

A TRUE COPY:

**EXHIBIT**  
FRAMM 1  
QMC

PXQMX-GRS-325-B

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT

GOLDEN J  
1st Lt.,

Unknown American

(Last Name)	(First)	(Initial)	(Serial No.)	(Rank)	(Organization)
Abucay, Bataan			Jan 1942	Unk.	
(Place of Death)	(Date of Death)	(Cause of Death)			
Unk.	27.6 - 80.5 Map Ref. Abucay P.I. Bataan Prov.	Abucay N 1430 E 120 30/10 Scale 1 x 50,000			
(Time and date of burial)	(Name of Cemetery)	(Co-ord. of location)			
9	Soldiers			Cross	
(Grave No.)	(Row No.)	(Plot No.)	(Type of Marker)		

Disposition of Identification Tags:

Religion: Unk. None

Remarks: Statement made by Gregorio Cunanan, Abucay, Bataan attached

Next of Kin: Unk.

Signature of person disinterring: /s/t/ S/Sgt THOMAS CORBETT

Time of Disinterment: 1610: 8 Jan 1946  
Disinterment by QM Graves Registration Co.

REPORT OF INTERMENT

Possibly Nininger  
Unknown X-1130

(Last Name)	(First)	(Initial)	(Serial No.)	(Rank)	(Organization)
			Jan 1942		
(Place of Death)	(Date of Death)	(Cause of Death)			
0900 18 Jan 1946		Manila #2			
(Time and date of Burial)	(Name of Cemetery)	(Co-ord of location)			
2836	22	2		C/R	
(Grave No.)	(Row No.)	(Plot No.)	(Type of Marker)		

Disposition of Identification Tags: Buried with Body: YES  NO

Attached to Marker: YES  NO

RELIGION: \_\_\_\_\_ Tooth chart taken number from RID & shipping tag.

REMARKS : \_\_\_\_\_

NEXT OF KIN: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of person burying: \_\_\_\_\_



EXHIBIT

2

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT

McCurdy	H	A	0-28378	Capt.	
(Last Name)	(First Name)	(Initial)	(Serial No.)	(Rank)	(Organization)

Abucay Hacienda, Bataan	Jan 1942	KIA	
(Place of Death)	(Date of Death)	(Cause of Death)	
		Coor: 27.3 - 81.2 Scale: 1: 50,000	
		N 1440 E 12030/10 Sht 3255-II	
Jan 1942	Abucay Churchyard, Abucay	Map Ref Balanga, PI.	
(Time and Date of Burial)	(Name of Cemetery)	(Co-ord of Location)	

	Bataan, P.I.		
3	Army Personnel Row	-	None
(Grave No.)	(Row No.)	(Plot No.)	(Type Marker)

Disposition of Identification Tags: Shipped with remains to USAF Cemetery Manila No. 2.

Religion: Unknown

Remarks: Identified by one dog tag found with remains. For sketch of location of grave, see papers on Juan M Lopez (PS)- 320529.

Next of Kin: Unknown With gold teeth.

Signature of person

Disinterring: ALBERT J MEACHAM, 1st Lt, OMC

Time of Disinterment: 21 May 1946, by 4th Plat 609th QM GR Co, APO 75

C O P Y

Incl # 8



REPORT OF DISINTERMENT

UNKNOWN AMERICAN (X-166)  
 (Last Name) (First Name) (Initial) (Serial No.) (Rank) (Organization)

Abucay Hacienda, Abucay, Bataan January 1942 KIA  
 (Place of Death) (Date of Death) (Cause of Death)  
 27.3-81.2 Ref: Balanga, P.I.  
 N1140-E12030/10 Scale

January 1942 Abucay Churchyard, Abucay, Bataan 1:50,000  
 (Time and Date of Burial) (Name of Cemetery) (Co-ord of Location)  
 Sheet No. 3255-II

4 Army Personnel Row - None  
 (Grave No.) (Row No.) (Plot No.) (Type Marker)

Disposition of Identification Tags: None found with remainsReligion: Unkn.

Remarks: Found with remains were an insignia with inscriptions "Verus Et Fidelis Semper", and 1 pistol holster. For sketch of location of graves, see  
 Next of Kin: papers on Juan M Lopez (P.S.) - 320529

Signature of person

Disinterring: /s/t/ALBERT J. MEACHAM, 1st Lt QMTime of Disinterment: 21 May 1946Disinterment by: 4th Plat 609th QM Graves Regis Co, APO 75.REPORT OF INTERMENT

Unknown X-3431  
 (Last Name) (First Name) (Initial) (Serial No.) (Rank) (Organization)

Abucay, Bataan Jan 42 KIA  
 (Place of Death) (Date of Death) (Cause of Death)

14:00 5 June 46 Manila No. 2  
 (Time and Date of Burial) (Name of Cemetery) (Co-ord of Location)

219 2 4 CIR  
 (Grave No.) (Row No.) (Plot No.) (Type Marker)

Disposition of Identification Tags: Buried with Body: YES X NO \_\_\_\_\_Attached to Marker: Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Person

Burying: \_\_\_\_\_

Next of Kin: \_\_\_\_\_ C O P Y

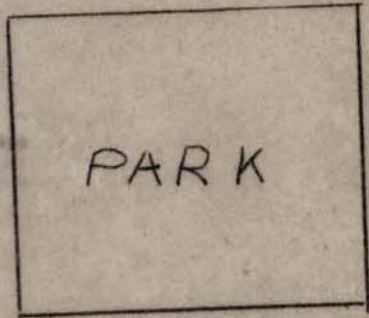
Incl #9



ABUCAY, BATAAN



MUNICIPAL GOVT BLDG ABUCAY



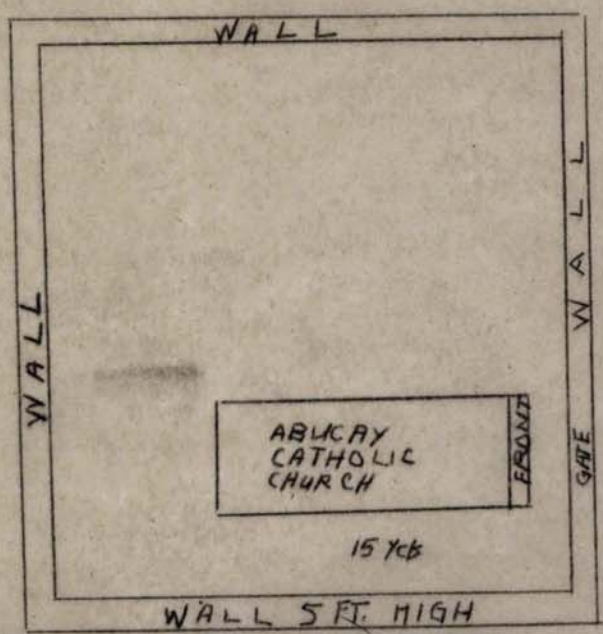
STREET

BRIDGE

TO BALANGA

TO SAMAL

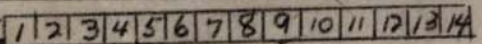
ROAD



ABUCAY CATHOLIC CHURCH

15 x 6

WALL 5 FT. HIGH



25-26 yds

RIVER

Grave No.      Contents of Graves

- 1 - Juan M Lopez (P.S.)-7320529
- 2 - Mamer?? G Castro (P.S.)-1030052?
- 3 - Capt. H. A. McCURDY-O-28378
- 4 - Unkn Amer (X-166)
- 5 - Pastor Sunga (P.S.)-686333
- 6 - Pedro Obsiona (P.S.)-10303858
- 7 - Olipas S Belen (P.S.)-10303697
- 8 - Pablo Lingan (P.S.)-10306274
- 9 - Tranquilino Beles (P.S.)-6738585
- 10 - Alipio (P.S.)-6739114
- 11 - Unkn Phil Scout (X-50)
- 12 - Dioscuro Paz (P.S.)-10305124
- 13 - Unkn Phil Scout (X-51)
- 14 - Unkn Phil Scout (X-52)

Map Ref: Balanga, P.I.  
 N1440-E12030/10  
 Scale 1:50,000  
 Sheet 3255-II  
 Grid Coor - 27.3 - 81.2

Incl #6



EXHIBIT

3

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS  
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE  
PHILCOM ZONE

APO 900  
5 May 1950

GRPZ

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Otto H. Kaufmann, DAC, AGRS-PZ

SUBJECT: Search and Recovery Mission

1. Your attention is invited to the attached letter and sketch giving details about the churchyard of the Catholic Church at Abucay, Bataan.

