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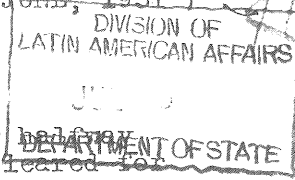
JUN 24 1931

HEADQUARTERS GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA
MANAGUA, NICARAGUA.

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GUARDIA NEWS LETTER NO. 51- (4 JUNE - 12 JUNE, 1931)

4 JUNE 1931



LR 017.1051 / 545

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

Lieut Barillas and Jinotega (CA) guardia patrol
cleared for halfway to San Rafael. San Rafael guardia
patrol cleared for halfway to Jinotega. Patrols met.
Lieut Barrillas joined San Rafael patrol and with it
cleared for and arrived San Rafael. Jinotega patrol
returned to Jinotega.

Lieut McGhee and Corinto Finca (CA) guardia pat-
rol cleared Corinto Finca on combat patrol to Coyolar
and Borda del Tuma.

Lieut Gutierrez, Lieut Downey and Corinto Finca
(CA) guardia patrol cleared Corinto Finca on police
mission. Returned with 1 prisoner.

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

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

Guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (CA) for Navarro.

Lieut Montenegro and guardia cleared Matagalpa (CA)
for Cuatrol Esquinas.

Guardia patrol cleared San Isidro (CA) for La
Trinidad (NA) and returned to San Isidro.

Captain McAfee cleared Dario (CA) for Terrabona.

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

Lieut Snyder and guardia patrol arrived Matagalpa
(CA) from Aran Juez.

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

Lieut Navarette and guardia patrol cleared Esqui-
pulas (CA) for La Pineda and returned to Esquipulas.

Guardia patrol arrived Matagalpa (CA) from Algovia.

FILED

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Lieut Cobb and La Trinidad (NA) guardia patrol returned to La Trinidad from Police mission.

Bull cart train and guardia escort arrived El Sauce.

Lieut Hamas and Condega (NA) guardia patrol returned to Condega from Blandon.

Captain Holdahl and Somoto (NA) guardia patrol returned to Somoto from vicinity of Porterillos. Nothing to report.

Lieut Klein and Yalaguina (NA) guardia patrol cleared Yalaguina and arrived Somoto.

Lieut Trosper and Totogalpa (NA) guardia patrol cleared Totogalpa for vicinity of Cacao. Returned, nothing to report.

Esteli (NA) guardia patrol, with detachment met at Blandon, arrived Esteli.

Lieut Martinez and Daraili (NA) guardia patrol cleared Ocotal and arrived Condega.

Guardia cleared Chinandega for El Tempisque.

Captain Craig cleared Chinandega for El Viejo and returned.

Chinandega guardia patrol cleared Chinandega to patrol all roads leading to Chinandega. Returned with one prisoner.

Lieut Lopez and Jinotega (CA) guardia patrol cleared for Las Lomas on police mission and returned to Jinotega.

Lieut Gutierrez and Corinto Finca (CA) guardia patrol cleared Corinto Finca on combat patrol to Pena Blanca, Las Virgen and Las Cuchillos areas.

Lieut Navarette and guardia patrol cleared Esquipulas (CA) for San Dionisio and arrived. Returned to Esquipulas.

Lieut Elliott cleared Sebaco (CA) for and arrived San Isidro.

Guardia patrol arrived Matagalpa (NA) from Consuelo.

8 JUNE 1931

Juigalpa (Chontales) guardia cleared Leon for Juigalpa after having delivered prisoners to Leon.

Lieut Castrillo and Leon guardia cleared Leon on patrol to El Polvonsito. Patrol returned to Leon, no incidents to report. Patrol also investigated a robbery alleged to have been committed at Corcuera Vieja.

Lieut Satterfield and San Juan de Tolpaneca (NA) guardia patrol returned to San Juan from Ocotal.

Lieut Munoz and Telpaneca (NA) guardia patrol returned to Telpaneca from Ocotal.

Lieut Trosper and Totogalpa (NA) guardia patrol cleared Totogalpa for and arrived Ocotal. Returned to Totogalpa.

Lieut Klein and Yalaguina (NA) guardia patrol cleared Somoto for Yalaguina.

Captain Burwell, Lieut Martinez and Daraili (NA) guardia patrol cleared Condega for Daraili.

Lieut Blanco and Santa Maria (NA) guardia patrol cleared Santa Maria for Coyol to investigate report of a group of bandits under Doroteo Hernandez in that area.

Limay (NA) guardia patrol cleared Limay for Esteli.

Lieut McGorkle and Dipilto (NA) guardia patrol cleared Dipilto for and arrived Ocotal.

Captain Holdahl and Somoto (NA) guardia patrol cleared Somoto for and arrived Ocotal.

Captain Davies, Lieut Bilbrey and Pueblo Nuevo (NA) guardia patrol cleared Pueblo Nuevo and arrived Ocotal.

Jinotega (NA) guardia patrol cleared Jinotega for half-way to Corinto Finca. Returned to Jinotega. with Lieut Downey.

Lieut Gale, Lieut Rizo cleared Jinotega with combat patrol for the north.

Captain Roscerans and Jinotega (CA) guardia patrol returned from La Fundadora and vicinity.

Lieut Hall and San Rafael (CA) guardia patrol cleared San Rafael for and arrived Jinotega.

Lieut Alexander and guardia patrol cleared San Rafael for La Concordia. Returned to San Rafael.

Lieut Montenegro and guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (CA) for and arrived Cuatros Esquinas.

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

Matagalpa (CA) guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa for Las Lajas.

