

The Filipino American Experience Research Project
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The Filipino American Experience Research Project

Bahalan Na News Letter
1st Reconnaissance Battalion

Edited by
Alex S. Fabros, Jr.

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We dedicate... This Special Issue Of Bahalana To:

The pioneers of this command and military personnel of General Headquarters and USAFFE for their unselfish efforts in making Camp Tabragalba what it is today.

Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Brown III and officers for their ceaseless endeavor in fostering the spirit of loyalty and devotion to duty among the enlisted personnel in the execution and attainment of all objectives which were assigned them.

Americans and Filipinos wose devotion to a democratic tradition has made them perpetual partners in a struggle for life and common cause.

The United States of America -- the arsenal of democracy -- and her allies which some day may bring everlasting peace and final victory for all freedom-loving peoples throughout the world.

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

10 August 1944

Dear Colonel Brown:

With the passing of a year since the entry of the Battalion into Camp Tabragalba, officers and men may look back with justifiable pride upon a year of steady progress towards assigned objectives.

Just as the past year in the main has a period of preparation, the year to come should be a period dedicated to action. Therein the members of the Battalion, individually and collectively, will have the opportunity to prove before History and the people whose liberties they seek to restore, that they live by as well as subscribe to the code of defiance to which they have given voluntary allegiance -- BAHALA NA.

I am fully confident that in the crucial months which lie ahead, every man will remain steadfast in the path of his duty -- that, wherever and whatever be his assignment, each will contribute in full measure to the cause of his people -- and that in the service of all General MacArthur will find much satisfaction.

Please accept and convey to your officers and men my affectionate greetings and grateful acknowledgment of a year of splendid service. Assure them that I look forward to their future service with abiding faith and unlimited confidence.

Very sincerely,

COURTNEY WHITNEY
Colonel, Air Corps

Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Brown III
Commanding Officer
5217th Reconnaissance Battalion
Camp Tabragalba, Queensland

Presenting ... Lieutenant Col. Lewis Brown III

Commander of this Post since the arrival of the first troops, who, by his untiring effort, has succeeded in making this Camp what it is today. In that capacity, he deserves the praise of Colonel Courtney Whitney who is the Chief of the Philippines Regional Section (PRS), - G3 - General Headquarters General Headquarters and who says: "Lieutenant Colonel Brown is doing a splendid job and has my full confidence."

Up to 18 July 1943, the Battalion Commander was with the 12th Cavalry Regiment of the 1st Cavalry Division, after which, he was designated the Executive Officer of the PRS, Allied Intelligence Bureau (AIB) by Colonel Whitney.

Colonel Brown entered active service 24 Sept 1940 in the Philippines. He was 2nd lieutenant Cavalry Reserve and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant Cavalry in October 1941. He was stationed at Fort Stotsenberg and while 1st Lieutenant, he was Aide-de-camp to Major General George Grunert, then Commander of Philippines Department.

By Headquarters United States Army Forces Far East (USAFFE) Special Orders (SO) #208 this year, he was promoted from Major to Lieutenant Colonel.

Team Work Solves Pioneers' Problems About Building Camp Colonel Brown Heads Detail

By 1st Lieutenant Patricio Ubarro

(EDITOR'S NOTE: 1st Lieutenant Ubarro is the author of the following article. A professional soldier, he fought against the Japs in Bataan. He has been Battalion Adjutant since activation of this camp. An experienced radio communication officer, he has been in the Army for 18 years).

* As this "special issue" of BAHALANA marks the passing of the first year of the existence of this Command Post, perhaps it should be interesting to record herein how the Battalion evolved from a humble origin to its present state of affairs. In doing this, perhaps I should allow myself to dwell in my reminiscences in order to live again in those hectic days when a handful group of pioneers struggled along in fortitude to form the beginning of our unit.

These pioneers consisted of Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Brown III, then Major, myself and a small party of enlisted men headed by Staff Sergeant Juan F. Dahilig, chief clerk who joined us from the United States Army Air Forces, and Staff Sergeant Ciriaco Castro who was evacuated from the Philippines.

Two weeks later saw the arrival of another group of cadres which included Captain Ricardo Galang, Lieutenant Carlos D. Arguelles, Lieutenant Ruben P. Sonco, Lieutenant Edmundo J. Marfori, Lieutenant Silvino B. Tallido, Lieutenant Saturnino Silva.

The group was immediately followed by more cadres from America which boasted a little the number of pioneers. The Cadres -- for the most part -- were radio signal personnel headed by Lieutenant Alvin V. Bone, who was assisted by Lieutenant Kenneth Oates, Lieutenant George Baker, Lieutenant Meyer Spiro, Lieutenant Wilfred Cohen, Warrent Officer Patrick Daley, Warrent Officer Alphia Claunch, Warrent Officer Harry Maxam, Warrent Officer Braynard Wise.

This list completes the complement of the pioneers and at first we were quartered in Milton Staging Camp. For purposes of administration, Lieutenant Colonel Brown, then Executive Officer of the Allied Intelligence Bureau, appointed me as the Adjutant of the group being perhaps, that my line of work is that of the Adjutant General's Department.

In assuming my duties as Adjutant of the group, I found in the beginning great difficulty in applying the Adjutant General Department (AGD) routine and procedures. For the camp was operated in the Australian procedure being that the Camp Commandant was a member of the Australian Imperial Military Forces.

Nevertheless, I did the best I could and managed to get along in the interest of unity among the United Nations.

After our brief stay in Milton, we were ordered to move our little group to Camp Tabragalba. In this order, Major Brown was constituted Camp Commandant, Lieutenant Bone, the Commanding Officer of the 978th Signal Service Company, Lieutenant Baker, Supply Officer of the group. In compliance thereto, Major Brown and I made feverish preparations in drawing from QM all things needed in establishing Camp Tabragalba. Trucks also were drawn in the name of the 978th Signal Service Company

We could not draw Army cots from the Quarter Master (QM), and all of us had no place to sleep except on the ground. Things then as it stood presented us with a problem -- a real task -- of transforming the whole site into a real military camp. As real pioneers, we braced ourselves up to face the situation. We divided ourselves into different parties in fatigue and everybody -- officers and men alike -- proceeded to tackle the task.

Major Brown headed a detail clearing the entire area of cow manure and, in that detail, he rolled up his sleeves and sweated like any other soldier. Captain Galang headed detail which planned the areas and set up tents. Lieutenant Marfori took charge of wooden-bunks. Mr. Claunch, assisted by Mr. Grant, an Australian engineer, headed the engineer's detail making installations, and building "Tom's Bridge" by the Post Exchange. But that is not all.

The electric plant was installed, and electric lines were set up. Water mains were buried in the ground. Laundry, wash-shed and showers were built, the Telephone system on the Post was installed. Gravelled side-walks were constructed. and

(please turn page 22)

Our Executive Officer

* Maj. Harry T. Croell whose civilian background proudly presents him as one who hails from the Edison Institute of Technology of Dearborn, Michigan, the seat of learning dedicated to Thomas A. Edison, friend of the famous Henry Ford. For seven years, he worked there arranging, cataloging and researching into the history of electrical and museum exhibits.

He was called to Federal Service in October 1940, and ordered to overseas duty on 3 August 1943. Upon recall, he was commissioned as 1st lieutenant and assigned to Camp Beauregard, La.

Prior to his overseas assignment the Major worked in the Office of the US Signal Officer in Washington, D.C.

Our Battalion Adjutant

* Lieutenant Ubarro holds a reserve commission in the US Army since 1935. Prior to 8 December 41, he was chief of radio communication of the 26th Cavalry Regiment (PS). First Sergeant when the Japs attacked the islands, he fought against them in which he was severely wounded. Evacuated to Australia, he regained strength and assumed duties in SWPA.

In August 1942, the Lieutenant was inducted into the US Army and made Sergeant Major, Medical Corps, Base Sec. 7. In November that year, he was ordered to operate the first U.S. Army Radio Station, USASOS. Called to active duty Feb 1943 with rank of 2nd Lieutenant AUS. From there he was ordered to join this Unit and became an Adjutant.

Warfare School Graduates Receive Commendable Praises From Officers

NCO Staff Performs Excellent Work

By Captain Enoch Jones

* The original training program for the 5217th Reconnaissance Battalion was prepared by Lieutenant Colonel A. W. Ind and all the early members trained under his supervision. Today his broad policy of training is followed as closely as conditions will permit. The training syllabi are not theoretical in construction but derived from practices directed by experienced training officers. Men who mastered all the phases of training and were able to utilize it have agreed unanimously with this program.

Physical fitness and mental alertness are qualities most desired in every man of this battalion. Each man had to be an excellent soldier first with a true desire for reconnaissance work. When this type of soldier came to the battalion he was placed in training to develop the desired qualities. The training allowed each soldier to gain a wealth of information, to understand what his job was to be, to learn the methods of doing his job most efficiently, and build himself up physically at the same time. Lastly, field problems were designed for teamwork, coordination, good fellowship, etc. for soldiers working in groups.

