

*Dec. 16 Philippines Atrocities*

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC  
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

APO 500  
2 January 1946

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report No. 142)

THRU: Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch

SUBJECT: The murder of eleven American Baptist teachers of the faculty of the Central Philippine College and the murder of six other Americans at Camp Hopevale near Tapaz, Capiz Province, Panay, P.I., on 20 December 1943.

. . . . .

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

Japanese officers and enlisted men under the command of a Captain WATANABE, engaged in one of the several punitive expeditions in Panay Island, left the township of Libacao, Capiz Province, on 18 December 1943 for Iloilo City (R 1). The next morning, they reached Camp Hopevale near Tapaz, Capiz Province, which was first surrounded, and then Captain WATANABE and his soldiers entered the Camp proper. Sixteen Americans along with three others who had been captured previously, were placed under guard without food or water (R 1). In the afternoon of 20 December 1943, one of the American women was seen kneeling with her hands tied behind her back and begging Captain WATANABE for mercy. Captain WATANABE ignored her pleas and drew his Samurai sword. An hour later, inside a house that was already in flames, were discovered twelve bodies and there was a strong odor of burning flesh. Some of the victims had been bayoneted and some had been beheaded (R 2). Three weeks later, another witness who was familiar with the names of most of the Americans visited the scene and was able to identify the remains of the victims from teeth, bits of burned clothing, hair, identification tags, and a truss. The remains were taken from two burned dwellings and buried in the church at Katapunan (R 5, 9). On the day of the execution, one Filipino who was in hiding reported that he had seen blood on the trousers of one of the Japanese guards (R 5, 6) and that one of the Japanese told Filipinos that the Americans whom they had feared were now gone and that the Filipinos should obey the Japanese (R 6). Another witness verified that she saw smoke coming from the Hopevale area on the date of the massacre (R 8) and that her brother and a cousin saw the bodies in three burned houses (R 9, 11). Some of the remains of the Americans were identified (R 11). Two of the bodies were not burned and were found outside (R 11). All of the victims except Mrs. Rounds, her son, Douglas, the Clardy family and Albert KING were members of the faculty of the Central Philippine College at Iloilo City, Panay (R 1).

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アメリカ合衆国海軍大臣海軍省令部戦死支那

陸軍郵便局五〇〇

一九四六年一月二日

覚書リ口際檢察部宛(報告第一四三)

經由「戦死支那行政官

題目「一九四三年十一月二十日中央比律賓大學職員タル土名「アメリカ

浸礼教會教師ノ殺害及ビ比律賓「バナイ島」カピツ「州」カピツ

附近「ホベツ」收容所ニ於ケル米人六名ノ殺害事件

DOC 2816

1393

ニ證據摘要

渡辺大尉指揮ノ下ニ日本ノ将兵ハ「バナイ島」ニ於ケル數度ノ証言ニツキ  
 從事シ一九四三年十一月十六日「カピツ」州「トバカオ」町ヲ出發シ「バナイ島」市  
 ニ向ツタ(報告二)翌朝彼等ハ「カピツ」州「タビ」附近ノ「ホベツ」收容所  
 所ニ到着シ先ヅ此ヲ包围シ次ニ渡辺大尉及ビ部下ノ兵達ハ收容所  
 本館ニ入ツタ。以前ニ捕ヘラレタ六名ノ米國人及ビ他ノ三名ハ食物モ水モ  
 與ヘラズニ監視ノ下ニ置カレタ(報告一)一九四三年十一月二十日午後二  
 米口婦人一人が手ヲ後ニ縛ラレタマシテ渡辺大尉ニ懇願シテ居タ  
 渡辺大尉ハ彼女ノ懇願ヲ無視シテ日本カヲ抜イタ。一時箇ノ後ニハ既ニ  
 燃エツテ居ル家中ニ十二人死体が発見サレ肉ノ燃エル強イ臭が  
 シタ。犠牲者或ル者ハ銃劍ヲ刺サレ或ル者ハ首ヲ刎ネラレテ居ツタ  
 (報告三)三週間後ニソノ米口人達ノ大部分ノ名前ヲ知ツテ居タ他  
 證人がソノ場所ヲ訪レ齒、燃エタ衣服ノ印レハシ頭髪、認識標、脱  
 腸帶ニヨリ犠牲者ノ遺骸ガ誰ナルカ見分ケル事ガ出来タ。遺骸ハ  
 燒ケタ軒ノ住居ヨリ運ビ去ラレテ「カティ」教会ニ埋葬サレタ  
 (報告五、九)

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處刑ノ行ヘシタ管日隱ニ居タ「フィリピン人ハ一人ノ日在衛兵ノズボン  
ニ血ガツイテ耳ルヲ見タコト」(報告五、六)又「日本人ガフィリピン人達ニ  
彼等ノ魂ヲテ中タ米口人達ハモウ居ナクナッタ、フィリピン人ハ日本人  
ノ云フ事ヲ聞カネバナラヌト言フタコト」(報告六)他ノ一證人  
ハ處殺ノ日ニ煙ガ「ホベツ」地域ヨリ上ツテ居ルヲ見タ事(報告八)  
又「ソノ兄ト弟兄弟ガ三軒ノ焼ケタ家テ死体ヲ見タコト」(報告九、十)  
「證明ニタ。米國人ノ遺骸ノ若干ハ誰デアルカカタ」(報告十一)三個ノ  
死体ハ燒ケテ居ナイデナ外テ発見サタ(報告十一)「ラウヅ」夫人トソノ  
息子「ドグラス」クラ「デイ」家ノ人々及「アルバート」キナ「チ除イテ」犠牲  
者ノ全部ハ「バネイ」「イロイロ」市「中央」フィリピン大妻ノ「職員」デアツタ  
(報告十二)