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

9 JUNE 1951

Chinandega guardia cleared Chinandega for Leon with 1 civil prisoner. Returned to Chinandega after delivering the prisoner.

Chinandega guardia cleared Chinandega for La Estrella to make an arrest. Returned to Chinandega. Captured 1 shotgun.

Lieut Castrillo and guardia patrol cleared Leon with Jefe de Canton for Chacra Seca. Patrol returned to Leon having-

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Lieut Dumas cleared Chinandega for San Antonio to assume command of that post.

Guardia patrol arrived Chinandega from Corinto with three prisoners. Returned to Corinto.

Chinandega guardia patrol cleared Chinandega for District of Atoya to make arrest. Returned to Chinandega.

Leon guardia patrol cleared Leon on patrol to Quezalguague area and vicinity to investigate report of a robbery. Patrol returned to Leon, no incidents to report.

Guardia patrol arrived Leon from Masaya with civil prisoners.

Lieut Makus and Leon guardia patrol cleared Leon for Comarca Chacra Seca to investigate a shooting affair.

Lieut Welsz, Lieut Truesdale, Lieut Blanco, Lieut Diez and guardia patrol cleared Ocotal (NA) for Santa Maria via Macuelizo.

Lieut Martínez and guardia patrol cleared Totogalpa (NA) for and arrived Ocotal.

Captain Holdahl and Somoto (NA) guardia patrol cleared Somoto to operate in vicinity of Matuse, La Presa and Tamarindo.

Lieut Trosper and Totogalpa (NA) guardia patrol cleared for Cuje to investigate report of bandits in that area. Returned to Totogalpa, nothing to report.

Lieut Munoz and Telpaneca (NA) guardia patrol cleared Telpaneca for and arrived Ocotal.

Lieut Brauer and Palacaguina (NA) guardia patrol cleared Ocotal and arrived Palacaguina.

Limay (NA) guardia patrol cleared Limay for Regadillo. Lieut Bell and Esteli (NA) guardia patrol cleared Esteli for Regadillo. Patrols met. Lieut Bell joined Limay patrol and returned with it to Limay. Esteli patrol returned to Esteli.

Guardia patrol cleared Esteli (NA) for El Sauce.

Limay (NA) guardia patrol cleared Limay for Las Tablas on police mission.

Guardia patrol returned to El Sauce (NA) from San Francisco de Carnicero (Dept. Managua)

El Sauce (NA) guardia patrol cleared El Sauce for Progreso.

Lieut Castrillo and guardia patrol cleared Leon with Jefe de Canton for Chacra Seca. Patrol returned to Leon having captured one Alejo Torres, murderer and leader of a band of criminals in the Comarca Chacra Seca and 1 cal. 45 Automatic pistol worn by Torres. Another criminal accompanying Torres fired on the patrol but escaped.

Leon guardia patrol cleared Leon for Quezalguaque area. Patrol returned, no incidents to report.

Leon guardia cleared Leon on patrol to Telica area. Patrol returned to Leon, no incidents to report.

Corinto guardia arrived Leon with 1 civil prisoner.

Lieut Ross and Quilali (NA) guardia patrol had contact at 11.25 A.M. on the main Quilali- Jicaro trail near Las Cruces with a group estimated at 50, jefe Unknown. Bandits were armed with two Lewis guns and one Sub Thompson gun. Lieut. Ross was wounded in both ankles and in the right shoulder. Two guardias also wounded. Scout planes cleared Managua for Quilali and brought the wounded to Managua. Bandit casualties not known at present.

Lieut Prieb and Jinotega (CA) guardia patrol cleared Jinotega for aviation field. Lieut Griffin arrived Jinotega from Managua by plane. Lieut Griffin, Lieut Prieb and guardia patrol returned to Jinotega.

Lieut Lopez and guardia cleared Jinotega for halfway to Matagalpa (CA). Lieut Slattery and Matagalpa (CA) guardia cleared for halfway to Jinotega. Patrols met and each returned to home stations.

Colonel Smith, Area Commander, Captain Cox and guardia patrol cleared Jinotega (CA) for San Rafael del Norte. Patrol arrived.

Lieut Downey and guardia patrol cleared Jinotega (CA) for Corinto Finca. Lieut McGhee and Corinto Finca (CA) guardia patrol cleared Corinto Finca for Halfway to Jinotega. Patrols met, Lieut Downey joined Corinto Finca patrol and with it returned to Corinto Finca. Jinotega patrol returned to Jinotega.

Lieut Escobar and guardia patrol arrived Jinotega from Aviation field.

Lieut Gale, Lieut Rizo and Jinotega (CA) guardia patrol arrived San Rafael.

Guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (CA) for Navarrol

San Dionisio (CA) guardia patrol cleared San Dionisio for and arrived Matagalpa.

Muy Muy (CA) guardia patrol cleared Muy Muy for La Pinoda.

San Ramon (CA) guardia patrol cleared San Ramon for and arrived Matagalpa. Returned to San Ramon.

Guardia patrol with inspector of Hacienda reported to Matagalpa from Jumaiqui.

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

Captain Stafford, Lieut Sims and guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa for and arrived Dario.

Lieut Martin and guardia patrol arrived Matagalpa (CA) from Buena Vista.

Lieut Navarette and guardia patrol cleared Esquipulas (CA) for El Sal to

Lieut Truesdale, Lieut Diaz and Macuelizo (NA) guardia patrol cleared Macuelizo for and arrived Ocotal.

Lieut McGorkle and Dipilto (NA) guardia patrol cleared Ocotal for and arrived Dipilto.

