

OCT 17 1932

MANAGUA

HEADQUARTERS GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA, MANAGUA, NIC.
5-LPH
Ehk-azp.

THE GUARDIA NEWS LETTER No. 121 (5 TO 14 OCTOBER 1932).

-----oo0- 5 OCTOBER 1932 -0oo-----

Lieut Stanko and patrol had contact at 197-358 night Oct 5, with a group of about 10 horse thieves under Jose Calderon. No Guardia casualties and no known bandit casualties. Recovered 2 animals stolen from Guardia corral. On return patrol next day all lost animals were recovered, 2 with saddles put on them by bandit group. At scene of contact were found 1 powder horn and primers and 1 hat with hat band. Believed bandits went toward Guzmajilla.

-----oo0- 6 OCTOBER 1932 -0oo-----

Lieut Ragsdale with ten enlisted returned Jalapa from patrol.

-----oo0- 7 OCTOBER 1932 -0oo-----

Captain Lakso, Lieut Sanchez with thirteen enlisted and fourteen auxiliared returned to Sauce from combat mission not able to across stream on account of high water.

Somotillo native reported group of 100, at point 136-306, night of 5 October, Somotillo investigating. Agent returned and reported 300 bandits in camp. Combat patrol of 16 enlisted and 8 auxiliares cleared Somotillo. Lieuts Atwell and Artola, 16 enlisted, 3 auxiliares returned to Somotillo, report bandits had left 136-306 at 04007, going east. Lieut Atwell very ill and had to return.

Captain Lakso, Lieut Castrillo, six enlisted, thirteen auxiliared cleared El Sauce for Leon.

Lieut Gardner and eighteen Guardias cleared Managua via boat for San Francisco del Carnicero (205241) to operate on local information to the Northward of that place.

Group of thirty-five under Luis Herrera burned Hacienda La Viola (255-302).

Lieut Montenegro with patrol returned Jalapa.

Lieut Stanko with patrol returned Condega.

1st Sgto Portocarrero with patrol returned Pueblo Nuevo.

Lieut Price with patrol arrived Daraili.

Sgt Velasquez with eight enlisted cleared Ocotal for half-way to Macuelizo and Captain Yost and Lieut Aleman returned with patrol.

Captain Yost and Lieuts Aleman and Montenegro with five enlisted cleared Macuelizo for half-way to Ocotal. Lieut Montenegro with patrol returned Macuelizo.

Lieut Montenegro with ten enlisted cleared Jalapa for Entili.

Lieut Chavarria with seven enlisted cleared Dipilto for Ocotal. Arrived and returned.

Sgt Olivas with six enlisted and one prisoner cleared Yalaguina for Totogalpa. Arrived and patrol returned.

Lieuts Kipp and Bernheim with twelve enlisted cleared Ocotal for Mosonte and returned.

Sgto Peña with six enlisted and one prisoner cleared Totogalpa for Ocotal. Arrived and patrol returned.

Lieut Price with twenty-five enlisted cleared Condega for Daraili.

1st Sgto Portocarrero with ten enlisted cleared Pueblo Nuevo on patrol.

1st Sgto Cortez with six enlisted and two civicos cleared Condega on patrol.

Lieut Mamas and Lieut Cuadra with twenty five enlisted cleared Jicaro for Apali. Arrived and Lieut Mamas with sixteen enlisted cleared for Jicaro.

-----oo0- 8 OCTOBER 1932 -0oo-----

Lieut Bernheim with twenty five enlisted cleared Ocotal for Apali via San Fernando. Arrived San Fernando and Lieuts Keller and Garcia with four enlisted joined patrol and cleared for and arrived Apali.

Lieut Adams with seven enlisted cleared Yalaguina for Somoto. Arrived and returned Yalaguina.

Lieuts Delgadillo and Aleman with ten enlisted cleared Totogalpa for half-way to Palacaguina. Lieut Delgadillo with seven enlisted returned.

Sgt Lopez with eight enlisted cleared Palacaguina for half-way to Totogalpa and Lieut Aleman with three enlisted joined patrol and returned to Palacaguina. Cleared for Condega. Arrived. Sgt Lopez with patrol returned to Palacaguina.

