

THE GUARDIA NEWS LETTER NO. 89 ( 22 FEB TO 4 MARCH 1932 )

22 February 1932

Lieut Gutierrez and 30 enl cleared Jinotega for El Sauce..

Major Whaley, Captains Gaspar and Monson with 10 enl cleared Jinotega for San Rafael. Arrived.

Lieut Castillo and 10 enl cleared La Concordia for San Rafael and arrived.

23 February 1932

Major Whaley, Captains Gaspar and Monson, Lieuts Hall and Castillo with 25 enl cleared San Rafael for Yali and arrived.

Captain Mixon, Lieut Slattery and enl cleared Matagalpa for San Dionisio. Arrived and cleared for Esquipulas and arrived.

24 February 1932

Lieut Martin and enl cleared Matagalpa for Buena Vista.

25 February 1932

1st Sgt Solorzano and 14 enl cleared Jicaro for Apali and arrived.

1st Sgt Mondragon and combat patrol returned to Yalaguina. Nothing to report.

Lieut McGorkle and 7 enl cleared Ocotal for Macuelizo.

Lieut Stanko and 7 enl cleared Palacaguina for Pueblo Nuevo escorting Lieut Jackson (MC). Arrived. Patrol returned to Palacaguina.

Lieuts Brown and Cabrera, 11 enl and 1 civico cleared Somoto for Somoto Mountain and vicinity to patrol coffee fincas. Returned with two bandit prisoners.

Lieut Zamora and patrol of 7 enl cleared Daraili with 2 civil prisoners for and arrived Condega.

Lieut Beans and 10 enl cleared Telpaneca for San Juan and reported.

Lieuts Muñoz, Hicks (R) and Wysaski (R) and patrol arrived Apali from Telpaneca.

Lieut Burt and 7 enl cleared Pueblo Nuevo for Condega. Reported.

Lieut Griffin and 15 enl arrived Pueblo Nuevo from Limay.

Sgt Acevedo and combat patrol cleared Apali for Telpaneca and arrived.

Lieut Hutchcroft and combat patrol of 20 enl cleared Esteli in direction of Lieut Clark's contact.

Lieuts Roberts and Schoning (R) and 10 enl cleared Apali for Jicaro .

Lieut Clark and 16 enlisted (NA Patrol) arrived El Sauce with four wounded guardias.

Lieuts Burt and Kipp and 7 enl arrived Pueblo Nuevo from Condega.

Major Whaley, Captains Monson and Small, Lieuts Bryson, Hall and Escobar with 13 enl arrived Jinotega from San Rafael .

Major Whaley, Captains Monson and Small, Lieuts Bryson, Hall and Escobar with 13 enl cleared San Rafael for Jinotega.

10 enlisted cleared San Rafael on reconnaissance patrol and returned to San Rafael.

26 February 1932

Lieut Burns and patrol returned to Chichigalpa from Malamar and El Cero Grande, reported all quiet. Group of bandits of Jefe Hipolito Garcio remainder of Cuadra's contact reported to have gone north.

Lieut Bilbrey and patrol of 8 enl cleared Yalaguina for Somoto and arrived. Cleared for Yalaguina and arrived.

Lieuts Roberts and Schoning (R) and 15 enl arrived Jicaro from Apali. Cleared for Quilali and arrived.

Enlisted patrol of 9 returned to Somoto from police mission to Pataste. Nothing to report.

Captain Mixon, Lieuts Stevens and Slattery and enl reported Muy Muy from La Pineda (CA).

Lieut Cramer and 15 enlisted arrived Corinto Finca from reconnaissance patrol.

Lieut Matamoras and 10 enl cleared La Concordia on combat patrol

Lieut Alexander and 20 enl cleared San Rafael on combat patrol.

27 FEBRUARY 1932

Three enl and six Auxiliares cleared Leon on patrol to Conarca la Ceiba and vicinities.

Lieut Delgadillo and patrol returned to Totogalpa with 1 prisoner

Cabo Maldonado and 9 other enl cleared Jalapa for halfway to Apali. Returned, escorting Lieut Whitehead (MC).

