

JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

DOWNGRADED TO:
CLASSIFICATION REMOVED
 BY AUTHORITY OF YEG *R.M.L.*

FROM: 90 Sept 44

PLACE: AFPO 704

TO: 15 Nov. 44

APD 72

| Msg. No. | DATE | TITLE | 13 July 46 | | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|-------|-------|------------|--|--------------|
| | | | INCIDENTS | MESSAGES, ORDERS | |
| | 9/30 | | | Company inspected by Lt. Colonel Kuejer and received compliments from him. | |
| | 10/1 | | | | |
| | 10/20 | | | Company received warning order Number 1 for King II operation. | |
| | 10/23 | | | Combat team formation for ceremony and presentation of awards for Noemfoor mission. 'E' Co had no awards presented. | |
| | 10/24 | | | Memorial services were held at KAMARI Allied Cemetery. Pvt. Fred Finsterwald and Pfc. Louis O. Topal from "E" Co. were among the honored dead. | |
| | 10/28 | | | Supply Officers and Supply Sgt. received Supp's instructions for King II operation. | |
| | 10/28 | | | Instructions were issued to Company Commanders for King II. | |
| | 11/10 | | | Company embarked from Noemfoor Island on APA Custer. | |
| | 11/18 | | | Company disembarked at Terogona Bay, Island, P.I. Distance traveled by boat 150 miles. | |

[REDACTED]

JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 11 Dec 44

PLACE: _____

TO : _____

| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | TIME ORIG. | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|------------|--|--------------|
| 0750 | | | 12/11 | Co broke camp and moved to beach embarking area. | |
| 1140 | | | | Co embarked on LST No. 746 and moved down beach and off TOCLOBAN to join company. | |
| 1330 | | | 12/12 | Company began moving. | |
| | | | 12/13 | AT was a noisy landing craft and man. This ship. | |
| | | | 12/14 | We have a sizable task force. Now we are in our cruisers. On the beach we saw three battleships, six aircraft carriers, and many other support vessels. Last evening a plane dove over the cruiser NASHVILLE but the damage was light. In the stern of us about a half mile another heavily armed destroyer. | |
| 0700 | | | 12/15 | Everyone is eating an early breakfast as we can be out to witness the naval shelling. | |
| 0700 | | | | A Jap ship is blown off our stern port quarter - the destroyers sunk here last night. | |
| 1740 | | | | The LST beached after the 25-minute shelling. The water was shoulder deep but stopped about ten yards from shore. No enemy was encountered. | |

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| Reg. No. | IN | OUT | TIME | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|-------|---|--------------|
| 0750 | | | 7/15 | The LC-130 let us off _____ we would be south of San Augustin and _____ the second & third platoons with one sq. led out at the first dark over _____ The marine platoon and _____ have lost contact with the rest of the section. Try to contact _____ the Gen. | |
| 110 | | | 12/15 | The last part of the Co has _____ the 1st is moving up the _____ San _____ with _____ the last. Now we are running into other _____ the rest of our Co is gone. | |
| 110 | | | 7/15 | One squad (Sgt Ramirez) out of _____ of SAN JUAN SE _____ actually captured the town with the second and third eight private Filipinos report _____ the Jap garrison at _____ when they heard San Augustin being shelled. The remainder of _____ reached _____ a short time after the landing _____ the Filipinos were exceedingly happy to see us now we can get | |

JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE B.C.T.