2. The Office of The Quartermaster General has directed that this organization make the detailed excavation of the areas included in Sections 2 and 3 of the sketch with a view to discovering the body of one Alexander R. Nininger allegedly buried therein in January 1942.

3. You are instructed to proceed to the Abucay churchyard with a detail of twenty-five (25) laborers and one (1) embalmer's aide for the purpose of accomplishing this excavation. You will establish temporary camp in the rear of the churchyard and remain at that site until the work is completed. One (1) weapons carrier and one (1) COE truck will be used to transport men, equipment and supplies to Abucay.

4. As stated in the attached letter clearance has been obtained from the Parish Priest of the church and from Mr. Enriquez, Municipal Sanitation Officer. The agreement is that if remains are encountered they will be examined to determine nationality and if American or if nationality is doubtful, they will be entirely exhumed and processed at the Mausoleum. Clearance must be obtained from Mr. Enriquez prior to removing any remains from the churchyard. Finally it has been agreed that those areas where concrete memorials have been placed over graves will not be investigated during this excavation.

5. You are instructed to be particularly cautious to insure that no untoward incident brings reflection upon the organization or upon the church and municipal authorities who are cooperating with us. Strict security of vehicles, supplies and equipment must be maintained and the political situation in that area indicates that all personnel on this mission must be retained in the immediate proximity of the temporary camp.

1 Incl  
Ltr to OQMG dtd 26 Apr 50  
w/1 incl (Sketch)

GLENN A. LEE  
Major, Cavalry  
Commanding

NAN  
File

2 Aug 50  
*W. H. Lawrence*

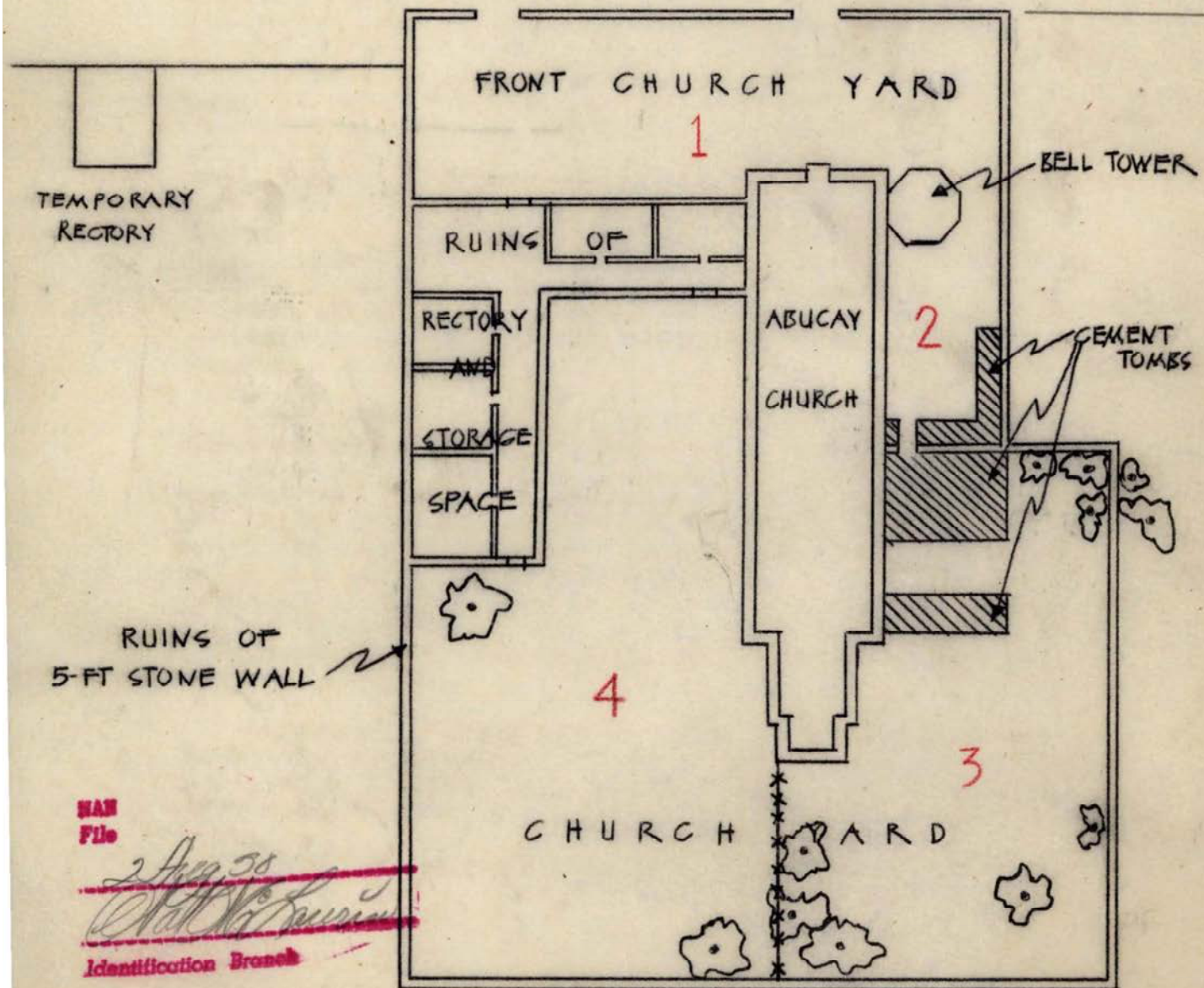
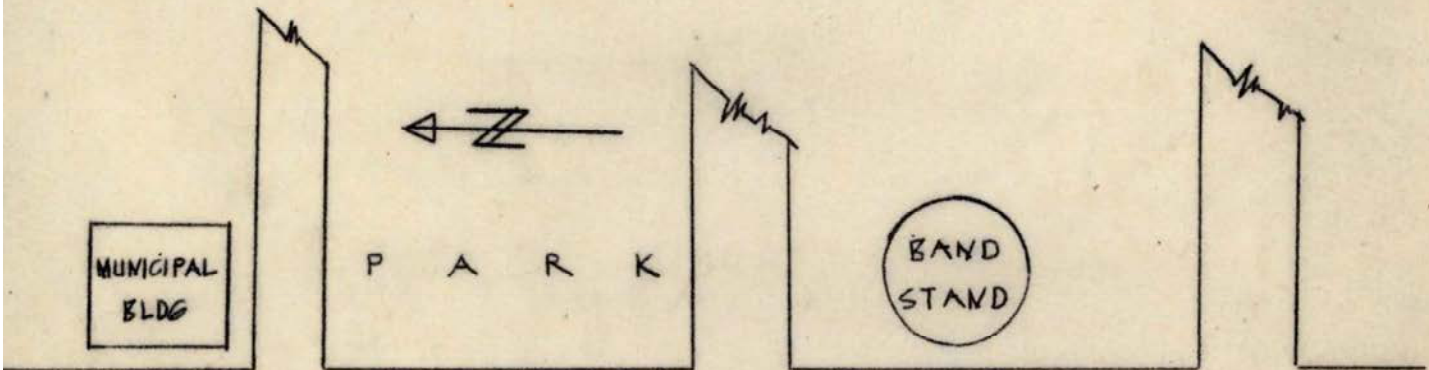
Identification Branch

