

PROJ: MATTHEW FISHER – THE FILIPINO VETERANS RECOGNITION AND EDUCATION PROJECT

POTENCIANO DEE (PD) INTERVIEW BY NOEL IZON (NI)

TRANSCRIBER: Estelito B. Vega

V-FILE TOTAL TIME LENGTH: 00:32:00:00

TRANSCRIPT WORK + TRANSLATION TOTAL TIME: **64 Minutes in 27 Pages**

00:00:00:00 NI: Oh, Mr. Dee, mag uumpisa na tayo ho, maraming salamat sa pagdating ninyo ngayon, so tatanungin ko lang kayo.

IN ENGLISH NI: Mr. Dee, we are about to start now, I would like to thank you for coming today, I just would ask you a few questions.

00:00:14:00 PD: Interesado ko kung tayo ay magkausap.

IN ENGLISH PD: Oh yes, I am interested for us to have this conversation.

00:00:18:00 NI: Opo, para sa mga nanonood sabihin ninyo po ang inyong pangalan, kalian kayo pinanganak at kung saan?

IN ENGLISH NI: For the viewer's information, can you tell us your name and when you were born?

00:00:33:00 PD: Ang pangalan ko ay Potenciano Dy, D-Y, yan ang apelyido ko, D-Y.

IN ENGLISH PD: My name is Potenciano Dy, D-y, that's my real surname.

00:00:43:00 NI: Saan kayo pinanganak?

IN ENGLISH NI: Where is your birthplace?

00:00:45:00	PD: Sa Alaminos. Alaminos, Laguna.
IN ENGLISH	PD: I was born in Alaminos, Laguna
00:00:47:00	NI: Buong sentence, para, pinanganak ako sa; buoin nyo yung ano, kasi hindi madidinig ang boses ko ng mga tao, kaya pag sasagot kayo, hindi lang Alaminos Laguna sasabihin ninyo, pinanganak ako sa Alaminos Laguna, iyon ang sasabihin ninyo.
IN ENGLISH	NI: Can you complete the sentence; my voice would not be heard by the people so when you respond not only Alaminos, Laguna, but complete the sentence “I was born in in Alaminos, Laguna” can you do that?
00:01:08:00	PD: Ipinanganak ako sa Alaminos Laguna
IN ENGLISH	PD: I was born in Alaminos, Laguna
00:01:12:00	NI: Kailan po kayo pinanganak?
IN ENGLISH	NI: When is your birthdate?
00:01:16:00	PD: Ang petsa ay Mayo disi-nuebe, 1923.
IN ENGLISH	PD: I was born on May 19, 1923
00:01:38:00	NI: Ulitin natin uli yung pinanganak ako?
IN ENGLISH	NI: Let us go back again to your birthplace?
00:01:42:00	PD: Sa Alaminos, May 19, 1923.
IN ENGLISH	PD: I was born in the town of Alaminos on May 19, 1923.
00:01:08:00	Lady: Pwede hong mag-korek ako? 1923 ako pinanganak, according to the; May 1923, but then the record shows na December, because it was registered Potenciano D-e-e, instead of D-y, and then it was

registered instead of May 19, 1923, it was registered December 5, 1926. So which one?

IN ENGLISH

Lady: Would you allow some corrections on he was born on 1923? According to him it was in May 1923, but the record that it was on December. The reason being it was registered as Potenciano Dee instead of Dy then it was registered on May 19, 1923 instead of December 5, 1926. So which one?

00:02:36:00

NI: So okay, di magulo? Hindi na natin aanuhin yun. Anyway, mag usap pa ho tayo yung mga, noong bata pa kayo, bago dumating yung mga Hapon, sabi 'nyo sa akin kahapon mahirap ang buhay.

IN ENGLISH

NI: So okay, it's confusing, so we will not anymore dwell on that matter, let us talk about your younger years before the Japanese came, you told me life was difficult then.

00:02:48:00

PD: Oo, talagang mahirap ang buhay.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Yes, life was really difficult during those times.

00:02:50:00

NI: Oh, sige ho kuwentuhan mo po ako.

IN ENGLISH

NI: Okay, can you tell me more about that?

00:02:53:00

PD: Panahon noon, ika nga eh dumating ang Hapon, sa pagkuwan namin, ang mga tao ay, parang bumakwit, diumano ay takot sila sa Hapon, gawa ng ang balita din nila ay ang mga Koreano ay pumapatay ng tao. Yan ang panabi nila, kaya ang tao bumakwit at nagpunta sa mga baryo, sa mga bundok, at ang iba noong magkukuwan na ng gayon, noong nag-trek, nagpunta ng Cabuyao, Laguna, Biñan, Santa Rosa, Laguna. Iyan at ang iba naman ay lumuwas sa Maynila, komo nga mga natakot sila, dahil ang balita

nila ay pumapatay ang mga Hapon. Kaya nga, komo giyera at dumating sila.

