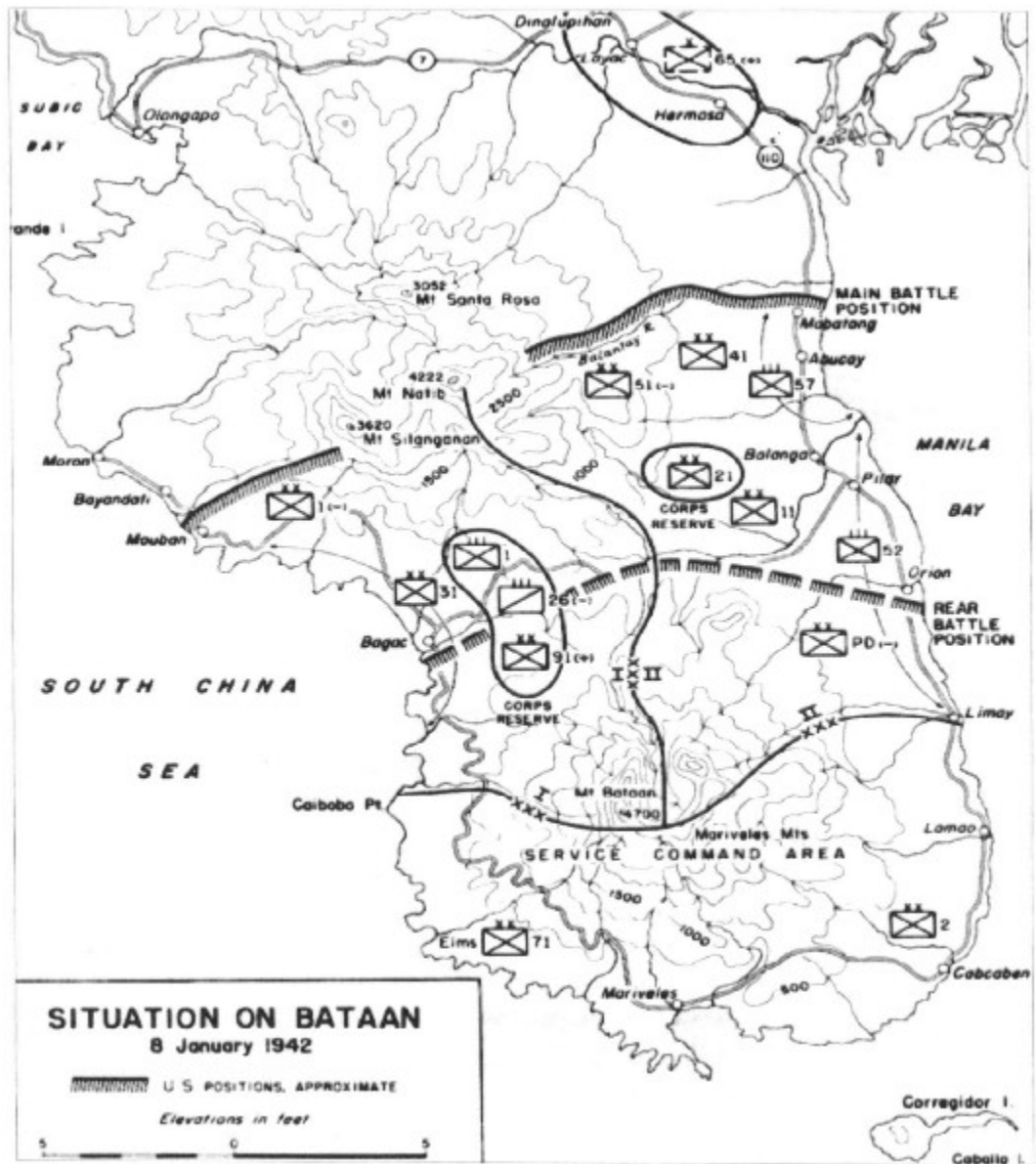


FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE ON BATAAN

This map of Bataan shows the battle line set up on January 10, 1942 to defend the peninsula. It was called the Abucay line. The supply situation on Bataan was serious from the start and became steadily worse throughout the campaign. Due to the food shortage, General MacArthur ordered all troops and civilians be placed on half rations. The inventory of supplies indicated that they would only last 30 days. It was a very serious situation.