The Battalion has had access to a number of schools that are of great training value. Ninety-eight percent of the men in the battalion have attended the Jungle Warfare School; the majority of these men have graduated with grades above average. Several of the men experienced the hardship of the jungles and rugged terrain for the first time; they began to realize the necessity for hard and continuous training as well as the determination required to do the job properly. Some loafed, it is true, but the percentage was very small in comparison to those

who took full advantage of the training offered. The battalion had the pleasure of listening to addresses by officials from the jungle school who gave their opinion of the battalion eagerness and determination in training and preparing for the job.

In other schools the men have done well. The limited number of vacancies in those schools have made it impossible to send all deserving personnel at one time. Every man in the battalion will soon have two or three specialized schools to his credit, and combined with battalion training should be one of the Army's finest soldiers.

Two new phases of training were developed in camp during April and May under jurisdiction of Lieutenant Cohen and WARRANT OFFICER Weber. The battalion tackled these jobs with the usual enthusiasm and spirit that makes the battalion distinctive and outstanding.

Lieutenant Walter was recently added to the battalion staff and is preparing for an additional subject to add to the training program. The battalion members are anxiously waiting for this training.

Lieutenant Allen and Lieutenant Davis have been with the staff since February and have helped relieve the pressure of early training days placed on Lieutenant Arguelles, Lieutenant Tallido, and Lieutenant Marfori. Lieutenant Allen and Lieutenant Davis have done an excellent job and the results have proved that their efforts were not in vain. Though not completely satisfied, there is no question of the improvement in trained personnel.

Lieutenant Bone and Lieutenant Oates, Warrent Officer Wise and Warrent Officer Claunch have left nothing to be desired in their phase of training. They have with them a competent staff of nco's who have done excellent work as assistants.

To put the training programme on the present basis was a tough problem. The camp had to be built, equipment and materials obtained, lectures prepared, the terrain surveyed, etc. All this was accomplished by the combined efforts of the commanding officer, company commanders, training officers plus their staffs, supply officers, as well as the men of the battalion. Though it is not perfected today, it is far advanced from one year ago.

Confidential

Philippines Writes History In Blood

Commonwealth Government Moves To Washington

By Lieutenant Jose V. Valura

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The author of the following story saw action in the Philippines campaign and fought actually against the Japs. He is a product of America's

educational crusade in the Philippines, graduated from Manila's University of the Philippines. His observations in the campaign are presented herein).

The tragic deeds which manifest the resolution and fortitude of the Filipino people in their unequal effort to contest in arms the Japanese invasion of the Philippines present an eloquent testimony of the fighting spirit of the Filipinos.

When the air-raid sirens blew in Manila on that fateful December 8, 1941, The Filipino people responded in unison. Philippine Army and Constabulary troops went to the front lines. Trainees presented for arms. Volunteers were uncountable.

Due to lack of arms, many sharpened their bolos and prepared for eventualities. Fighting spirit flamed into action. Men faced odds of superior numbers -- in men, in bombs, tanks, machine guns, flame-throwers. Against this superiority in arms and men, the Filipinos resisted with ferocious determination.

In the bloody battlefields of Bataan, a company of Igorots -- without sleep and without enough food -- held a full regiment of the enemy. They saw piles of enemy bodies in their front lines and in their maneuvers. They led the forces that met the last and strongest drive of General Homma which caused Tojo to send General Yamashita and his forces from Singapore to make the final assault. It is the outstanding performance of the Igorots which caused Lieutenant Reil Cathrem to remark:

"I saw Filipinos trapped like rats and would never surrender".

Barrio people went to war. Miles from town in quiet little villages. rose irregular troops as defenders of democracy. With their bolos they went into thickly wooded hills, over cliffs leading the ravines far below, trampling over stones in a hurry to kill the enemy.

In this connection, there was a group of villagers who were moving toward a place where the regular soldiers were located. These villagers were armed with only one shotgun and each carried a bladed weapon.

As they were passing through a secondary forest a shot flashed from a tree-top. The group filtered into well-protected bushes but the dynamic little "Teniente del Barrio" received the bullet and fell and then regained consciousness and watched everything around. He spotted a sniper in a knotty branch up in a tree top, raised his shotgun -- the only gun in the group and -- aiming, he squeezed the trigger.

Bang! A creature holding a rifle fell from the tree top. He was an enemy, and with streak of sunshine glittering through his face, one of Hirohito's murderers just saw another setting of the Rising Sun.

The fighting was furious. Many of the boys were wounded. But there were no hospitals. There were no scientific aids. Many of them lay dead -- their clothing saturated in blood. Others had their wounds washed and dressed with the wind

only to recover and ready for another action. The battle culminated when at dawn a force of 300 Japs attempted to deliver a surprise annihilation only to be repulsed by a Filipino force of only 120 rifles and not a single one of the 300 ran away with his life. So commanding was this stand that an American major -- then a Captain -- told the Filipino Commander: "I have never seen such daring soldiers as those in your command, Colonel".

In spite of these manifestations of deeds of valor and fortitude of the Filipino people, Bataan crumbled and Corregidor fell and the seat of the Philippines Commonwealth was removed to Washington, D.C. But the fighting spirit of the Filipinos again asserts itself in
(please turn page 23)

"Get the Message Thru"

978th Signal Service Company

By Cpl Isais T. Torio

and

By Technician/5 Albert Halla

* The 978th Signal Service Company was conceived in the War Department, Washington, D.C. as of June 12, 1943 when the Department approved plans presented by General Headquarters, SWPA as of April 1943. But the Company came into actual existence on the date of its activation 1 July 1943.

According to plan, the 978th Signal Service Company is to constitute the heart of the Battalion. And in implementing its plans General Headquarters, SWPA has obtained permission from the War Department (WD) to assemble necessary personnel in Australia. Pursuant thereof, General Headquarters proceeded to gather Cadres from the US to Australia to form the first roster of the Company and also the nucleus of what is to become the 5217th Reconnaissance Battalion. So that, strictly speaking, the humble beginnings of the Battalion tally exactly with the evolutionary stages of the 978th Signal Service Company in that the handful group of pioneers who struggled along with Lieutenant Colonel Brown and Lieutenant Ubarro in the pioneering work of establishing this Post were exactly the same personnel who constituted the roster of the Company on the date of activation.

Not very much of the Company could be done, however, upon activation since camp routine at Milton Staging Camp was Australian in procedure. But on 20 August 1943, "the Pioneers" arrived on the Post and began their unforgettable task of opening this Camp. Accordingly, Lieutenant Alving V. Bone was constituted the Commanding Officer of the Company by Lieutenant Colonel Brown, the Major. The other officers on hand were Lts Baker, Cohen, Oates and

Spiro. Warrent Officer's Daley, Maxam, Wise, Booker and Claunch completed the Company's roster of officers.

The Company Administration was completed by constituting Lieutenant Baker as the Supply Officer; Lieutenant Oates and Lieutenant Spiro were in the radio maintenance section; Lieutenant Cohen was PX Officer; Warrent Officer Daley was in charge of transportation; Warrent Officer Maxam was assigned to take charge of mess; and Warrent Officer Claunch was appointed as Camp Electrician and Utility Officer. Warrent Officer Booker was hospitalized. Included in the roster were 47 enlisted men.

From this group of enlisted men was drawn the first complement of Administrative Staff which consisted of Sergeant Zola, Supply Sergeant; Technician/4 Thomas, the sleepless motor dispatcher; Sergeant Sturgeon, handsome motor mechanic; Cpl Sheppard, and Technician/5 Halla the right hand men of the 1st Sergeant in the Company orderly room; Technician/5 Malitovsky, the eagle-eyed left hand-man of the 1st Sergeant to take care of the Company's affairs in the Battalion Hqs.

The Administration of Lieutenant Bone was worthy of commendation. He bent his every effort to establish the foundation of the present Radio Room. Lieutenant Bone's capability in this line of work is abessing to the Company. His ceaseless efforts for the betterment of the Company made possible for the acquisition of modern equipments in the "Room" which are now comparable to any of the best Signal Schools in the United States.

His broad and sympathetic understanding to solve individual problems has endeared him in the hearts of every man in the company. In the camp or in operational problems, he is always with them. His interest in the performance of his duties is proven by the excellent work the men are now showing in camp, in the combat zones, or in any place where high claiber radio operators are called upon.

Sometime in
(please turn to page 26)

What Do You Think? Censor Office Encourages Writing Safe Guarding Military Secrets Stressed

By Staff Sergeant Max T. Quintua

Battalion Staff Censor

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The author of the following story is a former employee of the Philippines Government, and has lived in the United States for several years before induction. In California where he lived before joining the Service, he assumed leadership of a Filipino Colony).

* Here it is

Don't you blame us when your letters are censored. And don't you tell us we didn't warn you when your letter are coming back to you for re-write or complete change. For we're only trying to do our best in the interest of security, safety, and common cause. We encourage you to do all the wittings you can. But ... listen ... be careful. Some of those letters may fall into enemy hands.