IN ENGLISH

PD: At that time, when the Japanese arrived, back in the day, the people, as if, were evacuating, allegedly fearing the Japanese, as they also gathered through some reports that the Koreans along with the Japanese were killing people. That is what they are hearing, so people evacuated and went to the villages, up in the mountains, and to some other places to hide during that time, trekking to Cabuyao, Laguna, Biñan, and Santa Rosa, Laguna. Others escaped to Manila, and they were even more scared, because there were reports that the Japanese were killing Filipinos. The Japanese came because of the war.

00:04:06:00

NI: Noong dumating po yung hapon, ilang taon kayo?

IN ENGLISH

NI: When the Japanese arrived, how old were you then?

00:04:10:00

PD: Noong dumating ang hapon? Mga kinse-disisais, kinse para disi-sais ang edad ko noon, noong dumating ang Hapon.

IN ENGLISH

PD: I was around 15 to 16 years old at that time when the Japanese came.

00:04:22:00

NI: Pero sabi 'nyo mahirap ang buhay?

IN ENGLISH

NI: But you told me life was difficult then?

00:04:25:00

PD: Talagang mahirap, lalo na noong dumating ang Hapon.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Yes, life was really difficult and a struggle when the Japanese came.

00:04:30:00

NI: Eh ano ang ginagawa 'nyo noon?

IN ENGLISH

NI: What were you doing then?

00:04:33:00

PD: Ako? Noong mga panahong iyon, e di kami ay lumikas na nga papunta ng Cabuyao, aba'y gamundo, ayan.

IN ENGLISH

PD: During that time our family evacuated to Cabuyao, Laguna and it was a big deal for us.

00:04:47:00

NI: Paano kayong nabubuhay naman po, yung pamilya 'nyo, ano ginagawa ng Nanay at Tatay?

IN ENGLISH

NI: How did you survived then, what were your parents doing in order to live?

00:04:54:00

PD: Noon naman ay ang mga iba ay may na nakakakuwan din ng konting trabaho, may trabaho siya. Kung may mga may bukid, mga palayan, ika ngay tanim ng mga halaman, may mga kuwan din ng mga alaga ng mga hayup, ayan.

IN ENGLISH

PD: During those times, my father was getting opportunity to at least work, doing menial jobs. If there are farms, fields, or vegetable gardens around, we tend to those, plus there are also herds of livestock that helped us to survive.

00:05:19:00

NI: Meron din kayong tindahan, di ba ho?

IN ENGLISH

NI: I gathered you have a store, isn't it?

00:05:23:00

PD: Noon ay may tindahan kami noong mga panahong na iyon ng kuwan, eh maliit naming tindahan, parang nagtitinda lamang ako ng, hindi naming tindahan na (malaki) yung ang kuwan niya, na ang katulong ko ay yung aking ina at yung naman

aking mga magulang ay may edad na, kanya kung ano-ano lang tinitinda niya.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Yes, we used to have a store in those days, it was like we owned a small shop, it's not that big, I do selling and tending in the store, a helper to my mother, you see, my parents are old so whatever we can fill the store to sell, we sell, it's just that.

00:05:50:00

NI: Ano yung binebenta niya?

IN ENGLISH

NI: What items are she selling?

00:05:53:00

PD: Pero noong dumating ang Hapon, wala ng tindahan kami. Basta kuwan laang, yung nagtinda-tinda na lang ng mga, noong aking ina ay sa palengke noon, mga kuwan na lang.

IN ENGLISH

PD: But when the Japanese arrived, our store was closed already, all she did was do the selling in the public market for whatever item she could sell.

00:06:08:00

NI: Mga isda?

IN ENGLISH

NI: Like fishes?

00:06:11:00

PD: Mga kung ano-ano, mga isdang tuyong, mga asukal, asin, yan lang ang aming mga tinda.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Yes, whatever she could sell, like dried fish, sugar, and salt, those were the commodities she sell in the market.

00:06:26:00

NI: Paano ninyong nabalitaan po yung mga gerilya doon sa baryo nyo yung PQOG (President Quezon's Own Guerrillas), paano nyong nabalitaan?

IN ENGLISH

NI: How did you hear about the guerrillas in your village, of the PQOG (President Quezon's Own Guerrillas), how did you hear about that?

00:06:36:00

PD: Ay yun ay hindi ka-kuwan namin yung PQOG, yaon ay napakuwan lang kami noong mag pupuslit na, tsaka lang kami napa-kuwan doon sa PQOG. Ang pinagsimulan namin, kami yung Red Lion, pagkatapos noong Red Lion, naging Fil-American kami, ngayon noong mga kuwan na pag nagpupuslit ay malayo na tapos napalipat ngayon kami sa PQOG (President Quezon's Own Guerrillas).

IN ENGLISH

PD: It's not that we didn't know about PQOG, we just didn't know PQOG was there. We started as, we were the Red Lions, then after the Red Lion, we became members of the Fil-American group, since the war is far from over we joined and transferred to PQOG (President Quezon's Own Guerrillas).