Lieut Tropper and Whitehead (MC) and 14 enl cleared Apali for halfway to Jalapa. Returned. Lieut Whitehead turned over to Jalapa patrol.

Lieut Griffith and 10 enl cleared Pueblo Nuevo for Ocotal.

Lieut Hamas and 15 enl cleared Apali for Jicaro and arrived.

Captain Tebbs, Lieut Rodriguez and 12 enl cleared Apali to investigate bandit report.

Captain Mixon, Lieutenants Stevens and Slattery and enl cleared Muy Muy for Matiguas (CA).

Lieut Matamoros and 10 enl returned to La Concordia from combat mission. Covered areas of Ocotillo San Isidro, Upali, Coyolito, Colon, Namanji, Cerro Colorado, and Buena Vista.

28 FEBRUARY 1932

Three enl and 6 Auxiliares returned to Leon from patrol to La Ceiba and vicinities.

Lieut Burns and 8 enl, 7 Auxiliares cleared Chichigalpa on reconnaissance patrol to Belgica, Santa Gertrudis, San Francisco, El Limon, and Posoltega. Returned. Reported all quiet.

Lieut Klein with 10 enl and 15 Auxiliares cleared Chinandega via truck for San Juan de las Pencas to establish a roving patrol.

Five enl and 5 Auxiliares cleared Chinandega on patrol to Santa Gertrudis and vicinity, reported; reported all quiet.

Lieut Griffith and 10 Enl cleared Yalaguina for Ocotal. Reported.

1st Sgt Mondragon and 10 other enl cleared Yalaguina for halfway to Palacaguina. Sgt Tiffer and 6 other enl cleared Palacaguina for halfway to Yalaguina. Patrols met; each returned to its home station.

Lieuts Mendoza and Zavala and combat patrol of 21 enl cleared Esteli on combat mission.

Lieut Bereuffy and 6 enl arrived Totogalpa from Ocotal. Returned.

Captain Tebbs, Lieut Rodriguez and patrol returned to Apali from combat mission. Captured one Manuel MARADIAGA, reported as being bandit spy supply agent.

Lieuts Truesdale and Tropper, with 15 enl and 1 bandit prisoner cleared Apali on combat mission.

Lieut Hutchcroft and patrol of 25 onlisted returned to Limay. Covered area north-west of Limay. Nothing to report.

Captain Mixson, Lieuts Stevens and Slattery reported Muy Muy from Matiguas (CA).

Lieut Matamoros and patrol of 6 enl cleared Concordia for San Rafael.

Lieut Alexander and patrol of 25 enl with 1 civil prisoner returned from combat patrol. Covered areas Namanji, Cerro Colorado, Colon, and returned via Palo Blanco.

29 FEBRUARY 1932

Four enl with 4 Auxiliares cleared Chichigalpa for Santa Gertrudis and vicinity. Returned; reported all quiet.

Lieut Klein, 5 enl and 5 Auxiliares cleared San Juan de las Penca for Palo Blanco, returned with two civil prisoners.

Two guardias and five Civicos cleared Leon on police mission to Quezalguaque and returned to Leon with 1 prisoner.

Lieutenants Pennington, Ragsdale and Gumaelious with sixty enlisted cleared Navarro (CA) on combat mission.

Captain Mixson, Lieut Slattery and patrol cleared Muy Muy for Matagalpa and arrived.

Lieut Cabrera and 11 enl cleared Somoto for and arrived Totogalpa. Cleared for and arrived Ocotal.

Lieut Trusdale and Lieut Trosper with 15 enl and 1 bandit prisoner returned to Apali from combat mission; nothing to report.

Major Cheatham, Commanding Northern Area, Lieut Chenowith and 6 enl cleared Ocotal and arrived Dipilto. Returned to Ocotal.

Lieut Mendoza, Lieut Zavala and 21 enl returned to Esteli from combat patrol. Reported contact at 11028 at NISPERO with group of about 250 under Colindres, Salgado and Umanzor. Contact lasted one half hour. Bandits used rifles, Brownings and Thompsons. Casualties bandits two known dead and several wounded. Guardia casualties none.

Lieut Johnson, Lieut Zavala and 24 enl cleared for scene of Lieut Mendoza's contact.

