

THE GUARDIA NEWS LETTER NO. 88 (18 TO 26 FEBRUARY 1932)

18 FEBRUARY 1932

Lieut Berueffy and patrol cleared Totogalpa for Ocotal escorting bull cart train. Arrived.

Raso Altamirano and patrol cleared Condega for Esteli.

Enlisted patrol cleared Ocotal for halfway to Telpaneca escorting Lieuts Beans, Muñoz and Rutledge (R). Met halfway patrol from Telpaneca, and Ocotal patrol returned to Station.

Sgt Acevedo and patrol cleared Jicaro for Apali and arrived.

Lieut Livermore and patrol cleared Telpaneca for halfway to Ocotal. Met Ocotal patrol and returned to Station escorting Lieuts Beans, Muñoz and Rutledge.

Cabo Altamirano and patrol cleared Dipilto for Ocotal and arrived.

Lieut Stanko and patrol cleared Palacaguina for and arrived Condega.

Lieut Zamora and patrol cleared Condega for Bromodero and Jocote to investigate bandit rumors.

Lieuts Johnson and Matamoros and combined N.A. and C.A. guardia patrol of 25 cleared La Trinidad to investigate report that bandit group was in area 22.0-47.8 McD map. Lieut Hutchcroft and patrol cleared Limay for area west of station to attempt to pick up bandit trail, and to operate on information obtained in that locality.

Sgt Acevedo and patrol cleared Apali for Jicaro. Arrived.

Lieut Zamora and patrol returned to Condega from combat mission.

Cabo Altamirano and patrol cleared Ocotal. Arrived Dipilto.

Raso Altamirano and patrol arrived Esteli from Condega.

Lieut Vogel and patrol arrived Pataste from Somoto.

Lieut Vogel and patrol cleared Pataste on patrol. Returned, nothing to report.

Lieut Stanko and patrol cleared Condega for and arrived Palacaguina.

Lieut Berueffy and patrol arrived Totogalpa from Ocotal.

Lieut Burns and patrol cleared Chichigalpa to Santa Gertrudis to investigate bandit group that had been there night before. Returned; no information.

Sgt Garcia and patrol cleared Chichigalpa for vicinity of Santa Gertrudis to reconnoiter.

Lieut Haubensak and patrol returned to Jinotega from combat patrol.

Captain Young (MC) and enl arrived Jinotega from Matagalpa.

Colonel Smith, Commanding Central Area, Captains Cox and Schwerin, Lieut Lee and patrol cleared Corinto Finca for Sajonia. Patrol arrived and returned to Corinto Finca.

19 FEBRUARY, 1932

Sgt Sanchez and patrol cleared Dipilto for Las Dificultades.

Lieuts Price and Burt and patrol cleared Condega for Pueblo Nuevo. Arrived.

Captain Williams and patrol cleared Somoto for area north of station.

Lieut Wallace and patrol cleared Jalapa for Apali. Arrived.

Enlisted patrol cleared for San Juan escorting Lieuts Beans, Munoz and Rutledge (R). Met halfway patrol from San Juan and returned to home station.

Cabo Ramirez and patrol cleared San Juan for halfway to Telpaneca. Returned; escorting Lieuts Beans, Munoz and Rutledge (R).

Lieuts Johnson and Matamoros and combined C.A. and N.A. guardia patrol of 25 returned to La Trinidad from combat mission.

Sgt Sanchez and patrol returned to Dipilto from Las Dificultades.

Lieuts Price and Kipp and patrol cleared Pueblo Nuevo for Condega and arrived.

Lieut Truesdale and patrol returned to San Juan. Patrol fired on by group of about 25, jefe unknown. Patrol returned fire Contact lasted about five minutes. GN casualties none, four bandits killed. 1 Shotgun, one cutacha, two dynamite bombs, detonators and miscellaneous articles captured. Point 235-360.

Lieut Cuadra cleared Leon for Chinandega on temporary duty.

Enlisted patrol cleared Leon for Los Portillos to act as road guards.

Sgt Garcia and patrol returned to Chichigalpa; captured one bandit with quantity of stolen goods in his possession.

Patrol of Cadets, Guardias and Auxiliares cleared Chinandega for El Obraje.

Auxiliare patrol cleared Chinandega for Chichigalpa.

Lieut Cuadra arrived Chinandega from Leon on temporary duty.