1st Sg Cortez with patrol returned Condega.

Lieut Price with twenty five enlisted cleared for San Juan from Daraili but returned Daraili as could not cross Coco River.

Lieut Lopez with twenty five enlisted cleared Somoto on patrol to meet Lieut Berry and proceeded to 165-338).

1st Sgt Fortocarrero with eight enlisted cleared Pueblo Nuevo for Condega. Arrived and returned with six enlisted.

Limay combat patrol cleared Esteli for Limay, Lieuts McDonald and Barquero with twenty-seven enlisted.

Sgt Matus with eleven enlisted cleared San Juan for half-way to Quilali.

Lieut Ragsdale with eighteen enlisted arrived Apali from Jalapa.

Lieut Beans with twenty enlisted arrived San Juan from Quilali.

Sgt Matus with patrol returned San Juan.

Captain Lakso, Lieuts Castrillo and Barquero with seven enlisted, thirteen auxiliares and four cadets arrived Leon from Punta Rieles.

Sauce reports that natives vicinity of 175-297 reports group of 200 jefe unknown arrived that area on 7 October.

Native reports to Punta Rieles that group of 100 jefe unknown crossed Railroad at San Andres (168-284), robbed ranch and stated that they were going to attack Punta Rieles.

-----oo0- 9 OCTOBER 1932 -0oo-----

Patrol of twelve enlisted cleared Chichigalpa for El Cerro and vicinity to investigate report of an armed group in that vicinity. Returned with no information. Report all quiet.

Lieuts Beans and Mathewson with Quilali patrol cleared San Juan for Quilali.

Sgt Lopez with nine enlisted cleared Palacaguina for Yalaguina. Sgt Lopez with eight enlisted returned.

Lieut Price with twenty five enlisted cleared Daraili for Condega. Arrived.

Lieuts Keller, Goodwin, Cuadra and Garcia with thirty-five enlisted cleared Apali for Jicaró.

Lieuts Berry and Lopez with twenty five enlisted returned Somoto.

El Sauce reports Lieut Frisch and patrol returned from Santa Rosa with elections documents from Santa Rosa and El Jicaral.

Somotillo reports Lieut Bryson and patrol returned from Cinco Pinos and San Pedro. No registrations. Chinandega notified.

Lieut Krawie with fourteen enlisted cleared San Rafael for Yali.

Eleven enlisted cleared Matagalpa for Cuatro Esquinas.

Five enlisted cleared Matagalpa for Palcila.

-----ooO- 5 OCTOBER 1932 -Ooo-----

Lieut Haralson with thirty-nine enlisted cleared Jinotega for Corinto Finca.

Lieut Fonseca with fifteen enlisted cleared Jinotega for Las Camelias and La Fundadora.

Lieut Stevens with nine enlisted cleared Jinotega on secret mission with six civicos.

Cabo Montoya with four other enlisted arrived Jinotega from Matagalpa.

Lieut Haralson with thirty nine enlisted arrived Corinto Finca from Jinotega.

Five enlisted cleared Matagalpa for Jinotega.

-----ooO- 6 OCTOBER 1932 -Ooo-----

Lieut Barnes with four enlisted reported Navarro from Cuatro Esquinas.

Captain Inman, Lieut Aguado with ten enlisted cleared Navarro for Matagalpa and reported.

Cabo Montoya with four other enlisted cleared Jinotega for Matagalpa.

Captain Small with nineteen enlisted cleared Jinotega for San Rafael.

Cabo Blandon with four other enlisted cleared Jinotega for Matagalpa. Telegraph line repair party.

Captain Small with nineteen enlisted arrived San Rafael from Jinotega.

Lieuts Snyder and Gutierrez R. with twenty five enlisted cleared Yali for San Rafael. Arrived.

Lieut Wriston and Gutierrez R. with twenty five enlisted returned Yali from outpost duty north of Yali. No information gained except of local thieves.

Lieut Solorzano with fourteen enlisted cleared La Concordia on combat mission vicinity Rinconada.

