURING IMPRISONMENT (EXCLUSIVE OF WORK MAINTAINING PRISON CAMPS)? Yes (Yes or No). If so, describe the kind of work you performed and your physical condition at that time. I was assigned to small Japanese Naval Crafts, and Japanese Naval bases working manually, my physical condition was fair.

WERE AN OFFICIAL, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER, WAS YOUR RANK RESPECTED IN THE MATTER OF THE KIND OF WORK YOU WERE REQUIRED TO PERFORM AND OTHERWISE?

I was a noncommissioned Officer and my rank was not respected.

10. (a) WERE YOU PAID FOR LABOR PERFORMED (EXCLUSIVE OF WORK MAINTAINING PRISON CAMPS)?

Yes (Yes or No). If so, estimate total wages paid you and, if known, give hourly or daily rates of pay. P 2.00 a day

(b) WHAT WERE THE HOURS OF WORK REQUIRED OF YOU IN A WORK DAY?

7:00 am to 12:00 noon 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

(c) INDICATE IF A REST DAY WAS ALLOWED AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK Yes (Yes or No).

(d) WERE ADEQUATE WORK CLOTHES FURNISHED YOU? No (Yes or No).

11. DESCRIBE ANY LABOR CONDITIONS WHICH WERE UNHEALTHFUL OR DANGEROUS. Sometimes the Japanese Navy let us worked at Corregidor and Mariveles, knowing they are military targets during the time.

12. DID ANY OF YOUR WORK HAVE DIRECT RELATION TO WAR OPERATIONS? Yes (Yes or No).

If so, describe. I was working as help in one of the "apanese "Daihatsus" transporting food supplies to Corregidor and Mariveles, I was working as carpenter helping in the building of barracks on there bases.

13. DESCRIBE HERE ANY OTHER CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH YOU WERE COMPELLED TO WORK WHICH

MAY BE RELEVANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION OF 1929, ON LABOR. Our camp is very near danger zones, because there barracks is very near our camp, and at times we are subjected to bodily harm.

14. (c) DESCRIBE THE LIVING CONDITIONS AND SLEEPING FACILITIES, INCLUDING COOKING, HEATING, VENTILATION, HEATING, FIRE PROTECTION, ETC.) We are housed in the damaged Naval Hospital (US) at Sangley point at Cavite, we have no beds we were using the native mats.

(b) WHAT CLOTHING, LINENS, OR FOOTWEAR, IF ANY, WERE FURNISHED YOU?

Japanese Navy blankets, one each.

15. (c) WERE SANITARY MEASURES TAKEN TO ASSURE CLEANLINESS AND HEALTHFULNESS OF CAMPS AND TO PREVENT EPIDEMICS? No (Yes or No). (If the answer is No, describe the conditions of the Camps)

The toilet facilities were not in good working conditions, because they were destroyed by the bombs.

(b) STATE WHETHER TOILET FACILITIES WERE ADEQUATE AND IF SUFFICIENT WATER WAS PROVIDED FOR BATHING TO MAINTAIN CLEANLINESS

There were not sufficient water and the toilet facilities were inadequate because we were very many in the Camp

(c) WERE YOU ALLOWED TO EXERCISE IN THE OPEN AIR? Yes (Yes or No).

16. DESCRIBE WHAT MEDICAL CARE, SUPPLIES, OR FACILITIES WERE AVAILABLE

Only first aid

17. WERE YOU PERMITTED TO RETAIN PERSONAL EFFECTS AND OBJECTS, OTHER THAN ARMS, MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND PAPERS? Yes (Yes or No).

18. DESCRIBE HERE ANY OTHER CONDITIONS TO WHICH YOU WERE SUBJECTED THAT MAY BE RELEVANT TO PROVISIONS OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION OF 1929 AS TO THE INHUMANE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR (e. g., abuse, ridicule, humiliation, subjection to attack, bombardment, etc.)

I was discriminated, because I was forced to worked manually inspite the fact I was a non-commissioned Officer (Freight and Cargo Clerk of USATS S.S. LEPUS) I was working in a Danger Zone and we were allowed to worked on Japanese Naval Crafts and Japanese Naval bases, and we were used as reserved in there Naval operations, and lastly we were not allowed to receive mail.

19. (a) Do you state that the enemy government which held you prisoner continually did not treat you in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1929 relating to treatment of prisoners of war? Yes (Yes or No)

PART II - Continued

- (b) Please list any periods when you received treatment in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1929.

PART III

SURVIVORS

If the ex-prisoner of war is dead answer questions in Part III.

INFORMATION CONCERNING IMPRISONMENT OF DECEASED PRISONER OF WAR

20. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF OTHER PRISONERS OF WAR WHO WERE CAPTURED OR IMPRISONED WITH DECEASED PRISONER OF WAR (If Known):

Name

Address

21. DO YOU HAVE ANY WRITTEN INFORMATION RELATING TO THE IMPRISONMENT OF THE DECEASED PRISONER OF WAR? If so, please submit copies with claim.

22. (a) DID DECEASED DIE WHILE A PRISONER OF WAR OF THE ENEMY GOVERNMENT? (Yes or No).

(b) IF ANSWER TO 22 (a) IS "YES" WHAT INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED YOU AS TO THE CAUSE OF DEATH?

- (c) IF THE DECEASED PRISONER OF WAR DIED AFTER RELEASE OR LIBERATION, DO YOU BELIEVE THAT TREATMENT DURING IMPRISONMENT WAS A CONTRIBUTING FACTOR OR CAUSE OF DEATH? (Yes or No).

