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Authority *NDG 13096*

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Santo Tomas Internment Camp

MID 915

Deaths of Civilian Prisoners in Manila

PMGO

A.C. of S., G-2

10 Mar 45

1

(Attn: Colonel Howard F. Bresee,
Prisoner of War Information Bureau,
1731 Munitions Bldg.,
Washington 25, D. C.

Lt. Col. Lapping-2550

A.P.O. 901
2 March, 1945

1. Attached correspondence concerning the deaths of four United States civilian prisoners in Manila is forwarded for information and action.

2. G-2 has taken no steps to notify relatives or friends.

3. For your information, Colonel James Boyd, ASF Materiel, 4E606 Pentagon, Phone 72868, Acting for General Clay, asked MIS on Thursday if any news had been received concerning three of those mentioned in attached correspondence: Alfred Francis Duggleby, Carroll Calkins Grinnell and Clifford Lawrence Larsen. It is believed that General Clay was seeking information in behalf of James F. Byrnes, Office of War Mobilization. In view of request in attached correspondence that relatives be notified before any public announcement, this office has not communicated with General Clay or Colonel Boyd concerning the attached correspondence.

4. It is suggested that copies of the attached correspondence be forwarded to War Crimes Office of the JAGO, Attention Major Charles B. Warren Jr., 4747 Munitions Building, telephone 49495.

Incl: n/c

EDWARD C. LAPPING
Lt Colonel, GSC
Chief, Who's Who Branch, MIS.

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8-23-54
(Date)

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SANTO TOMAS INTERMENT CAMP

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HEADQUARTERS
ADVANCE DETACHMENT
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN THE FAR EAST

Office of the A.C. of S., G-2

FEGB

A.P.O. 501
1 March, 1945

SUBJECT: Communications Concerning the Deaths of American Civilians
in Manila, P. I.

TO : A. C. of S., G-2, War Department, Washington, D. C.

The attached letters and statements concerning the deaths of four United States citizens in Manila during the Japanese occupation are forwarded to you for action deemed necessary. This office has no objection to these being forwarded to addressees.

For the A.C. of S., G-2:

/s/ W. C. Shelton
W. C. SHELTON
Lt., U.S.N.R.
Acting Executive Officer

Incls. 4:

- (1) Ltr to Col. Irwin
fr Charles V. Schelke
dtd 24 Feb. 1945.
- (2) Radiogram to Clark H.
Minor fr Schelke dtd
24 Feb. 1945.
- (3) Ltr from Charles Schelke
to Ruth Grinnell dtd
22 Feb. 1945.
- (4) Ltr to Mr. Clark H. Minor
fr Charles V. Schelke dtd
22 Feb. 1945, with 4 incls.
as indicated thereon.

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8-23-51
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Santo Tomas Internment Camp

February 24, 1945

J. N. Irwin, Col., U. S. Army
Manila, Philippine Islands

I request your assistance in transmitting to the United States information with respect to the deaths of:

Carroll Calkins Grinnell, Far Eastern Commercial Manager,
International General Electric Company
Alfred Francis Duggleby, Vice-President,
Benguet Consolidated Mining Company
Ernest Emil Johnson, Foreign Representative,
United States Maritime Commission
Clifford Lawrence Larsen,
Atlantic Gulf and Pacific Company

I wish to send through you the following:

- (1) A radiogram as per copy attached.
- (2) A personal letter, dated February 22, 1945, to Ruth Grinnell, wife of Carrol Grinnell.
- (3) A personal letter, dated February 22, 1945, to Clark H. Minor enclosing (a) a copy of the letter to Ruth Grinnell referred to under (2), (b) a copy of radiogram referred to under (1), and (c) a copy of a memorandum dated February 23, 1945 summarizing the known facts relating to the deaths of these four men.

I particularly request that you transmit all of these messages to the respective recipients before you release the news accounts of these tragedies to the press.

Your cooperation in sending this information out as quickly as possible will be appreciated.

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Very truly yours,

/s/ Charles V. Schelke
Charles V. Schelke
General Manager
General Electric Co. (PI) Inc.
Manila, P. I.