-----oo0- 7 OCTOBER 1932 -Ooo-----

Captain Smith, Lieut Cuadra and eleven enlisted cleared Jinotega on combat patrol vicinity Laguna and returned. No results.

Captain Small, Lieut Snyder and forty enlisted with four armed civicos cleared San Rafael on combat patrol.

Lieut Solorzano with fourteen enlisted arrived La Concordia from Rinconada, La Pita, El Salto and La Mora. Gained information.

Lieut Rocha with five enlisted arrived Corinto Finca from Sajonia.

Lieut Bunn with seven enlisted cleared Matagalpa for San Isidro and arrived.

Five enlisted cleared Matagalpa for Jinotega. Telegraph line repair party.

Lieut Gumaelius with five enlisted cleared Navarro for Buena Vista.

Six enlisted cleared Muy Muy for Matiguas.

Five enlisted arrived Matagalpa from Jinotega.

Lieut Ekberg with twenty enlisted cleared Consuelo on combat mission.

Five enlisted returned Matagalpa from Jinotega.

-----oo0- 8 OCTOBER 1932 -Ooo-----

Lieut Stevens with nine enlisted and three armed civicos returned Jinotega from combat and reconnaissance mission Datanli Area. Mission successful.

Captain Puller, Lieut Darran, Lieut Hodge (MC) and thirty enlisted Company "M" cleared Jinotega on combat mission.

Lieut Castillo G. with thirteen enlisted cleared La Concordia for San Rafael. Arrived.

Lieut Rocha with ten enlisted cleared Corinto Finca for Sajonia.

Lieut Haralson with sixteen enlisted cleared Corinto Finca for half-way Jinotega.

Lieut Grieco arrived Corinto Finca from Jinotega with half-way patrol Lieut Haralson and fifteen enlisted.

Captain Inman, Lieut Navarrete and nine enlisted cleared Matagalpa for Navarro. Arrived.

Five enlisted arrived Matagalpa from Buena Vista.

Five enlisted returned Matagalpa from Jinotega.

Lieuts Martin and Navarrete with twenty five enlisted cleared Navarro for Corinto Finca.

-----ooO- 10 OCTOBER 1932 -Ooo-----

Lieut Buitrago, seven enlisted, thirteen auxiliarea arrived Valle de las Zapatas from Olomeguita with election documentos reports inscriptions at Olomeguita he ld without incident.

Lieut Cuadra and thirty enlisted arrived Apali from Jicaro.

Captain Kelly and Lieuts Ragsdale and Cuadra with forty-five enlisted cleared Apali for Jicaro and arrived.

Captain Smith, Lieut Stevens, two enlisted, Lieut Hayward USMC and ten auxiliarea cleared Jinotega on instruction patrol. Returned.

Lieut Martin and Navarrete with Navarro patrol twenty five enlisted arrived Corinto Finca from Navarro.

Lieuts Weeks, Grieco, Martin and Navarrete with fifty five enlisted cleared Corinto Finca on combat mission.

Lieut Tavern USMC with four enlisted cleared Dario for Matagalpa and arrived.

1st Sgt Velasquez with nine enlisted returned Matagalpa from combat patrol.

-----ooO- 11 OCTOBER 1932 -Ooo-----

Patrol of twelve enlisted cleared Chichigalpa for Cosmapa and finca North East of San Benito and El Cerro, to investigate report of agent that a group of ten partly armed bandits with pistols and rifles rest with cutting weapons had assaulted a finca in that vicinity. Later reported that group had cleared direction of El Cerro.

-----ooO- 12 OCTOBER 1932 -Ooo-----

Captain Kelly, Lieuts Hamas, Ragsdale and Garcia with seventeen enlisted cleared Jicaro for apali and arrived. Lieut Ragsdale with eighteen enlisted cleared for Jalapa and arrived.

Lieut Buitrago with seven enlisted and thirteen auxiliaries arrived Leon from Valle de las Zapatas with election documents.

-----ooO- P E R S O N N A L -Ooo-----

Lieut Ferguson from Chontales to Managua on 10 October, 1932.