Lieut Trosper, Lieut Rodriguez and 10 enl cleared Apali for San Fernando.

1st Sgt Mondragon and 9 other enl cleared Yalaguina and arrived Totogalpa. Cleared there and returned to Yalaguina.

Lieut Kipp and 25 enl cleared Condega and arrived Daraili.

Lieut Schmierer and 8 enl arrived Jinotega from combat patrol.

Lieuts Bryson, Hall and Escobar with fourteen enl cleared Jinotega for San Rafael.

Lieut Schmierer and 8 enl cleared Jinotega for Fundadora.

Lieut Barillas and 8 enl arrived Corinto Finca from Sajonia and returned.

Lieuts Bryson, Hall and Escobar with 14 enlisted arrived San Rafael from Jinotega.

1 MARCH 1932

Sgt Sanchez and 7 other enl cleared Diplito for and arrived Ocotal.

Lieut Brown and 11 enl cleared Somoto for and arrived Yalaguina

Lieut Kipp and 25 enl cleared Daraili on combat mission.

Lieut Zamora and six enl cleared Daraili for and arrived Condega.

Sgt Cortez and 7 enl cleared Ocotal for halfway to San Fernando. Met San Fernando patrol; Lieut Rodriguez joined Ocotal patrol. Patrol returned to Home station.

Lieut Cabrera and 11 enl (Somoto Patrol) cleared Ocotal for and arrived Totogalpa. Cleared for Yalaguina with 12 enl. Reported.

Major Cheatham, Lieut Chenoweth, Lieut Rodriguez, and 8 enl cleared for Machelizo.

Lieut Truesdale and 15 enl cleared Apali for San Juan de Tel.

Lieut Trosper and 10 enl cleared San Fernando and returned to Apali.

Lieut Beans and 10 enl cleared San Juan for and arrived Quilali

Lieut Griffith, Lieut Oczkowitz (R) and 7 enl cleared Ocotal for and arrived Telpaneca.

Lieut Hutchcroft and 20 enl cleared San Juan de Limay for Rodeo Grande on combat mission.

Lieut Brown, Lieut Cabrera and 23 enl cleared Yalaguina for and arrived Palacaguina. Cleared for and arrived Condega.

Area Commander reports: (NA): Reliable citizen of Ocotal has definite information that Colindres is in DANLI, Honduras, today.

Lieuts Bryson and Escobar with 19 enl cleared San Rafael for Yali. Arrived.

Lieuts Alexander and Hall with 15 enl cleared San Rafael for La Concordia. Arrived.

Lieuts Alexander and Matamoros with 25 enl cleared La Concordia on combat patrol.

2 MARCH 1932

Lieut Beans and 10 enl cleared Quilali for San Juan de Tel.

Patrols of Somoto and Yalaguina met; 1st Sgt Mondragon joined somoto patrol; cabo Carballo joined Yalaguina patrol and patrols returned to home stations.

Major Cheatham, Commanding Northern Area, Lieut Chenoweth, Lieut Rodriguez and 8 enl arrived Macuelizo from Ocotal. Cleared for and arrived Santa Maria.

Lieut McGorkle and seven enl returned to Macuelizo from Ocotal.

Sgt Velasquez and 6 other enl cleared Macuelizo on reconnaissance patrol to Paraisito and Corral Falso. Returned. Nothing to report.

Lieut Clark, Lieut Gutierrez and 33 enl arrived Esteli, having covered areas Valle de Ocotal and Santa Rosa de Jicaral; lost trail of Umanzor group at last mentioned place on the 29th .

Captain McQueen, Lieut Atwell and 24 enl arrived Esteli . No information. Report Lieut Gaitan covering Campamento via Nispero to La Trinidad and expect to arrived La Trinidad tomorrow. Lieut Darrah operating near El Charo expects to reach Esteli tomorrow.

Lieut Johnson, Lieut Zavala and 24 enl arrived Esteli. Nothing to report.

Lieut Wallace, Lieut Whitehead (MC) and 11 enl with 2 civicos cleared Jalapa and arrived Apali.