Captain Burwell, Lieut Martinez and Daraili (NA) guardia patrol arrived Daraili. Captain Burwell, Lieut Clark and guardia patrol cleared Daraili for and arrived Condega.

Lieut Satterfield, Lieut Gednoy and San Juan De Tolpaneca (NA) guardia patrol cleared San Juan for Quilali.

Captain Sims and Quilali (NA) guardia patrol cleared Quilali for scene of Lieut Ross' contact and returned to Quilali with wounded.

Lieut Bell and Limay (NA) guardia patrol cleared Limay for Achuapa.

Lieut Hutchcroft and El Sauce (NA) guardia patrol cleared El Sauce for Achuapa escorting pack train of 67 mules with Red Cross supplies.

Lieut Ramires cleared Villa Nueva and arrived Somotillo.

Captain McQueen and Somotillo (NA) guardia patrol cleared Limay for Calera to investigate bandit report in that vicinity.

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Guardia Detachment arrived Chinandega from Corinto.

Lieut Guardra reported to Leon for duty from Managua.

Lieut Gale, Lieut Rizo and Jinotega (CA) guardia patrol returned to Jinotega from combat patrol, covered areas Santa Fe, San Rafael, Los Horcones, Mojon, Sisle and Los Robles. Nothing to report.

Lieut Hall, Lieut Escobar and guardia patrol cleared Jinotega (CA) for San Rafael. patrol arrived.

Colonel Smith, Captain Cox, Captain Mixson and guardia patrol cleared San Rafael (CA) for Yali and arrived.

Lieut Prieb and Jinotega (CA) guardia patrol cleared for aviation field. Returned to Jinotega.

Captain Rose crans and Jinotega (CA) guardia patrol cleared Jinotega by patrol to Las Camelias and Vicinity.

Lieut Hall and Yali (CA) guardia patrol cleared Yali for La Concordia. Patrol arrived.

Lieut Martin and guardia patrol cleared Consuelo (CA) for Buena Vista.

Guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa (CA) for Las Lajas.

San Dionisio (CA) guardia patrol cleared San Dionisio for and arrived Matagalpa.

Lieut Navarette and guardia patrol cleared Esquipulas for San Dionisio (CA) and returned to Esquipulas.

6 JUNE 1931

Lieut Makus and Leon guardia patrol returned to Leon from Chacaseca. Nothing to report.

Lieut Stevens, Lieut Castrillo and Leon guardia cleared Leon on patrol to La Ceiba and La Paz Centro to investigate report of bandits in that area. Patrol returned, reporting area all quiet.

Lieut Satterfield and San Juan de Tolpaneca (NA) guardia patrol cleared Ocotal for San Juan.

Lieut Stanko and Pataste (NA) guardia patrol arrived Pueblo Nuevo from Pataste. Same patrol cleared with Lieut Titsworth for and arrived Pataste.

Lieut Klein, Lieut Brown and Yalaguina (NA) guardia patrol arrived Yalaguina from Ocotal.

Guardia patrol, enroute to Esteli, cleared Palacaguina and arrived Condega (NA).

Lieut Hamas and Condega (NA) guardia patrol with guardia detachment for transfer wouth cleared Condega for Blandon.

Lieut Coffman, Lieut Titsworth and Pataste (NA) guardia patrol cleared Pataste and arrived Somoto.

Lieut Welsz, Lieut Blanco and guardia patrol cleared Macuelizo (NA) for and arrived Santa Maria.

Lieut Johnson and Jalapa (NA) guardia patrol cleared Apali for and arrived Jalapa.

Captain Davies and Pueblo Nuevo (NA) guardia patrol cleared Pueblo Nuevo for vicinity of Porterillos. Returned to Pueblo Nuevo, nothing to report.

Lieut Schmierer and guardia patrol cleared Muy Muy (CA) for Matagalpa and arrived.

Captain McAfee cleared Dario (CA) for Managua.

Captain Stafford, Lieut Sims and guardia patrol cleared Terrabona (CA) for Dario and arrived.

Guardia patrol arrived Matagalpa (CA) from Las Lajas.

Muy Muy (CA) guardia patrol arrived Muy Muy from La Pineda.

Guardia patrol arrived Matagalpa (CA) from cuatros Esquinas.

Lieut Griffith (NA) and Telpaneca (NA) guardia patrol cleared Telpaneca on police mission.

Esteli (NA) guardia patrol cleared Esteli on police mission. Returned with 1 civil prisoner.

Lieut Kloth and guardia patrol cleared Esteli (NA) for La Trinidad.

Lieut Stanko and Pataste (NA) guardia patrol cleared Pataste for and arrived Limay.

Lieut Satterfield, Lieut Gedney and San Juan de Telpaneca (NA) guardia patrol arrived Quilali and cleared for San Juan.

Captain Burwell, Lieut Hamas and Condega (NA) guardia patrol cleared for halfway to Palacaguina. Lieut Brauer and Palacaguina (NA) guardia patrol cleared for halfway to Condega. Patrols met. Captain Burwell joined Palacaguina patrol and with it cleared for and arrived Palacaguina. Lieut Hamas and Condega a patrol returned to Condega.

Lieut Blanco and Santa Maria (NA) guardia patrol returned to Santa Maria with six prisoners.

Lieut Clark and Daraili (NA) guardia patrol cleared Condega for Daraili.

Lieut Vogel and Jalapa (NA) guardia patrol cleared Jalapa and arrived Apali.

Captain Holdahl and Somoto (NA) guardia patrol cleared Ocotal and returned to Somoto.

Lieut Livermore and Totogalpa (NA) guardia patrol cleared Totogalpa for and arrived Ocotal. Returned to Totogalpa.

