

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
South West Pacific Area
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION, GENERAL STAFF

PART I
REPORT ON
THE DESTRUCTION OF MANILA
AND
JAPANESE ATROCITIES

February 1945

PART II
JAPANESE ATROCITIES
Puerto Princessa, Palawan
December 1944

Incl 8

C-844
383.7



SWPA-SigC-45-13095

March 1, 1945

Crematory pit, one of the raid shelters in which American prisoners of war were burned alive in the Jap internment camp at Puerto Princesa, Palawan Island. The Japanese made a slight attempt to cover up the crime by throwing earth over the entrance. Opening the shelter, American troops found mounds of scorched bones. Photographer: Sgt. CHESTER KRONFELD.



SWPA-SigC-45-13094

March 1, 1945

(Palawan Island): Rear view of building which houses 150 American soldiers, sailors and Marines in the American prisoners of war camp in (Puerto Princesa). All had surrendered on Bataan in April, 1942. The prisoners hand-labored in building Japanese airstrips until 14 December 1944, when without warning or explanation, the Japanese herded them into an air raid shelter and burned them alive, except for the seven or possible ten that got away. Photographer: Sgt CHESTER KRONFELD.



SWPA-SicC-45-13097

March 1, 1945

Eating bench on the porch of American Prisoner of War Camp at (Puerto Princessa, Palawan Island). On December 14, 1944 150 American soldiers, sailors and Marines, without warning, were burned alive in air raid shelters they had built for themselves. Visible on the right is a mess gear, U.S. Army issue, which bears the name of EDWIN A. PETRIE, Venice, California. (7th Material Squadron). Photographer: Sgt C. KRONFELD.



SWPA-SigC-45-13093

March 1, 1945

Palawan Island: Dormitory interior showing pallets upon which 150 American soldiers, sailors and Marines slept in the American prisoner of war stockade in Puerto Princessa.



SWPA-SigC-45-13096

March 1, 1945

Front view of American prisoner of war camp at Puerto Princesa, Palawan Island where 150 American prisoners of war were burned alive on December 14, 1944, by the Japanese.



SWPA-SigC-45-13848

20 March 1945

(Atrocity)--Through study of bones and teeth, U.S. Officers and Medical Corpsmen are attempting to identify the more than one hundred American military prisoners of war, captured on Bataan and Corregidor, and burned alive by the Japanese at a POW Camp, (Puerto Princesa, Palawan Island, P.I.), 14 Dec 1944. Picture shows GI's taking a break during excavation of charred remains, which will be properly protected and given military funeral and full honors. Photographer: Lt. Rothberg



SWPA-SigC-45-13850

20 March 1945

(Atrocity)--Through study of bones and teeth, U.S. Officers and Medical Corpsmen are attempting to identify the more than one hundred American military prisoners of war, captured at Bataan and Corregidor, and burned alive by the Japanese at a POW Camp (Puerto Princesa, Palawan Island, P.I.), 14 Dec 1944. Picture shows former air raid shelters in which were found the charred remains. After examination for possible identification, the remains will be buried and given military funeral and full honors. Photographer: Lt. Rothberg.



SWPA-SigC-45-13849

20 March 1945

(Atrocity)--Through study of bones and teeth, U.S. Officers and Medical Corpsmen are attempting to identify the more than one hundred American military prisoners of war, captured at Bataan and Corregidor, and burned alive by the Japanese at a POW Camp, (Puerto Princesa, Palawan Island, P.I.), 14 Dec 1944. Picture shows Medics excavating charred remains, which will be given military funeral and full honors, after examination for possible identification. Photographer: Lt. Rothberg.



SWPA-SigC-45-13854

20 March 1945

(Atrocity)--Through study of bones and teeth, U. S. Officers and Medical Corpsmen are attempting to identify the more than one hundred American military prisoners of war, captured at Bataan and Corregidor, and burned alive by the Japanese at a POW Camp, (Puerto Princesa, Palawan Island, P.I.), 14 Dec 1944. Picture shows Medic examining skull for possible identification through teeth. Charred remains will be properly protected, awaiting military funeral and full honors later.

Photographer: Lt. Rothberg



SWPA-SigC-45-13851

20 March 1945

(Atrocity)--Through study of bones and teeth, U. S. Officers and Medical Corpsmen are attempting to identify the more than one hundred American military prisoners of war, captured at Bataan and Corregidor, and burned alive by the Japanese at a POW Camp, (Puerto Princesa, Palawan Island, P.I.), 14 Dec 1944. Picture shows Medic examining charred bones for possible identification. Remains will be properly protected, awaiting military funeral and full honors later.

Photographer: Lt. Rothberg.



SWPA-SigC-45-13852

20 March 1945

(Atrocity)--Through study of bones and teeth, U.S. Officers and Medical Corpsmen are attempting to identify the more than one hundred American military prisoners of war, captured at Bataan and Corregidor, and burned alive by the Japanese at a POW Camp, (Puerto Princesa, Palawan Island, P.I.), 14 Dec 1944. Picture shows Medics examining charred remains for possible identification. Remains will be properly protected and given military funeral and full honors. Photographer: Lt. Rothberg.



SWPA-SigC-45-13853

20 March 1945

(Atrocity)--Through study of bones and teeth, U. S. Officers and Medical Corpsmen are attempting to identify the more than one hundred American military prisoners of war, captured at Bataan and Corregidor, and burned alive by the Japanese at a POW Camp, (Puerto Princesa, Palawan Island, P.I.), 14 Dec 1944. Picture shows Medic examining skull for possible identification by means of the teeth. Charred remains will be properly protected and given military funeral and full honors. Photographer: Lt. Rothberg.



SWPA-SigC-45-13845

20 March 1945

(Atrocity)--Through study of bones and teeth, U.S. Officers and Medical Corpsmen are attempting to identify the more than one hundred American military prisoners of war, captured at Bataan and Corregidor, and burned alive by the Japanese at a POW Camp, (Puerto Princesa, Palawan Island, P.I.), 14 Dec 1944. Picture shows graves in which were interned the charred remains after being given military funeral and full honors. Photographer: Lt. Rothberg.



SWPA-SigC-45-13847

20 March 1945

(Atrocity)--Through study of bones and teeth, U. S. Officers and Medical Corpsmen are attempting to identify the more than one hundred American military prisoners of war, captured at Bataan and Corregidor, and burned alive by the Japanese at a POW Camp, (Puerto Princesa, Palawan Island, P.I.), 14 Dec 1944. Picture shows charred remains being interned in grave and will be given military funeral and full honors. Photographer: Lt Rothberg.



SWPA-SigG-45-13846

20 March 1945

(Atrocity)--Through study of bones and teeth, U.S. Officers and Medical Corpsmen are attempting to identify the more than one hundred American military prisoners of war, captured at Bataan and Corregidor, and burned alive by the Japanese at a POW Camp, (Puerto Princesa, Palawan Island, P.I.), 14 Dec 1944. Picture shows graves for internment of charred remains, which will be given military funeral and full honors. Photographer: Lt. Rothberg.

PREFACE

The attached affidavits by competent ecclesiastical, civilian and military witnesses represent only a fragment of the mounting volume of available evidence bearing on the wholesale destruction of Manila, in February 1945.

Reliable evidence based on interrogation of Prisoners of War, signal personnel and captured documents reveal the staggering fact that the sack of Manila and its attendant horrors are not the act of a crazed garrison in a last-ditch, berserk defense but the coldly planned purpose of the Japanese High Command. The fateful order that put this City to death emanated directly from Tokyo. The fragments of this dreadful mosaic fall into a macabre pattern of inescapable fate, soon to envelop an entire City and its population who have tolerated the Japanese patiently for four years.

The relentless logic of events and the cruel duplicity of the enemy are reflected in the sequence of guerrilla reports from Manila and captured Japanese orders;

Nov. 20 - "...Rumors that Nips are planning to make Manila an open city.

Dec. 1 - ...Laurel is striving to have military installations removed from Manila for safety of civilians. In an interview with General Yamashita, Laurel stressed the fact that Manila was indefensible and would only cause heavy loss of civilian lives.

Dec. 5 - ...In conference with Aquino, Yamashita admitted the indefensibility of Manila but when asked why Manila was not declared an open city right away, Yamashita replied that it would reflect on reputation of Nip forces; however, plans were being drafted for open city possibility.

Dec. 10 - ...Confirms that Yamashita flew to Tokyo.

Dec. 20 - ...Yamashita back in Manila.

Dec. 21 - ...Philippine Government transferred to Baguio. General Yamashita and President Laurel en route to Baguio City.

Jan. 1 - ...Land mines three miles from shore from Pier 7 to Las Pinas, Rizal. Nips bore holes in walls for sniping in prone position. Evacuations in Luneta for mines. Entrenchments along Dewey Boulevard of reinforced concrete. Military Police in City continue reign of terror.

Jan. 4 - ...Ayala, Quezon and Jones Bridges closed to traffic. All main bridges across the Pasig River are prepared by Nips for destruction.

Jan. 14 - ...Barricades are constructed along main thoroughfares in the City. All street intersections with pillboxes, fox holes. Defensive preparation of civilian homes..."

It is easy to read between the lines: The puppet President makes a futile attempt to save the Capital City. Yamashita holds out a vague promise, then departs for Tokyo where he receives orders to destroy the City. On return, he immediately transfers his Headquarters and the Laurel Government to Baguio, to keep the grim truth from the impotent Quisling. From that date, accelerated defense preparations forecast the doom of the City.

Operations orders, of that period, are relentlessly specific:

Feb. 3 - Manila Defense Force Order No. 43:
"The South, Central and North Force must destroy factories, warehouses and other installations... The demolition of such installations within the city limits will be carried out secretly, for the time being, so that such actions will not disturb the tranquility of the civil population nor be useful by the enemy for counter-propaganda... Special orders will be issued for the destruction of the water system and electrical installations... As large a quantity as possible of aviation gasoline and bombs will be transported from the storage areas to suitable places within the City and to the vicinity of various key points and will be made use of ..."

Feb. 8 - "...in case the situation becomes absolutely hopeless, each unit will continue to fight to the last man. Thereafter the wounded and sick must commit suicide..."

Feb. 10 - "...Target: Sto Tomas University (where U.S. internees were still quartered!) 0830: Commence firing. Aiming point is the uppermost right stone building or the Taiwan Transport Corporation. Range: 3400. Lieut. Ainouchi went up to be O. P. First round burst five miles to left. Aim to the right and fire two rounds. They hit at the base of the building. White smoke is seen. Thereafter we fire fifty to sixty rounds continuously..."

Feb. 13 - "...the city has fallen into hand to hand fighting since this morning... This unit will make preparations for an all-out suicide attack. Every man will attack until he achieves a glorious death. Not even one man must become a prisoner... wounded will be made to commit suicide..."

Feb. 7 - Diary entry: Akatsuki Force: "150 guerrillas were disposed of tonight. I personally stabbed and killed 10.

Feb. 8 - Guarded over 1,164 guerrillas which were newly brought in today.

Feb. 9 - Burned 1,000 guerrillas to death tonight.

Feb. 10 - Guarded approximately 1,000 guerrillas.

Feb. 13 - Enemy tanks are lurking in the vicinity of Banzai Bridge. Our attack preparation has been completed. I am now on guard duty at Guerrilla Internment Camp. While I was on duty, approximately 10 guerrillas tried to escape. They were stabbed to death. At 1600 all guerrillas were burned to death..."

Feb. 13 - Bn Order, 1200 hrs:

1. The 1st Bn, because of the enemy mortar fire, is defending the Pago Station in a bitter fight to the last man. The enemy has broken through our key position in the vicinity of the Tobacco Company.

2. The reserve strength of the 4th and 5th Cos (including reinforcements from the Okada Unit) are disclosed in the vicinity of the Daitoa Road. The men are prepared for the enemy attack from the eastern front.

3. All road key points east of the Daitoa Road must be secured.

4. If the enemy infiltrates, be careful not to lose the opportunity of demolishing and burning buildings.

5. When Filipinos are to be killed, they must be gathered into one place and disposed of with the consideration that ammunition and man power must not be used to excess. Because the disposal of dead bodies is a troublesome task, they should be gathered into houses which are scheduled to be burned or demolished. They should also be thrown into the river.

Feb. 13 - Kobayashi Group Order:

1. The Americans who have penetrated into Manila have about 1,000 Artillery troops, and there are several thousand Filipino guerrillas. Even women and children have become guerrillas.

2. All people on the battle-field with the exception of Japanese military personnel, Japanese civilians, and Special Construction Units (Ganaps) will be put to death. Houses --- (Order breaks off here.)

The Western mind cannot grasp the realities of this awful crime. One must grope into the shadows of History to find a parallel. Ghengis Khan, the Mongol Horde blazing a trail of utter destruction. This is the same breed -- Ghengis Khan in Kimono!

The evil spirit who unleashed these fiends, whose vicious terror was enormously magnified by a cold military efficiency, is found in Tokyo.

Even General Yamashita wavered and flew to Tokyo to get his orders.

Thereafter, like pressing an electric button, the order for execution was broadcast from Tokyo on January 28th and repeated on February 4th.

The direct responsibility for this crime rests with the Japanese High Command and the Government of Japan, represented by the Emperor, while the people of Japan itself cannot ultimately escape the awful weight of moral participation and moral guilt.

REPORT ON
THE DESTRUCTION OF MANILA
AND
JAPANESE ATROCITIES
February 1945

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Statement by Father Tomas Tascon, Father Provincial, Dominican Order, losses suffered by the Spanish Community; a list of churches destroyed; list of priests and members of the religious congregations killed.
2. Statement by Father Cosgrave, Superior, Redemptorists Fathers, in connection with the LaSalle College Massacre.
3. Statements by Fathers Belarmino de Celis, Agustinian, Mariano Montero, Franciscan, Manuel Diez Canseco, Agustinian, and Joaquin Garcia Sanchez, Franciscan, re atrocities by the Japanese in Fort Santiago and Intramuros.
4. Statement by Modesto Farolan, Acting Manager of the Philippine Red Cross, re Japanese atrocity against the Philippine Red Cross.
5. Report of atrocities at Fort Santiago, Intramuros, City of Manila, prepared by Headquarters, 129th Infantry.
6. Extracts from captured enemy documents; a diary entry recording the death of 1,000 civilians by burning; a battalion order of instructions for the disposal of civilians by burning; an order instructing that all people on the battlefield, with the exception of Japanese military personnel, are to be killed.
7. Statement by Carolina Coruna re Japanese atrocities committed by the Japanese in Intramuros.
8. Report in connection with 49 mutilated bodies found on the corner of Juan Luna and Mariones Streets, Manila, P.I.
9. Statement by Dr. Walter K. Frankel in connection with the massacre of sixteen persons at Pax Court, Pasay, Manila, P.I.
10. Statement by Major David V. Binkley re atrocities committed by the Japanese forces within the City of Manila.
11. Atrocity report in connection with several group cases of atrocities committed by the Japanese upon civilians in the Manila area.
12. Report in connection with the murder of five women, two men and a baby, involving the family of Bartoleme Pons, a Spaniard.
13. Report in connection with the murder of Eugene Andreevitz Kremleff, a Russian citizen.
14. Medical affidavits in connection with atrocities on various civilians in the area of Guadalupe, Manila, P.I.



SWPA-Sig C-45-13155 4 Mar 1945 - Ruins and destruction rubble of the Legislative Building, (Manila, Luzon, P.I.) Photo taken from the building across the street. Manning the 30 cal. gun for occasional stray snipers is Pfc Anthony Newsom, Prestonburg, Ky., (145th Inf. Reg't., Co. K, 37th Div.) Photographer: T/4 Harry Young



SWPA-Sig C-45-13194 1 Mar 1945 - Damaged building east of (Port Commerce Building) Area to be used for storage. (Manila, Luzon, P.I.) Photographer: DiPaola

SWPA-SIGC-45-20521



SWPA-Sig C-45-20521 24 Feb 1945 - Entrance to (Fort Santiago) in the (Intramuros, the Walled City of Manila, Luzon, P.I.) after our shelling. Photographer: Skwarlo

SWPA-SIGC-45-13153



SWPA-Sig C-45-13153 4 Mar 1945 (Letran Catholic College) showing part of the battered wall which surrounds (Intramuros, Manila, Luzon, P.I.) Photographer: T/4 Harry Young

Brief: Case 1

- (a) Statement by Father TOMAS TASCON, Father Provincial, Dominican Order, enumerating losses suffered by the Spanish Community.
- (b) List of churches destroyed in the retirement of the Japanese during February, 1945.
- (c) List of priests and members of the religious congregations killed during the month of February, 1945.

PROVINCIAL DE DOMINICOS
P. O. Box 159 - Manila, P. I.

LOSSES SUFFERED BY THE SPANISH COMMUNITY

I. CHURCHES, CONVENTS, and RELIGIOUS HOUSES.

More than 90 percent of the Spanish convents, churches and religious houses have been destroyed by the Japanese, notwithstanding there being no military objectives at all in these places.

On December 27 and 28, 1941, after Manila had been declared an open city, the Japanese bombed and destroyed the magnificent Convent and Church of Santo Domingo and its library (11 bombs). On the same days, they also destroyed all of the old part of San Juan de Letran College (9 bombs) and Santa Catalina College. These buildings all belonged to the Dominican Order, and it is estimated that in these alone the Order suffered a loss that is conservatively estimated at P5,356,458 (pre-war prices). Santa Rosa College, belonging to the Sisters of Charity was also destroyed on these two days.

In the first three weeks of February, 1945, commencing with the liberation of the Santo Tomas Camp, the Japanese began to burn and destroy systematically the churches, convents, and charitable institutions of Intramuros, which constitute the most sacred, historic properties in Intramuros were burned and destroyed: 1) the Pontifical University of Santo Tomas of Manila (the greatest Catholic university in the Orient and the oldest under the American flag; the Alma Mater of Rizal, Quezon, Osmena, and the greater part of the prominent men of the Philippines. 2) the Convent and Church of St. Francis; 3) the Convent and Church of St. Nicholas, Recollect Fathers; 4) the Convent and Church of Lourdes, Capuchin Fathers; 5) the St. Agustin Convent; and 6) Santa Isabel College. The following institutions of Spanish foundation were also destroyed: 1) the Cathedral of Manila; 2) the Archbishop's Palace; 3) San Juan de Dios Hospital; 4) St. Ignatius' Church and the residence of the Jesuit Fathers; 5) The Ateneo (in Intramuros) of the Jesuit Fathers; 6) St. Paul's Hospital; and 7) the Santa Clara Convent and Church.

St. Agustin Church was not destroyed due to the solidity of its construction - thick stone walls - however, only the actual church itself stands. The new part of San Juan de Letran College, of the Dominican fathers, even though considerable damaged by shelling still stands.

This havoc, caused by sheer wantonness and for no good military reason, has left the greater part of Intramuros in ruins. The religious, artistic, and cultural monuments (the libraries of all these institutions have been burned) that made of Intramuros a miniature Rome in the Far East have been obliterated.

Outside of Intramuros the following Spanish institutions belonging to Sisters of Charity, were destroyed: 1) the beautiful Church of San Marcelino and the adjoining residence of the Paulist fathers; 2) the Hospicio de San Jose; 3) the Looban Asylum; in Looban there were more than a thousand refugees, mostly women and children when the Japanese fired the convent. It has been impossible to determine how many Spaniards were killed. 4) Concordia College; In this house there were more than 2,000 refugees, including babies, orphans and foundlings, sick people and the insane who had been transferred from the Hospicio de San Jose. On firing the building, the Japanese closed the doors, with chains and surrounded it with machine guns in order to prevent anyone from leaving the premises alive. It was extremely difficult to identify the bodies after the fire.

II. CONSULATE, COMMERCIAL HOUSES, AND RESIDENCES.

The Spanish Consulate, 622 Colorado St., was destroyed, even though the Spanish flag was prominently displayed. More than 50 people, some of them Spaniards, were burned alive in the Shelter of the Consulate or killed with bayonets in the garden. Among these being members of the following families: Aguilera, Berlanga, and Apadalejo. It was possible to identify only 15 of the bodies.

The Casino Espanol and library was similarly burned and destroyed. The House of the Auxilio Social and Patronato Escolar Espanol, the Central Office and buildings of the Tabacalera were almost completely destroyed. La Yebana suffered a like fate. Almost all the Spanish properties in the districts of Malate, Ermita, and Paco were destroyed by fire and shelling. It can be estimated that Spanish property losses in the city of Manila amount to 90 percent.

We do not as yet have complete data from the provinces, but the losses do not seem to be as great as in Manila. Nevertheless, on the first of February, 1945, just prior to the liberation of Manila, the Japanese dynamited the sugar central "el Real", Calamba, belonging to the Dominican fathers. Then on the 24th of the same month after the occupation of the town by the Americans, they dynamited the Central Office. This same town of Calamba (native town of Rizal), was completely burned, including the Church, and 5,000 men, women and children were killed. Five Dominicans, who after being tied and about to be killed were miraculously saved, can bear witness to this: Fr. Excelso Garcia, Fr. Aniceto Castanon, Fr. Alfredo Panizo, Brother Mariano Alda and Brother Julio Colino.

