

503d PRCT HERITAGE Bn. HISTORICAL RECORDS SECTION

~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED

COMPANY "A" DIARY
503D PARACHUTE INFANTRY

REPRODUCED FROM
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22 AUG 1941 - 10 NOV 1945

COURTESY JIM PARDUE

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DEDICATION

Dedicated to those men of this company who originally started with it and to those who followed and will follow.

Prologue

While parachute troops were just being experimented with, and still all of its capabilities were unknown, this company was formed as an integral part of the 503d Frecht Battalion.

With only one station with training facilities, all of the first units were trained at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Company "A" was formed on August 22, 1941 and became part of the 503d Frecht Battalion with 70 men as a nucleus.

Start

22 August 41

Cpt. Billinglea first Commander of Company "A", Deavours as 1st Sgt. and company completed by other volunteers.

29 Sept. 41 to Oct 10, 41

Company further added to by other volunteers who came from Camp Wheeler, Camp Croft, and Camp Roberts, Calif.

23 Oct 41

Captain Billinglea relieved of command, Capt. Kelly became commander. "A" Co.

10 Oct 41

Group Frecht School #8 started and new assigned EM were pupils of that school, a few going through #9 group, graduating and becoming precht's Nov. 8, 1941 and Feb 4, 42 respectively. Chattahoochee River will be remembered by these men.

2 March 42

503d Bn became 1st Bn. of new redesignation of name of 503d Frecht Infantry. 503d Bn became 2nd Bn and 502 became the 3rd Bn. Battalions and companies reorganized into full strength as redesignated and activated. 2nd Battalion went to England and jumped later in Africa

19-20 March 42

Change of station took place and our new home became Fort Bragg N.C. where advanced training began.

29-30 May 42

Washington Parade on Memorial Day for President Roosevelt and this Company with the first Battalion para-troopers invaded Wash. D. C.

24-June 42

Jackson S.C. jump executed for Winston Churchill and Roosevelt. Capt. Osborne was hurt accidentally when his parachute pack broke open and the wind dragged him through the plane and out the door.

25 June 42

1st Lt Everett assumed command. Capt. Osborne reld

25 August 42

1st Lt. Naedloke assumed com. Everett reld
Company left Fort Bragg for desert maneuvers at Camp Young Calif. arriving Aug 28 by route Jackson, Miss.; Dallas, Tex; El Paso Tex; Tucson Ariz. All movement by plane. The company participated in two jumps on airport and area of Needles, Calif. Both were considered by judges as tactical success.

8 Sept 42

The company and attached personnel received a leave of one and one-half days in Los Angeles, Calif.

12 Sept 42

Company returned to Fort Bragg, N. C.

9 Oct 42

First word that our company was going overseas came between the first and ninth of Oct 42 and on the tenth we were enroute to Camp Stoneman, Calif. Arrived at Stoneman by way of train Thru Rocky Mt.

15 Oct 42

Company embarked on the "Poulau Laut" a Dutch ship, and sailed from San Francisco on the 20th of Oct. 42. Destination unknown. A large convoy left with our ship but left on the Second Day. We were alone thru out the voyage.

1 Nov 42

Arrived at Panama Canal on the Pacific side at Camp Kobe, staying only long enough to pick up the original Battalion of the 501st who were stationed there. They made up the 2nd Bn. of our Regt. and made it complete.

2 Nov 42

The ship again on its way and this time everyone knew the destination was Australia.

5 Nov 42

Crossed the Equator. All the polly wogs became shell backs and were initiated into the realm of King Neptune with all pomp and ceremony which took place on board ship

9 Nov 42

Crossed International Date Line and today became yesterday.

25 Nov 42

First sight of Australia by us at which time our ship signalled and the shore station signalled they had no room for us, so we sailed North arriving at Townsville three days later. We signalled, the sign. and still no room. On the second of Dec 42 we sighted Cairns. Qld. and went thru the routing of signalling. The answer was "welcome". At this time the Japs were trying to get at Fort Moresby and the use of our troops was evident, thought it did not materialize at this time. Col. ~~E~~ Kinsler was waiting on the dock for us and we docked and disembarked at 1645hr going from Cairns to Gordonvale where we set up camp that night. Total distance traveled by water 12,948 miles. time on ship 42 days

3 Dec 42

We built our camp one mile outside of Gordonvale during the next few weeks.