Lieut Hutchcroft and El Sauce (NA) guardia patrol returned to Achaupa.

Captain McQueen, Lieut Bell and combined Limay patrols returned to Limay from Achaupa escorting pack train of 67 mules with Red Cross supplies. Captain McQueen reports that point of his patrol fired on a small group near Achaupa, the group scattering.

The following report covers the contact of Captain McQueen on May 13:

GUARDIA NACIONAL, DISTRICT OF SOLOTILLO,
SOLOTILLO, NICARAGUA, 21 May 1931.

From: Captain John C. McQueen, G.N.
To: The Department Commander, Department of Esteli.

Subject: Contact, report of.

1. In compliance with orders from the Department Commander, a patrol of ten (10) enlisted under my command cleared Villanueva at 0640 May 13, 1931, with the mission of operating with patrols from San Francisco, Lima, and Esteli in the vicinity of Lagartillo (two leagues NE of Achiuapa) where, according to reports, a large group of bandits were in camp. All patrols were to arrive at, and attack the camp at 0800 on May 14, 1931.

2. At 1530 on May 13, my patrol was headed north on the EL SAUCE-ACHUAPA road and about one league south of Achiuapa and had just passed east of the town of Carao, when Guardia deserter Tasso Jose Perez #2256 met the patrol and informed us that a large group of bandits were at Carao, a league NE of Achiuapa; that the bandits had stolen a steer from the house of one Felix Rojas that morning, and that said Rojas lived near Carao. The patrol headed to the house of Rojas and the information was confirmed, and thence on into Carao to investigate further. Inhabitants of Carao were unwilling to impart information, but we found that a fight between a Guardia patrol and the bandits had taken place earlier in the afternoon somewhere to the west of this place. The patrol headed west and had just left Carao when we heard firing of machine guns, rifle grenades and rifles. It was then 1615. We assumed the San Francisco patrol coming from the west and headed for Lagartillo was engaged. We continued in the direction of the firing and arrived at Ocotillo, but all firing had ceased. A steer tied up near the house of one Manuel Rico, was a young steer that the bandits had expected to butcher later that evening. (Next day discovered this house was one quarter mile from camp of Jose Leon Diaz, and scene of Lt. Hutchcroft's ambush). The patrol continued on west to search that vicinity and came upon a Guardia of the San Francisco patrol and the Juez de Morte of Jocotal hiding the brush with three animals of the San Francisco patrol. They informed us that they had been sent ahead just before the ambush at about 1500, and that the patrol had regained contact about 1600 a little farther to the north. We continued in our search but as firing had ceased and it was raining heavily we were unable to find any trace of the bandits or of the Frisco patrol. I assumed the other patrol would return to the scene of its ambush to pick up the Guardia, the Juez de Morte and the animals, so the patrol remained in this vicinity to await the arrival of the other patrol. I had posted sentinels on both trails leading to the house of Manuel Rico at Ocotillo, and had entered the house to gather more information when the sentinel on the west trail sent word to me that he believed he saw the San Francisco patrol approaching. At this moment a volley of fire came from the west. We believed the other patrol was firing on us mistaking us for bandits, but our patrol instantly took cover and formed a firing line to the west. "Vivas" for General Sandino, General Jose Leon Diaz and Ortiz rang out from the group. Firing commenced at 1740. Bandits were wearing khaki colored clothes and ponchos of the same color.

Captain Sims and Quilali (NA) guardia patrol cleared Quilali for Zapotilla. Captured 4 bandits, 1 revolver, 1 bomb, 2 sticks of dynamite, 1 detonator, red and black hat bands and 1 cutacha. Patrol returned to Quilali.

Limay (NA) guardia patrol returned to Limay from Las Tablas with 3 prisoners.

Esteli (NA) guardia patrol cleared Esteli for Blandon.

Lieut Cobb and La Trinidad (NA) guardia patrol cleared La Trinidad on police mission.

Lieut Remires arrived Villa Nueva (NA) from Somotillo.

Jinotega (CA) guardia patrol returned to Jinotega with Hacienda Inspector and three prisoners.

Lieut McGhee and Corinto Finca (CA) guardia patrol returned from combat patrol to Coyolar and Bonda del Tuma. Reported area quiet.

Lieut Hall and guardia patrol cleared La Concordia (CA) for and arrived San Rafael.

San Rafael (CA) guardia patrol cleared for and arrived La Concordia. Returned to San Rafael.

On information received by Lieut Matamoros, he and a Yali (CA) guardia patrol cleared on combat mission. At a house in Quebtada Arriba five men tried to escape from patrol and one, by the name of Francisco Rodriguez Falcon, a known bandit, was killed. Patrol returned to Yali. Having captured five cutachas.

Lieut Schmierer and guardia patrol cleared Muy Muy (CA) for Cabadilla on police mission and returned to Muy Muy.

Captain McAfee returned to Dario from Terrabona (CA).

Matagalpa (CA) guardia patrol cleared Matagalpa with inspector of Hacienda for Jumaiqui.

Lieut Elliott cleared San Isidro (CA) for and arrived Sebaco. Cleared Sebaco for and arrived Matagalpa. Cleared Matagalpa and returned to Sebaco.

Navarro (CA) guardia patrol arrived Matagalpa.

Lieut Montenegro and guardia patrol arrived Matagalpa (CA) from Cuatro Esquinas.

7 JUNE 1931

Lieut Coffman, Lieut. Titsworth and guardia patrol cleared Somoto (NA) for Pueblo Nuevo.

Lieut Munoz and Telpaneca (NA) guardia patrol cleared Ocotal for Talpaneca via Ciudad Antigua.