III. PERSONAL LOSSES OF THE SPANISH COMMUNITY.

In Intramuros the greater part of the Spanish religious men were conducted by the military police to Fort Santiago, then to the St. Agustin Church, and finally to two shelters in front of the Cathedral. They were penned into these shelters, then hand grenades were thrown in amongst them, the entrances then being covered with gasoline drums and earth -- literally burying them alive. Out of 13 Agustinian fathers only 3 have been miraculously saved. In the same manner 9 Franciscan fathers, the 6 Capuchin fathers, and the 6 Recollect fathers of Intramuros were killed. In all there were 34 Spanish fathers killed in Intramuros, as the few survivors can testify. These are: father Manuel Diaz Canseco, Father Provincial of the Agustians; Father Belarmino de Celis, Agustinian; Father Joaquin Garcia, Franciscan; and Brother Jose Ma. Manajabacas, Franciscan.

Only one of the Spanish religious women, a Sister of Charity was killed. However, a number of women, some of whom were Spanish, were conducted to the Cathedral and to the Agustinian Church where at the hands of the Japanese military, some even being violated and a number killed.

Outside of Intramuros the following were killed: 1) 15 of the Paulist Fathers were assassinated - including the Father Visitor, Father Tejada, and the Parish Priest of the San Marcelino Church, Father Fernandez. 2) 3 Capuchin fathers died in Singalong. Several Spanish families were killed in the massacre in La Salle College, - the Vazquez Prada family and members of many others.

In all the hospitals of Manila one finds Spanish wounded. It can be truthfully said that the Spanish colony has suffered, more than any other since the Japanese blamed the influence that the Spaniards had on the Filipinos for the non-cooperation of the latter. The military revenged itself, killed men, women, and children, without distinction. Particular cruelty was shown to the religious of Intramuros, to which the few surviving fathers are competent witnesses.

SUMMARY.

After this disaster many families of the Spanish colony find themselves in extreme need. They are without homes, money, food or the means of procuring these things. They are anxiously awaiting a repatriation ship, and hope that the Spanish government will lose no time in sending them relief of some nature.

I. CHURCHES, CONVENTS, and RELIGIOUS HOUSES:

- A. In 1941 - Spanish Institutions
 1. Convent and Church of Santo Domingo and Library
 2. San Juan de Letran College - Old Building
 3. Santa Catalina College
 4. Santa Rosa College
- B. In February, 1945
 - 1) In Intramuros - Spanish Institutions
 1. Pontifical University of Santo Tomas of Manila
 2. Convent and Church of St. Francis
 3. Convent and Church of St. Nicholas, Recollect Fathers.
 4. Convent and Church of Lourdes, Capuchin fathers
 5. St. Agustin Convent
 6. Santa Isabel College
 - 2) Outside of Intramuros - Spanish Institutions
 1. Church of San Marcelino and adjoining residence, Fathers.
 2. Hospicio de San Jose, Sisters of Charity
 3. Looban Asylum Sisters of Charity
 4. Concordia College, Sisters of Charity
 - 3) In Intramuros - Institutions, of Spanish Foundation
 1. Cathedral of Manila
 2. Archbishop's Palace
 3. San Juan de Dios Hospital
 4. St. Ignatius' Church and the residence of the Jesuit fathers.
 5. Ateneo, Jesuit Fathers.
 6. St. Paul's Hospital
 7. Santa Clara Convent and Church

II. CONSULATE, COMMERCIAL HOUSES, and RESIDENCES.

- A. Spanish Consulate, 622 Colorado St.
 1. Casino Espanol and Library, Taft Ave. and San Luis
 2. House of the Auxilio Social, 914 Isaac Peral
 3. Patronato Escolar Espanol, 537 Perez
- B. Commercial Houses
 1. La Tabacalera
 2. La Yebana
 3. Sugar Central "El Real", Calamba, Laguna
- C. Residences
 1. Almost all

III. PERSONAL LOSSES OF THE SPANISH COMMUNITY.

- A. Dead
 1. 172 Civil
 2. 54 Religious
- B. Wounded
 1. 300 seriously wounded
 2. Many slightly wounded - almost all, in fact.

Manila, March 3rd 1945

/s/ Fr. Tomas Tascon, O. P.
Provincial.

MEMORANDUM

IGLESIAS DESTRUIDAS EN LA CANALLESCA RETIRADA DE LOS JAPONESES
(FEBRERO, 1945)Al Norte de la Ciudad:

Iglesias Parroquiales:

Iglesia y Convento de Tondo
Iglesia y Convento de Sta. Cruz
Convento de Quiapo
Iglesia y Convento de Sampaloc

Iglesias Conventuales y Capillas:

Iglesia y Convento V.O.T. de Sampaloc
Capilla de San Roque (Par. del Espiritu Santo)
Infant Jesus Academy (Tondo)
St. Paul's Novitiate (New Manila)
Seminario Menor de S. Carlos (Mandaloyong)
(Desmantelado)

Al Sur de la Ciudad:

Iglesias Parroquiales:

Iglesia y Convento de la Catedral (Intramuros)
Iglesia y Convento de San Vicente de Paul
Iglesia y Convento de la Ermita
Iglesia y Convento de Malate
Iglesia y Convento de Paco
Iglesia y Convento de la Dolorosa (Pasay)

Iglesias Conventuales y Capillas:

Iglesia de San Nicolas (PP. Recoletos) y su convento
Iglesia de San Francisco y su convento
Iglesia de Lourdes (PP. Capuchinos y su convento)
Iglesia de la V.O.T. de San Francisco y su Convento
(Intramuros)
Convento de San Agustin
Iglesia y Convento de San Ignacio
Capilla del Hospital de San Juan de Dios
Capilla del Palacio Arzobispal
Capilla y Colegio de Sta. Isabel
Capilla y Hospital de St. Paul
Capilla y Universidad de Sto. Tomas
Capilla y Colegio del Ateneo de Manila
Capilla y Colegio de La Asuncion
Capilla y Colegio de La Concordia
Capilla y Asilo de Looban
Capilla y Colegio de Sta. Escolastica
Capilla del Hospicio de San Jose
Capilla de la Inmaculada (S. Pancrancio)
Capilla y Colegio de St. Paul

PRIESTS AND MEMBERS OF THE RELIGIOUS CONGREGATIONS KILLED DURING THE
MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1945

A. IN THE WALLED CITY (Intramuros)

a) Agustinian Fathers:

Rev. Gaudencio Castrillo
Rev. Victor Gonzales, Gen Procurator
Rev. Benigno Cano
Rev. Francisco Alvarado
Rev. Melocio Polo
Rev. Emetrio Pinedo
Rev. Carlos Castrillo
Rev. David Casares 8

Bro. Simeon Del Canto
Bro. Juan Cavans
Bro. Alipio Franco
Bro. Manuel Bartolome
Bro. Victor Anoba (novice)
Bro. Pantaleon Omillo (novice) 6 14

b) Franciscan Fathers:

V. Rev. Salvador Rodriguez, Provincial
Superior, 61
V. Rev. Justo Villalba, Conventual
Superior, 61
Rev. Julio Martin, Gen Procurator, 46
Rev. Doroteo de la Vega, 45
Rev. Mariano Perez, 72
Rev. Guillermo Ibeas, 65
Rev. Manuel Moral, 43 7

Bro. Tomas Lopez, 71
Bro. Isaac Cano, 45
Bro. Pedro (Tertiary) 3 10

c) Recollect Fathers:

V. Rev. Mariano Alegris, Prior
Rev. Hernan Piurrun
Rev. Pedro Crespo
Rev. Ildefonso Vesga 4

Bro. Juan Machicote
Bro. Angel Pena 2 6

d) Capuchin Fathers:

V. Rev. Florencia de Lozaun, Superior
Rev. Feliz de Iguzquiza
Rev. Ladislao de Gusturia 3

Bro. Elzeano de Zarasate
Bro. Valentin de Azqueitia
Bro. Ignacio de Vidania 3 6

e) Missionaries of the Sacred Heart:

Rev. Cornelio van Russel 1 1

f) St. Vicent de Paul Fathers:

Rev. Geronimo Pampiega 1 1

Total c.f. 38

Total b. r. 38

G) Secular Priests:

Rev. Gabriel Salaberria
Rev. Pio Savai

Total in Intramuros

2

40

B. OTHER DISTRICTS

a) St. Vincent de Paul Fathers:

a') In San Marcelino

V. Rev. Jose Tejada, Superior
V. Rev. Jose Fernandez, Parish
Priest
Rev. Jose Aquirreche
Rev. Adolio Soto
Rev. Luis Egeda

6

Bro. Antolin Marcos
Bro. Gegerio Indurain
Bro. Valentin Santidrian
Bro. Alejandro Garcia

4

b') In Madaloyong

Rev. Prisciano Gonzalez
Rev. Crispin Gomez

2

Bro. Rafael Martinez

1

c') In the Assumption College:

Rev. Elias Gonzalez

1

14

b) Jesuit Fathers:

a') Ateneo de Manila

Rev. Ricardo Pimentel
Rev. Francisco Lopez

2

b') Santo Tomas Camp

Rev. David Daly

1

3

c) Columbian Fathers: (Malate Church)

Rev. Patrick Kelly, Parish Priest
Rev. John Henaghan
Rev. John Lalor
Rev. Peter Fallon
Rev. Joseph Monaghan

5

5

d) Capuchin Fathers: (Singalong Church)

Rev. Raymundo de Lavian
Rev. Pacifico de Villatuerta
Rev. Santiago de Ibiricu

3

3

e) Secular Priests:

Rev. Froilan Lim (Paco Church)

1

Total in other districts

26

26

Total c. f.

66

Total b. f.

66

f) De La Salle Brother: (reported by Bro. John
American de La Salle
Brother)

Bro. Xavier, Superior	Irish	54
Bro. J. Leo	"	65
Bro. Lucian	Czecho-	
	Slovak	31
Bro. Janos de la Salle	Hungarian	27
Bro. Maximin	German	32
Bro. Lambert	"	34
Bro. Arcadius	"	32
Bro. Bartwin	"	30
Bro. F. Joannes	"	23
Bro. Lambert	"	26
Bro. Romnald	"	30
Bro. Wilhelm	"	30
Bro. Victor	"	28
Bro. Gerfried	"	34
Bro. Paul	"	40
Bro. Adolf	"	31

16TOTAL OF PRIESTS AND BROTHERS KILLED 82



SWPA-Sig C-45-13145 4 Mar 1945 Street Scene and
Ruins of the (Franciscan Church in the Walled
City of Manila, Luzon, P.I.) Photographer: T/4
Harry Young



SWPA-Sig C-45-13137 4 March 1945 - Scene of the
(Agriculture Building) ruins with the (Central
Student Church) in the foreground (Manila, Luzon,
P.I.) Photographer: T/4 Harry Young



SWPA-Sig C-45-13141 4 Mar 1945 - Interior view of (San Augustin Cathedral) in the (Walled City, Manila, Luzon, P.I.) Photographer: T/4 Harry Young



SWPA-Sig C-45-13143 4 Mar 1945 - An American soldier looks at the huge shell hole in the (San Augustin Cathedral) in the Walled City, Manila, Luzon, P.I.) Photographer: T/4 Harry Young

Brief: Case 2

Statement of Father COSGRAVE, Superior Redemptorists Fathers, in connection with the La Salle College Massacre.

On February 12, 1945, approximately 70 people living in the southern wing of the college, including about 30 women and children, 15 brothers, 1 priest, and the adult men of four families, as well as 12 servants, were attacked by one Japanese officer and 20 soldiers. Victims were shot, attacked with sabers and bayoneted. Many who did not die during the attack later bled to death. The attackers attempted to violate young girls who were dying. Chapel was later set afire, and only approximately 10 of the victims survived.

LA SALLE COLLEGE MASSACRE

March 6, 1945

FATHER COSGRAVE
SUPERIOR, REDEMPTRISTS FATHERS.

I went to live in La Salle College at the invitation of Brother Xavier the Director, when the Japanese had taken possession of my house and church in Baclaran. While there I acted as Chaplain.

About Christmas time 4 other families moved into La Salle College since their houses had been occupied. These were: Vasquez Prada, Judge Carlos, Dr. Cojuanco, and the family of Dr. Cojuanco's brother-in-law. In all there were about 70 people living in the southern wing of the college. This number was composed of about 30 women and children, 15 brothers, 1 priest, the grown men of these four families, and about 12 men servants.

On Wednesday, February 7, 1945, the Japanese came and took away Brother Xavier and Judge Carlos. They were taken to the Japanese Club, which was later burned, but further than this we have no knowledge of what happened to them. The Japanese forbade us to leave the building, even to go into the garden, or to look out of the windows. With the Japanese who came to take Brother Xavier away was a well-dressed Filipino who seemed to be showing them the way.

One afternoon, towards evening, before the massacre, about 150 Japanese soldiers accompanied by 40 Macapilis rested for about an hour in front of La Salle College and then went south towards Vito Cruz.

On Monday, February 12, 1945, just after we had eaten lunch, all of us being gathered for protection from the shelling at the foot of the staircase in the southern wing, a Japanese officer accompanied by twenty soldiers entered and took away two of the house boys. Five minutes later they returned these two boys whom they had badly wounded. Then the officer gave a command and at once the soldiers began bayoneting all of us, men, women, and children, alike. Some of the brothers managed to escape up the stairs. These were pursued by the soldiers, some being bayoneted at the entrance to the chapel, others within the chapel itself. If anyone resisted the officer would fire at them with his pistol, or cut at them with his sword. As a result, several, in addition to bayonet wounds, were otherwise badly wounded. Some of the children were only 2 or 3 years old, a few were even younger, these were given the same treatment as their elders. When the Japanese had finished bayoneting us they pulled and dragged the bodies and threw them in a heap at the foot of the stairs, the dead being thrown upon the living. Not many were killed outright by the bayoneting, a few died within one or two hours, the rest slowly bled to death.

The soldiers retired and we heard them later drinking outside. Frequently during the afternoon they came in to watch us and laughed and mocked at the sufferings of their victims.

We remained there all the afternoon, during which time many who had been wounded had already died. About ten o'clock that evening after much exertion I was able to extricate myself from the dead bodies that were lying on top of me, and to anoint some who were dying. I was more than edified to see the patience and the resignation with which these people met their death, some of them actually praying to God to forgive those who had put them to death. After this I was able to crawl upstairs to the chapel. There I saw more dead bodies.

I remained that night behind the high altar of the chapel. In the morning I was joined by 8 or 10 others who were still living. There remained until Thursday afternoon, February 15, 1945, being unable to leave the building. Sometimes the Japanese soldiers came in and tried to violate the young girls who were actually dying.

On Monday night and the following night I could hear men in the Chapel, and I know that they were Tagalogs because I could hear speaking and could see them moving about. Next morning when I was able to crawl down to the entrance to the chapel I saw the brother's bags, that they had already packed, open and could see that there was much missing from them, as well as from other places in the room. All my own things, including sacred vessels, were taken. The La Salle sacred vessels were also stolen.

During the time between Monday and Friday the building was under shell-fire. At the same time the Japanese were blasting different parts of the house and especially under the chapel.

On Wednesday evening they set fire to the chapel, but fortunately the chapel being of concrete only the furniture of the galleries and the books, etc., that were stored there were burned. The smoke was suffocating and caused us great inconvenience. Brother Hubert, who was dying, succeeded in putting out the fire at the entrance to the chapel.

On Thursday afternoon, February 15, about 4:30 the Americans captured the College and took the few survivors out. These were: the son of Senator Aquino, the son of Cojuanco, Lourdes Cojuanco, the 2 Carlos girls, Carlos Jr. - about 3, Brother Anthony, and 3 or 4 servants. I was taken to the Doctors Clinic in Santa Ana for treatment, later to the Santa Ana Convent, and finally to Santo Tomas Camp.

/s/ (Rev.) Francis J. Cosgrave, CSSR.

Brief: Case 3

Statements by Fathers BELARMINO DE CELIS, Agustinian, MARIANO MONTERO, Franciscan, MANUEL DIEZ CANSECO, Agustinian, and JOAQUIN GARCIA SANCHEZ, Franciscan, in connection with atrocities committed by the Japanese in Fort Santiago, Intramuros.

(a) Statement by Father BELARMINO DE CELIS:

On 8 February 1945, all men in Intramuros were taken to Fort Santiago. Spaniards were separated from Filipinos, and the latter, over 1,000, were not heard of again, with the exception of rumors that they had been burned alive. Victim entered shelter with over 80 other people, into which the Japanese threw grenades, closed all entrances, and shot everyone attempting to escape. Victim believes he was the only one successful in escaping.

(b) Statement of Father MARIANO MONTERO:

The Japanese did not allow anyone to leave the convent, kept a sentinel at the door and spies within the convent. On 25 February, upon the approach of U.S. Forces, the church, convent and all its houses began to burn. Hand grenades were thrown into the midst of the inmates. Some of the mothers were wounded and killed by the shrapnel.

(c) Statement of Father MANUEL DIEZ CANSECO:

On 7 February, the Fathers were assembled from the convents and placed under guard. On 8 February, they were taken to Fort Santiago, together with about 2,000 Filipinos (men). Fathers were separated from the Filipinos and returned to San Agustin; are uncertain what happened to the Filipinos but were told that the Japanese had covered them with gasoline and burned them alive. On 18 February, Fathers and men in the convent who were Spaniards and some Filipino mestizos, were taken out. Victim did not accompany them due to a wound, but was told that they were taken to Fort Santiago, put into a shelter and bombs thrown in upon them. They all died with the exception of Father BELARMINO, 2 Franciscans, and 3 civilians.

(d) Statement of Father JOAQUIN GARCIA SANCHEZ:

Priests were taken to Fort Santiago, along with an estimated 3,000 civilians. Spanish priests and Spaniards were separated from the Filipinos; the latter were believed to have been killed. While imprisoned, Japanese threw hand grenades in upon them. Victim, along with others, was eventually returned to San Agustin.

March 9, 1945

Story of events in Intramuros during the month of February, 1945.

Father Belarmino de Celis,
Agustinian

At the beginning of the month of February all the people of Intramuros were brought together in San Agustin, including all the priests of Intramuros. The priests were held in custody in a room on the lower floor and guarded. We were about 42, among us Franciscans, Recollects, Capuchins and Agustinians. There we were kept until February 8th even though the others in the convent were allowed liberty of movement within the compound. We were not allowed to leave our room unless with the guards.

On February 8th all the men were taken to Fort Santiago. The Spaniards were separated from the Filipinos. We have not heard again from the Filipinos, though we afterwards learned that they were burned alive. The Filipinos were over a 1,000 in number. Under the pretext of making an investigation they took away all the belongings of the Spaniards. This investigation was never made - and as we filed into the prison they stole everything we had - our papers, our watches - everything.

We were imprisoned there for three days, almost without eating because the food that came to us from San Agustin - and it was quite a good deal - went to our jailers. We were in a very small room. We could not all lie down at the same time, so that not everyone was able to sleep and some had to remain standing. The floor was earth, and as we were not allowed to leave the room for any reason whatsoever we were forced to make use of the floor as a toilet. We were there three days - February 8, 9, and 10. On the 10th in the afternoon we were returned to San Agustin. There were several Filipino fathers but they had had to go with the other Filipinos when we were separated and we have not heard from them again.

In San Agustin we were sufficiently well treated, even though we suffered many inconveniences - but in comparison with the past we were well-treated - until the 18th of February. On this day all the men were gathered together in the church. There were some Filipinos among us but they were Japanese spies. Even when we were in Fort Santiago the Japanese sent 5 or 6 Filipino spies - that is what they told us themselves - among us. We tried to hide our feelings, even though there was always somebody who on account of his temperament or of pain could not contain himself any longer and would break into a tirade against the Japanese. To continue, we were all gathered together in the church, the Japanese official assured the Filipina women in the convent that they were taking us only for 2 or 3 days and that nothing bad was going to happen to us, and that they should be calm.

We were taken without being allowed to eat supper to a bodega in front of Santa Clara Convent. On arriving there the officer repeated his promise that it would only be a matter of 2 or 3 days and that nothing would happen to us. There we were kept for 24 hours without eating or drinking. On February 19 about 8:00 or 9:00 at night an officer and several Japanese soldiers arrived and we were ordered out into the street to form ranks, but they only wanted to take Spaniards. The officer repeated this several times "Only the Spaniards!" We were told that that building was not safe enough and that we were to be taken to one that was even safer. We were made to form ranks and were marched to General Luna Street. When we least expected it the Japanese formed a circle around us and more soldiers came out from Fort Santiago to help them. We were forced to enter the shelters in front of the Cathedral, on the corner of General Lunan and Aduana.

I was one of the first to enter into a very large shelter. It was long and very well made with stout timbers. We must have been about 125 in all, including about 37 priests, and I believe that in the shelter in which I entered there must have been over 80 people, because on entering I heard the soldier at

the door say that at least 80 people had to enter that shelter. In the other shelter we are sure that there were 17 people of whom between 8 and 10 were saved. Perhaps there was another shelter where the others were placed, but we have had no news of it.

I remained near the door. In about half an hour the Japanese began to throw hand grenades in through the air-holes. We were all very badly wounded. We ran to the door in order to go out and a group of soldiers received us with a volley, and what is worse they laughed while they were doing it. Quite a number of us remained dead at the door. They the Japanese covered the entrance with large stones, gasoline barrels full of earth, and earth. They covered the entrance as best they could so that we were being suffocated. We were, in reality, buried alive.