RESTRICTED

Incl #1



RESTRICTED



MAN File

*2 Aug 58*  
~~*Chas. W. Sullivan*~~  
 Identification Branch

Incl #3

RESTRICTED Scale 1"=60'



RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS  
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE  
PHILCOM ZONE

GRPZ

APO 900  
19 May 1950

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION - ABUCAY CHURCHYARD, BATAAN  
(Re: Alexander R. Nininger)

On 9 May 1950 in compliance with letter directive (Inclosure #1) and Special Orders #30 this headquarters, dated 8 May 1950 (Inclosure #2) I departed AGRS at 0700 hours with twenty five (25) laborers and proceeded to Abucay, Bataan arriving there at 1430 hours. We spent the rest of the day making a temporary camp in the front of the churchyard and preparing to begin the exhumation the following day. Work was started in the area marked as Plot 2 on the sketch (Inclosure #3). Trenches were dug approximately four (4) feet deep and two (2) feet wide at three and a half (3½) feet intervals in all places which were not covered by concrete tombs. Where the soil was soft or showed signs of having been disturbed the excavation was deeper. In this plot the trenches were dug parallel to the south wall. Eighteen (18) partial remains were recovered and since nationality could not be determined in the field, permission was obtained to return all of them to the Central Identification Laboratory for processing by the Anthropologist to determine nationality and perhaps identity.

After recovery of the remains mentioned above we backfilled and improved Plot 2 and proceeded to Plot 3 as shown on the sketch (Inclosure #3). We first dug a long trench adjacent and parallel to the south wall and then dug trenches similar to those in Plot 2 except that we dug them perpendicular to the south wall. This was indicated because the burials in that area had been made parallel to the wall and by digging trenches perpendicular to the burials we were sure of contacting all remains therein. A great many remains were found in Plot 3 but all had been buried in native wooden caskets and most of them were remains of small children. All remains encountered were distinctly Mongoloid.

A resident of Abucay reported having seen four (4) Americans buried near the mango trees in Plot 4 so that area was also excavated and carefully screened. However, when no remains were encountered, the informant admitted that he probably was mistaken about the burial.

During the entire disinterment the only items recovered to

File

RESTRICTED

2 Aug 50  
W. H. P. L. L. L.  
Identification Branch

Incl #10



## RESTRICTED

### REPORT OF INVESTIGATION - ABUCAY CHURCHYARD, BATAAN (Continued)

indicate American nationality ~~was~~ a QM issue fork and several 30-caliber bullets. These items bore no connection to any of the remains found.

After exhausting all possibilities the entire area was levelled and grass and vines were collected and burned so that the churchyard presented a much improved appearance over that prior to this operation. We then returned to headquarters with the remains recovered from Plot 2 and with the understanding that after examination the remains which could not be identified as American would be returned to the churchyard and interred in a single grave. Several pictures of this operation are attached as Inclosure #4.

- 4 Incls  
1. Memorandum dtd 5 May 50  
2. AGRS SO #30  
3. Sketch  
4. Pictures

*Otto H. Kaufmann*  
OTTO H. KAUFMANN  
DAC, CPG-8  
Search & Recovery Officer

NAN  
File

*2 Aug 50*  
*Otto H. Kaufmann*  
Identification Branch

RESTRICTED



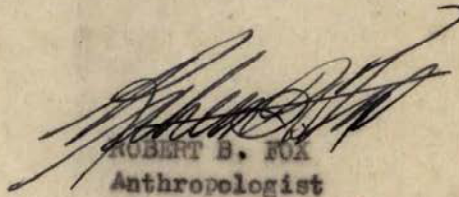
RESTRICTED

CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION POINT  
AGRS APO 900  
NICHOLS FIELD, MANILA, P.I.

23 May 1950

STATEMENT

The eighteen (18) remains obtained by Search and Recovery from Abucay Cemetery, Bataan, were examined by me this date and found to be composed entirely of individuals of Mongoloid (Filipino) ancestry.