To be sure, our Battalion Censor Officer has endeavored -- and still is endeavoring -- to check the flow of inofrmations which may be of paramount value to the enemy. It has always cautioned all personnel against disclosing closely gaurded military secrets through written communications, causal conversations a bullsessions. It is always on the alert to find loopholes concerning our war industries, military installations, scientific progress and troop movements. All statements which may be interpreted by the enemy as clues regaurding our war plans, and disclosures of conditions dealing with military as well as civilian morale have been closely checked and re-checked.

Pursuant to instructions contained in existing regulations, several ouTechnician/going letters have been returned to senders for revision -- if not complete change in order to minimize unnecessary divulging of military informations.

Great care, too, is being excised in the scrutiny of the letter's contents. Such contents have to be strictly of personal nature. There are -- of course -- reasons, which lead a writer to discuss matters of censorable nature.

For instance: Elements of pride and enthusiasm enter into personal correspondence among military personnel. Selling, giving away and shipping cigarettes, candies, including other GI articles coming from Americal all fall under military restrictions and -- of course -- violation to USAFFE circular No. 22.

What is more, safeguarding military informations cannot be too emphatically stated. Living proof is the Pearl Harbor incident. Japan succeeded in its dropping bombs of death and destruction through careful and well-timed schemes of its underground agents. Had we realized the importance of safe-gurading military informations, there never would have been such a thing as: stab in the back.

We all know the Second Front turned to be a real success. Nazis Field Marshall Rommel was in the dark as to the Allied movements and preparations. He was led to believe that General Clark used automatic Artillery guns during the early phase of the Italian invasion. All these were due to tight secrecy concerning Allied Supply Lines, and nature of military equipment. This Battalion's Censorship boasts and interesting history, and it has played really an integral part in the Command's existence. Officers serving under it made it so.

Lieutenant Wilfred Cohen distinguished himself as the first to read ouTechnician/going mails -- with his office located at the Battalion Hqs.

Succeeding him was Lieutenant Ceferino Rola who remained the Battalion Censor Officer until he assumed his present assignment as Unit Personnel and Insurance Officer for the battalion. He served under the censor for several months, and was succeeded by Lieutenant Vincent M. F. Zorda.

Under Lieutenant Zorda, censorship became a full time responsibility with the steady flow of men into the camp. The need for a bigger space to house the mails which increased with the coming of more and more personnel. Mails average four or more bags daily.

Private First Class Joseph Morris takes charge of the letters, and is doing some wonderful
(see page 44)

5218th Reconnaissance Company

By Sgt Audelon L. Ebarle

The 5218th Reconnaissance Company came into actual existence on the date of its formation, 6 NOVember 1943. Yet the humble beginning of the company reaches towards those handful of Pioneers who struggled along in fortitude and privation with Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Brown III and Lieutenant Ubarro in the effort to establish this Post.

Upon the activation of the company, we had for a Commanding Officer, Captain Abner Pickering who came from the 2nd Filipino Regiment. The 1st Sergeant was Eutiquio Cabais, veteran of World War I, who saw service and combat in Flanders.

All men of the company will always remember Sergeant Cabais as one who is obsessed by the desire to (using his own language) "eat pickled and pickled Japanese cars". At reveille, he pounded this desire on the men by exhorting them to win the war against Japan. And to this, the response was overwhelming.

Brief as it was, Captain Pickering's administration found a new commander of the company in Lieutenant Carlos D. Arguelles whose dashing personality wins the admiration of all the personnel of the company. In assuming the duties as Commanding Officer, he let it down as a matter of policy that the men are given ample opportunity to gain health, recreation and diversion which may promote their training efficiency. Accordingly, "Passes and Furloughs" have been granted to all deserving men of the company in compliance -- of course, to the intent and spirit of existing Army Regulations.

Lieutenant Arguelles makes it also as a point of policy to lay stress on absolute cleanliness and orderliness both in the person of the troops and in the tents and tent areas. To implement this policy, the Commanding Officer conducts on every Sunday morning weekly inspection of every man and every tent of the company.

In regards to training, the Lieutenant has always endeavored to make the greatest possible use of the occupational skills, abilities and aptitudes of each and every personnel of the company. To this end, he has always sought the co-operation of the Battalion Staff-3 Officer, Captain Enoch Jones, to make it a point to assign each man to the type of training which he can most readily absorb and thereby render each man of the greatest value to the service.

What is more, Lieutenant Arguelles made a point of his personal concern to foster goodwill and harmony among the men and between the company and the populace around the flourishing neighborhood. This progressive policy brought about a memorable social gathering which was held under a clear, sunny sky on June 24th, 1944.

The gathering was called the "Salo-Salo" party, and it was held on a lovely spot on a bend of the sleepy lagoon. It will always linger in our memories as the crowning effort of 1st Sergeant German Reyes to carry into fruition the policy of our Commanding Officer. By way of explanation, 1st Sergeant German Reyes relieved 1st Sergeant Cabais when the latter was sent, after all, to go and pick some Japanese cars.

The social gathering was a very successful affair. The entire battalion participated in the all-day festivities. Guests from the thriving neighborhood and countryside thronged in the gathering.

Numerous military dignitaries lent grace to the occasion. Entrancing music was furnished by the Battalion's ten-piece band and the entire place was transformed into a land of
(please turn page 26)

Lieutenant Colonel Allison W. Ind Tells Thumbnail History Of 5217th Rcn. Battalion

By Lieutenant Colonel Allison W. Ind

* A nebula which one day would resolve itself into a very real thing or a concern to the reestablishment of a free Philippines actually was first discernible at a far earlier date than may be suspected. Many months, some of them admittedly bitter or the American cause in the Pacific were to elapse between a bleak, rain-drenched day in 1942 in Melbourne and the issuance in Brisbane a year and a half later of USAFFE orders officially creating the 5217th Reconnaissance Battalion. Outside the rain boat in cold, spiritless waves against the windows and the yellow panelled, clapping sides of the old "Repatriation Building" then serving as Headquarters, Allied Air Forces Australia, on SSt. Kilda Road, Melbourne. But inside, there was a fever of activity. This was particularly evident in the office of the Chief of Air Operations, the late Brigadier General Harold H. George. This intense, black-eyed little man had won an official fight -- to bomb the Philippines!

Strange that we who had as zealously and fruitlessly sought to prevent a shower of bombs on the Philippines now should strain brain, muscle, men and machines to the accomplishment of it.

There were hundreds of arrangements to complete, thousands of details to co-ordinate. And one of them was to establish a "priority list" of personnel still in Mindanao to be loaded into the empty bombers after the raids and be brought to Australia. "Pick carefully", warned the General, "Remember we are going back in there one day and when we do we'll have what it takes in men and material. But in the meantime we will have to go in a few at a time, or even one at a time, and those who return will have to be picked people of the the best types."

In those early, uncertain days when the Japanese were hovering someplace in the Coral Sea area and might pounce in at any time to lay seige to northern Australia, service functions were not too sharply allocated, and it appeared quite logical and possible that the Air Force be the agency responsible for the introduction of reconnaissance agents to procure military intelligence upon which ultimate plans of action could be based.

Accordingly the lists of those Americans and Filipinos on the Mindanaoan station would be of greatest use to the new headquarters in Australia either as staff assistants at the headquarters or for ultimate re-entry into the Islands was conned and reconned. There were hundreds and hundreds. But the number who could be brought out by air was pitifully small.

And the process of elimination was a heartbreaking one.

Actually the physical condition of those brought out was generally so unsatisfactory as to preclude their re-introduction for some time to come. And, for the time being, that was the end of the matter for me.

It was not until after the General's tragic death, the question of personnel for special missions presented itself again -- this time urgently.

The problem no longer was one for the Air Corps, nor for any other of the regular establishments, but for a special Bureau created by General Headquarters. Organized in July of 1942, this Bureau was charged with a multiplicity of duties among which were many delicate ones which could best be accomplished by Filipinos.

And where were these Filipinos -- Outside of the Philippines, now closely locked under the invader's grip? America? Yes, Hawaii? Yes.

But the need was immediate.

Accordingly, the possibilities nearer to hand were investigated. In surveys conducted on several occasions by Major R. J. Cisneros of the ill-fated S. S. "DON ISIDRO", Captain Allan Davidson, A. M. F., and by the then Major J. R. McMicking, not more than a platoon or so of eligible men could be found in Australia. Most were disqualified on a basis of health, inasmuch as the Filipinos in

this area at the time were those who had been wounded in action in the never-to-be-forgotten days when the invader was closing in on Manila from Appari, Vigan, Lingayan and the Bicol. Some had no knowledge of the necessary dialects. The (please turn page 23)

Soldier Pleads For Friendship

morality; profound attachment and devotion to home, family, country, and God; courage and sacrifice to stand for what is right; loyalty and love to friends, but bitter woe to enemies.

And last but not least, a seemingly insatiable thirst and hunger for higher knowledge to enable them to fulfill the conditions of Catholic morality and standard in dignity, in peace, or in war with other peoples of the world.