FROM: _____

PLACE: _____

TO : _____

| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | TIME DATE | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|-----------|--|--------------|
| | | | | no idea how our men were | |
| | | | | The sugar mill and all installations in | |
| | | | | perfect condition. We were surprised to see | |
| | | | | signed Colaspiller for us. We had | |
| | | | | much more modern than | |
| | | | | 1939 V-8 FORD station wagon. | |
| 1500 | | | 7/15 | Found perimeter along Busungga River | |
| | | | | north of the hospital. | |
| 1700 | | | 7/15 | We moved across the the river to top | |
| | | | | ground north of Sam Ropiro and set up a | |
| | | | | perimeter. | |
| 1800 | | | 7/15 | Our orders are changed. We are to move | |
| | | | | back along the river and set up a perimeter there. | |
| 1700 | | | 7/15 | We are improving our position along the river. | |
| 1200 | | | 7/15 | Our perimeter now is about 600 yds long. | |
| | | | | but our fields at Gura are like the school | |
| | | | | selection. With us in our perimeter we now have | |
| | | | | five 50 Cal watercooled machine guns and 5000 | |
| | | | | 30 Cal LMG's out of the Co. The machine platoon | |
| | | | | now has 5 60-mm mortars. All weapons are good. | |

JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE H.C.T.

FROM: _____

PLACE: _____

TO : _____

| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | TIME | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|-------|---|---------------|
| | | | | gearing five for thousands of yards | |
| 12/20 | | | 17/19 | We still have had little ground action. We have seen a lot of air activity. A two motor bomber flew over our camp at about a thousand feet. He was spotted and he had crossed the river then all hell broke loose. He apparently crashed about ten miles out. | Mike Henry |
| 12/21 | | | 12/21 | Today there were dog fights on the river. One Zane flew over the river planes at about 2000 feet. The man in the front could see the pilot. A few minutes later a ship flew over the river and the landing of about two hundred feet. He was striking but did no damage. Three P-38's and one P-47 were also seen. He was shot out in the hills. The night is pretty cloudy with at least five raids every night. | |
| 12/23 | | | 12/23 | B-25's landed on the strip. The strip is a good dirt strip 3000 feet long. Our end is about 200 yds directly _____ of the Co | |

~~_____~~

| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | TIME | INCIDENT | MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|-------|----------|---|--------------|
| | | | | CP | The third platoon perimeter is within a hundred yards of the strip and parking | |
| 1700 | | | 12/25 | | A convey has been sighted off the island. The B-25's have been very active around here, trying to hit it. | |
| 1800 | | | 12/26 | | We have received the alert for invasion. An enemy task force of one Battle ship, Four Cruisers and Ten Destroyers has been sighted 80 miles out to sea. Estimated time for them to move in six hours. None of our fleet is here so we have to depend on the D-25's. | |
| 2100 | | | | | As per the report on the bulk of the task force - two destroyers are coming this way. | |
| 2200 | | | 12/26 | | We saw one of the big aircraft carrier and two smaller ones who are strafing them. Flashes were the instrument to be bombed from the sea. The B-25's are landing and taking off the air strip. Streams of fuel as they can land were bombed. We are ready as possible for anything. | |

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| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | TIME | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|-------|--|--------------|
| | | | | in the line of seaborne on airborne in case of | |
| | | | | Our communications are working | |
| 2330 | | | 17:00 | A Jap plane came in over | |
| | | | | parachuted and dropped few to twenty anti personnel | |
| | | | | bombs. One landed a few feet from a HQ Co. | |
| | | | | 2 MG men for hole but he wasn't injured at | |
| | | | | all. Several bombs landed within eight yards | |
| | | | | of the CP. Two men out of the 19th Inf were | |
| | | | | slightly injured. One was in a hole. | |
| 2340 | | | 17:00 | The enemy destroyers are | |
| | | | | directly off the coast | |
| | | | | from here. Everyone is in his holes | |
| 2345 | | | 17:00 | We heard a loud report then the sound of | |
| | | | | screech of shell fire. The shells are landing across | |
| | | | | the river. Now it hell is breaking loose. Soldiers | |
| | | | | are landing every few seconds. They have to take | |
| | | | | breath about once to every 25 yds. Thank God | |
| | | | | they are all landing across the river. During | |
| | | | | a lull in the shelling a plane dropped a string | |
| | | | | of bombs and strafed the impact area | |

