

To Mr. Thurston

Assistant Secretary
of State
JUN 16 1931

HEADQUARTERS GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA,
MANAGUA, NICARAGUA.

OS-ehk-5

GUARDIA NEWS LETTER NO. 49 - (17 MAY - 30 MAY, 1931)

17 MAY 1931

Jinotega (CA) guardia patrol cleared for halfway to Matagalpa. Matagalpa guardia patrol cleared for halfway to jinotega. Patrols met and each returned to home stations.

Lieut. Bryson and guardia patrol cleared San Rafael (CA) for Yali and arrived.

Guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (CA) for and arrived San Isidro.

Lieut. Flippo and guardia patrol cleared Muy Muy (CA) for and arrived Matiguas. Returned to Muy Muy.

Guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (CA) for Lavarro. Patrol returned to Matagalpa.

18 MAY 1931

Captain Puller and Jinotega (CA) guardia patrol cleared Jinotega for aviation field. Captains Rea and Lixson arrived by plane from Managua. All cleared for and arrived Jinotega.

Lieut. Rittman and guardia patrol arrived Jinotega (CA) from Fundadora. Cleared for Fundadora.

Guardia patrol cleared Jinotega (CA) for and arrived San Rafael.

Guardia patrol cleared Jinotega (CA) with Jefe Politico and returned to Jinotega.

Lieut. McChee and Corinto Finca (CA) guardia patrol cleared Corinto Finca on combat mission to Embocaderos - La Virgen areas.

Lieut. Matamoras and Yali (CA) guardia patrol cleared Yali for and arrived San Rafael.

Lieut. Alexander and La Concordia (CA) guardia patrol cleared on reconnaissance to the north and west of La Concordia. Patrol returned; covered areas of La Mora, El Salto, La Esperanza, La Meza de Santa and Porvenir. No information gained. Area covered very quiet.

Guardia patrol returned to Dario (CA) from police mission.

San Isidro (CA) guardia patrol cleared San Isidro on police mission and returned to San Isidro.

Lieut. Flippo and guardia patrol cleared Muy Muy (CA) for La Pineda. Returned to Muy Muy.

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Licut. Navarotto and Esquipulas (C.) guardia patrol cleared Esquipulas for La Pinola. Returned to Esquipulas.

Licut. Thompson and guardia patrol arrived Matagalpa from Las Lajas.

Guardia patrol arrived Matagalpa from Algovia (C.).

Guardia patrol cleared Sebaco (C.) on police mission.

Licut. Kerns and guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (C.) for and arrived San Dionisio.

19 JULY 1931

Captain Puller and Jinotega (C.) guardia patrol cleared for aviation field. Returned to Jinotega.

Licut. Barrilas and San Rafael (C.) guardia patrol cleared San Rafael for Jinotega and arrived.

Licut. Matamoras and Yali (C.) guardia patrol cleared San Rafael for and arrived Yali.

Matagalpa (C.) guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa with Inspector of Hacienda on contraband patrol.

Licut. Thompson and guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (C.) for Las Lajas.

San Isidro (C.) guardia patrol cleared San Isidro for Santa Rosa to investigate bandit rumor.

Licut. Navarotto and Esquipulas (C.) guardia patrol cleared Esquipulas for San Dionisio and arrived. Returned to Esquipulas.

Licut. Kerns and guardia patrol cleared San Dionisio for Matagalpa (C.).

20 JULY 1931

Licut. Munez and Telpaneca (N.) guardia patrol returned to Telpaneca from Carbonal and Achiote. Nothing to report.

Dipilto (N.) guardia patrol returned to Dipilto from police mission; nothing to report.

Captain Roscerans and Jinotega (C.) guardia patrol cleared Jinotega for Matagalpa and arrived.

Captain Puller and Jinotega (C.) guardia patrol cleared Jinotega for aviation field. Returned to Jinotega with Licut. Saenz (MC), who arrived by plane from Managua.

Licut. Bryson, Licut. Matamoras and Yali (C.) guardia patrol cleared Yali on combat mission in direction of Guayucali River mouth. Patrol returned to Yali. Covered areas of Guayucali, Bramadero, Jocote, Gamalote; could get no information of bandits.

Licut. Stewart and guardia patrol cleared Guapotel for Algovia (C.).

Guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (C.) for Dario and arrived.

Lieutenant Pulver arrived Matagalpa (C.) from Navarro.

Captain Holdahl and Sonoto (N.) guardia patrol cleared Sonoto on combat mission. Near a point west of San Juan (vicinity of Sonoto) located a camp occupied by Segundo Alfaro with a group of about fifteen. Point fired on bandit sentry who gave the alarm and the group scattered. Destroyed the camp. No casualties.

Lieut. Ramirez and Villa Nueva (N.) guardia patrol returned to Villa Nueva.

Captain McQueen and Sonotillo (N.) guardia patrol cleared El Jocotal for San Francisco.

Captain Arnett, Lieut. Fox, Lieut. Hutchcroft, Lieut. Bell and combined San Francisco - Linay guardia patrols cleared El Jocotal for San Francisco. Nothing to report.

Captain Davies and Pueblo Nuevo (N.) guardia patrol cleared Pueblo Nuevo for and arrived Condega. Returned with Lieut. Titsworth.

Lieut. Brauer and Palacaguina (N.) guardia patrol cleared Palacaguina for and arrived Condega. Returned to Palacaguina.

Dipilto (N.) guardia patrol cleared Dipilto on police mission.

Lieut. Welsz and Santa Maria (N.) guardia patrol cleared Ocotal for Santa Maria via Macuelizo.

21 MAY 1931

Lieut. Bilbrey and Pueblo Nuevo (N.) guardia patrol cleared Pueblo Nuevo for vicinity of Aguacate.

Captain Sims and Quilali (N.) guardia patrol cleared Quilali for vicinity of Santa Rita. Patrol returned, nothing to report.

Linay (N.) guardia patrol returned to Linay from Jocotal. Nothing to report.

Lieut. Welsz and Santa Maria (N.) guardia patrol arrived Macuelizo from Ocotal. Captain Burvonn, Lieut. Welsz and Santa Maria patrol cleared Macuelizo for Santa Maria.

Lieut. Coffman and Patasto (N.) guardia patrol cleared Patasto and arrived Pueblo Nuevo via Naranjo.

Lieut. Livermore and Totogalpa (ML) guardia patrol cleared Totogalpa, patrolled vicinity of Totogalpa south, thence west, northeast and returned. Nothing to report.

Lieut. Hanks and Condega (ML) guardia patrol returned to Condega. Patrolled San Diego, Jocote, Saneudal, Daraili and Santa Rosa. Met Daraili patrol at mouth of Guayucali River. Nothing to report.

Lieut. Brown and Yalaguina (ML) guardia patrol cleared Yalaguina for vicinity north of Yalaguina. Point of patrol fired on a small group, wounding one and capturing two others. Captured 1 revolver and 2 cutachas. In a nearby house found red hat bands and bomb material; destroyed house. Patrol returned with six prisoners.

Captain McQueen and Sonotillo (ML) guardia patrol returned to Sonotillo from combat mission.