After this, at night, decided not to die there by suffocation and to get out in any manner, I went up to the door and scratched and dug in the earth until I was able to open a hold to breathe through. In the morning of the 20th a Japanese appeared, he saw the hole I had made. He fired several shots through the hole and then covered it up again. After awhile I opened it again, and no more Japanese came by that way. I was lying on top of the corpses of my companions. Each bomb that fell near by caused the earth from the roof of the shelter to cave in a little, so that we were all covered partially with dirt and stones. The groans of the dying could still be heard, the dead bodies were already decomposing - there were already worms in them - and a swarm of flies covered everything. I had a companion near me, Mr. Rocamora, who was the only one I was able to save. I lay there near the hold until the 21st at night. Then I made the hole bigger and spent the night outside in the grass. My companion was still unable to go out because he was too stout and I had not been able to make the hold big enough yet. In addition his wounds were worse than mine - even though one side of my body was covered with wounds from a grenade that had burst at my side. When day came the shelling was very intense, and since I was convinced that the Americans would come in that day I decided to wait for them in the shelter. The whole day passed, and seeing that they had not yet come, on the night of the 22nd being unable any longer to resist my hunger and thirst I decided to leave the shelter and to escape. Then I told my companion and helped to get out, making the hole bigger. We left there at about midnight, by the light of the moon.

The shelling was very intense. We could no longer stay on our feet, and we covered the greater part of the distance rolling on the ground and resting every little while. We were wounded more than we had already been because the street was covered with barbed wire, stones, and other sharp objects which cut us. In this manner we arrived at the Bureau of Justice. There we rested awhile and there I left my companion, because he could go no further, and went to the Santa Clara Convent to ask the nuns for something to eat or drink. Dragging myself through the rubble I arrived at the Convent and found the nuns by the door with bundles of clothing. I asked them for water or food but they told me they had nothing and that they were ready to go to San Agustin by order of the Japanese. They asked me how it was possible that the soldier who was on guard had not seen me and begged me to go before he came back so as not to be killed. I returned then to the Bureau to advise my companion that I had not been able to find anything. After resting awhile I told him that I was going to search the building for something to eat, because I knew that there had been a Japanese garrison stationed there and I thought that perhaps they might have left something - no matter how miserable. I did not find food, but I found water in the tank of a toilet - the tank was completely full. As I drank I could feel my strength coming back. I don't know how much I drank but it was a great deal. After drinking I did not forget my companion. I looked around for something to carry water in and I found a can, I filled it and took it to him. He too was able to revive a little, and then I brought him to the place where the water supply was. There we lay until the following day. At about 5:00 or 6:00 of the morning of the 23rd of February the firing became intense - machine-gun bursts and rifle fire - so much so that it seemed a very inferno. In our building windows, walls and doors fell in, and we were not able to breathe on account of the dust. We learned afterwards

that the Americans were crossing the river then. Since the shelling was so intense and we were so near the door I told my companion that I was going to a safer place. He was no longer able to move. I went to a very safe place. After two hours the firing ceased completely and there was complete quiet.

About 9:00 in the morning from where I was lying hidden I heard a voice in the passage-way saying "Come on, Come out;" and I knew by the voice and the manner of speaking that it was truly an American - and my joy knew no bounds. I came out as well as I was able, leaning on the walls - and the Americans picked me up. Then was when I saw three nuns from the Santa Clara Convent that were also giving themselves up to the Americans. I found out later that they had not been able to go to San Agustin. Their convent was a mass of ruins, from which some had not been able to escape. In the ruins some had died, and there were many wounded lying among the rubble.

I told them where to find my companion and they brought him out in a stretcher. I went supported on both sides by two soldiers. I was transferred to the "Port Terminal" which is the next building, and there they gave me water, chocolate, and opened a can of meat. I told them about the two shelters but they were not able to go there since the Japanese were still in the Cathedral and the battle continued, and it was impossible for the soldiers to take time off. The Americans took me to the other side of the river to an office where my wounds were treated. The news of what had happened to me travelled so fast that the General himself came to see me. I do not know who he is because at the time I was hardly able to see. I was transferred from there to San Lazaro, and from there I was taken to the Santo Tomas Camp Hospital by the Dominican fathers who made the necessary arrangements.

I do not believe that anyone else was able to save himself from the shelter in which I spent 70 hours, because a few days later I returned to the spot and found everything just as I had left it and there were no signs of anyone else having been able to escape.

Father Belarmino de Celis, Agustinian
Father Belarmino de Celis, Agustinian

March 9, 1945

Story of events in the Santa Clara Convent and in Intramuros during the month of February 1945.

Father Mariano Montero, Franciscan
Chaplain, Convent of Santa Clara

(Father Montero, as he was still very weak, could not give a detailed report but referred us to Father Pedro Hierro who is at present in Sampaloc with the Franciscan sisters, and to Father Barrulo, also a Franciscan. He regretted that he could not sign this statement as he must have permission from his superior to sign any document whatsoever.)

Those in the convent and the Santa Clara sisters were saved by a Japanese captain who made the statement that we could do them no harm. Therefore, we were left in the church as in a sanctuary. The servants and civilians there were living in front of the convent were taken away, leaving only those that were in the convent with us.

The Japanese did not allow anyone to leave the convent and always kept a sentinel at the door and spies within the convent. We remained there until the 23rd when there was a battle and the Americans took the "Terminal". The church, the convent, and all its houses began to burn. Hand grenades and shrapnel were falling around us. Finally, from our refuge in a hole we saw the Americans and came out signalling them, and there they picked us up.

Some of the mothers were wounded by shrapnel and there were several killed by the same cause.

Father Mariano Montero, Franciscan

March 9, 1945

Story of events in the Saint Agustin Convent and in Intramuros during the month of February, 1945.

Father Manuel Diez Canseco
Superior, Agustinian Fathers in Philippine

On the 7th of February, 1945, all the fathers were brought together in the dining room of the convent and we were made to abandon all our rooms. On the following day the fathers from the Franciscan convent, the Recoletos convent, and the Capuchin convent were brought in and placed in the dining room with us. We were held there with two guards at the door. We could not leave the room without their permission.

On February 8th we were all taken to Fort Santiago, two days later we were returned to San Agustin. The Filipino men were also taken at the same time, there were about 2,000 of these, but we were separated and we are not sure of what happened to them. We have been told, however, that the Japanese covered them with gasoline and burned them alive.

On our departure from Fort Santiago we found all of Intramuros burned, our Convent as well. We had to live downstairs in the Sacristy. During this time there was a continuous bombardment.

Then, on the 18th, in the afternoon, all the fathers and men in the convent who were spaniards and some filipino mestizos were taken out. I did not go with them as I was severely wounded in the foot as the result of a bomb, so they left me in San Agustin with a few others. It is said that these people were taken to Fort Santiago and were there until Monday afternoon. On Monday they were put in shelters near the Cathedral and bombs were thrown in on them. They all died there with the exception of Father Belarmino an Agustinian, two Franciscans and three civilians.

I remained in the Convent as I was wounded in the foot, caused by one of those grenades which the Japanese were continually throwing from above.

On the 23rd we were ordered to leave San Agustin and I left leaning on a boy and a woman until we reached Magallanes street where the American soldiers picked me up and took me to Letran, and from there in a car to the Metropolitan theatre where my wounds were treated. Then I was taken to the hospital in Pandacan where I remained in a corridor until 10:00 that night because there was no available space. Then I was moved to San Lazaro where I remained for a night and a day, and then I was brought here to the Santo Tomas Camp.

In the Church of San Agustin and in the cloisters quite a number of people died as a cause of the shrapnel. Also, according to what I have heard that quite a large number of people were taken to a hospital who said they had been wounded coming from the San Agustin Church. In addition, when we were all together in Fort Santiago some projectiles - either bombs or grenades were thrown at us - and their shrapnel wounded several very slightly.

Father Manuel Diez Canseco
Father Manuel Diez Canseco
Superior, Agustinian Fathers in
Philippines

(It is to be noted bombs and grenades are used interchangeably.)

March 9, 1945

Story of events in the San Agustin Convent and in Intramuros during the month of February 1945.

Father Joaquin Garcia Sanchez,
Franciscan
(38 yrs of age, Spanish)

We were in our convent at the beginning of the month of February and were allowed to stay there until the 6th. At 9:00 in the morning of the 6th we were taken to the patio of the convent together with all the servants and civilians that had taken refuge there, under pretext that we were going to be registered. All of us went down, the fathers included, and once there we were lined up on Solana Street, the men on one sidewalk and the women on the opposite once. We must have been there about an hour when a Japanese came to see if we had any fire-arms. There were none. After this happened we remained there, 10:00 o'clock passed, 11:00, etc. until 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon. We were out on the sidewalk and were only allowed to move to another part of the street when the sun became too hot. All this time we were given nothing to eat. At 3:30 we were ordered to get up and to walk towards Calle Real, and we were taken to San Agustin where all the civilian element was concentrated. All the patios were full of people, women, men, and children.

Once there we asked them what they intended to do with us and we were told that we were going to be concentrated there and that we would be isolated. Then we begged them to permit us to return to our convent to gather up our clothes, and they said that we might and that we had half an hour to do it in. So we returned, gathered up the most essential things, and with out suitcases returned to San Agustin, where we were looked up in a small room with all the rest of the priests. (about 36 in all.)

On the 6th our imprisonment began. There we slept together with the rest of the fathers. The following morning, the 7th, at about 8:00 or 9:00 in the morning orders were given that all the males should go downstairs - without distinction of nationalities. We all went down to the patio and there we formed ranks of four deep and saw that we were being taken to Fort Santiago. It seemed to me that there were about 3000 civilian Filipinos, even including boys of less than 15 years.

Once in Santiago we were made to enter a long room which was divided into three parts by gratings. On the 7th we were allowed to remain together, but about 3:00 or 4:00 in the afternoon they separated the spanish priests and the Spaniards from the Filipinos. We were taken to another room and the Filipinos were taken out. I believe that the Filipinos were killed. We were there for three days and during this time they fed us only once and gave us so little to drink that we were dying of thirst.

The first day at night the Japanese threw 4 hand grenades or some sort of projectile, which fell in a room in front of where we were, but the shrapnel broke through the door and hit against the walls. There were some wounded, but only slightly. On seeing this we became convinced that they wished to kill us and prepared for death. The Japanese told us that it was the Americans crossing the river who were firing upon us because we made too much noise. That night we begged them to take us out of there but they said that they could not because San Agustin was burned. We suffered until the next day and then through a Spaniard who could speak Japanese very well we begged for an interview with one of the chiefs. Finally one of the chiefs came up and we asked him to take us out of there and return us to San Agustin and concentrate us there. He answered "no" that it could not be and that we would have to remain there.

After the chief had left us an hour must have passed when they fired on us again with another hand grenade. But this one hit the roof and was not able to penetrate into the room. The Japanese were throwing these grenades from the top of the wall that fronts the river. Then we protested again that the Japanese opened the doors saying that whoever would run out would be fired upon by the sentinel.

On the third day they took us out of there. One of the chiefs came up and told us that we could go out between 12:00 and 2:00 in the afternoon. They told us through the interpreter that they were taking us to San Agustin and that we should not appear downcast, we should walk erect, and that the Japanese would feed us. Once outside we went through little boxes of dynamite and the Japanese told us to walk carefully. Once in San Agustin they told us not to talk about anything that had happened to us and if we did they would take us out again. For that reason we said nothing.

In San Agustin we suffered insult and injury from them. They robbed us of everything, taking it away from us at the point of a gun. One day in the middle of the morning they ordered us out into the street - all the men - and obliged us to stand in the ruins of the houses while the American planes passed overhead and they fired their anti-aircraft at them. After an hour we returned to San Agustin and found that we had been completely robbed in our absence, they had even taken a good deal of our food. Upon our return they treated us in the same manner as formerly, never leaving us in peace.

Nine days after our return from Fort Santiago, Sunday afternoon, February 18, we were ordered to go into the church - all the men even the sick ones. Among these last was myself who had been very sick with dysentery for a few days. Once in the church we were made to form ranks two deep. We were told that we were being taken out to protect us against the Americans and that it would only be a question of 3 days. I did not go because I refused on account of my illness. They insisted, but I said "no, no, no, that I was not able to go because I was sick" and finally after they deliberated amongst themselves they left me. With me also remained the Father Superior of the Agustians who had been wounded in the foot by a grenade, and also some of the Spaniards who were very sick with dysentery.

We remained in the Convent until the 22nd greatly molested by the Japanese. We suffered quite a number of losses because the Japanese would go upstairs and while the Americans were shelling would throw grenades down on us saying that they proceeded from the American fire. Among wounded and dead I would say that there were 100 victims. I believe that 10 or 12 people died on account of hunger and weakness.

On the morning of the 22nd we saw that they were entrenching themselves in the church, and that in the church windows on the General Luna side they were placing machine-guns. The civilian element took refuge on the other side of the church in the convent. We must have been there about an hour when we were told to leave, to take up that which was most necessary, and to go to Letran. We all went to the church and there first the Japanese would point out one exit and then they would close it, then another, no - not that one - this one - no - that one - they did not want to let us go. On this an officer came in and coming up to us asked us if we wanted to go out. We said yes, but that the door was shut, that he should open the door for us. They opened the church door that led out to General Luna and we filed out through it preceded by someone carrying a white flag. We went to the left and then turned in on Calle Real. Once we were in Calle Real, we heard shots and a civilian fell dead, a certain Cigieza who was

a leader for the Japanese. On seeing this we took refuge in the ruins and remained there about 5 minutes. When we saw it was clear we came out and came up with the Americans in the middle of Calle Real. We began to greet them and they answered encouraging us to come on. The first thing that they asked me was if I wanted to shave, and since I was too weak to do it myself they did it for me. When they found out that I was a priest they took me in a car to San Beda, and from there the Dominican fathers brought me to Santo Tomas Camp.

Of those that came out of the Church behind me I do not really know what happened to them because I did not look back. I have heard, however, that many fell victim to the Japanese fire.

Father Joaquin Garcia Sanchez,
Franciscan.
Father Joaquin Garcia Sanchez,
Franciscan.



SWPA-SigC-45-13170 March 2, 1945
Col. Walsh looks over entrance to cave
where the Japs had a number of priests and
Sisters. When the Americans started bombing,
the Japs threw hand grenades into the caves
killing its occupants. (Walled City, Manila,
P.I.)
Photographer Pvt Hal Winston



SWPA-SigC-45-13166 March 2, 1945
Remains of several priests in tombs at
(Aduana & General Luna Streets, Walled
City, Manila, P.I.)
Photographer Pvt Hal Winston



SWPA-SigC-45-13169 March 2, 1945
Bro. Jose Ma. Marjabacas and Col. Walsh
look at the remains of the Father Superior
of the Philippines. Trying to escape from
tomb in which held a number of priests
and Sisters, Father Superior was shot by
the Japs. (Walled City, Manila, P.I.)
Photographer Pvt Hal Winston

Brief: Case 4

Statement by MODESTO FAROLAN, Acting Manager of the Philippine Red Cross, in connection with the atrocity by the Japanese against the Philippine Red Cross.

A squad of Japanese entered the Red Cross building and proceeded to shoot and bayonet everyone found in the building, including staff doctors, patients, nurses and refugees. Attackers subsequently ransacked the supplies.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Manila, Rizal
14 February 1945

A F F I D A V I T

I, MODESTO FAROLAN, age 45, Filipino Citizen, regular residence at 201 Progress Street, Pasay District, Greater Manila, having been first duly cautioned and sworn, depose and say:

I am the Acting Manager of the Philippine Red Cross (formerly Philippine Chapter of the American Red Cross, with headquarters at the corner of General Luna and Isaac Peral Streets, Ermita (South side of the Pasig River, next to the University of the Philippine Campus).

I assumed office by designation of the Chairman of the Boards, Philippine Red Cross, Mr. Vicente Madrigal, and by Mr. Jose Paez, regular manager, when the latter, as member of the Laurel Cabinet, left with all cabinetmen under Japanese Army convoy. Mr. Paez, asked Mr. Madrigal and myself to an urgent conference at 5:00 pm on December 22, 1944 and told us of his rush departure for Baguio the following night and of the need of designating me as acting manager of the Red Cross. Mr. Madrigal and Mr. Paez agreed on the matter and I took office the following day, December 23, 1944. Since that day I have been in charge of the organization.

On Sunday, February 4, 1945, Mr. Madrigal heard that the U. S. forces had taken over Santo Tomas internment camp and the need for relief must be met by the Red Cross. We had been preparing for this for weeks but only quietly because of definite warnings by the Jap Army authorities to us never to have anything to do with the camp or with enemy aliens. As a matter of fact, at least three of our staff have been taken by Jap Military Police for alleged violations of these warnings and until now we don't know where they are.

I came to this side that day (Feb 4) to organize our staff here and to look over our new headquarters (Harris Memorial Bldg) and went back to our headquarters ready for emergency on our side of the river. This done, we began relief work for then American artillery began to shell our side of the city and the Japanese had begun burning buildings in the area. While we intended to keep our building merely as emergency first aid and hospital, our location made us the natural and only refugee place for all the people all around us whose homes were then being burned or destroyed and we became a refugee center from this day on.

From Sunday, Feb 4, to Feb 10, my staff of doctors and nurses worked continuously day and night, without letup, hardly without sleep, food, etc, and without ever leaving the place for since Tuesday the entire neighborhood was barricaded by the Japanese. Even during fire, anybody seen in the streets were shot. On Feb 10, the massacre in the Red Cross, of which the following is the complete story, came and from that day the Red Cross building was abandoned by us with death and dying and bed-ridden patients in it:

Saturday, February 10, 1945, the Philippine Red Cross, formerly Chapter of the American Red Cross, wrote the story of service to the people of besieged south Manila in red blood - blood of its own doctors and nurses, who fell victims of Japanese bullets and bayonets at six o'clock in the evening of that day, murdered in cold blood with their patients and the many refugees, mostly women and children given shelter in the Philippine Red Cross as they lost their homes in Ermita and Paco.

Suddenly Saturday afternoon, a squad of Japanese entered the Red Cross building and began to shoot and bayonet everybody they found in the building. That day we had four cases of major operation and several other bed-ridden patients. In the late afternoon, Dr. de Venecia, on duty with us as volunteer surgeon since last Monday, was preparing with an attendant two cases for operation. Miss Rosario Andaya, a nurse on volunteer duty, was out at the main corridor keeping order among the large crowd that filled the building to overflowing. As we heard the noise of rifle fire in every section of the building, Miss Andaya screamed for mercy to spare the lives of a mother and child beside her. Before we knew what had happened, a soldier with drawn bayonet, came into the temporary

CONFIDENTIAL

combined office-operating room-ward where I was and all of us, Dr. de Venecia who had just walked over to my corner, Misses Loveriza and De Paz, both nurses, and an attendant, ducked into our respective corners for safety. First Dr. de Venecia was shot twice while he was seated at his corner. The soldier next aimed at the refugee-attendant beside him but missed her but she threw herself over to where the two nurses had covered themselves with mattresses beside my desk and saw two patients crouching underneath. One bayonet thrust finished each one of them. Another bayonet thrust at the girl that had escaped the first shot aimed at her caught Miss de Paz underneath. Looking underneath my desk, the soldier fired two shots at me but the bullets passed between my feet, scraping the bottom rim of my red cross steel helmet. After me, he shot a young mother with her 10-day baby, along with her mother, the baby's grandmother, Mrs. Juan P. Juan, who was nursing the two. That, for all the Japanese knew, finished all of us in the room without exception.

More shootings went on around the rest of the building. From where we were we could hear victims in their death agony, the shrill cries of children and the sobs of dying mothers and girls. We did not dare move. When the job was done, to the apparent satisfaction of the murderers, we hear, the pharmacy being ransacked, then some soldiers eating the meager noon meal that had been spread on our table but did not have any time to eat. About ten o'clock we dared to whisper to inquire of each other who among us about my desk were hurt. It was then I found that Miss Loveriza was safe, completely unhurt, while Miss De Paz had a bayonet thrust and was bleeding.

We agreed to try to escape as soon as we found whether we could or not. I decided to survey the lay of the ground myself. At about two o'clock I began to crawl out from beneath my desk towards the body of Mrs. Juan, so I could hide underneath her cot if any Japanese showed up. Then I moved to the next cot and the next and on to the one nearest the corridor. On my way I found both dead and alive, the latter too scared to say that they are alive or to talk to me until I told them who I was. In the corridor in front of our pharmacy room I heard Miss Andaya moaning and saying good-bye to everyone of us whom she addressed by name, one by one, and urging us to look after the others and to leave her alone as she was dying soon.

Before I crossed the space above the front stairway leading to the street, I listened and look intently if there was any Japanese sentry. There was one but fortunately he was beneath the pharmacy window, the second to the left of the main stairway. I thought it was safe enough to cross to the other side of the building towards the bodega and I crawled quickly. There, down a small stairway leading to the ladies' toilet room which had been used as shelter by ten Jewish refugees, I went over several dead bodies. One of those still alive whispered to me that he thought eight of their number had been bayoneted or shot to death. I forced open the bodega door and after a slight resistance, it was opened from behind by our watchman and only regular Red Cross helper during our 8 days of siege. He was not hurt. I asked him to lead me to the back door of the bodega and together we forced open the door. Seeing the coast clear, I went out, jumped over the wall to the next lot, that of Mr. Juan Juan, and on again to the next lot, that of Mrs. Lauritzen. I reached the house of Mrs. Lauritzen at 4:00 o'clock in the morning. I asked the people there to please wake up Mrs. Lauritzen and soon she came down. I told her my plight but although she was full of sympathy, she was shaking with fear and was hesitant as to what to do with me. She went into conference with her two Jewish employees or friends, Mr. Marzo and Mr. Friend, both Russians, and the former told me, after Mrs. Lauritzen had left, that I could remain in the room where we were for the night. After half an hour, however, Friend came along, took my hand firmly and began leading me downstairs in the dark telling me to go out and hide in the yard as neither I nor they in the house would be safe from the Japanese if I were found in the building. I pleaded to be kept in the ceiling or some other room, for after all, the building is an immense one, being both an embroidery factory and laundry and bodegas, but Friend would not let me go until he had led me to the door where he left me. Fortunately, the watchman, Lazaro Estaville, is my own province-mate, being from Batac, Iloco Norte. After I had explained my difficulty, he calmed me down and promised to guard me. As I had not taken anything yet, he gave me some Japanese biscuits and he told me to try to sleep while he stood guard beside me.