PART III—Continued

23. GIVE ANY INFORMATION YOU MAY HAVE CONCERNING CONDITIONS OF COMPULSORY LABOR AND/OR INHUMANE TREATMENT TO WHICH THE DECEASED PRISONER OF WAR WAS SUBJECTED. (Read provisions of Geneva Convention of 1929 in item No. 7 of General Instructions.)

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.....

.....

24. AFTER READING ITEM NO. 7 OF THE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS, DO YOU STATE FROM INFORMATION AND BELIEF THAT THE ENEMY GOVERNMENT DID NOT TREAT THE DECEASED PRISONER OF WAR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GENEVA CONVENTION OF 1929 RELATING TO THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR? ..... (Yes or No).

**Information Concerning Marital Status, Children and Parents of Deceased**

25. (a) WAS THE DECEASED PRISONER OF WAR EVER MARRIED? ..... (Yes or No). If the answer to 25 (a) is "Yes," the following information should be furnished:

<i>Date and Place of Each Marriage</i>	<i>To Whom Married</i>	<i>How Marriage Terminated (Death or divorce)</i>	<i>Date and Place Marriages Terminated</i>

(b) GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING EACH CHILD OF THE DECEASED, IF ANY, AND INDICATE IF CHILD NAMED IS A STEPCHILD, LEGALLY ADOPTED, OR ILLEGITIMATE CHILD OF THE DECEASED:

<i>Name of Child</i>	<i>Date of Birth</i>	<i>Address of Child (If deceased, indicate)</i>



STATEMENT OF THE CLAIMANT CONCERNING THE DECEASED PERSON'S RESIDENCE IN THE PHILIPPINES  
IN A CITY OR TOWN, OR IN A PLACE OF BUSINESS, OR A PERSON WHO STOOD IN PLACE OF A PARENT

76) ARE YOU THE ONLY SURVIVING PARENT, STEPPARENT, PERSON WHO STOOD IN PLACE OF PARENT,  
OR ADOPTIVE PARENT? \_\_\_\_\_ (Yes or No). If not, give full name and address of such  
parent \_\_\_\_\_

27. HAS ANYONE CHARGED YOU A FEE FOR HELPING TO PREPARE OR FILE THIS CLAIM? No (Yes  
or No). If so, give their name and address, the type of help they gave you and the amount of fee  
you paid or agreed to pay. \_\_\_\_\_

I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENTS are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and they are  
made with knowledge of penalties for making a false claim.

After you sign your  
name, put your right  
thumb-print here \_\_\_\_\_

*Arturo I. Ilagan*

(Signature of claimant)

Arturo I. Ilagan

Resident certificate No. A-4326150 issued  
at Taal, Batangas P.I. on January 4, 1954

(Date)

(No witnesses are necessary unless this application has been signed by thumb print only. If signed  
by thumb print only, the signatures and addresses of two persons to whom the claimant is personally  
known must be shown below.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of witness)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of witness)

Resident certificate No. \_\_\_\_\_ issued

Resident certificate No. \_\_\_\_\_ issued

at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

**DO NOT FORGET TO SIGN THIS APPLICATION**

**DEADLINE FOR FILING IS AUGUST 1, 1954**

**CLAIMS POSTMARKED AFTER MIDNIGHT, AUGUST 1, 1954, WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

**IMPORTANT: Complete and return by AIR MAIL original and duplicate of this application to War Claims Commission, Washington 25, D. C.**

**IMPORTANT  
PLEASE RETURN BY  
AIR MAIL**



1118 Anacleto, STA. CRUZ,  
Marina, Philippines  
August 9, 1946

Recovered Personnel Division  
Headquarters, AFRESAC  
APO 707

S i r s :

This is in reply to your letter dated 23 January 1946 signed by Lieut. Robert E. Pender, LMC., and in support of my answer thereto dated June 5, 1946, I am now enclosing the pertinent affidavits gathered at Cebu City from persons who actually had cognizance of the 100% bonus that was promised us by the ARMY TRANSPORT SERVICE, U. S. Army, at Cebu City. The 100% bonus was actually paid by the A.T.S. to the members of the crew of the M/V "GOVERNOR TAYT", with 275 gross tons, and the affidavit of Nazario Villamor, Master of said vessel is herewith enclosed together with the following:

- a. AFFIDAVIT (in triplicate) of Chief Officer Angel E. Reyes of the M/V "GOVERNOR TAYT" in regard to the remuneration given him by the A.T.S. which was ₱160.00 monthly, according to schedule of salaries of the A.T.S., and which amount already includes his 100% bonus;
- b. AFFIDAVIT (in triplicate) of Calixto Pangilinan, Chief Engineer of the M/V "GOVERNOR TAYT" whose salary paid by the A.T.S. including 100% bonus was ₱900.00 a month;
- c. AFFIDAVIT (in triplicate) of Capt. C. J. Bartis, Captain of the Port of Cebu and at that time attached to the A.T.S., Cebu, identifying me as Chief Engineer of the S.S. "LEPUS", of 2,000 gross tons, at the service of the A.T.S.

With these papers on hand, I wish to secure a reconsideration of your ruling in regard to the allowance of 100% bonus due me as Chief Engineer of the S.S. "LEPUS" then in the service of the A. S. and which was captured by the Japanese and brought to Japan on February 28, 1942 where the undersigned was held prisoner with other European prisoners in the concentration camp at Aomura, Sasebo, Japan.

I trust that the evidence now submitted is proof sufficient enough to justify my request for a reconsideration of the increase of the back pay due me as a War Department employee.

Yours very respectfully,

*[Signature]*  
VICENTE S.

Encl.