It was raining heavily, and the target was extremely difficult to see, due to the dense woods and brush from where they were firing. The patrol laid down a heavy fire to our front and had advanced about seventy five yards and had practically silenced fire from this direction when we noted a group running down to a river ford to our right. Here they attempted to ford the river, but failed in the attempt, losing two killed by the right flank man, the bodies going down with the stream. The remainder of the group retreated to the west. Firing then came from across the river from our right front, and from a ridge from our right flank. The bandits unable to cross the river at the first ford, had retreated farther down the river and with the protection of cover afforded by a bend in the river had crossed at a lower ford. The area directly across the river on the right flank was kept clear, which if the bandits had occupied, would have placed the firing line in danger. Our firing line was moved to the right to cover the opposite side of the river (north), when fire opened up on us from the rear (south) and very shortly from the left flank (west). The line was bent to give protection from the directions mentioned. It was clearly evident that our patrol was being surrounded. I sent a man to investigate a small hill to the east. He returned and stated that the hill would give us a good field of fire in all directions, but that it was already occupied and that the bandits were rapidly sifting in. The patrol was then directed to concentrate fire on the hill and to rush it on signal. This was accomplished with little resistance, the bandits fleeing down the other side of the hill. From the hill we had a good field of fire and at 1840 all sides had been silenced except some intermittent fire from the west. Twice, while the patrol occupied the hill, the bandits attempted to open a gate to a "potrero" and release our animals and lost one killed. For a period of fifteen minutes they attempted to retrieve the body and finally succeeded, however losing another wounded in so doing. As the only fire was now coming from the west, we left the hill and pushed in that direction, the bandits scattering and firing wholly ceased. We searched further but due to the darkness and rain we were unable to follow any trace. We returned to the scene of the contact, investigated houses in the vicinity and arrived at La Cornelia (less than a league west of Achuapa) at 0100 May 14, where we encountered the San Francisco patrol camping for the night. We camped here and the two patrols proceeded to Legartillo at daybreak.

3. "Ocotillo", the scene of the contact, lies about two leagues S of W of Achuapa, on the south bank of the Achuapa River, or the upper Villanueva river.

4. The engagement lasted one hour and ten minutes, beginning at 1740 and ending at 1850 on May 13.

5. The patrol consisted of the following named officer and onlisted men:

Captain John C. McQueen, GN.	1728	Cabo Sanarrusia, Ruben	1708
Raso Amador Francisco	3718	Raso Altamirano Jose	1604
" Diaz Gabriel	1804	" Hernandez Justo	2490
" Lopez, Faustino	2813	" Mojia, Emilio	1275
" Melgara Lorenzo	3719	" Olano Juan	2635
" Reyes, Cipriano	2256	" Sanchez, Alejandro	3803
" Perez, Jose			

Dr. Ramirez, Arcadio, Jefe de Mesta. Raso Melgara, Lorenzo #2313, picked up from the San Francisco patrol in vicinity of

Ocotillo. Raso Pérez, José, #2256, Deserter from Trinidad. Joined patrol before contacts and remained with patrol, furnishing correct and valuable information.

6. A conservative estimate of the number of bandits involved is from 75 to 90.

7. Casualties: Guardia: wounded (1)
Bandits: killed (3)
wounded (1)

The above casualties were seen by the patrol leader and various members of the patrol. On returning to the scene of the contact the following morning, Manuel Risco and his family stated they located the woman of Diaz who had been shot thru the stomach and killed during the contact; that six bandits carried body away for burial.

8. Guardia weapons employed were eleven rifles, one Colt pistol and hand grenades. Bandits employed rifles, pistols and rifle grenades. No arms or supplies were captured.

9. It is desired particularly to remark upon the splendid conduct of all Guardia of the patrol. They responded quickly to all commands, and fought in a cheerful, calm and aggressive manner.

Raso Jose Altamirano #1604, when he saw the bandits were attempting to cross the river near our right front, took position on the right flank and prohibited the bandits from crossing at this point which, if they had effected, would have given them an excellent firing point on our right flank and placed our firing line in danger. Altamirano killed two of a group who attempted this crossing and forced the remainder to retreat. Although under heavy fire and wounded in the knee and in great pain, he remained in his position and kept a dangerous area across the river clear until after the firing line had this stated area under control. The patrol leader takes pleasure in recommending him for citation.

/s/ J. C. McQUEEN

The report of Lieut. Hutchcroft's contact with bandit group on May 13 is quoted:

GUARDIA NACIONAL, SUB-DISTRICT OF SAN FRANCISCO,
District of Somotillo, Dept. of Esteli,
24 May 1931.

From: 2nd Lieut. Harry D. Hutchcroft, G.N.
To : Department Commander, Department of Esteli.
Via : District Commander, Somotillo.

Subject: Contact, report of.

1. In accordance with orders from the Department Commander, I cleared with a patrol of eleven (11) enlisted men and one civilian from San Francisco at 0500 on May 13, 1931, with the mission of operating with patrols from Limay, Esteli and Somotillo in the vicinity of Lagartillo against a group of bandits reported there. The four patrols were to attack Lagartillo at 0600 on May 14.