Captain Arnett, Lieut. Bell, Lieut. Fox and guardia patrol arrived Linay. Information obtained indicated that the groups operating in vicinity of Linay had split into numerous smaller groups.

Captain Rosecrans and Jinotega (CL) guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa for and arrived Jinotega.

Lieut. Stewart and guardia patrol cleared Consuelo (CL) for Algovia.

Guardia patrol returned to Matagalpa (CL) with Inspector of Hacienda and one prisoner.

Lieut. McGorkle and Sonoto (ML) guardia patrol cleared Sonoto for vicinity of a point east of Sonoto towards San Antonio to investigate reports of bandits in that area. Patrol returned, nothing to report.

Lieut. Martinez and Daraili (ML) guardia patrol cleared Daraili for San Geronimo.

Lieut. Brown and Yalaguina (ML) guardia patrol cleared for vicinity of a point east of Sonoto towards San Antonio to investigate reports of bandits operating in that area. Met Sonoto patrol. Returned to Yalaguina. Nothing to report.

Lieut. Berueffy and Dipilto (ML) guardia patrol cleared Dipilto for and arrived Ocotal. Cleared Ocotal and returned to Dipilto.

Captain Arnett, Lieut. Fox and Esteli (ML) guardia patrol cleared Linay and arrived Esteli.

Captain Elmore and Apali (ML) guardia patrol cleared Apali for halfway to Ocotal to repair telegraph line. Returned to Apali.

Lieut. Rodriguez and Ocotal (ML) guardia patrol cleared Ocotal for halfway to Apali to repair telegraph line. Returned to Ocotal.

Captain Puller and Jinotega (CL) guardia patrol cleared Jinotega for aviation field. Returned to Jinotega.

Jinotega (CA) guardia patrol cleared Jinotega with Inspector of Hacienda on contraband patrol.

Captain Mixson and guardia patrol cleared Jinotega (CA) for halfway to San Rafael. San Rafael guardia patrol cleared for halfway to Jinotega. Patrols met, Captain Mixson joined San Rafael patrol and returned with it to San Rafael. Jinotega patrol returned to home station.

Captain Fricke, Lieut. Matamoras and Yali (CA) guardia patrol cleared Yali for San Rafael and arrived.

San Isidro (CA) guardia patrol returned to San Isidro from combat mission to Santa Rosa.

Matagalpa (CA) guardia patrol returned to Matagalpa from Pueblo Viejo with Inspector of Hacienda.

Navarro (CA) guardia patrol arrived Matagalpa.

Guardia patrol cleared San Dionisio (CA) for halfway to Terrabona with prisoners. Returned to San Dionisio.

Dario (CA) guardia patrol cleared Dario for guacate on police mission.

23 MAY 1931

Guardia patrol arrived Leon from Managua with three civil prisoners.

Lieut. Stevens and Leon guardia patrol cleared Leon for El Tololar. Returned to Leon, nothing to report.

Lieut. Miller cleared Chinandega for Chichigalpa and San Antonio to inspect. Returned to Chinandega.

Chinandega guardia patrol cleared Chinandega to Patrol all roads leading to Chinandega. Returned, nothing to report. All quiet.

Lieut. Livernore and Totogalpa (NL) guardia patrol cleared Totogalpa for and arrived Ocotal. Returned to Totogalpa.

Lieut. Coffman and Pataste (NL) guardia patrol cleared Pueblo Nuevo for Pataste.

Lieut. Cobb and La Trinidad (NL) guardia patrol cleared La Trinidad for Sebaco (CA).

Lieut. Brauer and Palaeaguina (NL) guardia patrol cleared Palaeaguina for and arrived Pueblo Nuevo. Patrol returned to Palaeaguina.

Condoga (NL) guardia patrol cleared Condoga for halfway to Pueblo Nuevo to meet medical officer. Captain Davies, Lieut. Titsworth (IC) and Pueblo Nuevo guardia patrol cleared Pueblo Nuevo for halfway to Condoga. Patrols met, Lieut. Titsworth joined Condoga patrol and cleared with it for

Condega. Captain Davies and Pueblo Nueva patrol continued to vicinity east of Portrorillos and thence to Condega.

Captain Davies, Licut. Titsworth and Pueblo Nuevo (N.) guardia patrol cleared Condega and returned to Pueblo Nuevo.

Lieut. Alexander and La Concordia (C.) guardia patrol cleared La Concordia for and arrived San Rafael. Patrol returned to La Concordia.

Lieut. McGhee and Corinto Finca (C.) guardia patrol returned to Corinto Finca from combat mission. Patrolled the areas Embocaderos, Los Cedros, Lo Virguc, Guapinol, La Virgen, Las Cuchillos, San Antonio, Tuma, La Colonia, Santa Isabel, La Union and Coyolar; found five empty bandit camps and traces of the Irias group, but made no contact.

Matagalpa (C.) guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa with Inspector of Hacienda on contraband patrol to Pueblo Viejo.

San Isidro (C.) guardia patrol cleared San Isidro for and arrived Matagalpa.

San Isidro (C.) guardia patrol cleared San Isidro for and arrived Dario.

Guardia patrol cleared Dario (C.) for and arrived Terrabona.

Guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (C.) for Navarro.

Matagalpa (C.) guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa for La Cumplida with Jefe Politico. Returned to Matagalpa.

Matagalpa (C.) guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa for La Garita on police mission.

Muy Muy (C.) guardia patrol cleared Muy Muy for and arrived Matagalpa.

Darios (C.) guardia patrol returned to Dario from police mission in Aguacate.

San Isidro (C.) guardia patrol cleared San Isidro for Hacienda Carrizo to investigate report of thieves in that vicinity.

24 MAY 1931

Lieut. Berueffy and Dipilto (N.) guardia patrol cleared Dipilto for and arrived Ocotal.

Lieut. Rodriguez and Dipilto (N.) guardia patrol cleared Ocotal for and arrived Dipilto.

Lieut. Hannas and Condega (N.) guardia patrol cleared Condega for vicinity of Santula.

Lieut. Cobb and La Trinidad (N.) guardia patrol cleared Sobaco (C.) for La Trinidad.

Chinandega guardia patrol cleared for El Relijo and vicinity. Returned to Chinandega, nothing to report.

Managua guardia patrol cleared Leon for Managua after having delivered three civil prisoners to Leon.

Captain Fricke and Yali (C.) guardia patrol cleared San Rafael for and arrived Yali.

Guardia detachment arrived Matagalpa (C.) from Managua.

Matagalpa (C.) guardia patrol returned to Matagalpa from police mission in La Garita.

Guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (C.) for Navarro.

Guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (C.) for San Isidro and arrived.

Lieut. Elliott and guardia patrol cleared San Isidro (C.) for Carrizo. Investigate report of bandits and returned to San Isidro.

Guardia patrol cleared Consuelo (C.) for Buena Vista.

Guardia patrol cleared Dario (C.) for and arrived Matagalpa.

Lieut. Elliott and San Isidro (C.) guardia patrol again cleared San Isidro on combat mission.

Lieut. Schriener and guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (C.) and returned to Muy Muy.