Colonel Walter G. Sheard, Area Commander Central Area, from Central Area to Managua on 10 October, 1932.

Lieut Firth from Northern Area to Managua on 13 October, 1932.

Lieut Boswell from Northern Area to Managua on October 13, 1932.

Lieut Henderson from Eastern Area to Managua on October 13, 1932.

Lieut Hughes from Chinandega to 2nd brigade Hospital, on 13 October, 1932.

Following contact report is quoted:-

HEADQUARTERS GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA, PUEBLO NUEVO,
20 SEPTEMBER, 1932.

From: 1st Lieutenant Hewin O. Hammon, GN.
To : The Area Commander, Northern Area, Ocotal.
Via : The District Commander, Third District,
Northern Area.

Subject: Patrol and Contact Report.
Reference: Telegram 223 Ocotal 15516; 226 Ocotal 20116;
229 Ocotal 21516.

1. In accordance with orders contained above reference the undersigned assumed Command of the Third District Combat Patrol which arrived Pueblo Nuevo at or about 20316 of the current month and prepared patrol for five days operations in Area designated by above references. Two rasos were substituted for by two rasos from Guardia Nacional, Pueblo Nuevo, and five additional rasos were added to bring strength of patrol to two officers and thirty men and one civilian runner. The patrol complete and prepared for operations consisted of the below listed Officers and enlisted:

1st Lieutenant Hewin O. Hammond, GN, Patrol Comdr.
2nd Lieutenant Jacinto Montenegro, GN, Second.

Sgto	VILCHEZ, Bonifacio	#2073	Condega
Cabo	FERNANDEZ, Jose	2359	"
"	VALLEJO, Heriberto	1872	"
Raso	FLORES, Nicolas	3987	"
"	CARDENAS, Miguel	4073	"
"	GONZALEZ, Tomas	4556	"
"	VALLECILLO, Bonifacio	4008	"
"	GONZALEZ, Santiago	4046	"
"	LOPEZ, Apolonio	2804	"
"	BRAVO, Delio	4246	"
"	ESTRADA, Jose	4292	"
"	RUIZ, Norberto	4067	"
"	SANCHEZ, Eulitario	4041	"
"	RIOS, Antonio	2684	"
"	CARAZO, Raimundo	4087	"
"	GONZALEZ, Gonzalio	4156	"
"	RIOS, Ramon	4203	"
"	RUIZ, Guillermo	4191	"
"	RUIZ, Juan	4244	"
"	SOVALBARRO, Francisco	3304	"
"	LOPEZ, Aquilino	1222	"
"	OSORIO, Isidro	2883	"
"	PAGUEGA, Antonio	2620	"

Cabo NARVAEZ, Gerardo (HC)	#4839	Pueblo Nuevo
Raso AGUILERA, Juan	4449	" "
" ARAUZ, Pedro	3275	" "
" ACUNA, Eduje	3989	" "
" CARDENAS, Antonio	5096	" "
" GONZALEZ, Gregorio	4120	" "
" ZELAYA, Sotero	3168	" "
Civilian ROCHA, Filadelfo - Runner -Guide	"	"

