



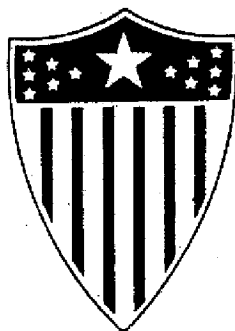
S-3 JOURNAL ROCK FORCE

**CORREGIDOR ISLAND OPERATION
16 FEBRUARY, 1945 – 2 MARCH, 1945**

INRG-503-3

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON

(22149)
Master



503d Pzcht Inf Regt -
CORREGIDOR Operation

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16 Feb - 2 Mar 45

S - 3

JOURNAL

ROCK FORCE

CORREGIDOR ISLAND OPERATION

16 FEBRUARY, 1945 - 2 MARCH, 1945

SECRET

JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 1 Feb. 1945

PLACE: San Jose

TO: 2400 4 Feb. 1945

AP032.

MSG. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	ORIG.	1 Feb.	ACTION TAKEN
1					Emergency, Messages and Orders Passed to control of C. 24 th Div.	
2					503 PCT alerted for movement as of Radiogram - FB 8pb from C. 8 th Army	
3					2 Feb 45 Alerted for drop in three days at Mabels field or RT nearby.	
4					3 Feb 45 Meeting of Bn & Staff officers for tactical details	
5					4 Feb. Maj Clarke & Capt. Jones out on Recon. for jumpfield at Mabels and fired on by ack-ack. Mission postponed this date.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 5 FEB. 1945

PLACE: San Jose

TO : 2400 11 Feb 1945

AP0 321

MSG. NO.	IN	OUT	TIME ORKST.	INCIDENT, ^{5 Feb 45} PLACES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
6				RCT alerted and Maj Clark, Col Jones. Capt Donovan went on Recon. for a jump field on Corregidor	
7				^{6 Feb 45} Material gathered for coming mission OPR 48	
8				^{8 Feb 45} Practice jumping by jumpmasters with mock field of target area as a target.	
9				^{10 Feb 45} Col Jones returned and information put out at a special meeting	
				^{11 Feb 45} Target Corregidor is Target and Target date 16 Feb 45. Officers sent on Recon. over Corregidor daily on Recon.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 00015 12 Feb 45

PLACE: San Jose

TO: 18001 15 Feb 45

AP0321

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
10			12 Feb 45	Worked all night on F.O. 9.	
11			13 Feb. 45	F.O. 9 issued arrangements and details being smoothed out for D+1 day of Opn 48.	
12			14 Feb 45	F.O. 9 corrected and distributed to those having old copy. Groups were given detailed instructions with terrain model & Aerial Photos. Arrangements made for getting chutes and parking of planes on the 15th.	
13			15 Feb 45	The RCT began drawing chutes and making final preparations for D+1 Day of Opn. 48 on 16 Feb 1945. Camp dismantled and polished up leaving only the minimum.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1200 I 15 Feb 45

PLACE: San Jose. M.J.

TO : 0830 I 16 Feb 45.

AP0321

Incident			TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION
S.	IN	OUT	ORIG.		TAKEN
				of details for the rear base. The parking of planes and spotting of trucks completed. at 1800 hours the RCT unit commander and the air corp held a joint conference to coordinate details for dropping. Morale seemed high and no anxiety within the command.	
				16 Feb 1945.	
14.			0600	3rd Bn 503RCT loaded on trucks and proceeded to airstrips.	
15			0645	3rd Bn & F.A. ENG. arrived at strips and began to explode.	
16			0715	Flights 1 & 2 took off. weather clear and slight wind.	
17			0730	Flights 3 & 4 took off.	
18			0830	Flights 1 & 2 arrived over target area which previously had been shelled by the navy and bombed and strafed by the air corp. Both navy & air corp.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0830I 16 Feb 45

PLACE: Carregidor - P.I.

TO : 1130I 16 Feb 45

AP073

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORIG.	INCIDENTS, 16 Feb 45 ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
				stood by for immediate call in case of emergency or pin point targets. Opposition very light due to surprise and only a few Japs came out of the caves and sniper fire killed a few of our men. These were immediately wiped out.	Due to drift caused by high wind, 1st Bn of jumpers drifted into Jap bunkers and were killed as Japs in bunkers made them.
19			0945	Initial phase completed and jump fields secured.	
20			0945	Second lift - 2nd Bn - Reg. Hq. Co. - Serlo and F.A. entrucked and proceeded to airstrips	
21			1030	2nd Bn 34 Inf made landing on San Jose beach, Carregidor Island against little enemy opposition and secured the dock areas and entrances to Malintan tunnels.	
22			1115	Flights 1 + 2 of second lift of 503RCT took off from airstrips at Mndoro.	
23			1130	Flights 3 + 4 of second lift of 503RCT took off from airstrip at Mndoro.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1130I 16 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor - P. I.