Captain Burwell, Lieut. Jones and guardia patrol cleared Santa Maria (N.) and arrived Ococona. Lieut. Broderick and Macuelizo (N.) guardia patrol cleared Macuelizo and arrived Ococona. Captain Burwell joined Macuelizo patrol and returned with it to Macuelizo. Lieut. Jones and Santa Maria guardia patrol cleared Ococona for Santa Maria.

25 MAY 1931

Lieut. Hymas and Condoga (N.) guardia patrol arrived Yali (C.) and reported contact with a group of bandits under sub-jefe RIVERA at La Colmena. Two bandits were killed and about eight wounded. No guardia casualties. The guardia captured one rifle and three ponchos. This group is reported to have sacked the town of Santulo, Department of Esteli. Condoga patrol took up the pursuit and after following them the whole day, gained this contact.

Lieut. Spanko and Patate (N.) guardia patrol cleared Patate for southwestern Segovia.

Captain Kelly and Jicaro (N.) guardia patrol cleared Jicaro for Esperanza and vicinity. Patrol returned.

Esteli (N.) guardia patrol cleared Esteli for Limay.

Lieut. Smith and Esteli (N.) guardia patrol cleared Esteli for Guayucali and vicinity.

Esteli (N.) guardia patrol under first sergeant cleared Esteli for town of Blandon.

Captain Burwell, Lieut. Broderick and Macuelizo (N.) guardia patrol cleared for halfway to Somoto. Captain Holdahl and Somoto (N.) guardia patrol cleared for halfway to Macuelizo. Patrols met, Captain Burwell joined Somoto patrol and returned with it to Somoto. Lieut. Broderick and Macuelizo guardia patrol returned to home station.

Lieut. Brown and Yalaguina (N.) guardia patrol cleared for vicinity of Palacaguina.

Lieut. Kipp and Palacaguina (N.) guardia patrol cleared for vicinity north of Palacaguina.

Lieut. Clark and Daraili (N.) guardia patrol arrived Condega from Daraili and cleared for halfway to Pueblo Nuevo. Returned to Condega with Lieut. Titsworth.

Pueblo Nuevo (N.) guardia patrol cleared for halfway to Condega. Returned to Pueblo Nuevo.

Lieut. Livermore and Totogalpa (N.) guardia patrol cleared for vicinity north of Palacaguina.

Lieut. Makus and Leon guardia patrol cleared Leon for La Ceiba. Patrol returned. No incidents to report.

El Tempisque guardia patrol, cleared Chinandega and returned to El Tempisque.

Chinandega guardia patrol cleared Chinandega for finca north of Chinandega. Returned, nothing to report.

Jinotega (C.) guardia patrol cleared Jinotega for El Collol on police mission. Returned to Jinotega.

Captain Maynard and San Rafael (C.) guardia patrol cleared San Rafael for and arrived Jinotega.

Captain Power, Lieut. Downey and Corinto Finca (C.) guardia patrol cleared Corinto Finca on reconnaissance and police mission.

Guardia patrol reported to Matagalpa (C.) from Las Lajas.

Captain Stafford, Lieut. Sims and Matagalpa (C.) Guardia patrol arrived Esquipulas from La Pineda.

26 MAY 1931

Captain Stafford, Lieut. Sims and guardia patrol arrived Matagalpa from inspection of guardia stations at Hiy Hiy, Matiguas, La Pineda, Esquipulas and San Dionisio (C.).

Juigalpa (Chontales) guardia patrol returned to Juigalpa from combat mission in Huma area, Rio Grande, El Castillo, Huanahuana and Vera Cruz.

Lieut. Schuler and Chinandega guardia patrol cleared Chinandega for Chichigalpa - San Antonio - Pasaltega area on reconnaissance mission.

Licut. Stevens and Leon guardia patrol cleared Leon for the outskirts of town to make an investigation. Returned with one prisoner, suspected of murder.

Captain Skinner, Captain Puller and Jinotega (CL) guardia patrol cleared Jinotega for aviation field. Captain Skinner cleared for Managua by plane. Captain Puller and patrol returned to Jinotega.

Jinotega (CL) guardia patrol cleared Jinotega for Santana on police mission.

Captain Maynard cleared Jinotega (CL) for and arrived Matagalpa.

Captain Power, Licut. Downey and Corinto Finca (CL) guardia patrol returned to Corinto Finca. Patrolled areas Cuale, San Esteban to Tuma River, San Geronimo and Estacion. Brought in two cattle thieves.

Captain Mixson, Licut. Matamoras and San Rafael (CL) guardia patrol returned from combat mission. Patrolled Los Diamante, Santa Fe, Quebrada Grande, Hojon and Los Horecones. No contacts and no information gained.

Licut. Alexander and La Concordia (CL) guardia patrol cleared La Concordia on reconnaissance to the north. Covered areas of El Salto, La Esperanza, El Volcansito, Lapas Calle, Los Infiernos, La Rinconada, La Pita and Porvenir.

Captain Stafford, Licut. Sims, Licut. Navarette and guardia patrol cleared Esquipulas for and arrived San Dionisio. Captain Stafford and Licut. Sims cleared for and arrived Matagalpa. Licut. Navarette returned to Esquipulas.

Captain McAffee cleared Dario (CL) for Terrabona.

Matagalpa (CL) guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa for and arrived San Isidro.

Licut. Ekberger and guardia patrol arrived Muy Muy (CL) from La Pineda. Returned to Muy Muy.

Guardia patrols cleared Matagalpa (CL) for Navarro and Algovia.

Captain Sims and Quilali (NL) guardia patrol cleared Quilali for jicaro.

Macuclizo (NL) guardia patrol cleared Macuclizo for and arrived Ocotal. Returned to Macuclizo.

Licut. Satterfield and San Juan de Tolpaneca (NL) guardia patrol cleared San Juan on combat mission.

Licut. Clark and Daraili (NL) guardia patrol cleared Condoga for Daraili.

Licut. Harris and Condoga (NL) guardia patrol returned to Condoga from combat mission.

Lieut. Kipp and Palacaguina (NL) guardia patrol returned to Palacaguina from combat mission.

Lieut. Livermore and Totogalpa (NL) guardia patrol returned from combat mission. Nothing to report.

Lieut. Brown and Yalaguina (NL) guardia patrol returned from combat mission. Patrol fired on group of 5. Captured four cutachas and one gun.

Lieut. Bilbrey and Pueblo Nuevo (NL) guardia patrol cleared Pueblo Nuevo to investigate report of a group in vicinity of La Cruz.

Captain Arnett, Lieut. Cobb and guardia patrol cleared Esteli (NL) for and arrived La Trinidad. Captain Arnett returned to Esteli.

Lieut. Ramirez and Villa Nueva (NL) guardia patrol cleared Villa Nueva and arrived Somotillo.

27 M.Y. 1931

Leon guardia patrol cleared Leon for Hagarote and returned to Leon with one civil prisoner.

Guardia patrol arrived Leon from Granada with one civil prisoner.

Lieut. Burns and Chinandega guardia patrol cleared Chinandega, patrolled area southwest of Chinandega and returned. Searched houses of suspected bandits. Nothing to report.