As dawn came, Estaville led me to the gate leading to Calle Gonzales, a short crooked street emptying at one end into General Luna and the other into San Marcelino. As he opened the gate, two girls and a boy were shot by the sentry as they were trying to cross to the other side. These I found out were among our refugees who had had time to escape. During the day, Sunday, I was uneasy lest the Japanese come to inspect Mrs. Lauritzen's and Juan's lots for us. I moved from one corner of the yard to

C O N F I D E N T I A L

another, among shelters and trees and piles of Japanese things that have been there and left behind when the army evacuated the building the week before. There were four cases of dynamite in the piles. I crouched and covered wherever there was something to hide me. That night the buildings beyond Lauritzen's began to burn after intense artillery fire from the American batteries and I way my opportunity to escape from the place. I watched the fire, but before it got to the house of the late Mr. Leonardo Khan, next to Lauritzen's it stopped and my heart sank in despair. Towards morning, the shells worked on both Lauritzen's and Khan's and soon both were burning fiercely. I left the place and went to hide in the ruins of the house of Geronimo de los Reyes, on the other side of General Luna, hoping to find an exit there, but all day that part of the city was the object to another intense and unceasing barrage that wrecked everything in its wake. The Japanese sentries, however, closed every possible means of escape, machine gunning everyone they saw in the open. In the afternoon I returned to the lot of Lauritzen where there was more space that was already familiar to me. Besides, I had learned by now that two of our nurses, Miss Loveriza and Miss De Paz, the latter with a bayonet thrust, could finally escape from the Red Cross building and in the evening I finally met them in one of the shelters.

Piecing together all the information we then had, we knew that there must be about thirty or some sixty refugees and patients that had been killed. Among those who were bayoneted but could escape were Corazon Noble, the film artist, who had come as a refugee to the Red Cross with Tita Duran, another artist, together with the family of Juan Juan, a German Jew by the name of Fritz and Corazon Abellers. Undoubtedly there are others who were hurt but unheard of. The bodies of the victims are still in the Red Cross building. Corazon Noble was twice later badly hit by shell shrapnel, and Tita Duran once.

What could be the explanation for this beastly murder of innocent victims? None, that I know of, except the following incidents may throw much light into the case:

Friday morning, a squad of marines came to the building and asked us why we were taking in many people. We explained that the people whose houses around us were being demolished by fire had no home to go to and we could not refuse them as the Red Cross building was the only building intact in the entire neighborhood. The fact that only three shells out of hundreds of thousands fired into that part of the city for an entire week every minute of the day and night had hit the Red Cross building, testified to the accuracy of American fire. Thus it was the only safe place for refuge. The soldiers told us not to take any more people, particularly if they were not Filipinos or Germans and that nobody should be allowed to go upstairs. Not contented, they examined all the baggage of the refugees but apparently they did not find anything they did not like and they left. In the afternoon another squad came and wanted to use the backyard for a place in which to make those infernal mechanical noises that are undoubtedly intended and do serve to confuse the American artillery about the number of pieces they (the Japanese) had, and also about the accuracy of American fire. All around us such devices were being used extensively and systematically and, to the uninitiated, even to me until I had finally observed what they are and what they were for, they sounded like artillery volleys. To prevent them from using our place without telling them from using our place without telling them of my objections, I stayed where the soldiers were. As evening came, they ordered me to get out of the yard and to close the doors and windows leading to it. I obeyed but still kept watching them somehow. That night they did not do anything except sleep. The following morning they went about the rooms, on my invitation, to see what was going on - operations every minute of the day, patients suffering, children and women lying down, pasted to the walls during a barrage, etc. They did not seem to see anything wrong, at least they did not say anything until they saw me ordering Marcelino, our boy, and a volunteer attendant to replace two Red Cross flags that had just then been blown down, and they told me not to replace them, saying in broken English, "No good, Americans very bad, no like Red Cross. Japanese okay." They also saw on my desk a temporary cardboard sign I had just finished writing with the text, "Philippine Red Cross Emergency Hospital - Operations Going On - Refugee House - Women and Children." They told me not to hang it, one soldier throwing it off my desk at the point of his bayonet.

When they came back at six in the evening, what had been back of all their interest became clear: they did not like the Red Cross; they did not want us there, hence, the cold blooded murder, without warning of any kind and without asking my explanations or as to who was who.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

The first Filipino scout of the advance columns of the American forces already in Paco cemetery reached the Red Cross area at seven this morning, Feb 13, and warned everybody to clear the area for street fighting. We began to run and I, as I did my part calling everybody to leave, saw two nurses going towards the Red Cross building, perhaps to see Miss Andaya for the last time. I could not reach them anymore, amidst the confusion. (This morning, February 14, I learned from one of our refugees who has just come across the river, that Miss Andaya is still alive and that she and the two nurses were in the Red Cross building when the Americans finally occupied the place yesterday). As we began to run, the Japanese came from the Isaac Peral side and began machine-gunning us indiscriminately. How many perished in this fresh massacre, I cannot tell. I hope the surviving nurses have been able to escape.

I ran to Paco cemetery, asked the American soldiers - still few at that time - exchanging fire with Japanese, where we could go. They told us to follow the telephone line on the ground running through streets and private yards opened by them and this led us to Pandacan. There a continuous stream of soldiers kept coming while refugees from the other side of the city were running pell-mell towards this north side of the Pasig.

The staff of the Philippine Red Cross in our headquarters had been on continuous duty without a minute letup since Sunday, nobody having ever gone home to change clothes or to visit their families. Coming to establish our North of the Pasig headquarters last Sunday, Feb 4, I was barely able to reach headquarters to organize another staff to come across and take care of the work on this side. This staff left headquarters Monday morning, ready to render service as per instructions previously issued to them, although developments came much faster than had been expected. Since then, we had barely slept; nobody has had a decent dinner, merely taking snatches on occasions when our work permitted.

Our volunteer nurse, Miss Andaya, wrote the story of our service with her blood. She had the Red Cross spirit to the last, giving her all to the public she served, denying herself every comfort and relief even in her dying hours. The spirit herself of the late Dr. de Venecia was exactly the same. Our only boy and regular aid, breathed his last yesterday after being hit by a shell in the shoulder, after escaping the slaughter to which we were all subjected. He, too, died with the spirit of service on his lips.

/s/ Modesto Farolen

/t/ MODESTOR FAROLEN

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 14th Day of February 1945.

/s/ Howard J. Duven.

/t/ HOWARD J. DUVEN
2nd Lt., Inf.
27th CIC Detachment

Witnessed: George B. Spencer
1st Lt. MI
214th CIC Det.

Rudolph A. Woods,
37th CIC Det.



SWPA-SigC-45-13130 March 2, 1945
 Mrs. Agido Upson-Japs attempted to assault her and when she refused to submit they bayoneted her through the breasts. She lives at (Pasig, Rizal and photo was taken at Psychopathic Hospital, Manila, P.I.)
 Photographer Pvt Hal Winston



SWPA-SigC-45-13131 March 2, 1945
 Carmen Yulo & Rosario Yulo-They were shot at close range with others in the group as they clung in a mass, after leaving their burning house. The Japs pumped bullets into the pile of bodies, and being on the bottom, these two lived. Photo taken in the (San Lazaro Hospital, Manila, P.I.)
 Photographer Pvt Hal Winston



SWPA-SigC-45-13176 March 2, 1945
 Jose Cabanero-He was acting superintendent
 of Postal Savings Bank, (Manila, P.I.) and
 was struck twice with a saber and kicked
 in the face while trying to escape from
 being machine-gunned. Photo taken in the
 (San Lazaro Hospital, Manila, P.I.)
 Photographer Pvt Hal Winston



SWPA-SigC-45-13175 March 2, 1945
 Lourdes Ental-She was taken to the fields
 to be assaulted and upon refusing to sub-
 mit, hand grenades were thrown at her. One
 exploded in front of her face as she was
 lying on the ground. Photo taken in the
 (San Lazaro Hospital, Manila, P.I.)
 Photographer Pvt Hal Winston



SWPA-SigC-45-13174 March 2, 1945
Pedro Herrera-Living in (Caloocan, Rizal,
Manila, P.I.), he was caught running from
house on fire and machine-gunned by the
Japanese. Photo taken in the (San Lazaro
Hospital, Manila, P.I.)
Photographer Pvt Hal Winston

Brief: Case 5

Report of atrocities at Fort Santiago, Intramuros, City of Manila, as prepared by Headquarters, 129th Infantry.

On 23 February, 1945, some 50 bodies were discovered in a 12' by 15' room in Fort Santiago. The bodies were bullet-riddled, with hands tied behind backs; were shrunk, giving the appearance of malnutrition and near-starvation. Eight bodies in the same condition were found in another room.

Another group of approximately 30 bodies was found in a stone building, 15' by 15'. A civilian survivor stated that the victims had been killed by the Japanese and placed in the building.

On 24 February, a third group of from 250 to 300 bodies was found in a dungeon. No wounds were apparent and every indication pointed to the fact that the victims had died from starvation.

HEADQUARTERS 129th INFANTRY
APO 37

1 March 1945

REPORT OF ATROCITIES AT
FORT SANTIAGO, INTRAMUROS, CITY OF MANILA

Incriminating evidence of atrocities against civilians in the needless, cruel and wanton destruction of human life by Japanese military personnel was found by soldiers of the 129th Infantry Regiment during an attack at Fort Santiago, in the "Walled City," Manila, and the area immediately south of the Fort on 23 and 24 February 1945.

The evidence of these atrocities, resulting in the death of an estimated 400 persons, was found in three different places in the Fort Santiago sector. Death from all appearances had been caused by shooting, bayoneting or starvation. At least one of the bodies was that of a woman. Majority of the bodies inspected were those of males of from 25 to 45 years of age.

First group to be found on 23 February 1945 consisted of some 50 bodies in a room approximately 12 by 15 feet in size. Eyewitness accounts by the Regimental Commander, Regimental S-2, a Battalion Commander, a Platoon Leader, the squad leader who first entered the building and an enlisted man of the S-2 section tell of finding these bullet-riddled bodies with hands tied behind them.

The bodies were in rows making a pile two or three feet high. They were piled in layers. Inspection by the above officers and men revealed that the major portion of them had their hands tied behind them. From three to six bullet holes, appearing to be a shot group from an automatic weapon, could be seen in their backs.

The bodies were face down, all of them with their heads towards the wall opposite the only door opening into the room. It was the consensus of opinion that they had been dead four or five days. Bodies were in such a position that a group could have been faced against the wall and shot in the back. Then another group would be brought in to suffer a like fate and falling over the bodies of the first group. Another theory advanced was that they could have been killed elsewhere and then brought into the building.

The bodies were shrunken, giving evidence of malnutrition and near-starvation. They were unquestionably Oriental in origin and witnesses believed they were Filipinos and Chinese. Some of their heads were shaved.

In addition to the large group there was a group of eight bodies in another room in the building. Some of these were partially covered with rubble but those that could be seen had their hands tied and carried bullet holes in their backs. Three bodies were strewn outside the entrance of the small room.

On the same date a second group of bodies, numbering approximately 30, was found in a small stone building 15 feet square on the inside. Three bodies laying outside the building, were noted by American soldiers as they advanced within a few yards of the "west wall," south of Fort Santiago. Soldiers were unable to make minute inspection because they were forced to withdraw temporarily because of intense heat from nearby burning buildings.

Upon returning after the fires abated, a platoon sergeant discovered three live civilians. They were Filipinos, one able to speak English.

the other two were in such a weakened physical condition they could barely talk. The sergeant found the men hiding in holes adjacent to the west wall of the walled city.

The platoon sergeant upon discovering the civilians and assuring himself they were Filipinos asked the one that spoke English if there were any Japanese in the vicinity. The Filipino replied in the negative and then pointed out the group of bodies in the stone building that heretofore had not been seen by the American soldiers. The sergeant viewed the bodies briefly but made no detailed inspection.

Information obtained by the sergeant from his questioning of the Filipinos consisted of the following:

The Filipino was one of a group of 58 tubercular patients who had been removed from a hospital and brought to this general area. The women had been separated from the men but the civilian did not know what happened to them. The men had been moved to the area about two weeks previously and left without food or water. The Filipino said he had been eating bugs and drinking his own urine for two weeks.

Whenever one of the civilians asked for water or food he was bayoneted by the Japanese and the bodies placed in the building. This was what happened to the survivor being questioned by the sergeant. He carried a bayonet wound in his back, inflicted, he said, when he asked a Japanese soldier for water. He did not know why he was not killed. He stated the people were all Filipinos and had taken refuge from American artillery fire in numerous holes nearby.

A battalion aid man who acted as one of the litter bearers for the two weakest civilians had occasion to inspect the wound in the English-speaking Filipino's back. The aid man said that the wound appeared to have been made with a sharp object, undoubtedly a bayonet. He did not talk to the wounded Filipino.

On the morning of 24 February 1945 the 129th Infantry Regimental Surgeon, an officer obtaining information relative to the reported atrocities and two photographers inspected the scene.

Because of the burned or seared condition of the bodies it was difficult to determine if they had been subjected to bayonet, bullet or shell fragment wounds. Wounds could be seen in the chest and stomach regions of some of the bodies. It was difficult to estimate the length of time the people had been dead. Some appeared to have died more recently than others which would tend to bear out the statement of the Filipino that the civilians had been killed at intervals or whenever they asked for food or water.

Bodies in the rear part of the building appeared to have been placed side by side, some face up and some face down. Near the doorway the bodies were in a state of disorder, being strewn over each other in a grotesque mass. It appeared the bodies nearer the only doorway had been thrown inside indiscriminately and hurriedly.

On 24 February 1945 after the Fort Santiago sector had been secured a third group of bodies was found. Circumstantial evidence pointing to the cause of death indicated possibly a more diabolical, cruel and premeditated atrocity than the others.

The strong stench of decaying flesh led to the discovery of this third group of bodies. The Regimental S-2, accompanied by several enlisted men, sought to determine the source of this stench. Probing around in the rubble of the dungeoned area of Fort Santiago they came upon two closed steel doors approximately seven feet high. These double doors were bolted from the outside by means of an ancient-type one inch steel bar that was operated by means of a long steel handle. It had been further secured by wrapping lengths of wire so that the bolt could not be moved.

Concussion from shelling probably sprung the two steel doors so it was with difficulty that the bolt or latch could be opened. It was finally accomplished and the doors opened. Men opening the doors said the stench struck them in the face as if it had physical force.

This scene of atrocity was viewed by the Regimental Commander, Regimental S-2, a Battalion Commander, a Company Commander, photographer and numerous other persons. Photographs were taken and as close an inspection as circumstances permitted was made. The following are facts determined by the inspection and composite opinions of those viewing the scene.

The dungeon consisted of stone walls approximately five feet thick. In addition to the double steel doors there was a window-like opening approximately five feet wide and three feet high. It was boarded up on the inside and rocks had been piled on the outside closing off the window from air or light. Two feet behind the steel doors was a steel-bar door also closed. Other steel bars could be made out in the darkness of the interior dividing the 15 by 18 foot room into compartment. So thick were the walls and roof the room had not been disturbed on the inside by artillery or bombing. One officer who went part way into the room during policing-up details estimated its size as 15 by 20 feet. He stated the iron bars formed a cage-like cell inside the room.

More than 30 bodies could be counted near the entrance. Those near the entrance were piled up and from their positions indicated they had died in an instinctive effort to go toward the only exit despite the fact it was closed. The officer who entered the room estimated it contained between 250 and 300 bodies. One body was next to the barred door, another was in a semi-sitting position with the others nearby in disorder. Other bodies could be distinguished further to the rear of the room. One of the bodies near the door was that of a woman.

The bodies were of Orientals. Head hair on two of the bodies near the doorway was long and similar to that of Filipinos.

It was impossible to detect any wounds on the partially decomposed bodies. There was every indication that they had died of starvation.

A point of similarity surrounding all of these atrocities was the appearance of starvation or acute malnutrition. The calculated cruelty of the Japanese military personnel in the Walled City can be illustrated by this malnutrition for considerable rice and grain was found by American troops throughout the buildings previously occupied by the Japanese. Japanese prisoners were in excellent physical shape and in many cases full mess kits of good food (by Japanese standards) were found on the bodies of dead enemy soldiers. It becomes apparent that an acute lack of food did not lead to the atrocities but the possibility of a foreseen shortage of food might have motivated the mass killings.

In the opinion of a medical officer the people inside the dungeon probably had been dead for seven to 10 days. The starved and dehydrated condition of the people before death would account for the fact their bodies were not bloated and swelled when found.

The dungeon's thick ceiling and walls made it bombproof and the inside was not disturbed by any American military activity. This fact lends additional weight to the theory the people were locked in the dungeon and left to starve.

/s/ J. D. Frederick
J. D. FREDERICK,
Colonel, 129th Infantry
Commanding

1 March 1945

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Colonel J. D. Frederick, O-12453, Commanding officer, 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

On 23 February 1945 I personally observed an act of atrocity committed by Japanese military personnel at Fort Santiago, in the "Walled City" Manila.

The evidence of the atrocity consisted of 40 or 50 bullet-riddled bodies piled in a small room of a large stone building. Hands of the bodies had been tied together. The bodies were face down with heads toward the wall opposite the only entrance to the room. They were in two or three layers and bullet holes could be seen in the backs of the uppermost layer. Other wounds in some of the corpses could possibly have been inflicted with a knife or bayonet.

Some of the bodies had their heads completely or partially shaved and others appeared to be naturally bald. They were unquestionably Orientals and I judge they were Filipinos and Chinese. I believe all were males.

From the position of the bodies it is possible that the people were brought into the room, faced toward the back wall and then shot, their bodies falling across those of the original group.

In another part of the building there were eight bodies partially covered with debris. The hands of these bodies were also tied and they apparently suffered the same fate as those in the larger room.

The next day (24 February 1945) I investigated another scene of atrocity that was committed in a dungeon of Fort Santiago. Discovery of the atrocity was made when a double steel door, that had been bolted and wired shut from the outside, was forced open. A second door of steel bars was behind the double steel door and behind this was a group of bodies. I would estimate 30 bodies were near the entrance and their positions indicated they had made a struggle to escape. There were other bodies further back in the darkness of the cell. Apparently they had been placed in the cell and left to starve. There were both men and women in this group.

The total number of bodies could not have been ascertained because they were piled several deep. The stench from the bodies was virtually unbearable and the stage of decomposition precluded detailed investigation.

/s/ J. D. Frederick,
Colonel, 129th Infantry
Commanding.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 2d day of March 1945, at Headquarters 129th Infantry, APO 3&, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.

/s/ Curtis R. Craver,
Capt., 129th Inf.,
Adjutant

AFFIDAVIT

1 March 1945

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Major Frank J. Middelberg, O-454898. Headquarters 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

As S-2 of the 129th Infantry Regiment I had occasion to investigate two reports of atrocities against Filipino and Chinese civilians at Fort Santiago, "Walled City," Manila, on 23 and 24 February 1945.

The first investigation was of 40 or 50 bodies in a small room (about 12 by 15 feet in size) of a large stone building. These bodies were piled on each other, in some places four deep. All of their feet pointed to the only doorway into the room. I noted that their hands were tied behind their backs.

Bullet holes could be seen in the back of the bodies on the top row or layer. It appeared to me that all of the bodies were males and I judge they were from 25 to 40 years of age. Eight other bodies were beneath some rubble in another larger room of the building. These bodies, likewise, had their hands tied and had been shot in the back. A few other bodies were scattered near the doorway of the smaller room.

On 24 February 1945 I was investigating to determine the source of a strong stench of decaying flesh. In my search I found a double steel door, bolted and wired shut. Some enlisted men assisting me but the wire to the bolt-like latch. The two doors were sprung inward slightly, probably as a result of artillery fire - but with considerable effort we were able to slide the bolt and kick open the door. As the doors opened, a terrific stench seemed to blast from the inside. Behind the steel doors were steel bars and behind these were bodies of Orientals. The room was dark, but I could see about 30 bodies next to the open door. The first body discernable, I believe, was that of a woman. The others I could see appeared to be males.

I could see no evidence of wounds on the bodies. It appeared as if some of the occupants had been struggling to get free and collapsed against the bars of the steel cage.

Due to the thickness of the walls and ceiling the inside of the dungeon had not been disturbed by artillery or bombing. All indications pointed to the fact that the civilians were locked in the cell, the steel door bolted and left to die of starvation.

/s/ Frank J. Middelberg
FRANK J. MIDDELBERG
Major, 129th Infantry
S-2

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 28th day of February 1945 at Headquarters, 129th Infantry, APO 37, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

/s/ Curtis R. Craver
CURTIS R. CRAVER
Capt., 129th Inf.
Adj.

28th February 1945

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Major Mark W. Dick, O-462216, Medical Detachment, 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

On 24 February 1945 I observed the bodies of approximately 30 individuals on the floor of a small 15 foot square building near the west wall, south of Fort Santiago, "Walled City," Manila.

The bodies had been burned and it was difficult to determine the cause of death. I noticed several bodies had wounds in their chests or backs but whether these were bullet, bayonet or shell fragment wounds I could not state.