2. At 11:00 a.m. on May 13, the patrol was proceeding east from Jacotal toward Achuapa when we encountered a native by the name of Jose Maria Morazan, who was returning to Jacotal carrying a fresh hide of a young steer which he stated he had just butchered. On searching his person we found a written order for the delivery of the beef signed by Jose Leon Diaz. The native (Morazan) then admitted he had just come from the bandit camp to where he had personally delivered the steer, and was allowed by Diaz to return with the hide. He stated he could guide the patrol to the camp, (which according to him was about four leagues further east toward Achuapa); that the bandits numbered from 150 to 200, and were well armed with rifles, pistols, shotguns and three machine guns. We proceeded east about four leagues and as we approached a river crossing, about two leagues west of Achuapa, the native gave us the impression that the camp was located on the opposite side of the second ridge of a hill across the river, a distance of about half a mile, (from the river). Before crossing the river, I sent one guardia man, the Juez de Mesta of Jacotal (Arcebis Ramirez) on a left trail and gave them instructions to await with the animals for the arrival of the patrol at the first house; that the patrol would go straight to the bandit camp. The patrol's point then forded the river and reached the trail on the far bank. The main body was just fording the river when machine gun and rifle fire opened upon the patrol from a low ridge about 100 yards to our right front. It was about 3:00 pm. rifle fire was hitting the river, but the machine gun fire was well over our heads, about 75 or 100 rounds were fired from the machine gun, and apparently the gun jammed or the bandits ran out of ammunition as this burst was all that was directed at the patrol.

The patrol opened fire on the target at once with Sub-Thompson and rifle fire and crossed to the bandit side of the river. Here we found better cover but very little protection. From this point the patrol laid rifle grenades at a small hut from which we believed the machine gun fire had come as we saw a group of bandits at this point. Machine gun fire had ceased and the group was directing rifle fire at the patrol. We crawled ahead and came to a barbed wire fence with a false gate. Here hand bombs were used by the bandits, exploding before they reached the patrol's firing line and doing no damage. The Guardia continued in their advance and practically all firing from our front had stopped. Very shortly the men on the right saw bandits coming down the hill to the right and opened fire on them. I noted that our position was bad, and there were chances of being surrounded from positions on nearby hills. I ordered the men to form a firing line on a ridge to our left and rear which I believed would give the patrol a good firing position covering the bandit ambush position, the river crossing and the trails on both sides of the river. Firing had lasted about half an hour up to this time.

The patrol then moved down the river bank and recrossed the river and formed on the designated ridge. Evidently the bandits on abandoning their ambush position had circled out far to the northwest and had moved back to the east with the intention of occupying the same ridge we were now on, as we noted a group coming up a trail and through the brush heading in our direction. It was now about 4:00 pm. The hill we were on a fairly well cleared and when the group got within about 200 yards the patrol opened fire with Sub-Thompson and rifle fire. (The rifle grenadier and the practicante had become separated from the patrol in moving from the ambush position to the ridge). The bandits put up heavy resistance but their position being lower than ours with less cover and protection coupled with the patrol's steady advance forced them to

retreat. After 15 or 20 minutes of fighting they scattered at the base of the hill, some heading northwest in the direction of Guanaeston, and others in a westerly direction. The patrol pursued and attempted to regain contact, but due to the scattering of the group, and the heavy rain which had commenced soon after firing started and eradicating all traces, it was an impossibility. We searched the base of the hill and all trails in vicinity and the scene of the ambush hunting for the two guards who had come lost, without results. We then searched for the guards and the Juez de Mesta left in care of the animals, and were informed they had one on in toward Achuppa. We then headed east toward Achuppa and were held up at "La Cornelia" about 1/2 league west of Achuppa, due to a high swift running stream. We arrived here at 7 pm.

At 1:00 a.m., May 14, Captain McJuden's patrol from Somotillo arrived at La Cornelia with the Guardia and the Juez de Mesta from my patrol, stating his patrol had had contact at "Ocotillo" very near scene of my patrol's contact, and that the two men had been taken along with his patrol. The two patrols camped at La Cornelia for remainder of the night and proceeded to Martillo at daybreak.

3. The scene of the ambush was at El Salto, situated at a river crossing about two leagues west of Achuppa and 1/2 west of Ocotillo. The scene of the second engagement was on a ridge about 1000 yards northeast of El Salto. The first engagement began at about 3:00 pm. and ended at about 3:30 pm. May 13, 1931. The second engagement began at about 4:00 pm. and ended at about 4:20 pm. same date.

4. It is estimated that the bandits groups numbered from 80 to 90.

5. Guardia weapons employed one colt auto-pistol, ten rifles, three one rifle Springfield, one Sub-Thompson, rifle and hand grenades. Bandits employed rifles, pistols, shotguns, bombs and machine gun. Captured one shotgun and twenty detonators found at ambush position.

6. Casualties: Guardia: wounded (1)
 Bandits: killed or wounded (6)
 Guardia: Missing (2) #

#Reported in at Limay after becoming separated in contact.

The above casualties of the bandits were seen by men members of the patrol. Four fell near hut near machine gun emplacement and carried to the rear by comrades. Two fell at scene of ambush when coming down hill on patrol's right flank and dragged into the brush by members of the group.

7. The patrol consisted of the following:

2nd Lt. Harry D. Hutchcroft, G.N.	Raso Corea, Alfonso	# 1321
Raso Diaz, Francisco	" Flores, Fernando	3700
" Garcia, Transito	" Hernandez, Juan	2470
" Matey, Nicolas	" Melgara, Lorenzo	2879
" Ruiz, Juan P.	" Urbina, Felipe	3127
" Villagra, Antonio	" Zambrana, Arnolfo	1493

Señor Calderon, Onofre Civico. Raso Corea, Alfonso #1321 and Diaz Francisco #1755 separated from patrol in patrol's movement from ambush position to ridge. Not in second engagement. Reported in at Limay. Raso Melgara, Lorenzo #2879 sent ahead before either engagement. Picked up by Somotillo patrol and in later contact with that patrol.