Captain Fuller, Captain Scholtes and Jinotega (CL) guardia patrol cleared Jinotega for aviation field. Returned to Jinotega.

Guardia patrol returned to Jinotega from Santana police mission.

Captain Power and Corinto Finca (CL) guardia patrol cleared Corinto Finca on reconnaissance patrol to the north-east of Corinto Finca.

Guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (CL) for Navarro.

Captain McAfee returned to Dario (CL) from Terrabona.

Lieut. Elliott and guardia patrol returned to San Isidro (CL) from combat mission. Covered areas Santa Rosa del Penon, La Bonita and area in vicinity of El Jicaral, Dept. of Leon. No information.

Lieut. Cobb and La Trinidad (NL) guardia patrol cleared La Trinidad for Patrillo to investigate report of small bandit group in that vicinity.

Lieut. Bilbrey and Pueblo Nuevo (NL) guardia patrol arrived Somoto via La Cruz. Nothing to report. Cleared Somoto and returned to Pueblo Nuevo.

Licut. Satterfield and San Juan de Tolpaneca (N.) guardia patrol returned to San Juan. On the 26th followed a group of ten, armed with pistols and machostes, from Buono Vista to Ologalpa, bandits firing several bombs en route. From 5.00 a.m., the 27th, patrol pursued the same group from vicinity of Ologalpa to Carbonal where the group scattered.

Captain Good and Ocotal (N.) guardia patrol cleared Ocotal for and arrived Totogalpa.

Licut. Broderick and Macuelizoz (N.) guardia patrol cleared Macuelizo for vicinity of Cacao.

El Sauce (N.) guardia patrol cleared El Sauce for and arrived Esteli.

28 MAY 1931

Licut. Schuler and Chinandega guardia patrol returned to Chinandega after patrolling areas Chichigalpa, San Antonio, Posoltega, Valli de las Mayorga, Las Simas, El Cerro and San Benito. Captured 1 prisoner, 2 revolvers, 1 cutaxha and a quantity of casusa. Destroyed 1 still and 5 gallons of mash.

Major Webb, Captain Balos and Licut. Stevens cleared Leon for Telica. Returned to Leon.

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

The following memorandum submitted by Captain E.L. Burwell, jr., GN, Executive officer of the Northern Area, to the Area Commander, during Captain Burwell's inspection of the area:

Macuelizo,
24 May 1931.

Memorandum for Area Commander:

1. Results of inspections at Macuelizo and Santa Maria were satisfactory. Good progress is being made along constructive lines.
2. Entire district quiet and no evidence of bandit activity. People returning from Honduras and establishing homes in Santa Maria to Ocoana district. Planting and cultivation of crops going on. Some travel on trails but not a great deal.
3. School at Santa Maria being held daily and children regular in attendance. Clothing for them has been furnished by District Commander.
4. Monthly dance at Santa Maria barracks well attended. A good supper served to all hands, including men, women, girls and children. Barracks well decorated. Music by victrola. Danced until quite late, a very good means of getting people acquainted with the Guardia.

(sgd) E.L. BURWELL, jr.

The following report covers the attack on the Guardia station and town of Palacaguina on 15 May 1931:

" HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF PALACAGUINA,
GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA,
15 May 1931.

From: The District Commander.
To : The Area Commander, Northern Area.

Reference: General Order 109-1929.

Subject: Report of attack on the Guardia station at Palacaguina 15 May 1931.

Map : U.S.M.C. Nueva Segovia Map.

1. At 0155 Friday, 15 May, 1931, this station was attacked in force by bandits numbering more than two hundred. The following bandit chiefs with their groups constituted the attacking force:

Miguel Angel Ortez with fifty Hondurians and fifteen natives.
Salgado with forty in group. Blas Gonzalez with fifteen.
Chavarria with forty. Catalino Olivas with fifteen.
Colonel Gutierrez with thirty. Pedro Calderon with small group.
Roa Vargas with fifteen. Abraham Irias with small group.

General Lara and General Castillo, heretofore unknown here but believed to be Hondurians were also present during the attack.

The following officers and enlisted men of the Guardia Nacional were engaged in the defense of this station:

Ist Lt. J. Ogden Brauer		Raso Lopez Apolonio	2304
2nd Lt. Harry E. Ripp		" Lopez Jose	2257
Cabo Majorca Humberto	1330	" Meneses Pedro	4155
" Ramirez Eulalis	2028	" Padilla Pedro	4093
Raso Bellorin Juan	4095	" Perez Marcelo	4055
" Calix Luis	3780	" Perez Marcos	4057
" Carazo Raymundo	4007	" Picado Ruperto	4065
" Cardenas Eugenio	3017	" Ramirez Nicolas	2900
" Cardenas Ignacio	4089	" Sanchez Mariano	4095
" Espinosa Inez	4039	" Valdez Pedro	2798
" Gomez Adrian	3996	" Vilchez Lazaro	3010
" Gonzalez Gabriel	2800	" Zavala Juan	2916
" Gonzalez Santiago	4046	" Zavala Justo	3000

The attack lasted for two hours and twenty minutes beginning at 0155 and ending at 0415

2. THE ENGAGEMENT IN CHRONOLOGICAL SEQUENCE.

2100 - 14 May 1931 - Agent from Esperanza 203-355 informed us that Miguel Angel Ortez with small group arrived in Artola 204-361 the night before but did not know whether passing or making permanent camp.

2110 Informed the Area Commander, Northern Area, of above information and that this station would clear a patrol for that district at 0400, following morning. Immediately made preparations for fourteen men and myself to clear at hour mentioned.

0150 15 May 1931. Raso Gonzalez Santiago, number 4046, went on post and immediately saw "gente" moving about the church, one hundred yards away from front of Cuartel. He then challenged a man, mounted, and the person answered by firing his .45 calibre pistol. This man believed to be a "Jefe" making the disposition for the attack.

0155 Sentry returned fire, Guardia in Cuartel manned their defense station, bandit bugler sounded a call and the attack began on all sides of the Cuartel. Automatic and rifle fire was heaviest from a direction in front of the Cuartel for the first half hour of the attack.

0230 Bandits gained a foothold on a commanding position to the north of the Cuartel, delivering heavy small arms fire and throwing many bombs from near position. They were only routed when Lt. Hupp directed his automatic fire on that position.

0245 Delivered ammunition to the man in the tower and directed Lt Hupp to take charge of the tower and use the B.M.R. from there.

0315 Delivered more ammunition to tower.

0330 Directed fire from the tower to a hill on right flank from which bandits were delivering automatic and small arms fire. Directed riflemen to deliver heavy fire in the vicinity of the kitchen where the bandits had gained a position using a house to make their advance.

0345 Suspended the use of rifle grenades as supply was running low and could depend on only one in every three detonating.

0400 Bandit fire decreased.

0415 Bandit bugler sounded retreat and firing ceased on all sides.

0430 Lt Hupp and myself took a patrol to each side of the town.

0440 Lt Brown and patrol from Yalguinga arrived.

0450 Lt Truesdale and patrol arrived from Candegre.

0500 Lt Hupp, Lt Brown with combined patrols cleared for Rio Grande 205-354, and there made contact. (Submitted under separate cover).