Patrol of Cadets, Guardias, Auxiliares cleared Chinandega for El Viejo by truck to patrol that place and to investigate rumors of bandits. Returned; reported all quiet.

Cadet, Enlisted and Auxiliare patrol returned to Chinandega from El Obraje.

Colonel Smith, Commanding Central Area, Captains Cox and Griffin, Lieut Lee and patrol arrived Jinotega from Corinto Finca.

Lieut Herregodts and patrol cleared Dario for Terrabona and Returned.

Lieut Elliott and patrol returned to San Isidro (CA) from combat mission.

Lieut Navarette cleared Muy Muy for Matiguas (CA) and returned

20 FEBRUARY 1932

Lieut Lopez arrived Leon from Managua for duty.

Lieut Griffith and patrol escorting civilians and stretcher case cleared Villanueva for Somotillo.

Captain Trumble, Captain Brauer, Lieut Kolsky, Lieut Rizo and 37 Cadets arrived Chinandega from San Juan de las Pencas.

1st Sgt. Chavarria and 20 auxiliares cleared for Beligica from Chinandega to operate for a period of six days against ladrones in that district.

Lieut Blanco and patrol cleared Santa Maria for Santa Emilia and vicinity.

Lieut Wallace and patrol cleared Apali for Jalapa and arrived.

Lieut Troser and patrol cleared Apali on combat mission .

Lieut Hamas and patrol cleared Jicaro on combat mission. Returned. Nothing to report.

Lieut McGorkle and patrol cleared Macuelizo on reconnaissance mission to Ococona. Returned. Area covered quiet.

Captain Gaspar and patrol with 5 civil prisoners arrived Jinotega from San Rafael.

Enlisted patrol arrived Jinotega from Matagalpa.

Lieut Cramer and patrol cleared Corinto Finca on combat mission

Lieut Frye and patrol reported Matagalpa from Cuatro Esquinas.

Lieut Fox (MC) arrived Matagalpa from Managua.

21 FEBRUARY 1932

Lieut Cuadra and patrol cleared Chinandega for San Juan de las Pencas.

Colonel Watson, Director of Operations, Captain Truble, Captain Brauer, Lieuts Golsky, Rizo, Hancock and 54 Cadets cleared Chinandega for Managua.

Captain Skinner and enl cleared Chinandega for El Viejo to investigate disturbance at that place. Returned.

Enlisted patrol cleared Chinandega for El Viejo. Returned with one prisoner.

Lieut Atwell and patrol cleared Villanueva for El Sauce. Arrived

Enlisted patrol returned to Leon from Los Portillos.

Lieut Zamora and patrol cleared Daraili for and arrived Condega.

Sgt Acevedo and patrol cleared Jicaro to operate on local information.

Lieut Kipp and patrol returned to Condega from combat mission. Nothing to report.

Captain Williams and patrol returned to Somoto. Covered areas of San Pedro, Agua Caliente, Gualiguime, Sonis, Porteros, La Presa, and Las Lajas.

Lieut Blanco and patrol returned to Santa Maria from area of Santa Emilia. All quiet in that vicinity.

Enlisted patrol cleared Esteli with two civilians on police mission north of Esteli.

Lieut Zamora and patrol cleared Condega for and arrived Daraili.

Enlisted patrol cleared Jinotega for halfway to Corinto Finca. Patrol minus two enlisted; returned to Jinotega.

Lieut Brannon and patrol cleared Corinto Finca for halfway to Jinotega. Returned.

Lieut Castillo and patrol cleared La Concordia for halfway to Yali and returned.

Lieut Escobar and patrol cleared Yali for halfway to La Concordia. Returned.

Lieut Frye and enl cleared Matagalpa for Cuatro Esquinas.

22 FEBRUARY 1932

Lieutenant C. Cuadra C. (MC) with Chinandega patrol of five Guardias, Six Municipal Police and five Auxiliares had contact near OBREGON, about seven miles south of Chinandega at 1730 with group of about thirty bandits, jefe unknown. Fight lasted about five minutes when bandits fled in three directions. Bandit casualties, one killed and indications of several bandits wounded. Guardia casualties one wounded. 1st Sgt Chavarria and another guardia patrol took up the pursuit.

Lieuts Trosper and Wallace with patrol cleared Jalapa for vicinity of Limon.