CVS:ep

8-2354
(Date)
Lyman Lead
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P
Y

RADIOGRAM

FEBRUARY 24, 1945

TO: CLARK H. MINOR
INTERNATIONAL GENERAL ELECTRIC CO
570 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

CODE ADDRESS: INGENETRIC, NEW YORK

PLEASE TRANSMIT FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO RUTH GRINNELL REGRET TO REPORT
DEATH OF CARROLL GRINNELL STOP OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY STOP ALSO TRANSMIT
SIMILAR MESSAGE REGARDING EXECUTION BY JAPANESE SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH CARROLL
FOLLOWING MEN ALFRED FRANCIS DUGGLEBY SEND MESSAGE TO WIFE ADDRESS GRASS
VALLEY NEVADA COUNTY CALIFORNIA STOP ERNEST EMIL JOHNSON SEND MESSAGE TO
WIFE ADDRESS 1321 EL CAMINO REAL BURLINGAME CALIFORNIA ADDING THAT SON
IS HERE AND IS WRITING STOP CLIFFORD LAWRENCE LARSEN SEND MESSAGE TO
MOTHER MRS CHRISTINE N LARSEN 2640 CLYDE AVENUE LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA
STOP SENDING COMPLETE REPORT THROUGH ARMY TO YOU STOP LFA DIED TODAY STOP
ALE AND MCINTOSH SAFE

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SANTO TOMAS INTERMENT CAMP

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Manila, P. I.
February 22, 1945

My dear Ruth,

It is with sorrow that I convey to you, Bud and David the sad information that Carroll is no longer with us. I have withheld the news from you, my dear, until we were able to establish the facts beyond any reasonable doubt. In order that you may have all the information that is available, I shall give you the story from the beginning.

Carroll, Ernest Johnson, Duggleby, and Cliff Larsen were imprisoned here at Santo Tomas on December 23, 1944, by the Japanese Military Police for reasons which were never made clear, even to the local Japanese staff. Carroll, Duggleby, and Larsen were removed on January 5, 1945, to an unknown destination. After our release by the U. S. Army on February 3, we were finally able to make more tangible progress in our efforts to find out what had happened to them. We tracked down every clue that came to light and finally centered our search on the Japanese Military Police Headquarters in the former home of Dr. Baldomero Roxas, on the corner of Calle Cortabitarte and A. Mabini in Malate.

Tom Poole and I searched that building on February 19 with no results. On February 20 Tom returned to the site with Lt. Johnson, U.S.N., the son of Ernest Johnson, and after a careful search of the nearby field, Tom finally found Carroll's body from which he removed a shoe and sock. He, Miss Davis (Carroll's secretary), the camp shoerepairman, and I identified these articles as Carroll's. Tom and I returned to the spot the next day and removed the four bodies from a pit in which they had been buried after execution. They had been dead about one month.

Tom and I appreciate, of course, that we have compiled a record of presumptive evidence only, with respect to Carroll's death. Here are the facts as we have them: We identified his long khaki trousers, his shirt with a "CCG" woven label sewn on the inside of the collar, his light tan windbreaker purchased at Heacock's, his distinctive shoes, and his socks which are identical with another pair which you sent to him. More conclusive was the identification of his wavy hair, and the gold filling in one of his front teeth. We feel that this evidence, supported by the whole chain of events, is so overwhelming as to preclude any reasonable doubt that he is gone. It has only been as a result of such definite evidence that I have had the heart to send you this crushing report.

Knowing that this blow comes at a time when your prayers for Carroll's return were about to be answered, I can to a degree appreciate how you feel, Ruth. But I know the courage and resourcefulness which is part of your being, and I realize that you will carry on, as Carroll would want you to, for the sake of your two sons. You have the memory of an unusually happy and eventful past life with a wonderful husband to support you in this effort.

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I had the pleasure of knowing Carroll both as a friend and as my superior in the Company, and I therefore can tell you with definite knowledge something of his remarkable abilities, his good humor, his courage, and his fine sense of decency. As head of this Internment Camp he carried on one of the most difficult assignments a man ever had, and he did his job in a manner for which many people are thankful - as indeed they should be for it meant their very lives.

I am unable to reconstruct the warped mental processes of these animals and their reasons for taking him from us. If it were possible to do so, I feel sure that we should find that the Military Police either discovered his direct local efforts to alleviate the conditions in this Camp or that they intercepted a message which he sent to our Armed Forces in Leyte informing them of the desperate plight of the internees. His case proves that the heroes in this war who risked their lives for their fellows are not limited to those on the battlefields.

Margaret, Edith, Tom, and I express in this most inadequate manner our heartfelt sympathy for you in your bereavement.

Sincerely,

/s/ Charles Schelke

Charles Schelke

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SANTO TOMAS INTERNMENT CAMP

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Santo Tomas Internment Camp

Manila, P. I.

February 22, 1945

Mr. Clark H. Minor, President
International General Electric Company
570 Lexington Avenue, New York City

Dear Mr. Minor:

It has been my sad duty to convey to Ruth Grinnell the information that Carroll Grinnell has been executed by the Japanese Military Police. Thus ends the career of a wonderful man whom it has been a pleasure to know and to work with through our many years service with the Company.