25 Jan 43

Kiri jump. The field was hard and a fifteen mile wind was blowing causing 12 casualties though none were fatal. Usual injuries of broken bones and sprains.

26 Feb 43

Three day regimental problem. Incessant rain causing the Mulgrave river to become a torrent of water, well over normal level. Pvt John Kobeska, a well liked member of the company was drowned in the river during the problem.

2 March 43

Organization Day observed; One year this date this Regiment was activated.

18 March 43

"Happy Valley" It was one of the two most toughest hikes of this company. Starting March 18 and ending on the morning of March 20. It will be remembered for the reasons of; ~~on the second day of~~ the march ~~we~~ began with the breaking up of our bivouac area at 0800 hr. the march starting at 10000 hrs. Chow at noon dropped by plane into high trees and we had no dinner or supper. The trail became harder to travel on because of mud from rains which now began and darkness set in which caused a constant stumbling over rocks, not to mention the fording of small rivers and creeks. Good shoes became bad ones and dogs became tired dogs. The company reached Happy Valley two miles out of Babinda, Qld. at 0200 hr. Happy Valley was the promised land and every break in the skyline was speculated as our destination.

The Medics deserved credit. T/4 Ted white, Pfc. Shuffet and others.

1 April 43

Captain Haedicke on trip to New Guinea for reconnaissance of jungle tactics. Much valuable information was gained. He returned

April 21 43.

9 May 43

S/Sgt Gartram left for New Guinea. Returned 24 May to give company EM view of situation and tell his experiences.

31 May 42

Mareeba Problem NO. 1 with jump on White field. Named after one of the enlisted men of the regiment who was killed on a jump-

11-14 July

Mareeba Problem NO 2 Enplanning at Mareeba QLD. and jumping with full equipment in the area of Mount Garnet. Field littered with rock and scattered trees. Few injuries.

17 July 43

Preparation for regiment to move to forward base at Fort Moresby, New Guinea. Embarked on ship TSMV Duntroon, and Aussie vessel.

20 July 43

Disembarked at 1600hr. Distance 450 miles by water. The company set up camp 17 and one half miles south of Moresby.

COMBAT OF MARKHAM VALLEY

4 Sept 43

Alert order received by Company at 1400hr. Bn field order received 2000hr Schedule consisted of orientation of mission to platoons and preparation for move.

5 Sept 43

At 0300 hr. breakfast was served. Company entrucked by plane loads at 0430 for move to Wards Drome. Arrived at 0700. Due to unfavorable weather take off was delayed until 0830 hr.

Arrived over jump field which was 1 1/2 miles from objective at 1030 and all six planes landed in close proximity to jump field successfully

Area between objective, Nadzab Strip, and jump field consisted of tall Kunai grass and thick woods making progress very slow and tiring. Company did not assemble at original assembly area but majority of Company assembled on edge of woods which is just west of strip. A trail was cut thru these woods and "a" company reached NE edge of strip at 1530 hr. The company then took defensive positions along the woods which was along NE edge of Strip and put out Booby traps. T/5 E.R. Nelson, Pfc Toumen and Pfc Flood were injured in the jump. S/Sgt Betz had not yet reported to Company since the jump. No enemy encountered on jump.

6 Sept 43

Company moved to an assembly area in woods opposite side of strip. Pvt Rivas was found dead in his foxhole, apparently the victim of a grenade. T/4 Tsigonis also received a bullet wound in the left leg during the previous night. Searching parties located Pfc Flood and he was evacuated along with other wounded and injured.

At 1600 hr the company moved to a new position in 2nd clump of woods to west of Strip, except the 3rd platoon which remained in initial position at Gabsmatasung.

Pvt. Rivas was buried in plot near Reg aid Stations.

7 Sep 43

Brush fires from previous day swept thru Jump field and most of the 1st Bn parachutes and drop bundles were destroyed. Details were sent out to pick up remaining chutes and equipment.

8 Sept 43

No activity, area was improved and equip. cleaned.