Liwut Truesdale and patrol cleared San Juan for vicinity of Las Canas.

Lieut Livermore and patrol cleared Telpaneca on reconnaissance patrol.

Enlisted patrol with two civilians returned to Esteli from police mission. Captured two prisoners with sixty pounds of tobacco.

Lieut Stanko and patrol cleared Palacaguina for and arrived Condega.

Sgt Acevedo and patrol arrived Jicaro.

Lieut Kipp and patrol cleared Condega on combat mission.

Lieut Zamora and patrol cleared Condega for Vicinity of Los Potreros on reconnaissance mission.

Lieut Mendoza and patrol cleared Esteli on combat mission .

Lieut Keller and patrol arrived San Fernando from Ocotal. At Las Cruces patrol met three men, two armed with shot guns, the other with pistol. Captured one and one firearm. Other two men escaped in brush.

Lieut Livermore and patrol returned to Telpaneca. Covered areas 360-205, 363-205 thence east to Coco River. Captured one prisoner and 14 lbs tobacco.

Sgt Sanchez and patrol cleared Dipilto to repair telephone line. Returned to Dipilto.

Lieut Zamora and patrol returned to Condega from reconnaissance mission. Nothing to report.

Lieut Brown and patrol cleared Ocotal for and arrived Matagalpa.

Lieut Griffin and patrol arrived Limay.

Lieut Martinez and patrol arrived Esteli from El Sauce.

Enlisted patrol cleared Matagalpa for Jinotega.

Lieuts Ledbetter and Ragsdale with patrol cleared Navarro for Consuelo and reported. (CA)

Enlisted patrol cleared Navarro for Matagalpa and reported.

Lieut Stevens and enl cleared Muy Muy for Esquipulas and reported.

23 FEBRUARY 1932

Lieut Cuadra and patrol arrived Chinandega from patrol.

Captain Elmore, Lieut Schuler, Lieut Gomez, Lieut Quadra with patrol arrived Chinandega from San Juan and Fuente Real.

Captain Elmore cleared Chinandega for and arrived Managua.

Lieut Gomez cleared Chinandega for and arrived Managua .

Lieut Brown and patrol cleared Totogalpa for Somoto. Arrived.

Lieut Cabrera and patrol cleared Somoto for Yalaguina and arrived.

Sgt RODRIGUEZ and patrol cleared Jalapa for vicinity of Totacacate on police mission. Returned; nothing to report.

Sgt Nufiez and patrol cleared Dipilto for Ocotal with one civil prisoner and arrived.

Lieut Livermore and patrol cleared Telpaneca for vicinity of San Francisco to investigate report of bandits in that area.

Lieut Collins (R) and patrol cleared San Fernando to repair telephone line.

Lieuts Hatcheroff and Martinez with combined Limay- El Sauce patrol cleared Limay on combat mission.

Lieut Gutierrez and patrol arrived Esteli.

Lieut Berueffy and patrol cleared Totogalpa on police mission to vicinity of 181-572. Returned with one prisoner.

Lieut Biltrey and patrol returned to Yalaguina.

Lieuts Wallace and Trosper and patrol returned to Jalapa.

Sgt Nufiez and patrol returned to Dipilto from Ocotal.

24 FEBRUARY 1952

Lieutenant Clark and (NA) guardia patrol of 19 enlisted from Daraili had contact with large group of bandits thought to be under Salgado and Umanzor at 1200, near CARACOL (S.2-H.7) 5th regt Special Map, between Billa Nueva and Limay. Fight lasted two hours when bandits were dispersed, fleeing in all directions, with the main group heading northwest. Bandit casualties, eight known killed and several wounded. Guardia Casualties one killed and four wounded. Guardia patrols from El Sauce and Limay took up the pursuit.

Major Whaley, Captains Gaspar, Monson and Small, Lieuts Hall and Escobar with patrol cleared for La Concordia and arrived. from Yali. Cleared for San Rafael and arrived.

Enlisted patrol cleared San Rafael for halfway to Tomatoya. Arrived and returned to San Rafael.

Enlisted patrol arrived Corinto Finca from Sajonia and cleared to return.

Enlisted patrol cleared San Isidro (CA) on combat patrol.

Lieut Ragsdale and patrol cleared Consuelo (CA) for Nacarro and reported.

Lieut Foster and enl arrived Matagalpa from Managua.