TO : 1430I 16 Feb 45

APR 73.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORPT.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
24			1330	Scout lift of 503 RCT began dropping on fields already secured by the first lift. Slight sniper fire at troops coming down. Jump casualties for both waves very high due to the jump fields and high mounds. Jump fields very badly torn up by previous bombing and shelling. 3 men killed ^{infection} infection ^{of the}	
25			1430	2nd Bn relieved the 3rd Bn from their positions. 3rd Bn extended perimeter forward with little or no opposition and began to set up defensively for the night.	
26			1430	CP's of 2nd Bn: Reg CP, S-4, S-3, S-2, S-1 462FA, Eng Co, and liaison parties set up in the main exchange and library building. Third floor & roof demolished but 1st floor & 2nd floor in good shape except for plaster & debris on floor lots of office equipment. and ^{common} readily set up because of small size of perimeter.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1430I 16 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO: 0900I 17 Feb 45

AP 073

Msg. No.	TIME		INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
	IN	OUT		
27		1555	Message to XI Corp - situation report	
28		1600	Hospital set up on first floor of C.P. Bldg. Rgt Co & Ser Co. G.P's set up in building making coordination very easy. Casualties high.	
29		1930	G-3 report - msg #13 to G-3 XI Corp.	
30		2400	Situation report - msg #14 to XI Corp - no change.	
31		-	Movement confined at darkness and any movement to be considered enemy. Our troops kept up harassing fire thru the night and only little sniper fire returned.	
17 Feb 45				
32		0700	C. Co & 462 F.A. section laid down supporting fire & overhead fire for H Co - who advanced on Battery point hill - 32.15 - 40.80. Hill secured by noon with exception of caves on cliff near the shore.	
33		0900	Sniper fire opened up on main exchange & Library Bldg and	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0900T-17 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor - P.I.

TO: 0930T-17 Feb 45

AP073

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND OTHERS	ACTION TAKEN
33 Cont.			0900	all personnel were pinned to the floor. 2nd Bn reported they were assaulting the bunker and that the fire was being returned by enemy and hitting our C. P. at 0930 all firing ceased.	
34	0915		0915	Message #1 from XI Corp informing us that only bundles would be dropped on A field and 2nd Bn be landed at Muelleman's field and brought to San Jose by boat.	
35			0930	Planes dropped bundles and proceed to Aerotrips to unload 1st Bn and transported here by boat.	
35			1156	Troops scheduled to land San Jose beach according to message from XI Corp.	
36			0300	No change report to C. G. XI Corp.	
37			0805	Situation report to XI Corp.	
38			0920	Report of planes dropping bundles to XI Corp. also enemy resistance stiffening.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0930I - 17 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor P.I.

TO : 1600I - 17 Feb 45

AP073

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORIG.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
40					
39		✓	1225	Situation report to XI Corp. msg 40	
39		✓	0945	" " " XI Corp. msg 39	
41		✓	1425	Resupply planes began dropping at 1415 L. Recovery about 80% - no change other activity - msg 41	
42		✓	1915	5-3 Periodic reports to XI Corp. msg 42	
43			2115	Report of small fire fight to XI Corp. msg 43	
44			1645	1st Bn. arrived by boat and were pinned down on beach immediately after landing from Jap fire south of near breakwater point. Many opened up and silenced guns. Preparation made for a new attack followed by an infantry assault to wipe out point on 18 Feb 45. 1st Bn then proceed to relieve G Co who teamed in with I Co to support our perimeter.	
45				N Co worked on hill at Battery point and cleared area during the day. Light opposition and then helped G Co in trying to clear out caves in vicinity of source of Refugation plant.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1600 L - 17 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor I. Phil. I.

TO: _____

APC 73.

30- Cont 45	IN	OUT	TIME OCC.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
45			-	and heavy opposition met. G. Co then moved to position of D Co when relieved by 1st Bn 503d PCT	
46				D & E Co worked on gun emplacements and B.A. positions in vicinity of (31.25-39.55). Ammo dump (31.25-39.55) caught fire late in the night and flames 50 to 100 ft high resulted. Any remaining naps were burned - a few casualties reported.	(31.25-39.55) late
47				I Co worked on Japs dug in at point (31.5 - 39.4) during day. All still not cleared at dark.	
48				F.A. gave remarkable pinpoint fire in support of all companies and probably accounted for quite a few of the enemy dead. No accurate report of enemy dead received this period.	
49				Ammo dump & Gun position destroyed about 1000 hours at (30.8-40.5) by artillery phosphorus bombs. Quite a few large explosions and Japs inside burned.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1600 I - 17 Feb 45

PLACE: Carregidor P.I.

TO : 1000 I - 18 Feb 45

ALC 73.

AT.	IN	OUT	TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
Cont.			ORIG.		
49				Still Japs located on top of hill and in caves on other side of James Gully + Rock Pt. Set as a target for 1st Bn by second Bn.	
50				Note very quiet except for small fire fight about 1900 hours in vicinity of Power plant. Other sectors quiet. F.A. Navy kept flares over area near power plant periodically during the night.	
				18 Feb 1945	
51			0900	The air corp bombed Breakwater Pt cliff with "napalm" bombs then the navy shelled the whole area. 2nd Co prepared to move in. Heavy enemy concentration in caves and well armed with automatic weapons.	
52			1000	Navy shelled Rock point, James gully, and morison point and the 462 F.A. shelled ridge from land side preparatory to being attacked by our 2nd Bn. Enemy dug in caves and only entrance is by climbing down rope.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1000Z 18 FEB 1945

PLACE: Corregidor I., P.I.