8. The conduct of the Guardia during the contacts was excellent. I wish to remark particularly on the splendid conduct of senior Cofre Calderon, ex-auxiliar and now civic of San Francisco, who has been operating unassisted with Guardia patrols for a period of eighteen months. During the ambush Calderon, exposed himself to enemy fire in passing up and down the patrol's firing line, designating enemy locations to members of the patrol, by his own fire, being of great help to the patrol.

----- /s/ H. D. HUTCHCROFT -----

The following letter relative to the work of the Guardia in contacts is quoted:

GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA,
Department of Esteli, Northern Area,
Esteli, Nicaragua,
31 May 1931.

From: Department Commander.
To : The Jefe Director, Guardia Nacional, Managua.
Via : The Area Commander, Northern Area, Central.
Subject: Contact with bandits.
Reference: (a) Contact of Captain McCusken and Lieutenant Hutchcroft on 11 May 1931.

1. From remarks made by Captain McCusken and Lieutenant Hutchcroft during conversations relative to their contacts with bandits on 13 May 1931, all members of their patrols conducted themselves like veterans. The training that they have received in skirmish drill signals stood them in good stead during their engagements with the enemy.

2. According to reports the Guardia responded quickly and accurately to all commands and fought themselves out of very dangerous positions on each occasion with only one Guardia man wounded.

3. When I met these patrols, wet, dirty, hungry and with their clothing torn to shreds, and some of them bare footed they were in the best of spirits and very proud of their achievements..

4. It is a pleasure to work with such men as these and I heartily recommend them, officers and men, for citation by the Jefe Director.

----- /s/ R. ARNETT -----

The following letter from the Area Commander, Central Area, relative to road work, is quoted:

FIELD OFFICERS CENTRAL AREA
GUARDIA NACIONAL DE NICARAGUA, JINOTEGA, NICARAGUA,
4 June 1931.

From: The Area Commander, Central Area.
To : The Jefe Director, Guardia Nacional, Managua.
Subject: Roads constructed by Jefe Politicos of Matagalpa and Jinotega.

1. During a recent tour of inspection of the Guardia posts in the Central Area my attention was drawn to the greatly improved condition of the roads over a large part of the Area. The improvement is specially noticeable on the Matagalpa-San Ramon road which is now fit for automobile traffic at all seasons of the year. The road from San Ramon to May Mu, has been made passable for cars in the dry season and many other trails have been cleared and improved. All this work has been done under the direction of the Jefe Politico of Matagalpa.

2. In the Department of Jinotega great improvement is also noticeable especially on the Jinotega-Matagalpa road and the Jinotega-San Rafael road, which leads past the aviation field. Many bad spots in both these roads have been improved. Ditches constructed for drainage and a road start has been made on opening both of these roads for all year round motor traffic. This work has been done under the direction of the Jefe Politico of Jinotega.

3. It is recommended that these facts be brought to the attention of the proper Nicaraguan Officials in order that these two capable public officers may receive credit for the excellent results they have accomplished.

/s/ JULIAN C. SMITH

The following report covers the contact of Lieutenant Ross and Quilali guardia patrol on June 9, 1931:

DISTRICT OF QUILALI,
GUARDIA REGIONAL DE NICARAGUA,
QUILALI, NICARAGUA, 9 June 1931.

From: Lieutenant J. C. Ross, C.H.
To: The District Commander, District of Quilali,
Guardia Regional de Nicaragua, Quilali, Nic.

Subject: Contact, report of.

1. I left Quilali at 0730 with eighteen guardia and one civico to make a patrol to Jicaro and Apali.

2. At a point about three and one half miles south east of the Rio Santa Clara on the main Jicaro-Las Cruces trail was ambushed by what is estimated to be about fifty bandits, at about 1100.

3. The bandits were in ambush on a ridge on the north east side of the trail and covered the entire length of my patrol. When fire was opened it was both on my point and main body. The bandits were armed with two Lewis guns and one sub-Thompson, rifles and bombs. Some of the fire sounded like coming from Con-Con rifles.

4. At the first burst of fire I was wounded through both ankles by rifle fire and while latter assisting Raso Remulo Lopez No. 2810 with a BAA we were both wounded by a bomb; Lopez over the right eye and thru right arm, myself in the right shoulder. Raso No. C. Es. 1852 was wounded thru base of throat with the first volley. Uzarate was in the point.

5. The firing lasted for what is estimated to be thirty minutes and then the benefits with fire over the ridge. Was unable to pursue because of wounded.

6. No member of the patrol saw one benefit that attacked the patrol.

7. Attached is a list of the members of the patrol and I desire to commend especially C. B. Garcia, I. No. 1447 for his handling of the point and also the patrol after my being wounded. Also Garcia, I. No. 2124 for taking over the point and opening fire with a machine gun after I was wounded and myself were wounded. The entire patrol with the exception of a recruit Garcia, I. No. 2282 conducted themselves in a cool and soldierly manner. The Civics Battalion C. returned to Quilali with a request for aid.

8. Captain Sims and patrol met my patrol at Las Cruces where the wounded were dressed and the patrols returned to Quilali.

9. The planes on their way to Quilali passed near the place of the contact and the benefits started losing their fire as soon as the planes were heard.

/s/ E. C. ROSS

Report of patrol made by Lieut. Frederick and Maculizo Garrison is quoted:

GUADALUPE MACULIZO,
Maculizo, H.S., Nic.,
8 June 1931.

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Area Commander.

Subject: Patrol report.

1. In compliance with your orders I despatched a patrol consisting of Sgt Blanco, Topfile, and eleven (11) enlisted to patrol 148-367 and vicinity.