From the condition of the bodies I would judge they had been dead four or five days. They appeared to be Filipinos or Chinese men. I did not identify any women. Their ages would vary from 25 to 40 years.

Bodies in the rear of the building seemed to have been placed in an orderly row, however, those nearest the door appeared to have been dumped there. At least four bodies were strewn around the outside of the building.

/s/ Mark W. Dick
MARK W. DICK
Major, 129th Inf.,
Regt'l Surgeon

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 28th day of February 1945
Headquarters 129th Infantry, APO 37, c/o Postmaster San Francisco,
California.

/s/ Curtis R. Craver
CURTIS R. CRAVER
Capt., 129th Inf.,
Adj.

AFFIDAVIT

1 March 1945

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Captain Raymond C. Ebert, O-1283050, Company 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

On 26 February 1945 I entered a dungeon-like room at Fort Santiago, "Walled City," Manila containing the bodies of Orientals who apparently had been locked in by the Japanese and left to die. I was making a check on the results of an attempt to burn the bodies with oil as we cleaned up the area. Only a few of the bodies near the doorway had been burned in this first effort.

Although I did not go far inside the room for a close inspection, I estimate it was 15 by 20 feet in size. In addition to about 30 bodies piled near the door, others were scattered in a similar manner throughout the room. I estimate the total number of bodies in the room to be between 250 and 300. One of the bodies near the door was that of a woman.

The room was partitioned into a cell formed by iron bars. It was almost half the size of the room. Bodies littered the floor there, too.

It appeared the people in the dungeon had been locked in and left to starve. The bodies were thin and emaciated and by the positions it appeared they had been inside the dungeon when death occurred.

/s/ Raymond C. Ebert
RAYMOND C. EBERT,
Captain, 129th Inf.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 2d day of March, 1945, at Headquarters 3d Battalion, 129th Infantry Regiment, APO 37, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

/s/ Francis S. Demir
1st Lt., 129th Inf.
Adj., 3d Battalion

AFFIDAVIT

1 March 1945

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one FRANK J. Shideler, O-348424, First Lieutenant, 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

On 24 February 1945, I was sent out on a mission to investigate and secure photographs of atrocities committed by the Japanese in the Fort Santiago, "Walled City," sector of Manila.

The first evidence I saw was a group of bodies - I estimate there were 40 - piled in a 15 foot square stone building. The bodies had been burned or seared by intense heat from fires in nearby buildings.

Wounds in the bodies could have been made by bullets, bayonets or shell fragments; however, I could not tell which. As far as I could determine the bodies were of male Orientals, probably Filipinos. In the rear of the building the corpses appeared to have been placed in a row. Near the door they were piled several deep in disarray and appeared to have been thrown into the room. At least a half dozen other bodies were strewn around the outside of the building.

At another place I observed a second atrocity. This had been committed apparently by locking people inside a dungeon, leaving them to starve. The entrance to the dungeon consisted of a double steel door that had been bolted and wired from the outside. A second door, consisting of steel bars, was immediately behind the first. This was the only entrance as a three by five foot window had been boarded up and reinforced with stones.

The dungeon appeared to me to be approximately 15 by 18 feet in size and was divided into compartments by iron bars. In the dim light bodies could be distinguished all over the floor. I counted 25 piled next to the entrance. One was laying against the iron bar door and another was in a semi-sitting position. Others were piled several deep. From the positions of their bodies I believe these people had made a last instinctive struggle for freedom. It appeared they had died of starvation.

Bodies were in bad condition and I would judge death had occurred many days previous to the American shelling of the Walled City. Shelling had not disturbed the bodies in the dungeon as its walls and ceiling were at least five feet thick.

/s/ Frank J. Shideler, O-348424
FRANK J. SHIDELER
1st Lt., 129th Infantry

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2d day of March 1945, at headquarters 129th Infantry Regiment, APO 37, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

/s/ Curtis R. Craver
CURTIS R. CRAVER
Capt., 129th Inf.,
Adjutant.

AFFIDAVIT

28 February 1945

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Frank E. Pitcek, ASN 36027760, Technical Sergeant, Company I, 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

About 1400 on 23 February 1945, as my platoon was advancing toward the "west wall" a short distance south of Fort Santiago, "Walled City", Manila, I saw the bodies of three civilians along a stone fence and near a small building. Shortly thereafter, heat from fires in larger buildings nearby forced our lines to withdraw temporarily.

At 1830 we returned to a point near the west wall and saw three men who identified themselves as Filipinos. Two of them were so weak from lack of food we carried them by litter to the aid station. They could not speak English.

The third man could speak English and was in good enough physical condition to walk back to the aid station. I asked him if there were any Japanese about and he replied there were none; however, he told me of a group of bodies in a nearby building.

We went to the building that had been burned and saw bodies littering the floor. The building was probably 15 feet square on the inside and I judge there were 30 bodies on the floor. They appeared to have been thrown into the building after death because of the piled-up position.

I did not make a close inspection of any of the bodies but could see some of them were wounded but due to the fact they had been burned or scorched I could not state whether or not these were bayonet, bullet or shell fragment wounds. They were all men that I could identify and I would judge their ages as from 25 to 40 years.

I questioned the Filipino who could speak English and this is what he told me: He was one of a group of 58 tubercular patients at a hospital who were turned out and taken to this general area where they were left behind without food or water. The men had been separated from the women and he did not know what had happened to them.

He said that he had a little rice two weeks ago and since that time had been eating bugs and drinking his own urine. The men who had asked the Japanese for food or water were shot or bayoneted and thrown into the building.

Asking him about a wound in his back, he told me that he had been bayoneted by a Japanese soldier because he asked for some water. He did not know why he had not been killed.

The Filipino said he and the other two men had been living in holes near the large west wall for four days. We found them in those holes when we returned after the fire had died down in the buildings.

/s/ Frank E. Pitcek,
FRANK E. PITCEK,
ASN36027760
Tech. Sgt., Co. I,
129th Infantry

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 28th day of February 1945, at Headquarters, Third Battalion, 129th Infantry Regiment, APO 37, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

/s/ Francis S. Demir
FRANCIS S. DEMIR
1st Lt., 129th Inf.
Adj., 3d Bn.

AFFIDAVIT

28 February 1945

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Jacob E. Klein, ASN 33142283, Hq. Company, 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

On 23 February 1945, I accompanied the Regimental S-2, 129th Infantry, on an intelligence mission inside Intramuros (Walled City), Manila.

In a stone building in the center of Fort Santiago, we came upon a room in which I estimate between 40 and 50 dead Orientals (Filipinos and Chinese) were piled on the floor. The room was approximately 15 feet wide, 12 feet deep and 8 feet high. It had no windows and the only entrance was a low door.

The dead, to the best of my knowledge, were all males. They were piled close together and were two and three high. Their hands were tied and they lay with their heads to the back wall. Many had their heads shaved high on both sides, some were completely shaved. The bodies, shriveled and bony, were at least partially clothed. They were blood-spattered and bullet-riddled and some showed signs of having been bayoneted.

Judging by the condition of the bodies, I would estimate that the time of death was approximately five days before. (18 February 1945).

/s/ Jacob E. Klein, 33142283
JACOB E. KLEIN
S/Sgt, Hq Co, 129th Inf.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 28th day of February 1945 at Headquarters 129th Infantry, APO 37, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

/s/ Curtis R. Craver
CURTIS R. CRAVER
Capt., 129th Inf.,
Adj.

AFFIDAVIT

28 February 1945

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Walter L. White, ASN 37163804, Company L, 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

As a squad leader in Company L, 129th Infantry, my mission was to take my men and investigate a stone and concrete building during an attack at Fort Santiago, "Walled City," in Manila. I entered the building early in the afternoon of 23 February 1945.

The first room I went into was about 15 by 30 feet in size. I saw eight Filipinos with their hands tied behind them. One had his hands tied to his belt. Several of them I noted had been shot in the back.

Next I entered a smaller room with walls of concrete. There was only one entrance. Here I saw 40 or 50 bodies. The bodies were face down and made a pile three feet high. The backs of the bodies I could see on the top layer had approximately a half dozen bullet wounds in them.

/s/ Walter L. White
WALTER L. WHITE, 37163804
S/Sgt, Co L, 129th Inf.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 28th day of February, 1945 at Headquarters 3d Battalion, 129th Infantry, APO 37, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

/s/ Francis S. Demir
FRANCIS S. DEMIR
1st Lt., 129th Inf.,
Adj., 3d Bn.

AFFIDAVIT

28 February 1945

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Corporal John (nmi) Tait, ASN 33142293, Medical Detachment, 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

About 1930 on 23 February 1945, I was one of the litter bearers called to a place in the sector of Company I, 129th Infantry Regiment, that was near the west wall and south of Fort Santiago in the "Walled City", of Manila.

Arriving there, we were told there were three live Filipinos, two of them in such bad physical shape they would have to be removed by litter. The third Filipino, although apparently not far from the point of starvation, seemed to be stronger.

I looked at a wound in his back on the right side, and from all appearances it was made by a sharp object. In my opinion it was made by a bayonet although I did not ask the man and he was evacuated from the aid station soon after.

/s/ John Tait, ASN 33142293
JOHN TAIT
Cpl., Med. Det., 129th Inf.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 28th Day of February 1945
at Headquarters Third Battalion, 129th Infantry Regiment, APO 37, c/o
Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

/s/ Francis S. Demir
FRANCIS S. DEMIR
1st Lt., 129th Inf.,
Adj. 3d Bn.

HEADQUARTERS 37th INFANTRY DIVISION
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
APO 37, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.

25 February 1945

AFFIDAVIT

I, Major Gilbert B. Ayres, GSC, accompanied by T/4 Steve W. Loska and T/5 John Jepson, went into the PHILIPPINE DEPARTMENT BUILDING, Ft. Santiago, Intramuros, on 24 February 1945. We entered the building through a small hole in the roof, descended crude stairs which had been partially burned away and proceeded along a short decline. At the bottom of this decline on the right hand side, was a windowless room about 20 feet square. Within this room there were estimated to be about 75 bodies in a bad state of decomposition, piled one on top of the other. Death had taken place at least one week previously. There was a powerful odor of ammonia and considerable heat was evolved from the decomposition of the bodies. Decomposition was so severe that it was impossible to determine what race or nationality the victims were or the cause of the death. The entrance to the room could be easily barricaded so that the escape would be impossible and it appeared that the victims had died in the room and met their death through thirst, suffocation or violence.

I swear that the above facts are true to my best knowledge and belief.

/s/ Gilbert B. Ayres
GILBERT B. AYRES
Major GSC

Subscribed and sworn before me this, the 26th day of February 1945
at APO 37, San Francisco, California.

/s/ Paul E. Congdon
Lt. Col, JAG
Div JA

AFFIDAVIT

25 February 1945

I, Major Gilbert B. Ayres, GSC, accompanied by T/4 Steve W. Loska and T/5 John Jepson, visited a small room in the corner of the wall at the intersection of Arzobispo and Santa Clara Streets, in Intramuros, on 24 February 1945. Within this room were about fifteen (15) bodies, apparently all male, partly decomposed. On some of the bodies, there was evidence of gun shot or shell fragment wounds. There was a considerable quantity of clothing and other personal articles strewn around the room. In addition to the bodies inside of the room, there were two bodies wrapped in blankets outside. The victims were all wearing civilian clothes.

I swear that the above stated facts are true to my best knowledge and belief.

/s/ Gilbert B. Ayres
GILBERT B. AYRES
Major, GSC

Subscribed and sworn before me, this, the 26th day of February 1945 at APO 37, San Francisco, California.

/s/ Paul E. Congdon
Lt. Col., JAG
Div JA



Report of Atrocities, Fort Santiago, Intramuros
City of Manila

View taken from doorway of dungeon-cell (reference to report paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 on page 3; and 2 and 3 on page 4). Note cage-like bars inside the room.



Report of Atrocities, Fort Santiago, Intramuros
City of Manila

Photo taken from side window of building mentioned in report in 8th paragraph page 1, all of page 2, and 1st paragraph on page 3. The view shows approximately the rear one-third of the building. Presence of a tin can (lower left) and bags of clothes (in corner near right center and at lower left) suggest the possibility that people had been living in the building and had been killed on the inside. Note canteen at lower right.

Brief: Case 6

Extracts from captured enemy documents, including a diary entry recording the death of 1,000 civilians by burning, a battalion order of instructions for the disposal of civilians by burning, and an order instructing that all people on the battlefield, with the exception of Japanese military personnel are to be killed.

CAPTURED DOCUMENTS

Notebook-diary, presumably belonging to a member of AKATSUKI 16709 Force, covering period 31 July 1944 to 21 February 1945.

Extracts:

- 7 February 1945: 150 guerrillas were disposed of tonight. I personally stabbed and killed 10.
- 8 February 1945: Guarded over 1,164 guerrillas which were newly brought in today.
- 9 February 1945: Burned 1,000 guerrillas to death tonight.
- 10 February 1945: Guarded approximately 1,000 guerrillas.
- 13 February 1945: Enemy tanks are lurking in the vicinity of BANZAI Bridge. Our attack preparation has been completed. I am now on guard duty at Guerrilla Internment Camp. While I was on duty, approximately 10 guerrillas tried to escape. They were stabbed to death. At 1600, all guerrillas were burned to death.

NOTE: Above document was captured at Manila, Luzon, by XIV Corps troops, 24 February, 1945.

DOCUMENTS CAPTURED INTRAMUROS, Manila City (Luzon), 24 February, 1945, by XIV Corps troops.

ITEM 1: Bound mimeographed and handwritten file of Manila Navy Defense Force and Southwestern Area Fleet Operation Orders, dated 23 December, 1944 to 14 February 1945, classified "Secret", presumably belonging to the OKADA Unit. Extracts:

(8 February): Battalion Order, 1200 hours:

1. The 1st Bn, because of the enemy mortar fire, is defending the PAGO Station in a bitter fight to the last man. The enemy has broken through our key position in the vicinity of the Tobacco Company.
2. The reserve strength of the 4th and 5th Cos (including reinforcements from the OKADA Unit) are disposed in the vicinity of DAITOA Road. The men are prepared for the enemy attack from the eastern front.
3. All road key points E of the Daitoa Road must be secured.
4. If the enemy infiltrates, be careful not to lose the opportunity of demolishing and burning buildings.
5. When Filipinos are to be killed, they must be gathered into one place and disposed of with the consideration that ammunition and man power must not be used to excess. Because the disposal of dead bodies is a troublesome task, they should be gathered into houses which are scheduled to be burned or demolished. They should also be thrown into the River.

ITEM 7: Message Book, owner not stated, containing operation orders, etc. Extracts: KOBAYASKI GROUP (HEIDAN) Order, 13 February.

1. The Americans who have penetrated into Manila have about 1,000 arty troops, and there are several thousand Filipino guerrillas. Even women and children have become guerrillas.
2. All people on the battle-field, with the exception of Japanese military personnel, Japanese civilians, and Special Constr Units will be put to death. Houses ---- (TN: order breaks off here.)



Report of Atrocities, Fort Santiago, Intramuros
City of Manila

View of bodies inside dungeon-cell (reference* to report paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 on page 3; and 2 and 3 on page 4). Note heavy latch and wires on the iron doors and body in semi-sitting position beneath horizontal bar at left.

* Brief-Sub 5



Report of Atrocities, Fort Santiago, Intramuros
City of Manila

Bodies strewn from the doorway (upper center) of
a building containing additional bodies. Para-
graphs in report referring to area pictured are:
8th on page 1, all of page 2, and 1st on page 3.
(Brict, Case 5)



Feb. 23, 1945: Jap atrocity. Women and children killed in the Walled City, Manila, by the Japanese.
Photo by US Army Signal Corps

Brief: Case 7

Statement by CAROLINA CORUNA in connection with atrocities committed by the Japanese in Intramuros.

Japanese sentry entered the house in Intramuros where the victim was seeking refuge, shot and wounded her, bayoneted a baby, shot and killed two other women in the house. Victim was eye-witness to the killing of an estimated 75 to 100 civilians who were shot down on the public streets.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS
37th INFANTRY DIVISION
37th CIC DETACHMENT
APO 37

28 February 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: Japanese Atrocities in the Intramuros and Ermita Districts of Manila.

1. On 22 February 1945, at the direction of the Commanding Officer, 37th CIC Detachment, APO 37, this Agent interviewed CAROLINA CORUNA, a patient at Saint Lazaro Hospital, Rizal Avenue, Manila, with reference to reports of Japanese Atrocities in the Intramuros and Ermita districts of Manila, Luzon.

2. Attached hereto is a four (4) page affidavit signed by Miss CORUNA on 27 February 1945 which describes in some detail various atrocities perpetrated by personnel of the Japanese Imperial Forces during the period from 5 to 16 February 1945. As will be noted therein, Miss CORUNA is herself a victim of atrocity, having been admitted to St. Lazaro Hospital on 16 February 1945, and she lists, by name, certain other Filipino residents of Manila who were similar victims.

3. It is recommended that the attached affidavit be forwarded through Intelligence channels to the appropriate War Crimes Section for subsequent evaluation and disposition by proper authorities.

2370,
Special Agent
37th CIC Detachment

APPROVED:

JAMES E. STILWELL
1st Lt., M.I.,
Commanding.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS
37th INFANTRY DIVISION
37th CIC DETACHMENT
APO 37

AFFIDAVIT

I, CAROLINA CORUNA, a patient at Saint Lazaro Hospital, Rizal Avenue, Manila, Luzon, having been duly advised that I am under no compulsion to make this statement, do nonetheless desire to relate the following facts and hereby swear and affirm their truth:

My name is CAROLINA CORUNA and I am 22 years old. I was born in the town of Malaybalay, Bukidnon Province, Mindanao, and came to Manila, Luzon, the April 1939 in order to become a student nurse. I registered at St. Paul's Hospital in Intramuros, Manila, and began my course of studies. St. Paul's Hospital was then operated by the Maryknoll Sisters of the Catholic Missionary Society.

At the time of the outbreak of the war on December 8, 1941, all student nurses became automatic graduate nurses and were assigned to service work. I recall that at the time the Japanese entered Manila on January 2, 1942, most of the wounded soldiers had already been evacuated from the city. When the Japanese came to our hospital (I was then at Unit "D" of Sternberg Hospital, taken over for wounded soldiers) we had a staff of approximately 8 Filipino doctors and 7 Filipino nurses, together with about 60 civilian patients. The Japanese segregated the Filipinos from the American Sisters and gave orders for the latter to be interned. On that particular day, I recall the Japanese began to mistreat two male orderlies in the hospital and a Jesuit priest by the name of Father Hurley tried to intercede and go to their help. He was roundly slapped by the Japanese for his trouble. The Japanese then proceeded to loot the hospital of all its foodstuffs, medical supplies, bed linens, gowns and other vital items.

The foregoing incident was but the beginning of a long series of indignities, cruelties and barbarities heaped upon the Filipino people by the Japanese during three long years of their occupation. I shall not attempt to relate these events in any detail here. Instead, I shall confine myself to a description of my own personal experiences during the last days of the Japanese occupation. Any impartial person can judge for himself as to the merits of so-called "Japanese culture".

On or about February 5th or 6th, 1945, it was rumored about St. Paul's Hospital (where I had continued to work as a nurse for the past 3 years) that the American forces had already entered the outskirts of Manila and that our liberation was close at hand. Within the walled-city of Intramuros the large Japanese garrison already had made extensive preparations to defend the city at all costs. Inasmuch as many Filipino civilians were still living within its walls, the Japanese laid down explicit instructions regulating their conduct. I recall, among other things, that the Japanese passed out paper leaflets which warned the people that if they left their homes for any reason they would be shot on sight. Machine gun nests were set up at almost every street intersection and Japanese soldiers did not hesitate to use their guns on innocent civilians, many of whom were forced to leave their homes periodically to seek food and water for their starving families.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

All male civilians from the ages of 15 to 60 were put on the "wanted list" since the Japanese accused all males of being either guerrillas or American sympathizers. I recall how the Japanese would go from house to house gathering men and boys and then shooting them down cold-bloodily on the public streets. On at least two occasions I was an actual eyewitness at the killing of an estimated 75 to 100 civilians. These atrocities occurred at the intersection of Victoria and General Sulano Streets, within Intramuros. On each occasion, Japanese firing squads composed of about 10 soldiers armed with automatic weapons, lined up the civilians and mowed them down with point-blank fire. In several instances, the women-folk of the intended victims ran up to the firing squads and pleaded with the soldiers for mercy. I saw these innocent women likewise killed in cold blood before they even reached the soldiers. Many other instances of such reckless killing by guns, bayonets and bombs took place, but I speak only of those I actually witnessed.

During this period, I was living within the walled-city with a family named VELEZ who resided at #96 Anda Street. MR. VELEZ, the father, had previously been taken to Fort Santiago by the Japanese on charges of being a guerrilla. MRS. VELEZ, her two-months old BABY, a SISTER of Mr. Velez, and myself, occupied the house. The Japanese had given strict instructions that all civilians were to remain in their homes quietly, especially at night.

