1		Season One: Forbidden Diary
2		Episode Five: How to Pack a Suitcase
3		
4		
5		CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE
6		
7	Natalie	Sevil Delin
8	Broadcaster	Voice Realm Actor
9	President Quezon	Bob Bavnani
10	Nida	Jeannie Anne Sioson
11	Jerry	Mark Oliver
12	Ismael	Pocholo Gonzalez
13	Carl Eschbach	Scott Walton
14	Mrs. Saleeby	Melba King
15	Merchant	Bob Bavnani
16	Soldier	John Carroll Wolfe
17	Nurse	Diane Bolton
18		
19		
20		[Cold Open]
21		
22	Announcer	Previously on Forbidden Diary:
23		
24		[SOUND BITES FROM EPISODE FOUR]
25		
26	Announcer	And now, Episode Five: How to Pack a Suitcase
27		
28		
29		[DIARY READING ONE] ¹
30		
31		[SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]
32		
33	Natalie	December 23, 1941 After much discussion over whether to go to
34		Manila or not, Jerry and I decided to remain in Baguio and take
35		whatever comes. As it turns out everyone in our small group of
36		houses is staying as well.
37		

 $^{^{1}}$ From Natalie's $\underline{\text{December 22, 1941}}$ and $\underline{\text{December 23, 1941}}$ diary entries.

38		It's no use being afraid. Besides, if all Americans flee, it'll be very
39		bad for the morale of the Filipinos and Chinese up here.
40		
41		After lunch up in the garage today, we all put our dishes and forks
42		away and huddled in front the radio to listen to President
43		Quezon's inauguration speech. In it, he read a message from
44		President Roosevelt that rekindled our hope that things might not
45		be so grim. ²
46		
47		[SCENE ONE] ³
48		•
49		[SOUND OF RADIO BEING TUNED; DISHES CLANKING]
50		[
51	Broadcaster	In just a few minutes, His Excellency Manuel L. Quezon, President
52	2.044.0400	of the Commonwealth of the Philippines will be giving his
53		Inaugural Address.
54		madgarar/naaress.
55	Nida	Ismael, turn it up.
56	Maa	ismaci, turn it up.
57		[RADIO TURNED UP]
58		[RADIO TORNED OF]
	Manual Quazan	On November 15, 1935, I took my oath of office as first President
59 60	Manuel Quezon	of the Philippines under the most favorable auspices. The
61		Philippines was at peace and the Filipino people were happy and
62		contented and thrilled with the vision of a bright future.
63		
64		Six years ago, there was every reason to believe that the Filipino
65		people would be able to prepare themselves for independence in
66		peace and without hindrance.
67		
68		Our task of nation building was in progress when suddenly, on
69 70		December 8, 1941, the Philippines became the victim of wanton aggression. We are resisting this aggression with everything that
70 71		we have.
72		
73		

² Quezon's speech was actually December 30, 1941. This paragraph is an imagined as a set up for Scene 1. The <u>December 14</u>
1941 diary entry mentions the Crouters eating "Filipino chow with the servants" in the garage.

³ The purpose of this imagined scene is to show the Filipino perspective and how the U.S. kept claiming that help was on the way. FDR's pledge will be mentioned in Scene Two C.

Despite the enemy's temporary superiority in the air, and on land and sea, we have been able to check the rapid advance of the invading armies.

At the present time we have but one task—to fight with America for America and the Philippines. To this task, we shall devote all our resources in men and materials. Ours is a great cause. Indeed, we are fighting for our own independence.

Yesterday, the President of the United States issued a proclamation which, I am sure, will hearten our fighting men and thrill the soul of every American and Filipino in this land. This is the proclamation:

"News of your gallant struggle against the Japanese aggressors has elicited the profound admiration of every American. As President of the United States, I know that I speak for all our people on this solemn occasion.

I give to the people of the Philippines my pledge that their freedom will be redeemed and their independence established and protected. The entire resources in men and materials of the United States stand behind that pledge.

The United States Navy is following an intensive and well planned campaign against Japanese forces which will result in positive assistance to the defense of the Philippine Islands."

My heart, and I know the hearts of all Americans and Filipinos in this country, are filled with gratitude for the reassuring words of the President of the United States.