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

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PLACE: _____

TO : _____

| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | TIME | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|-------|---|--------------|
| 0007 | | | 12/27 | The shelling has ceased now. That makes 25 minutes of shelling in which as far as we can tell caused no casualties and did not damage a man. None of our men were even hit by shrapnel. This must be the first time since the Japanese took American troops in the Pacific have been shelled by the Jap Navy. About ten million dollars of equipment and our lives would have been a money. | |
| 0000 | | | 12/27 | Information has come that the Japs took Surua 20 miles away and holding North. The attack is over. | |
| 1600 | | | 12/31 | No extraordinary events lately. Every night we get several air raids but dog attacks have been confined to slipping in the harbor where it seems that at least one ship a day is hit. | |
| 0220 | | | 12/31 | A very heavy air attack is taking place tonight. WPT has some idea about the attack and is firing and leaving the air defence to the Poles. So far the Japs have had no effect. The command seems to they | |

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JOURNAL OF 203D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: _____

PLACE: _____

TO : _____

| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | TIME | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|------|---|--------------|
| | | | | one of us to lead on the stream. One of the anti-plane bombs was dropped by the first platoon and Sgt. Alvarez from a JMB platoon saw. One HQ Co. received a bad gasb over his eye. | |
| 0130 | | | 1/2 | The logs hit 2 A-20's on the stream and they are burning fiercely. | |
| 0200 | | | 1/3 | There have been a lot of dips around tonight but the ack ack has been keeping them at their distance. | |
| 0200 | | | 1/4 | This morning at about 0600 I was hit by a log fighter bomber and it came down between the first and third platoons. It hit on the side of the river and burned a good 200 yds on the other side of the river. There were two dead men thrown free - the both had their heads broken to pulp by the crash. One of them had both legs torn off - he was a captain - the other's rank could not be determined. The type plane could not be determined because everything was badly torn up. Even though it was a heavy plane because | |

FROM: _____

PLACE: _____

TO: _____

| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | TIME ORIG. | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|------------|--|--------------|
| | | | | it had hydrolic the following things | |
| 1700 | | | 1 Jan 42 | A-2 reports state that during the week ending 29 Dec 41 the MINDORO beach head received 222 of all top air raids in the Pacific area or 122 raids. | |
| 1700 | | | 7 Jan 42 | Lately we have had no air raids at all in fact the whole beach head is very quiet except for the many missions being flown from our air strips. | |
| 1700 | | | 15 Jan 42 | The company has moved across the RUGSANGA river to join the regiment in its encampment area. | |
| 1800 | | | 31 Jan 42 | WVTF (Western Visayan Task Force) was officially declared disbanded and the MINDORO campaign closed. | |

FROM:

PLACE: Mindoro Island, P. I.

TO:

| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | TIME ORIG. | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|------------|--|--------------|
| | | | 2/9/45 | The RCT has been alerted for a mission in the near future. | |
| | | | 2/13/45 | The company has all been briefed for the mission. We have the honor of jumping and recapturing Corregidor. General McArthur has sent his blessings and wishes us God's speed. | |
| 0830 | | | 2/16/45 | The company extracted for San Jose airstrip. | |
| 1120 | | | | The Battalion is assembling. | |
| 1130 | | | | All planes are taking off. Only 200 are taking off from San Jose strip - the other half are taking off from Hill strip. | |
| 1230 | | | | The plane loads began jumping. We are making three passes because the field is very short and the wind is high. This jump area is undoubtedly the roughest area any Parachute unit has ever jumped over. There is a cliff at one end, shell holes, rubble, bolt cut off trees in between and at the other end is a three story barracks. | |

JOURNAL OF 509D P. LACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: _____

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TO: _____

| Mag. No. | IN | OUT | TIME ORIG. | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|------------|--|--------------|
| | | | | Another unusual characteristic is that our planes were fired upon by light Art, Art, while they were making their passes. The runs on the way down were under small arms fire from over the cliff and once mortar fire was being laid on the jump field. | |
| 1400 | | | | The platoon have organized and are now in their positions. The company C.P. has been set up in the partial ruins of barracks once occupied by the S.T. A. The third platoon moved out with the mission of seizing the hospital. A patrol out of the first platoon went back to the deep area to bring in Rukenko and Rose who were pinned down by MG fire. | |
| 1415 | | | | The American flag was raised. Five men are MIA after jump. 1 OFA and 21 POW were WIA and 1 LA. | |
| | | | 2/17/43 | Our platoon are pulling light patrols. 2/sgt Ledoux formerly MIA was killed this morning by sniper fire while a patrol from "F" Co was | |