I attach herewith a copy of my letter to Ruth so that you will know what I have reported to her. I also send you a copy of the evidence we have compiled, on the basis of which we have formed our opinion of this case. This report has not been sent to Mrs. Grinnell, leaving it to your judgment how this information should be used. Possibly the eldest son would like to have a copy of this memorandum for his records.

I have begun to examine Carroll's effects and shall report to you more fully in this connection as soon as possible.

This is a sad ending to a quest which seemed almost hopeless these past weeks. Nevertheless I feel a certain relief in the realization that we can be assured beyond a reasonable doubt that the evidence is so conclusive that his family will be spared the uncertainty which less definite information would have created.

Sincerely,

/s/

Charles V. Scheelke

Charles V. Scheelke, Chief of

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8-23-52
Lynn - Lr

CVS:ep

Enclosures:-

- Copy of a letter to Ruth Grinnell
- Copy of a memo re this case
- Copy of a radiogram to you
- Copy of a letter to Col Irwin, G-2

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SANTO TOMAS INTERNMENT CAMP

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Santo Tomas Internment Camp

Manila, P. I.

February 23, 1945

This memorandum summarizes the known facts regarding the deaths of the following internees of the Santo Tomas Internment Camp:

Carroll Calkins Grinnell, Far Eastern Commercial Manager,
International General Electric Company
Alfred Francis Duggleby, Vice-President,
Benguet Consolidated Mining Company
Ernest Emil Johnson, Foreign Representative,
United States Maritime Commission
Clifford Lawrence Larsen,
Atlantic Gulf and Pacific Company

Grinnell, Duggleby, and Larsen were imprisoned within the Santo Tomas Internment Camp by the Japanese Military Police on December 23, 1944, and removed to an unknown destination on January 5, 1945.

Johnson was imprisoned within the Santo Tomas Internment Camp on December 23, 1944, and removed to an unknown destination on or about December 24, 1944.

No information was ever given to the Camp authorities with respect to the charges for which these men were imprisoned.

After the occupation of Manila on February 3, 1945, by the United States Army, renewed efforts were made to obtain information relating to the prisoners. Many false clues were tracked down, but the direct chain of events which led to the discovery of the four bodies was as follows:

Dr. Feres of St. Luke's Hospital reported through Dr. Allen to Eva Grace Davis on February 7 that Carroll Grinnell had been taken to the Philippine General Hospital. Manuel Manosa and Thomas Poole went to the Philippine General Hospital to investigate, but found that the hospital had not then been relieved. The First Cavalry Division Troops advised against crossing the street, but in consideration of the nature of the mission they held their fire and let them cross. They encountered too much Japanese fire to get into the main building, but from the Dispensary they could detect no sign of life. However, the buildings, although badly damaged, were not burned and it seemed quite possible that many might be hiding within. Two days later the First Cavalry entered the hospital and found all the internees safe. However, they reported that Carroll Grinnell had not been seen there.

8-73
K. C. L.
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This search led to a discussion with Dr. Antonio Sison, Director of the Philippine General Hospital, who reported that he had been held prisoner by the Japanese from December 21 - 31, 1944. He did not know where he was as they kept him blindfolded. He was charged with

- (1) Liason between internees and guerillas
- (2) Liason between Manule Roxas and guerillas

He plead innocence in spite of the Japanese offer to release him if he admitted guilt and their threat to punish him as guilty if he insisted that he was innocent. On December 31 he was taken downstairs to a car in which he recognized, under his blindfold, the bare knees of a white man. He thought he was being taken out for execution, but when the car stopped he was taken upstairs again and his blindfold removed. He then identified the white knees as those of Mr. Ernest Johnson, whom he had met once before the war at Malacanang Palace and had treated twice at the Doctors Hospital as an internee. This meeting was at the Military Police sub-station in the former home of Dr. Baldomero Roxas, corner of Cortabitarte and A. Mabini. That night they were locked up in the garage of Mr. Araneta (next door) with five (5) Filipinos and an Italian, Mr. Orlando. On the evening of January 2, 1945, Dr. Sison was released. He subsequently learned from Chief of Police Torres that the others had been executed and buried. Upon investigation, however, Chief Torres was not at all sure of his information. Among many questioned was W. S. Price, a refugee from Malate who reported that he had helped to bury three American nuns, four American men, and three Filipinos in the field across the street from Dr. Roxas' home. However when we took him to the site he could not recall just where or when they were buried. These reports indicated that a careful search of the Roxas residence and vicinity was justified.

Accordingly, on February 19, Major Jureka, Poole, and Schelke visited the Headquarters of the Japanese Military Police, the former home of Dr. Baldomero Roxas, on Cortabitarte and A. Mabini Streets. A search of each room disclosed no evidence of any of the four men having been there. A Filipino who had been imprisoned in the garage informed them that many executions had been conducted in the nearby field across Cortibarte Street. A brief search of this area on February 19 brought to light no clues.