In taking my oath of office, I make the pledge for myself, my government, and my people, to stand by America and fight with her until victory is won. I humbly invoke the help of Almighty God that I may have the wisdom and fortitude to carry out this solemn obligation.⁴

Quezon's speech is condensed. To see the full speech, go to https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/1941/12/30/second-inaugural-address-of-president-quezon/.

115		[DIARY READING TWO]
116		
117		[SOUND OF WRITING AND FADE OUT]
118		
119	Natalie	Even with FDR's pledge, it's hard to ignore 80 Japanese warships
120		anchored along our coast line, so we finally settled on joining the
121		Americans at Brent School. The school is a sort of a voluntary
122		concentration to be together if the Japanese invade.5
123		
124		We like that it's far away from town ⁶ , but for all we know, we may
125		be binding up Japanese wounds by this time tomorrow. That's
126		what I told Nida today as we packed for Brent, and she gave me a
127		wry face. ⁷
128		
129		Deciding what to take got me thinking about life's ironies and the
130		Jewish refugees that Jerry brought home a few years ago. ⁸ He
131		found them on a Shell Oil tanker in Manila harbor during a
132		business trip procuring gasoline for the mine. The Nazis took their
133		German citizenship, and they'd sailed half way around the world
134		unable to find a country to take them in. 10 President Quezon
135		agreed to let them stay in the Philippines, 11 so Jerry chartered a
136		bus and brought them home.
137		
138		Our house was wall-to-wall people until we found places for them
139		to live. While they were staying with us, one of the refugees
140		taught me how to pack a suitcase on the run. That's how the
141		subject came up as the stacks of clothes on our bed grew higher
142		and higher.
143		
144		
145		

⁵ <u>December 26, 1941 diary entry</u>.

⁶ Miles, Fern Harrington, *Captive Community*, pp. 20. One of the benefits Miles recalled about Brent School.

⁷ <u>December 22, 1941 diary entry</u>.

 $^{^8}$ This paragraph is based on Fred Crouter's recollections in his email to me dated 8/18/21. This and the next paragraph are a set up for Scene Two A which is imagined.

up for Scene Two A which is imagined.

9 Actually German Jews were demoted to "subjects." See https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/nuremberg-race-laws- imposed. It's doubtful that Natalie would have had this fine-grain of an understanding.

https://www.history.com/news/wwii-jewish-refugee-ship-st-louis-1939

http://www.quezon.ph/2019/05/29/jewish-refugees-and-the-philippines-a-timeline/.

146		[SCENE TWO A] ¹²
147		
148		[SOUND OF DRAWER OPENING]
149		
150	Nida	June and Bedie's clothes are on your bed Mrs. Crouter.
151		
152	Natalie	Oh, good. Thank you. I'll set out my clothes and Jerry's. Then we'll
153		decide what to pack. They might be all we'll have to wear for a
154		long time. Better pack my girdle. 13 Oh, and we'll need two
155		suitcases I guess. Jerry said the men will probably be separated
156		from woman and children.
157		
158	Nida	Should I get the fortnighter for Mr. Jerry?
159		
160	Natalie	I don't know yet. Let's just get everything out, and we'll decide.
161		
162	Nida	Everything?
163		
164	Natalie	Maybe we'd better just start with the dresser, and then we'll
165		decide.
166		
167		[SOUND OF DRAWER OPENING]
168		
169	Natalie	Gee I wish I'd paid more attention to Mrs. Meyerhoff. Remember
170		her?
171		
172	Nida	No.
173		
174	Natalie	She was one of the refugees we took in.
175		
176	Nida	We must have had forty people!
177		
178	Natalie	Remember when the bus showed up in front of the house?
179		
180	Nida	You couldn't see the living room floor when everyone went to
181		sleep.

This scene is imagined.