From America we have derived so much wealth immensely buying measure. From young America, we have imparted of the untold accomplishments of her verile nationhood. From America we have learned to cherish the principles of equality, liberty, and fraternity.

America has given a complete satisfaction of the Filipinos' enthusiasm and eagerness for knowledge in her institutions of higher learning. The Filipino mind has explored extensively into the regions of Industry, Trade and Finance, Government, Science, the Arts, Music, Belles Lettres, Philosophy and Religion.

Out of this exploration of the Filipino mind in America's higher institutions of learning, there has emerged into contemporary history a now and wider outlook of the Filipino people. With Catholic morality as their perspective, they have come across the realization that justice is no longer an empty word, but simply the fulfillment in good faith of the high ideals of Philosophy and Religion of any people; that industry, commerce and trade owe their existence and the conduct of their affairs from the fulfillment of those ideals; that the Arts, Drama, and Belles Lettres are Vehicles with which to bring to the awareness and understanding of the people of the highest ideals of Philosophy and Religion; that music is the expression of the cord of sentiment of the people in the pursuit, exercise, and enjoyment of the life that arises from the fulfillment of those high ideals of Philosophy and Religion; that labor is the one institution of society that brings and assures the fulfillment of those ideals to the people.

Upon this new and wider outlook of the Filipino people rest the justification of their cause against Japan, their love to the United States, and admiration and understanding to Australia. Upon this new and wider outlook rests the cause of the Filipinos in asking the United States of America, and the whole world at large, to be invested with a right, and identity, responsibility, and integrity to stand as an independent and sovereign nation within the councils and concerts of the family of nations under a world-wide democratic regime.

Upon this new and wider outlook of the Filipinos rest their faith that as a sovereign and independent nation they may yet become an asset rather than a liability in the stabilization of the peace of the world and of the Far East under the democratic leadership of the United States.

They firmly believe that as an independent and sovereign state, the Filipinos can yet play an instrumental part in bringing to the homes of millions of Far Eastern peoples the Tenets and Ideal of democracy and open thereby, huge markets of untold wealth which hitherto has never been dreamed of.

Shall Australia lend her ears in understanding and sustaining to this plea of the Filipinos?

It is hereby humbly submitted that the brotherhood in arms between the Australians and the Filipinos shall resolve itself in peace in continued companionship...comradship of two equal peoples sustaining each other in the aspirations and efforts to bring fulfillment to the highest ideals of democratic peace in the Far East.

Lieutenant Edmundo J. Marfori Gives Band Personality

at singing "Indian Love Call" and Mexican or Spanish -- semi-classics. Private First Class Marcelo Ovalles' lilting tune of "When Irish Eyes are Smiling" charmed many an audience of civilians and soldiers alike. He has been behaving like a married man.

When the String Band was finally organized and had songs arranged to their even liking, they toured the vicinity of this camp and thereabouts, playing sweet music in hospitals and special gatherings. They had audiences swaying and dancing with tunes like the "War Chant," "Palms of Paradise," "Farewell My Tani," and others as captivating to the musical mind.

Hufana had then acquired an electric guitar thru the SSO's efforts and really took the shows with the song "E-Flat Melody."

Dances outside the camp were a treat to the Australians who had never before heard this type of music. The band received full attention at the swank Surfer's Paradise and at the Naval Officer's Club.

Playing for the Children's Hospital was a favor the boys gladly gave. They really put out their best when they saw all the crippled children staring at them with awe and clapping their tiny hands.

During a three-day pass that they so deserved, they had an impromptu audience at the sunny beach of a nearby town. No sooner had the people seen them sit down with their instruments when they rushed over and gathered in a large, tight, and appreciative audience. The result was a community singing. Everybody had a nice time.

Sensano's brain was not idle. He had ideas of a brass band that could swing out on music. Some members moved for more important duties. Others came to take their places. So Danny looked around for new talents and was very much surprised to find so many wandering around looking for instruments to play with. The young maestro promptly gathered them, picked the best instruments for the brand new band. On the saxes are himself, Private First Class Pedro Gorospe, Corporal Eleuterio Curaming, and Private First Class Dionisio Ventura. On the trumpets are Private First Class Frank Cachapero and Private First Class Matias Miguel. In the rhythm section, are Earnest Lazo, on the guitar, Frank Hufana on the bass, and a newcomer who really knows how to "beat the skins," jazz drummer Sergeant Pat Ebarle. Just a note on Pat: He's young and American born, with a musical background that anyone could envy. He played around San Francisco with the very able "Palomar Sixtet" and they were making quite a name for themselves before Uncle Sam stepped in and scattered them to the far corners of the earth.

After a few days of practice, the band made a very successful debut at the gala affair, June Fourth party of the Reconnaissance Company. During this exclusive affair, people from far and near came to dance to the rhythm of the newly-born band. There were AWA's, AIF's, ARC's Nurses, WAC's, and good old Yankees. Previous to that, the band played for the 978th Signal Service Company on Mother's Day. Since then the boys have been in great demand by civilian and military organizations. The string band was kept intact for fill-in purposes, to entertain the people during intermissions.

Here is something about the boys: Dan Sensano had his own band in the States, and from his own admission, was doing pretty good. For a fact, this writer knows he has made for himself a name with his efforts and not to mention his ever-present self-composed "Women are the Downfall of Men." He insists, however, that the song has nothing to do with him. He himself is spreading the good news that he will soon wed a shapely Aussie blonde, a belle and a bombshell.

Frank Hufana and his "Aloha Trio" were popular around Los Angeles and much more so back East in Chicago. Hufana is a genial, bald-headed gentleman, the "father" of the boys. Don't worry about him, he's married, but the missus is back in America.

Ernesto Lazo was strumming his guitar since '33 and wound up broadcasting and playing in Los Angeles night clubs. His rendition of "Paper Doll" has caught the attention of many as with the instrumental solo of "Dark Eyes."

The other boys are equally famous as the rest. Ventura plays with Lazo in Delano and other cities on the West Coast. Curaming and the other too, gathers fame in the regiments.

Some had joined and quit the band to be in the field, as Sergeant Peraltan and Private First Class Phil Caballes. Both are truly great musicians.

BARBER: "Was your tie red when you came in?"

GI: "Certainly not."

BARBER: "Gosh."

Subject Presented At Orientation Hour

economic order encouraged the adoption and expansion of Vocational education, and in many respects, remarkable results materialized.

However, vocational training has been retarded by the Army Defense Plan of training young men at the rate of 40,000 a year. Twenty-year old Filipinos of school age which exceeded 148,000 had come under military training.

Since time immemorial, the tendency of every individual has been toward his personal advancement and for the better things in life. Favored by climatic conditions, the Philippines offers a rich field of opportunities. At times, a question arises as to who can fully determine the aptitude of each student or pupil so that he can start young to pursue studies and training for a particular vocation. A timely suggestion would be to establish a remedial board. This body will be vested with powers to find out the leanings of every individual student. Several points will be taken into consideration. One of them will be to determine whether the student, by his capabilities, will be successful in pursuing a profession. The other will be to send those students to vocational schools where they will be able to complete their studies without difficulty. Therefore, it is unthinkable to consider the conception that the same kind of trade or vocation has to be learned by an individual regardless of actual conditions in business, social trends, and economic spheres.

A general survey of the Educational system in the Philippines has demonstrated glaring causes why many of her critics even call it "Wrong Education." At the outset, the Spanish system of education had no other motive than to spread Christian ideals in the archipelago. The Church controlled religious problems of our people and for that matter the church had grown so powerful and strong that its predominating influence even went to the extent of kindling the torch of the peoples' political and social lives. This has been prompted by the very design of retaining the islands by the crown of Spain. Unquestionably, Legaspi and Urdaneta were successful in convincing the King of Spain on the basis of their plea that the souls of the natives must be saved. It must always be paramount in our minds that the church took over our religious as well as political and social functions of government. Famous feuds as recorded in the "INQUISITIONS" show the assumption. Under the Spanish Regime, education in its true sense did not come to the people because of its purely religious mission and because it spread only to a selected few. We can therefore safely assume that Spain has not

give us much of an education to speak of except in the development of parochial school which are the forerunners of primary schools.

Under the American tutelage, we have been given a wider panorama of liberal education which made the people think in terms of acquired education. An outstanding fact is, that the majority of academic schools have been so worked out to prepare its graduates for a higher education. In this connection, it happens that most of these graduates, terminated their schooling when they discovered that what they had acquired thus far was insufficient to assure or insure them a job or employment.

In view of the fact that the High School graduate has not learned a certain kind of practical training or vocation, he finds himself in a sad predicament. Briefly, his education is incomplete. The fact that young people must make a niche for themselves in his immediate society, necessitates the reasonableness of an education which is not only cultural, but must also be practical.

The Commonwealth Government realized the situation and steadily, there was an unprecedented swing towards Vocational Education. This experiment toward the acquisition of skills for life's work has been put in the process which doubtless has to be put in abeyance in the face of this current conflagration of war. Perhaps, this system of education working under the premise of "PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION," will solve a great deal of our present problems.