00:07:13:00

NI: Eh ano ang trabaho ninyo doon sa PQOG, ano ang ibinigay sa inyong gawa, ano orders ninyo?

IN ENGLISH

NI: What specific jobs are you assigned with, what are the orders given to you?

00:07:22:00

PD: Kami ay mga kuwan lang, mga private lang kami noong una. Kami ay lima lamang na taga Bataan, lima kami, sinabi ko nga doon sa aking Major na si Bayani na bakit naman ganoon? Hindi kami lamang, magaling nga kayo at kayo ay na-protest kayo, iba ang pangalan ko eh pagkat hindi alam nila ang aking apelyido, alam lang nila ang pangalan ko, pero alam nila apelyido ko Dee, pero hindi nila alam na D-y, pero ang ikinuwan nila ay Dee, double E. Komo doon, nagtrabaho ako noon, hindi ko lang maalaman kung sa Labor Battalion o sa Caltex noon, parang tahimik din naman, wala lang, yun lang ang ano niya.

IN ENGLISH

PD: We were just private in rank. We were only five from Bataan, there were five of us, so I said to Major Bayani, why is that so? We all did well and I

protested this situation with him. I have a different name, they only know me by surname, but they know me by my surname Dee, but they don't know it is Dy, they know me as Dee, with double E and I was working then, I just could not recall if it was at the Labor Battalion or at Caltex back then, but it was okay that time, nothing untoward.

00:08:33:00

NI: Ano ang ginagawa 'nyo para doon sa noong nasa gerilya kayo nag ano ba kayo, nag intelligence o reconnaissance, ano ang trabaho 'nyo.

IN ENGLISH

NI: What was your role when you were with the guerilla forces, do you do intelligence work, reconnaissance, what were you doing?

00:08:44:00

PD: Noong ako ay gerilya, noong ako ay nasa gerilya? Informer, taga kuha kung saan naroon ang Hapon, ayun, sinasabi ko naroon, yun ang aking naging (trabaho) at kung saan, ika nga, yung malapit ang Hapon sa amin, sinasabi ko sa kanila, tsaka ang unang-una kinu-kuwan kaya kami ay hindi namin hawak talaga ang mga, pero ang mga ka-kuwan namin yung mga kapwa Pilipino, komo maraming Pilipino na nakipag-sabwatan sa Hapon

IN ENGLISH

PD: When I was at the guerilla forces, I was an informer, which was the task given to me; I gather information on the Japanese positions and whereabouts. If the Japanese forces are nearby, I inform them at once at the camp.

00:09:40:00

NI: Yung mga Makapili.

IN ENGLISH

NI: Those were the "Makapili" (Collaborators)?

00:09:42:00 PD: Oo, mga Makapili yan, ngayon sila nagsusuplong sa mga Hapon na ayun ay ganoon, yun ika ay.

IN ENGLISH PD: Yes they were, the Makapili were the ones reporting to the Japanese on the Filipinos who were members of the guerilla movement.

00:09:53:00 NI: Sila yung mga nagtuturo-turo sa, yung mga naka bayong

IN ENGLISH NI: They were the snitch, wearing buri palm bags in their head to hide their identity?

00:09:58:00 PD: Oo, iyon ang nagtuturo kaya magulo ang buhay namin doon sa.

IN ENGLISH PD: Yes they were the snitch, they make our life miserable then.

00:10:03:00 NI: Pero sabi mo sa akin.

IN ENGLISH NI: But you told me...

00:10:04:00 PD: Ngayon, yaon ang sasabihin ko sa iyo ay siyempre, papatayin nila yung pamilya mo, palagay mo anak mo eh di siyempre gaganti ka. Iyan ang nangyayari sa amin doon, gantihan na lang. Kaya magulo rin, pero hindi.

IN ENGLISH PD: Now, this is what I am going to tell, if they will kill any member of your family, do you think your son will not retaliate? Of course he will. That's what happened then, just to compensate or breakeven, retaliation has to be done. It is messy, but no, it is not.

00:10:28:00 NI: Sabi mo sa akin yung isang assignment ninyo, pag may nagtuturo-turo na naka-bayong, tinitignan 'nyo kung, hinahanap 'nyo kung sino yung naka bayong.

IN ENGLISH NI: You told me your assignment is looking out for the Makapili when they're pointing fingers to snitch, you search for them, and you are looking out at whoever is wearing the buri palm bag in his head.

00:10:39:00 PD: Iyon ang unang-unang ini-espiyahan namin na iyon ang talagang tao bago ita-transmit namin sa mga gerilya, yan ang nangyayari.

IN ENGLISH PD: That was the first spy work we have done, we spy at the Makapili then transmit the report to the guerilla forces on what was going on in the area. And that is what happened.

00:10:56:00 NI: So hinahanap 'nyo yung mga naka bayong?

IN ENGLISH NI: So you're really searching ang looking out for men in buri palm bags in their heads.

00:10:58:00 PD: Ngayon, tataningan lamang ng wala pang isang lingo, dudukutin na iyon, sila naman ang mag papatay.