13 Ladies wore girdles back then, and Natalie's May 12, 1944 diary entry mentions her wearing a girdle.

182 183	Natalie	Bedie thought it was great fun!
184	Nida	Yes. That's our Mr. Bedie. And June helped serve food.
185		
186	Natalie	And your girls as well.
187		
188	Nida	What would we have done without our little helpers?
189		
190	Natalie	You sure you don't remember Mrs. Meyerhoff? She had long
191		silver hair braided and wrapped around her head.
192	AP. I	
193	Nida	Oh, yes. I remember her.
194	Natalia	
195	Natalie	She told me how to pack a suitcase on the run, and now look at
196 197		us. We're the ones packing, and she'll probably be safe because she's German.
197		sile's German.
199	Nida	How does that make her safe?
200	Mua	now does that make her sare:
201	Natalie	Well, Germany and Japan are allies.
202	racane	Tren, Cermany and Japan are ames.
203	Nida	Oh. That's right. But she's Jewish.
204		
205	Natalie	I don't think Japanese care; 14 they'll be too busy rounding us up if
206		it comes to that. Well, anyway, she kept telling me, "Only take
207		what you can carry! Only take what you can carry!!"
208		
209	Nida	Oh Mrs. Crouter, I think we're in trouble.
210		
211	Natalie	Hmmm, even I can't squeeze all of this into two suitcases.
212		
213	Nida	No. Not even you.
214		
215	Natalie	WellMrs. Meyerhoff also said to dress in layers, so your clothes
216		can do double duty in hot and cold weather.

¹⁴ According to Open Door: Rescue in the Philippines at 44:00, German Jews were not interned by the Japanese. The following source mentions that they had passports with swastikas on them: https://www.cnn.com/2015/02/02/world/asia/philippines-jews-wwii/index.html. Maybe they kept passports as German "subjects." See Footnote 9.

217	Nida	Then maybe just one heavy sweater each?
218		
219	Natalie	Agreed. Oh, we're also supposed to bring mattresses, blankets,
220		and food. Have you and Ismael decided what you're going to do?
221		
222	Nida	No. Not yet. We're still talking about it.
223		
224	Natalie	Oh, you two are as bad as us. Now let's get the
225		
226		[FADE OUT]
227		
228		
229		[SCENE TWO B] ¹⁵
230		
231		[FADE IN]
232		
233	Ismael	[IN TAGALOG] Time's wasting. We've got to make up our minds.
234		
235	Nida	[IN TAGALOG] I don't know what to do Ismael.
236		
237	Ismael	Mr. Jerry's been asking, Nida.
238		
239	Nida	I know. I know. So has Mrs. Crouter. Do you know what she said
240		to me today?
241		
242	Ismael	What?
243		
244	Nida	That I must be prepared to help wounded Jap soldiers because
245		the wounded are the same anywhere. ¹⁶ Is she out of her mind?
246		
247	Ismael	[LAUGHS] That sounds like our Mrs. Crouter.
248		
249	Nida	Sometimes I think that her kindness is going to get us all killed. I
250		was the one who fed those refugees and sewed bed sheets for the

This scene is imagined to show the Batani's perspective.

16 From Natalie's <u>December 22, 1941</u> diary entry.

251		Red Cross. ¹⁷
252		
253	Ismael	What are you talking about?
254		
255	Nida	Oh nothing. I love Mrs. Crouter. She is a <i>good</i> person, but her
256		thoughts are too far up in the clouds sometimes.
257		
258	Ismael	That's because, my sweet Nida, she is a saint.
259		
260	Nida	I know, I know. But we can't afford to be saints like her, Ismael!
261		
262	Ismael	Mr. Jerry wants us to live in the house if the Japs take over and
263		they're interned.
264		
265	Nida	I don't want our girls anywhere <i>near</i> the Japs!
266		
267	Ismael	That's what I told him. But I think I should stay.
268		
269	Nida	Ismael!
270		
271	Ismael	We can't desert the Crouters.
272		
273	Nida	No. Not after all these years, and I know they'd do the same for
274		us.
275	James al	De constitue de la la constitue de la constitu
276 277	Ismael	Do you know that they're going to split their food with us. 18
277	Nida	Isn't it strange Ismael? The people we know with the most
279	Niud	bayanihan turned out to be the Crouters of all people.
280		bayannan turned out to be the crouters of an people.
281	Ismael	Mr. Jerry brought up us siding with Japan. 19
282	isinaci	with Jerry brought up us stuffig with Jupun.
283	Nida	Again!
284		o~
285	Ismael	He was trying to give me an out. You know how he is.
_00		

¹⁷ Is was Nida and the laundress who sewed items for the Red Cross. See Natalie's <u>December 1, 1941</u> entry.