Lieut Hutchcroft and 20 enl returned to San Juan de Limay. Worked south toward Carascola as far as La Flor; picked up trail which led into Pajarito area. Learned that mail carrier captured on 24 Feb near Achauap (Dept Leon) was seen with group carrying a rifle. Trail led northwest of Grecia Mine where it was lost.

Native reported to Esteli last night and stated he saw after the Mendoza and Zavala contact, 8 dead bandits. All stations secure

Captain Roscoe Arnett arrived Leon at 13302 and assumed command of that Department.

Lieut Herregodts and 6 enl cleared Matagalpa for San Dionisio and reported.

3 MARCH 1932

Captain McQueen and El Sauce patrol of 20 men transported by plane from Esteli to El Sauce.

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

Following contact report submitted by Lt. Clark is quoted:

GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA  
EL SAUCE, NICARAGUA

26 February 1932.

From: Second Lieutenant C.H. Clark, G.N.  
To : The Director of Operations.  
Subject: Contact report.  
Reference: Telegram #114 Dir Opers El Sauce, 09423 Feb 32.

1. In compliance with the above reference I cleared Villa Nueva at 06324 Feb 32 with seventeen enlisted men for Limay via Achuapa. At a place called Los Finos I took a man as a guide to take me as far as he know the trail. This being the first time that I had been in this area, I had no idea where I was or what the trail was like. At Los Encuentros the guide stated that he know the trail to Achuapa lead up to the north, pointing out to me the entrance to the trail, but he said he did not know the trail any farther. I thought this was strange, but as I had not encountered any other men I took this man along thinking that if we got lost that he might be able to help us out. We followed this trail arriving at a place called Caracol at noon. There the old woman, the only person there, told me it was three leagues to Achuapa and that there was no information there except that the bandits had been in a place called La Cucaracha three days before, but she did not know where this place was. I cleared there at twelve o'clock. Fifteen hundred yards further on we were ambushed: time about twelve five in a place called Rosa Honda: contact lasted two hours: group estimated at two hundred and fifty: jefes thought to have been Colindres, Salgado and Umanzor: bandits employed four automatic weapons and were very aggressive, patrol was immediately surrounded, bandits closing in until they were only about fifty feet from creek banks, throwing bombs down on patrol.

2. When my point entered the creek I was eight men back from the first man and could not see what kind of a place we were entering. My men were some five or ten yards apart to that, when I came into the creek bed, the first man was nearly through the ambush which was laid in from and down both sides of the creek, the high banks making it impossible for my men to see more than twenty feet on either side and the big rocks in front affording perfect hiding and protection for the bandits. As I came out into the creek the bandits opened fire on me with a Lewis, killing my mule. Immediately the cargo mule, being behind, broke loose from the mulero. Returning down the trail I called to the men in front to take the left bank, my idea being to try and hold the bandits off until I could get an idea of the position, but the brush being so thick that very little could be seen, and the bandits were closing in so that all my attention was given

to holding them off. In the first shots two men were wounded. I called to the Cabo asking him if any had been killed and he told me that none had, but the bandits found his position and started bombing him and me. One bomb knocked me down and one of my men threw water in my face and helped me back to cover, and, as I got my bearings again, I saw dirt, stones, and water fly up in front of the Cabo. Thinking him dead I started over to get the Subthompson that he had but he got up wandering around. He could not see, nor hear. I got hold of him, guiding him to shelter. Then, thinking it impossible to hold this position, I called the rest of the point back, signaling them to follow me up the right bank of the creek. One guardia helped the wounded man and I guided the Cabo. Using his sub-Thompson we proceeded up the hill in the face of what I thought was the main group. There was hand to hand fighting until we got to the top of the hill and I had no time to check my men. Arriving at the top I left the Cabo and took check of the men, finding one short. This being a very good position I left five men there with the wounded. The Cabo was nearly all right by that time and was left in charge. I took the rest of the men, going down the ridge to look for the missing man, and I saw the bandits were confused and were running in every direction, I returned to the scene of the ambush and followed down the creek, finding two bandits trying to get my blanket roll and medicines off the dead mule. These were killed and I got my equipment and returned to the crest of the hill. Two more of the men with me got wounded in returning. These I bandaged and, leaving them, I returned down the hill with six men. At this point the bandits started to clear out upon my arrival to the creek. Again they had all gone. This time I found the other guardia, dead. He was killed by the bombs that exploded near the Cabo, but as he was on the other side of the rocks, I could not see him during the contact, and as the Cabo was dazed, this man was left behind. The bandits had taken his rifle, belt and shoes, but otherwise he was not harmed, as is nearly always the case. I proceeded up the opposite bank and down the creek but the bandits had cleared out, so I sent one man up the hill with instructions to send all but three men down, and to bring the wounded. After putting another sentry-post up on the other side, I started to make preparations to evacuate the wounded and the dead man. We made stretchers out of poles for two wounded men and the dead man. I took four men and returned down the creek about five hundred yards looking for the cargo mule, but was unable to find it, so I returned it being three thirty. Then I lost no time in getting started for Achuapa.