On February 20, Poole, accompanied by Lt. Johnson, U.S.N., son of Ernest Johnson, carefully searched the field adjacent to the Roxas home, exploring every sign of fresh digging, caved-in trenches, and fox holes. While Lt. Johnson was investigating the burial site pointed out by Price, Poole explored elsewhere because he distrusted the accuracy of Price's report and at last discovered a body which he identified as Grinnell's, from the shoe and sock which he removed and carried back to Santo Tomas for confirmation.

On February 21, Poole, Lt. Johnson, Kelly, and Schelke visited the site again and carefully dug out the pit in which Grinnell's shoe had been dis-

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By [Signature]
[Date]

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covered the day before. Fourteen bodies wired together in groups of a few each and in varying degrees of decomposition were discovered, and the bodies which the undersigned believe to be those of Grinnell, Duggleby, Johnson, and Larsen were removed to Santo Tomas.

Charles V. Schelke

Thomas W. Poole

E. Thor Johnson
Lt. JG (D) USNR
(son of deceased)

R. K. Kelly

At Santo Tomas the bodies were examined by individuals familiar with them. The following statements are made with respect to their identification:

(1) Grinnell. The body was dressed in the following:

- Long khaki pants, patched.
- Cream-colored Vayella shirt with a "CCG" woven label sewn on the inside of the collar.
- Light khaki-colored windbreaker with the mark "Heacock" (Manila) inside.
- Low, tan oxford shoe, wedge heel, with a fairly new sole which E. Staples, camp shoemaker, confirms he had put on for Grinnell.
- White knitted socks of a distinctive weave corresponding exactly to a similar pair of socks included as part of a box received by Grinnell previously from his wife.

The skull was partially covered with wavy hair, a distinctive feature of Grinnell's physiognomy. The upper teeth were intact, with one exception, and were identified as Grinnell's.

The undersigned believe that the above identification is so conclusive as to definitely confirm the death of Carroll Calkins Grinnell.

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Panel on

Charles V. Schelke

Thomas W. Poole

(2) Duggleby. The body was dressed in the following:

- Long khaki pants (not definitely identified)

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White undershirt
Blue shirt
White socks (not definitely identified)
Brown army shoes, recently resoled and
including an arch support in the left
shoe.

When found the skull had a bandage over the eyes, securely holding in place a pair of white metal rimmed spectacles with black flexible tubing on ear-pieces. The spectacles were readily identified by Dr. Thorson, Camp optometrist.

The undersigned believe that the above identification is so conclusive as to definitely confirm the death of Alfred Francis Duggleby.

William Carter

Fred Noble

George Ritter

(3) Johnson. The body was dressed in the following:

White shirt
Khaki shorts (not identifiable by Kelly, but
described in advance by Dr. Sison)
Elastic top socks
Low brown shoes - Red Cross issue
Elastic gody belt

The right leg had in place a bandage used to support a rubber sponge which Johnson used to exert pressure on his upper thigh. The head had in place an upper denture and a lower removable bridge and gold caps on two lower teeth, right side of jaw.

The appearance of the head and body and the above conclusive identification warrants the undersigned confirming the death of Ernest Johnson.

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E. Thor Johnson
Lt. JG (D) USNR
(son of deceased)

H. K. Kelly

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(4) Larsen. The body was dressed in the following:

Long khaki pants
Blue shirt
Low tan shoes (badly discolored)
Blue wool socks (one of which was identified
by his wife as having been knitted by her)
Khaki-colored windbreaker

The undersigned believe that the above identification is sufficiently conclusive to warrant their confirming the death of Clifford Lawrence Larsen.

O. A. Boni

Andrew Black

G. A. Updyke

A medical examination of the four bodies was made by Dr. T. D. Stevenson on February 22, 1945, and the opinion expressed that decomposition had progressed to the point that positive medical evidence of the identity of the four bodies could not be given. The condition of the bodies indicated that death had occurred on or about January 15, 1945.

T. D. Stevenson, M.D.

After the medical examination of the four bodies, they were placed in separate wooden boxes and buried at the east corner of the Sinary Building, University of Santo Tomas, at 4:00 p.m., February 22, 1945, in the presence of the undersigned. Markers, bearing the name of each individual, were put in place.

We realize that the information included in this report constitutes presumptive evidence only, but the record and identification is so complete as to constitute overwhelming proof in our minds that we have confirmed the deaths of Carroll Calkins Grinnell, Alfred Francis Duggleby, Ernest Emil Johnson, and Clifford Lawrence Larsen.

Charles V. Schelke

Thomas W. Poole

E. Thor Johnson
Lt. JG (D) USNR
(son of deceased)

R. K. Kelly

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