IN ENGLISH PD: Yes, once spotted, they will not last for even a week, they will be abducted by the guerilla forces and they would be killed by their abductors.

00:11:11:00 NI: Pero yung mga naka bayong pag tinuro nila ang isang tao, pinapatay ng Hapon yung mga tao?

IN ENGLISH NI: But those buri palm bags men (Makapili) when they snitch on a particular person, would the Japanese kill that person?

00:11:17:00 PD: Oo, may kasalanan o walang kasalanan, yung nag kukuwan ng bayong na iyon. Pag ikaw ay naka-away, ayun, magsusumbong na sa hapon.

IN ENGLISH **PD: Yes of course, even he is not at fault at all, if you're snitch on, you're dead. If you had a quarrel with a Makapili and he reported you to the Japanese, chances are you'll be killed.**

00:11:33:00 NI: Gantihan?

IN ENGLISH **NI: Retaliation?**

00:11:35:00 PD: Ano kaya kung partido mo, halimbawa pinatay? Papaano, hindi ka ba gaganti, iyan ang dahilan kung bakit maraming namatay sa Alaminos.

IN ENGLISH **PD: What if a relative of yours, let us say was killed? Would you not retaliate? Retaliation was the reason why so many died in Alaminos.**

00:11:50:00 NI: Kung puwede kuwentuhan mo nga ako nung yung dalawang Amerikano na piloto na na-rescue 'nyo na tinatago nyo. Ang pangalan nun ay sila John Boyle at tsaka si William Foye.

IN ENGLISH **NI: If you can tell me about the two American pilots that you rescued and kept hidden. Their names are John Boyle and William Foye.**

00:12:06:00 PD: Hindi namin kilala yun kung ano pangalan

IN ENGLISH **PD: I could not recall them, even their names.**

00:12:09:00 NI: Pero pinrotektahan 'nyo yung dalawang piloto na tinatago 'nyo sa Hapon?

IN ENGLISH **NI: But you protected those two pilots from the Japanese so you kept them hidden?**

00:12:18:00 PD: Ika nga pag malapit sa mga kuwan ng Hapon, tinago namin sa gubat, sa mga ilog, hinagis namin yan. At ang pagkain nila, kapag iluluto namin ay sa gabi hindi sa araw.

IN ENGLISH PD: What we did was if the Japanese are anywhere near them, we hide them in the jungle, in the rivers, and we kept them there. And their food, we cook them at night time not on daytime.

00:12:38:00 NI: Para hindi makita yung usok?

IN ENGLISH NI: So they would not see the smoke billowing?

00:12:40:00 PD: Oo, uusok yan pagka araw para hindi siya makita, kailangan patago ang aming pagluluto, talagang mahirap ang buhay sa amin.

IN ENGLISH PD: Yes of course there would be smoke and easily visible at daytime, so we kept our cooking hidden, our life was really difficult then.

00:12:58:00 NI: At tsaka gabi lang kayo?

IN ENGLISH NI: So you do it night time?

00:13:00:00 PD: At tsaka kung madalhan ko ng halimbawa eh maikuha namin ng kamote, yun lang ang pagkain ng Amerikano, kamote o kaya pupunta ko ng ilog kapagka minsan ay nakakahuli kami ng mga isda, ayun, nakain ng isda, niyog, kamote, tsaka yung, pangalan nito? Makakuha ka ng tagbuhol naman doon sa Makiling ng mga usa, tsaka baboy damo, ayan.

IN ENGLISH PD: Let us say, we can gather sweet potatoes for them, which will only be the only food we can give the American pilots, they have to settle for that. Sometimes we will go down the river and catch fishes, and then they will have fishes to eat, or we

give them coconuts or sweet potatoes. If we're able to go up to Mount Makiling and check the traps for deer and wild boar, then they would get meat for their meal.

00:13:43:00

NI: Kaya nabuhay sila dahil sa iyo?

IN ENGLISH

NI: That's the reason why they stayed alive, it's because of you?

00:13:45:00

PD: Ayan, hindi naman masyadong kaming, may pagkakataon kaming makakuha ng pagkain, katulad halimbawa ng matakbo, komo bundok, tatakbo kami ng mga usa o kung anong hayup o kaya ay ano, iyon ang aming ipinakakain doon sa Amerikano. Eh wala, komo giyera, wala naman akong panaderya, wala naman akong makukuhanan ng tinapay, iyon lamang.

IN ENGLISH

PD: No, I don't want to get the credit for that, there were only chances that we were able to gather food for them, like going up the mountains to catch deer or whatever animal we could catch, that is what we would feed the Americans with. Remember its wartime, where would I get bread to feed them; I do not even own a bakeshop, so that's all I could provide them with.

00:14:23:00

NI: Gaano 'nyo katagal inalagaan yung dalawang piloto?

IN ENGLISH

NI: How long did you take care of those two pilots?