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NUMERICAL SUPERIORITY IN JAPANESE ADVANCE ON BATAAN

The Japanese Imperial Army had a superiority in numbers of tanks, men and supplies. They were looking forward to a quick victory, however, the Fil-American troops put up a fierce struggle against the Japanese aggressors despite a desperate supply condition.

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Japanese tank advancing towards Bataan..



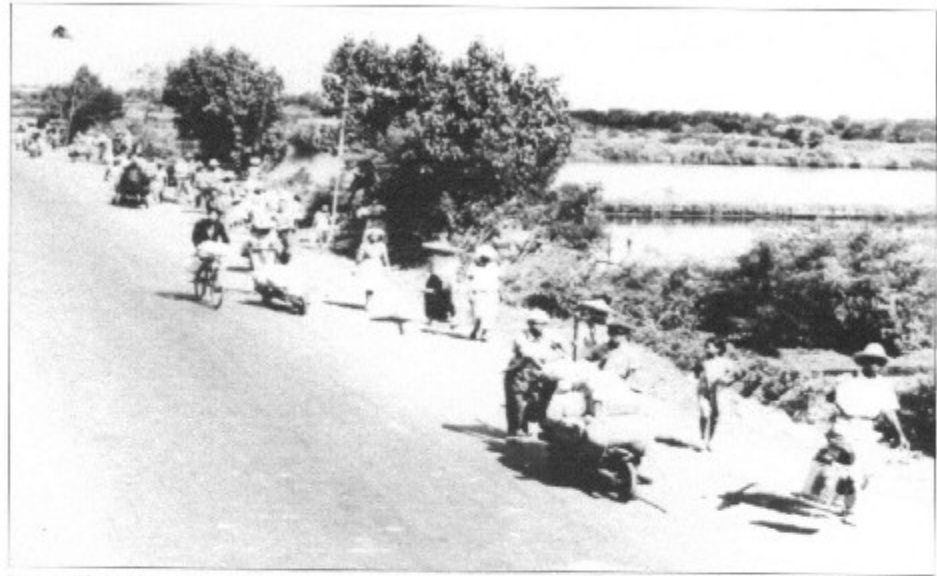
Japanese troops advancing toward the Bataan Peninsula.

FIL-AMERICAN FORCES SET UP DEFENSES WHICH WERE HAMPERED BY FILIPINO CIVILIANS SEEKING SAFETY

The Fil-American defense forces were hampered by several thousand Filipino refugees that had evacuated to the Bataan area for their safety.

Meanwhile, the Fil-American troops dug in for a battle with their World War I rifles, helmets, and other outdated equipment.

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Many Filipino natives evacuated into the Bataan Peninsula causing great logistical problems concerning food and medical care.



Air corps troops were issued Enfield and Springfield rifles and other World War I equipment and became a part of the infantry.

DEFENDING BATAAN

The Fil-American troops set up crude tank traps and dug trenches for protection. This slowed down the Japanese penetration, but did not stop it.

General Wainwright and General MacArthur inspect the defense positions on of the Abucay line January 10, 1942.