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A F F I D A V I T

I, C. J. MARTIN, an American citizen, of legal age, married, and a resident of Cebu City, after being duly sworn in the manner required by law, do hereby depose and state:

1. That at the outbreak of the war between the United States and Japan, I was designated by Col. W. F. Sharp, now Major-General, Commander of the Visayan-Mindanao Forces, as CAPTAIN of the Port;

2. That after the organization of the ARMY TRANSPORT SERVICE, I still continued to discharge the duties as Captain of the Port and directly in charge of employing personnel of the merchant marine to serve on the various vessels then in the service of the A.T.S.;


3. That among the vessels commandeered by the U. S. Army was the S.S. "LEPUS", then placed at the service of the A.T.S.;

4. That I personally know Mr. Vicente Reyes who at that time was the Chief Engineer of the S.S. "LEPUS";

5. That the S.S. "LEPUS" left under orders of the A.T.S. for Gingoog, Or. Misamis;

6. That salaries of the crew on vessels in the service of the ATS was in accordance with the schedule then existing at that time as prescribed in the manual of schedule of salaries; and

7. That I positively know that after February 15, 1942 the officers and crew members aboard vessels operated by the A.T.S. were to be paid 100% bonus on their regular salaries.

  
C. J. MARTIN  
Affiant

7 Subscribed and sworn to before me on this day of August, 1946. Affiant exhibited to me his Residence Certificate No. A 1217172 issued at

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1946

AUG 7

AUG 7

Doc. No. 283  
Page No. 28  
Book No. 1111  
Series of 1946

My commission expires December 31, 1946

*Raymond Brown*  
NOTARY PUBLIC

Cebu City on January 2, 1946.

agree on this.  
RHW

SOLUAGA, JOAQUIN, former second  
engineer on S.S. LEVUS  
deserted the ship about 10 Jan 42 because  
of Japanese bombing and his  
place was taken by Airoos G.  
Airoos the third engineer. Airoos  
seems rather bitter about his  
desertion and seems to have little  
use for him. Affidavits of crew  
members confirm that Airoos  
was second engineer during greater  
part of ship's wartime history.

Waring Van  
5 June 46



## HEADQUARTERS AFMPC/PAC

## Check Sheet

Do not remove from attached sheets

File No. 1185

Subject: Investigation of JUANILLO, Nicolas  
Salazar.

(1)	Investigation Section	TO: Civilian Section	15 February 1946
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The circumstance of this case are: Claimant returned check believing it to be too small.

The purpose of this investigation was to determine if Japanese employment was forced and to make a complete investigation of the crew of "Lepus".

Subject was cleared by CIC on 13 February 1946.

Attached are affidavits of Jose Villacarte and Victor A. Parco pertaining to the case of Flamenia, Agustin. Previous investigation has shown that members of the crew of S.S. Lepus taken to Japan were brought back and forced to work for the Japanese at Cavite and aboard other Japanese vessels. It was not employment but forced labor. There is no record of the members of that crew being employed by either the Japanese Army or Navy.

GJC

  
J.N.H.

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES  
CITY OF Manila

IN THE MATTER OF

FLAMENIA, Agustin

)  
SS

A F F I D A V I T

I, Jose Villacarte, of legal age and  
resident of 2567 Tecon St., Manila, after having been  
uly sworn in accordance with law depose and say:

I know Agustin Flamenia as he was my fellow worker on the  
S.S.Lepus in 1941. The officers and crew of the S.S.Lepus were  
inducted into the U.S.Army Transport Service, Hq.Visajano, Mindanao  
forces on or about December 11, 1941. We were captured by the  
Japanese Navy on the West coast of Mindanao on or about February  
28, 1942 about 8 P.M. Proceeded to Subic Bay on March 1, 1942 after  
unloading our cargo and left for Japan on March 15, 1942 and stopped  
at Basebo concentration camp in Japan in April. We left there on  
May 25, 1942 for the Philippines aboard a Jap Naval vessel and arriv-  
ed at Manila Bay on or about May 16, 1942. The four ship officers  
remained with the S.S.Lepus in Japan. The remainder of the crew,  
including subject and myself were returned to Cavite to be concen-  
trated. There we were forced to do hard labor. I escaped in July  
1942 and ran away to hide. As far as I know the subject w as still  
concentrated and forced to perform hard labor when I left.

(Signed) Jose Villacarte

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26th day of January  
1946 in Manila.

(Signed) Bernard D. Hinkle  
2nd Lt. Infantry  
Summary Court Officer

A TRUE COPY:

George J. Campbell  
2nd Lt., Infantry

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Authority NND 883078

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES  
CITY OF Manila

IN THE MATTER OF

} SS

Flamenia, Agustid

**A F F I D A V I T**

I, Victor A. Parco, of legal age and  
resident of 557 Madrid St., Manila, after having been  
dually sworn in accordance with law depose and say:

I was a member of the crew of the S.S. Lepus, a vessel owned by Modrigil sa Company which was commanded by the U.S. Army Transport Service on or about December 11, 1941. The S.S. Lepus was captured by Japanese on or about February 28, 1942 and escorted into Subic Bay about 8 A.M. the next morning. At that time the Captain, Jesus Medina, a Philippine Army Lieutenant and two Filipino enlisted men were taken ashore by the Japanese. We then went to Lingayen under a Japanese Captain, took on enough coal to get us to Japan. After we left Lingayen we made two or three more stops, once at Hainan Island where we were forced to take on a cargo of iron to go to Japan. We were concentrated in Japan less than a month and except for four ship officers, one entire crew was taken from Sosebo concentration camp back to Manila Bay aboard a Japanese task force vessel carrying Japanese troops. We were removed and taken by motor launch to Cavite where we were all concentrated. As prisoners of war we were forced to perform hard labor in the naval yards at Cavite. About September 1942 I was forced to work aboard the minesweeper Harrison by the Japanese. Some others that I remember who were with me on the S.S. Lepus, in Japan, in concentration at Cavite and on the Harrison are: Agustin Flamenia, Rafal Celoris, Salvador Malumay, Manuel Artazo, Adriano de Andres, Viente Bayawak, Heracles Salavador and a man called Nicenor, whose brother was once a boatsman on the S.S. Lepus.