9 Sept 43

No activity. Capt. Haedicke relieved of command. Lt Buach assumed command. SO. of this date notified company T/4 Tsigonis was awarded purple heart.

10 Sept 43

Company received Bn alert order at 1500 hr. Corp. Stark reported to strip and returned to forward base.

11 Sept 43

Company still in same position. Lt Smith was notified at 1700 hr that the first platoon would leave at 0700 hr the next morning on patrol mission to Camp Ditty.

23-~~m~~ 12 Sept

First plt. moved out at 0700 hr with four meals of "C" rations. Church services at 1700 hr.

13 Sept 43

All available men in Company reported to air strip and unloaded planes. at 1300 hr. All hands worked. Grenades and ammo was then turned in to QM, except small arms ammo. Company marched to new air drome, three miles north at 1630 hr. Company as broken down to five plane loads. First plt ret. from patrol. No enemy action.

14 Sept 43

Company enplaned at 0830 hr and returned to forward base at APO 929

22 Oct 43

Col Kinsler victim of fatal accident. Burial ceremony followed.

1 Nov 43

Most of this Company entitled to wear three medals. Asiatic-Pacific, with one bronze star. American Defense and Good Conduct.

2 Nov 43

Usual training about vicinity of Post Moresby. Problems plus small unit training. The old grind still on.

23 Nov 43

Twenty three new men who joined company at New Guinea made and equipment jump no casualties. Night marches and problems - are lining us up for a mission on Cape Gloucester, New Britain Island much speculation and excitement - moral runs high and the men have never been more eager or in better shape.

11 Dec 43

Regimental Presentation for presentation of Decorations won in the Radzeb operation. "A" company drew a blank with the exception of Taigonis who received purple heart. thru the marksmanship of Lt. Pife who took him for a Jap

25 December 43

Our second Christmas overseas and all was dreary despite the Turkey, for the Cape Gloucester jump had fallen thru and we felt neglected and abused by the fate. Won't we ever jump again?

31st Dec 43

New Years Eve eventful only because of its being pay day - -- the price of whiskey astounding and outrageous up to 20 pound per bottle for scotch. Training had been slack off in the past weeks to morning session only---we had finally learned that one can't train eight hours a day in the tropics with no mission in sight the general enthusiasm was low.

6 Jan 44

Regimental problems begin again with one of 26 miles to last three days. Smoke and jungle living become part of our life. the men can hole up anywhere and any time and make themselves dry and comfortable. ***** Well almost comfortable.

25 Jan 44

Embarked aboard liberty ship John Carroll for Cairns Qld. The enthusiasm is unbounded. visions of cold drinks, girls who have been left behind. and thick Aussie style steak and eggs glowed shyly before each man's eyes. At least we were to have a break.

27 Jan 44

Cairns now in sight and we disembarked at 1425 hr. loaded on trucks and arrived in Gordonvale and started to set up camp. At 1545 we loaded back on the trucks. back to Cairns back on ship and sailed away. Probably the fastest disembark on record. It seems the Aussies raised hell because we would bring malaria into the district. so we left with rumors flying Sydney, Melbourne and even Adelaide were thought to be our destination. but nobody really cared as about 95% were drunk. due to the generosity of Gordonvale well wishers.

2 Feb 44

The John Carroll landed at Brisbane Qld. and we rode by truck to camp Cable about 35 miles from Brisbane. This camp was the old 32 Div camp area and for once we walked into a well set up area. Plus a PX. Our life for the next two months was a dream. Ice cream, Coca Cola, beer three day passes furloughs, women and rest. Training was not emphasized except for the new men who were given the works. equip. jumps, rifle range and until we left this place, they were

5 April

Company has been alerted for two days and on the eve of the 5th we entrucked for Logen Village and went by train to Brett's Warf where we boarded the US Transport Sea Cat bound for parts unknown. rumors said everywhere under the sun.

9 April 44

Docked at Cairns but not to stay--loaded parachutes aboard and many used to alcohol used the time to grog up. The usual eight ball missed the ship. All arrived just in time destination still unknown

11 April 44

Docked at Port Moresby, New Guinea and stayed a few hours only to pull out again destination still unknown

13 April 44

Arrived at Milne Bay, New Guinea and stayed a few hours only to pull out again.