3. The guide had been killed, so we followed the creek north. My map showed a creek leading to Achuapa from that area. We carried the dead man about two thousand yards, but this proved to be too much and we had to leave him, so we marked two trees with a cross and hid him back off the trail. We found no people in that area until we had gone nearly two leagues. We had to travel very slow and did not arrive in Achuapa until ten thirty that night. I re-dressed the wounds of the men and made preparations to clear for El Sauce the next morning, dispatching a runner to notify the Director of Operations and to request airplane transportation for the wounded men.



4. At six o'clock the next morning I sent ten civilians out from Achuapa to bring in the dead man. There not being sufficient guardia to send a patrol and also to clear the wounded man too, and as the men were seriously wounded, I cleared with them at nine thirty for El Sauce.

5. I recommend the entire patrol for citation, and especially note and recommend the conduct of Cabo Panfilo Mendez #3037. After being dazed and nearly killed, he fought bravely begging to accompany me down the hill. I also want to commend the conduct of Raso Iginio Romero #3030, Raso Manuel Gomez #4579, and Raso Velasquez Apolonio #4788. These men while wounded continued to fight without any thought of self or of asking for aide, and too the entire trip into here without complaining. In fact the conduct of the entire patrol was such that no words can repay them for the way they conducted themselves during the contact and throughout the entire patrol.

6. Following is a list of the men who took part in this contact:-

MEN

ARMS EMPLOYED.

Cabo Panfilo Mendez	#2037-wounded	Sub-Thompson.
Raso Leneses Elias	4079	Rifle - Asst. STMG.
" Justo Castillo	3384	Rifle Grenadier.
" Arcado Castillo	3385	BAR.
" Diaz Ramon	4022	Rifle - Hand Grenades.
" Antonio Diaz	4020	Rifle - Asst. BAR.
" Iginio Romero	#230-Wounded	Sub-Thompson.
" Humberto Martinez	4115	Rifle- Asst. STMG.
" Gonzalez Tomas	4245	Rifle - asst. STMG.
" Francisco Sovalbarro	3304	RIFLE - Hand Grenades.
" Ignacio Hernandez	4029-Killed	Rifle - Hand Grenades.

GUARDIA NACIONAL, OCOTAL

" Manuel Gomez	4579-Wounded	Rifle -
" Vasquez Apolinio	4788-Wounded	Rifle - Asst. Mulero.
" Jose Maradiaga	4438	Rifle - Mulero.
" Fermin Arroliga	3246	Rifle - Asst. BAR.
" Vernardo Paguaga	3689	Rifle Granadier.

GUARDIA CASUALTIES

BANDIT CASUALTIES.

Raso Ignacio Hernandez #4029-Killed-  
 Three wounded.  
Equipment lost:  
 Two Krag rifles  
 Eighty rounds ammunition.  
 Two mules.  
 GN blanket rolls.  
 One BAR magazine, empty.

Eight known dead.  
 Many known wounded.  
Equipment captured:  
 Two Krag rifles.  
 23 rounds Krag ammunition.  
 Less articles.  
 Two dynamite bombs.  
 50 yards cloth.