(Signed) Victor a Parco

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of January  
1946 in Manila.

(Signed) BERNARD D. HINKLE  
2nd Lt. INF.,  
Summary Court Officer

A TRUE COPY

George J. Campbell  
2nd Lt., INF.

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Authority AND 883078

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES  
CITY OF MANILA

IN THE MATTER OF

MEDINA, Jesus L.

}  
SS  
}

A F F I D A V I T

I, Jesus L. Medina, of legal age and resident of 2763 Taft Ave. Ext., Dist of Pasay, after having been duly sworn in accordance with law depose and say:

On 29 February 1942 or 1 March 1942 my ship was captured by the Japanese Navy. About nine o'clock in the evening I was contacted by the two Japanese destroyers at that time unknown to me that they were Japanese ships. I was signaled by one of the ships to recognize myself by Morse lights. I signaled him back with the number I was given before leaving Gibgoog, Mindanao by Lt. Thomas W. Jurika. The Japanese destroyers flanked by ship, one on starboard and the other on port side. I was ordered by the destroyer on the starboard side to lower my ladder. I then went down and met this Japanese Lieutenant who asked me questions about the name of ship, register, tonnage, cargo and destination. After they searched the ship I was told to follow the destroyer on starboard side to Olongapo, Subic Bay. We arrived at Olongapo about one o'clock in the afternoon of March 1, 1942. About eight o'clock the next morning, March 2, 1942 I was ordered to pack my belongings and go ashore. We then left by truck for Manila and arrived there about five or six o'clock that afternoon. I was taken to the Marsman Bldg. in the port area that was used as Japanese Navy Headquarters. I was investigated for two days and then notified that I was cleared by the Navy. Then I was turned over to the Imperial Japanese Army, then taken to the I.J.A. Headquarters, Finance Building. I was detained at the Finance Bldg. for three days. I was then taken to the Port Area. During my stay at the Port Area my position was that of boss over 20 sweepers for about one month. (8 March 1942 to the end of the month).

In April 2, 1942 I was sent to Batangas to help clear and repair the steamship "Cebu". I was assigned as Captain and in charge of these men, about 40 in all. We stayed there one week and returned to Manila on a Saturday because the Japanese officials promised us sundays off. This was my first opportunity to stay at home. (April 9, 1942).

Monday morning, April 11, 1942 I reported back to the office. I was informed by Lt. Takinshi that the ship "CEBU" in Batangas was bombed Sunday, April 10, 1942 and sunk. I was then assigned to the "Latouche" a interisland boat as Captain which was fully loaded with lumber. When I got to the ship it was under water. The seacocks were opened. The ship was salvaged and it took us about six months to clean her up and repair her. It took us about one month to unload the cargo and then the ship was towed in to the Pasig River for repairs. In

November, the early part, 1942, I took my first trip to Dangalan, on the east coast of Luzon to pick up timber. I made about six such trips to Dangalan. It took us a month for a round trip including loading and unloading. I was receiving 240 pesos a month - this began in June 1942. On May 7, 1943 I resigned my position. For two months I stayed at home doing nothing.

On 1 July 1943 I was offered a position with the Naric. I accepted this position. I was stationed at the Cagayan Valeey. I was receiving 275 pesos a month and worked there till August 1945.

/s/ JESUS L. MEDINA  
JESUS L. MEDINA

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of December 1945 in the City of Manila.

/s/ GEORGE J. CAMPBELL  
GEORGE J. CAMPBELL  
2nd Lt Inf.  
Summary Court.

A TRUE COPY:

*Stanley J. Sawicki*  
STANLEY J. SAWICKI  
Capt IGD

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APG 75

c/o P.M., San Francisco, Calif.

5 December 1945

STATEMENT

I, Thomas W. Jurika, age 31, American citizen, single, resident of the City of Manila, Postal address P.O. Box 582, commissioned an Officer in the Army of the United States, with present rank of Major, do hereby depose and state:

1. That in February 1942, I was appointed Operations Officer of the U.S. Army Transport Service, Port of Cebu, P.I., with the rank of First Lieutenant.

2. That Major Cornelius Z. Byrd was my Commanding Officer, holding the position of Superintendent of the U.S. Army Transport Service, Port of Cebu, P.I.

3. That I was ordered by Major Byrd to proceed from Cebu to Mindanao, the latter part of February 1942, to effect the transfer of cargo from the S/S COAST FARMER, a blockade-running American vessel arrived from Australia, to the inter-island vessels, M/V ELCANO and S/S LEPUS at Gingoog, Oriental Misamis, P.I. to Corregidor.

4. That the S/S LEPUS was a vessel operated by the U. S. Army Transport Service, Port of Cebu, at that time.

5. That Captain Jesus L. Medina was Master of the S/S LEPUS, operating under orders of the U. S. Army Transport Service, Port of Cebu.

6. That on or about the 26 February 1942, upon completion of loading the S/S LEPUS with cargo consisting of subsistence supplies and ammunition, I personally issued secret written orders for the S/S LEPUS to proceed to Corregidor.