TO : 2400Z 18 FEB 1945

AP073.

18 Feb 1945				
Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	ACTION TAKEN
53			1100	Mg opened up at 30.6 - 40.5 and immediately wiped out by direct fire from the field Artillery.
54			1515	Air napalm strike on NE side of Malinta point and very effective setting off ammo & fuel dumps. 3 rd Bn 3 rd Inf still meeting strong resistance from eastern end of corridor. Malinta tunnel is still a secret.
55			1100	Messages sent 18-2-45 Report on Breakwater Pt strike and estimate of enemy casualties of 700 to date sent to XI Corp. msg #55
56			1200	msg #2 (56) - Report of enemy position vicinity of ice plant (32.7-40.7) destroyed and road to beach open - reported to XI Corp.
57			1430	Situation report to XI Corp. msg 3(57)
58			1800	Situation report to XI Corp msg 4(58)
59			1955	" " send of period to XI Corp msg 5
60			2200	No change report to XI Corp msg 6
61			2200	Report on Malinta tunnel to XI Corp. msg 7.

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 19 Feb 1945

PLACE: Corregidor I. P. I.

TO : 0700 19 Feb 1945

AP073.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORK.	19 Feb 45 INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
62			0105	Mysterious explosion in vicinity of A Co. perimeter - believed to be an underground ammo dump set off by enemy. A Co. reports it in vicinity of 32.3 - 39.7 and heavy casualties.	
63			0530	"A" Co. called for star shells & reported they were being attacked by approx 150 Japs (31.3 - 39.4) and some have infiltrated thru their lines.	
64			0600	"D" Co. reported they were being attacked by 200 approx enemy at 30.5 - 40.1. Casualties are heavy and enemy breaking thru lines. Co. C.O. killed.	
65			0630	Firing in vicinity of west end of the main C.P. building.	
66			0645	Shemada landed in main C.P. wounding four men.	
67			0700	1st Bn C.P. reported being attacked and grenades dropping in vicinity of C.P.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0700 19 Feb 1945

PLACE: Carregedon I - P.I.

TO : 1000 19 Feb 1945

AP073

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
68	✓		0700	Mag #1 to I Corp. Reporting enemy attack in vicinity (30.5 - 40.0) at 0600.	
69			0710	7 Japs reported killed in battle at West of C.P. Bldg. Enemy ceasing and enemy either retreating or taking shelter in houses & bunker. Art fire being prepared to lay in the area.	
70			0745	C.P. Area cleared - Patrols being sent to check off remaining Bldgs inside the perimeter. Attack being organized to clear all probable Jap concentrations.	
71			0830	Mag #2 to I Corp - Reporting heavy explosion at 0830 to have been in vicinity of 32.4 - 39.15 - believed to have been suicide demolition of enemy Arsenal. 3 KIA - 22 WIA - our casualties.	
72			1000	Field Artillery (462 FA) blasted area in vicinity of 31.3 - 39.8 with 4 75 How. Enemy counted dead and count not completed.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1000 I 19 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO : 1300 I 19 Feb 45

AP073

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORG.	INCIDENTS, REMARKS AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
73			1045	Air strike at James Draw by 12 planes dropping 500 bombs. 6 direct hits - Patrol area reported enemy immediately set off demolition destroying barracks + sevens. 1 POW captured and proved to be Korean. Couldn't see the idea of suicide.	
74			1100	Heavy shelling Breakwater point and vicinity.	
75			1040	Ammo dump in vicinity of Battery point blew up. Upon check find that patrol covered outside of underground barracks. Platoon leader went to entrance and fired carbine thru the doorway and the explosion resulted - 4 men completely covered by debris.	
76			1050	Msg # 3 to XI Corp reporting the above mentioned explosion.	
77			1300	Msg # 4 to XI Corp reporting enemy becoming aware of ammo dump at (32.4-40.2) at Heavy fighting vicinity of (31.3-39.2) at Breakwater point.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1800I 19 Feb 45

PLACE: Corrigidor. P.I

TO : 1735I 19 Feb 45.

AP073.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORIG.	INCIDENTS, IMAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
78			1330	Navy began shelling beachwater points again.	
79			1400	James gully hit by air strike again - this time "napom" bombs used and area gave a scorching.	
80			1500	Msg #5 reporting to XI Corp. "Ground + naval strike on beachwater pt. very effective."	
81			1640	Firing broke out in vicinity of 30.2-40.4 at 1730 - Lt. Brown reported that while picking up wounded in vicinity - men were fired on. HMC & P.A. then laid down a barrage after which Lt. Lee and platoon went to summit to investigate. Found 23 Japs in dazed condition. All were exterminated but determined how they got there or how long they had been there.	
82			1725	Msg #6 to XI Corp reporting. Enemy ammo dump 32.2-40.7 blew up by our troops - Fire fight 30.9-40.4. Enemy known dead 1509. Our casualties light.	

Vincent J.
5715100

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 17254 19 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor I. P.I.

TO : 2400 - 19 Feb 45.