00:14:27:00

PD: Ay hindi masyado kong, komo tagal kong, yung pag-aalaga namin doon eh hindi ako masyadong, yung nga kung akoy makahuli ng baboy damo, papanain namin, o kaya usa, yung mga dalag, hito, yung sa ilog, binibingwit lang, pagka-kuwan ay dadalhin namin doon. Tumutulong ako at nagbibigay, yung nag aasikaso sa mga Amerikano ay yung mga

kasama naming mga wanted, taga deliver lang kami ng mga pagkain ng aming mga ka-Lion, lalo na kamote, niyog, yun ang aming binibigay

IN ENGLISH

PD: Not so long for me, it was only a while, when we were looking after them, I have not much to do with the caring part, my role is to catch wild boar or deer so we could feed them, to catch mudfish or catfish in the river using fishing rod, and we would take the catch to them to eat. I also help and give to those who care for the Americans. The ones who really took care of them were our fellows at the Lion, we provide them with whatever we could gather, be it sweet potatoes or coconuts, and we give it to them.

00:15:40:00

NI: So noong natapos na yung giyera, madami kayong mga medalya, yung resistance movement medal, meron kayo din noon?

IN ENGLISH

NI: When the war was over, you received numerous medals, the resistance movement medal, you do have that?

00:15:59:00

PD: Oo, dalawa, dito ko na lang nakuha ito, kay Clinton at kay Bush, yung medalyang aking nakuha.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Yes, I got two, but was only able to have it here, the medals I have were from Clinton and Bush.

00:16:13:00

NI: Wala pa doon?

IN ENGLISH

NI: None there?

00:16:14:00

PD: Kay Clinton lang at kay Bush yung aking dala na nakita mo.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Yes none, only from Clinton and Bush. I have it here, the ones you saw.

00:16:20:00 NI: Pati yung Philippine liberation medal din, meron kayo?

IN ENGLISH **NI: Including the Philippine Liberation medal, you have it too?**

00:16:24:00 PD: Oo, dito na rin lang.

IN ENGLISH **PD: Yes but I got it from here.**

00:16:29:00 NI: Dito, eh natanggap 'nyo na din yung Congressional Gold Medal?

IN ENGLISH **NI: In here, were you able to receive the Congressional Gold Medal also?**

00:16:34:00 PD: Oo, dito na rin ko lang nakuha.

IN ENGLISH **PD: Yes, I got that too from here.**

00:16:37:00 NI: Oo, kakukuha 'nyo lang noon, so noong natanggap 'nyo po yung medalya ano ang pakiramdam 'nyo?

IN ENGLISH **NI: So how did you feel when you received those medals?**

00:16:44:00 PD: Maayos.

IN ENGLISH **PD: I felt well.**

00:16:46:00 NI: Ha, sabihin 'nyo sa akin kung ano, when you look back that day ano ang naiisip mo?

IN ENGLISH **NI: Can you tell me what, when you look back that day, what was going through your mind.**

00:16:50:00 PD: Oo, naliligayahan, kaya lang ano, dito ko na lang kinuha iyon, dito na inabot sa akin dito, dito na siya, hindi man sa ano.

IN ENGLISH **PD: I was happy, but I only received it from here, they only gave it to me here, it's not at all that...**

- 00:17:06:00 NI: Pero noong nandito ka na ano, kaliaan ka ba pumunta, 1993, '94, noong dumating ka dito?
- IN ENGLISH** **NI: When did you come here, was it 1993, '94 when you arrived here?**
- 00:17:14:00 PD: Oo, 1994. Noong ding bago pa ako dito eh wala pang ano.
- IN ENGLISH** **PD: Yes it was 1994; I was new here, so there was none yet.**
- 00:17:21:00 NI: Okay, sabihin mo sa akin ng buo yung sentence na "Dumating ako sa Amerika noong 1994" sabihin mo sa akin?
- IN ENGLISH** **NI: Okay, tell me the whole sentence "I came to America in 1994" can you tell me that?**
- 00:17:31:00 PD: Kinukuwan namin si Clinton, aming, anong tawag dun, aming kinukuwan siya na aming kinukuwan yung aming pensiyon, tsaka pag-aano.
- IN ENGLISH** **PD: We were talking to Clinton, what do you call that? We were trying to negotiate with him about our pension and some other important matters.**
- 00:17:49:00 NI: Tinutulungan kayo?
- IN ENGLISH** **NI: Did he help you?**
- 00:17:51:00 PD: Hindi yung pagka-kuwan namin eh tulungan kami sa mga pensiyon, tsaka yung pangalan nito, itong pagkukuwan ng pamilya na madala dito yun ang aming ano. Naku, kami ay naposasan pa doon sa White House, may litrato kami doon, ewan ko kung bakit hindi ko nakita yung mga litrato, may litrato kami noon kami'y ikuwan eh, noong, dito sa bakod.
- IN ENGLISH** **PD: No he did not; we were fighting for our pension and to be able to bring our family with us here. We**

we were chained at the White House fence, we have pictures of that, I just could not find it to show you. We have pictures of that incident where we're chained at the White House fence.