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7. That the orders contained such provisions as:
- (a) Vessel to travel only during hours of darkness.
  - (b) To anchor during daylight hours at certain designated sheltered spots.
  - (c) No convoy protection could be afforded vessel, but pilot service and protection would be afforded by Corregidor when within visual signalling distance.

8. That the S/S LEPUS sailed from Gingoog several hours after receiving orders.

9. That upon my return to Cebu on or about 3 March 1942, I submitted a complete re-ort of operations and my activities while in Mindanao, with copies of all orders issued, to Major Byrd, my Commanding Officer.

10. That from the time the S/S LEPUS sailed from Gingoog for Corregidor, the U.S. Army Transport Service, Port of Cebu, was unable to trace the movement or fate of either the vessel or crew except for the fact that they did not arrive at destination.

/s/ THOMAS W. JURIKA  
THOMAS W. JURIKA, O-890348  
MAJOR, TC, AUS.

A TRUE COPY:

*Stanley J. Sawicki*  
STANLEY J. SAWICKI  
Capt AGP

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AFFIDAVIT

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

I, JESUS L. MEDINA, upon oath depose and say:

1. That I am 52 years of age, citizen of the Philippines, married, and a resident of the City of Manila, with postal address therein at No. 2763 Taft Avenue Estension, district of Pasay;

2. That I first became a seaman in 1911, a Master on May 1, 1914, and have been connected with Madrigal & Company, Inc., since 1922 until my arrest by the Japanese Imperial Navy in the latter part of February, 1942;

3. That at the outbreak of hostilities in the Pacific on December 8, 1941, I was in command of the S/S "LEFUS", Philippine registry, owned and operated by Madrigal & Co., Inc. The vessel's itinerary was then Cebu, Zamboanga, and Davao, with Manila as its home port;

4. That, more specifically, on December 8th my said ship was enroute to Cebu on its outward trip from Manila;

5. That upon the ship's arrival at Cebu I received orders from my head office to standby for further instructions, orders which I complied with;

6. That the U. S. Army took possession of my ship, the S/S "LEFUS", two or three days after her arrival in Cebu, and, moreover, commandeered the greater part of the cargo consigned to Zamboanga and Davao, especially 300 cases of dynamite consigned to Elizalde & Co., Inc, Davao;

7. That, because of continuous air raids by the enemy, unloading operations in Cebu were retarded and lasted until the end of December, when my ship commenced to make trips for the U.S. Army;

8. That Colonel G.D. Cook, Chief Quartermaster Officer of Cebu, sometime late December, formally commandeered my ship for the U. S. Army, delivering a letter to that effect to the Cebu branch of Madrigal & Co., Inc;

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9. That, more particularly, my ship, the S/S "LEPUS", under my command, and acting directly under orders from the U.S. Army through Captain Martin who was then Port Commander of Cebu, made the following trips during the month of January 1942:

(a) Early January, sailed from Cebu to Bais, Negros Oriental, loaded 800 USAFFE troops, and carried them to Bugo, north Mindanao, and returned to Cebu for new orders;

(b) Middle January, trip from Cebu to Dumaguete, Negros Oriental, to load about 1000 USAFFE soldiers with transportation equipment and supplies, and back to Cebu;

(c) Latter part of January, with a cargo of about 5000 barrels of gasoline and fuel oil, my ship made a third trip to Bugo; and returned to Cebu via Dumaguete;

10. That in the month of February, 1942, my said ship made several short trips to Dumaguete, again for the U.S. Army, and also one trip to Iloilo to load about 8000 cavanes or rice for the Army at Cebu;

11. That, it is important to note, these trips were made at night, pursuant to orders from the U.S. Army, as it was dangerous to sail at daytime. The fact that our interland lanes were then mined by the Japanese made it the more hazardous to travel at night;

12. That, moreover, in the middle part of February the S/S "LEPUS", under my command, left Cebu on a secret mission to Gingoog, north Mindanao, for the purpose of meeting the American goodship "COAST PALMER" which was due from Australia. At Gingoog the cargo of the latter vessel was transhipped to the S/S "LEPUS", and thereupon the latter proceeded to Corregidor;

13. That, in all modesty but in fairness to my service record, I left Gingoog on this hazardous mission moved by a sense of loyalty to my country and to the United States of America; for I then knew that Manila was in the hands of the Japanese and that Corregidor and its surrounding waters were affectively blockaded by the enemy. Hence, I asked Lt. Jurika at Gingoog what convoy protection I could expect on that trip, and he replied that none was available; but



that I might be given protection from Corregidor as I approached it; and urged me to exercise all the care and effort to reach Corregidor at all costs. My ship was carrying 2200 tons of foodstuffs which where badly needed by the garrisons at Corregidor and Bataan;

14. That the S/S "LEPUS", while sailing on the route assigned to me by Lt. Jurika with the end in view of evading the enemy, the ship was stopped by two Japanese destroyers off the West Coast of Mindoro at about nine o'clock at night sometime late February 1942;

15. That I did not stop my vessel until after a cannon ball was shot over the bow; that I was presently handcuffed and, together with my officers and crew, was taken to Olongapo, Subic Bay;

16. That at Olongapo I was investigated by the Japanese naval officers, and the next day, March 28, I was taken alone (with the Masters of the V/V "KOLIMBUGAN" and of the S/S "COMPANIA DE FILIPINAS") to Manila for further investigation;

17. That at Manila I, with two other companions, was confined for two days and thoroughly investigated; thereupon I was turned over to the Japanese Army headquarters, where I was again investigated;

18. That, later, I was taken to Port Area, Manila, where I was kept as a prisoner of war all 1942 and until May 7, 1943, when I was finally released;