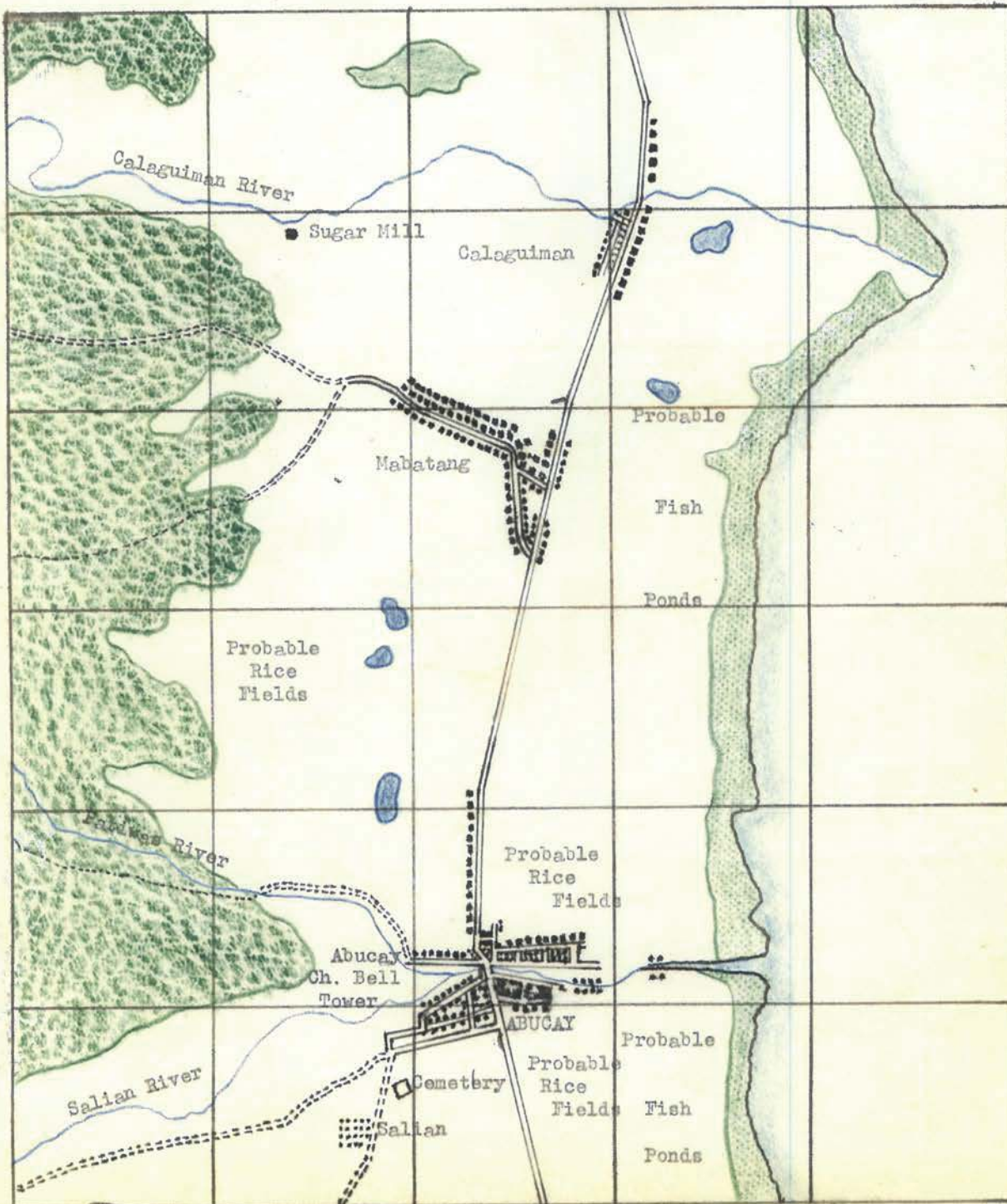
ROBERT B. FOX  
Anthropologist

RESTRICTED

Incl #11









**EXHIBIT**  
**4**



CALAGUIMAN - ABUCAY AREA  
Bataan, Luzon, Philippine Islands

**Legend**

-  Brushwood; Low Tropical Growth
-  Woodland
-  Mangrove
-  Surfaced and partially surfaced road
-  Dry weather road or track
-  Trail





Enc. 1.

EXHIBIT

5

February 20, 1944.

Mr. Alexander R. Nininger,  
P. O. Box 431,  
Lake Wales, Fla.

My dear Mr. Nininger:

I this date received from the Adj. General, U. S. Army, your letter of January 25, 1944, and his authorization to answer the questions concerning your son, Lt. A. R. Nininger, Jr. which you asked in that letter. I will answer the questions as you asked them.

QUESTION I.

"Please describe in detail: Sandy's action in which he lost his life. What effect his action had on the situation at that time?"

ANSWER - The date, January 12, 1942 which I retain in my memory as the date he was killed was the day of a continuing series of attacks made by the Japanese on the 57th Combat Team Sector under my command on the right of the line at Abugay on Bataan. The two Bns of the 57th Inf. were on the main line of resistance; the 1st Bn. on the right, the 3rd Bn. on the left. The first attacks made by the Japanese on Bataan were made against this Sector. Eleven Japanese attacks were made on this position principally on the 3rd Bn. of the 57th Inf. in an endeavor to rupture the line between it and the junction with the 41st Division on its left. The Japanese attacked in a series of suicidal frontal attacks all night long night after night. The first night wave after wave of Japanese threw themselves at our position in a successful attempt to gain two objectives, 1st, to destroy our land mines built by the engineers in front of our position, and, 2nd, to infiltrate snipers into our position. To understand this situation, I should explain that the Japanese attacked all night, night after night, but retired in the day time when we found ourselves pinned to our foxholes during the daylight hours. We estimated that after the first attack the Japanese had successfully placed 1,000 snipers between the regiment's main line of resistance and the RFL 2,000 yards in the rear.

The Japanese constantly attacking at night succeeded on the second night in throwing wave after wave of men on the barb wire in front of our position thereby forming a human bridge of dead Japanese over the wire for use by their men in their 3rd suicidal attempt to take the position.

The first night of the attacks on Bataan, the Japs successfully folded the flanks of our 3rd Bn. and the 41st Division on the left, pushed the snipers mentioned before through our position and occupied some of the foxholes of Co. K., 3rd Bn., 57th Inf. A counter attack by three companies of the 2nd Bn., 57th Inf. successfully retook the lost position. The fourth attack by the Japanese was also successful, they having gained the same objective.



(2)

Mr. Alexander R. Nininger, February 20, 1944.

The Reserves of the 57th Inf. having been committed, two Bns. of the 21st Division P. A. were attached to the 57th Inf. These two Bns. then regardless of snipers made the first and only attack on Bataan under a rolling barrage and reestablished our front line.

Eleven attacks in all were made against this position. Japanese forces in our immediate front withdrew after these attacks and later as you know selected a position in the Mountains where there was no artillery to make their successful break through which caused the entire Abucay-Moron line to retire to the line Pilar BIGAC.

I have given you the above sketchy outline of our situation in order to show you why Sandy's actions followed. It must be remembered that Officers and men though well trained were actually green troops under battle conditions. With the exception of myself no single Officer or man in the entire Combat Team, Inf. artillery, engineers or medical corps had ever been under fire. The bizarre and extraordinary tactics of the Japs confused and amazed us all. Fire-crackers and drums - wild attacks seemingly going nowhere - whole companies of Japanese showing themselves in front of fields of cane merely to draw our fire to establish our machine gun installations. The lack of flares to light up No Man's Land combined with the weird and unearthly screams in the native Filipino language by the snipers who had established themselves in trees inside of our position makes it in retrospect seemly almost impossible that the troops held on as they did.

Your Son was in the First Bn., 57th Inf. and, therefore, to justify his death in the area of Co. K., 3rd Bn., 57th Inf. I must explain the situation of the 1st Bn. In order that the Japanese forces be stopped from attempting to go around the right flank of the Sector by swimming or in boats, companies A. & B. 1st Bn. took up positions along a two mile fish pond dike which extended through the mangrove trees to establish fields of fire in front of the position. As it turned out these two companies on the dikes were never attacked except by a constant strafing by Japanese planes. The dikes were about six feet high and about three feet wide. Individual standing foxholes were built for the men the length of the dike. At this point I might tell you that I visited this position nightly during the construction and I saw no one as happy as your Son, Sandy during this particular time. The difficulties of supplies, food, water and ammunition and lack of sleep apparently agreed with him. His enthusiasm and delight in my praise of his efforts were contagious. At that time his attitude struck me as the attitude of a soldier who at last was doing the job he had been trained to do.

Again this position was never attacked and the Officers from the very first attack were constantly volunteering for all sort of missions which would help the 3rd Bn. and their own Co. C. on the mainland which was also under constant attack. Capt. A. W. Wermuth, commanding the machine gun Co., Co. D., 1st Bn. was the first available Officer since his Co. was attached to the companies on the front line. Sandy received permission to go sniper hunting on the 10th and 11th of January. Please picture the situation again in his organization. No sleep for nights on end - only a standing foxhole in which to rest during the day. The tired, worn feeling



(3)

Mr. A. R. Mininger, February 20, 1944.

and under constant anxious strain, and with the news on the morning of January 12th that our lines as described above in Co. K's Sector were ruptured, and that more Japanese snipers had infiltrated into our position.

You have, of course, read of the marvelous ability of the Japanese to construct sniper nests in trees. I have personally walked up to a bole of a tree, looked up into the branches and seen absolutely nothing, yet in that same tree six Japs were killed while I was still in that vicinity. Three members of the 57th Inf. also sniper hunting walked into and stepped upon a group of fifty Japanese soldiers magnificently camouflaged lying prone upon the ground. They killed all fifty without one moving a muscle while they were alive.

Sandy received my permission to go forward in the 3rd Bn. Sector with two of his men. He was loaded down with grenades and with a Garand rifle slung over his shoulders. He carried under his arm a Japanese "Tommy Gun". Instead of concentrating on snipers in his own area, he evidently decided that there were more Japs in the area behind Co. K. Many reports of his action and the action for which I recommended him for the Congressional Medal of Honor were reported to me by the Company Commanders of L. and M. Companies as well as other corroborating reports from men in Co. K.