AP073.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	INCIDENTS, VILLAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
83			2135	msg #8 to XI Corp. Interdictory fire by our weapons only activity at present	
84			2205	Reported to XI Corp. by msg 9. Estimated 100 enemy observed proceeding east from Malinta tunnel dragging large field piece under our fire - naval fire to be utilized	
85			2250	msg 10 to XI Corp. reporting effectiveness of our mortar fire & naval fire on Japb & field piece reported above. Destruction almost certain and at least 30 enemy dead.	
86			2332	Report from XI Corp - no gas stored in Malinta tunnel.	
87			2400	By far our roughest day - Heavy enemy resistance & strong counter attack & infiltration. Air superior number - Air power & naval support handled all situation. Plans ^{made} to complete mopping up of heavy enemy concentrations on 20 Feb 45.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 20 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor, P. I.

TO : 1045 20 Feb 45

AP 073.

20 Feb 1945				ACTION TAKEN
Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORY.	
88			0800	Very quiet nite except for our own artillery keeping harassing fire on all draws thruout the nite. Flares kept over Malinta tunnel area all nite. Air strike being planned on pt 39.5-40.1 at 1030 hours. Also naval bombardment of caves in cliffs between Searchlight point and Breakwater point. 3" Co to follow naval bombardment and seal up caves with demolition.
89			1045	Air strike on area of 39.5-40.1 with 24-500# bombs. C. Co reconnoitered area after strike and reported the air strike as excellent. Bomb made a direct hit on a light tank & truck well camouflaged and destroyed completely. Numerous caves found and occupied by Japs. These caves were sealed by demolition. Underground barracks and large tunnel blew from the inside.

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1045 20 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor - P.I.
APC

TO : 1045 20 Feb 45

SE. Cont.	IN	OUT	TIME ORIG.	INCIDENT	ACTION TAKEN
89			1045	and struck very bad through the whole area. Water storage & purification plant destroyed. One searchlight-power unit and truck well camouflaged and intact also found. Area well searched and everything destroyed and all dead Japs - Stench in whole area bad.	
90			1045	Many strikes on caves between searchlight point & Breakwater point. "C" Co followed in cleaning up caves and sealing them shut by demolition. Captured a lot of Jap automatic weapons of all types and uncounted number of dead Japs covered up by our own and their demolition. "C" Co occupied area during night and planned to complete job 21 Feb. During night enemy opened up on Thompsons caves & 4 KIA. our own troops.	

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JOURNAL OF 303D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1045 20 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor - P.I.

TO : 2400 20 Feb 45

20 Feb 45

			20 Feb 45.		ACTION TAKEN
Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORIG.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	
91			1000	2nd Bn C.P. moved to new location at (32.2 - 40.3). H Co cleared area around Battery point and sealed eight caves. I Co spotted Japs sitting up mortars to hit I Co C.P. and killed 11 Japs at (32.5 - 40.1). I Co also closed 53 caves in the area during deep patrolling.	
92			2400	Except for fire fight of I Co - no action during nite. Drums kept covered with periodic artillery fire during the nite again. Fire discipline of the unit excellent. Areas cleared during day but Japs seem to appear from somewhere during nite. Kill accompanied with caves as new ones located each day. Enemy killed 1937 (known). A good number killed in caves by demolition & suicide - probably another 500. Our casualties about 500.	

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S E C R E T

3 TRIAL OF 503D PAPACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 20 Feb 45 0001

PLACE: Corregidor P.I.

TO : 20 Feb 45 2400 Messages sent 3

AP043

.. Rec. 0

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
93	✓		1100	Msg #1 to XI Corp. Reporting air strike and naval strike preparatory to an assault by our troops.	
94	✓		1510	Msg #2 to XI Corp. Reporting air strike effective and our troops moving in with light resistance. Cases being closed by demolition.	
95	✓		2000	Situation report to XI Corp at end of period. Sent by radio msg #3.	

1950 1951 1952 1953 1954

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 - 21 Feb 1945

PLACE: Corregidor - P.I.

TO : 0900 - 28 Feb 45

ARO 73

21 Feb-1945				
Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORG.	INCIDENTS, MEMORANDUMS AND ORDERS
96			0800	Enemy dug out of Rock Pt. caves and rolled grenades down on C Co positions killing 1 and wounding 4.
97			0808	Note very quiet and only noise is the usual fire of Artillery covering troops. Flares sent up over enemy positions during note to prevent surprise attacks by the enemy.
98			0800 2400	2nd Bn moved down from Rock Pt. and had observed fire from enemy in area between Morrison Pt and Rock Pt. Day Co patrolled area south of Rock point and reported 62 Japs KIA at (30.2-40.5) due to air corp 481mm mortar fire. Made contact with E Co 11501 with D Co E Co patrolled area toward Morrison Point and west to Rock Point. Fox Co patrolled area NW to Rock Pt. No enemy seen. Arty laid down barrage between 0800 & 0855 killing 60 enemy in vicinity of (30.00 40.45).

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0900-21-FEB-45

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.
AP 73.