14. April 44

Arrived at Dobadura and at last unloaded into ducks for a ride to our new Camp site at Cape Sudest--- the old camp site of the 1st Cav. Div who had just left for the Admiralties.

23 April 44

Company all excited about possible mission at Hollandia and much time spent getting equipment in shape.....but as usual tone good...mission called off.... camp site changed...rain and heat and much work

29 May 44

Regiment alerted at 1515 hour...company strength 9 officers and 139 EM. Combat equipment issued at night...dark as a well digger's...and raining like hell

30 May 44

Company awakened at 0330 hr, breakfasted and trucked for the airstrip from which we took off at 0620 hour bound for Hollandia. Landed at Cyclops Drome Hollandia at 0755 hr and moved to a rock strewn bivouac area. The next day we moved to a Dutch coconut plantation and with the issue of jungle hammocks we all strung ourselves a sack.

2 June 44

Rumors are ripe that we'll be used to reinforce the hard pressed attackers on Biak Island... Jap counterattacks had made the situation desperate... but again the mission was called off and we took up watchful waiting again.

14 June 44

Company alerted and moved by truck to the beach where we set up for the night to leave next morning for Tami River.. 15 nautical miles to the south of Hollandia with a mission to carry on active patrolling against the Japs who were infiltrating up from Wewak.

17 June 44

Lt Ormen and patrol sighted five dead Japs and found what seemed to be Jap escape route to South Atappe.

19 June 44

1st blood..one Jap killed at Watong Village..natives reported 25 Japs had left for the South the previous morning. For next few weeks patrolling continued and many prisoners taken. Capt Taylor takes off for a patrol which finally ended at Atappe....cance and native prayers were a great help.

26 June 44

Lt Smith assumed command of company Capt Taylor Relieved

28 June 44

Lt. John P. Backer assumed command of company....Lt. Smith reld.

29 June 44

Patrol led by Capt. Taylor and S/Sgt Bilbray, Sgt Dyak
T/5 Anderson, Pfc Davis and Pvt Elder reported to be carried
missing in action.

30 June 44

START OF NUMFOR MISSION

Company enplaned at 0605 hr.. take off at 0640 hr.. three hour
and twenty five minute ride brought the company over Kamiri Strip
and our jump was made at 1005 hr from an altit ude of 350 ft.
The jump field was no field at all but a shell poked coral strip
strewn with wrecked Jap equipment, blasted stumps and US trucks
and Aligatros of the initial landing force. Casualties
on the drop ..seven men.. Davis received compound fracture of ~~his~~
leg..others sprains and pulled muscles. Company set up defensive
position about Kamiri Strip as part of Reg. defense.. G company
on right flank covering *long 400 yds.*

5 July 44

3d Platoon sent by landing barge to Mania Island..captured
island in face of light resistance.. Pvt Corley shot through the
face no other casualties 8 Japs killed..one Jap captured
one pillbox destroyed.

11 July 44

12 Japs killed by patrol which went out 9 July..no casualties..
passwords Linger Longer..Silly Tilly..Eleanor Powell all with
L's to trip up the Jap.

13 July 44

Company starts up to Hill 670 to aid G company ambused and pinned
down by main body of Japs who had fled inland on 9 Day ..
Established strength later confirmed 1800 Jap Infantry plus
labor troops of Formosans and Javanese.

14 July 44

Company sets up perimeter defenses of Hill 670 at part of Bn
Patroling and reconitering continuous for Japs killed during
this time. Company reached Namer Drome on the 24 July...worn
to a frazzel and dead beat.. water and food had been slim..water
vines and rain plus K rations carried up the hill by Japs,
plus some rations dropped by plane had carried us through..one man
hit on the head by ration box luckily not killed

28 July 44

Company leaves Namer Strip for native village of Manuquari
on SE coast of island. Camp set up and defensive perimeter
wet up around the village. One section 81mm mortars plus
four LMGs attached to the company. Active patrolling
started which is to last.