It is deemed highly important therefore, that enough thought, consideration, and other remedial measures must be unsparingly utilized to correct the elements of deficiency which will put a premium on vocational training. All teachings of academic subjects, reading, writing, speaking, figuring, etc. must be supplemented by and complimented with specialized training.

Sergeant Augeleon L. Ebarle presented this excellent analysis of the Educational System of the Philippines in one of the Symposium Hours.

Former Editor Writes Comments Of Australians

a first class has six comfortable chairs.

Melbourne is, to me, a PARADISE. I enjoyed its wide and clean streets, its many beautiful gardens and parks, and, above all, the hospitality of its people.

However, you do not have to go to Melbourne. Nevertheless, regardless of where you go for a furlough, by all means, make it a point to see the best points of amusement, education, and culture. Remember, geographically, Australia and the Philippines are oriental. Distance between Australia and the Philippines is almost equal to the distance between Darwin and Melbourne. As neighbors, they are bound to be formidable allies for mutual causes. They cherish and enjoy common ties of culture and tradition from the West. Both nations speak the same language.

Mingle with the people as freely and as often as you can. Talk with them in order to learn their ideas and dreams, and in order to know and understand them. It is axiomatic that enduring world peace can only be founded upon a sympathetic understanding of the problems of the nations of the world. The day of blind nationalism has been proved dangerous by this war. National safety is now dependent upon world safety.

As a soldier, sweating it out under the hot sun and the cold moon and stars of Australia, and as a Filipino, you have a part to play, no matter how little, toward the promotion and conservation of world peace. It is in your interest and in the interest of your generations yet unborn.

And last but not least, remember the word "cheerio." It means until we meet again.

AN ALERT technician/LOOKING girl in slacks with an exceptionally attractive figure preceded me through the gate of a Southern California airplane plant. She showed her pass and breezed past the guard. He was about to call after her for her badge when he observed it suspended from her belt in the "middle" of her back. To his question as to why her badge was there, the girl replied: "That's where you always look." -- Reader's Digest.

American-Filipino Partnership Developed In Camp "X"

at the range of two feet, he raised the tommy gun and fired six fierce bursts. The little puppy was yelping terrifically and with close analysis, we discovered that he had only nipped one of his ears out of the six shots. Joe exclaimed that he was glad the Army had made him a service man and we knew why.

The master -- Gil Sturgeon, Chicken Thompson, Paul Oliver Rasmussen, and Joe Filek worked in the strip of ground we called the motor pool, under Warrent Officer Daley, while also pulling anything from guard to garbage detail. cliff Thompson, who had a little experience with a trumpet in high school, was given a job of bugler, in addition to driving.

Baldy Zola set up a makeshift supply room while Ed Sheppard tackled company administration under Staff Sergeant Dahilig, Battalion Chief Clark. During all this time Staff Sergeant Dahilig was doing personnel administration work for Headquarters and all the companies.

After several weeks, Vic Nichols, Jim Greene, Jesse Wheat, Jim Brown, Lowell Camp, Frank Petro, and Steve Proffetta were sent to town as supply workers. G. I. Joe Morris, Eddie Burns, and Pop Ferrell were soon the best slap-iTechnician/on painters in Australia.

Parson Eals and Clarence Olson became qualified technicians, installing telephone and electric facilities for the whole camp under Lieutenant Baker and Warrent Officer Claunch.

Louie Roberts tried his luck in the power house and is still doing a "Crack-up job."

By this time, Howard Long, Jesse Landrum, and yours truly joined the platoon. Howard and Jesse fit nicely into the motor pool. It was wonderful cooperation between the Filipinos and our boys working hand-in-hand cheerfully.

We found them honest, loyal, and always with a smile. We especially respected their knack at handiwork, the flowers they grew, and their skill at cooking foods with such delicacy.

We marveled at how many were good musicians and singers, and learned that the guy helping to lay gravel was a graduate of Nevada Engineering School, and the Filipino who was pulling guard duty last night was a graduate journalist and even owned a newspaper of his own back home. Why he had traveled from California to Maine and knew so very much of our proud nation even though he had only immigrated to the United States several years ago.

They had no wealthy families to send them to school, but they had obtained education the hard way -- being anything from waiter to farmer.

We began to understand their ultimate goal towards the freeing of their homeland. The Japs were going out for the third strike when they met these boys. And so our camp grew beautifully under the fine direction of Colonel Brown, Major Croell, Lieutenant Ubarro, and all the officers and men who contributed so unselfishly.

We are proud of camp Tabragalba and think it is the best in the Southwest Pacific.

Just truck drivers, mechanics, clerk, and supply workers -- we would like to carry a gun, but in Colonel Whitney's words, in a talk to us last Christmas, he said, "It's not what you're doing, but it's the idea that you are helping in some way to win this fight for freedom."

This is just the way we feel.

Our goal with our Filipino comrades -- to see a free Philippines, a whiskey and soda at the bar of the Manila Hotel, and finally, GOOD OLD FRISCO

GI's Discuss Subjects Objectively

history and structure of our planet. Here we were brought face to face with fundamental matters constituting human, social, economic, political, and military existence.

Master of the lecture room, Tolentino kept the audience in constant wonderment and breathless attention as he pointed to the avenues of mineral basins imbedded in the Earth's strata. He convinced the spectators that from the stand point of mineral deposits, the U.S. is the world's strongest nation -- militarily --

because economically, these deposits are actual and potential -- growing and not receding sources of power.

Space does not permit a complete review of the studies undertaken week after week in the symposium hour. Information about the Philippines -- educationally, agriculturally, socially -- was brought about at the Friday evening's assemblage.

Significant is the fact that a common language runs through the mind of every speaker -- that is the language of liberty, markedly patterned after the structure of American democracy. It has been noticeable that loyalty to the U.S. is fundamentally due to the natural inclination of Filipinos to fight for liberty as the Pilgrim Fathers died to create what is now the greatest democracy on earth.

The symposium hour, then, may be categorically declared as the Tabragalba orientation agency of democracy. The small group of enlisted men meeting and surveying from time to time the course of these discussions has remained guided by this principle.

Bahalana Captain O'connor Keeps Self Busy Bring Life Health Standard Becomes High

By Lieutenant Wilfred A. Cohen

The life of a doctor is an interesting one indeed. They, of course, concern themselves with living things and the bringing of new living things into the world. These things are deeply imbedded into the minds of each and every follower of the medical profession. Our own inimitable Dr. Maurics (Politician) O'Connor is so obsessed with this creed, that he spends all of his spare time caring for living things and bringing new lives into being. His attention is diverted from its normal course due to the fact that he is in the army and attached to an extremely healthy unit. This, however, is not sufficient to make him lay aside the creed, so his time and energy are spent caring for little radishes and onions. We will admit that this form of life is slightly different, but we must also recognize the fact that radishes and onions have an essence of life that is all their own.

Morning sick call ends the Captain's concern with human life; from then on, he, along with the Sergeant of the Garden and the Privates of the Garden, can be found in the garden up to their knees in mud. It is really gratifying to the mind of military men to note the degree of efficiency with which the Captain conducts his warfare against barren, unproductive soil. His commands are sharp and concise. After his detail has been assembled, his dear sharp voice rings out with a snappy, "Right shoulder rakes," and after a determined, "Forward hoe," the men move off with machine-like precision. His ringing commands can be heard all through the day. His orders are many and varied; some of the more common are: "Plant that row," "Wet that ground," "Pull up weeds," or "Taste those onions."

All things considered, I think we can say that we have the best Doc in the army and damned near the best gardener too. The men and officers of this command are deeply grateful for the high health standard maintained by Captain Maurice O'Connor, M. D.

FIRST SARGE: How come you didn't turn out? Didn't you hear the bugle blow reveulle?

PRIVATE: Honest Sarge, I'm afraid I'm going to be a flop as a soldier. You see -- I don't know one tune from another.

as schools, play-grounds, libraries, hospitals, and museums.

Farmers, miners, laymen, and private contractors will be aided in the expansion of respective enterprises.

Therefore, the role of insurance in PostTechnician/War Philippines will be of vital importance in giving protection, security, and investment to our people, and eventually we will be able to help mold the destiny of our country.

Our Motor Pool

-- In this little space, we will talk also about the Motor Pool -- a tiny cog in the Battalion wheel -- but what an important cog!

It forms the line of communication of the Battalion with other sister units. It brings the supplies of the men into camp and brings them to town.

Thanks to the esteem of higher Headquarters's to our Battalion, our motor pool started from a total number of six vehicles including an ambulance truck. Now we are proud to have a huge fleet of vehicles all named after important places and persons in America and in the Philippines. Our Transport Officer is Buxom Maxam.

Books Shelved For Duration Girl Could Wait

in her enthusiasm to dissuade him. "But a degree, " she continued, "will be the best recommendation you could have while in the service and afterwards. Think it over, please, for my sake."