To the best of my remembrance of those reports, Sandy shot his first Jap out of a tree and as the Jap's body fell at his feet he was so excited he stood up in the face of terrific rifle fire and yelled like a school boy. He apparently was wounded at that time since his leg was apparently bandaged. From then on Sandy apparently went berserk. He threw grenade after grenade. Men of Co. K. counted some 20 Japs killed by his grenades. Our counter attack was succeeding and their artillery laid down a fearful barrage. Many reports of further action by Sandy were then made by the 2nd in command of the 2nd Bn. 57th Inf. making the counter attack to regain Co. K's position. Sandy apparently had used up all of his Jap ammunition and was now using his bayonet and leaping from one shell hole to another. At this time he was wounded a second time since a first aid man crawled to his assistance. Sandy must have had a premonition that he was going to die because the first aid man could not hold him in that shell hole. His final action as described by this same officer was when he saw Sandy wounded again and when he seemed to be staggering from loss of blood, three Japs charged toward him with bayonets. He killed all three of them and apparently fell from exhaustion and weakness. From the reports of the first aid men when they crawled to him, he was dead and a dead Jap Officer lay across his legs. I cannot tell you how many of the enemy Sandy accounted for but this I will say, his personal actions at this particular time cannot possibly be evaluated. Suffice to say his action acted like a tonic on the men around him and added greatly to the success of our counter attack.

Your Son died a real hero. He was recklessly brave, and the action in which he gave his life to his country proved. Posthumous medals or honors which you receive can never make up to you the loss of your dear Son. The fact that he was so brave and fine and that he received the first Congressional Medal of Honor awarded in this war must in some measure help to heal the wound of his passing.



(4)

Mr. Alexander R. Nininger, Feb. 20, 1944.

QUESTION 2.

"Describe his funeral and location of grave. Full name of Chaplain, and is Chaplain known to be alive now?"

ANSWER - Sandy's remains were carefully brought to the church in the town of Abucay, Province of Bataan, The Philippines. Captain Cecina, Chaplain 57th Inf. held a reverent and beautiful service for him. He is buried in grave No. 9 behind the South wall of the Abucay Church beside many of my fine brave young Officers who also died in that same action. Men of his Company carefully placed the exotic flowers of the Philippines upon the wooden cross that marks his last resting place. I was present personally for your Son's funeral services. It was beautiful and reverent, honoring a man that I loved, one of my fine young Officers and a brave man. I may say that his men loved him too, and his memory will live with them as long as they live.

QUESTION 3.

"You said that you had promoted him to 1st Lt. in December, 1941. I have never received official notice of this promotion and published information carries his rank as 2nd Lt."

ANSWER - I am not prepared to make a sworn statement to the effect that Lt. Nininger actually accepted his promotion to a 1st Lt. by actually taking the oath of office, but the following facts are true statements: I visited all command posts in the 1st Bn., 57th Inf. on December 31, 1941, when I informed all concerned personally, including Lt. Nininger, that Headquarters, USAFFE had told me over the telephone that my promotion recommendations had been approved and that I might so inform all concerned. I was told also that actual mimeographed orders would be delayed on account of the volume of such orders throughout the Command and because of lack of facilities for printing such orders. I can further state though the actual date evades my memory, that the promotion order containing his name was received at my command post prior to his death. I have described the situation on Bataan prior to this death and it is possible that he either did not take the oath of office or that his oath of office might well have been destroyed by enemy fire or through some inadvertence have failed to reach USAFFE Headquarters on Corregidor for recording. The order I refer to promoted him to 1st Lt. as of December 19, 1941. To the best of my remembrance it was officially reported to me and I am sure that I remember correctly when I say that accepted oaths of office for all Officers in the regiment for promotion were forwarded to higher headquarters. Further when I wrote his citation I might easily have been thinking of this very young man who had joined my regiment direct from U.S.M.A. as a 2nd Lt. instead of properly noting his increased rank. I regret the error if it was mine.

There is little that I can add to the very carefully chosen words of his citation except to say that from the time he joined my regiment until the day he gave his life for his country, he was an outstanding Officer in every respect. He exemplified duty, honor, country and reflected great credit on his regiment, his Alma Mater, the Army and his country.

Very truly yours,

*R. Barker*



Sept. 10, 1946

Major General T. B. Larkin  
 Quartermaster General  
 War Dept.  
 Washington D. C.

In re: QMGYG 293  
 Maynard, Lieut David W.  
 SN O 384 762  
 Distinguished Service Cross  
 and Purple Heart

EXHIBIT

6

Memorial Division

Dear Sir:-

We received a letter from your office stating that they had no record of the burial place of my son which certainly was surprise. We have waited five years for information confirming reports from other sources as to his grave.

For your information a quotation from Col George S. Clarke of the 67th Infantry:

"Davids remains were brought back to the Church in the town of Abucay, Province of Bataan, P. I. Five of my brave young officers were buried on that same day in that same Church Yard. Chaplain Scecina performed the burial rites.

For your personal information, David is buried in Grave #6 behind the South Wall of the Abucay Church, in the Churchyard."

This letter was practically been confirmed by Maj. Franklin O Anders also of the 57th Infantry. I quote Maj. Anders,

"In the first four days we lost your son, Lt. David Maynard, Lieut Ken Wilson, Lt. Compton, Lt. Green, Lt. Nininger, and Capt Meyer.

Father Scecina conducted Services at the graves of American Officers killed at Mabatang in the Abucay Church Yard."

I know the Church at Abucay was destroyed, but boys who came back from the prison camps, state that on the death march they saw five or six graves with markers at the Abucay Church.

I believe these facts will give you something to work on. Mrs. Maynard requested a information pamphlet (The Gold Star Mothers received some copies) which your office was reluctant to send, I suppose they are reserved for a few, but not for all Gold Star Mothers.

Cordially,

Herbert Blair Maynard

MAN  
 File

*9 Aug 50*  
*Chas. E. Quinn*

Identification Branch

COPY

Incl # #2



EXHIBIT  
7

CRESTVIEW 6-1935

HAROLD M. IMERMAN, M. D.  
416 NORTH BEDFORD DRIVE  
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

October 10, 1949

T. H. Metz  
Lt. Colonel, QMC  
Memorial Division

re: QMGMT 293  
Nininger, Alexander R. Jr.  
1st Lt, O-23761

293

Dear Sir:

In regard to your request of September 28, 1949, regarding First Lieutenant Alexander R. Nininger, Jr., I can furnish you with the following information:

1. Lieutenant Nininger was shot by Japanese snipers and brought into the hospital at Abucay, Luzon, P.I. and was found to be dead on admission.
2. There were other casualties but I do not remember their names.
3. I was not present at the burial of Lieutenant Nininger.
4. If I can recall correctly, Lieutenant Nininger was buried in the immediate vicinity of the church of Abucay, probably in the church yard.
5. Father Secina officiated. Unfortunately Father Secina is deceased.
6. Lt. Colonel John Raulston, Medical Corps, was also present at the time that Lieutenant Nininger met his death. Lt. Colonel Raulston is in the regular army and is in active duty some where here in the United States.

This is about all the information that I am able to give you regarding the circumstances of Lieutenant Nininger's death and burial. I do not think that Lieutenant Nininger was buried in the Abucay cemetery and I am quite certain that he was buried in the vicinity of the church yard. As to the exact point where he was buried, I am afraid I am not able to furnish this information. I am



Sincerely,  
*Harold M. Imerman*

Harold M. Imerman, M.D.  
Major, Medical Corps  
A.S.N. O-3-3361

HMI:rb  
enc

**NAN**  
**File**  
18 OCT 1949  
Ea Kaye  
**Identification Branch**



EXHIBIT

8

QMGMT 293  
Nininger, Alexander R. Jr.  
1st Lt. O-23761

26 October 1949

SUBJECT: Identification of World War II Deceased

THRU : Commanding Officer  
Medical Center  
477 1st Avenue  
New York City, New York

TO : John W. Raulston  
Lt. Col. O-20401  
Medical Center  
477 1st Avenue  
New York City, New York

1. It has come to the attention of this Office that you may have personal knowledge concerning the circumstances relative to the death of 1st Lt. Alexander R. Nininger, Jr., O-23761.