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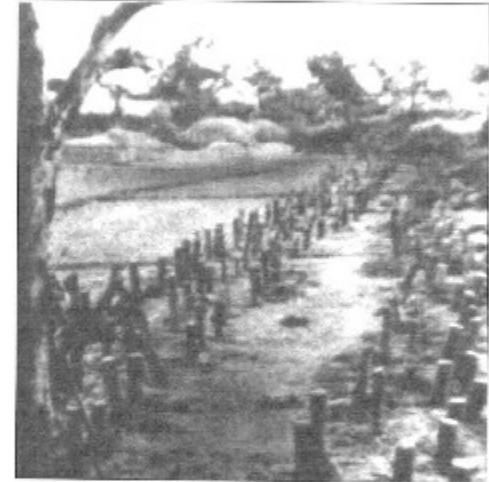
Double-apron fence entanglements set up.



Tank obstacles and road blocks were constructed.



Troops on Bataan dug in for action against the Japanese forces.



Crude defenses against the Japanese tanks constructed.



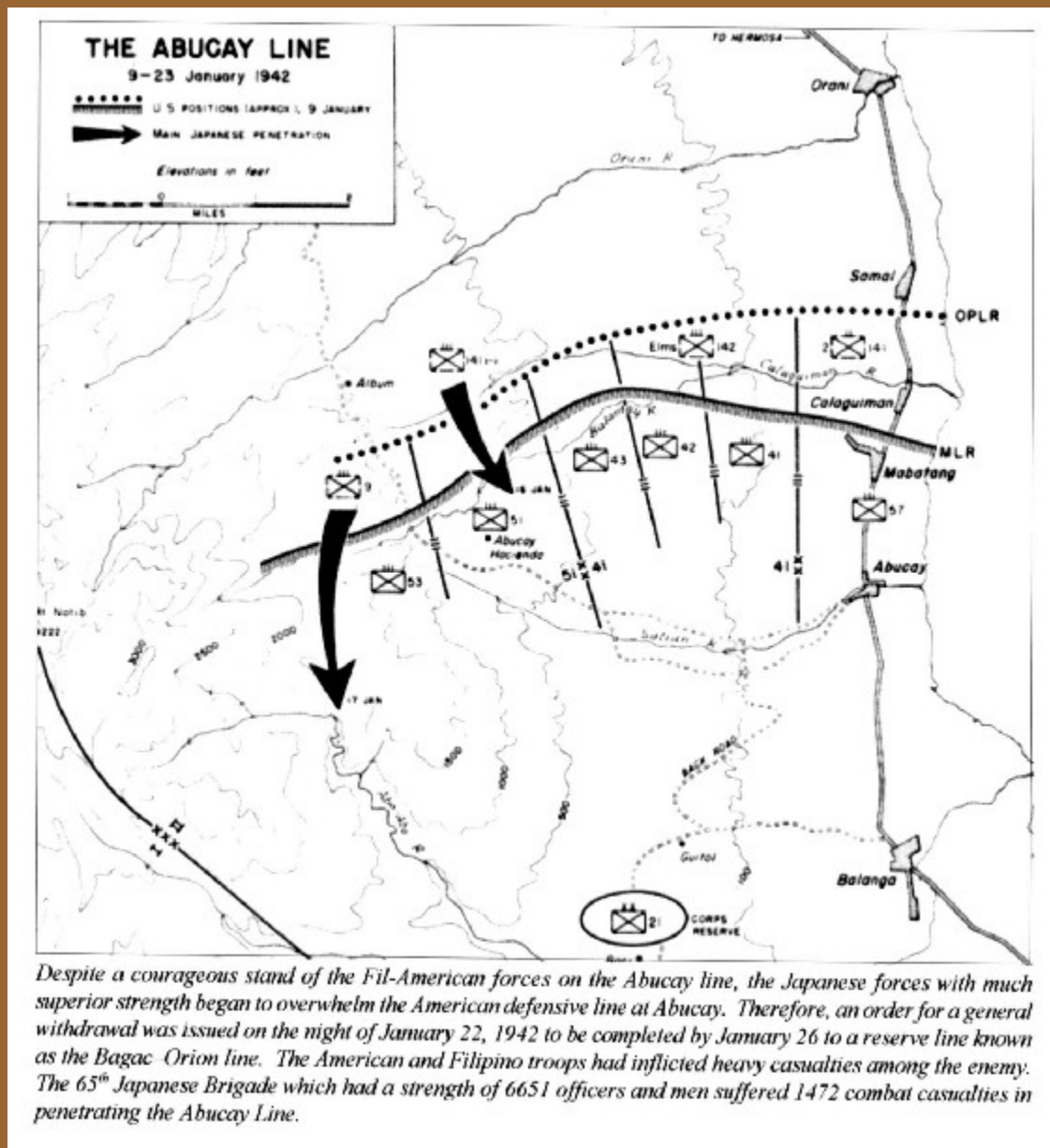
General Wainwright on Bataan.