21 August 44

Company leaves Manuquari for Namer Drom. Stay at Manuquari
had been excellent training for greater things to come. Gentle
ous combat pat *rolls* had netted 13 Japs captured, 54 killed.
Own casualties Pvt Budes killed, Pvt Lanier killed 4 wounded.

27 August 44

Company starts setting up new camp area vicinity of Kamiri Drom. Majority of company starts working on ship unloading detail at Kamiri Drom. Easy detail with great opportunity to stock the meagre larder of the company. Detail lasts till 17 September at which time company moved to new camp site to take up garrison duties.

24 Oct 44

Time from 27 August spent in training and improving areas now things are in the wind.

7 Nov 44

Now area has been nice, but the Combat Team has been alerted. Packing is under way for a sea-borne move.

9 Nov 44

Company boarded a swell ship for this move. Officers and men off the USS Knox treated us fine for the time we were onboard.

14 Nov 44

Finally underway. Good PX supplies available aboard ship. Chow fine.

18 Nov 44

Leyte Island PI
Landed on very rough beach and have lots of wet work getting our organizational property ashore. As expected, the rear base commandoes put their claws on everything they wanted and sent the rest to the Co. Result- no chairs, no tables. Wet and muddy place. It later turned out to be a long hard road getting rations in from sub-base at Dulag. A kindred unit move in as we do 11th A/B Division, later entering combat for the first time on this island.

1 Dec 44

Boarded USS APD 61 for another "go" but it was SNAPU and back to rebuilding our area. (Kerhart)

12. December

Saying good by once more to Leyte where after some good Thanks giving turkey, lots of rain and one false start we finally start for this company's first beach landing, aboard USS APD 22. This trip is through really dangerous waters. (Harbert)

13 Dec 44

Got our first glimps of the Jap Kamikaze Corps in action. one of our cruisers was damaged, and there was one less son of heaven. USS. *Howeville* hit by plane

15 Dec 44

Mindoro PW A "Sunday" landing, quickly followed by a general advance to our objectives with no opposition. We never fully realized just how the Navy goes about softening up a beach prior to a landing, but we did now. This was the main topic of conversation for weeks to come. Plenty of air activity in dangering ships. They took a beating quite unusual. Scattered nuisance bombing at night and lots of interesting dog fights by day, some of them barely over our fox holes.

25 Dec. 44

Steady diet of hard rations finally broken by a single peice of fresh turkey delivered to our foxholes. *single*

27 Dec 44

Light enemy ^{naval} units managed to sneak in under cover of an overcast and drop shells around the area, but to no damage. though there was plenty of ~~shooting~~ and praying. Our planes charged them full price for their folly. Preparations for possible Jap airborne or seaborne attack of island caused excitement.

31 Dec 44

Company moved to new perimeter across Bugnaga River. Co E relieving us at our former well prepared lines. The old year leaves us now with 2 hits and 2 scores against the enemies and errors - muchoo

12 January 45

Nothing passes. Still no enemy activity. Lt. Rucker made Captain a few days ago and is now reassigned to C company. Lt. Gates is going to B co, and Capt Bossert assumes command with Lt. Fickel ~~and~~ exec. *affairs*

17 January 45

Come off perimeter and began setting up another bivouac area.

31 Jan 45

This month slipped away almost unobserved--routing patrols with no enemy activity. We are close to a nice river for swimming and laundry, and the campaign is officially brought to a close. Lt. Sullivan is assigned to A Co.

12 Feb 45

We prepare to leave our routing again Briefed for (The rock *Carryover*)

15 Feb 45

Tents struck prior to moving.

16 Feb 45

Draw chutes and rations today. This completes our last preparation for this rough but world watched jump. Numerous new names on the plane loading lists, due to many of the old men becoming victim of scrub typhus and jaundice.

17 Feb 45

Boarded trucks in early morning darkness and were told just as the convoy started that a last minute change ordered us to land at San Mariveles and proceed by boat to Corregdor. It was alternately a relief and disappointment among the company that we were not to jump. Two of our planes were hit as we passed over the rock but no casualties. On Board APD again and land in the historic shade of historic topside and came under enemy machine gun fire almost immediately. Heavy naval fire from ship off shore soon silenced the enemy. No casualties as yet.