On or about the night of February 7th or 8th (I'm not sure of the exact date), a Japanese sentry came to our house. Mrs. Velez's young baby had been crying consistently because of hunger. As closely as I can recall the events of this horrible night, the sentry called into the shelter where we were seeking cover, and asked if there were any male civilians inside. Since I speak a little Japanese, I came outside and told the sentry there were only women inside. He told me to return and see that the baby kept quiet. I turned me back and headed for the inside of the shelter. I had only taken a few steps when this same Japanese sentry opened fire on me with his automatic weapon and I fell to the ground, shot in the legs and paralyzed from the hips down. I did not lose consciousness, however, although I feigned death. Instead I kept my eyes open and watched this sentry as he entered the shelter and approached Mr. Velez who had her young baby in her arms, trying to cover its mouth so it wouldn't cry out. The Japanese soldier advanced with his gun and bayonet fixed and thrust the blade into the head of the child. Mrs. Velez screamed in anguish and the soldier opened fire with his rifle and killed her instantly. He then turned on Mrs. Velez' sister and likewise shot and killed her. Immediately thereafter he left the shelter, walking by me as I lay crumpled on the ground, still feigning death.

From that moment on I do not have a very clear recollection of the events that followed, especially as they relate to time. However, as well as I can recall the, they are substantially as follows: I lay for an undetermined period on the ground until two Filipino men discovered me, picked me up, and undertook to carry me to a place of safety. Hardly had they lifted me off the ground when they were discovered by the Japanese sentries. Immediately, there was a rain of bullets and my two Filipino companions fell dead. Somehow the bullets missed me and I fell to the ground again. Although it seems hard to believe, I found that I had full control of my arms and shoulders and thereupon began to half-crawl and drag myself along the streets. I am not sure how long it took me, but it seems that after a period of about three days and nights I found myself at the Real Street gate of Intramuros which leads out into the Ermita Section of Manila proper. I had covered this distance by seeking cover during the day, moving mostly at night, and feigning death whenever Japanese soldiers or sentries appeared. I managed to escape during the darkness of night through the Real Street gateway to Ermita.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Once in Ermita I managed to reach the home of a DOCTOR CELESTE, who was a Vice-Minister at the Malacanan Palace during the Japanese occupation and who I felt would give me aid and protection. I knew some of the escapees and evacuees staying at his home, including a MISS RAMON who was a Secretary in the Auditor's Office at the Philippine General Hospital in Manila. Two Filipino boys had carried me most of the way to this place of refuge. We had passed Japanese soldiers and sentries all along the way. They were busy constructing street defenses and setting fire to public and private residences. Evacuees from all adjacent areas were packed in buildings and dugouts, seeking protection while the battle and fires raged.

The Japanese showed the civilian refugees no consideration or mercy. On the contrary, on many occasions I saw them deliberately throw hand grenades and set fire to buildings they knew were crowded with people. Often they would herd the people into certain buildings, telling them they would be safe there. Later they would bomb or fire the building. On other occasions, they would deliberately machine gun large concentrations of people.

Specifically, I can testify to the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr. Celeste, previously mentioned as my temporary protector. The facts are these: Shortly before my final rescue by American troops, we were gathered in the home of Dr. Celeste. The Japanese were setting fire to many buildings in this area. Dr. Celeste felt that his home would be safe since he had a document insuring his premises against intrusion or destruction by Japanese soldiers. The Japanese soldiers finally came to the building and Dr. Celeste went outside to tell them there were only harmless civilians inside. The Japanese would not listen to him but instead killed him on the spot, shooting him both through the head and heart. The Japanese then entered the building and showered the interior with bullets. Miss Ramon, previously mentioned, and a SISTER of hers were killed instantly. Certain others, unknown to me, escaped injury, including myself, as I was already lying on the floor.

On the morning of the following day, there was considerable bombing and shelling, and I was huddled in a dugout with 12 other people. Finally, up an adjoining street, we heard other Filipino refugees shouting and signalling to us to join them. We did so. We found that many of them were wounded from machine gun fire inflicted by the Japanese the day before. They told us that patrols of American soldiers were close by. A few minutes later, two American soldiers appeared along the block and told us to lie still until they could arrange to evacuate us. Shortly thereafter, I was transported by stretcher, to St. Lazaro Hospital where I am now under treatment for my wounds. Fortunately, the doctors have not had to amputate my legs. I look forward to the day when I shall have recovered and can resume my work as a Filipino nurse, serving my people and my country.

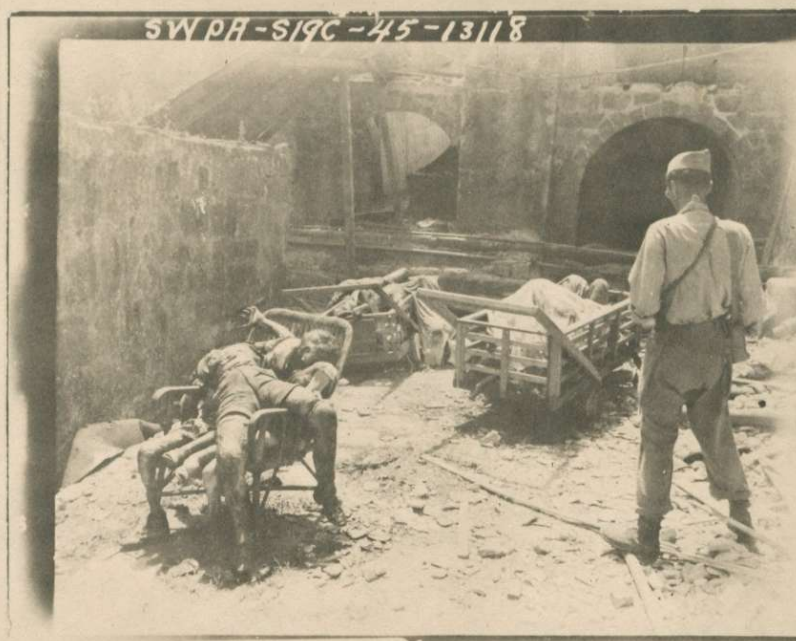
/s/ Carolina Coruna

SIGNED and SWORN to before me this 27th day of February, 1945, at the St. Lazaro Hospital, Rizal Avenue, Manila, Luzon.

/s/ Andrew T. Marsh
/t/ ANDREW T. MARSH, Captain,
Inf.,
Adjutant, Special Troops

- 50 -
- 6 -

C O N F I D E N T I A L



SWPA-SigC-45-13138 28 February 1945
Bearing silent witness to Japanese brutality are these bodies of Filipino women and children piled in carts in courtyard of St. Augustine Church, Gen Luna Street in the Intramuros section of (Manila, Luzon, P.I.) A member of the 1st Cav Div) views the atrocity.
Photographer T/5 Kingsley





Feb. 23, 1945: Jap atrocity. Women and children killed in the Walled City, Manila by the Japanese.
Photo by US Army Signal Corps



Feb. 23, 1945: Jap atrocity. Women and children killed in the Walled City, Manila by the Japanese.
Photo by US Army Signal Corps

Brief: Case 8

Atrocity report in connection with 49
mutilated bodies discovered on the south-
east corner of Juan Luna and Mariones
Streets, Manila, P. I.

Victims were seized by the Japanese
on the suspicion of guerrilla activity
based upon the accusation of a Japanese
spy, were taken from their homes and with-
out further investigation or trial, were
clubbed, bayoneted and shot in the field
where the bodies were subsequently found.

HEADQUARTERS 145th INFANTRY
APO 37MANILA, LUZON
8 February 1945

SUBJECT: Report of Investigation.

TO : G-2, 37th Infantry Division.

At 2100I 6 Feb, S-2 was informed of an alleged atrocity. A preliminary investigation was conducted by Lt. Hanley, I and R Platoon Leader at 1100I 7 Feb, who reported the existence of ~~forty-nine~~ (49) mutilated bodies on the Southeast corner of Juan Luna and Mariones Street. Local residents reported to Lt. Hanley the burial of thirty-one (31) additional bodies.

At 1800I 7 Feb, further investigation disclosed the following facts: The area East of Juan Luna and South of Mariones is an open level tract extending from the National Road to Estero De La Reina, a small stream on the East. Scattered at various points in this area, in the grass, on concrete pavement and in ditches of water, a number of bodies were observed, totalling about forty-eight (48). Approximately one-third were bodies of babies or young children and about one-third were women. Most of the bodies were found with hands tied behind their backs. Further details are in Medical Report attached.

The following information concerning the presence of these bodies was supplied by Mr. S. Santos, 396 Coral; J. Casiano Soliman, 953 Bilbao, and Capt. Barrera, Marking's Guerrillas (Div) of 736 Folgueras.

The bodies in the field at Juan Luna and Mariones were those of the following persons:

DONINADAR ANTONIO and Family
CABRIEL ORLENA and Family
MAURO SALUACION and Family
FAUSTINO PAJARDO and Family (EAJARDO - ?)
SERFIN SANTAS
FORTUSO VIRAY and Family
SIMION DE LA CRUZ
FELIX DE LEON
DOMINADOR PAPA
ROSITO PAPA
DOMINADOR OSITIES

They were seized by the Japanese on suspicion of guerrilla activity or of giving shelter to guerillas. They were accused by a Japanese spy named Toro. Taken from their homes and without further investigation or trial, were clubbed, bayoneted and shot in the field where their bodies were subsequently found. The killings took place on 4 or 5 Feb.

It was further reported that the Japanese Garrison had been giving similar treatment to Filipinos, civilians and suspected guerillas, at this place since the latter part of 1943. One informant stated that more than one thousand Filipinos had been killed in this manner but the other reported the number at not more than three hundred. The usual practice was to shot the victims and dispose of their bodies in the Estero De La Reina. There was no indication of the use of military courts.

Although the killings took place in the Tondo District, the majority of the victims were reported to have been brought from other parts of the city, especially Villasis and Santo Cristo. The entire Fajardo Family which was killed, was from San Antonio District near Saragossa Street. Eladio Reyes, another victim, who had a local reputation of "tough guy" and a great friend of the poor, was from Perla Street.

The Japanese Garrison stationed at the scene of these actions had occupied the same area for more than one year. It was known to the Filipinos in the neighborhood

as Dy Pac. Other places where similar actions against Filipinos were carried out were reported as follows:

FORT SANTIAGO
AIRPORT
FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY
P. M. C.
CENTRAL HOTEL
SAN BEDA COLLEGE

/s/ Harry R Stevens
1st Lt HARRY R. STEVENS
145th Infantry
Investigating Officer

FOR:

/s/ Wm F Morr
WM. F. MORR
Major, Infantry
S-2

C E R T I F I C A T E

MANILA, LUZON
8 February 1945

At about 1800I 7 Feb 1945, I accompanied Lt. Stevens to the vicinity of Juan Luna-Mariones, Tondo District, Manila. There we found about forty-nine (49) bodies. They were lying about singly and in piles, and had evidently been dead for several days as they were in a moderately advances state of decomposition and were infected with maggots. The bodies were of both women and many of them were children ranging from two or three years old upward. On all bodies lying so that the wrists were visible, the wrists had been tied tightly together behind their backs. The hands were bound with rope or fiber. Several wounds were visible on the bodies. Many had wounds of the abdomen through which the intestines were protruding. One wound was noticed on the thigh of one of the bodies which appeared to be a stab wounds. On several of the bodies there was a deep wound on the back of the neck, and one body was wounded by a deep slash across the throat.

/s/ Hobert D. Mason
HOBERT O. MASON
Capt, Medical Corps

Commanding
Co "A", 112 Med bn

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this thirteenth day of February in the year nineteen hundred and forty-five.

/s/ John W Cohan
JOHN W. COHAN
Major, A.G.D.
Asst. Adjutant General

14 February 1945

A F F I D A V I T

Near the lumberyard at the junction of Juan Luna and Mariones Streets, on 7 Feb, I saw the bodies of forty-nine (49) men, women, and children that had been killed in cold blood. Some had their hands tied behind their backs. Filipinos living in the

vicinity claimed that the victims had been killed because of suspected guerilla activity.

/s/ George E Dann
GEORGE E. DANN
PFC, Hq Co
145th Infantry

Signed and sworn before me this Fourteenth day of February 1945:

/s/ Amel L. Cox
AMEL L. COX
Capt, Infantry
Actg Adjutant

14 February 1945

A F F I D A V I T

On the morning of 7 Feb 1945, at the Southeast corner of Juan Luna and Mariones Streets, I counted forty-nine (49) bodies of men, women, and children. Approximately one-third were bodies of children, and about one-third women. It appeared that whole families had been killed. The bodies of the adults had their hands tied behind their backs with rope.

/s/ Claude R. Higdon, Jr
CLAUDE R. HIGDON, JR
PFC, Hq Co
145th Infantry

Signed and sworn before me this Fourteenth day of February 1945:

/s/ Amel L. Cox
AMEL L. COX
Capt, Infantry
Actg Adjutant

14 February 1945

A F F I D A V I T

The morning of 7 Feb, one (1) officer, one (1) enlisted man, and myself counted forty-nine (49) bodies in the field on the Southeast corner of Juan Luna and Mariones Streets. These were the out and mangled bodies of men, women, and children. They were scattered through the area, lying singly and in piles. It was evident that they had been killed several days ago, as they were infested with maggots and they were in an early state of decomposition.

/s/ Paul G. Smith
PAUL G. SMITH
Sergeant, Hq Co
145th Infantry

Signed and sworn before me this Fourteenth day of February 1945:

/s/ Amel L. Cox
AMEL L. COX
Capt, Infantry
Actg Adjutant

14 February 1945

C E R T I F I C A T E

At 1100I, 7 Feb 1945, I made a preliminary investigation of a reported atrocity committed at the Southeast corner of Juan Luna and Mariones Streets, Tondo District, Manila. There I counted forty-nine (49) bodies of men, women, and children, all badly mutilated. On the adult bodies, the hands were tied behind their backs. The adult bodies were clothed in civilian dress. Local informants stated that the victims had been shot, bayoneted, and clubbed to death; also, that thirty-one (31) additional bodies had been buried. The bodies had apparently been dead about three (3) days.

/s/ John C. Hanley
JOHN C. HANLEY
2nd Lt. Infantry
I and R Pltn Leader

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this sixteenth day of February in the year nineteen hundred and forty-five.

/s/ John W. Cohan
JOHN W. COHAN
Major, A.G.D.
Asst. Adjutant General

13 February 1945

A F F I D A V I T

I, Demas L. Sears, being duly sworn, on my oath say

I am a Lieutenant Colonel, GSC, A.C. of S., G-2, 37th Infantry Division. This date, 13 February 1945, I visited the intersection of Isaac Peral Street and Marque de Comillas Street in the city of Manila, which is now in the sector of 1st Bn, 129th Infantry. I was accompanied by a guide from Regimental Headquarters, the Medical Officer of 1st Bn, 129th Inf, Sgt Gustave Olsen, G-2 Sect, T/4 Steve W. Leska, G-2 Section, and Major Fite, commanding officer of 1st Bn, 129th Inf.

At the northeast corner of the intersection we found a group of bodies, apparently Chinese. There were eleven adult males and one male child about 18 months of age. At the northwest corner of the intersection at a filling station we found the bodies of four women, all apparently Chinese. One middle aged woman had her hands tied behind her back, as did three of the men in the first group. With them were the bodies of six babies, five male and one female, ages six months to two years; also, another boy about twelve years of age. All of the above mentioned bodies were photographed by T/4 Leska. Beyond the filling station about twenty-five yards to the west, I observed bodies of two women and two small babies.

The wounds of five of these bodies could be observed without detailed examination and I saw that two of the small babies had been bayoneted--one through the head and one through the abdomen. I observed a wound on the hip of another small child, a woman who had been stabbed through the chest, and two men who were stabbed about the body.

No detailed examination of the decomposing bodies was made to determine precisely the manner in which each individual had met his death, although all had apparently been bayoneted.

/s/ Demas L. Sears
DEMAL L. SEARS
Lt. Colonel, GSC
A. C. of S., G-2

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this sixteenth day of February in the year nineteen hundred and forty-five.

/s/ Paul E. Congdon
PALU E. CONGDON
Lt. Colonel, JAGO
Staff Judge Advocate

14 February 1945

A F F I D A V I T

I, Sgt Gustave Olsen, Draftsman, G-2 Section, do hereby swear that I have examined the affidavit of Lt Col Sears hereto attached and I am personally familiar with the material set forth therein, except that I did not personally see the bodies of the two women and the two babies twenty-five yards west of the filling station. In all other respects, I know from my personal observation that the matters set forth in the affidavit of Lt Col Sears are true and correct.

/s/ Gustave Olsen
GUSTAVE OLSEN
Sergeant, Infantry
G-2 Draftsman

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this sixteenth day of February in the year nineteen hundred and forty-five.

/s/ John W. Cohan
JOHN W. COHAN
Major, A.G.D.
Asst. Adjutant General

14 February 1945

A F F I D A V I T

I, T/4 Steve W. Loska, Photographer, G-2 Sect, do hereby swear that I have examined the affidavit of Lt Col Sears hereto attached and I am personally familiar with the material set forth therein, except that I did not personally see the bodies of the two women and the two babies twenty-five yards west of the filling station. In all other respects, I know from my personal observation that the matters set forth in the affidavit of Lt. Col. Sears are true and correct.

/s/ Steve W. Loska
STEVE W. LOSKA
T/4, Infantry
G-2 Photographer



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33

200cm
SEKISUI JUSHI
JMA
級

Brief: Case 9

Statement by Dr. WALTER K. FRANKEL in connection with the massacre of sixteen persons at Pax Court, 176 Belagtas, Pasay, Manila, P.I., 12 February, 1945.

Victim, a German Jew, together with 19 other persons including men, women and children, were herded into a room, surrounded by gasoline-saturated furniture which was ignited. Those attempting to escape were shot. Victim, his sister, and only one other individual survived.

CONFIDENTIAL

AFFIDAVITPax Court, 176 Belagtas
Pasay

The undersigned, Dr. Walter K. Frankel, having been first duly cautioned and sworn, deposes and says:

The murder of 16 people happened Monday February 12, 1945, in the afternoon around 4:15 to 4:30. The place has been Pax Court, 176 Belagtas, Pasay. My report is based on my own terrible experience, together with 19 persons. Only my sister, a chemist, and I escaped. My name is Dr. Walter K. Frankel, 55 years old, living in Manila since February 20, 1939. I am a surgeon, urologist, and lecturer of History of Medicine in the College of Medicine, University of the Philippines.

On Monday, February 12, around 4:15 p.m., my wife, sister, Mrs. Alice Stahl, married to an American who is in the Los Banos Camp, and I were sitting at our coffee table when a Japanese sergeant knocked at the door. I showed him my paper, a pass at one side in English and in the other side in Japanese. He said, "Judasi", and brought me out of the house, leading my wife and sister also. I saw that the Japanese brought the people out of the other houses. The Court consists of four double houses, one side 165-A,B,C, and D, and the other side 176-A,B,C, and D, Belagtas St., Pasay. All the people were driven out together by nearly fourteen or sixteen Navy personnel, three of them being officers, some with guns, some with spears, some very young. Without saying a word, our hands were bound behind our backs. There were six Europeans, my wife, Gisela Frankel, myself, Dr. Frankel, my sister Alice Stahl, Dr. H. A. Luerse, his wife, Gertrude Luerse, the daughter, Jutta, 8 years, and thirteen Filipinos, namely: Justice Villareal, our landlord, his wife, Mrs. Villareal, two little nieces, Pacita, 7 years, Maria, 8 years, the house-girl of Dr. Luerse, Valeria; the others being servants of the other houses, three women with five children. We were driven in the sala of Dr. Luerse's house, 165-B. The moment we were bound it became clear to me that they would murder us. So, without tears or movement, my wife and I kissed each other farewell. As we entered the house, we had to kneel down with face to the wall. Because of a broken leg I could not kneel down in this way. I was lying on my left side so I could be able to see what the Japanese were doing. In a half circle at a distance of two meters they put furniture around us, heaped cushions, pillows, strawbags on them and poured gasoline over this from bottles. Two of them did that and the third one, a sergeant who was smoking a cigar, observed their work. The two officers did not enter the sala. Calling down two men from the first floor, they, probably in unison, set the place in flames and then the sergeant took from his right breast pocket a small hand grenade and threw it, not directly in the heap of people, but more to the right side. Apparently it was the intention to burn us alive. Only Justice Villareal was killed by the grenade immediately. At this moment Mrs. Villareal jumped up crying but she was shot through the head, falling down dead. The aforementioned three Japanese soldiers were standing at the entrance to the room with guns in their hands. At this moment, my wife, lying on her left breast and on the back of my sister, came up nearer with her head and was immediately shot through the neck, dying immediately. Her blood flowed over me in streams, on my left side, over my shirt, trousers and shoes. I shall keep it forever in that condition. The next person shot dead, because she moved, was Mrs. Luerse. After some convulsions, she made no movement anymore; her husband, lying at my right, asked me, "Is my wife dead?", and as I confirmed it, he said, "Thank God."

I was thankful in my heart that my beloved wife was spared from being burned alive. At this moment a Filipina housegirl loosened my bindings, freeing my hands. I helped her and told her to run upstairs. She came down with another girl she had managed to grasp, crying because the whole first floor was in flames. All around us smoke became unbearable. I told my sister that we had better jump outside through the flames, that it was better to be shot outside than burned alive. I helped her up, and together with Dr. Luerse and his little daughter, we jumped through the flames, expecting to be shot outside. As the smoke and heat in the sala became unbearable, the three Japanese soldiers left the room. By now the whole court was full of thick smoke. We could not be seen, so we ran to the garage immediately beside the house, where the smoke was much less. I ran into the kitchen, took a knife and cut the bindings of my three companions. Then we decided to go to the garden of the big house of our landlord, the head Justice. The house and garden are directly before our court at a distance of fifty to sixty meters, connected with a small backdoor. We were lucky enough to have arrived unseen there and to hide in an air raid shelter. My first words as we came out of the flames were, "My future life is only for vengeance at these Japanese murderers; if there would be some Japanese prisoners in the Rizal Memorial Stadium I would find our murderers out with absolute certainty."