18 See Natalie's <u>December 26, 1941</u> entry.

19 This was discussed in <u>Episode 2, Scene 5</u>.

286 287	Nida	I know. What did you say?
288	Ismael	I got a little emotional.
289		. 800 a mana amananan
290	Nida	Oh Ismael. What did you tell him?
291		
292		
293		[SCENE TWO C] ²⁰
294		
295		[SOUNDS OF OUTDOOR AMBIENCE]
296		
297	Ismael	When are you leaving for Brent?
298		
299	Jerry	I don't know. Guess it all depends on the Japanese.
300		
301	Ismael	I was wondering because Nida helped Mrs. Crouter pack.
302		
303	Jerry	Have you tried picking up the luggage? How the hell did those
304		tiny, little women stuff that much crap into two suitcases?
305	lanca al	Verdre selies the common pages
306	Ismael	You're asking the wrong person.
307 308	Jerry	When we open 'em, it'll be like Fibber McGee's closet. 21 Hey, have
309	Jeny	you and Nida decided if you're gonna stay in Baguio?
310		you and Mida decided if you're goilla stay in bagaio:
311	Ismael	We're still not sure.
312		
313	Jerry	Well, if you do plan to stay and we're internedwould you and
314	•	Nida consider living in our house? 22
315		
316	Ismael	Of course, we'll take care of everything.
317		
318	Jerry	Yea, but if it gets too dangerous, justleave. Don't even hesitate.
319		Side with the Japs if you have to.
320		

²⁰ This scene is to show a Filipino perspective. I based it on Carl Romulo's thoughts from his *I Saw the Philippines Fall* and other sources as footnoted.

21 The popular radio show broadcast from 1935 to 1959. See https://www.fibbermcgeeandmolly.com/.

22 In Natalie's December 26, 1941 entry she writes about Ismael staying in their house, so they had to have asked him.

321	Ismael	I'll never do that!
322		
323	Jerry	You owe us nothing.
324		
325	Ismael	But I owe my country. The Japs are trying to push this Greater East
326		Asia [say Tagalog version of bull sh**] on Filipinos. Well guess
327		what! We're Malayan, Spanish, and American! We are our own
328		people! And this is <i>OUR</i> country! ²³
329		
330	Jerry	Ismael, I didn't mean
331		
332	Ismael	We'd never get independence from the Japs. And we're so close,
333		Mr. Jerry. It's our turn. It's our turn!
334		
335	Jerry	And it's gonna happen in '46.
336		
337	Ismael	Is it? You heard President Quezon's speech. If FDR says he has a
338		"well-planned" campaign against Japan, then why hasn't anyone
339		come to help!!! ²⁴
340		
341	Jerry	I don't know. I'm as angry about it as you.
342		
343	Ismael	Today I was walking by the Filipino Army's training camp and ran
344		into a gang of soldiers who told me that their American officers
345		abandoned them. ²⁵ What the hell??
346		
347	Jerry	Everyone's been sent to Bataan last minute. 26 They could have
348		missed their unit's orders?
349		
350	Ismael	I don't believe it.
351		
352	Jerry	It was probably a screwed up.

2

²³ Romulo, Carlos P, <u>I Saw the Fall of the Philippines</u>, pp. 36. Rumolo was a well-known reporter and pundit in Filipino popular culture, so I'm taking his views regarding how Filipinos defined themselves and their patriotism during this time

²⁴ According to this editorial, Filipinos were angry at Americans for not coming to the rescue:

https://www.thetrumpet.com/164-did-america-betray-macarthur-and-the-filipinos.

Miles, pp. 18. This incident was recalled by Miles. There was no timestamp as to when it happened but from the context it had to be shortly before December 25.

²⁶ Morton, Lewis, The Fall of the Philippines, pp. 152. MacArthur made the decision to go to Bataan on December 23, 1941.