FROM: _____

PLACE: CORREGIDOR ISL

TO: _____

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| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | T. E. ORIG. | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|-------------|--|--------------|
| | | | | attempting to get him to the aid station after being wounded on the jump. Four men were still on duty in action: 2/3rd Gulwick, Pfc's - High, Maxalino, and Peralis. Resupply has been coming in all day. | |
| 0900 | | | 2/10/42 | The first platoon with one squad from the third platoon, an Eng demolition section, and a section of LMG's moved out to capture the water point in Jones Ravine. | |
| 1100 | | | | Heavy resistance was met as they approached the main water point, three of the first platoon were KIA (Sagobio, Redding, and Redfield) and three men WIA. This position required air and naval fire so we withdrew to high ground. RCI reports | |
| | | | | 930 mps KIA | |
| 0700 | | | 2/10/42 | Two more KIA as they were approaching the main platoon position at Whitson and six men were sent to the water point to investigate the results of damage done to the underground barracks in Jones Ravine. Pfc's | |

FROM: _____

PLACE: CORREGIDOR ISL.

TO: _____

P.I.

| Mag. No. | IN | OUT | TIME ORIG. | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|------------|---|--------------|
| | | | | <p>div-bombed the position with 500^{mm} bombs and the returned with Napalm bombs. The patrol report heavy damage to the barracks either as a result of the bombing or demolition by the nips. One prisoner was captured and brought in for questioning.</p> <p>2/21/54 Last night was very quiet, no enemy movement. 7 nips killed today. The water point was occupied by the 1st & 3rd platoons. The Eng platoon has closed up 18 tunnels and cave entrances. The magazines taken from the Nap bodies show they are the date of the Nap around Tacas on Imperial Marine. They have all been well sorted, well fed, and they are excellent shots.</p> <p>2/21/54 The company with LMS platoon and Eng platoon started out on patrol along Lower Beach to the beach and along beach to Corregidor. Eng's closed 2 caves and the company killed 16 nips - 11 captured by general headquarters. Before we moved</p> | |

FROM: _____

PLACE: CORREGIDOR ISL.

TO: _____

P. I.

| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | T. U. OR IG. | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|--------------|---|--------------|
| | | | | along the beach a destroyer layed here | |
| | | | | along the highground overlooking the beach. | |
| | | | | On the way back from Cape Corregidor along | |
| | | | | the road we found many vehicles dispersed | |
| | | | | by the Japs. There were vehicles of all | |
| | | | | descriptions, Trucks, Sedans, motor cycles, the | |
| | | | | Jap version of the Jeep etc. and all were | |
| | | | | very well camouflaged. Most were in good | |
| | | | | condition. | |
| | | | | 2/22/45 Light patrol work between Maxson Pt | |
| | | | | and Rock Pt. Area is fairly close to ripe | |
| | | | | KIA. Lt. Watson and Pfc Dvorack hit | |
| | | | | by a grenade concussion. The first platoon | |
| | | | | which was very short of men has been | |
| | | | | split up between the second and third platoons. | |
| 0800 | | | 2/23/45 | The company is moving to take over "B" line | |
| | | | | and patrol between Southlight and Wheeler | |
| | | | | Point. When the company reached Southlight point | |
| | | | | the third platoon was sent down to the beach while | |
| | | | | the third platoon stayed on the road. While advancing | |
| | | | | on an unmarked point, the second platoon killed about | |

FROM:

CLASSIFIED BY: 40X 10/10/00

TO:

P.I

| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | TIME ORIG. | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|------------|--|--------------|
| | | | | <p>There are four mine along the road hidden under some vehicles. The third platoon began to advance to an unmarked point and ran into a mine at water level. They killed 27 Japs and had no casualties. Pvt Robinson was killed on the point by a sniper. The second platoon advanced on another point along the road to the tunnel entrance while just a short distance from the entrance they came under fire. White Phosphorus grenades were thrown into the entrance and a large number of mine ran out so we could move them down. Then snipers began to fire at us from several tunnels on these different sides. Our ammunition was running low so we had to withdraw. Pvt Leatro and Sergeant Doll were KIA. PFC Brown was seriously hurt. We estimate the company killed between 100 hundred and 2 hundred and twenty Japs.</p> <p>The company is consolidating on the perimeter today to rest up and get all their ammunition resupplied.</p> | |

FROM: _____

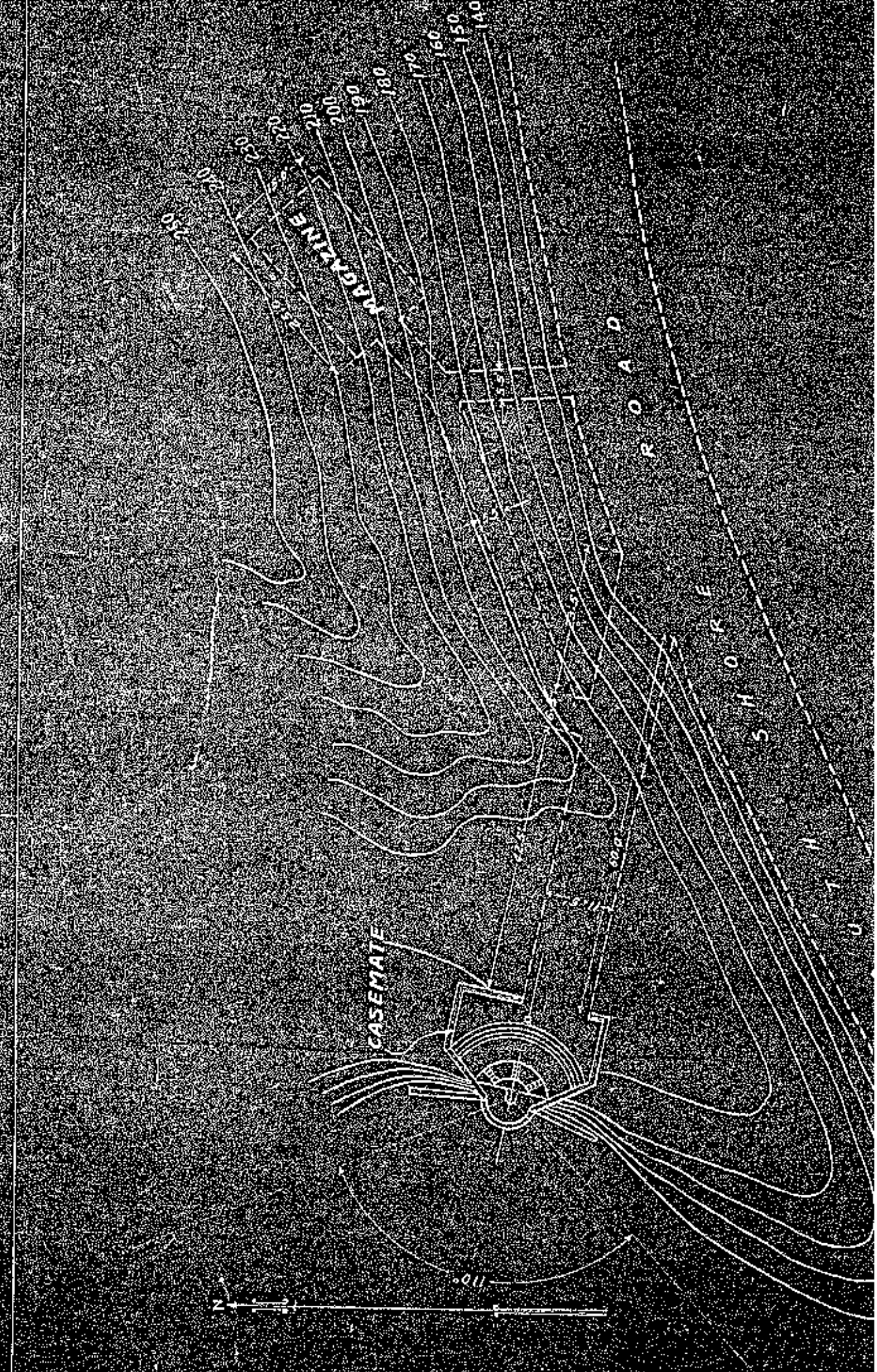
PLACE: CORRIDOR 1st

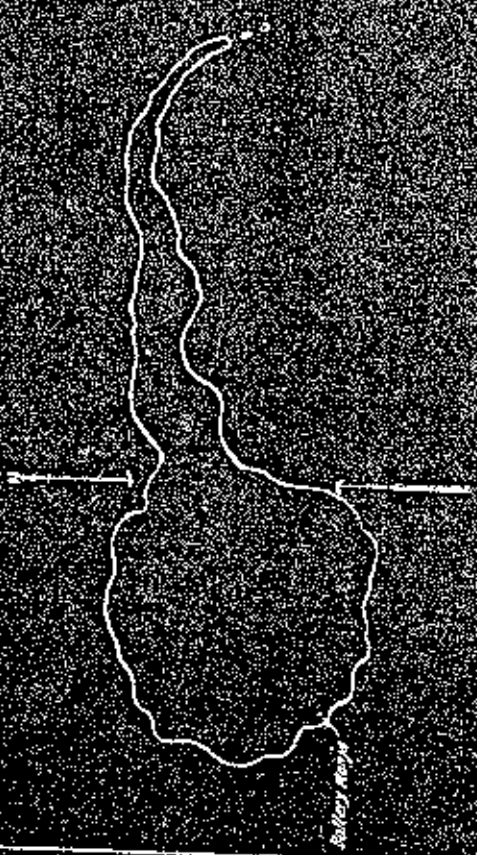
TO: _____

P.I.

| Msg. No. | IN | OUT | TIME ORIG. | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS | ACTION TAKEN |
|----------|----|-----|------------|--|--------------|
| | | | 2/27/45 | Our patrol from the third platoon worked the area of Jones Ravine. No enemy activity. Several Nips were seen spotted trying to escape to Retana by swimming. PI boats and planes have been getting most of them. | |