I came out only with a small wound, also the little child, my sister, and Dr. Luerse had burns of second degree in the face, arms, legs, and feet. Suddenly at 3:00 a.m. that night, little Jutta became restless and died a few minutes later, I think by the effect of the smoke and heart weakness. I threw her into a hole in the garden of the big house and we moved to the servant's quarters behind the garage of the big house, hiding there till 4:30 in the afternoon of February 13th, when an American patrol came in and we were saved. They told us to go across the field to the ambulance about a kilometer behind. Dr. Luerse declared he was not able to walk because of his burned legs and general weakness. The soldiers said they could send over a stretcher and so my sister and I walked unmolested to the ambulance. The Captain over there (Captain Jennings?) gave me the stretcher and 2 Filipinos. We were then going back together with another patrol of 20 men, but as we came to a distance of two-hundred meters, where we left Dr. Luerse, we were fired upon by Japanese snipers. So I went back, but I had to take shelter in an undestroyed house of Mr. Toda in Leveriza St. for half an hour. As I came back to the place of the ambulance, I found it was gone. They told me that my sister was taken by the Captain to a hospital. Soldiers took me with them to Mandaluyong. I was brought across the river on an amphibian tank to find the evacuation camp nearby. As I asked the first Filipino I met for the place of the camp he took me over to the Guerrilla headquarters in Mandaluyong, where they kept me in custody under the suspicion of being a German spy, for I am a German Jew. After a former student had identified me as a professor of the University, they became polite and brought me to the Red Cross headquarters. Two days later I found my sister in the Quezon Institute, Ward 6, where she is confined for treatment of her infected burns.

This is a true and much abbreviated report of events which took place at the Pax Court, 176 Belagtas, Pasay, on Monday, February 12, 1945 in the afternoon and which I have witnessed with my own eyes and absolute clear conscience. Afterward I realized that the terrible cries we heard two hours ago from the neighboring houses of Mr. Perez-Rubio and Mr. Sy were signs of the same events in those burning houses. I believed that the fifteen people from our Court who fled for shelter in the neighboring big house of Mr. Sy were murdered in the same way. I think this group consisted of two persons of the

Campos family, Spaniards, of the Arroyos five persons, of the
Ocampos eight persons.

/s/ Dr. Walter K. Frankel
Dr. WALTER K. FRANKEL

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this day of
February, 1945.

HOWARD J. DUVEN
2nd Lt., Infantry
87 CIC Detachment

Witnessed:
(Signed) /s/ Gaggan
(Signed) /s/ Oneus

Brief: Case 10

Statement by Major DAVID V. BINKLEY in connection with atrocities committed by the Japanese forces within the City of Manila during February, 1945.

The affiant personally observed the following evidences of Japanese atrocities:

- 1) On 7 February, the bodies of 124 men, women and children were found in the area of the railroad station; victims had been shot and bayoneted by the Japanese on the suspicion of guerrilla activities.
- 2) On 15 February, 59 bodies of men, women and children were discovered in the vicinity of the Tabacalera, all the women having been bayoneted.
- 3) On 13 February, the bodies of 76 men, women and children were discovered in the De LaSalle College, having been burned, shot, and bayoneted.
- 4) At Concordia College, 100 men, women and children were found burned to death.
- 5) In Fort Santiago, approximately 600 Filipinos were discovered in 3 dungeons, the appearance of the bodies suggesting starvation and possible suffocation.
- 6) At Plaza McKinley, the bodies of 40 priests, with hands tied behind their backs and with bayonet wounds, were discovered.
- 7) At the Campos Residence on Taft Ave., 45 bodies of women, many of whom had been assaulted, and several children, were found, death apparently having resulted from bayonet wounds.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

DIVISION SURGEON'S OFFICE
A.P.O. 37, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

9 March 1945

A F F I D A V I T

I, David V. Binkley, Major, SMC, being duly sworn, on my oath say

The following named instances of atrocities committed by the Japanese forces within the city of Manila were seen by the undersigned shortly after their having been committed by the Japanese soldiers during the battle for Manila, Philippine Islands.

On 7 February, 1945, the bodies of one hundred and fifteen men, women and children were found on the grounds of the Dy-Pac Lumber Company near the rail-road station.

Many of the men and women and some of the older children had their hands tied behind their back. Many bodies of men and women were scattered over the ground on the grass and in weeds and along paths. Nearby where an enemy built revetment was located, a ditch from which earth had been taken in constructing the revetment had filled with ground water. On the south side of this ditch and about two feet from the water level was a concrete covered storage yard. At the edge of the concrete above the water the concrete was covered with human blood which in some places had trickled small streams to a lower level. The Japanese had shot and bayoneted some eighty-five men, women and children on this spot and their bodies were then pushed into the ditch. Many adults were tied as were some of the older children while very small children had been killed without having been tied. Some of the women were pregnant. The ages of the children were from two years to ten years, approximately. Upon interrogating civilians in the vicinity, it was learned that the Japanese had murdered the entire families of men under suspicion of being guerrillas.

Not far from the Dy-Pac Lumber Company and in the water beside the Air Port Japanese Military Prison, nine men, members of the Philippine Constabulary were found tied hand and foot. All nine men had been either shot or bayoneted to death. This scene was discovered on 7 February 1945, also.

On 15 February 1945 while locating Japanese bodies in the vicinity of the old Japanese prison forty bodies of civilians, men, women and children were discovered upon the concrete paving at the rear of the Tabacalera Shell Service Station. Fifty feet west of the service station eight women, all with their hands tied behind them, lay upon the grass among some banana trees. Eight feet away a mother and two children lay. The woman lay face down with an arm around each child. This woman had been slashed to death by a saber like weapon having a deep cut at the base of the neck and also on the upper right arm. One child had part of its skull "sliced" off, apparently by the same type of weapon. All the other women had been bayoneted to death.

On 13 February 1945 at the De La Salle College, the bodies of seventy-six (76) men, women and children of various ages were found scattered at the south side of the home for Catholic Brothers. Some of the women were pregnant. On the body of one woman the

-1-

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

breasts had been cut off. All of the bodies found were pierced by several bayonet wounds. Later, at the Price residence on California Street at Colorado, forty-five (45) men, women, and children had taken shelter from artillery fire within the wall-enclosed yard only to have the Japanese soldiers enter the yard at approximately 1500 hours of the day this atrocity was committed and with rifle fire kill every living person. The Japs then set fire to all the bodies except a group of men, women, and children who had tried to hide among some bushes in the northwest corner of the yard. All along the east wall bodies were strung, and from the bullet marks on the wall, these people were killed there and then their bodies set afire. In the center of the yard were the remains of twelve (12) charred bodies. Beside a fence covered with lattice work lay a mother holding a small boy. The mother lay in a position as though attempting to shield the child. In a driveway beside a partially burned fire-truck were two (2) more badly charred bodies, while on Colorado Street, at the east side of the Price residence, the charred remains of an undetermined number of human bodies were discovered. There is no possibility that any persons other than Japanese could have burned these bodies for this particular section of the city was under artillery, machine gun, and rifle fire at the time this atrocity was discovered.

Accompanied by Francisco Del Rosario, funeral director of the City of Manila, a visit was made to the Concordia College (Catholic) where approximately one hundred (100) men, women, and children were burned to death by the Japanese. The number of people killed was verified by the Mother Superior of the school whose story to me was as follows: "One night a body of Japanese soldiers came to the main door of the building and pounded loudly. A Chinese house boy went to open the door, and as soon as the door was opened, the Chinaman was bayoneted several times by a Jap soldier who then stripped the body and poured gasoline over the clothes, threw gasoline over the woodwork of the front of the building and set it afire. The Japs then posted themselves around the building and would allow no one to escape. Of the one hundred (100) persons in the building, nineteen charred bodies were seen. An entire family of mother, father, and three small children, one an infant, lay on the flag stones of the court inside the main entrance, and these bodies were also badly burned."

At Fort Santiago, within the Walled City, approximately six hundred (600) Filipinos were discovered in three dungeons. One hundred (100) bodies of men and women were found within one thick-walled dungeon like building, and a closely estimated five hundred (500) bodies were found within a nearby dungeon having inner doors of massive iron bars, and outer doors of iron plate on wood. The appearance of the bodies suggested starvation and possibly suffocation.

At Plaza McKinley near the ruins of the Manila Cathedral, forty (40) priests from the Manila Cathedral were found murdered, some with their hands tied, shot, bayoneted, and left where they were slain. Of the forty (40) Priests, five (5) were killed within a Jap built dugout. (All of these men still wore their priest clothing).

At the Campos residence on Taft Avenue, forty-five (45) women, most of whom wore slacks, were found. Evidence of assault was apparent on many of the women, and several women had been pierced through their genital organs by the Jap bayonets. Counted among this group were several children, all of whom were cruelly bayoneted.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

The matters set forth herein were all personally observed by the undersigned, who was accompanied at all times by Mr. Mariano Del Rosario and Mr. Francisco Del Rosario, undertakers for the City of Manila, P.I.

/s/ David V. Binkley
/t/ DAVID V. BINKLEY,
Major, SnC.
Division Sanitary Inspector

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 11th day of March 1945.

/s/ Paul E. Congdon
/t/ PAUL E. CONGDON
Lt. Col., JAG,
Division JA

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L
MANILA, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

11 March 1945

A F F I D A V I T

We the undersigned, being duly sworn, on our oaths say

We have examined the affidavit of Major David V. Binkley, SnC, relative to the atrocities in the City of Manila. We and each of us personally accompanied Major Binkley at the times he made the observation related in his affidavit and we likewise observed everything described by him. The statements made by Major Binkley are accurate, true and correct in every particular.

/s/ Mr. Mariano Del Rosario
/t/ Mr. Mariano Del Rosario
Undertaker
City of Manila, P.I.

/s/ Mr. Francisco Del Rosario
/t/ Mr. Francisco Del Rosario
Undertaker
City of Manila, P.I.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 11th day of March 1945.

/s/ Paul E. Congdon
/t/ PAUL E. CONGDON,
Lt. Col., JAG
Division JA

C O N F I D E N T I A L



Feb. 23, 1945: Jap atrocity. Women and children killed in the Walled City, Manila by the Japanese.
Photo by US Army Signal Corps

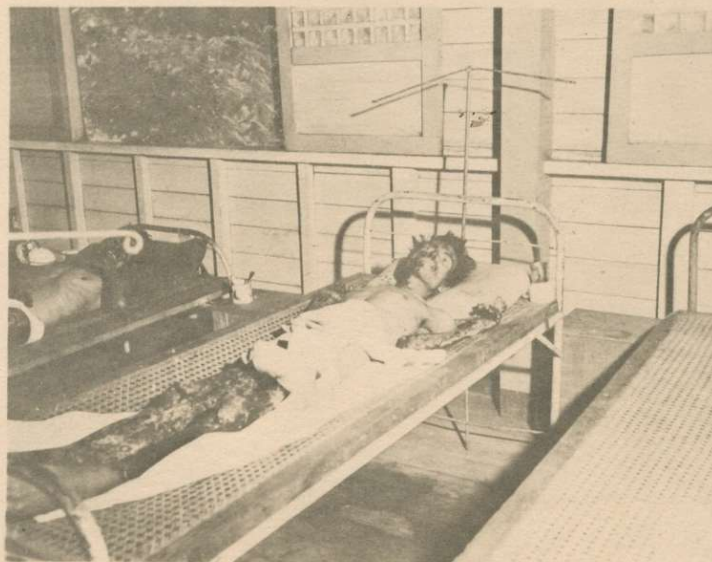


Feb. 23, 1945-Jap atrocity: Filipino civilian shot in the head and found with his hands tied. Walled City, Manila.
Photo by US Army Signal Corps



Feb. 23, 1945-US Army Medics helping
wounded civilians in a passage of the
Walled City, Manila.
Photo by US Army Signal Corps





Feb. 23, 1945: Jose Malco of Gastambide Asnipaloc, Manila, in the San Lazaro Hospital where he is receiving treatment for first degree burns suffered at the hands of the Japs Imperial Marines. Malco was burned in his home while trying to salvage some of his personal belongings. He was emerging with some of his things when he was met by a Jap flame thrower and was forced back into his house. By the time he was able to come out again he was a victim of first degree burns and had to be taken to the hospital by several of his friends. The above statement was signed and attested by Dr. Montano Pleonde of San Lazaro Hospital. (See original captions.)
Photograph by US Army Signal Corps

Brief: Case 11

Atrocity report in connection with several group cases of atrocities committed by the Japanese upon civilians in the Manila area.

Three groups of dead civilians (a) 11 men, 1 small baby, (b) 4 women, 6 babies, (c) 2 women, 2 children were discovered, many with bayonet wounds and with their hands tied behind their backs.

Other civilians recovered alive stated that they were wounded when approximately 30 civilian men, women and children, while seeking refuge in a shelter, were attacked with sabers and bayonets by 12 Japanese, who killed most of the civilians and wounded the remaining ones.

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS 1ST BN, 129TH INFANTRY
APO # 37

18 February 1945

A-F-F-I-D-A-V-I-T

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Captain William Kropf, O-319901, MC, Surgeon, 1st Battalion, 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

I am battalion surgeon of the First Battalion, 129th Infantry Regiment. On 12 February 1945, in Manila, P.I., some civilians were brought into my aid station for medical treatment. One woman and her six old daughter were carried in. They were either Filipinos or Chinese and the woman had one bayonet wound in her chest and another in her thigh. The little girl had 6 bayonet slashes in her back and side.

One male Filipino and one male Chinese had deep slashes in the back of their necks and I gave them blood plasma. The fifth one was a rather elderly Chinese man who had been bayoneted in his body several times. He could speak a little English and he told me that about 30 civilian men, women, and children had been in some sort of a shelter when suddenly approximately one dozen Japanese came in and slashed them with sabers and bayonets, killing most of them and wounding the rest. He said that after the Japanese left the shelter, those of the civilians who survived, had fled. I gave them all medical treatment and they were later evacuated.

/s/ William Kropf
/t/ WILLIAM KROPF, O-319901,
Captain, MC, 129th Inf.,
1st Bn Surgeon.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th Day of February 1945, at Headquarters, 129th Infantry Regiment, APO #37, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

/s/ Jacob Close,
/t/ JACOB CLOSE,
Captain, 129th Inf.,
Adj., 1st Bn.

HEADQUARTERS 129TH INFANTRY
APO 37

18 February 1945

A F F I D A V I T

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Major FRANK J. MIDDELBERG, O-453898, S-2, 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

I am the S-2 of the 129th Infantry Regiment. I received word that the bayoneted bodies of some civilians had been found in the city of Manila, Luzon, P.I. and on 13 February 1945, at approximately 1100, I went to investigate. Upon arriving at the scene I found 2 groups of civilians who had been dead for 2 or 3 days.

The first group contained the bodies of 11 men and I judged them to be Filipino and Chinese. The clothing on 2 of them had been partially removed before we arrived and I saw wounds in their chest which in my opinion were caused by bayonets. Four of the bodies had their hands tied behind their backs. There was also the body of a child whom I should judge was approximately 1 year old. The body had a bayonet wound in the left chest.

- 1 -

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

A few yards away another group of dead civilians lay. This group contained the bodies of 4 women, 1 boy about 12 years old, and 6 babies whom I judged to be from 6 - 18 months of age. One woman appeared to be over 40 years old and had her hands tied behind her back. One had a bayonet wound in her lower back -- I did not turn her over to see whether or not she had been stabbed anywhere else. The other 3 women were younger and one of these women had a bayonet wound in her chest. I did not examine the boy or the babies thoroughly, but I did notice that one of the babies had a bayonet wound in its face.

I understand that there was a third group of dead civilians nearby, but I did not go to examine them.

/s/ Frank J. Middelberg
/t/ FRANK J. MIDDELBERG, O-453898,
Major, 129th Infantry Regiment,
Regimental S-2.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 18th day of February 1945, at Headquarters 129th Infantry Regiment, APO 37, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.

/s/ Curtis R. Craver,
/t/ CURTIS R. CRAVER,
Capt., 129th Inf.,
Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS 129th INFANTRY
APO #37

18 February 1945

A-F-I-D-A-V-I-T

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Captain WILLIAM C. GARDNER, O-468625, MC, 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

I am Assistant Regimental Surgeon of the 129th Infantry Regiment. On 13 February 1945, at approximately 1100, I accompanied Lt. Colonel Demas L. Sears to examine some dead civilians in the city of Manila, Luzon, P.I. We found these dead civilians in three groups and it is my opinion that they had been dead approximately three (3) days.

The first group we examined contained the bodies of eleven (11) adult males and one (1) baby. Some of the people appeared to be Filipinos and others were Chinese. The baby appeared to be from eight months to one year in age and had a bayonet wound in its right chest. The eleven adult males appeared to have been from twenty (20) to forty (40) years of age. We removed the clothing from the bodies of two of the men and found bayonet wounds in their chests. I feel certain that the other nine (9) men were also bayoneted, but I did not examine them closely. Three or four of the bodies had their hands bound behind their backs.

A short distance further, we found a second group of dead civilians of Mongolian and Filipino origin. This group contained the bodies of four (4) women, six (6) babies, and one (1) boy about 12 years of age. Three of the women were about thirty (30) years of age and one was over forty (40) years of age. The latter had her hands tied behind her back and had a bayonet wound through her left breast and two in the dorsal region. I examined one of the other women and found that she had a bayonet wound through her sternum. I did not closely examine the other two women. The six dead babies ranged from six (6) to eighteen (18) months of age. I examined the body of one of the babies and found it had been bayoneted through the left cheek. I did not make an examination of the body of the twelve year old boy who was of Mongol descent.

A short distance away, another group of dead civilians lay, but I did not go over to examine them. From where I stood I could see the body of one woman although I understand there were some other bodies there also.

/s/ William C. Gardner,
/t/ WILLIAM C. GARDNER,
Captain, Medical Corps,
Asst. Reg'l. Surg.

S E C R E T

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of February 1945, at Headquarters, 129th Infantry Regiment, APO #37, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.

/s/ Curtis R. Craver,
/t/ CURTIS R. CRAVER
Capt., 129th Inf.,
Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST BN, 129TH INFANTRY
APO #37

13 February 1945

A-F-F-I-D-A-V-I-T

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Staff Sergeant Harlow G. Clark, ASN 34577437, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

I am a sergeant in the Intelligence section of the 1st Battalion Headquarters, 129th Infantry Regiment. On 12th February 1945, I was part of a group which was reconnoitering for a forward observation post when I found several groups of dead civilians whom I believe had been killed by the Japanese soldiers. These people were in 3 groups. In the first group were 11 men and one small baby. It is my opinion that they were Chinese and Filipinos. The baby was about one year old and had a big gash in its right chest which I believe had been caused by a bayonet. Three of the men had their hands bound behind their backs and although I did not closely examine all of the bodies, I could see that several of them had bayonet wounds in their chest and backs.

A little farther on I found another heap of dead civilians. Four women, one of whose hands were tied behind her back, were lying on the ground. There were the bodies of 6 babies less than 2 years old also lying there and one boy about 12 years of age. I noticed that the woman whose hands were tied had a bayonet wound in her back and two more in her chest. I saw that one of the other women also had been bayoneted in the chest and that one of the babies had been bayoneted in the cheek. A short distance farther lay the bodies of 2 women and 2 children, but I do not know how they had been killed as I did not examine them.

On the morning of 12 February 1945, I met some other civilians who had been injured by the Japanese. These civilians were Chinese and Filipino and were still alive. I first encountered 4 men who were badly wounded. Three of them had their hands tied behind them. One of the men could talk a little English and he said that he was Chinese. I noticed that he had at least 3 bayonet wounds in him. Another man also had bayonet wounds in his body and the remaining 2 had large deep gashes in the back of their necks, which looked like saber wounds. We sent the 4 men back to our aid station for treatment.

Also on the 12th of February 1945, I found a small Chinese girl, about 6 or 7 years old, lying on a woman on the ground. The little girl was crying and bleeding and upon investigating I found that both the woman and little girl were alive although they had been injured. The little girl had been bayoneted 3 times in the back. The woman was also bleeding and I believe her leg was hurt but I did not examine her. One of our litter squads carried them back to the aid station.

/s/ Harlow G. Clark
/t/ S/Sgt. Harlow G. Clark,
ASN 34577437, Hq Co 1st Bn
129th Infantry Regiment.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 13th Day of February, 1945, at Headquarters 1st Battalion, 129th Infantry Regiment, APO 37 c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

/s/ Jacob Close
/t/ JACOB CLOSE
Capt., 129th Inf.,
Adjutant.

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS 1ST BN, 129TH INFANTRY
APO #37

13 February 1945.

A-F-F-I-D-A-V-I-T

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by military law to administer oaths, one Private First Class Serifine F. Ruggio, ASN 36716549, Company A, 129th Infantry Regiment, who being duly sworn deposes and says:

On 12 February 1945, I saw a group of civilians whom had been killed and wounded by the Japanese in the city of Manila, P.I. Four of the men, who were either Chinese or Filipinos, were still alive and I helped them back to our aid station. One of them could talk a little English and he said to me: "Japanese stick, stick!" He also made gestures which indicated to me that they had been bayoneted by the Japanese. He had one bayonet wound in the side of his chest which I saw. He may have had others too, for I did not examine him. I noticed that one of the men had his hands tied behind his back and I saw S/Sgt Clark cut away the bounds. All four of the men were wounded and 2 of them had big, deep gashes in the back of their necks which looked as though they had been cut with sabers.