353 354	Ismael	Or maybe the Americans bugged out on them.
355	Jerry	I really doubt that. Why would the Army leave soldiers behind
356		when they're so desperate for them?
357		
358	Ismael	These soldiers said that they were left behind to be killed. ²⁷ Is
359		America going hand the Philippines over to Japan?
360		
361	Jerry	No! God no!
362		
363	Ismael	Well, it doesn't matter because the Filipino Scouts are the best
364		fighters in the world! ²⁸
365		
366	Jerry	Are you planning to join up?
367		
368	Ismael	Nida and the girls have to be safe before I can even think about
369		volunteering.
370		
371		[FADE OUT]
372		
373		
374		[DIARY READING THREE]
375	[00]	
376	[SOUND	S OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]
377	Matalia	December 20, 4044, Brent Cabaal, Wakes lived a lifetima in the
378	Natalie	December 26, 1941 Brent School. We've lived a lifetime in the last three days. The worst of the rumors have come true, and this
379 380		time no one can deny them. The dynamiting of the Naguilian and
381		ZigZag trails was loud, clear, and <i>near</i> ! Then Balatoc mine's tanks
382		blew, sending thick smoke over the valley. But most frightening is
383		the undeniable sound of gun fire echoing up the trails nonstop,
384		like a broken phonograph record.
385		a 2. and i prioriograph record.
386		There's panic in the air, trees, and ground. While I write, men are
387		surely fighting, and probably dying, at the foot of our trails along
23.		

Miles, pp. 18.

Not just patriotic rhetoric. Filipino Scouts were well thought of by the U.S. Army. See https://armyhistory.org/the-philippine-scouts/ and https://www.philippinescouts.org/the-scouts/history/the-philippine-scouts.

388		the beach—and maybe closer.
389		
390		As the rumor that Japanese soldiers are now hiking up to Baguio
391		becomes more credible, the road out of town fills with terror-
392		stricken civilians and Filipino soldiers in trucks heading to the
393		lowlands to fight. ²⁹
394		
395		The Filipino women left for the Igorot barrios days ago. Thank God
396		Nida decided to join them with her girls. And Ismael, our loyal
397		Ismael, is staying here.
398		
399		Nida and I said our goodbyes in the kitchen. As I started to go out
400		the door, leaving Nida silent behind me, I was too near the
401		breaking point to turn around—but did. Nida looked so bowed
402		down that I went back and put my arms around her. We both
403		burst into tears as she clung to me sobbing.
404		
405		
406		[SCENE THREE] ³⁰
		•
407		•
		[HORN HONKING]
407		
407 408	Natalie	
407 408 409	Natalie	[HORN HONKING]
407 408 409 410	Natalie	[HORN HONKING] I'll be out in a minute! We're ready to head out to Brent School.
407 408 409 410 411	Natalie Nida	[HORN HONKING] I'll be out in a minute! We're ready to head out to Brent School.
407 408 409 410 411 412		[HORN HONKING] I'll be out in a minute! We're ready to head out to Brent School. When are you and the girls leaving?
407 408 409 410 411 412 413		[HORN HONKING] I'll be out in a minute! We're ready to head out to Brent School. When are you and the girls leaving?
407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414	Nida	[HORN HONKING] I'll be out in a minute! We're ready to head out to Brent School. When are you and the girls leaving? Pretty soon.
407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415	Nida	[HORN HONKING] I'll be out in a minute! We're ready to head out to Brent School. When are you and the girls leaving? Pretty soon.
407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416	Nida Natalie	[HORN HONKING] I'll be out in a minute! We're ready to head out to Brent School. When are you and the girls leaving? Pretty soon. Do have everything you need? I think so.
407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419	Nida Natalie	[HORN HONKING] I'll be out in a minute! We're ready to head out to Brent School. When are you and the girls leaving? Pretty soon. Do have everything you need?
407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418	Nida Natalie Nida	[HORN HONKING] I'll be out in a minute! We're ready to head out to Brent School. When are you and the girls leaving? Pretty soon. Do have everything you need? I think so. [HORN HONKING]
407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419	Nida Natalie	[HORN HONKING] I'll be out in a minute! We're ready to head out to Brent School. When are you and the girls leaving? Pretty soon. Do have everything you need? I think so.