That evening, in his room, he had thought of this point over and over. The longer he meditated, the more puzzled he became. Yes, there was something in Betty's words that made him hesitate, and for the first time, her loveliness haunted him. He could see Betty in her gym shorts so full of life and so gay playing tennis with him. Then he could see her in a new, breath-taking gown, so sweet and so close as they waltzed together. He could see her in their classes, inquisitive and eager for knowledge. But most of all, he could see her across the table, ever alert that morning as she vigorously pleaded with him to continue his studies. The soft

touch of her lovely hands, the caressing tune of her sweet voice, the pleading look of her blue eyes, almost made him give up his plan. But in the end, the surging desire for action and adventure prevailed on him. Besides, he was thinking also of his mother, sisters, and brothers in the enslaved Philippines.

As a son to the pious and loving mother, as a brother to three young and innocent sisters, as a young and proud Filipino, Asiong made it his duty to trade his civilian clothes for a uniform. He was certain that his family would want him to join the service at the earliest possible moment. If alive, they were no doubt praying for him as he nightly prayed for them. Yes, he left college, the woman he loved, and his friends, in order to join the fasTechnician/growing Filipino Regiments, which were destined as the spearheads of an Allied Philippine invasion. War, as far as he was concerned, was the worst social disease. As such, he believed that its devastating force which was poisoning the world, must be met and destroyed by courageous people, who treasure President Roosevelt's four freedoms: Religion, Fear, Press, and Want. Convinced that only such a free world was worth while living in, he had offered his services to Uncle Sam without reservation.

"Come on Asiong," Pacio urged. "Get up and arrange that messy table."

"Okay, sweetheart," Asiong teased his friend. As he began folding his blankets he asked: "Have you heard whether we are leaving today?"

Then without waiting for an answer he added gravely, "I am tired of this suspense. We have been alerted for eight days, and here we are," he sighed with disappointment and deep concern.

He was certainly getting impatient. Like many of the men in the company, he wanted to shorten the war by rendering his bit in the front before malaria or some disease would rob him of the priceless opportunity. He was perfectly aware that hundreds like him would willingly go to Tokyo and lick Tojo and his cohorts if somebody asked for such a mission.

Indeed he recalled that in one Symposium Hour, many of his comrades in arms had openly declared that it was better to know Japan out of the map by bypassing the Philippines in order to avoid further bloodshed in the Fatherland. In unison they had all shouted, "Let us go to Tokyo."

"We are all proud of Bataan. We are thinking of our mothers, sisters, brothers, fathers, and folks, night and day. We, their kin, who were unfortunate to be away from their sides when they needed our strength and blood, are now their only hope of liberation," a distinguished person said in the oration of his speech. "It is our turn, " he continued with emphasis, "to do our part. We, who were cradles in American institutions must show to our leaders and to the world that with our rigorous training, we can fight as bravely as our brothers fought in Bataan, if not better."

At this point, a roar of applause rang in the hall and many shouted "MABUHAY" several times.

The speaker resumed his speech and finally he concluded in the most challenging manner that Asiong ever heard: "With the help of the United States, and with the capable leadership of General MacArthur, we shall avenge Bataan." With great enthusiasm the crowd had applauded the speaker, who had convincingly voiced their feelings.

After folding his blankets neatly, and having arranged everything on the table, he began checking his buttons, shoe, moss kits, gas mask, bags, and carbine. There wasn't much time left before inspection. In a rush, he ran for the showers, leaving his friend to finish the floor.

Back from the shower room, he took out his mirror and looked at himself as he began combing his short, black hair. Hundred and fifty pounds, he was well proportioned for his five feet six inches height. Young and alert, he had in addition a good sense of humor.

"Lucky we live in the last tent," he remarked to Pacio. "We have more time to clean and put things away," he continued as he surveyed the tent with satisfaction.

"What do you think of it," Pacio inquired as he aligned his shoe under his cot.

"Personally, I believe that our tent is even cleaner today than it was last week."

When the Commanding Officer and the First Sergeant entered, Asiong called, "tenSHUN."

Their tent being the last, the Commanding Officer spent more time examining everything, but found each item in order and very clean, until he came to Asiong's carbine.

"Dirty carbine," the Commanding Officer murmured to the first sergeant who nodded and wrote on his pad.

Asiong had cleaned his gun thoroughly on Saturday night. He was sure that it ought to be clean now. Many times he had cleaned rifles before, but none was ever found dirty. As far as he could remember, this was the only inspection that he ever got gigged. He told himself bravely that he will gladly face the punishment that the Commanding Officer will give him.

At the door, he heard the Commanding Officer distinctly say to the first sergeant: "Put Private Navar on KP for two successive days."

Poetry Devotion To Country Extolled

Agsasarunsun a asug ita lapayag mo innac ip-al-lingag
Asug a pan-nangisingasing a punasem ti panagdua-duam caniac.

Cas maysa nga ulila nagbucut daguitoy mata ket nala-us ti nakitada
Pangpakired, oenno pangneb-neb ken tarigagay agman-na-manna;
Piman ngamin ta naipusing ket aoan mangatibay caniana
Mangbalacad ken mang poTechnician/pot naganus ken natudio a cararua.
Nayulep daguiti rosas a nangarcos di mabilang a minuyungan
Casil-liasig ken pagrucbaban, cadagupan innac naglay-layanan,
Nang-guTechnician/gutigut ken carayo ket ni nalupuy a puzo nasinginan
Din naca-ep-ep ket sin-ac ti ub-bugna ngarud ti naeStaff-osan.
Libnos, lasbang, ken bangloda nagpangeTechnician/ngetac a aoan umasping
Naca-ayayo, ket marangrangan met buocda a pangulculuten,
Cas met bul lalayao daguiti kiday a kim-maoeng
Amin daguitoy, guinubuayan bang-arco ket diac nacaturayen.
Idi ngarud ta dimteng ti canito a panangyasugmo
A sadin ti yanmon naioaoa, ket nasugnad a puzo
Cas maysa a darepdep ken pul-uy simamay itoy barucungco,
Naimayeng, maidasayac ket nalap-pedan ti panagangesco.
Guinesdac ngarud ti paidam, pannangipirit, ken riturna
Toy dara, ket pim-mulangon ti punganay a sin-aona;
Umaynan panecnecan, ken iruchuy agpinsan a panagayatna
Ingongotec a daga, "punasem cadin ni dua-dua."

Devotion To Country

I look around, countless the things I saw
At times so bright and then so dim
Alone, what could I do without you
Though so able and so willing?
Clouded with roses which obscures my vision
Of things renown wherever I went
Ripping the portal of my heart in submission
I admitted that I was done.
Beauty, charm, and their daintiness
Refined personality, and caresses combined
Of all the earthly things they did possess
Created a new life, I claimed so divine.
Then so-said was the hour, when came your voice
Calling my name like one lost in the wilderness;
Like a whirlwind which froze me afoot
Breathless, and speechless, I lost all my moods.
All these neglects of an ungenerous soul
Had ended now, and I hear your call;

On my way to fulfill my vow
My beloved, believe me and doubt me no more.

I said, "Captain ain, I'd like to have a word with you."
He said, "What is it?"
I said, "I want a furlough."
He said, "Haven't you any red blood?"
I said, "Yes, but I don't want to see it." The way he looked at me, you would think that I am the guy who started the war.

Parting

By Technician/5 Urbano M. Francisco
Parting will cause wounds of sorrow
But time will heal it to-morrow,
Each moment that I will be gone
Of Thee, I'll dream my Lovely One.
When our Parting day draws nigh,
My Love, My Sweet, Dear Heart,
Smile to me before we part,
And Darling, don't you cry
For I'll return to you someday,
On your soft breast, my head shall lay,
From afar my kiss I'll send
To thee, after each day shall end.

Lieutenant Arellano Keeps Flow Of Materials

Our Battalion Supply was formed on or about the 20th of August 1943. The first Supply Officer was Lieutenant L. S. Strickland, now on detached service. Under him was Sergeant Zola, now a Supply Sergeant of the Signal Service Company. The first Supply Officer and personnel pioneered the work of supplying the things needed by the men as well as the few things necessary for the improvement of the camp.

In the same year, 22nd December, or thereabouts, Lieutenant A. Y. Arellano, formerly of the Filipino Regiment, succeeded Lieutenant Strickland. Sergeant Zola remained in the Signal Supply, so Sergeant Dumag took over the job as Battalion Supply Sergeant. He was assisted by Lieutenant Flaviano Supnet, a very industrious young man, whom one can count on supply work.

As time passed by, the personnel and Property Officer had to be changed due to changing schedules of time. Sergeant Dumag was hospitalized, so Staff Sergeant C. E. Pable took over, who in turn, left the supply for field training. The

young and diligent supply officer, Lieutenant Arellano, therefore appointed Staff Sergeant Monico B. Luis to take over the responsibilities of the Battalion Supply. When Warrent Officer Patrich Daley was sent to a specific mission, he was succeeded by Lieutenant Manuel A. Tobias as the Battalion Supply Officer and takes care also of the PX and Battalion Mess. Now Warrent Officer Daley is back in camp, he assumes the duties of Supply Officer of the 978th signal service Company.