Captain Mixson, Lieuts Ekburg, Stevens and Slattery with enl cleared Esquipulas for La Pineda.

Enlisted patrol reported Navarro from Cuatro Esquinas.

Lieut Livermore and patrol returned to Telpaneca from patrol.

Lieut Gutierrez and patrol cleared Esteli for El Sauce.

Lieut Clark and patrol cleared Villa Nueva for Achuapa .

Lieut Zavala and patrol cleared La Trinidad for halfway to Esteli. Cabo Lazo and patrol cleared Esteli for halfway to La Trinidad. Lieut Zavala and patrol returned to Esteli. Sgt Lopez and patrol returned to La Trinidad.

Lieut Zavala and patrol returned from combat mission in vicinity of Las Branzas. Nothing to report.

Lieuts Beans, Wysaski (R) and Munoz and patrol cleared San Juan for Telpaneca. Arrived .

Sgt Mondragon and patrol cleared Yalaguina for point one league west of station on police mission. Returned.

Lieut Berueffy and patrol cleared Totogalpa for Ocotal and arrived.

Lieut Collins (R) and patrol arrived from San Fernando to Apali.

Lieut Trosper and patrol arrived Apali.

Lieut Truesdale and patrol arrived Apali.

1st Sgt Mondragon and patrol cleared Yalaguina for a point one half league northwest of station on police mission.

Lieut Delgadillo and patrol cleared Ocotal for and arrived Totogalpa.

Lieut Darrah and Castrillo and patrol arrived El Sauce from patrol to Valle de las Zapatas.

25 FEBRUARY 1932

1st Sgt Chavarria and patrol returned to Chinandega from Belgica and vicinity. Reported all quiet.

Lieut Burns and patrol cleared Chichigalpa for Malamar and El Cerro to investigate bandits in that vicinity.

Captain McQueen , Lieut Atwell and patrol cleared El Sauce for area west of Achuapa.

Lieut Clark and patrol arrived El Sauce with 4 wounded.

Lieut Gutierrez and patrol arrived El Sauce.

Captain Fricke cleared Leon for Punta de Rieles on inspection Trip.

Enlisted patrol cleared Leon with bull cart train to El Pozo and to patrol that area.

R4127/43A/32

M I S C E L L A N E O U S

Following contact report and the endorsement thereon is quoted.

1st. Endorsement.

DEPARTMENT OF SOUTHERN BLUEFIELDS
GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA
BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA
FEBRUARY 15, 1932

From: The Department Commander.
To : The Area Commander, Eastern Area.
Subject: Contact report. Forwarded.
Reference: Harlan Pefley map.

1. The contacts as reported by Lt. Gray took place at (110.6 - 310.3) Harlan Pefley, the second (110.7-310.2).

2. The conduct of Lt. Gray; who cleared on my orders (due to there being no other available officer as my patrol and myself had just returned and were nearly exhausted. Lt. Rodriguez was sick,) was of the highest order of skill and courage. I personally covered the ground where both contacts took place and the defeat of the bandits was complete in both contacts. Such additional property taken from the bandits, and destroyed by my patrol later, was due to the initial contacts of Lieutenant Gray.

One additional dead bandit was found which made six killed by Lt. Gray patrol in the first contact. While no estimate was made of the wounded two Indians who being held captives; and who escaped during the contact stated that Simón González and Julio Castro were wounded. This is not certain by any means but is merely added as a matter of interest.

3. The Jefes were Pedro Irias, Simón González, Perfecto Chavarria and Julio Castro, a new but blood thirsty addition to the bandit forces.

4. The complete forces of the bandits and an estimate of the goods destroyed made certain that the bandits did not profit by their robbery of Tunky except for clothing they may have worn away. I consider this the most severe blow stolen property, and to my belief the largest recovery of stolen loot in the history of the Guardia.

The action of Lt. Gray and the patrol deserve the highest commendation.

RALPH D MCAFEE.

DEPARTMENT OF SOUTHERN BLUEFIELDS
GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA
BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA
4 FEBRUARY, 1932

From: 2nd Lt. E. T. Gray, District of Neptune Mine.
To : The Department Commander of Southern Bluefields.
Subject: Contact report.

1. Having information that a large group of bandits which sacked Tunky on January 28, 1932, were cutting a road to Waspook river, I cleared with the following patrol at 1200 1 Feb, 1932.

