

*Philippines - Japanese Army*

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
 UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC  
 WAR CRIMES BRANCH

APO 500  
 14 December 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report No. 126)  
 THRU: Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch  
 SUBJECT: Massacre of Filipino civilians at Tapel, Gonzaga,  
 Cagayan, Luzon, P. I. on 1 July 1945.

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II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

About 0100 hours on 1 July 1945 twenty three Japanese soldiers and one Japanese Officer, a Captain YUSHIDA, entered the home of Zacarias PALATAO in Mission, Buguey, Cagayan, Luzon, P.I., and bayoneted to death two male occupants. The remaining sixteen occupants were then led away and all of them were bayoneted many times. Only one young girl survived but she suffered several bayonet wounds (R 101, 106, Exs K-1, K-2, K-3).

About 0600 hours on the same day Japanese soldiers moved into Tapel, Gonzaga, Cagayan, about nine miles east of Mission. Tapel was the evacuation center at which residents of nearby towns had been concentrated by the Japanese to prevent their escape towards the American troops advancing from the west side of the Cagayan river. Approximately thirty thousand Filipinos were in or near Tapel (R 50, 57, 59).

Three or four small boats containing Filipinos who were trying to escape by sea were fired upon by the Japanese with rifles and machine guns. Three of the occupants were killed and two were wounded (R 31, 32, 35, 36, 39, 40, 43, 44, Exs I-1, I-2, J-1, J-2).

The Japanese surrounded the nipa huts scattered along the beach, and when the Filipino civilians began to run, they machine gunned and bayoneted them. Two were seen bayoneted to death (R 87). One of another group of three Filipinos was beheaded and his two companions were killed with rifle shots (R 25, 90). Four other Filipinos had their hands tied behind them and were then bayoneted to death and their bodies thrown into an old well (R 57, 58, 76, 77, 81). Four others were killed in like manner (R 94, 98). Ten Filipinos were captured as they prepared to escape by boat, and the Japanese killed all of them with bayonets except one who was severely wounded (R 64, 65, 69, 70, 73). The dead bodies of three other Filipinos, one of whom had been beheaded were found near a small bridge (R 26, R 59, Ex L-2). Eight others were found beheaded (R 90, Ex L-1). The next day survivors saw more than one hundred dead bodies in Tapel (R 77, 81, 91), and much later many skulls and bones were found tied with ropes (R 85, Exs M-1, M-2).

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總司令部太平洋方面米國陸軍戰犯支部

陸軍郵便五〇〇

一九四五年十一月十四日

檢察部宛覽書(報告書才一三六号)

戰犯支部行政官經由

件名 題目 一九四五年七月一日フィリッピン、ルソン島

「カガヤン、ゴンサガ、タペル」ニ於ケルフィリッピン人非戰鬥員ノ虐殺ニ係

ル件

ニ、證據ノ要約

一九四五年七月一日午前一時頃三三名ノ日本兵ト「日本將校」  
「ユシエダ」大尉トガフィリッピン、ルソン島「カガヤン、ブデー、ミニシオン」ニ在ル「ガカリマス、  
パラタオ」ノ家ニ侵入シ、二名ノ男子居住者ヲ銃剣デ刺殺シテ、残り  
十六名ノ居住者ハ其ノカラ連レ出サレ被寫全部ハ何度モ銃剣デ  
刺サレタ。唯一名ノ若い娘ガ生存シタ。彼女ハ數ヶ所ニ銃剣傷ヲ蒙  
ツ。 (報告一〇、一〇六、EXS・K一、K一ニ、K一ニ)

同日午前六時頃日本兵ハ「ミツシオン」ノ約九哩東方「カガヤン、  
ゴンサガ、タペル」ニ轉進シタ。「タペル」ハ附近都市ノ住民ガカガ  
ヤン河ノ西岸カラ前進シテ米軍ノ方ヘ向テ遁走スルヲ日本  
軍ガ妨ゲタ。住民ヲ集結セシメテ避難ノ中心地デアツタ。約三万名ノ  
フィリッピン人ガタペル市内又ハ附近ニ居タ。(報告五〇、五七、五九)

海路ヲ遁走セシトシテ「フィリッピン」人ヲ殺セテ三、四隻ノ小舟ハ日本兵ニ  
小銃及機関銃ヲ以テ発砲サレタ。三名ノ住民ハ殺害サレ二名ハ負傷ス  
 (報告三一、三三、三五、三六、三九、四〇、四三、四四、EXS・I一、I一ニ、  
J一、J一ニ)

日本軍ハ海岸ニ散在セル「ニパ」小屋ヲ包圍シテ、而シテフィリッピン人  
非戰鬥員ガ逃出シ始ムト彼等ニ機関銃射ヲ浴セ、銃剣デ刺シタ。  
二名ハ銃剣ヲ刺殺サレタ。カガヤンノ日撃サレタ。(報告八七)

他ノ群ノ三名ノフィリッピン人ノ内ノ一名ハ首ヲ列ニテ殺シ、二名ハ小銃  
ヲ射撃サテ殺害シタ。(報告五、九〇)

四名ノ他ノフィリッピン人ハ其手ヲ後ニ廻サレテ縛ラレ、其レカラ銃剣ヲ殺  
害サレテ、而シテ其屍体ハ古井戸ニ投込マレタ。(報告五七、五八、七六、七七)

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八二。 他、四名ハ同様ニ殺害サレタ。(報告九四、九八)。  
十名、フィリピン人。ボートニテ逃レヨウトシタ時ニ捕ヘラレ日本兵ハ重  
傷ヲ受ケタ。名ヲ除キ被等全部ヲ銃剣ヲ殺害シタ。(報告六四、六五、  
六九七〇、七三)。 三名、他、フィリピン人、内一名ハ首ヲ刎ネラレ其等  
ノ屍体ハ小ヤイ橋ノ傍ニ在ッタ。(報告二六、報告五九、EX. L-1)。  
他、八名ハ首ヲ刎ネラレ居タ。(報告九〇、EX. L-1)。  
翌日生存者ハ「タベル」デ百名以上ノ屍体ヲ具シ。(報告七七、八一、九一)  
而シテ余程後ニテ多敷ノ頭蓋骨ト骨ガ繩ヲ縛リテ「ワタメ」ガ看出サレタ  
(報告八五、EX. S. M-1、M-2)。