00:18:24:00

NI: Nakakadena kayo, doon sa bakod ng White House.

IN ENGLISH

NI: You were chained at the fence of the White House.

00:18:29:00

PD: Oo, sa bakod ng White House, doon kami ikinuwan doon sa rehas doon.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Yes, chained at the White House fence, we were chained at the railings of the fence.

00:18:34:00

NI: Oo, meron akong litrato noon.

IN ENGLISH

NI: Yes, I think have pictures of that.

00:18:36:00

PD: Pero noong kami ay, hinuli kami, ilang pulis yun eh, lima yata. Dinala kami at ipinasok kami loob, noong nasa loob na kami eh kinausap kami na iyon ay kuwan lamang, gimik lang yan, sabihin nyo kayo ay nagbayad ng limampu makalabas lamang kayo, iyon ang kuwan sa amin.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Then we were apprehended by the police, I think there were five of them, and we were brought in, once we're in, they talked to us nicely and told us the arrests made were only for show, a gimmick. They told us to pay the fine of 50 and we could all go home, that's what they told us.

00:19:13:00

NI: So matagal din kayong aktibista para sa mga beterano?

IN ENGLISH

NI: So you have been a longtime activist for the war veterans?

00:19:17:00 PD: Oo, di ka maniniwala matagal din kaming, kasama namin si Eric, kilala mo ba so Eric?

IN ENGLISH PD: Yes and would you believe Eric and I were together in this fight for quite a long time. Do you know Eric?

00:19:26:00 NI: Opo, si Eric Lachica.

IN ENGLISH NI: Yes indeed, Eric Lachica.

00:19:28:00 PD: Oo yaon, si Eric Lachica, yaan ang kumukuwan sa amin. Sino ba yung ambassador na yun, na kami ay hinahatidan pa ng pagkain noong kami ay nagpipiket sa.

IN ENGLISH PD: Yes it is, Eric Lachica was helping us in many ways. And there was this ambassador, I could not remember his name, and he brings us food and drinks at the picket lines.

00:19:44:00 NI: Oo noon, nakalimutan ko na ang pangalan, balik tayo sandali lang sa mga kabarkada mo noong gerilya kayo, kasi ang ganda ng memorya mo, natatandaan mo Lahat ang mga pangalan nila eh. Yung mga officer mo, tsaka yung mga kabarkada mo tsaka mga runners, pwede mo bang sabihin sa akin mga kasama mo? Yung mga pangalan ng barkada mo.

IN ENGLISH NI: Oh yes I remember that but I forgot his name too. Let us go back for a while about your friends in the guerilla forces, you have a good memory, do you remember all their names? Your friends and your officer, the runners even, could you tell me who you were with during that time, and the names of your friends?

00:20:10:00 PD: Mga barkada ko?

IN ENGLISH PD: My friends?

00:20:12:00 NI: Oo, noong gerilya kayo.

IN ENGLISH **NI: Yes, when you were a guerilla.**

00:20:14:00 PD: Mga pangalan, Amado Enriquez, Kumander Enriquez, major, mga Avanceña, mga Cordero, yun ang aming koronel, hindi ko masyadong maalala, Delfin Lubring, Eugenio, basta nandoon sa, andun lahat.

IN ENGLISH **PD: I can only recall a few names, Amado Enriquez or Commander Enriquez, the Avanceña's, the Cordero's, one of the Cordero was our Coronel, I could not remember all, and there was Delfin Lubring, a certain Eugenio, they were all there, so many of them, I could not remember all.**

00:20:59:00 NI: Di bale po.

IN ENGLISH **NI: It's okay anyway.**

00:21:01:00 PD: Delfin Lubring, ah sino ba ito, Jacinto Aquino.

IN ENGLISH **PD: Delfin Lubring, ah there was this other man Jacinto Aquino.**

00:21:36:00 NI: Di bale na lang.

IN ENGLISH **NI: It's okay, let's skip that.**

00:21:39:00 PD: Kami, ay ang aming yunit laang noon, kami ay wala pang dalawampu, kami lang mga labingpito laan noon.

IN ENGLISH **PD: Our unit then was composed of less than twenty members, I remember we were only seventeen that time.**

00:21:49:00 NI: Bata kayong lahat?

IN ENGLISH **NI: You're all young men?**

00:21:53:00 PD: Oo, yun ang aming yunit, yun ang aming barkada.

IN ENGLISH PD: Yes, the unit members were my group of friends.

00:21:58:00 NI: Ano, teenager kayong lahat?

IN ENGLISH NI: Were you all teenagers?

00:22:01:00 PD: Oo, ngayon naman ay patay ng lahat, wala ng natitira, ako na lang ang natitira, pero si Amado Enriquez, major, yun ay kung kailan lang namatay. Pero wala ng natira kung hindi ako na lang. Dito, kami yata ay tatatlo na yata dito na kakuwan nga ni Eric.