Lieutenant E. T. Gray.	
Sgt. Constine Casanova	#2701
Cabo Eliseo Vargas	2130
Raso Acdana Rodolfo	2485
" Emilio Alfredo	2272
" Alaniz Gumercindo	3084
" Domingo Avila	4458
" Chavarría Faustino	3742
" Chavas Rafael	4746
" Carzon Jesus	4809
" Gomez Leonardo	3283
" Alejandro Gorgsus	3489
2 civil guides. 2 pack animals.	

Patrol took a north east direction going through Eden Mines and camped in a small house near to Biltigni River, a tributary of the Waspook. 2 February cleared at 0600. Here it was necessary to cut trail to intercept the route taken by the bandits column. Cut trail until 1100 when a distinct trail of the bandits was found. This was followed for a short distance where it entered into the Biltigni River. Here the bandits had followed the river banks; crossing where necessary. The Biltigni river is small and rapid. The trail indicated a very large number of bandits. About 1200 a clearing was entered but which had not been under cultivation for some time being grown up higher than the head with woods. Here partly constructed bandit camps were found but no bandits. We proceeded cautiously seeing fresh tracks. The banks of the river were steeper and the two guides, six guardias and the mules were left after we cleared the first bandit camp, because they could not follow the trail. When I had proceeded about a half a mile down the river, a bandit approached the river bank from the opposite side with a balsa log. (Which were used in construction of rafts). This was the first man we had seen. He was about 100 yards ahead of us. We proceeded now very slowly and quietly. The river bank had dense cover which was fortunate. Our presence was not discovered.

2. We opened fire with the Thompson and B.A.R. at about 20 yards. The surprise of the bandits was complete and our position so close that they fled with very little resistance. They returned a feeble fire from the camp and some more from the high ground back of it, but in all the firing lasted less than five minutes. The bandits used only shotguns and rifles.

3. There were about 75 men in the camp when we attacked. We crossed the river as soon as fire has ceased. There were five dead. The amount of loot taken from Tunky was large

and most of it lay there in the camp in rubber sacks. This could not be carried as our mules were worn out. Most of the articles were in rubber sacks of which they were about 100. A rough estimate is given of the content.

- 100 trousers
- 100 shirts
- 50 hats
- 50 pair shoes
- 25 women dresses
- 75 blankets
- 20 rain coats

A great quantity of cloth in pieces. A great quantity of cooking utensils.

- 200 pound beans
- 300 " rice
- 200 " sugar
- 300 tins canned food.
- 20 lbs. coffee
- 5 lbs. tea.

These articles were either burned or thrown in the river.