0510 Lt Brauer Lt Truesdale with Candegre patrol cleared for Cusmaje 205-363. Turned off main trail to direction of combat in Rio Grande, thereby missing ambush laid by Ortego and Salgado with combined group of eighty, but arrived after contact. Returned to Cusmaje area but unable to gain contact.

1030 Returned to Palcaquina.

3. Casualties:

Bandits, two known dead, total dead estimated at ten from all reports received from the natives near here. Wounded estimated to be between twenty-five and thirty, this taken from reports of the "gente" and as evidenced by the large amount of blood found around the town and vicinity. Guardia casualties: None.

4. WEAPONS EMPLOYED.

The Guardia used one Browning Machine gun, One Lewis Machine gun, and one Browning Automatic Rifle, two grenade dischargers, hand grenades, and eighteen .303 rifles. The bandits employed One Lewis machine gun, two Thompson Sub-machine guns, two rifles with grenade dischargers, rifles, pistols and hand bombs.

5. Captured two cutachas with scabbards, one bomb, and a letter from Carlos Salgado to Miguel Ortez y Guillen badly torn by fragment of a bomb, letter enclosed. This letter was found near the largest pool of blood discovered and a new cutacha with scabbard and belt, covered with blood, were found there also after the attack.

6. INCIDENTS OF THE ENGAGEMENT.

In beginning the attack the bandits shouted from all sides, "Burn the Cuartel and kill Tnts. Brauer and Cabo Ramirez", and immediately fired a burst over the bunk of the latter though just a few minutes too late.

A determined effort was made at different intervals to take the cuartel from three different directions. Their attack was well directed and they took every advantage of the surrounding terrain. The attackers were far more tenacious than ordinarily and this is believed due to the fact that Hondurans were employed in the best positions and in their first line of the attack.

Their rifle grenades fell short of the cuartel though their rifle grenadiers were in positions which would permit them to place the grenades more than fifty yards beyond the barracks. Several of their dynamite bombs fell just outside the trenches almost ruining our newly plastered wall.

One of the attackers machine gun (MG), in emplacement beside the church a hundred yards away and in such position that it could sweep the entire front of our barracks was driven out only when Lt Kipp took the B&R to the tower and then only after he had expended several magazines of ammunition.

The Bodega of this station is situated about ten yards to the north of the barracks and it was fired upon almost as much as the Cuartel. Roque Vargas and his group was on this side of the town which perhaps accounts for the above fact as he operates in the Jicaro area, and is unacquainted with those here parts.

The attendant of one of the stores, Juan Martinez, hid in the out house when he heard the bandits enter the town and he states that at about a half hour after the attack began he saw that they brought a man dressed in khaki and wearing boots, into the store. Much blood was found the following morning on one of the beds in this same store.

Three stores in the town were almost completely sacked. The store of Sra. Fidelia Espinosa showed signs of maliciousness. Merchandise houses were robbed of clothing and miscellaneous articles.

Raso Carconas, Ignacio #4089, and Raso Zavala, Justo, #3008 remained in the Guardia kitchen during the entire fight and only saved their lives by remaining quiet. The bandits were unaware of their presence in the galley for there are two open windows there and one dynamite bomb would have taken care of both of them. Although the kitchen is less than seventy yards from the Cuartel these two men could not have reached the barracks as the bandits were on three sides of the building and also the fire from the cuartel was intense in that direction.

The night was very dark and the sky remained overcast as a little rain fell therefore it was believed inadvisable to take a patrol out during the attack as the danger of shooting each other was too great, although Lt Kipp and myself each took a patrol and went around the opposite sides of the town as soon as the firing ceased.

The groups retreated in the direction of Cuje 201-364, Gusmaje 205-363 and Rio Grande 205-354.

Raso Gonzalez, Santiago, #4046, was the sentry on watch, post number one, and the new recruit handled the situation like a veteran guardia. He did not enter the trencher until called by his comrades. More than he did under the circumstances could not be expected of any soldier.

Raso Lopez, Jose, #2257, as rifle grenadier did splendid work in placing the grenades. This was rendered particularly difficult due to the fact that from behind the trencher it was necessary for him to fire from the shoulder but even from this unpractical position his placement was accurate and effective.

Cabo Vilechez, Lazaro, #3010, was in charge of the tower with three men and handled the Lewis machine gun very effectively in view of the great number of stoppages which he was required to adjust.

Cabo Mayorga, Humberto, #1333, handled the Brown machine gun and delivered accurate and effective fire while exposed to the enemy fire during the entire attack. This man certainly merits the finest commendation of his superior officer.

Lt Kipp directed the fire of the automatics, using the Browning Automatic Rifle himself. His cool and efficient manner during the attack gave all hands great confidence and his work with the BAR was more instrumental than anything else in routing the enemy from their machine gun emplacements. I cannot speak too highly of his soldierly merits.

All of the guardia were obedient and courageous in the defense of their station.

----- /s/ J. OGDEN BRAUER -----

Contact report of Lieutenant H.E. Kipp, C.H., covering engagement with a bandit group on 15 May 1931, is quoted:

HEADQUARTERS
DISTRICT OF PALACAGUINA,
GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA,
19 May 1931.

From: Second Lieutenant Harry E. Kipp.
To : The District Commander, Palacaguina.

Reference: General Order 109-1929.
Map : USHC. Nueva Segovia Map.

Subject: Report of contact 0630 May 15, 1931.

1. Mission of patrol. To pursue bandits who participated in the attack of the Guardia station Palacaguina.
2. Orders. Verbal orders issued by Lt. J. Ogden Brauer, commanding station, to proceed to Rio Grande in pursuit of bandits and to go through old camp located there.
3. Place of engagement, Rio Grande 205-554 at house of Ruperto Iglesias near abandoned camp.

4. Time and length of engagement. 0630, 15 May 1951.
Engagement lasted ten or twelve minutes.

5. Names of Officers and Enlisted men participating:

2nd Lt. Harry E. Kipp		Raso Gomez Vicente	# 2395
" " Chauncey E. Brown		" Carazo Raymundo	4087
Cabe Cruz, Bartolo	# 2005	" Lopez Jose	2257
Raso Bellorin, Juan	4095	" Helgara, Agapito	3005
" Aguirrez, Gregorio	4035	" Honesos, Pedro	4155
" Blonden, Marcelino	4047	" Paguada, Bernardo	2639
" Cardenas, Eugenio	3017	" Padilla, Pedro	4093
" Cardenas, Miguel	4073	" Perez, Lino	4092
" Calix, Luis	3780	" Perez, Marcelo	4055
" Chavez, Miguel	2754	" Perez, Marcos	4057
" Espinosa, Inez	4039	" Ramirez, Nicolas	2908
" Gonzalez, Gabriel	2888	" Sanchez, Mariano	4093
" Gonzalez, Pio	4090	" Vilchez, Lazaro	5010
" Gomez, Adrian	3996	" Zavala, Juan	2916