18 Feb 45

On "Topside" and in perimeter. No enemy contact as yet. Naval and aerial support active all over island. Plenty of flies and very hot sun. The whole place stinks.

19 Feb 45

Active infiltration and a heavy explosion, causing several casualties. A busy day and casualties from both sides resulting.

20 Feb 45
 We take Geary Point, further experiencing Jap snipers as well as the difficulties of fighting Japs in caves and bunkers. The number of Japs killed is mounting steadily. Our casualties from enemy action are light except for explosion losses.

23 Feb 45
 We move to Malinta Hill.

24 Feb 45
 Begin the attack for Malinta Hill.

25 Feb 45
 Attack around the Water Tower and Monkey Point continues. Japs fighting fiercely by day and night.

26 Feb 45
 The catastrophic explosion as we complete the storming of this area around Monkey Point Malinta Tunnel. Capt. Boscort was among the injured. Lt. Fickel assumes command with Lt Sullivan executive officer. 3rd Bn relieved us.

27 Feb 45
 We move back to vicinity of big barracks and hospital on "top side". We have done a big job but our remaining men are few.

2 March
 Gen. MacArthur arrived for flag raising ceremony. Col Jones awarded DSC for the job regiment did. Third Reg anniversary.

8 March 45
 After several days of patrolling, cave closing etc. we finally boarded LST's to leave the Rock. We won't forget it now that there are so many we will see no more. Official rumor of Presidential Citation for our work there. It was merited.

9 March 45
 Back to old area at Mindoro and we prepare to build another camp and to become semi-alerted again.

1 April 45
 Alerted again no mission imminent.

21 April
 Lt. Fickel to hospital with hepatitis. Lt. Abbot takes command as we finally prepare to go in again after a couple weeks of rumor.

23 April
 We land at Panay Air Strip and proceed by boat to Negros Island where we entruck to join the rest of regt. in the vicinity east of Bacolod Negros.

24 April
Negros On perimeter near foothills.

25 April 45
Moving forward no contact with enemy

26 April
Slight casualties from mortar and grenades during the night.
Moving into the attack against some small arms fire.

27 April 45
Completed the taking of first ridge.

28 April 45
Lots of night activity with casualties, mostly
resulting from HE shell which hit us heavy.

29 April 45
Due to casualties, Co reorganized into two rifle platoons
and become Bn in reserve. The outfit certainly deserved the
probable rest.

13 May 45
The past two weeks have entailed extensive patrolling. No
rest for the wicked. Entruck and move around to north side of
mountain.

19 May 45
We move into the mountains after several days of patrolling,
Truly rough going, with most of the pates perpendicular.
Ropes and poles had to be placed along trails in order that we
might reach destination. Type of terrain and heavy loads make
progress slow.

25 May 45
~~The rest~~
Lt. Abbott to hospital. Lt. Sullivan takes command. Light
enemy activity with some casualties the past few days. NOU
in Bn reserve, and are in perimeter on heavy jungle covered
ridge. It is very wet and very cold due to being about 3100ft up.

31 May 45
Enemy remain entrenched in positions about fifty yds from
the front of our perimeter. Heavy growth and circuitous trail
accounting for closeness of lines. Enemy activity ~~every~~
every nite but they prove more of a nuisance than anything
else. Everybody on toes against probable attack.

4 June 45
Patrols sent out from company, find Japs still in their old
though much improved positions. ~~Because of rain conditions;~~
~~and since we were unable to get up to them, we had to~~ *will no*
all out attack and evidently were content to let well enough
alone. Rodriguez, Kropiewnicki and Jennings killed while on usual
patrol. Much to the regret of Co A

5 June 45
Despite receiving our full quota of beer the order to move is
more than welcomed.

7 June 45

The going down was just as tough as the coming up, but getting back to some clean clothes and a fresh shave put all in good spirits.. Gone were some of the mustaches and beards the men had put so much time on, and had been justly proud of.

20 June 45

Have moved again, this time to a camp site about a mile or so below us, complete with squad tents and sacks, with plenty of time to use. Setting up camp and light patrolling carried out. Getting good food steak hamburger with a pork chop now and then. first we had seen in many months. Passes issued and this is the cause of much merrymaking. It has been a rough campaign, largely due to adverse living conditions and sickness, but we're all recovering. *Etendall some duty*
of company exec.