The amount of military articles were:-

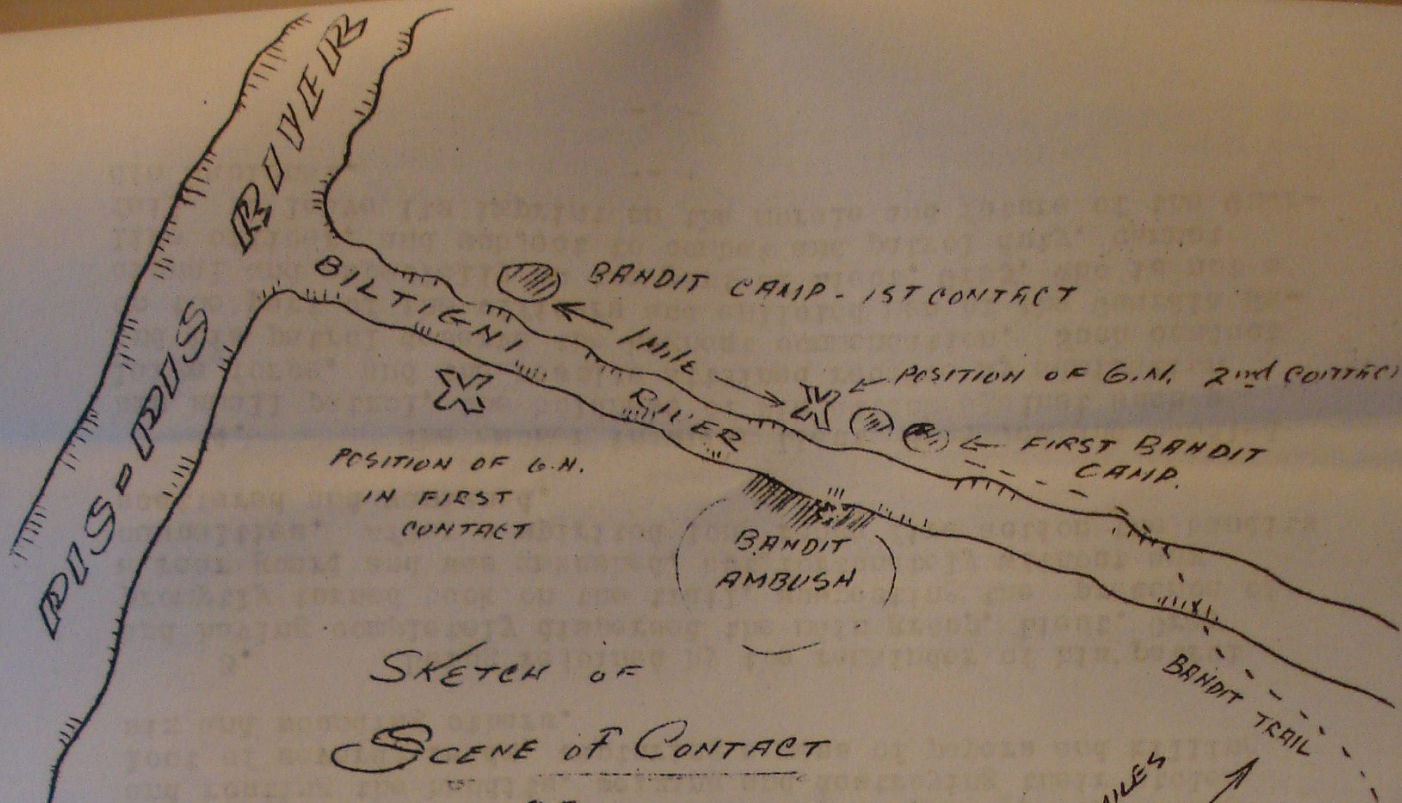
- 1 rifle Krag
- 3 shotguns
- 4 clips for Lugar pistol
- 2 lb. powder.

About 200 rounds assorted ammunition, mostly Krag Combat 1930 and 1917, which was reissued to Guardias after the second combat.

- 36 rounds Lugar.
- 6 round brass shotgun 12 and 16 gauge- Remington reloaded.
- 12 rounds 38 special piston Winchester.
- 30 Machetes. 2 pack bulls. (Killed in contact)
- 5 bandits killed. (Counted)
- Correspondence.

4. When we had destroyed everything, I returned and picked up the pack animals and guides. The guardias left behind had came up on hearing the firing, but too late to take place in the combat. I followed the same route back that I had taken down hoping to find some bandits at the first camp. The bandits were on a high bank on the opposite side of the river, while the Guardia were in the clear. The patrol took cover in a banana grove. The bandits opened a heavy fire including one Thompson. The fire increased when another Thompson fired on the patrol from an angle. Firing continued for about 20 minutes; it was not practical to advance across the river and up the bank in the face of the bandits fire. Careful placing of rifle grenades by Raso Acdana finally dislodged the bandits.

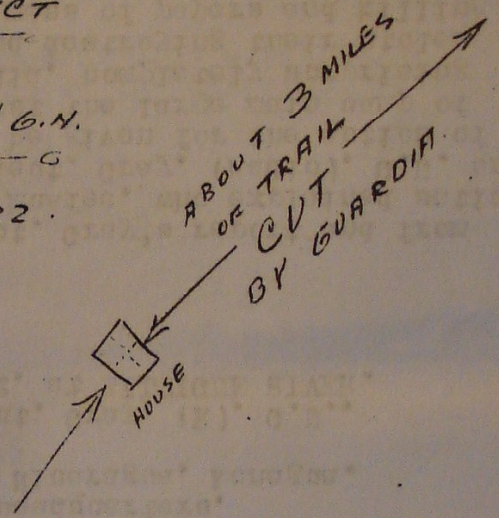
5. No examination of the bandits position could be made, due to the river and our own shortage of ammunition, as practically all the automatic arms and ammunition and all except one grenade had been used, along with the majority of rifle ammunition. This contact took place about 1600, the first one being at 1300.