19. That during this period of imprisonment I was forced to work for the Japanese against my will, at tasks such as sweeping the Manila piers, washing dishes, doing salvaging work, and sailing their boats to Dingalan, Tayabas to load lumber;

20. That, in justice to myself, during my period of confinement I did not receive a single centavo from the enemy in the way of compensation or remuneration;

21. That after six months of such imprisonment I was allowed, while in Manila, to spend the nights with my family;

22. That after my mentioned release on May 7, 1943, I spent two months at home with my family, engaged in no work, until July

1, 1943, when I joined the Neric in Manila with an assignment at Lallooc, Cagayan, as I was continuously molested by the Japanese with requests to work with them on their boats. Indeed, I virtually fled from Manila and even left my family behind in order to escape from the clutches of the enemy;

23. That, with the exception of a few short visits to my family in Manila, I stayed in Cagayan until it was liberated in July of this year; arriving in Manila July 14, 1945;

24. That, moreover and most important, I managed to cross the Cagayan river in the middle part of May of this year from the east bank, where the Japanese forces were entrenched, to the west bank, which was then in the hands of the guerrillas. The latter, not knowing my service record, took me into their custody and investigated me. I was finally released on July 13, 1945, being given the following clearance:

"HEADQUARTERS  
37th INFANTRY DIVISION  
37th CIC DETACHMENT  
APO 37

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority AND 883077

Ballesteros, Cagayan  
13 July 1945

This is to certify that the bearer JESUS MEDINA of Manila, Manila, has been investigated and cleared by the 37th CIC Detachment of Ballesteros, Cagayan.

He is not to be molested or restricted in his movements subject to U.S. Army penalty.

(Signed) Lt. Orin M. Raphael  
LT. ORIN M. RAPHAEL  
Investigations Officer  
37th CIC Detachment"

25. That, as regards my compensation for services rendered to the U.S. Army during the months of December (1941), January and February(1942), I have this to say:

(a) At the outbreak of the war my monthly salary as Master was \$475;

(b) In January, 1942, the U. S. Army increased my salary by 100%; I received from its paymaster at the City of Cebu \$450.00 for that month, and signed the payroll for the same sum;

(c) In February, 1942, I received no compensation. However, Lt. Colonel C. Z. Byrd, Executive Officer of the ATS USAFFE at Cebu, announced that effective February 1, 1942, the officers and crew members of the S/S "LEPUS" were placed on the same standard as army transportation personnel, and therefore my pay would be \$550.00 per month, plus \$15 per month as subsistence allowance, and \$25 for house allowance, together with bonus;

(d) That I received no salary for February because I unfortunately failed to reach Corregidor on March 1, 1942, and, as already stated, was captured by the enemy off the coast of Mindoro.

Further affiant sayeth not.

Manila, July 20th, 1945

/s/JESUS L. MEDINA  
JESUS L. MEDINA

Witnessed by:

/s/ CARMEN B. BRADY

/s/ FRANK W. BRADY

Subscribed and sworn to before me at Manila on July 20, 1945. affiant showed me his Residence Tax Certificate No. A-2182844 issued at Tuguegarao, Cagayan, on March 21, 1945.

/s/ FRANK W. BRADY  
Notary Public  
Until December 31, 1946

Doc. No. 162  
Page No. 65  
Book No. III  
Series of 1945.

A TRUE COPY:

*Stanley Sawicki*  
STANLEY J. SAWICKI  
Capt ASD

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority *AWD 88307P*

AFFIDAVIT

VICTOR R. PARCO, 54 years of age, married to Susanam Barrios and resident of 557 Madrid St., City of Manila, after having been sworn in accordance with law, deposes and says :

1.- That I was one of the crew of the S.S. LEPUS of the Madrigal & Co. when it left Manila on December 7, 1941 for Cebu City on its regular trip.

2.- On December 11, 1941, our vessel was placed under the USAFFE at Cebu city to transport troops and supplies to the Visayas, Mindanao and Corregidor, after officially notifying the officers and crew that we were all inducted into the service of Army. The officer who made the official announcement was Captain Martin Usaffe who was the Captain of the Port at the time.

3.- Thereafter our vessel made trips carrying troops and supplies between the ports of Cebu, Iloilo, Dumaguete, Negros, Bogo, Cagayan de Misamis, Iligan and other ports.

4.- On February 17, 1942, our vessel went to the port of Gingoog, Mindanao and came alongside U.S.A.T. "Coast Farmer" from Australia, and loaded our vessel for three consecutive nights with 1,300 tons of general cargo. On February 23 of same year, we left for Corregidor;

5.- On Feb. 28 on our way to Corregidor, near the west coast of Mindoro, our vessel was stopped by two Japanese destroyers and captured. We were ordered to proceed to Subic where our cargoes were unloaded. Our Captain, Jesus Medina with some officers, were detained in said port.

6.- Our vessel with the remaining crew, then proceeded to Japan on March 15, 1942. We were always under threat and surveillance. We disembarked at Aina-ura without bringing our belongings, and on April 25, 1942, we were interned at Botokaidan Camp at Sasebo, Japan, together with other American and English prisoners of war. We were interned for one month.

7.- On May 10, 1942, we were sent back to the Philippines, with the exception of some officers who were detained in the concentration camp.

8.- We arrived in Cavite on May 16, 1942, and were detained there, and forced to work in the naval yard; but on January 20, 1943, I escaped from the mine sweepers' Barracks, (where I was forced to work) and went to Manila, where I engaged in sundry work as fish vendor, cargador and other means of livelihood. On January 23, 1943, I joined a secret guerilla called the Markings Guerilla. I stayed in Manila until the Americans came back.