Now the personnel of the Battalion Supply is completed, it seems the race is set to go! Thanks to the organizational skill of Lieutenant Arellano whose devotion to duty has elicited the admiration of capable and diligent workers. His men accept hard work just to be under him because they know that when the going is rough, he is always with them sharing the pinches. His entire personnel accepts hard work gladly to supply all the companies of this Unit of all the things that are needed by the men. And, as the lines of supply form from the Home Base to the front is secured, they shall always endeavor to work hard in the service of the men of the Battalion.

In this respect, it should be noted that all the company sgts ... Sergeant A. Abellera, Ren Co; E. Zola, Signal service Co; and Sergeant C. Sison, Headquarters & Headquarters & Service Company ... are all on the alert to get from Battalion Supply the items needed by their men, such as improved individual clothing and equipment, rations, ammunitions, cigarettes, and even home-made American toilet papers. they submit their salvage reports twice a week, so that replacements are secured for the worn-out clothings and equipment of the men in training and on special missions. They are up to date in making reports for the money they have collected for the monthly cigarette rations. The Battalion Supply drivers are headed by Corporal R. Svodny, a very husky but polite young man, who is on good terms with other GI truck drivers of the opposite sex!

As a special unit of the AIB, we will uphold the sacred mission entrusted to us. the Battalion Supply, the lifeline of the Unit, will maintain its maximum efficiency for the progress and welfare of the whole personnel.

Reconnaissance Company History Told In Brief

1st Sergeant Nicolas Buenaventura who is also a veteran of World War I and who was formerly a commander of the Filipino Los Angeles Unit, California National Guard. First Sergeant Buenaventura has always been a firm advocate of hard and intensive training. He is assisted by Sergeant Audelon L. Ebarle, Corporal Juan Nerca and Corporal Felix R. Lopez in the promotion of the general welfare of the Company in accordance with the policy laid down by Lieutenant Arguelles.

The Supply Section is efficiently handled by Lieutenant Silvino B. Tallido as Supply Officer and ably assisted by Staff Sergeant Antonio Abellera, Corporal

Alberto S. Salamanca, and PRIVATE FIRST CLASS Chris M. Martinez, complete the Supply Staff.

Members of the Company who are holding key positions in the Battalion and were instrumental in accomplishing much for the high standard for the Post are: Lieutenant Edmundo J. Marfori who is the winsome and hard working Special Service Officer of the Battalion, Master Sergeant Euglogio Reyes with 25 years of service behind him as Sergeant Major. Master Sergeant Isidro Dacquel, a veteran of 21 years, as Battalion Operations Sergeant Staff Sergeant Monico B. Luis as Battalion Supply Sergeant In the Medical Detachment, we have Technician/4 Serafin G. Diana, Private First Class Pedro A. Calauastro, and Private First Class Clinton M. Baker. At the Staff-3 office, we have as instructors, Lieutenant R. C. Allen and W. J. Davis, intelligence, and Warrent Officer P. S. Weber, weather. Corporal Agapito Sison works for the Battalion Commanding Officer as clerk.

Assistant instructors are: Corporal Donald R. McCarrick, Weather; Private Zoilo Tolentino Jr., Japanese; Private Mariano P. Pilar and Private Alfredo H. Despy, demolition; and Private Juan Rosario, boat landing.

At the Censor's Office, we have Staff Sergeant Max Quintua, a former government employee in the Philippines, as Censor Sergeant At the Motor Pool work Technician/5 Otillo Abad and Technician/5 Felipe R. Hipol. Our personnel in the Band aside from its organizer, Lieutenant Marfori, are: Sergeant Patrick F. Ebarle Jr., drums; Corporal Eleuterio Curraming, Sax-clarinet; Corporal Ernesto Lazo, guitar; and PRIVATE FIRST CLASS Cachapero, trumpet.

It is noteworthy that during the present administration our gallant men at the Jungle Warfare School had shown a commendable record in all phases of their training.

All of them have been commended for their willingness and voluntary compliance to orders and devotion to duty.

In all tactical situations, everyone participated cheerfully and carried-out the intents of their commanders. The Australian Army Officers and men admired their comradeship and fellowship. Mutual understanding among them resulted in the smooth functioning of the training. Everybody found that the Australian way of life is essentially like ours.

Of our men in training, Major Dobbs spoke: "Filipinos are the best disciplined soldiers I have ever seen at the Jungle Warfare School. It is a great pleasure to see the men comb over all the jungles."

All these accomplishments of the company reflect the capable administration of Lieutenant Arguellas. Not to say that the entire personnel of the company seem to cherish the notion that they have a mission to accomplish: the mission to fight the last man for the vanquishment of the enemy. For only then

shall liberty and final redemption of our homeland from Alien hands be carried into realization.

Every man of the 5218th Reconnaissance Company are steeling themselves to the happy day when we shall meet in battle the treacherous Japs.

The Chow Hall

The mess hall! How can we ever forget the mess hall! It is as old as the Battalion itself. It occupies first place in the hearts of the men, specially when they form into line, waiting for Staff Sergeant Castro, mess Sergeant, to say: "Chow is almost ready."

And the Mess Sargeant is no other than a veteran from Bataan, and was evacuated from Corregidor.

Well...when do we eat?

978th Signal Service History Told In Brief

has lived for a considerable time in San Francisco.

Soon after the first arrivals, successive contingents of the company from Camp Kohler followed group by group, and soon, also, the allowed complement of the company bt T/O was completed. This necessitated switches in the administration staff. There being no permanent first Sergeant of the Company at the time, Staff Sergeant Frederico Villarta was appointed 1st Sergeant when Sergeant Almero was sent to the hospital. Technical Sergeant Arbis arrives and took charge of radio maintenance, N.C.O. Staff Sergeant Fred Rodriguez was assigned chief of message center, Technician/3 Visaya, came from Camp Crowder, then a corporal, who is now the radio instructor; Sergeant Candelario and Private First Class Ovalles were appointed the Battalion artists, both were attached to the staff of the SSO. Technician/5 Kobliska was appointed to assist Sergeant Zola in the Supply and the Chaplain at Mass. Technician/5 Charles (Bill) O'Gwin was appointed to head ordinance room assisted by Private Neighbors. Sergeant Lopez is in charge of the Code room. Private First Class Guieb was assigned to the switchboard. Pvts. Alcaras, Calip, Maravel, etc. were assigned to work in the Motor Pool. And Sergeant (POP) Legaspi was assigned to Captain the Bahalana Softball team.

With further training received in this Post which resulted in getting specific assignments, it could be safely said that the hopes and dreams of the WD in founding this company will soon be fully realized...regardless of cost, the love of our homeland and our unflinching loyalty to the United States are our living inspirations to "GET THE MESSAGE THRU" IN THE THICK OF BATTLE. (NOTE: Warrent Officer Patrick Daley is the company historian and he furnished information for this story.)

Major Evans Sends Message

By Major Ted R. Evans

(Editor's note: Major Evans is Executive of the Headquarters Commandant's Office, USAFFE, and as such is administratively interested in matters pertaining to personnel of this command.)

* On many occasions during the pas year, both officers and Enlisted men of Hqs USAFFE have enjoyed the lavish hospitality of the AIB camp.

For most of us, the type of entertainment and the bill of fare provided was in the way of being something entirely novel and, judging from the verbal appreciation and elastic appetites of all fortunate participant, there can be no doubt as to the huge success of "lechon."

To watch the extensive and individual method of preparing the provender for this feasts, is an education in itself. Even the most unobservant of us realize that to keep a large group of people interested and thoroughly catered for, takes more than efficient and painstaking organization: It also takes the whole-hearted spirit and cooperation of every man in the outfit. It would not be an over statement to say that on every visit of personnel from the Headquarters, a perfect day was had by all.

It is not sufficient that the AIB men be pastmasters in the field of entertainment. They are also, much to our chagrin, very able athletes. We have played several games, both basketball and softball, and the result has been the same every time -- a walk-over for the opposition.

I don't think there is one of us who will ever forget the whole-hearted hospitality of the AIB detachment; and after this upheaval is all over, the good times afforded by that hospitality will probably be one of our favorite fireside reminiscences.

Want A Quiz? (Cont'd)

who are attending Junior High School, High School, and College, in the ratio of 3:4:5. How much does each son eat?

5. A soldier's wife and child receive \$86 monthly, and one-third of the child's money is equal to one-fifth of the mother's. How much does each receive monthly?

6. Can you state two formulae for finding the area of a circle?

7. How do you find the capacity of a prism or a cylinder? (Answers found in issue)

Headquarters Service Commanding Officer Keeps Up Very Nicely

Philippines Invasion Brings Veterans In Camp With Us

Primary purpose of a service company is to serve combat units. The Service Company is striving to live up to this aim.