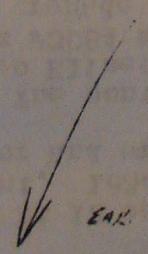
SKETCH OF
SCENE OF CONTACT

OF
LIEUT. GRAY (R) G.N.
2 FEBRUARY, 1932.

NEPTUNE
MINE
▽



TO NEPTUNE
MINE
10 MILES



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6. The weapons of the Guardias were 1 BAR, 1 TSMG., 1 Rifle with grenade discharger, 9 Rifles Krag, 1 pistol 45 and 1 Pistol 38.

The bandits were armed with 2 TSMG, Rifles, Pistols and shotguns. Guardia expended 150 rounds ammunition Springfield 1906. 120-45. 600 New Krag Combat.

It is estimated that the bandits expended a slighter lesser amount. 1830 camped on Beltingni River. 3 February; 0530 cleared for and arrived to Neptune Mine 1200.

7. The contact of the Guardia as a whole was satisfactory but Cabo Eliseo Vargas #2130 with the T.S.M.G., Raso Guernicidno Alaniz #3084 with the B.A.R. and Raso Rodolfo Acana #2485 with the grenade discharger were particularly cool and effective with their weapons.

EARL T. GRAY

Second Endorsement
HEADQUARTERS EASTERN AREA GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA
Bluefields, Nicaragua. 18 February 1932

From: Area Commander, Eastern Area.
To: The Jefe Director, Headquarters,
Guardia Nacional de Nicaragua, Managua.
Subject: Contact Report, Lieut. Gray, (R), G.N.,
on February 2nd 1932, at BILTIGNE RIVER.

1. Forwarded.

2. From a study of Lieut. Gray's report and from personal conversation with Captain McAfee, who explained satisfactorily the reason for sending Lieut. Gray, (Radio), G.N. on the patrol, too much credit cannot be given for the action of Lieut. Gray in boldly attacking first the large main camp of the bandits with only six (6) Guardia, completely surprising and routing the bandits, seizing and destroying their stolen loot of several raids, capturing a mass of papers and killing six and wounding others.

3. Being rejoined by the remainder of his patrol and having completely dispersed the main group, Lieut. Gray promptly turned back on the trail, suspecting the presence of a rear guard and was ambushed, but fortunately without any casualties. After a spirited long range fire action the bandits scattered and vanished.

4. The manner in which Lieut. Gray led and handled his small patrol, the boldness of his attack against such a large force, and the results attained receive my admiration and his patrol deserve the highest commendation. Such conduct on the part of the officers and enlisted men of the Guardia Nacional and especially on the part of Lieut. Gray, who is not a line officer, and subject to combat and patrol duty, cannot fail to leave its imprint on the morale and future of the Guardia Nacional.

5. I recommend that Second Lieutenant Earle T. Gray, (Radio), Guardia Nacional, be officially commended in official orders for his conduct and splendid results.

L. L. LEECH

DEPARTMENT OF SOUTHERN BLUEFIELDS
GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA
BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA
5 FEBRUARY 1932

From: Ralph D. McAfee, Captain, Guardia Nacional.
To : Area Commander, Eastern Area.
Subject: Patrol Report.

1. On return of Lieutenant Gray's patrol, I cleared Neptune Mines about 200 3 February with following patrol:-

Captain G.N.	Ralph D. McAfee,	
2nd Lt. G.N.	Adrian Somarriba,	
2nd Lt. G.N.	Juan B. Rodríguez	
Cabo	Carlos Martinez	#1849 G.N.
Raso	Cuarezma Hernandez	4772 G.N.
"	Aleman Francisco	4807 G.N.
"	Garzon Jesus	4809 G.N.
"	Hernandez Narciso	4745 G.N.
"	Ingram Regnabarríos	2428 G.N.
"	Sanchez, Feliz O.	4791 G.N.
"	Villalobos Ricardo	4808 G.N.
9 Civilians.		

2. Patrol followed route used by Lt. Gray's patrol, and camped in the first of the bandits camps at 1800. 4 February cleared at 0600 and searched camps for any information or articles, not destroyed by Lieutenant Gray's patrol. Found a large bandit camp on left Bank of Billigni River where previous patrol had been ambushed. This yielded some articles of food and clothing left by bandits but not much. This camp and the one in which we had slept would hold about 100 men.