Gen. MacArthur visits Bataan on January 10, 1942, his only visit to that battle area.

FIL-AMERICAN FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE ABUCAY LINE JAN.10TH 1942

The Filipino and American forces put up a fierce struggle against the Japanese aggressors. However, the advance of the Japanese troops could not be halted at the Abucay line. General MacArthur ordered a general withdrawal on January 22 to a new defense position known as the Bagac-Orion line. Though they had to withdraw, the Fil-American forces inflicted heavy casualties on the Japanese forces. The Japanese had 1,472 combat casualties in the first two weeks of fighting.



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Japanese Attempt Landing Behind Fil-American Defense Positions

On the same day that General MacArthur made his decision to withdraw from the Abucay line on January 22nd, the Japanese initiated a drive to outflank the U.S. positions. The Japanese troops landed at three separate places, each a finger of land--a point--jutting out from the rocky coast line of western Bataan into the South China Sea at Anyason, Quinuan, and Langoskawayon Points on Southern Bataan. A combined effort of untrained Air Corps troops (many who had never fired a rifle before), untrained Filipino troops, Philippine Scouts, assistance from the few remaining P-40 fighter planes, Company C of the 192nd Tank Battalion, the minesweeper USS Quail and others, completely annihilated the enemy troops at each landing by the middle of February 1942.



Japanese forces land behind the American lines on Bataan. It took a combination of untrained airmen, naval forces, Filipino soldiers and Philippine Scouts to finally clear these areas of Japanese troops. The Battle Of The Points was over by February 8, 1942.