2. Since this Office is currently attempting to recover and identify the remains of Lieutenant Nininger, the information which you possess may serve as a valuable aid in our investigation. Therefore, it will be greatly appreciated if you can furnish this Office a statement of the facts in this case with particular emphasis on the following information:

a. What were the circumstances surrounding the death of Lieutenant Nininger?

b. Were other casualties also involved? If so, can you recall their names?

c. Were you present at the burial of Lieutenant Nininger? If so, can you furnish a detailed description of the burial site with relationships to any prominent landmarks?

d. Can you furnish any information concerning the number of other graves in the immediate area?

e. If other individuals witnessed the burial, can you furnish their names?



QMGMT 293

Nininger, Alexander R., Jr.

1st Lt. O-23761

26 October

SUBJECT: Identification of World War II Deceased

f. Inclosed are two copies of drawings purportedly showing the area of Lieutenant Nininger's burial. Can you mark the location and return the drawings to this Office?

3. In the event that you are unable to answer the inquires outlined above, any information which you deem pertinent is requested.

4. In order to expedite action in this case, a reply at the earliest practicable date is also requested.

FOR THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

2 Incls

- 1. Photo copy of drawing
- 2. " " " "

T. H. METZ  
Lt. Colonel, QMC  
Memorial Division

WAR  
File

~~21 Nov. 1949~~

~~EA Kapp~~

Identification Branch

1st Ind

Headquarters, Station Hospital, 1301st ASU, Fort Monmouth, NJ

5 Nov 1949

TO: Office of the Quartermaster General, Washington 25, D.C.

1. I have personal knowledge concerning the death of several officers at Abucay. I was in command of a medical collecting station located in the Catholic church in the early part of the Bataan campaign. At this time I can recall the name of only one, McCurdy, a dental officer killed by a bomb near the church. There was another officer killed by the same bomb. He was sitting on a motorcycle at the time. There was another officer who had been shot in the head by a Jap sniper, brought in to the collecting station at another time, and another who had stepped on a land mine and was killed by the explosion, but this one was a Major. I vaguely recall his name being Freidman, but am not sure. There were one or two others killed in their foxholes by snipers whose bodies could not be retrieved for awhile. I am not sure now that we ever recovered them; if so, they were probably buried on the spot.

2. In regard to the burials, when it became necessary for the front line units to take care of that function, a Chaplain by the name of Secina supervised it. He kept records, but he lost his life in 1944 on a Jap transport which was tor-



QMGMT 293

Nininger, Alexander R., Jr.

Lt Lt. O-23761

5 November 1949

SUBJECT: Identification of World War 11 Deceased

pedoed. I do not know whether his records were left in the Philippines or not. He established a little graveyard in the plot of ground within the five foot walk around the church. I cannot recall definitely the exact spot where the graves were located, but I have indicated on the map the general area to the best of my recollection, and have also added some building structures to the drawing of the church. I estimate that about six burials were made there. The burials were done under cover of darkness. I was not present at the burials.

3. I do not recall the name of Lt. Nininger. I submit the above information thinking that he may have been one of the group whose names I do not recall. Is there any information about it that might be supplied to me as a clue in identifying him in my memory other than the report that he was buried in Abucay?

*John W. Raulston*  
JOHN W. RAULSTON  
Lt. Colonel, Medical Corps  
United States Army

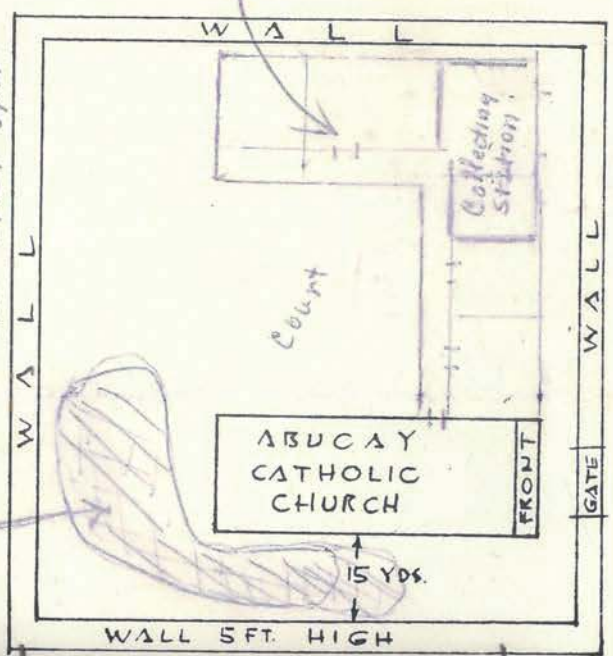
2 Incls



# ABUCAY, BATASAN

*Graves believed to have been in this general area, unable to recall exact spot.*

*Annex to Church - Priest's residence upstairs, Storage room, eye down stairs*



TO SAMAL

MUNICIPAL GOV'T BLDG. ABUCAY



D

A

BRIDGE

O

R

TO BALANGA

ABUCAY CEMETERY



EXHIBIT

9

5200 Brittany Dr., So., Apt. 509  
St. Petersburg, Florida, 33715

September 27, 1985

(Rec'd 10/10)

Mr. John Alexander Patterson  
Director  
Lusaka-Dept. of State  
Washington, D.C., 20520

Dear Mr. Patterson:

It was a pleasure to receive your letter in regards to your Uncle. I hope that I may be able to furnish you with some information that may prove beneficial in locating the grave site you are seeking. I assure you I shall be most happy in assisting you in any way possible and would consider it a privilage, never a bother. Now to try to answer most of your questions.

Col. Clarke, as you noted, would be a very poor source of information. In the first place he was not present in the area when these incidents occurred. Shortly after our regiment helped establish the M.L.R. at Abucay, he was relieved from duty as our C.O. and sent back to the states. Anything that he might say would be unreliable due to his mental state at that time. It is too bad that you could not have contacted Gen. Harold Johnson, Col. Ed. Wernitznig or Chaplain Secina when they were alive for all three would have had first hand information that would have been beneficial to you. Chaplain Secina was the Catholic Chaplain to whom I referred in my first letter. Gen. Johnson actually commanded the 57th Inf. Reg. during Col. Clarke's presences and Col. Wernitznig was the Regimental Surgeon.

I have indicated some measurements on the enclosed map which I hope will be of some help to you. Please bear in mind that they are dependent upon three possible variables. First, my memory after 43 years; second, that the road and bridge are in the same location as in 1942; third, the stream bed is in the same location as it was in 1942. The location of the grave sites was 150 feet west of the road and 50 feet south of the bank of the stream. As to the other four officers you asked about, Wilson, Green, Compton and Maynard, I believe that Compton and Maynard were buried in the same location, but I am very sorry that I do not recall knowing the



2/

location of Wilson and Green. In event these sites are discovered, identity of the remains would be simple for I know that one of their dogtags was buried with each. Please remember that during combat I was with Hq. and Hq. Company and your Uncle was with the 3rd Bn., which is why I am not more knowledgeable about his activities.

