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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
OFFICE OF THE THEATER JUDGE ADVOCATE
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

APD 500
17 October 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report # 73)
THRU: Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch
SUBJECT: Burning of Barrio of Nanipil, Mountain
Province, P.I., and Murder of Civilians
on Titig Mountain.

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II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

Early in the morning of 15 April 1945, six male civilian Filipinos and one woman were captured while enroute from Paceda to Nanipil, Mountain Province, Luzon, P.I., by approximately one thousand (1000) Japanese soldiers who were members of the "Tiger Unit", commanded by a Major SAITO. After being questioned concerning location of guerrilla forces in the area, the seven civilians were forced to accompany the Japanese to Cabali Mountain, where they spent the night (R 1, 2, 3). Early in the morning of 16 April 1945, the Japanese troops entered the barrio of Nanipil and burned the village, destroying about thirty buildings (R 1, 2, 3, 7). Three dead Filipino civilians were discovered in the barrio about a week later. One of these bodies was identified as that of Alico PABLONOT. All three had been shot (R 7, 8). After burning Nanipil, the Japanese took the seven civilian prisoners to Titig Mountain (R 2), forced the men to remove their clothing, and then made all seven kneel at the edge of a precipice with their hands tied behind their backs. While in this helpless position, two Japanese attempted to behead them, one of the soldiers striking the victims across the neck with a saber while the other pushed the decapitated bodies over the cliff (R 3, 4). Apparently all of this group were killed except two. The bodies of four were later identified (R 8). One man survived the attempted beheading (R 2) and one man is believed to have escaped before he was struck (R 4, 10) but has never been found. There is no definite proof that the woman in this group was killed, but the survivor, Juanito ALIMES, heard her scream with pain (R 4). Though her body was not found with those of the four identified male victims, she has not been heard of since and must be presumed to have been killed (R 4, 8).

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