I also saw 2 groups of dead civilians. One of them contained the bodies of 11 men and 1 small baby about a year old. Three or four of the men had their hands tied behind them and several of them, including the small baby, had been bayoneted. A little farther away I saw a group of 4 dead women, one boy about 12 years of age and 6 babies less than 2 years old. I noticed that one of the women had her hands tied behind her back and had a bayonet wound in her back which appeared to go completely through her body. There were also 2 other bayonet wounds in her chest. One of the babies had been bayoneted in the face. I did not examine the other bodies completely, but I am of the opinion that all of them had been bayoneted.

/s/ Serifine F. Ruggio
/t/ Serifine F. Ruggio, 36716549
Pfc., Company A, 129th Inf.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 13th day of February 1945, at Headquarters 1st Bn, 129th Infantry Regiment, APO 37, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

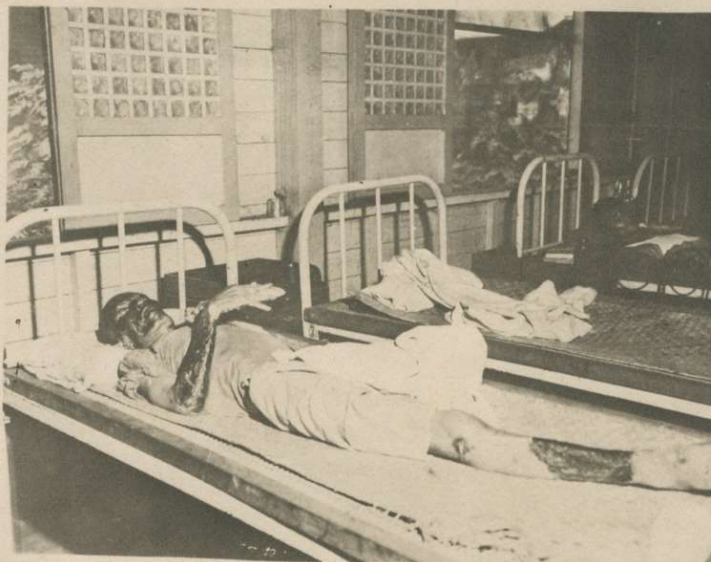
/s/ Jacob Close
/t/ JACOB CLOSE
Capt., 129th Inf.,
Adj., 1st Bn.



Feb. 23, 1945: Jap atrocity. Women and children killed in the Walled City, Manila by the Japanese.
Photo by US Army Signal Corps



Feb. 23, 1945: Apolonio Kolina of Malate, Manila, shown in the San Lazaro Hospital where he is suffering from first degree burns suffered at the hands of the Japanese Imperial Marines. Kolina was in the Walled City and in an air raid shelter when he was so severely burned. He and others were in the shelter when the Japs turned their flames throwers on them. He was the only survivor and was rescued by several Filipino Nuns and was later taken to the hospital by American medics. The above statement is signed and attested by Dr. Montano Pleonde of the San Lazaro Hospital. (See original captions.)
Photograph by US Army Signal Corps



Feb. 23, 1945: Angel Gajo, 38 years, 430 Herran, Paco, Manila, shown in the San Lazaro Hospital where he is being treated for first degree burns suffered at the hands of Japanese Imperial troops. Gajo refusing to leave his home which was about to be burned by the Japs, was bound and left to burn with it. Miraculously and despite the fact that he was severely burned, he was able to crawl out of the flaming house and be rescued by a few of his friends. He was brought to the hospital where he is receiving treatment. The above statement was signed and attested by Dr. Gregorio J. Floresca of the San Lazaro Hospital. (See original captions.)

Photograph by US Army Signal Corps.



Feb. 23, 1945: The Filipino family of Isobela Mercado, (mother) Angel Estandarte (father) and Jose Estandarte (son) shown in the San Lazaro Hospital, Manila, where they are being treated for burns suffered at the hands of the Japanese Imperial Marines. The family was locked up in it's home in Paco, Manila, and then left to watch the Japs set fire to it by use of flame throwers. When the flames of the flimsy wooden walls grew too intense to be withstood any longer, Angel, desperate with fear, forced an exit and attempted to escape with his wife and child. No sooner did they come into the open when they were set upon by the Jap troops, who, unmercifully, directed their flame throwers onto their fleeing victims. Angel and his wife were able to escape without too much injury but their son proved less fortunate. He was caught with a burst of flames in the face and then, dazed and blinded was further burned in his arms and side, left in this condition, the family was later led to the hospital by friends where they are now receiving treatment. The above statement was signed and attested to by Dr. Montano Pleonde of the San Lazaro Hospital. (see original captions).
Photograph by US Army Signal Corps

Brief: Case 12

Report of an atrocity committed on five women, two men and a baby, involving the family of BARTOLEME PONS, a Spaniard.

Japanese captain and five enlisted men approached wife of PONS, demanding chickens, which were refused. Same group of soldiers were observed to return later in the evening and five shots were heard. The bodies of five women, two men and one baby were subsequently discovered in the house, two of the men and three of the women with hands tied behind their backs. The baby had been bayoneted.

HEADQUARTERS
Division Artillery
APO #37 c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.

AFFIDAVIT

15 Feb. 1945.

ATROCITY REPORT

On the afternoon of 15 February 1945, I visited a home at 503 Figuero Street, Manila, accompanied by T/4 Steven Loska, G-2 Section, 37th Division; T/5 William Kuntz, Hq. Co., 37th Division; and Charles H. Loeb, Accredited War Correspondent.

In a large room on the lower floor of the residence, we found a group of bodies; five women, two men, and a baby. The baby had been bayoneted. The two men and three of the women had their hands tied behind their backs. At the rear of the home lying at the foot of a stairway was the body of a German Shepherd dog.

The bodies were photographed by T/4 Loska (prints accompany this report). The decomposition of the bodies prohibited detailed examination as to the exact cause of death, but bayonet and gunshot wounds were plainly observable on several of the adult bodies.

An investigation in the immediate neighborhood led to an interview with a Filipino, one Mario Chanco, a neighbor of the deceased, who has contributed articles to Manila newspapers and magazines. Chanco related the following story:

"The house is the property of Bartolome Pons, a pure-blooded Spaniard who is quite wealthy and a stockholder in the Tabacalera enterprises.

Last Wednesday (7 February 1945) at about 5:30 P.M. a Japanese Captain, accompanied by five enlisted men, called at the home and demanded of Dona Victorina Pons, wife of Senor Pons, that she supply them with chickens.

Dona Victorina Pons apparently refused the, for I could hear her tell them angrily in Spanish, "No chickens for you".

The Japanese Captain was angered by her imperious tone and her refusal (Here Chanco related that the Dona was not liked by the neighbors because she considered herself of a higher class than they, and held herself and family aloof from neighborly contact). A loud argument then ensued, and finally I observed the Dona seize the hair of one of the soldiers and give his head a yank.

In an angry voice the Japanese Captain threatened to return. Around 7 P.M. the same evening he did return with the soldiers. We watched them enter the house. Shortly after, we heard five shots. The rest I do not know because along with other witnesses, I fled the vicinity."

Asked whether he thought the home was looted by the Japanese, Chanco answered that it might well have been stripped by civilians after the Japanese had left.

Our minute examination of the home showed evidence that it had been thoroughly stripped of all valuables. The remaining furniture showed good taste and wealth. Passports issued to Senor Pons establishes his nationality as Spanish. Another pass port was found

issued to Rosario Garcia, which may or may not be the maiden name of Dona Victorina. Both passports are attached to this report.

Identification of bodies was as follows: Bartolome Pons and wife Victorina; two adopted daughters, Pacita and Eva; one year old son; the female servants; next door neighbor (male).

/s/ Donald D. Forward
/t/ DONALD D. FORWARD
Major, M.C.

Subscribed to and sworn to before me this 23rd day of February, 1945.

/s/ Paul E. Congdon
/t/ PAUL E. CONGDON,
Lt. Colonel, JAGD,
Staff Judge Advocate.

HEADQUARTERS
Division Artillery
APO #37 c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.

AFFIDAVIT

23 Feb. 1945

We, the undersigned, on February 15, 1945 visited the house at 503 Figuero Street and witnessed the scene of the atrocity described by Major Donald D. Forward in the accompanying affidavit entitled Atrocity Report. We subscribe to the report in every detail. Signed in the presence of each other.

/s/ Albert N. Untch
/t/ ALBERT N. UNTCH
Major, F.A.

/s/ Burke B. Denison
/t/ BURKE B. DENISON
Major, F.A.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of February, 1945.

/s/ Paul E. Congdon,
/t/ Paul E. Congdon,
Lt. Colonel, JAGD,
Staff Judge Advocate.

Brief: Case 13

Report in connection with the atrocity
committed on EUGENE ANDREWITZ KREMLEFF,
a Russian citizen.

Victim was arrested by the Japanese
for investigation. His body was subse-
quently discovered with hands tied behind
back, beaten about the face and head, shot
through the back of the head, and severely
burned.

HEADQUARTERS "
11TH AIRBORNE DIVISION

APO 468

21 February 1945

SUBJECT: Report on Atrocity,

TO : Commanding General, Headquarters XIV Corps, APO 453.

Eugene Andreewitz Kremleff, Russian citizen (emigrant) living at 34 Delpan, Pasay, Luzon, Philippine Islands, was routed from his shelter the afternoon of 9 February 1945 by the Japanese and taken prisoners. Kremleff's dead body was discovered in a foxhole in the yard of a perfume-dye factory approximately one block from his residence on the morning of 11 February 1945 by members of the 511th Infantry. Kremleff, hands tied behind his back had been beaten about the head and face, shot through the back of the head, and severely burned. Identification of the body was made by Constantine Strashnicov, neighbor, and further identification of a portion of the shirt worn by the victim was made by his widow.

The following persons witnessed the condition of the body at the spot at which it was discovered:

Mr. Michael Meier, Danish Citizen, Neighbor.
Mr. Constantine Strashnicov, Russian Citizen, Neighbor.
Lt. Col. Henry J. Muller, Jr., G-2, 11th Airborne Div.
Lt. Col. Walsh, S-2, 511th Parachute Infantry Regiment.
Major Earl G. Widmyer, Ass't. G-2, 11th Airborne Div.
Sgt. James H. McGrath, Agent, 11th CIC Detachment.
Tech 4 Bertram Abrams, Photographer, 11th Airborne Div.

According to Strashnicov, the only reason to be given for this atrocity was the fact that the victim lived in the vicinity of Dewey Boulevard and the Japanese were very suspicious of any persons living in this territory. Mrs. Kremleff stated that the family had been molested occasionally by the Japanese and that on 9 February 1945, after her husband had been taken prisoner by the Japanese, one Japanese soldier attempted to assault her.

Eugene Andreewitch Kremleff was born in Kazan Russia and was 41 years old. His parents still reside in Kazan, Russia. Kremleff left Russia in 1922 and went to China. He remained in China and was engaged in teaching Mathematics and Science at colleges from 1922 to 1936. In 1936 he left China and proceeded to the Philippine Islands. Since his arrival in the Philippines he has been employed by the Masbate Consolidated Mining Company. He was married in Manila, Philippine Islands, on 16 July 1939 to Helen K. Bruzinsky, also a Russian citizen (emigrant). In addition to his wife, aged 33 years, he is survived by two children, Alexander aged 5 years, and Olga aged 3 1/2 years. His religion was Greek Orthodox.

The following is a partial list of the neighbors of the Kremleff family:

Michael Meier, Danish Citizen
Mrs. Ethel Meier, American Citizen
Theo Meyer and family, Swiss Citizens
John G. Hohmann and family, Swiss Citizens
John Keller and family, Swiss Citizens
Mrs. Harry Barr, wife of Col. Barr, AUS, at present
a PW somewhere in this vicinity.

Photographs taken at the spot the body was discovered, and signed affidavits by Helen Kremleff and Constantine Strashnicov, are attached herewith.

For the Commanding General:

WALDO NELSON
Major AGD
Asst Adj Gen.

Incls: 3
Photographs (3)
Affidavit by Helen Kremleff
Affidavit by Constantine Strashnicov

A F F I D A V I T

City of PASAY

Province of RIZAL

I, Helen Kremleff, residing at 34 Delpan, Pasay, having been first duly sworn, do affirm and declare that:

At about 1:30 P.M. on Friday, 9 February 1945, I was in our shelter with my two children, while my husband, Eugene Andreevitch Kremleff, was in our house. I had gone to the shelter with the children because of the shelling going on at that time. Three Japanese soldiers appeared, one armed with a machine gun and the other two armed with rifles and bayonets. The soldiers asked my husband for the passport and papers of myself and the children. They then told my husband that the children and I would have to go with them for investigation. He asked the soldiers if it would not be possible to leave the family in the shelter and he would go with them. Two of the soldiers took him and two Filipinos and left. The Filipinos were tied but my husband was not. The one Japanese soldier apparently in charge of the group remained in the shelter for approximately twenty minutes. After this time the two soldiers returned without my husband and stated he would return after five minutes. All three soldiers then left the shelter. I waited for my husband all afternoon and until about 8 o'clock that night. I then left the shelter to go in search of him. When I left the shelter I saw one Japanese soldier, apparently a guard or sentry. This soldier grabbed me by the hand and took me back into the shelter. There he forced his attentions on me and made attempts to assault me. I struggled to free myself from him and asked the two children to cry and shout in order to call the attention of some of the neighbors. In the struggle I was able to free myself and I grabbed the two children and ran out the other door of the shelter and headed towards the home of neighbors, calling 'help' over and over again. The Japanese soldier did not pursue me.

On Sunday morning, 11 February 1945, I returned to our home and found that all of our possessions had been searched and everything strewn about the place in our absence.

On 11 February 1945 Col. Walsh of the 511th Infantry reported to Constantine Strashnicov, a neighbor, that his troops had discovered the body of a white man who had been killed by the Japanese. Mr. Strashnicov went and identified the body as that of my husband, and brought back with him a piece of the shirt worn by the deceased. I further identified this as a piece of the shirt worn by my husband when he was taken by the Japanese.

Further affiant sayeth not.

Signature Helen Kremleff

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
21st day of February 1945.

FRANK L. BARBEE

FRANK L. BARBEE, 2d Lt., M.I.

Commanding, 11th CIC Detachment.

A F F I D A V I T

City of PASAY

Province of RIZAL

I, Constantine Strashnicov, residing at 80A Delpan, Pasay, having been first duly sworn, do affirm and declare that:

On the morning of 11 February 1945, Col. Walsh of the 511th Infantry saw me and told me that his troops had discovered the body of a white man and thought I might be able to identify it. I went with Col. Walsh to the yard of the perfume-dye factory about one block from my home. There, in a foxhole, I saw the body of Eugene Kremleff, husband of Helen Kremleff. The deceased, his hands tied behind his back, had been shot through the back of the head and had been severely burned from the waist down. In addition, there were marks and bruises about the face. I tore a piece out of the shirt the dead man was wearing and took it back to Helen Kremleff who further identified it as a piece of the shirt her husband was wearing when he was taken by the Japanese.

Further affiant sayeth not.

Signature C. Strashnicov

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
21st day of February 1945.

FRANK L. BARBEE,
FRANK L. BARBEE,
2d Lt., M.I.,
Commanding 11th CIC Det.

Brief: Case 14

Medical affidavits in connection with atrocities on various civilians in the area of Guadalupe, Manila, P. I..

Report by Medical Officer concerning treatment rendered to over 20 Filipino civilians, including children, suffering from wounds inflicted by the Japanese.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CAVALRY

APO 201
20 February 1945

A F F I D A V I T

Before me the undersigned authority for administering oaths, personally appeared Captain John H. Amessee, 0326435, Medical Corps, 1st Squadron, 5th Cavalry, who being duly sworn deposes and says.

That I, Captain John H. Amessee, Medical Corps, 1st Squadron, 5th Cavalry, on 15 and 16 February 1945 witnessed and attended over twenty (20) Filipino civilians in the area of Guadalupe, Manila, P.I. All of these civilians were suffering from one to six day old wounds inflicted by Japanese soldiers. Among the wounds observed I noted the following:

1. Five teen-aged girls exhibited bilaterally amputated nipples and areolae, with penetrating bayonet wounds of both chest and abdomen.
2. At least four children under 5 years of age were suffering from severe burns and stab wounds.
3. One elderly man exhibited a very severe laceration involving both ears and posterior cervical region.
4. One girl of about 10 years, and one 2 year old boy exhibited amputations, complete, of left forearm.
5. One small boy was found dead with through and through stab wounds in the chest and neck.

Further evidence of atrocities committed upon Filipino civilians can be observed in any of the civilian hospitals in this area.

Further deponent sayeth not.

JOHN H. AMESSEE,
JOHN H. AMESSEE,
Captain, MC.
Surgeon, 1st Squadron, 5th Cav.

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME THIS 20 DAY OF FEBRUARY 1945

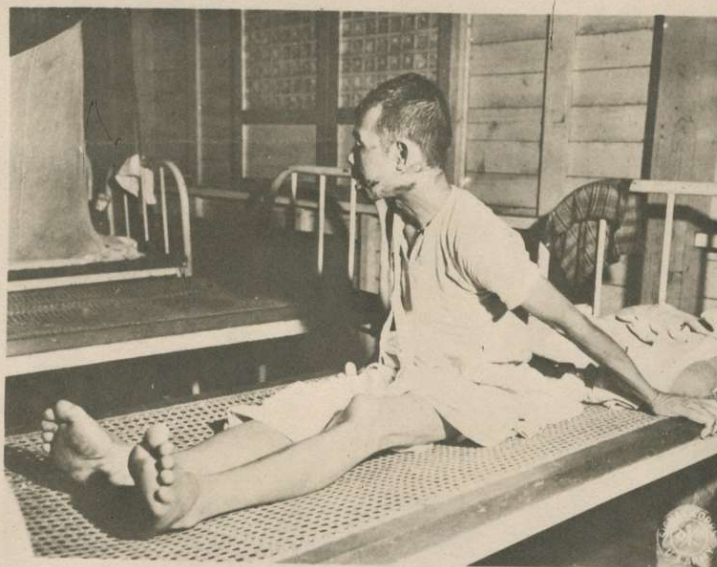
F. J. W. CONTEEN,
F. J. W. CONTEEN,
Major, Cavalry,
Adjutant



SWPA-SigC-45-13253 March 6, 1945
 Filipino child with a bayonet wound in the
 stomach. (Manila, P.I.)
 Photographer T/4 Ira Rosenberg



SWPA-SigC-45-13133 March 2, 1945
 Consuelo Yulo-Singalong-As they left
 their burning houses, the Japs machine-
 gunned this woman and her two sisters.
 Since she wasn't wounded, the Jap bayonet-
 ted her in both sides to make sure they
 had killed all. They played dead until
 night and escaped. Photo taken in the
 (San Lazaro Hospital, Manila, P.I.)
 Photographer Pvt Hal Winston



Feb. 23, 1945: Ignacio Quazon of Pasig, Rizal in Manila shown in the San Lazaro Hospital where he is being treated for saber wounds suffered at the hands of Japanese Imperial Marines. When he learned that his home was going to be burned by the Japs, Quazon started to salvage some of his personal belongings. It was while he was seen emerging from his home with a few of his things that he was summoned by a Jap, who, after asking a few questions, threw him to the ground and began kicking him. When Quazon arose and attempted to run away, the Marine drew his saber and struck him a blow on the left side of his face and neck. When he was taken to the hospital, it was discovered that a nerve had been severed thus paralyzing his entire left side. The above statement was signed and attested by Dr. Montano Pleonde of the San Lazaro Hospital.

Photograph by US Army Signal Corps.



Feb. 23, 1945: Miximo Pingal residing in the Walled City, Manila, was made prisoner by the Japs when the city was turned into a fortress. For three days prior to the assault and entrance of the American troops, Pingal had been bound and blindfolded in his home. On the morning of the entrance of our troops he was dragged out of his house by Japanese Imperial Marines and was struck in the neck and arm by one of their sabers..there he was left to die as the Japs retreated to other parts of the city. Pingal was subsequently rescued by US Army Med. Corps and taken to San Lazaro Hospital, Manila, where this photo was taken, for treatment. The attached statement was signed (see original caption) and attested to by Miximo Pingal. The above is based on facts of same original statement.
Photograph by US Army Signal Corps



SWPA-SigC-45-13134 March 2, 1945
Mrs. Genoveva Pozon-She was bayoneted by
the Japs after refusing to submit to as-
sault. She lives in (Pasig, Rizal and the
photo was taken at Psychopathic Hospital,
Manila, P.I.)
Photographer Pvt Hal Winston



SWPA-SigC-45-13173 March 2, 1945
Godofredo G. Rivera-He was machine-gunned
with a group of ten men. He was the only
one left alive and played dead to escape.
Photo taken in the (San Lazaro Hospital,
Manila, P.I.)
Photographer Pvt Hal Winston



SWPA-SigC-45-13128 March 2, 1945
Mrs. Rosia Carugtos- Her baby was bayoneted
in her arms. She and her two sisters were
raped and bayoneted by the Japs. Her child
and sisters died. Photo taken at the (San
Lazaro Hospital, Manila, P.I.)
Photographer Pvt Hal Winston



SWPA-SigC-45-13177 March 2, 1945
Louis Trinidad- He was bayoneted and burned
afterwards in fire caused by hand grenades
thrown into the (San Augustine Church)
shelter. He lives at (Intramuros and the
photo was taken in the San Lazaro Hospital,
Manila, P.I.)
Photographer Pvt Hal Winston