Further affiant sayeth not.

*Victor A. Parco*  
VICTOR A. PARCO

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14th day of May, 1945 at Manila, affiant exhibiting his Res. Cert. No. 41192027 issued at Manila on May 4, 1945.

*J. S. ...*  
NOTARY PUBLIC until

*Doc. No. 22; Page 87*  
*Book 2-1945*

*Dec. 31, 1945*

-02 of betw-

**DECLASSIFIED**  
Authority *AWD 88307P*





Gentlemen, the Crew of the S.S. LEFUS:

In the capacity of the naval Chief Inspector in Yawata Iron Works, I thank you very much that you have brought iron ore from Kainanto to Japan. I think you would have least expected such a great change of circumstances as you are in. The Empire of Japan wished and endeavored to establish peace in the East Asia, cooperating with England and America, but England and America would not understand our true intention. They refuse our right and just demand. In consequence, Japan, her life and existence in danger, rose and struck them.

Your country, the Philippines, has grown up to this time under the oppression of the United States of America. Japan is now endeavoring to establish the real Philippines and to maintain the peace in the East Asia, helping each other.

According to report of the commander of your ship, you have understood what we are doing and have done the best as sailors during this voyage. I am very glad to hear that, and I wish you will continue to do so.

When you arrived at this port, I paid a visit in your ship and inspected her, led by the commander. I am told that your ship was built in Germany pretty many years ago. But to my surprise, your ship looked very old as compared with Japanese ships which are as old as yours. In spite of the fact that the commander recognized you as skillful sailors, your ship is considerably damaged. I think that this is due to the fact that the industry in the Philippines is not so developed as in Japan.

Yawata Iron Works is the biggest iron works in Japan and superior to any in Europe and America. Japan has many other iron works and is able to supply enough steel that you want. You need not navigate in an old ship like this.

You have come to Yawata from far off Philippines and saw the factory. I wish you tell your friends of this factory and the friendships that Japan feels to you.

Yawata Iron Works will present you pretty Japanese dolls in honour of your endeavor, please bring it home as the memory of the visit here. I hope that you will be a wedge to make the friendly relations between Japan and the Philippines.

I am very glad to have an opportunity to speak to you, and wish your glorious fatherland to prosper.

"I thank you".

CHIEF INSPECTOR,  
YAWATA IRON WORKS OF JAPAN

April of 1948.

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority *AND, P23279*

Headquarters  
United States Forces in the Philippines  
Office of the Commanding General  
Ft Mills, Philippines

2/20/51  
from  
COBT

March 26, 1942

Subject: Crew Lists of chartered  
Inter-Island Transports

To:  
The Adjutant General,  
Washington, D C

LEPUS

Reference your radio 1177 of March 14, 1942, herewith  
crew lists of chartered Inter-Island Transports together with  
names and addresses of beneficiaries.

For the Commanding General:

/s/  
CARL H SEALS,  
Brigadier General, U.S.A.  
Adjutant General

25 Incls (indup)

BOHOL II  
LEGASPI  
ELCANO  
HAI KWANG  
KOLAMBUGAN  
YU SANG  
M/S CONDENSEA  
M TALISAY  
M/V GOVERNOR TAFT  
S/S LEPUS  
M/S LA ESTRELLA CALTEX  
M/V KATIPUNAN  
M/V DUMAGUETE

USAT REGULUS  
M/S PRINCESS OF EREBU  
M/S KANLON  
M BACLOD  
M/V PRINCESA  
M/V EMILIA  
S/S CIA DE FILIPINO  
S/S LUZON  
M/V SURIGAO  
M/V GOVERNOR SMITH  
M/V AGUSTINA  
S/S MAYON

Subject: Crew Lists of chartered Inter-Island Transports.

AG 565.21  
(3-26-42)MO

1st Ind

LD:ts:1812

War Department, AGO, August 13, 1942 - To the Chief of Transportation, Water  
Division (Att: Lt. Bauer).