²⁹ Sister Louise Kroeger unpublished memoirs from MacArthur archives. See 20210517_101848.jpg at ..Forbidden
Diary/MacArthur/Baguio-Bilibad Papers/Bettery Herold Heimke-Sr Louise Kroeger.

³⁰ Imagined from and based on Natalie's <u>December 26, 1941</u> diary entry.

423 424	Nida	Okay.
425 426	Natalie	You take care of yourself and get word to us so we don't worry.
427 428	Nida	I will.
429	Natalie	We'll be seeing you. Well, bye.
430 431	Nida	Goodbye.
432 433	[SOUN	NDS OF FOOTSTEPS, DOOR OPEN, AND PAUSE]
434 435 436	Nida	Oh Mrs. Crouter, I don't want you to go away or anything to happen to you!
437 438 439		[SOUNDS OF FOOTSTEPS AND HUGS]
440 441	Natalie	You either. I'm going to miss you terribly.
442 443 444	Nida	I've been so happy with you all these years. I don't want to lose June and Bedie!
445 446		[DIARY READING FOUR]
447 448		[SOUND OF WRITING AND FADE OUT]
449 450 451 452	Natalie	We kissed and comforted each other like sisters until Nida finally broke away and ran out the door still in a flood of weeping.
453 454 455		I joined Jerry and the kids in the car carrying a basket of food that Nida made for us and drove to Brent. ³¹
456 457 458 459		Until today, we've only stayed nights, sleeping on mattresses on a dormitory floor to the sounds of children crying and adults wondering in wakeful hours how soon the Japanese will arrive.
733		

This paragraph is an imagined transition, but I'm betting that Nida would have made a basket for the Crouters.

460 461		I don't think that there's anything more demoralizing that waiting for something horrible to happen. ³²
462		Tot something normale to happen.
463		Added to the misery are constant air raids. During one, Mrs.
464		Saleeby mentioned the looting in town. Sadly, nothing surprises
465		me these days.
466		
467		22
468		[SCENE FOUR] ³³
469	f= . aa. a	
470	[BACKGROUND OF R	ESTLESS PEOPLE; BABIES CRYING; THEN A SIREN GOING OFF]
471 472	Carl	Alright overvene down to the shelter! Come and Let's gol
472 473	CdT	Alright everyone down to the shelter! Come on! Let's go!
474	Natalie	Again. I was just getting back to sleep.
475	racane	, same that fact feeting saon to steep.
476	Jerry	Where's the flashlight?
477	•	
478	Natalie	Right here.
479		
480	Carl	No flashlights when we get outside. Just follow the person in front
481		of you.
482		
483	Natalie	Bedie, take daddy's hand. June, you take mine.
484	[c	IDEN CONTINUES, COUND OF FOOTSTERS
485 486	[5	IREN CONTINUES; SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS]
487	Natalie	It's too steep, and the kids are exhausted. Can't we just crouch
488	Nature	down by a tree Jerry?
489		
490	[SOUND O	F FOOTSTEPS AND MRS. SALEEBY OUT OF BREATH]
491	•	·
492	Mrs. Saleeby	That's what I'm doing. I'll break my neck going down that hill
493		again.
494		

495	Natalie	Then we'll stay with you Mrs. Saleeby.
496		
497	[SOUNDS OF PLAN	NES FLYING OVER; LAST IS VERY CLOSE TO THE GROUND]
498		
499	Mrs. Saleeby	Oh my! That one was close.
500		
501	Natalie	Sounds like they're done for now.
502		
503	Mrs. Saleeby	Did you hear what happened in town after they blew up the
504		trails?
505		
506	Natalie	It was disgusting. Most of the Filipino city officials left Baguio. I
507		hear that the previous Mayor is taking over. ³⁴
508		
509	Mrs. Saleeby	The police flew the coop too and a mob looted the Japanese
510		stores.
511		
512	Natalie	We were close by when it happened
513		
514	Mrs. Saleeby	Now that's just not right.
515		
516	Natalie	We saw people running off with boxes under their arms and sacks
517		of flour and sugar slung over their shoulders.
518		
519	Mrs. Saleeby	[HELPFULLY] But the police did return the next day.
520		
521	Natalie	A lot of good that did. The less said about it better, if you ask me.
522		
523		[FADE OUT]
524		
525		
526		
527		[DIARY READING FIVE]
528		
529		[SOUND OF WRITING AND FADE OUT]
530		

³⁴ Natalie doesn't mention the town officials were Filipino, but Fern Miles does. See Miles, pp. 17.