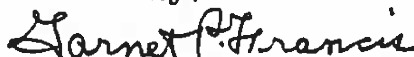
I naturally feel the same way about the Scouts as you. They were a dedicated, loyal and dependable group. In my opinion they should be recognized as being among the best soldiers the U.S. Army has ever had at any time. I have felt they never received the credit they so richly deserved for their outstanding service during the war and what they accomplished against overwhelming odds. They denied the Japs occupation of Manila Bay, which the Japs had to have as a resupply depot for their intended invasion of Australia, long enough for Australia to organize their defenses. As a result the Japs were stopped on their invasion route in the Philippines. Without the fight the Scouts put up, Australia would have been invaded. The Japs never defeated the Scouts.

The contributing factors to our defeat were hunger, we went on half rations in December; disease, we had very little in the way of drugs; lack of ammunition, there was no resupply of any expendables; air-coverage was nonexistent; our complete and total physical exhaustion.

I fear I have rambled on to some extent for which I hope you will forgive me. You are free to use anything I send you in any manner that may assist you in the successful pursuit of your mission. I can only hope that some of the above will be helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

I will be interested in learning of any success you might have in this matter.

Sincerely,

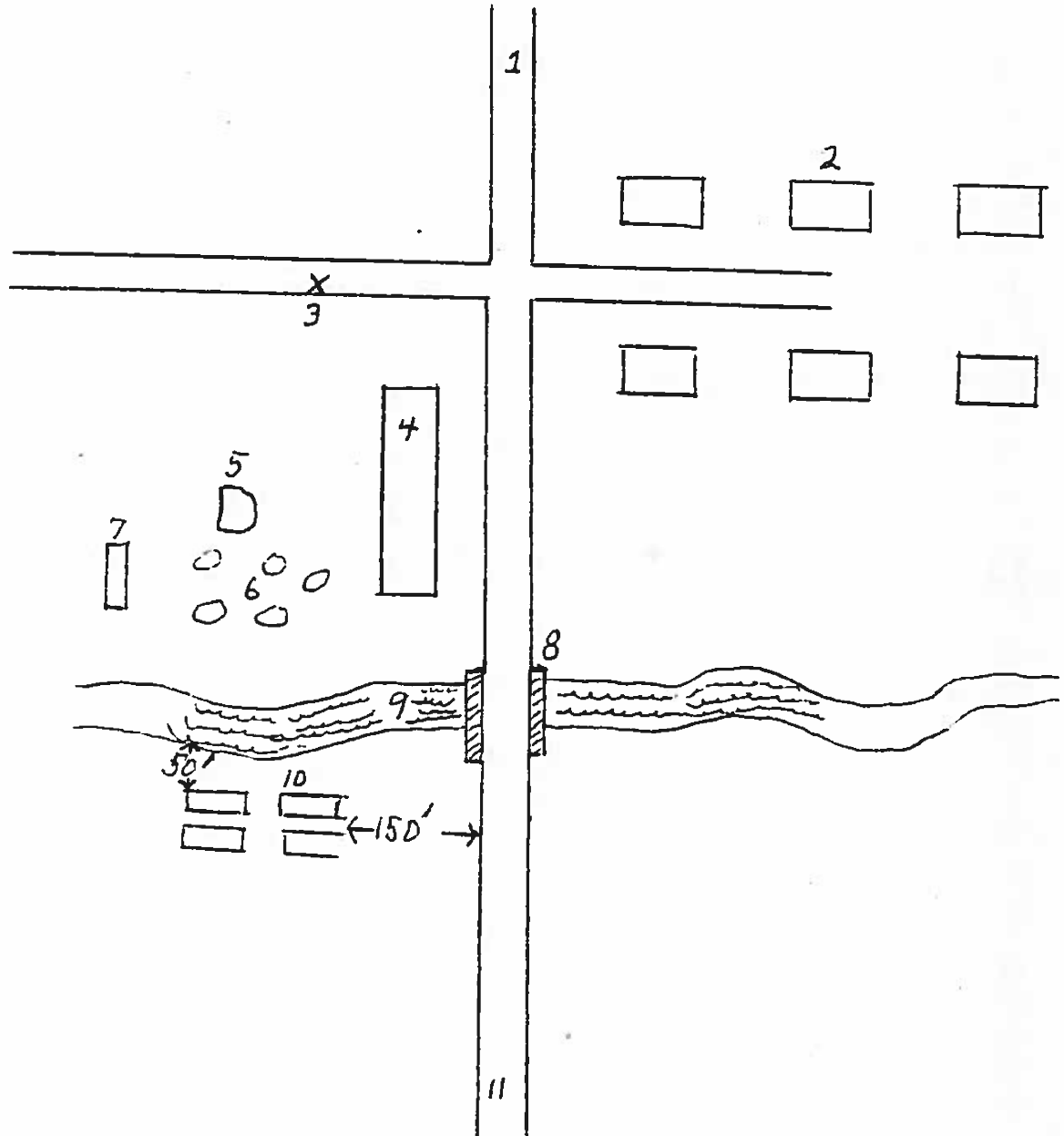
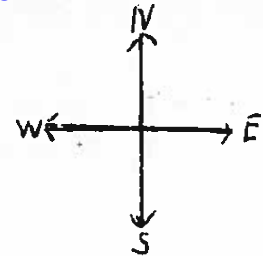


Garnet P. Francis  
Col., USA (Ret.)

Encl.



- 1- Road to Manila
- 2- Village of Abucay
- 3- The spot where Capt. McCurdy was killed.
- 4- Church
- 5- Underground CP
- 6- Fox holes
- 7- Latrine
- 8- Bridge
- 9- Stream leading to Manila Bay
- 10- Site of at least four grave sites.
- 11- Road to Marivalles.



7/20/65



**EXHIBIT****10**

HEADQUARTERS  
PHILCOM ZONE  
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE

PRN/TLA/cvs\*

APO 900  
8 December 1948

CASE HISTORY FOR REMAINS CONSIDERED IDENTIFIABLE

NININGER, Alexander J., Jr., 2nd Lt., O-23 761  
UNKNOWN X-4685, AGRS Mausoleum, Manila, P.I.  
(BTB NININGER, Alexander R., Jr.)  
(Formerly X-1130, USAF Cem. Manila #2, P.I.)

BASIS FOR DECLARING REMAINS IDENTIFIABLE

1. Time, place and cause of death of UNKNOWN X-4685 indicated on the ROI are in agreement with those of 2nd Lt. Alexander J. NININGER, Jr. indicated on OQMG Form 371. (See Incls. 1 and 2).

2. Information contained in a letter from A. R. Nininger, next of kin, states that 2nd Lt. Alexander J. NININGER, Jr. was buried in the churchyard of Abucay, Bataan, P.I., in a grave marked No. 9, which is in agreement with the place of recovery of UNKNOWN X-4685 (formerly interred at USAF Cem. Manila #2 as Unknown X-1130, BTB NININGER, Alexander R., Jr. (See Incls. 2, 4 and 6).

3. Branch of service, grade and organization listed on ROI and ROS for UNKNOWN X-4685 are in agreement with data indicated on OQMG Form 371 for 2nd Lt. Alexander NININGER, Jr. (See Incls. 1, 2 and 4).

4. Circumstances of death, recovery and burial of UNKNOWN X-4685 are in agreement with data on OQMG Form 371 for 2nd Lt. NININGER, Jr. (See Incls. 1, 2, 3, and 5).

5. Dental chart of UNKNOWN X-4685 shown on QMG Form 1044a compares favorably with that of 2nd Lt. Alexander NININGER, Jr. indicated on OQMG Form 371. (See Incls. 1 and 4).