TO : 0900-21-FEB-45

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORG.	21 FEB 45 INCIDENTS, DE LASES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
99			0900	1st Bn kept on cleaning out caves between Searchlight point & Breakwater pt. Will attack with caves and mound that Japs inside from naval barracks. Caves sealed as they are picked and some that cannot be flushed out are sealed burying the enemy alive.	
100			0900	3rd Bn - "I" Co. continued to clean up caves from Breakwater point to beach area. Light fire received but no enemy action in force. "H" Co. continued cleaning area around Battery point. Destroyed caves and 19 Suicide Bats hidden over in caves at water level. Also found possible landing beach west of Battery point and well mined as if expecting a beach landing. Parachute landing surprised them according to the few prisoners captured. "I" Co. moved C.P. and strengthened perimeter.	

SECRET

JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0900 21 Feb 1945

PLACE: Gregdon, P.I.

TO : 1930 21 Feb 1945

AP 73

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORIG.	INFORMERS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
101			1030	Air strike both bombing & strafing on Malinta Hill - N.E. section. Reported raids carried out during day.	
102			2130	Horrid explosion rocked whole island and came from vicinity of Malinta tunnels. Bombs by 12 Japs from main entrance just after explosion and quickly exterminated by my fire from 34 th Inf. Reports that flames came from every entrance of Malinta tunnels and opening some of the entrances previously closed by bombing. Landslide caught some of 34 th Inf men located on side of hill. Evacuation difficult. Attention to explosion - the tunnels which have been a mystery and stumbling block had been found to be sealed entirely. This sort of eased the situation. Plans made for cleaning up topside and 23 Bb to clean up eastern end of Island & of Malinta tunnels.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 2130 21 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO: 2400 21 Feb 45

messages sent 5
" Rec'd 0

Meg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORG.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
103		✓	1030	Report to XI Corp. msg #1 of bombing strafing of eastern Corregidor to be followed by naval strikes.	
104			1710	msg #2 reporting to XI Corp. bombing attempted and sealing of Malinta tunnel.	
105			2030	Situation report for period to: XI Corp. by msg #3	
106			2133	Report heavy explosion south part of Malinta tunnel to XI Corp. msg #5	
107			2225	Report further on Malinta tunnel to XI Corp.	
108			2400	Inte very quiet as no arty fire on drums tonight. Enemy forces pretty well wiped out "op side" and no organized attacks imminent. Heavy Arty kept in place though as security measure. Plans being made for complete mopping up of the eastern end of the Island with the 1st Bn 503 RCT and 34th 3rd Bn 34th Inf. Situation well under control.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 - 22 Feb 1945

PLACE: Corregidor - P.I.

TO : 2400 - 22 Feb 1945

AP073

22 Feb 45				ACTION TAKEN
Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORG. INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	
109			0800 Air strike & strafing East & North of Malinta Hill	
			0930 C-47 plane landed on parade ground. Used for observation & liaison to 81 Corps.	
			1000 Navy strike on cliffs between Starry point & Searchlight point.	
			1100 Navy moved to area between Searchlight point & Wheeler pt.	
			0000 All Bns. continued patrolling and sealing caves. Trying to clean up Topside. D Co met heaviest resistance near Wheeler Pt and lost 4 men KIA. Area very quiet. All wounded & injured evacuated and areas being cleaned up. Plans made for continued air strikes on Malinta hill & East part of Island. 1st Bn. getting ready to move in the morning to San Jose beach to be ready for assault on East part of Island.	

2400 - mte very quiet and less planes used. Practically no art fire.

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001-23 Feb 1945

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO : 1800-23 Feb 1945

AP073.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORG.	INCIDENTS, DECLASS AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
101			0800	Plans being made for the assaulting of the eastern part of the Island. Col. Jones, Maj. Clarke, Sgt. Peterson reconnoitered the area throughout the day and went aboard the destroyer to coordinate naval Air strikes. Area subjected to strafing & bombing - also navy shelling most of the day. 1st Bn moved down to beach in preparation for assault on 24 Feb 45.	
102			0800	2nd Bn reports the patrolling and clearing of area between searchlight points & wheel points. Strong resistance all along the coast line and killed 106 Japs. Also strong concentration on wheel points and planned on navy strike & assaulting at 0800 I. B. to meet all the resistance.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1800 23 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor P.I.

TO : 2400 23 Feb 45

AP073

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME OR BY	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
102			1800	3rd Bn - J Co patrolled area south from San Jose to Breakwater point, no contacts. H Co patrolled battery point area - sealing more caves. G Co patrolled Ref area and cleared out 2 emplacements hindering road line to beach.	
103			1900	May Clarke returned and plans all set for assaulting of Point ^{Area} E of Malinta tunnel beginning at 0830 hour. 3rd Bn 3rd Inf to move in after air & naval barrage and secure area W of Malinta tunnel and set up guarding entrances to all tunnels. 1st Bn 503 to move thru them and continue up Island with many shelling in advance of them.	
104			2400	Note very quiet. No reported activity. Visits by the Corp Co and other high ranking officers. See S Journal.	

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S E C R E T

JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 *26 Feb 43*

PLACE: Concepcion, P.I.