6. THE ENGAGEMENT. A combined patrol consisting of myself Lt Brown with sixteen guardia from Palacaguina and ten from Yalaguina, cleared Palacaguina at 0500 for Rio Grande in pursuit of bandits who retreated in that direction. The Guardia from Palacaguina being more familiar with the terrain took the lead with Lt. Brown, and the Guardia from Yalaguina immediately in rear. The trail of the retreating bandits was soon picked up and led into Rio Grande. We followed this trail for more than a league. When we reached a side trail leading to the house of Ruperto Iglesias and about fifty yards therefrom the point was fired on by a bandit sentry. We returned the fire and immediately rushed the house. Bandits fled from the house in two groups. One group ran to the North and took up a position on the top of a small hill. The other group ran into the heavy underbrush to the East. Myself with the Palacaguina Guardia pursued the group to the North and drove them from their position in scattered confusion. Lt Brown with the Yalaguina Guardia, executed, under bandit rifle and grenade fire, a rapid and clever flanking movement completely routing the group which was in the brush to the East. Both patrols continued to pursue the groups but were unable to regain contact. The groups scattered into the brush and further pursuit was impossible. Both patrols reassembled at the house where contact was first made and collected all the gear left there by the groups. Returned to Palacaguina at 0955.

7. CASUALTIES: Bandits, one dead left near house,
several wounded, number unknown.
Guardia. NONE.

8. EQUIPMENT. Bandits, one Thompson sub-machine gun, one rifle with grenade discharger, one pistol, one shotgun and about twenty rifles.
Guardia: one B.R., one TSIG, two rifle grenade dischargers and twenty-four rifles.

9. ARMS, AMMUNITION, SUPPLIES CAPTURED.

One Krag rifle # 461780
 Two dynamite bombs
 one drum 50 rds. TSMG
 Three magazines 45 cal. pistol.
 One bolt Krag rifle extra.
 Six rounds Krag 30 cal. ammunition.
 Five rounds 45 cal. Pistol ammunition.
 Two shotgun shells 12 ga.
 Two grenade detonators.
 Two machetes
 One mule
 One pack saddle
 Large quantity of food
 Two haversacks
 Hats, hat bands and miscellaneous gear.

10. RECOVERED. Recaptured from the bandits about one fourth of the merchandise taken from the stores of Palacaguina also some personal belongings of the people here.

11. Cabo Vilchez, Lazaro, # 3010, was the first man in the point with a Thompson and he immediately rushed the house firing as he ran, completely disregarding the danger to his life and thereby giving great confidence to his comrades.

/s/ HARRY E. KIPP

There is quoted below the report of contact with bandits on 16 May 1931 by the Palacaguina Guardia under Licut. J.O. Brauer.

HEADQUARTERS
 DISTRICT OF PALACAGUINA
 GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA
 21 May 1931.

From: The District Commander.
 To : The Area Commander, Northern Area, Coastal, Nic.
 Reference: General Order, 109-1929.
 Map : USMC, Nueva Segovia Map.
 Subject: Report of Contact on 16 May 1931.

1. A patrol from this station cleared for Cujo 201-364, on information that Ortez and a group were camping there in the house of one of the bandit sub-jefes, Blas Gonzalez, at 0400, May 16, 1931.

Officers and men constituting the patrol:

Ist Lt J. Ogdon Brauer		Raso Gonzalez, Santiago	#4046
2nd Lt Harry E. Kipp		" Lopez, -polonio	2804
Cabo Mayorga, Humberto	#1338	Lopez, Jose	2557
" Vilchez, Lazaro	3010	Perez, Marcelo	4055
Raso Bellorin, Juan	4095	Perez, Marcos	4057
" Calix, Luis	3780	Picado, Ruperto	4065
" Carazo, Raymundo	4087	Ramirez, Nicolas	2908
" Cardenas, Eugenio	3017	Sanchez, Mariano	4098
" Cardenas, Ignacio	4089	Valdez, Pedro	2789
" Gomez, Adrian	3996	Zavala, Juan	2916
" Gonzalez, Gabriel	2888		

2. This patrol took the long trail to Gujo, it being the more obscure of the two, arriving there, above the house of Blas Gonzalez, at 0900. Two prisoners, members of Blas Gonzalez group accompanied the patrol. -- jefe and about twelve or fifteen men were observed about the house. The jefe was dressed in khaki, wore russet boots and a large sombrero with a large red and black hat devise. One of the prisoners informed us that this man was Miguel Angel Ortiz and that he used this house exclusively. Two trails lead to the house from our position, one led down the face of the mountain and would put us in view of the group before reaching the house and the other would require a half hour or more travel to reach the house. The group had scattered but soon reassembled around the Jefe and remained together for some time during which we were debating the manner of procedure, the terrain being unknown to us, and the guardia patrol from Totogalpa opened fire in the distance. Lt Kipp, Cabo Mayorga and myself with two Thompsons and one BAR fired into the group for over a minute. They were apparently bewildered by the burst of fire but we were unable to see whether any were killed or wounded. Upon reaching the house they opened on the point with automatic fire. The fire was returned and the group was driven from the house and vicinity. Lt Kipp remained in the vicinity of the house and searched the place with four men while the remainder of the patrol with myself went to the camp located about a half mile from the house. The camp had been vacated that morning but nothing of their whereabouts could be gained. The camp consisted of open sleeping shelters and two tached houses. After these were destroyed the patrol returned to the house and joined Lt Kipp and patrol. Two scout planes arrived and the direction of flight was signaled to them but due to the dense undergrowth they were unable to pick up the location of the group again. The patrol returned to Palaeaguina after collecting the gear left by the group.

3. TIME AND LENGTH OF ENGAGEMENT.
0930 to 0940, May 16, 1931.
Contact lasted about ten minutes.

4. CASUALTIES: Bandits: unknown.
Guardia: NONE.

5. Captured: one bomb, one magazine BAR, one saddle, one capote, one acordion, two haversacks, hats and hat bands, and flag. Recaptured: Cloth, merchandise, and miscellaneous articles taken from merchants of Palaeaguina during attack there.

6. Guardia employed two TSI's, one BAR, grenade discharger and Krag rifles. Bandits employed one TSI, rifles and pistols.

7. Destroyed camp of group and house of Blas Gonzalez.

8. Incidents of the contact: Had the Totogalpa patrol opened fire ten minutes later our story would be different it is believed. As we learned later the trail we were going to use was well hidden all the distance to within thirty yards of the house. When the group heard the firing of the other group they immediately grabbed their malotas, assembled around their chief and it was at this time that we opened fire on them. We were firing thru spaces in the foliage and this hindered our view of the grounds around the house. The Guardia were obedient and enthusiastic to attack.

/s/ J. OGDEN BRUER

Report of contact with bandits on the Rios Cua and Kilande by a Guardia patrol under Captain L. B. Puller, G.N., is quoted:

COMPANY "M", GUARDIA NACIONAL,
FINOTEGA, NICARAGUA, 15 May 1951.

From: The Commanding Officer.
To : The Area Commander, Central Area.
Subject: Report of Contact with bandits on the Rio Cua 144-281, and on the Rio Kilande 143-284.
References: (a) General Order #109-1929.
(b) Konyon Map.
(c) My patrol report, dated 15 May 1951.