531 532 533 534 535 536 537	Natalie	Christmas morning started at 3 AM when the siren-to-congregate went off in long, endless shrieks. It was almost Pavlovian the way everyone jolted off the dorm floor from a sound sleep, instantly panicking that the Japanese had arrived. But it turned out to be a false signal. Evidently, someone's garage was on fire, so we crawled back to sleep with heavy coats under thick blankets.
538		A few hours later, in the damp dawn, we sat cross-legged around
539		our small pile of Christmas gifts and opened them one by one on
540		our mattresses. A unanimous family vote sent us home at noon
541		for a final splurge of turkey, candied yams, and Swiss peas. 35
542		Evidently the Japanese hadn't gotten the word that it was
543		Christmas, because two air raids left us breathless from tearing up
544		the hill to the shelter.
545		
546		The best Christmas gift came later in the day when Jerry and the
547		kids helped me make good on a vow to deliver Red Cross
548		Christmas bags to the Filipino and American soldiers at the
549		hospital. I'd started making them before the bombings, and, in
550		between air raids, the soldiers opened them on Christmas day!
551		Walking into the crowded wards and seeing those boys' faces light
552		up gave us such pleasure. When we left a group of about 18 with
553		malaria and wounds, a young soldier called out.
554		
555		50036
556		[SCENE FIVE] ³⁶
557	[n.	A CACADOTINID TOTAL OCTUBED.
558	[BA	ACKGROUND FOLEY OF HOSPITAL SOUNDS]
559	Soldier	Ma'am. Ma'am, do you think you could get us toothbrushes and
560	Solulei	, ,
561 562		toothpaste?
563	Natalie	I don't know, but I'll sure try.
564	Hatane	radir c know, buci ii sure try.
565	Jerry	Let's go see if we can buy them downtown. Chinese stores are
566	1	probably open.

³⁵ I borrowed the menu from Natalie's <u>December 27, 1941</u> diary entry. ³⁶ Imagined from and based on Natalie's <u>December 26, 1941</u> entry.

567		[SHOP BELL RINGING]
568		•
569	Shop Owner	Do you need help to find something?
570	·	
571	Natalie	We're looking for toothbrushes and toothpaste. Oh, here they are
572		right under my nose.
573		
574		[CASH REGISTER FOLEY]
575		
576	Shop Owner	That cost you 13 pesos. ³⁷
577		
578	Jerry	Here you go.
579		
580	Shop Owner	Thank you. It very good that some people have not left Baguio. So
581		many have gone.
582		
583	Natalie	Yes. Downtown is very quiet these daysif you don't count the air
584		raids.
585		
586		[BACKGROUND FOLEY OF HOSPITAL SOUNDS]
587		
588	Natalie	Nurse.
589		
590	Nurse	Yes.
591		
592	Natalie	I'm the lady who delivered the Christmas bags. Would you please
593		see that the soldiers get these as well?
594		
595	Nurse	Oh how nice! You know what, why don't I just give them to the
596		boys right now?
597		
598	Natalie	I'd really appreciate it.
599		
600	Nurse	My pleasure.
601		

³⁷ A quick Amazon search showed a toothbrush and small toothpaste run \$2.50. There were 18 soldiers, so that's \$45 which I converted to 1941 pesos at

https://www.historicalstatistics.org/Currencyconverter.html. Very rough estimate but best I could find.

602	Natalie	Thank you and Merry Christmas!
603		
604	Nurse	Merry Christmas to you!
605		
606		[SOUND OF WOMAN WALKING INTO THE WARD]
607		
608	Nurse	Hey fellas! Guess what! Special delivery from the Red Cross: new
609		toothbrushes and toothpaste.
610		
611	Soldier	There, what did I tell ya? See. The Red Cross can do anything!
612		
613		[COLD CLOSE]