TO : 240023 Feb 45 C. J. & Rec'd. 5. APR 73.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
106	✓		1055	Request by C.O 1 st Bn for Curb. Recon. of area between Mt & Ength.	
106	✓		1035	1 st Bn C.P. at 32.6-40.5 Recon at 1300 - request tank.	
107			1350	Reference points on ^{test} map for 1 st Bn operation.	
108			1630	Report from Capt. Sings - the amount of air strikes used.	
109			2006	10 th Corp notifying us of 126SM available at 240800 at Mamehapt.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 24 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO : 1820 24 Feb 45

AP873

		24 Feb 45		ACTION TAKEN
Msg. No.	IN OUT	TIME ORIG.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	
110		0300	34th Inf reported thru explosions in Malinta tunnel and flames coming from all entrances. Two more loud explosions followed at about 15 minute intervals and each time flames lit the sky very bright. Set off by the enemy.	
111		0645	^{Report} Tanks coming from all entrances of Malinta tunnel.	
112		0832	Attack launched East of Malinta hill supported by air - navy - and artillery fire. Opposition light.	
113		0930	navy blasting Wheeler Pt with 'O' Co standing by to clean out caves. Very hard place and mps in caves & well protected by concrete emplacement.	
114		1120	Rock force east of Malinta Hill report front line to be a line running between 34.1 - 40.9 and 34.2 - 40.8. Tanks knocked out some resistance at Enge. Pt. Tanks report Bonje from Hospital tunnel and killed approx 150. Also looks to have destroyed 150 enemy on road to rd junction (37.9 - 41.0)	

SECRET

JOURNAL OF 803D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1120³⁰ Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor - P. 2.

TO: 2130 24 Feb 45.

AP 73

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORG.	MSG. AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
115			1435	A Co scaled fire cones at 34.2-40.8 at 1300 L. Reports on tanks falling approx 200 mps.	
116			1525	A & C Co progressing well. resistance still light.	
117			1530	Bn C.P. at 34.1-41.0. B Co between Art & Inf points & will reach Inf point same time as "C" Co.	
118			1620	advance ^{1st Bn} C.P. set up at (34.08-40.95)	
119			1655	1 st Bn C.P. at (34.4-41.0) A Co advance elements at Camp Pt. B Co mopping up Inf Report. C Co meeting resistance at Inf Pt.	
120			1900	Many received fire from Monkey pt and returned fire with good results.	
121			2130	Report from 1 st Bn that mortar shell hit C.P. - killing Wn C.O. May Woods - S-2 - wounding quite a few. Source not known. Third Bn reports believed to be from 34.2-41.3. Wounded evacuated at site and heavy artillery ^{launched} fire placed on area.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 - 24 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor - P.I.

TO: 2400 - 24 Feb 45

Messages
Received & Sent

AD073.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
122	✓		0300	From 8 th Corp - 151 Inf to relieve 34 th Inf.	
123	✓		0745	Request of heavy fire by CO 3 rd Bn.	
124		✓	0925	C & XI Corp reporting progress of Rock Force on East side of Malinta Hill	
125	✓		0950	Heavy reports SSO Roused on Wheeler Pt.	
126		✓	1120	C & XI Corp - situation report on Rock Force. East assault.	
127	✓		1435	Situation report from 1 st Bn.	
128	✓		1525	" " " " " "	
129	✓		1530	" " " " " "	
130	✓		1630	3 rd Bn C.P. at 34.08.40.95	
131	✓		1655	Report from CO 1 st Bn on progress	
132	✓		1805	" " " " " "	
133	✓	✓	1900	Report to CO 1 st Bn - heavy red fire from monkey point & neutralized the same.	
134			1915	S-3 report to 8 th Corp by radio.	
135	✓		2330	Report on mortar fire from 1 st Bn C.P.	
136			2400	34 th Inf. with 1 st Bn SSO made assault. 3 rd Bn moved in at 1400 to support rear. Situation well in hand. 1 st Bn C.P. incident unfortunate but organizations moved as planned.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 25 FEB 45

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO : 1045 25 Feb 45

AP 673.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	25 Feb 1945		ACTION TAKEN
				INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS		
137			0800	Capt McCall sent to 1st Bn to aid staff who suffered loss of S-2-S-3-S-1 YCo.		
138			0300	"B" Co reports that after explosion Enemy Bonged on position and repulsed with 135 ^{enemy} killed. Prisoner of War later stated that the original Bong was 600 in strength but the artillery barrage at 241130 caught the enemy in full as they were ready to move and killed about 300. Walco searching harassing fire but proved to be effective.		
139			0800	Artillery laid down another barrage prior to 1st Bn pushing east.		
140			1045	1st Bn left W to clear East part of Island. Heavy resistance being met but progressing according to plan.		

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1045 25 Feb 1945

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO : 2400 25 Feb 1945

APR 73.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORG.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
141			1100	10 Prisoners picked up by LSM off Rock Pt. trying to swim to Bataan. Lots more shot by 2nd Bn as they came out of caves. Planes also strafed. LSM Patrol set up to watch for further attempts.	
142			1200	151st moved into position and wiped out pocket of enemy. Score at end of the day 31 Enemy Killed.	
143			1400	Art. Barrage on Air Strip Area	
144			1600	" " " " " " " "	
145			1800	1st Bn secured all high ground around monkey points and west end of Air Strip. Enemy in caves on low ground around monkey point. 2nd Bn moved up in close support of 1st Bn and kept tight encirclement around the enemy.	
146			1900	2nd Bn patrolled South + West of Topside mopping up and sealing caves.	
147			- 2400	Ceased for Artillery fire - nite very quiet	

SECRET

S E C R E T

JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 25 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor - P.I.