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following report is submitted:

The mission of the patrol was to locate a bandit camp believed to be the headquarters of Sandino and to be located north of the Rio Cua near the old hacienda of Julio Guatemala, and then to proceed in either the direction of Poteca on the Rio Cua or in the direction of the Rio Bocay, depending on what bandit signs were found.

Attention is invited to reference (c).

On arriving at Julio Guatemala no recent bandit signs had been encountered so the patrol continued its march down the north bank of the Rio Cua. At 1000, 9 May 1951, two canoes containing four bandits came around a bend in the Rio Cua 144-281. The patrol and the bandits observed each other at the same time and both opened fire. The bandits dove overboard. There were no Guardia casualties. Two (2) bandits were killed and their bodies gotten and searched. Two (2) canoes, two (2) shotguns, two (2) cutachas, five (5) shotgun shells, and a small quantity of powder, caps, and lead slugs were captured. The canoes were burned.

As no food stuffs were in the canoes, it was apparent that the bandits were either on a short scouting trip up the Rio Cua or a hunting or fishing trip and that their camp was nearby.

The march was resumed down the Rio Cua to the mouth of the Rio Kilande. Here a sentry post was found that has just been deserted and men's tracks led up the Rio Kilande. About a mile north of this point a large camp was discovered on a hill. About fifteen persons had just left this camp and several of them were women. One shot was fired at the patrol while the camp was being destroyed. The camp was built in two sections besides the outposts. Nine (9) permanent houses with bunks besides lean-tos were burned.

From appearances this camp had been occupied by over a hundred men off and on for some seven or eight months. It had apparently been only occupied by a few persons for several weeks. I believe that the bandit expedition to the east coast of Nicaragua set out from there. It was apparent that the bandits intended to return to this camp as not only a small body of them had been left there but acres of land in the vicinity had been burned off to plant corn and beans when the rains begin.

A number of machetes, grind-stones, knives, cooking utensils, Nicaraguan hoes for cultivating, a set of pole climbers, cattle hides, tortilla stones, and fishing apparatus were destroyed.

It is possible that the pole climbers came from the scene of the Marino-Bandit contact near Ocotal last December.

From contacts, camps destroyed, bandits and correspondence from Sandino captured in this area, it has been shown; that after fleeing from Saraguasca last June, Sandino established his camp at Venado mountain and remained there until he fled and his camp was destroyed on 28 July. Then he established his camp south of the Rio Cua and this camp and a communication camp were destroyed in August and September. Then I believe that Sandino established his camp north of the Rio Cua in the place destroyed in this report.

From information received from natives in this area, I believe that the bandits now have a camp on the Rio Bacay.

The following officers and men took part in this contact:

Captain L. B. Puller		Raso Juan Gaitan	# 5242
2nd Lieut. W. L. Lee		Eusebio Guido	3003
Sgt Francisco Mondicta	# 59	Basilio Gutierrez	2757
Cabo Dionisio Silos	3581	Heliodoro Hernandez	1695
" Antonio Vado	2489	Rufino Moran	3074
" Elico Valdivia	2515	Jose Navas	1757
Raso Humberto Aguilar	3611	Ramon Ordoñez	3449
" Gumercindo Alaniz	3084	Jose Rosales	2765
" Daniel Blandon	3713	Visitación Talavera	3417
" Francisco Canales	170	Julio Esquivel	2974
" Valentin Castro	3777	Cabo Antonio Gonzalez (HC)	2292
" Daniel Figueroa	2474		

/s/ L. B. PULLER

The following letter from Lieutenant J. H. Broderick, commanding the District of Macuelizo, Nueva Segovia, to the Area Commander, Colonel L. P. Hunt, gives an idea of some things Guardia officers are trying to do in an effort to assist in maintaining peace and quiet in Nicaragua:

GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA,
Macuelizo, Nueva Segovia, Nic.,
23 May 1931.

Colonel LeRoy P. Hunt, G.N.
Area Commander, Northern Area.

Dear sir:

This week I had the pleasure of giving Ismael Izaguirre, recently turned loose from the Pueblo Nuevo jail, a chance to follow the straight and narrow path. The Police Judge, Alcalde, Sgto. Blanco, and several others told me he was a bandit and to watch him. He appears to be more intelligent than the average Nicaraguan and has been hanging around looking the place over for the last two days.

Several more reports have been received that Ventura Rodriguez (Jinenez) was killed near Patasto in March 1931, receiving seven bullets in his body. Bartolo Cruz Rodriguez has not been seen by any one since his escape.

We have had no bandit activity in this district since the establishment of this Post and the people are beginning to make remarks, such as "Los ruchachos (bandits) never receive drill instructions" "They never practice pointing their rifles and never waste cartridges for practice" "A bandit jefe would not punish his men - they would quit him and join another jefe".

Yesterday all men received a regulation haircut. The peroxide blondes did not like it very much but decided that it was better to have their hair cut than receive several hours LPD and a haircut. They are beginning to buck each other on the appearance of their rifles, clothes and equipment - the cleanest man receives a dollar and the snappiest receives fifty cents each Saturday. They have started to polish their rifle stocks Marine Corps style.

Due to the amount of work we are doing I cannot devote as much time as I would like to drills. Forty per cent of the command are recruits and are receiving about four hours instructions daily. The others receive drill instructions in the morning and from five to six o'clock in the afternoons. The entire command falls out for colors, morning and evening, except on rainy days. Making them stand colors and talking them what their flag means will do more to do away with the old "Jefe System" than anything else.

The Guardia is being slowly but surely "sold" to the people. The giving of corn and beans has done more to promote friendly feeling than I had hoped - the men come to the office every time they arrive in town to report the progress of their crops and to report latest bandit rumors from their caserios.

/s/ J. H. BRODERICK,
Subtntc., G.N.G. Nic.

The following is patrol report of Captain L. B. Puller, G.N., and Jinotega Guardia from May 5 to 13, 1931.

" COMPANY "M" GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA,
Jinotega, Nicaragua, 15 May 1931.

From: The Commanding Officer.
To : The Area Commander, Central Area.
Subject: Patrol Report, 5 May 1931 - 13 May 1931.
Reference: (a) First Battalion Map.

5 M A

Cleared Jinotega 0730 with 2nd Lieut. W. A. Lee and 22 enlisted. Patrolled north-eastward through Los Robles. At crossing of Rio Jiguina sent Lieutenant Lee with half of patrol to Corinto finca to leave 1 enlisted who was unable to keep up due to foot trouble. Remainder of patrol continued on to La Union and camped at 1500. Distance 15 miles. Lieutenant Lee and patrol arrived at La Union at 1700. No bandit information obtained.

6 M A Y

Cleared 0600. Crossed Rio Tuma and passed through San Antonio, La Virgen, and camped on south slope of Mt Guapinol at 1500. Distance 15 miles. No bandit information or signs. Main trails are rapidly growing up with brush and disappearing.

7 M A Y

Cleared 0530. Marched over Mt. Guapinol and camped about 2 miles north of Santa Helena at 1500. Distance 14 miles. No bandit signs.

8 M A Y

Cleared 0600. Marched north-eastward to Julio Gu tomala and camped at 1500. Distance 15 miles. No bandit signs.