Cecil H. Clark  
 PATROL COMMANDER



G.N.  
 A - AUTO WEAPONS  
 M - RIFLE GRENADES  
 W - WOUNDED  
 → MY ENTRANCE  
 → ADVANCE  
 BANDITS  
 + AUTO WEAPONS  
 □ - DEAD  
 << >> THIEF POSITION

*Sketch*

of CONTACT OF LIEUT. CLARK, G.M.  
 ON 27 FEBRUARY, MSR.

El Sauce, Nicaragua,  
27 February, 1932.

Following is a copy of letter from Captain J. C. McQueen regarding St. Clark's contact which is quoted for general information:

Achuapa.

Dear Roberts:

Atwell and I and our patrol arrived at the scene of Clarks contact near Caracol at 08326. Within fifteen minutes Hutchcroft and twenty enlisted from Limay combined with Martinez and ten enlisten from Achuapa arrived. Atwell and I had covered Jocote before arriving at Caracol and found all houses deserted, men and women and children all gone. We assume the bandits under Umanzor took them so we could get no dope from natives. Saw none.

After a long search we found the body of the dead Guardia, Ignacio Hernandez. It had been removed from where Clark reported it to the other side of trail up on a hill well hidden. We buried the body and marked grave. Body was in too bad condition to bring in. Also found body of Clarks guide. This was located at scene of contact still lying on th trail with a note as follows:

Campo de operacio militares de la columna expedicionaria No. 8 del ejercito defensor de la Soberania Nacional de Nicaragua:

Fe. 25, 1932

"Esta es la suerte que los espera perros, hasta un pino de tierra les niegan.

Patria y Libertad  
General y Jefe Expdo.  
Juan Pablo Umanzor."

Capt. Jose de Paredes.

We covered the area about the scene of contact and then to trails leading out. We found no dead bandits due to fact they had been carried away. Umanzor and his group returned morning of twenty fifth to do this. Indications point to several wounded besides the dead Clark reported. We found crude stretchers at various points, covered with blood. I do not believe any other Jefe was present except Umanzor, but doubtlessly he had a large group. The place of ambush is wicked. A stretch of 150-175 yards along a stream bed with long hills on either side and very heavy with brush. No cover for the patrol at all. Sketch enclosed.

We found the mule which was shot under Clark. Bullet passed under left eye and the bandit who shot was no more than 15 or 20 yards from Clark at the time.

There is no question that Clark and his patrol were in an awful place. The group was strung along on the hills on both sides of trail for 150 yards and were at close range. There was no cover for patrol. Indications show Clark must have attacked the bandit left flank on left of trail which evidently was the strongest part of the bandit line. Bandits on the left side of trail had a better getaway and a closer range on patrol. Parts of a bandit bomb were found at east end of ambush which apparently killed his guide or lead man of point.

I hope as do the other officers, that I get a chance to see Clark and personally congratulate him for his fine work. A glance at the ambush position is enough to tell the story of a desperate situation. Only extraordinary coolness and strong control over his men enabled Clark to get out of that mess, and strike the blow he did, which was done in a praiseworthy manner. In the position he found himself and patrol the astonishing thing is how he emerged without serious losses; heavy fire from both sides and a mean position from which to attack (up the hill).

If Clark is there tell him we all (Hutchcroft, Martinez, Atwell and I) send our heartiest congratulations.

We will wait here for more dope on location of group. If we get none we will come back direct from here, otherwise we will clear on information unless you have orders for me to the contrary from the Dir. Operations.

Yours  
J. S. McQueen

The following report of the trip to and establishment of the post at Wauni is quoted:-

WAUNI DETACHMENT, GUARDIA NACIONAL.  
15 December 1931.

From: District Commander.  
To : The Area Commander, Area of the East.  
Via : Department Commander, Department of Southern Bluefields.

Subject: Report of trip to Wauni.

Reference: (a) Department Commanders orders, dated 6 January 1932.  
(b) Area Commanders verbal orders, same date.