IN ENGLISH PD: Yes, but all of them had died, no one is alive, I am the only one left alive, but I think Amado Enriquez just died recently. All are gone except me, I think there were only three of us veterans here who was still active with Eric.

00:22:36:00 NI: So ano po ang gusto niyong maalaman ng mga bata sa inyong istorya, ano ang pinaka-importante para maibigay natin sa next generation, yung mga bata, anong gusto mong sabihin sa kanila, yung mga bata na nadidinig nila ang istorya mo, anong gusto mong maalaman nila.

IN ENGLISH NI: So what do you want the younger generation to know about your story, what is most important for you to convey to the next generation, to the children, what do you want to tell them, the way they will hear your story, what do you want to pass on to them.

00:23:04:00 PD: Hindi ko masyadong maintindihan, yung ibig mong sabihin ay yung mga bata.

IN ENGLISH PD: I could not quite grasp what you mean about the younger ones.

00:23:12:00

NI: Hindi, ano ang pinaka-importante sa iyo na maalaman ng mga bata tungkol sa iyong istorya, sa palagay mo ano ang pinaka-importante?

IN ENGLISH

NI: What I mean is what are the important things do you think you could share to the younger generation when they hear about your story. What are your most important thoughts for them?

00:23:25:00

PD: Eh hindi ko masyadong matandaan yung mga pangyayari.

IN ENGLISH

PD: I could not really remember all what and has transpired in those days

00:23:42:00

NI: Bakit importante maging sundalo para sa iyong bayan, ano sa palagay mo. Bakit importante iyon para sa mga batang maalaman?

IN ENGLISH

NI: Why is it important to be a soldier for your country? Why is that important for the younger generation to know?

00:24:34:00

PD: Ang ibig mong sabihin ay iyong yung pangyayari at buhay noong giyera para maalaman ng mga bata? Napapasok nga ako sa labas, naglingkod ako sa mga taong labas, na hindi alam ng mga kapatid ko at magulang ko ay hindi alam na ako'y naroon, basta nawawala lang ako ng tatlong araw o dalawang araw at kung ganoon mahirap nga talaga akala nila ay may pinupuntahan lang ako pero hindi nila alam na ako ay nasa mga taong labas.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Do you mean my experience and life in the war for the children to know? I was with the people from the outside (guerillas) , I served the people from the outside, my brothers and my parents did not know I was there with them, I would be gone for two or three days and it was really hard for my family to

think where I was going. I come home but they have no idea I came from the camp of the people from the outside.

00:25:38:00

NI: Sa bakbakan?

IN ENGLISH

NI: From the fighting?

00:25:39:00

PD: Oo, sabihin ko sa iyo e itong ganito ko may butas yaon nagdadala ako ng mga sulat ng informer at dito ko itinatago.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Yes, I will tell you, I have a hole underneath here in my groin. As an informer part of my job was to deliver instruction letters and I placed the letter here, tightly hidden.

00:25:56:00

NI: Doon nyo itinatago?

IN ENGLISH

NI: You hide it there?

00:25:56:00

PD: Ay oo, siyempre pag nakita yung sulat e di patay ako. Kaya ang nangyari ay naisipan nila na butasin yun, doon nilalagay para hindi makita, kung ako ay kapkapan, hindi mahuhuli, hindi nila alam na narine, yung kuwan natin.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Of course yes, if they saw the letter I would be dead. So they thought of putting a hole there, I put the letter into that hole so they would not see it, even if they bodily frisked me, they would not catch me, they would have no idea it was here, in my groin.

00:26:24:00

NI: Nakatago?

IN ENGLISH

NI: Hidden?

00:26:25:00

PD: Hindi makikita, wala sa bulsa, eh kung ilalagay sa bulsa di makukuha, kaya meron akong teknik, yun nga

nilalagay ko dito. Dun namin tinatago, dito sa singit, imposible na makita nila iyon.

IN ENGLISH

PD: it's not visible, it's not inside my pocket, if I would place it in my pocket they would see it, so that's the technique, that's why I'm putting it here. I hide in here in my groin, it would be impossible for them to find it.

00:26:47:00

NI: Oo, imposible.

IN ENGLISH

NI: Yes, it would be impossible.

00:26:49:00

PD: Oo, e kung pag-iisipan, bakit mo ilalagay yun dun. Kaya yan ang paraan kung magdadala ka ng sulat dun sa, palagay mo e doon sa kampo na iyon, doon sa mga pinuno ng mga taong labas o gerilya, para may pangkain sila.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Yes, if you'll think about it, why would you put the letter in there? So that's my way of delivering the letters to that camp, to the leaders of the people from the outside or guerrillas, that way I get food in return.

00:27:18:00

NI: Meron bang okasyon na muntik na kayong mahuli ng mga Hapon.

IN ENGLISH

NI: Was there ever an incident that you were almost caught by the Japanese?

00:27:23:00

PD: Nitong huli na e nahuli yung aking dalawang kasama.

IN ENGLISH

PD: In the latter years of the war my two friends were caught.