25 Incls. n/e

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Incl 2

2X3



# CONFIDENTIAL

## CREW LIST OF THE S.S. "KIPUS"

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DESIGNATION</u>	<u>BENEFICIARY AND ADDRESS</u>
Jesus L. Medina	Captain	Mrs. R. Medina, #409 Vermont, Manila
Luis Celestial	Chief Officer	Mrs. M. Celestial, #4 Pagkakaisa, Sta Ana, Manila
Pedro Gatpandan	2nd Officer	Mrs. P. Gatpandan, Balayna, Batanga
Vicente Oca	3rd Officer	Capt. Felix Oca, #312 Lara, Manila
Arturo Ilagan	Purser	Mrs. Torquato Ilagan (father), Taal, Batangas
Arturo del Pan	Radio Operator	Mrs. A. del Pan, Tinajeros, Malabon, Rizal
Vicente Reyes	Chief Engineer	Mrs. V. Reyes, #530 Remedios, Manila
Ciriaco Alroco	2nd Engineer	Mrs. R. Alroco, Alfonso, Cavite
Romualdo Zagala	3rd Engineer	Mrs. Elena Zagala, Lemery, Batangas
Agustia Flanena	4th Engineer	Mrs. E. Flanena, #709 San Nicolas, Manila
Jose Sadiasa	Boatswain	Mrs. T. Sadiasa, #8 Anda, Manila
Graciano quimpo	Carpenter	Mrs. S. Quimpo, San Juan del Monte, Rizal
Manuel Artazo	Quartermaster	M. Nula (Cousin), Binondo, Manila
Paulino Galares	Quartermaster	Mrs. T. Galares, Intramuros, Manila
Salvador Malunay	Quartermaster	Mrs. M. Malunay, San Nicolas, Manila
Jose Aville	Storekeeper	Mrs. F. Aville, #759 Bangkussay, Tondo, Manila
Miguel Amongo	Watchman	Mr. E. Amongo (brother), #8 Comde, Manila
R. Colorio	Watchman	Mrs. R. Colorio, Betan, Capiz
Arcadio Tiguman	Watchman	Mr. Mamerto Tiguman (father), Maria, Or. Misamis
A. Andres	Watchman	S. Ablon (cousin), #403 Lara, Manila
Serafia Pilapil	Sailor	Mrs. M. Basa Pilapil (mother), Caridad, Cavite
Vicente Bayawa	Sailor	Mr. N. Bayawa (brother), #545 Catalina, Manila
Macario Camete	Sailor	Mrs. F. Camete, Tubigon, Bohol
Victor Parco	Sailor	Mrs. N. Parco, #315 Jaboneros, Binondo, Manila
A. Talaboc	Sailor	L. Antipolo (cousin), #205 Barcelona, Manila
N. Sadiasa	Sailor	Mr. J. Sadiasa (uncle), #8 Anda, Manila
Alejandro Santos	Sailor	Mr. V. Usman, San Jose, S. Sinca, Pampanga
Bernardino Mendes	Storekeeper	Mrs. Cambalina (cousin), #416 Valderrama, Manila
D. Bartolome	Oiler	Mrs. L. Bartolome, #680 San Nicolas, Manila
M. Juanillo	Oiler	Mr. R. Lara (uncle), #227 Caba, Manila
Gasualdo yecera	Fireman	Mrs. D. E. Vicoera, #199-c-p. del Rosario, Cebu
Bernabeo galvador	Fireman	Mrs. E. Lopez, #2426 T. Garrahan, Tondo, Manila
Paulo Manalos	Fireman	Mrs. P. Manalos, #816 Pennsylvania, Manila
R. Ootera	Fireman	Mrs. S. Ootera, #407 Moriones, Manila
A. Paduit	Fireman	Miss S. Paduit (sister), #407 Rama Matanda, Manila
L. Quimdo	Fireman	Adela Quimdo, #115 Tanque, Paco, Manila
Vicente Daylusan	Coal Passer	E. Daylusan (brother), #537 Caballeros, Manila
Bernjamin Fernandez	Coal Passer	Mr. N. Fernandez (father), #1179 Laveriza, Manila
Jose Villacorte	Coal Passer	E. Pacmifara (cousin), Villareal, Samar
Pascual sugang	Chief Steward	Mrs. M. Sugang, #158 Malong, Tondo, Manila
Santiago Aguirre	2nd Steward	Mrs. Angustia Vergara, 121 Domingo, Pasay, Rizal
Rodrigo Malunay	Chief Cook	Mrs. F. Malunay (sister), #527 Clavel, Manila
P. Lanuza	2nd Cook	Miss E. Lanuza (sister), #205 Barcelona, Manila
Francisco Rosal	Sailor's Cook	Mrs. E. Rosal (mother), Zamboan, Cebu
Jose Bautista	Bar Boy	Mrs. J. Bautista, J. Arellano, Davao
Leonardo parid	Storekeeper	Mr. F. David (brother), Homungan, Leyte
D. Lachica	Mess Boy	Mrs. Lachica (mother), Calibo, Capiz
Jose Abad	Mess Boy	Mrs. F. Maglangit, Gingoog, Misamis Oriental
Enilio Verano	Mess Boy	Miss A. Sumagang (sister), Siasi, Sulu
V. Alcazar	Mess Boy	Mrs. M. Cebanero (mother), Deo, Antique
R. Reyes	Mess Boy	Mr. H. Reyes (brother), #2522 Herran, Paco, Manila
R. Perez	Mess Boy	Mr. P. Perez (father), #1170 A. Rianza, Manila
E. Zaldivar	Mess Boy	Mr. V. Zaldivar (father), #620 Lara, Manila

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Authority *AWP 88307P*

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DOD DIR 5200.9

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Authority 44 CFR 1.101

S/S "LEPUS"

NAME	POSITION	DATE ON SHIP
1. Valledor, Vicente Madroño	Chief Cook	1 Jan-9 Feb. 42

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Authority ANN D 883078



Lepus

Chartered in Cebu. Doc.

Owned by. Wardingal & Co.

Entered gov's service:-

Bombed & damaged - 28 Feb. 42 Place - off Palawan

Captured by Japs - (Mip. Since 31 March 43)

NAME	Crew Position	Rate of Pay	Date of serv.
Juan Medina	Master		
Vicente Valledor	Ch. Cook		1 Jan - 1942. 42
Vicente Reyes	Chief Engin.		

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Remarks: Info from ATIS Misc Info File #1  
Affid. of J Medina A.C. 8 No. 45.

Medina, Jesus

Marta

5/5 Repara

Date entered gov't employment:

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

Vallada, Vicente

Chief cook

Sr Lopez

Date entered gov't service:

Place:

Date last paid:

By whom:

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Ruyer, Vicente  
of "Lepros"

Date entered gov's Service:

Date last paid:

Chief Engr.

Place:

By whom:

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Name Salary from work

Members of <sup>the</sup> crew Lopez - deceased.

Jose Dadiasa at Currimao, Ilocos Norte <sup>1943</sup>  
Paulo Manalo in Manila - 1945 (Feb.)  
Alejandro Santos in Manila - 1943  
Valentin Alcazar in Manila - 1945  
Anselmo Reyes in Manila 1945 (Feb.)

Francisco Rosal - Missing

S/S LEPUS

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