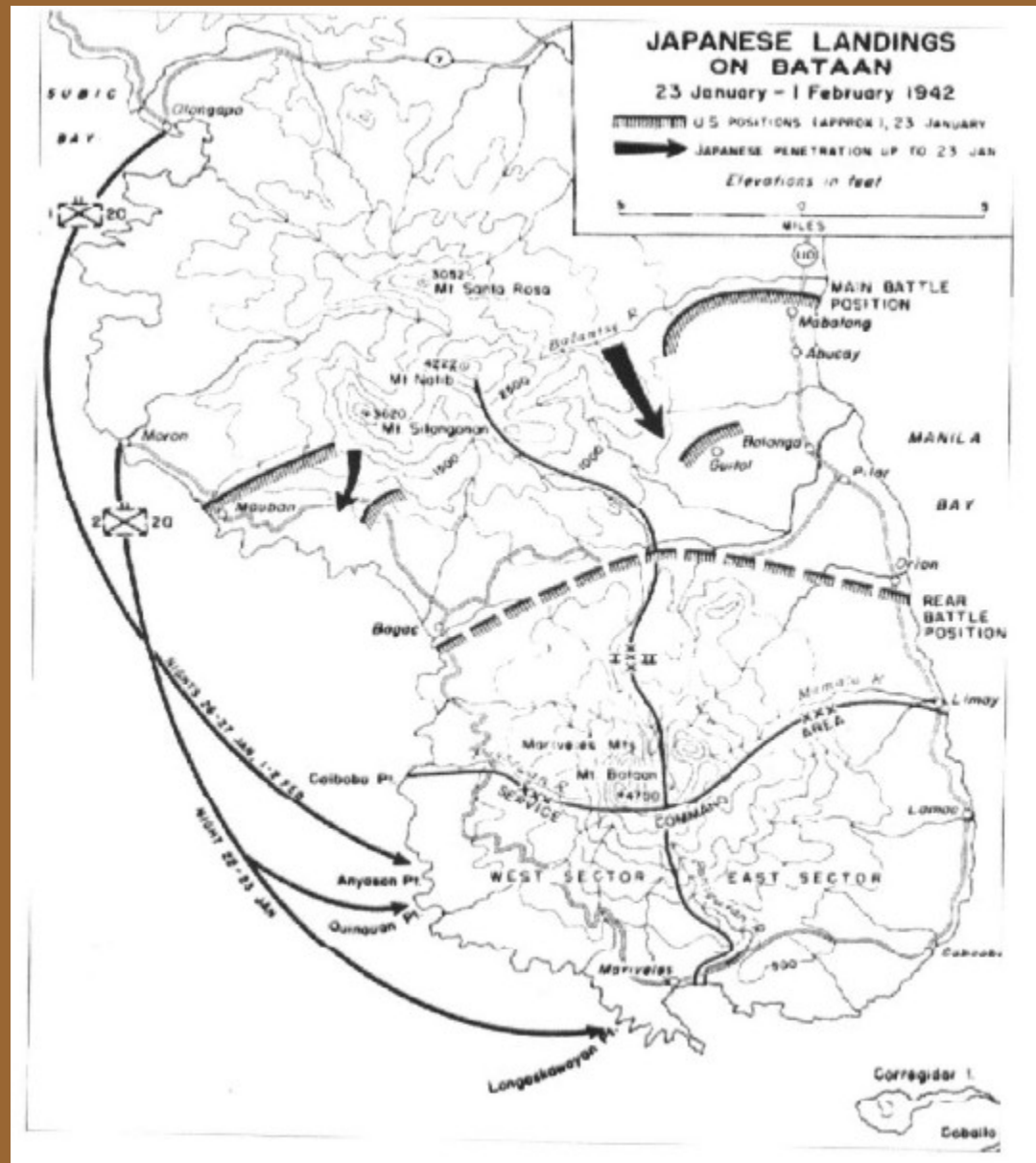
Had it not been for the prompt action of all Fil-American units involved, the Japanese, weak as they were, might well have succeeded in their design at the Battle Of The Points. The Japanese lost approximately 900 men during this action.

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Japanese Troops Land Behind Fil-American Lines

Japanese troops land behind Fil-American lines, however, due to tenacity of our defense forces, this manauver was quite disastrous for the Japanese Imperial Army.

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Fil-American Defense Forces Enemy To Bring Up Fresh Troops

At the end of January, the time by which, according to pre-war plans of the Japanese Imperial Headquarters, the conquest of Luzon was to have been completed, Japanese General Homma had to face the bitter realization that he was still far from his objective. The Japanese command saw no alternative except to withdraw, rest his troops, and seek reinforcements for his battered troops, prior to initiating a new offensive action. This action was initiated on February 8th, 1942. From the 6th of January to the 1st of March, the Japanese 14th Army casualties had totaled 7,000 men. Two thousand seven hundred had been killed and 4000 wounded. Between 10 and 12,000 thousand more were down with malaria, beriberi, dysentery and tropical diseases.



On Batuan in mid February 1942, Gen Akin, Maj. Wing, Lt. Col. Galbraith, and Gen. Marshall—they were part of the Fil-American forces that caused the Japanese troops to withdraw from the front line and await reinforcements.



Japanese casualties totaled almost 7000 men. 2700 men had been killed and over 4000 wounded. Between 10000 and 12000 more were down with malaria, beriberi, dysentery, and tropical diseases. Gen. Homma remarked at his war crimes trial in Manila that his 14th Army had been in very bad shape causing the withdrawal.

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