31 June 45

Small patrols sent to surrounding territory to investigate stories of Japs being around, but no contact as yet. A recreation tent is being set up in the Bn area as a relaxation point after the day is done. Training evident.

3 July 45

Quite a few of the old men finally got started on their way to the States. The point system seems to be popular with all. Small patrols still scour the area but no enemy action.

22 July 45

Company moved from Murcia to San Carlos a distance of eighty miles. First platoon moved to Calatrava about six miles further north. the company is set up in a house and quite comfortable. Small patrols sent out to search area.

23 July 45

Another group of old men are on their way home on point. They got a royal send off, and seemed happy about the whole thing. The company seems to get smaller each day. First platoon sent a few Jap collaborators into San Carlos. They tried to buy salt for the Japs and were caught by Flips and turned in. *D-4*

31 July 45

Company moved again. This time to (William A Jones.) A distance of approximately 25 miles. The company is right by a stream and the area is good. Platoon patrols sent out.

5 August 45

Company alerted for move. All patrols called in.

6 August 45

Company moved to Cabugan, preparatory to moving into the hills. Expect to meet much Jap resistance this time.

7 August 45

Company left Cabugan at 0800 hr and began long hard march into the hills. The terrain is pretty open and not like the other side of Negros for which we are happy. The first platoon hit the Japs at 1415 hr and after a rough fire fight killed five Japs without a casualty. The company bivouaced at Nataban. Distance marched was two miles straight up.

8 August 45

Company still at Nataban. Sent out three patrols to see what was cooking and they all had a good time. Each patrol killed one Jap but destroyed a goodly amount of ammo and equipment. They set fire to a few native shacks that were loaded with aerial and personnel bombs, grenades mortar shells, rifle ammo etc. The ~~ammo~~ ammo exploded all nite. No casualties.

9 August 45

A small patrol went out to investigate a shack that was smoking and the result was one Jap killed and ammo destroyed.

10 August

Company left Nataban and marched to Cabalangan. Distance marched one and one half miles. Terrain good.

11 August 45

Company started on the move again at 0730 hr. Almost immediately the leading platoon started a firefight and in short order killed five Japs without a casualty. Two machine guns were captured and destroyed. The company continued the march and at 1115 Japs were contacted again. Result was five more Japs killed and no casualties. Continued march to Hilayan, distance marched one and one half miles.

12 August 45

Company stayed at Hilayan while a large group of high point men left for rear base to go home. The hill has been named ninety point hill in ~~their order~~ ^{their honor}. The point system is ok.

13 August 45

Company moved again to kill four more Japs walking toward the company. The lmg were set up and the rumors came that Russia was fighting the Jap. News of atomic bomb.

14 August 45

Company still at Ulai There's a strong rumor that Japan is surrendering. More news of the atomic bomb, it seems to be a reality. Everyone is hoping the news is true.

15 August 45

Company to move back to San Carlos tomorrow. Japan surrender confirmed.

15 August 45

Company moves back to San Carlos.

19 August 45

Company back in the old routing or training and passes to town.

20 August 45
Company moved to Refugio Hacienda. The area is pretty good and not too far from town.

24 August
The people of Refugio are giving dances to the company almost every night and everyone is pleased with the set up.

26 August 45
At 1430 hr a surrendering party from the Jap army entered the company area to make arrangements for the surrender of the Nakatani Bn. Lt. Sullivan made arrangements thru Bn. The Japs were pretty beat up and enjoyed the chow .

27 August 45
First platoon went into hills to expedite surrender.

31 August 45
Japs started coming in today nine hundred the first day muchoo souvenirs.

7 Sept
Today all men with eighty five points left for home. All the original men are gone now

17 Sept 45
Two hundred and fifty Japs entered co today to surrender. more souvenirs. Company total twenty eight hundred

20 Sept
Co alerted for move to Dumaguete
21 Co moved to Dumaguete

23 Sept 45
Co might go to Japan Plans later cancelled
Company then split up Some home Some Japan

10 Men:
Left for Japan aboard. LSI. 772. 722-



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