1. In compliance with instructions contained in reference (a) & (b) I have the following to report:-

6 January. Cleared Guardia Wharf, Bluefields, at 2:30 PM with last detail of Wauni Detachment, arrived at El Bluff at 5:30 PM with entire Detachment as per reference (a) and arrived Prinzapolka Bar at 6:00 AM 7 January 1932. The entire day was devoted in unloading equipment, freight, rations and awaiting arrangements of boats to proceed up river. Mr. Wing Long (Chinaman) finally informed me that we should have to lay over at Prinzapolka Bar until noon of January 8.

8 January. Cleared Prinzapolka Bar at Noon January 8, in 8 large pitpans, towed by a small river boat. The trip was rather slow, made several stops at places mentioned in the Chief of Police's note, Bluefields, which was attached to map drawn by a Mr. Scott. Was able to get Margarito Espinoza but Joaquin Roja got away. Arrived at Tungla at 5:00 PM 10 Jan. 1932.-

11 January

Cleared Tungla at 5:30 AM each Pitpan were poled up river by a crew of Losquito Indians, guardias evenly distributed on each and cautiously proceeded in a formation. On reaching the fall Lieut. Stone and his detachment turned over, I noticed that it was too deep and in that particular spot never got any shallower. I estimate it to be about 15 to 17 foot deep and recovering the equipment impossible at any time during the dry season, from continued up river at a point just below "Blue Nose" fall, there cooked supper, made camp on the banks at about 5:30 PM.

12 January

Cleared Blue Nose falls at 5:30 AM, just below Cuic at about 10:30 AM the planes located us where they made two drops in which the Area Commander requested the return of the Jefe Directors hound, and that the other contained the following message "Lt. Curcey, we patrolled Neptune - Wauni and down river - Neptune is in communication with B.F.

One pack train at Cuicuina scattered, boats, nothing suspicious", signed Rutledge. We continued our poling up river but could not make Cuicuina due to strong current and heavy load, arrived one bend below Cuicuina at 4:30 PM and made camp being very cautious making same of not being surprised by an attack.

13 January

Cleared place, one bend below Cuicuina at 5:30 AM poled to Bacal Falls arriving there at 4:45 PM made camp with cautious measures.

14 January

Cleared Bacal Falls at 5:00 am. and arrived at the foot of Dolrio Falls at or about 7:00 PM, Dolrio Falls is located about 70 hours below Wauni overland and about the same time by water, I dispatched a patrol of (17) enlisted under lieut. Palacios, two automatic weapons BAR's, and one rifle discharger with instructions to enter Wauni being very cautious to display his men covering the town which I at the same time would be entering from the river bank with (7) others leaving the balance of (6) under Sgt. Chavez to guard the boats. Palacios and my patrol quietly entered Wauni, stationed two men at each house occupied by natives and informed them that the Guardia was in town and immediately report to the Comandancia a building we occupied. No people escaped and the questioning began, whereby many who have been proven to be good Nicaraguans have been issued boletas of identification and detained only two whom seemed to be suspicious.

15 January

Many others have presented themselves for questioning and seemed to be very pleased to see us here. People are along the river from Tungla up who owns some farms and cattle have expressed their feeling that now they would sure get protection,

others have said that they would soon return to work and things much better to every one concerned. Three cases of Malaria at Wauni upon arrival (Natives) the practicante is caring for them and I have reasons to believe that things are not going to be so hard for the Guardia. Several civilians here have pledged to help the Guardia in any possible way if requested.

Wauni has at present a population of (7) men between the ages of 16-50 years of age, two that I am holding not included. 8 women between the ages of 20-90 and 15 children between the ages of one year to 15 years. All inhabitants have been requested to register. The men folks are requested to have a boleta de ocupacion and whenever asked for by guardia to present same. All new faces entering Wauni are brought to the office for interrogation and if identified as a honorable citizen and inhabitant of Wauni or vicinity is OK and if not detained here until I visit Siuna which will be Sunday, January 17, 1932.

Wauni has only twenty houses, runs parallel with the river, only one street, houses on both sides. At present Wing Long is the only one store here though two other chinamen expect to operate and a Turk who is expected to open up next month, though now is still in Bluefields.