00:27:30:00

NI: Anong nangyari?

IN ENGLISH

NI: So what happened?

00:27:32:00

PD: Sinabi ko sa kanila huwag na silang pumunta sa bayan at delikado na, ayun nahuli may tama yung isa sa kanang dibdib. Magaling yung isa at nakaligtas, yung si Cesar Ilyasi ng Sariaya, taga Sariaya yun e, si Cesar Ilyasi, yung si Dizon, si Alonzo Tecson, yun ang sinabi ko sa kanya, ayun nadale, patay na rin. Pero nakapag-aral siya at naging abugado, mahusay na abugado. Palibhasa siguro dinamdam niya yung kanyang tama, eh ayun, namatay na rin. kung kailan lang din namatay, yun barkada ko siya.

IN ENGLISH

PD: I told and warned them not to go to town and that it was already dangerous, still they proceeded, they were shot at, one of them got hit on his right chest. But he survived, he's Cesar Ilyasi of Sariaya, Cesar Ilyasi is from Sariaya, and the other was Alonzo Tecson, I warned him too of the dangers, he was shot and died. But Ilyasi went to college and became a lawyer, a good lawyer but he died too later. I was thinking he resented what happened to him and felt sorry about it, he just recently died.

00:28:34:00

NI: Yung barkada mo na ano kayo, disi-siyete, yung barkada mo na disi-siyete kayo lahat.

IN ENGLISH

NI: How about your friends in the unit, you told me you're seventeen in all?

00:28:43:00

PD: Oo, yun nga, oo.

IN ENGLISH

PD: Yes, yes we were.

00:28:47:00

NI: Ilan ang namatay noong giyera?

IN ENGLISH

NI: How many of them died in the war?

00:28:52:00

PD: Wala, walang namatay.

IN ENGLISH

PD: None of them died in the war.

00:28:55:00

NI: Walang namatay, afterwards na?

IN ENGLISH

NI: Did they die afterwards?

00:28:57:00

PD: Nito na lang matapos na ang giyera, marami ang namatay na. Komo siguro, sinasama ko narin ang ating mahal na panginoon, siguro ay binabayaran yung kanilang mga pinatay. May pinatay sila, ayun nagbayad sila nitong tapos na ang giyera, ayun unti-unti ng nangamamatay sila. Eh ako wala naman tinatago taga kuwan lang naman ako, yung bumuntal man, hindi ako nabuntal, sabi nga, bakit di ka sumama, kako'y kayo na lang.

IN ENGLISH

PD: By the time the war was over, many had died. But maybe, it was the will of the Lord, maybe they paid back for those they had killed, they paid for it, they all died gradually, one by one. On my part, I didn't kill anyone; I was just an informer-messenger. I didn't even joined fistfights, I was never hit, my friends sometimes asked me to join them on fights, I always refuse.

00:30:11:00

NI: Tatanungin kayo in just one minute, tatanungin kayo at uulitin nyo yung pangalan at tsaka yung affiliation nyo, kung anong company at tsaka yung rango niyo, yun.

IN ENGLISH

NI: You will be asked in a minute, you will be asked to repeat your name and your affiliation, what company you're in.

00:30:32:00

PD: Noong akoy mag process ang aking kumpaniya ay Company M, Second Batallion, dito kay Umali nung ako ay mag-proseso.

IN ENGLISH PD: When I was processing, my company was Company M, Second Battalion, I was with Umali during processing.

00:31:03:00 NI: So, sabihin nyo ulit ang pangalan nyo sa camera.

IN ENGLISH NI: So, say your name again facing the camera.

00:31:27:00 PD: Ang pangalan ko ay Potenciano Dee, pinanganak ng Mayo 19, 1923.

IN ENGLISH PD: My name is Potenciano Dee; I was born on May 19, 1923.

00:31:44:00 NI: Ano po yung kumpanya ninyo?

IN ENGLISH NI: What company do you belong to?

00:31:48:00 PD: Company M

IN ENGLISH PD: Company M.

00:31:50:00 NI: Company M, sino po ang ano ninyo?

IN ENGLISH NI: In Company M who was your commander?

00:31:52:00 PD: Second Battalion.

IN ENGLISH PD: Second Battalion.

00:31:54:00 NI: Sino po ang Kumander ninyo?

IN ENGLISH NI: Who was your commander?

00:32:02:00 PD: Ah hindi ko na matandaan, iba yung si Umali, ibang batalyon yun, hindi namin kasabay, lima kami na napasama lang doon, hindi namin alam kung ano ang mga at sino ang mga Kumander namin doon.

IN ENGLISH PD: Ah, I can't remember anymore, it was Umali, oh he was in another battalion, we were not together, there were only five of us there, we didn't know who they are and who our Commanders are.

00:32:17:00

NI: Okay so, Company C Battalion M?

00:32:26:00

PD: Second Battalion.

**POTENCIANO DEE
END OF TRANSCRIPTION AND TRANSLATIONS**