| | | | 2/27/45 | Three scout patrols today in the second platoon returned to the named point to pick up the body of Pfc. Robinson. The third platoon patrolled the area in and around Morrison Point and captured one Nip. | |
| | | | | Pfc. Bounded of wounds received in action on the 27th. | |
| | | | 2/27/45 | The third platoon patrolling Morrison Point area found a small cave occupied by the Japs. 7 Japs KIA. The Enger section was called to blow up the entrance. On approaching the entrance again a sniper in the cave shot Pfc. Edwards thru the shoulder. Pfc. Edwards died shortly after being brought to the hospital. | |

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| | | | 2/28/45 | The platoon made short local patrol | |
| | | | 3/1/45 | No patrol activity today. | |
| 0200 | | | 3/2/45 | General McArthur, Admiral Nimitz and many high ranking staff officers came to inspect the island. The General seemed very well pleased with our actions. We furnished one squad for guard of honor. | |
| | | | 3/3/45 | No patrolling today | |
| | | | 3/4/45 | " | |
| | | | 3/5/45 | " | |
| 1500 | | | 3/6/45 | A large ammo dump approx 100 yds from the company SE caught fire. The CP was moved to a safe position. The dump exploded but caused no casualties. | |
| 1700 | | | 3/7/45 | Presentations of awards took place. Lt Hill was presented the Silver Star and Pvt Jander the Silver Star posthumously. Pfc Culbrey and 1st Lt Lander were awarded the Bronze Star. | |
| | | | | Preparations are being made to move back to Mindoro. | |





LOCATION PLAN
Scale: 1" = 6000'