3. The patrol proceeded on down the river to main bandit camp. There had been no signs of bandits returning to carry off any articles left. Here was found a fourth camp with one dead bandit. This fourth camp would hold about 30. The entire camp seem to be made for about 200 men which checks closely with the number reported by reliable authorities in Tanky.

4. In addition to the amount of bandit property destroyed by Lt. Gray the following was destroyed by my patrol:

45 Rubber sacks.
60 Pair Trousers.
20 Shirts.
10 Pair Shoes.
6 Cases of Soap.
20 Dozens Candles.

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Many articles of womens appareal. A supply of medicine such as salts, liniment, various pills and patent medicines. A small quantity of food stuff sufficient to feed the patrol there and on our return trip; a number of toilet articles, perfume and powder; and large quantity of jewelry; cooking utensils, lanterns, Carpenters tools, 50 lbs. nails and other items sonumerous, that it is difficult to enumerate them, being the stock as usually carried by a general larchandise store;

5. The Military articles captured:-

- 1 Rifle Krag
- 1 Rifle Con Con
- 2 Pistols 38, All Police Arms
- 1 Pistol 32, S. & W.
- 3 Dynamite Bombs
- 9 Detonators with fuses
- 13 Yards Krag, New Combat
- 1 Rd. Krag, W.A. 1917
- 1 Rl. 38 special Winchester
- 16 Rds. Lugar
- 5 12 Gauge Brass Shells - Remington UMC. Reloaded.
- 20 Cutachas and machetes.
- 4 Large Daggers.
- 1 Flag, about 3 Feet, Red and Black with Crossbone and skull. Numerous Red and Black hatbands and handkerchiefs.
- 10 or 12 Flashlights.
- A large number of Letters.

6. The amount of the property destroyed corresponds very closely to the amount stolen by the Bandits in Tunky, which was:-

- \$3,000 from one Chinese Store
- \$1,500 from another
- \$1,500 from Springer
- \$1,000 from Pedro Jarquin and Benjamin Smith.
- \$1,700 from individuals.
- \$ 750 in cash and Gold Dust.
- \$9,450

The cash and Gold dust was not recovered, and none was turned in by the searching parties. It is possible some was secured by civilians assisting my patrol and secreted which could have easily done, without our knowledge. Other small and valuable articles could have disappeared in the same way.

7. It is my belief that the only articles the bandits carried away were those they wore. They did not return to the camp.

8. The patrol could not pick up the tracks from either combat due to the bandits fleeing in all directions. So we returned to Big Falls where we remained over night. Cleared at 0700 5 Feb and arrived Naptune Mine at 1000.

RALPH D. McAFEE.

HEADQUARTERS EASTERN AREA
Bluefields, Nicaragua

First Endorsement.

GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA
18 February 1932

From: Area Commander, Eastern Area.
To : The Jefe Director, Headquarters, Guardia
Nacional de Nicaragua, Managua, Nicaragua.
Subject: Patrol Report, (Captain Ralph D. McAfee, G.N.,
Neptune Mine to Biltigne River, Feb. 3-5, 1932)

1. Forwarded.

2. This patrol was most valuable in ascertaining the amount of stolen loot recovered from the bandits and destroyed. Due to lack of pack animals, the difficult terrain and the chance that the bandits might make an attempt in force to regain the loot, it was considered advisable to destroy it, rather than risk its recapture. Under the circumstances I consider the action of Lieut. Gray and Captain McAfee in destroying the loot, logical and sensible.

3. The tremendous amount of the loot recaptured and destroyed is a great blow to the bandits, and must of necessity greatly hamper any offensive action on their part. For that reason the action of Lieut. Gray, and his patrol, is the more noteworthy and deserving of praise.

L. L. LEECH

P E R S O N N E L

Lieutenant Walter F. Krebs arrived Managua from Boaco on 26 February, 1932.

Captain Cox from Jinotega to Managua by plane on 26 February 1932; for further transfer to Bluefields for duty.

Captain Kilbury from Ocotal to Managua by plane on 24 Feb 1932, on temporary duty.

Captain Young from Jinotega to Managua by plane on 24 Feb 1932, on temporary duty.

Lieut Flippo from Managua to Dario on 26 February, 1932.

Lieut Cody from Bluefields to Managua by plane on 24 Feb 1932. Temporary duty.

THE
END

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