Above patrol cleared Pueblo Nuevo 23216 and headed directly for Naranja. Passed Limon (179-337) 24016 - Sabana (174-342) 01117 - Motolin (168-343) 02017.- no information. Arrived Naranja, surrounded settlement 04417. Found one native in shack in south edge of settlement awake and fully dressed. He appeared very nervous and when questioned for information stated that large group in two bodies had passed Naranja (165-343) about 17016 proceeding from the North and following the main trail to the south. At this moment or at or about 04517 a tremendous burst of rifle, machine gun fire and grenades and dynamite bombs was heard in the direction, seemingly about one league to the south, that the native reported the bandits as heading. Having information that a patrol from Somoto under Lieut Sinkule with eighteen enlisted and Colonel Pichingo was also operating same area it was thought quite likely that this patrol had been ambushed as the first burst of fire was apparently from a firing line quite some distance in length and instantaneous. My patrol was reformed immediately and the Patrol Commander with the point consisting of ten enlisted, two STMGs, one Rifle Grenade Discharger, and rifles proceeded on the run for the direction of fire fight. Lieut Montenegro with the main body and animals following very closely behind point. Heavy firing continued for about five to seven minutes and gradually subsided and ceased when the point of my patrol was about half way between Naranja and the location of ambush. The moon was shining brightly and there was no difficulty in following the trail but unable to determine the positions of Guardia or bandits in ambush the point now proceeded at a walk being cautioned regularly that there were bandits just ahead but also there were more than likely Guardia and to be particularly careful. The trail up to this point followed the high ridge fairly regularly and on a level but as the ambush was approached the trail dipped down a steep incline. Just as daybreak arrived the point of my patrol had reached almost to the bottom of this ravine but we were still unable to locate the Guardia Patrol or Skirmish line. As the point was crossing the small stream in the ravine heavy rifle and BAR and STMG fire opened up again about two hundred yards to the front and above us. The point started on a run up the hill in front of us and heavy BAR and STMG fire was directed on the entire point. Luckily no one was hit and we took cover immediately and after a hasty reconnaissance of the terrain and direction of presumably the bandit fire we advanced firing. Lieutenant Sinkule's patrol had advanced up the steep ridge just to our right front and I gave orders to cease firing and advance on the double to reinforce his firing line. It later

developed that one large group, of from twenty to thirty bandits armed with one BAR and one STMG were occupying a small ridge about twenty yards from the main trail and about one hundred yards from the exact line of ambush and this group allowed me to pass with my point without firing a shot at us, evidently intending to allow us to advance further up the trail and enfilade us. The point reached Lieut Sinkules patrol and joined in the route of the group that was directly to his front scattering them in the valley. As Lieut Montenegro with the main body advanced following the point, another group opened up on him from behind a stone wall that was at the crest of the ridge to his right front. He immediately formed a skirmish line and returned fire while advancing up the ridge. This group was scattered by the main body and as the main body reached the crest of the ridge, the group that occupied the small ridge to our right rear opened up with their BAR, STMG and rifles. Fire was poured into them immediately and the point had at this time been reformed and separated from Lieut Sinkule's patrol and now returned to reinforce my main body. This last fire fight was of about twenty minutes duration and we had to charge down thru an open corn field and up the ridge on the other side to dislodge and scatter the group. It was in this last fight that the bandits suffered two of their dead, one of which was the Substitute Automatic Rifleman from whose body was captured the BAR Bandolier and five Magazines captured by my patrol. This group was finally dislodged and scattered, the majority of whom seemed to head to the south. The patrol was reformed immediately and having assisted Lieut Sinkules patrol to prepare the dead and wounded Guardia for the return trip to Somoto cleared immediately to the south and east in pursuit mission. The entire contact lasted from about 04517 (approximate time of ambush) until about 07217.

Lieut Sinkule and his entire patrol are to be especially commended for their aggressiveness and spirit in attacking a large group of bandits that had three strong and superior positions all of which were very much obscured by the heavy brush and undergrowth and to attack which the patrol had to advance thru, and up a very steep and rugged ridge. The patrol was ambushed on the rise in the trail of a small spur and the bandit firing line, evidenced by apparent firing positions discovered on a later reconnaissance, was great in length and so placed that the bandits would have a perfect ambush laid for patrols approaching either from the north or from the south. The first burst of bandit fire was tremendous and was directed on the Somoto Patrol from their right, front and rear. It is impossible to conceive under the conditions why or how more Guardia casualties were not suffered in the first fire fight. Lieut Sinkules coolness and quick estimate of situation, development of resistance and attack and the entire patrol's alertness and obedience to control saved the day.

WEAPONS EMPLOYED BY GUARDIA:- (Third District Patrol)

3 STMGs
2 BARs

3 Rifle Grenade Outfits
Hand Grenades
23 Rifles

WEAPONS EMPLOYED BY BANDITS:-

BARS
STIGs
Rifles
Pistols
Rifle Grenades
Dynamite Bombs
Cutachas.