6. It is recommended that the remains of UNKNOWN X-4685, AGRS Mausoleum, Manila, P.I. (Hanger 810, Bay B, Cypert 451), be identified as those of 2nd Lt. Alexander J. NININGER, Jr., O-23 761.

IDENTIFICATION ACCEPTED. APPROVAL RECOMMENDED: 17 Dec. 1948

s/ Teodoro M. Ronquillo	s/ Elee L. Tyler	s/ Edward J. Brucher
t/ TEODORO M. RONQUILLO	t/ ELEE L. TYLER	t/ EDWARD J. BRUCHER
1st Lt.,	Major, Inf	Major,
O-1 896 440	O-324 330	O-199 445
Member	Member	President, Board of Review

C O P Y



EXHIBIT

11

HQ Philcom AG File 293

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO QMGMT 293

17 February 1949

Unknown X-4685  
GRS Mausoleum Manila, P.I.  
(X-1130, USAF Manila #2, P.I.)

SUBJECT: IDENTIFICATION OF UNKNOWN DECEASED

TO : Commanding General  
Philippine Command  
APO 707, c/o Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

ATTENTION: AGRS, PHILCOM ZONE

1. Reference is made to Board Proceedings for Unknown X-4685, AGRS Mausoleum Manila P.I., formerly X-1130, USAF, Cemetery Manila #2, P.I., dated 8 December 1948, recommending the identification of these remains as 1st Lt. Alexander R. Nininger, Jr. O-23 761.
2. A review of the case reveals that the estimated height for these remains is not in agreement with Army Records for Lt. Nininger. Although dental comparison is not unfavorable, other remains recovered with X-1130 from this vicinity also reveal favorable dental characteristics which could be associated with Lt. Nininger.
3. Information furnished this Office by father indicates that Lt. Nininger was interred in grave nine behind the south wall of the Abucay Church. Remains of X-1130 were recovered from grave nine, Soldiers Row, Abucay Cemetery. It is requested that this Office be advised whether these locations are the same.
4. In the event that these grave locations are not similar, it is requested that the area behind the south wall of the Abucay Church be investigated in an effort to recover the remains of 1st Lt. Nininger, O-23 761.
5. Revised OQMG Form 371 for subject deceased is inclosed as an aid to identification. Board Proceedings are suspended.

FOR THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

*T. H. Metz*  
T. H. METZ  
Lt. Colonel, QMG  
Memorial Division

1 Incl:OQMG  
Form 371 (in dup)(Nininger)

NAH  
File

2 July 50  
*[Signature]*  
Identification Branch



EXHIBIT

12

HEADQUARTERS  
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE  
PHILCOM ZONE

PRN/IM/mmnr

APO  
26 April 1949

SUPPLEMENTAL CASE HISTORY FOR REMAINS CONSIDERED IDENTIFIABLE

NININGER, Alexander R., Jr., 2nd Lt., O-23761  
UNKNOWN X-4685, AGRS Mausoleum, Manila, P.I.  
(Formerly X-1130, USAE Cem. Manila #2, P.I.)

BASIS FOR DECLARING REMAINS IDENTIFIABLE

1. The following are additional findings and results of further investigation to support and supplement previous recommendation that the remains of UNKNOWN X-4685 be identified as those of 2nd Lt. Alexander R. NININGER, Jr., O-23761:

a. Letter from Herbert B. Maynard, dated 10 Sept. 1946, indicates that Lt. NININGER, Lt. Maynard, Lt. Kenneth Wilson, Lt. Compton, Lt. Green, and Capt. Meyer, casualties of the 57th Inf., were buried behind the south wall in Abucay Churchyard. (See Incl. 4).

b. OQMG Form 371 for Lt. NININGER was compared with available records of all the other Unknowns recovered behind the south wall in Abucay Churchyard with negative results. (See Incls. 5A, B & C).

c. UNKNOWN X-1359, a recovery from Cuitol 33rd Inf., P.S. Cemetery, Bataan, has been recommended for identification as that of Lt. David W. Maynard. (See Incls. 6A and B).

d. UNKNOWN X-1572, a recovery from an isolated grave at San Pedro St., Hermosa, Bataan, has been recommended for identification as that of Lt. Kenneth Wilson. (See Incls. 7A and B).

e. Capt. Meyer was a Known recovery from Mariveles Cemetery #3, Bataan, P.I. (See Incls. 8A and B).

2. With reference to paragraph 3, OQMG letter, file OQMG 293, UNKNOWN X-4685, AGRS Mausoleum, Manila, P.I., 17 February 1949, subject: Identification of Unknown Deceased, the following are the findings which resulted in the reinvestigation to clarify the grave number in question. (See Incl. 2).

a. Original ROI for UNKNOWN X-4685 indicates the remains were disinterred from Grave 9, Soldiers Row, Abucay Cemetery. The Report of Disinterment indicates remains were disinterred 18 Jan 1946. (See Incl. 3A and B).

COPY



SUPPLEMENTAL CASE HISTORY FOR REMAINS CONSIDERED IDENTIFIABLE. (Cont'd)

NININGER, Alexander R., Jr., 2nd Lt., O-23761

b. Further search of records discloses a remains were recovered from Grave 9, Army Personnel Row, Abucay, Bataan, Luzon, P.I. The remains were identified as Pfc. Tranquilino Beles, 6738585, by means of a round tag found during disinterment. (See Incl. 9).

c. Dental record on OQM Form 371 for Lt. NININGER does not compare favorably with dental chart for the remains recovered from Grave 9, Abucay Churchyard and identified as Pfc. Beles. (See Incls. 1 and 9B).

d. In view of the above, it is believed that remains of UNKNOWN X-4685 recovered from Grave 9, Abucay Cemetery, are those of Lt. NININGER. (See Incls. 10A and B).

3. In view of the facts mentioned above and favorably comparison of dental data stated in previous case history, it is recommended that the remains of UNKNOWN X-4685, AGRS Mausoleum, Manila, P.I. (Hanger 810, Bay B, Crypt 451), be identified as those of 2nd Lt. Alexander R. NININGER, Jr., O-23761.

APPROVAL RECOMMENDED: 29 April 1949

/s/ John W. Weaver  
/t/ JOHN W. WEAVER  
1st Lt., QMC  
O-1 597 189  
Member

/s/ Paul E. Heineman  
/t/ PAUL E. HEINEMAN  
1st Lt., Inf  
O-1 312 677  
Member

/s/ Wilbur G. Hobbs  
/t/ WILBUR G. HOBBS  
1st Lt., Inf  
O-837 555  
Member



# AIRMAIL

EXHIBIT

13

QMC 293  
CIS Far East

23 September 1949

*293 Unk - P.I. X - 4685 (Mausoleum) Manila*

SUBJECT: Identification of World War II Deceased

TO : Commanding General  
Philippine Command  
APO 707, c/o Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

ATTN: AGPS, PHILCOM ZONE

1. Reference is made to Supplemental Board Proceedings, your headquarters, dated 26 April 1949, recommending the identification of Unknown X-4685, AGPS Mausoleum Manila, as the remains of 2d Lt Alexander R. Nining, O-23761.

2. Board Proceedings have been suspended pending an effort by this Office to obtain additional information concerning the death and burial of Lt Nining and his fellow officers.

FOR THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

T. H. METZ  
Lt. Colonel, QMC  
Memorial Division

REB

TEC

3:59 PM '49

Adm Section

A. Kazup:dal  
M. White  
J. Windsor



cc: CINCFE, APO 500

*X 293 G.R.S. Far East*  
*X 293 Nining, Alexander R.*  
**AIRMAIL (0-23761)**