TO : 2400 25 Feb 45

Messages.
sent + Received

AP043.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORIG.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
148	✓		0735	Msg from XI Corp asking if 34 Inf will be to land on 25 Feb 45.	
149		✓	0810	Msg to XI Corp informing them that 34 Inf ready for loading.	
150		✓	0815	To XI Corp informing them that planes are attending to small boats.	
151		-	1055	G-2 report to Cb 1st Bn stating 152 enemy located in caves at monkey point.	
152		✓	1055	Same msg as above to XI Corp.	
153	✓		1120	1st Bn C.P.'s locations.	
154	✓		1225	34th requesting release of their prisoners.	
155		-	1400	To Co 1st Bn: G-2 report telling of caves in vicinity of Radio leaves in monkey pt - connected.	
156		✓	1720	C XI Corp - situation report.	
157		✓	1915	Periodic report by Radio.	
158	✓		2104	Tank Det still attached to this command. Last msg attch to 40 Div.	

S E C R E T

SECRET

JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 - 26 Feb 1945.

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO : 1150 - 26 Feb 1945

ABO 73.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORG.	26 Feb 1945 INC TEL, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
159			0800	1st Bn with 3rd Bn in support prepared to clean out monkey point. Tanks being used - many Art. & 402 F.A. also.	
160			1110	Explosion in vicinity of first Bn. First reports indicate high casualties. All trucks available and medics near area being rushed to aid injured.	
161			1150	First casualties returning and very much beat up. Reports on that tank fired into one of the cave pill boxes and a large explosion followed by three or four smaller ones tore up high ground around monkey pt and occupied by our troops assaulting position. Blast of Sherman tank and Big rocks fell & key which in falling caused many deaths & injuries. Med. and rushed from Marwell Bay by Cat. The total casualties are 156.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1150 26 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO : 2400 26 Feb 45

APB 73

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORG.	26 Feb 45 INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
162			1300	Casualties all in - 3rd Bn moved thru first Bn & continued mopping up East part of Island - By the end of period - All Comdg ground occupied - no heavy enemy concentrations thought to be in area. A lot of Japs killed in explosions also and eye witnesses say they were blown to hell.	
163			1400	3rd Bn patrolling area and met little resistance.	
164			1600	4.3 KIA bodies recovered. Many thought to be covered up.	
165			2400	Note very quiet - no art fire for a change.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 26 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO : 0400 26 Feb 45 Messages sent
and Received -

00673

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORG.	INCIDENTAL, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
159			1110	Report to XI Corp of explosion in 1st Bn Area.	
160			1300	Order 3rd Bn to move thru 1st Bn and continue push to East of Air Strip.	
161			1735	Report to XI Corp an explosion at Monkeypoint and probable casualties.	
162			1900	8-3 report by radio to XI Corps.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 27 Feb 1945

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO: 2400 27 Feb 1945

AP 073.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORF.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
163			0800	With very quiet and all 1st Bn casualties taken care of. 1st Bn withdrew to Hospital Bldg on Lapside to reorganize and rest. Those suffering from slight concussion shock. 3rd Bn moved on toward the East end of Island against little opposition. 2nd Bn continued patrol from Searchlight to Morrison Pt. and met little resistance. 15th moved up to support our 3rd Bn.	
164			1202	Only msg received during day from 2nd Bn. Located cables leading into caves, two large control batteries, and one new short wave radio. 3 enemy KIA in cave. Unable to secure radio due to enemy fire.	
165			2400	Day very quiet except for mopping up.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 28 Feb 45
TO: 2400 28 Feb 45

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.
AP073

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORIG.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
166			1600	all Bn continued patrolling assigned areas against light enemy sniper fire. Casuals being pounded by air & navy very heavy. Two prisoners picked up trying to swim away. One stated explosion of the 26 Feb was a mass suicide of about 150 Japs. Our casualties were also heavy due to this	
167			1437	msg from XI Corp asking release of Lt Evans to his unit.	
168			1825	5-3 Periodic report by Radio	
169			2000	notifying XI Corp Lt Evans departed 281400 I to join his unit.	
170			2400	Period very quiet - All wounded & dead evacuated from the Island. No very quiet except for mortar fire on the drums around perimeter.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 1 Mar 1945

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO: 0400 1 Mar 1945

APP 73

			1 March 1945		ACTION TAKEN
Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	
171			0800	Very quiet nite except for mortar firing into draws around the perimeter during intervals at nite. Air strikes & naval bombardment of Caballo is to continue throughout the day. 500 & 1000 # bombs to be used.	
172			1800	All units conducted vigorous patrol of all assigned area and met little opposition. About 89 enemy KIA during the day. Reports that some dead have been observed on Caballo.	
173			1800	Arrangements being completed for the arrival of Gen MacArthur 23-45. Extensive preparations made to put on all the guns the 503 can muster.	
174			2400	Day considered quiet. Plan for parade tomorrow complete. Lots of High Sq. Officers on hand.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 2 March 1945

PLACE: Corregidor, P.I.