There is an erroneous impression in the Army that rear echelons, commonly known as Service groups, are secondary in importance. but let no one lose sight of the fact that the army is a team; some members have to be "half-backs," others, "full-backs," etc., etc. Each and everyone in this "Pluribus Unum" constituency has a given task to do -- and whatever that may be, someone has to do it, otherwise, the whole organization is put off-balance and fails in its ultimate aim.

The Headquarters & Headquarters & Service Company was originally composed of veteran soldiers and merchant mariners from the Philippines campaign, although its gradual growth has seen numerous additions from those coming from the States. The larger the Battalion becomes, the more need of service personnel.

Lieutenant Ubarro, a veteran of the Philippines campaign, is Company Commander in addition to his duties as Battalion Adjutant; Lieutenant Rola, Assistant Company Commander, who, like Lieutenant Ubarro, has duties as personnel officer. Lieutenant Arellano is Battalion Supply Officer and Lieutenant Tobias as Mess Officer and PX Officer. At present, these are the only officers because others have gone to another command.

Staff Sergeant Montero, an experienced leader of men in civilian life, is the able-acting 1st Sergeant Sergeant Carmelo Sison, another veteran of the battle fields of Luzon, is supply Sergeant , while Staff Sergeant Castro, also in the Philippines debacle with the Philippine Scouts, takes charge of the mess.

A roving reporter discovers a nice little cozy room located at the eastern extremity of this camp. There, 1st Sergeant and his efficient "escribiente," Corporal Paul Ramos, scrutinize their duty roster and make their daily work sheet and strength report to the personnel office. As executive of the Service Company, Montero possesses the knowledge of an up-to-the-minute status of his men. For this reason, he and the company commander get along so well. Lieutenant Ubarro has all the confidence in the world in this wiry company executive. He knows human nature in rendering practical administration.

A roster of personnel reveals that, smallest as this company is, its members are most widely distributed in almost every installation in the Post, at the AIB warehouse. One may go to the power house, to the PX, to the Officers' and EM mess, motor pool, at training camps in other localities, at Battalion Headquarters

and dispensary, there are members of Headquarters & Headquarters & Service Company

Reputedly the "baby" of the Battalion, is a handsome lad at the Headquarters Company Supply, live-wire Sonny Modellas. Have you hear the name "Sison's sidekick?" That's the guy. At first you may mistake him to be a flirt and call him "Queer," but that is merely youth for you which we all covet.

Another dominating character around the camp is General Aguilar. Don't you ever jump to the conclusion at first sight of the general and call squirt out to him. For there are muscles made of stones in that little body of the general (call him Vicente occasionally, but in reality his first name is Hermenegildo). Vicente is the formidable orderly to Colonel Brown, besides keeping track of the number of meals each officer is eating at Officers Mess.

Let's look into the kitchen. Remember eating some nice rolls? We know Private Juanito well because of those rolls. If you see a small guy - a Technician/5 not more than five feet tall at the Enlisted kitchen - who works terribly hard, that is the likable Severino Sabala. Everybody knows that this boy really works.

I could go on and on mentioning by name the members of the Service Company They all deserve this honorable mention, but space does not permit. Suffice it therefore to say that, in the most widely diversified places of duty, these obscure personalities are underwriting the unceasing operation of this organization. Elsewhere in these pages, Lieutenant Arellano states his men on the supply line work 24 hours a day and that they are known for their trustworthiness. That crew was headed by Sergeant Quitoriano and members.

Need Teeth Inspection?

There was a time when personnel of this command had to travel to Camp Cable for dental treatment. That involved a great deal of planning because of transportation and work schedule difficulties.

Captain Pugnier's coming solved the problem. His Headquarters being only a few miles away from camp, the Dentist makes periodic visits to render dental service.

Our doctor is a native of Wisconsin, but received his University education at the University of Minnesota. He practiced in St. Paul and left his profession in 1941 when he joined the Service. He had been overseas since April, 1942 and was in Buna.

Captain Pugnier said he enjoyed serving the men. Technician/4 Gibbons, his assistant, feels the same way.

Unit Personnel Officer Praises NCO Staff Efficiency

By 2nd Lieutenant Ceferino R. Rola

Personnel Officer

* The Unit Personnel Section in its present set up immediately went into operation upon the formation of this Battalion. This writer was appointed acting personnel officer as well as assistant to Lieutenant Patricio Ubarro, the acting Adjutant. The latter, having had considerable experience in military administration, gave his unselfish assistance to the new personnel officer and together they selected a staff which they put to work. The administration, from the start, has been performed on an informal basis, thus affording the personnel officer easier and closer supervision and control.

Because of the limitation of personnel, the work is not entirely departmentalized; however, certain specific duties and responsibilities have been assigned to every member. Everyone has been made to understand that cooperation and devotion to one's work are quite essential to the administration. While it cannot be claimed that the section is functioning faultlessly, it can be stated that its efficiency is commendable. The small force is really working hard, often doing overtime, to accomplish the work with which it is loaded from day to day.

One thing with which the administration has been handicapped, especially in earlier days, is the lack of typewriters for clerical use. because of increased work, many times, things have to be done in a rush, and one cannot be too careful under such conditions. This has, of course, entailed a more vigilant supervision even though the clerical staff is quite trustworthy.

In addition to its regular duties, the personnel office does its share toward maintaining moral of the men. Various interests and problems have been attended to, such as irregularities of allotments -- family or otherwise -- which need rectification with the least practicable delay. Even problem sharing on divorce or the like are matters which the personnel officer takes care of. To the men serving overseas especially, such problems of delicate nature call for careful handling as they certainly affect the morale of the men. In this connection, Major P. R. Miller, legal assistance officer of the FEAF, has been consulted time and again and has been kind enough to give his ready assistance.

The Personnel Officer has also been acting as the War Bond Officer of this unit. In this regard, his efforts have produced satisfactory results as the officers and men have, to date, been buying bonds in cash in substantial amounts. The Fourth War Bond Drive was subscribed to by and large satisfactorily, and compared with all other units in Base Section 3, this Battalion ranked outstandingly. The Fifth War Loan Drive, which had just ended, likewise yielded gratifying results.

Another important matter which the personnel office takes care of is the naturalization of non-United States citizens. Last June 10th & 11th, Dr. Henry B. Hazard, representative of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, was in

camp and naturalized eighty-eight applicants. According to Dr. Hazard, these were the first ones naturalized by him in the SWPS. There are still many other applicants and it is hoped that on the return of Dr. Hazard to this theater, they will be naturalized.

The personnel section has really been striving for efficiency. If it has functioned well, credit is due to the competent staff of nco's who have learned to do their work well and with greater dispatch with every passing day. As a team, they will continue to perform their duties diligently, avoiding or correcting mistakes, keeping well-informed of changes and regulations, seeking advises and consulting better-informed and higher authorities if necessary, and thus attain the efficiency so essential to the administration, thereby contributing their full share towards a successful prosecution of this war and final VICTORY.

The Editor's Last Word

* Filipinos have a great stake in this war.

They are willing to die both for their own nation and for the United States. They have common ties of tradition and culture. They have a partnership founded in the battlefields of the past years. And they visualize that partnership to last for a long, long future.

It is with these thoughts that BAHALANA is coming out today in conjunction with the observance of a year's service overseas.

Aside from that, it wishes to make the folks left behind think they are not forgotten.

Filipinos have been under the United States' jurisdiction, but they have been permitted to rule themselves and to choose their own leaders.

That is democracy -- and it means as much to them as it does to Americans. That is why we are together and will always be together.

So, this special issue is conceived and is being dedicated to a greater and lasting relationship between Filipinos and Americans.

Comment

* A year of military organization has just taken a place in the pages of Philippine -- as well as of American -- history. It is a symbol of the fighting spirit of a relentless military leader and his followers. Like other records of human endeavor, this history required the price of sacrifice in many ways. But it was worth it. We are aware of the fact that this is a war of liberation. Democracy is still potent on the side of justice and right. Besides, we are marching behind a leader who knows no stop until he has achieved his objective. General Douglas MacArthur is our only guiding star on the road back to the Philippines.
JFD

Postman Brings

Dear Editor: Unaccustomed at writing, I feel this is an opportunity afforded me to express my sentiments.

Camp "X" is one of the most beautiful camps in the Southwest Pacific, and it shall always be one of the highlights of my book of pleasant memories of the lovely people I have met in one of the wonderful times I have had during my army career.

I salute you for the courtesy and friendliness you have extended to my unit.
Lieutenant Ruby May, ANC

***Our Appreciation --**

To those whose assistance had made the production of BAHALANA's special issue -- we owe a word of gratitude.

*** Correction Please--**

Page 40 should read: Continued page 56, instead of page 61.

QUIZ ANSWERS: (1) 28. (2) 36. (3) 18. (4) \$186, \$248, \$310. (5) child: \$32.25
ma: \$53.75. (6) $D \text{ sq } X. 7854$; $R \text{ sq } X \text{ Pi}$. (7) Area of base X aLieutenant Page 76

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