ARTICLES CAPTURED BY THIRD DISTRICT PATROL:-

7 Animals (All saddles)
1 BAR Bandolier
5 BAR Magazines
3 Cutachas
30 Rds Ammunition (Assorted)
2 Dynamite Bombs
1 Pair Field Glasses (Bearing name in case of
Colonel R. Guillen h.)
2 Canteens
Muchilas
Hats & hat bands
Food stuffs

The Third District Combat Patrol proceeded immediately after reorganization after the contact on following patrol in pursuit:

Cleared Scene Contact 07417 - proceeded south to Chorro (165-338) no information. Proceeded North East to Motolin (168-343) no information. Covered mountains between El Apante and aguacate - no information. Arrived aguacate 12017 and had our first rest and chow since clearing Pueblo Nuevo. Cleared aguacate (164-344) 14017 proceeded via Las Soleras (166-344) across pass in Somoto Mountain - arrived pass 16017, examined all trails and brush paths, but no evidence of recent passage. Proceeded to Capules (173-344) via Santo Domingo (170-344) arrived Capules 17217, no information. Decided to spend night there as the patrol, even tho in good spirits and willing couldn't have gone much further. Had our first good chow in twenty four hours and a night's rest. Cleared Capules 05018 - proceeded to Naranja via Motolin. Arrived Naranja 08318 - no information. Proceeded to scene of contact. Found bodies of four dead bandits and several more hats and miscellaneous articles. No evidence of any of group having returned that vicinity. Cleared scene of contact 09318 and proceeded via Chorro to Pataste. Arrived Pataste 14018, no information. Remained Pataste until following morning having dispatched runner with patrol report, and request for orders and information, to Pueblo Nuevo. Awaited return of runner following day until 09019 at which time he had not returned and information was received from reliable native that two small groups had passed Palmiro (168-337) day before heading toward S. Jose

(197-334). Cleared immediately for S. Jose via Palmiro and Sta Fe (176-337). No information either place. Returned back north to Sabanas. No information. Cleared for Pueblo Nuevo via Limon arriving Pueblo Nuevo 16319. No information. Dispatched reliable runner immediately for Capules and Motolin, thinking that if my movements had been watched that the groups might try a reconcentration and assembly and head south. Runner returned about 22319 reporting all quiet and no information.

The Patrol Commander wished to especially commend Lieut Montenegro and the entire patrol of the Third District in these operations for their loyalty, obedience, and untiring energy over three days of rapid movement, with little rest and an average of one meal a day. There was never one instance of discontent or unwillingness to cooperate in every detail. It was a decided pleasure to be on the trail with excellent fighters, a fast moving patrol, and good companions. The entire patrol lived up to the highest traditions of the Guardia Nacional.

Hewin O. Hammond.
First Lieutenant, GN.

OPERATIONS REPORT FROM RIVAS, 6 TO 12 OCTOBER, 1932:-

6 OCTOBER 1000 One enlisted arrived from Tola.
1030 One enlisted arrived from San Jorge.
1100 One enlisted cleared for San Jorge.

7 OCTOBER 0500 Captain Forsyth cleared for San Juan del Sur.
1600 One enlisted cleared for Moyogalpa.
1900 Captain Forsyth returned from San Juan del S.

8 OCTOBER 1400 Lieut Bello and one enlisted cleared for Tola.
1700 One enlisted cleared for Los Cerros.

9 OCTOBER 0930 One enlisted returned from Los Cerros.
1430 Lieut Bello and one enlisted with one civil prisoner arrived from Tola.

10 OCTOBER 0830 One enlisted arrived from Belen.
1100 One enlisted cleared for Belen.
0930 Lieut Rodriguez and three enlisted cleared for Palos Negros and Los Cerros on police mission.
1600 Lieut Rodriguez and three enlisted returned from Palos Negros and Los Cerros.

11 OCTOBER 1400 One enlisted cleared for San Jorge.
1650 One enlisted returned from San Jorge.

12 OCTOBER 0600 Lieut Bello and one enlisted cleared for Cardenas.

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