Established Post at the roads entering town, one on river bank, one around Cuartel and patrol during night consisting of three men. This is not imposing any hardship on the men in any way, but think it advisable until proper fortification of Cuartel has been established. During the day I have 4 men patrolling around town picking up all new comers for questioning. The building occupied by Guardia in pretty bad shape. Most of floor ripped out though with two Old Govt. building which have had under pinnings but fairly good lumber are being torn down and repairing our home. It will take at least two months to show any improvements. I expect to rush right along through. The men folks of the town have turned to and put a lot of work in this first day. Tomorrow 16 Jan. I am cleaning the bushes a couple hundred yards around putting every body to work. The town was surely neglected in every respect though if all go well I shall make it fairly good place to live in.

The trip though slow was very interesting and the men in every good spirit excepting that they are very blood thirsty and their trigger finger itches. They may not feel so ambitious after the first one though I kid them along and try to keep them in their spirit. The Detachment is surely getting along in harmony and hope it to continue. Lt. Palacios is a nice boy and feel sure he will make a good officer and a help to me.

/s/ L. Curcey  
L. CURCEY

OPERATIONS REPORT FROM RIVAS 18 FEBRUARY TO 24 FEBRUARY 1932.

18 Feb 0700 Lt Adams cleared Rivas for Managua with one  
civil prisoner.  
0800 Two enlisted returned Cardenas from police  
mission.  
1000 Lt Bello and one enlisted cleared Cardenas for  
Sabalo.  
1030 Four enlisted cleared Rivas on police mission.  
1700 Lt Bello and enlisted returned Cardenas.

19 Feb No operations.

20 Feb 1700 Lt Montenegro and four enlisted arrived Rivas  
from Managua with body of the late Lt Zepeda.

21 Feb 0900 Lt Montenegro and four enlisted cleared Rivas  
for Managua.  
1400 Four enlisted returned Rivas from police mission.

22 Feb 0730 Capt Forsyth cleared Rivas for San Juan del Sur.  
1800 Capt Forsyth returned Rivas from San Juan del  
Sur.

23 Feb 0800 Lt Bello and one enlisted cleared Cardenas on  
Police mission.  
1600 Lt Adams returned Rivas from Managua.  
2000 Lt Bello and one enlisted returned Cardenas.

24 Feb 1300 Lt Bello cleared Cardenas for Sabalo.

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The bandits have again become active in Northern Leon and Chinandega and the southern portions of Esteli. At least two large groups under Salgado and Umanzor and possibly a third group under a new Jefe named Montenegro have been operating in this area the past week. Several threats of southward movements toward the railroad towns have been made. Colonel Watson, Director of Operation, is now in El Sauce, coordinating and directing our operations against these groups. Two very successful contacts have been made with these bandits groups, the best one being 28th Feb. Guardia patrols in this area have been unusually active and relentless on bandit trails. The bandits have avoided guardia patrols religiously and present indications (3 March) lead to the belief that the bandit Jefes have given up their offensive ideas, at least for the present, and are attempting to get their groups safely out of this area without further combat in order to reorganize and rest.

R4129/43A/32

P E R S O N N E L

Lieut D. McDonald transferred from Dept Leon to 1st Company Police, Managua for duty.

Captain M. Cox transferred to Bluefields for duty.

Lieut G. C. Smith returned to duty from Leave in the U.S.

Captain R. Arnett assumed command of the Department of Leon relieving Major J. W. Webb; standing detached, tour of duty in Nicaragua completed.

Captain W. Elmore assumed command of the Department of Esteli relieving Captain R. Arnett.

Captain J. W. Lakso joined the Guardia Nacional from the U.S.

Colonel Wm. H. H. Turville joined the Guardia Nacional from the U.S. as Medical Director of the Guardia Nacional; relieving Colonel G. D. Hale.

Colonel G. D. Hale relieved of duties as Medical Director of the Guardia Nacional and transferred to the U. S. Tour of duty in Nicaragua completed. Doctor Hale has completed a very successful tour. Under his direction the Medical Department reached a high state of efficiency. By his pleasing personality he gained many friends. He is best remembered for the trojan work he performed in Managua following the earthquake of March, 1931.

Captain A. C. Small from the Central Area to Managua on leave.

Captain R. L Griffin from the Central Area to Managua on leave.

*JHC*  
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