TO : 1100 2 March 1945

AP 73

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
175			0900	2 March. Naval party arrived on beach preparatory to arrival of Gen MacArthur. Plans all completed and Troops to represent Rock force assembled. One Platoon from 2d Bn 34th Inf came from Marikina.	
176			1000	MacArthur arrived on San Jose beach and greeted by Col. Jones. Capt. Sher - naval air liaison then had 12 P-47 put on an air show and mission on Caballo.	
177			1100	Gen MacArthur arrived topside and visited his office and found it badly damaged as everything is damaged. From there he went to Wheeler Btry and spent 10 to 15 minutes looking it over. He then came to Assembly Area where Col. Jones presented him the Rock Corregidor and the half of the Rock Force. He then then decorated Col. Jones with the D.L.C.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 1100 2 March 1945

PLACE: Corregidor P.I.
AP 073

TO: 2400 2 March 1945

MSG. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORG.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
172				for a job well done and in a General order of the day cited all units participating in the operation.	
178			1200	Thom went to visit his quarters to see if the case of Scotch he buried under the steps was still there. He then proceeded to the beach and left the island.	
179			1800	All units continued patrols against isolated opposition.	
180			2400	Very quiet day except for "Dug's" milt. mortar fire harassing the draws during mite.	
181			1920	S-3 Periodic report to XI Corp by Radio	
182			2010	Request to Corp to return 603 PBCs to their own units.	
183				Missions Officially closed Total Enemy KIA - 4662 - 20 POW	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 0001 2 Mar 1945

PLACE: Corregidor P.I.

TO :

Page 73

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORF.	3 Mar 1945 INCIDENTS, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
183			1800	All units patrolled during the day. 1 st Bn Co B killed 29 Japs in vicinity of Morrison Point. 2nd Bn still having trouble at Wheeler Point. 3rd Bn killed 9 Japs on East end of Island + 15 pt. 4th Bn killed unknown number of Japs off Enrage Point. Air strikes continued on Caballo. In general the situation is easy except for a few Japs in bad physical shape. May Clark visited many destroyers that gave us excellent cooperation and close support during operation.	
184			2400	Our own mortar fire about the only activity during night. Strain on troops being lifted and very noticeable.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: _____

PLACE: _____

TO : _____

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME ORIG.	INCLOSURES, MESSAGES AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
<i>Messages 16 Feb. 1945 - 2 March 1945 follow.</i>					

S E C R E T

SECRET

JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 2 MAR 45
TO: 6 MAR 45

PLACE: SORRENTO
P.I.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
				130 2 MAR 45	
				130 Rock presented to GEN. MacArthur	
				IN CEREMONY NEAR FLAG POLE	
				MEMO FR CO Rock Force 3 MAR 45	
				885. 12th DE	
				3 MAR 45	
				885.	
				4 MAR 45 - G.O.#8 Hq XI CORPS 2 MAR 45	
				885.	
				5 MAR 45	
				885.	
				6 MAR 45	
				885.	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 27 March, 1945

PLACE: Mydora

To : 6 APR 45

Philippine Is.

Msg. No.	IN	OUT	TIME	ORIG.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGE AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
271130					Received ELART ORDERS	✓
271130					Recon. flight of C-47 to NEGROS I.	✓
051830					Flight mission to air landing and amphib. move.	
060900					1st + 2d P ¹ ts ^{Hqts} departed to ELMORE STRIP.	
061340					1st & 2d P ¹ ts, Hqts took off for ILOILO, PANAY.	
061630					landed on ILOILO STRIP.	✓
061700					Left of truck for dock area and loaded on C-47 except	

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JOURNAL OF 503D PARACHUTE R.C.T.

FROM: 6 APR 45

PLACE: NEGROS

TO: 072040Z

Philippine Is.

SC. NO.	IN	OUT	TIME OR MS.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGE AND ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
061700	CONT			15 EM FROM 1ST PLT	
				DR. DUEING IN 1500Z	
070630				Departed on mission from Loloa Pany	
			1015	ARRIVED NEGROS AND DEBARKED AT 1030	
			1115	ENTRUCKED FOR MOTOR MARCH TO BIVOUAC AREA	
			1500	ARRIVED AT BIVOUAC AREA C.P. LOCATED AND PLATOONS SET UP PERIMETER	
1	✓		1623	From CO 503 RCT - DIV HAS CHANGED REPORTING S.O.P. USE SAME FORM BUT FROM 2400Z-2400Z FIRST REPORT DUE 0630Z. SAME TIME EACH DAY Sgd CO 503 RCT (LHL) (RUNNER)	
2	✓		1630	From CO 503 RCT - UNIT CO'S REPORT TO CP RCT AT 1700 Sgd CO RCT (LHL) (RUNNER)	
			1645	CO LEFT TO ATTEND MEETING OF UNIT CO'S AT RCT C.P.	
			1745	CO RETURNED FROM MEETING WITH OPERATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE DATA	
	✓		2040	MAJ. NORMAN 115TH ENGR. CALLED CO REGARDING ROAD EQUIPMENT AND BOMB DISPOSAL MED (PHONE)	
				DRS	

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