9 M A Y

Cleared 0545. Marched down the Rio Cua and made contact with bandits about three miles north westward of junction of Rio Guaynora and Rio Cua. Discovered and destroyed large bandit camp about six miles north westward of junction of Rio Guaynora and Rio Cua. A report of contact submitted. Made junction with Captain G.L. Maynard, 2 officers, 33 guards, and 3 auxiliaries. Camped on Rio Cua about two miles from Rio Coes at 1750. Distance 18 miles. My patrol camped here. Reported results of patrol to Captain Maynard, stated that I was going down Rio Coes if practicable, and suggested that our patrols combine.

10 M A Y

Cleared 0700 with Captain Maynard (from this time until arriving in Jinotega the 2 patrols were combined), marched to the mouth of the Cua and then down the Rio Coes for about three miles and camped at 1230. Distance 5 miles. The Rio Coes was high and to go down the river it would have been necessary to cut trails all the way. This was impracticable.

11 M A Y

Cleared 0700 and marched up the Rio Coes to Santa Cruz and camped at 1700. Distance 16 miles. No bandit signs.

12 M A Y

Cleared 0645 and marched southward down the Rio Pantasma, through Gualand Las Cruces and camped in Embocaderos at 1730. Distance 21 miles. No bandit signs.

13 M A Y

Cleared 0700 and marched southward through Paso Real and arrived at Jinotega at 1235. Distance 15 miles. No bandit information or signs.

/s/ L. B. FULLER

The following letter from Captain A. L. Sims, G.N., commanding the District of Quilali, to the Area Commander, reporting on general conditions of Quilali, is published:

" GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA, QUILALI, NICARAGUA,
17 May 1931.

From: The District Commander.
To : The Area Commander, Northern Area,
Ocotal, Nicaragua.

Subject: Conditions of the District.

1. The District remains quite, there are no evidences of an organized group operating nor is it believed that any group is receiving help or provisions from the District. The people are hard at work developing clearings and now with the rainy season at hand are planting. There is now cleared in the district a greater acreage than there has been in the past eight years according to reports made by the inhabitants. In the past week eighteen persons have come to the district to settle.

2. The civil authorities are cooperating in an admirable manner and each week make a report of the progress of their respective districts. Through them a system for gaining information has been built up, it is believed that they will give any information that they possess and as their mostas are fairly close together it is possible to check one report against another.

3. Padre Nicolas Madrigal of Ocotal has been conducting services in the town and ground has been broken for the rection of a church. As the town is without funds the people under the direction of the Alorido are giving their labor, even the women and children are turned to for the bringing in of stones to build the foundation. It is figured that the construction will cover a period of about one year as the building is to be of adobe blocks.

4. A school teacher has arrived and pending the departure of the Padre who is quartered in the Government building intended for the school a temporary building is being made available. The whole of the people are enthusiastic about the above two projects and it is sincerely believed that they will add to the general contentment and peacefulness. Every effort is being made to aid them.

5. From reports it is evident that the District is better off than most other parts relative to food. There will be a shortage of corn as a large part of what is now in the district will be used for planting. Even now some of the poorer people are resorting to the use of bananas and platiums in place of tortillas. The food stuffs offered for sale at present are eggs, cabbage and yuca. The Guardia purchases all available for the general mess.

6. The general improvements to the barracks and grounds are progressing, the corral and the corral building have been moved to another sight which clears a new line of fire and will make for better protection. The revetment is in and steady progress is being made in leveling the hill to the sides of the barracks. This will provide a drill ground and will do away with the necessity of going to the aviation field for instruction. A permanent installation of bull hide bunks is being made as the covers for the cot frames on hand are unservicable. The bunks have a foot locker

attached, can readily be repaired if broken, are not movable and make a uniform appearance as well as being much more comfortable than the field cots.

7. During the present quiet condition patrolling is being done only when necessary so that the Guardia may be available for instruction. Drills are being held and instruction in firing and the use of automatic weapons given. The command will be mostly composed of recruits with about two months service if the men who have finished one year in the Northern Area at the end of this month are transferred, also will lose two excellent men in June and July because of the expiration of enlistment, (will leave 11 old Guardia).

8. The promotion of the Guardia who have been recommended would add some to the smoother working of the command as there is a tendency among Guardia to disregard the orders of an "acting" non-com. They seem to think "without the stripes without the authority."

9. Clothing is a problem, an issue of hats would certainly add a lot to the appearance of the command as nine of the men are wearing straw or "wild west" hats. Shoes are generally nearly worn out and those on hand are of sizes that cannot be issued.

/s/ Major Loy Sims

NOTE: Area Commander reports conditions reported in paragraph 9 have been remedied.

The following are extracts from the "Monthly Record of Events" of the Northern Area, commanded by Colonel L.P. Hunt, G.N., for the month of April, 1931.

GENERAL POLICE CONDITIONS: Orderly and normal. As a result of the economic situation, petty thieves have been active, stealing food principally.

MILITARY SITUATION: General state of the area has been quiet. The Guardia posts recently established at Yaguina, Totogalpa, Macuelizo and Patasto have done much to establish the confidence of the civilian population in those localities. Many people owning abandoned property in the vicinity of the posts named have returned and are now living on their property.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS: Continue abnormal in the entire area. Food is specially scarce and prices high in western Segovia. While food is obtainable in eastern Segovia, prices continue high due to the food shortage in other parts.

WEATHER: Dry and clear with several showers during the latter part of the month.

CONDITIONS OF ROADS AND TRAILS: Very good.

The Department Commander, Department of Esteli, Northern Area, reports that food is very scarce in the entire Department and that the people are very poor; states however that farmers are clearing their land with hopes for a good crop in the coming season. Captain Arnett, Department Commander, reports completion of the golf course in Esteli and that the people, both ladies and gentlemen, have taken kindly to the game. Reports also that the Guardia are playing. Captain Arnett, in his report, states: "It has been proven that sports of any nature among the civilians have brought out a greater friendship and better understanding in our relationship."

The following is an extract from a letter received from Captain E. L. Craig, G.N., commanding the Department of Chinandega:

"The little outbreak of small robberies of fincas which started here the latter part of April seems to be under control. I think most of the ladrones come right from the city here. We have clamped down on them by blocking all roads in and out two or three times a week and putting a patrol in the country districts each night. In this way we have picked up some of these ladrones and scared the rest."

PERSONNEL

Captain W. S. Fellers, Quartermaster of the Northern Area, cleared Managua by plane May 25, 1931, for Ocotal.

Captain E. G. Huofc, returned to Nicaragua from leave in the U.S. on May 23, 1931 and reported to Guardia Headquarters, Managua.

Captain R. Skinner arrived Managua by plane from Jinotega May 26 and cleared for Corinto on May 27. Assigned duty as Commanding the District of Corinto.

Lieut. Berueffy arrived Managua by plane from Ocotal May 25, 1931.

Captain W. L. Balos cleared Managua for Leon on May 27 for temporary duty in connection with food shipment to Ocotal.

Captain G. L. Maynard arrived Managua on May 28, 1931 from the Central Area. Captain Maynard will be assigned duty in Managua.

THE END