2. The patrol cleared at 0700 and returned at 1300. Sgt Blanco reports as follows:

" Arrived at Aguacate (148-367) at about 1200 and from there we went to Los Ranchos (151-365) where we camped for the night. From there we went to Espinal (153-360) and from there to Iguaje (150-360) and from there to Los Llanos de Los Colpules near Iguaje. From there to Matuse. The people of Matuse told me that the group who had been robbing in the District of Somoto consists of my two brothers, Lencos and Justo Blanco, Pio Salgado, Manuel Rivera and about four more and that they have their camp either at Tierra Colorada (129-377) or in El Horno de Dajure, Honduras, and that they come to Nicaragua to rob, leaving immediately for Honduras after robbing; the cattle thief Camilo Gonzales lives in Jicaro, Honduras, near Coyote (134-364) and steals cattle from Nicaragua. From Matuse we went to Jocomio near Las

Lejas (159-358), from there to El Llano, Carbonellal near Los Lejas, from there to Chi uirin, from there to Llano Limpio below San Jose, and then to San Jose (154-367) where we camped the night of the seventh. From there to Cuyal and then to El Horno, near Amatillo; from there to Leudlizo. We found no new bandit camps."

3. Tierra Colorado, mentioned in Blanco's report always has been a thieve hangout.

/s/ J. L. FREDRICK,
Sub-Inst., G.M.
de Rio.

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

The following are extracts from the "MONTHLY RECORD OF EVENTS" of the Department of Leon, commanded by Major J. L. Webb, G.M., for the month of May, 1931:

GENERAL STATE OF TERRITORY OCCUPIED: During the early part of the month there were many reports of strong bandit groups in the vicinity of Santa Rosa and El Sauc. A patrol was dispatched to cover the vicinity of Santa Rosa and it ascertained that the group operating was a local group of thieves.

MILITARY SITUATION: There are no groups in the Department which may be classed as bandits, but there are numerous small groups of robbers operating in all parts of it. Continued operation of these groups is to be expected.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS: The economic condition in the Department continues in state of depression. Foodstuffs have been scarce, especially in the vicinity of El Jicaral and Santa Rosa. Prices are high but have been held down by the fixing of prices by the Jefe Politico. With the beginning of the rains in the middle of the month the crops began to grow and an early improvement is expected.

FRICTION BETWEEN GUARDIA AND CIVILIANS: There is no friction between the Guardia and civil population. The civil attitude is friendly toward the Guardia but there is a woeful lack of inclination on the part of the civil population to furnish the Guardia with information.

Mr. Mariano Parroto Portocarrero replaced Mr. Evener Hernandez Fernos as Jefe Politico of Leon during the month. He has publically stated he will co-operate in every way with the Guardia and he has carried out this policy to date.

WEATHER: The early part of the month was dry, but since the 15th heavy rains have fallen practically every day.

ROADS, TRAILS, ETC.: Due to the rains the roads and trails are very muddy and the trails are rapidly becoming overgrown with brush.

A Guardia post of 1 officer and 4 enlisted men established at El Jicaral, Department of Leon, on June 12, 1931.

The "MONTHLY RECORD OF EVENTS" for the Central Area, commended by Colonel J.C. SMITH, G.N., for May, 1931, reports the following:

GENERAL STATE OF TERRITORY OCCUPIED: Small groups were reported in the area at various times, but always refused contact.

MILITARY SITUATION: Bandits continue to avoid contact.

ECONOMIC SITUATION: Food staples continue to be high and scarce. During the month the American Red Cross sent to the area one hundred sacks of beans and twenty five sacks of corn. This was equally distributed around the area under the supervision of an officer of the Guardia and a public official.

CONDITIONS OF ROADS AND TRAILS: The roads have now become impassible for motor vehicles. Patrolling has not been effected.

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NOTES FROM CENTRAL POLICE STATION, MANAGUA.

Due to the amount of traffic using second street, south, it has been necessary to make this street one way going east, and to balance this change, Calle Central has been made a one way street going west; these changes became effective Monday 15 June 1931. Second street, south, has developed into a very busy thoroughfare and it is estimated that 300 vehicles an hour pass over its surface.

The city, during the week, has been very quiet. Few robberies but an increasing number of traffic accidents.

SubTeniente Federico Cabrera has been assigned duty with the Police Company and is being given his turn on the desk. He appears to be an excellent young officer.

P E R S O N N E L

Captain J. D. O'Leary, G.N., cleared Corinto for the U. S. on leave on June 1, 1931.

Lieut York cleared Corinto for the U. S. on June 3, 1931 on leave.

Lieut Williams and Lieut Lammers, McC., left Corinto for the U. S. on the USAT CAMBRIA on June 3, 1931.

Captain W. P. Kelly cleared Managua by plane on June 11, 1931 for Apali en route to his station in Jicaro.

Captain L. E. Puller cleared Managua on June 11, 1931 for Corinto en route to the U. S., tour in Nicaragua completed.

Lieut Peterson cleared Managua by plane on June 9, 1931 for Bluefields for duty in the Eastern area.

Captain McAfee arrived Managua from Central Area on June 10, 1931 and cleared Managua for Corinto on June 11, 1931 en route to U. S. On leave.

Colonel Sheard, Chief of Staff, taken to Brigade Field Hospital on June 9, 1931 and operated on for appendicitis.

Licut M^r A. Cramor cleared Managua June 12 by plane for duty in the Central Area.

Dr. Riden, Area Surgeon of the Eastern Area, arrived Managua by plane from Bluefields on June 12, 1931.

Captain E. E. Larson arrived Managua from Rivas on June 12, 1931.

SWC
END