



# The Defense of Malolos

**Spaniards Attacked Town To Regain Control, June 1, 1897--- Were Repulsed**

By MABINI REY. CENTENO

**T**O the people of Malolos, Bulacan—especially to the dwindling remnants of revolutionary heroes—the memory of June 1st, 1897, will linger with them to the end of their days. For it was on that date that Filipino patriots undertook the defense of Malolos, albeit with the loss of many lives, to keep back the Spanish troops that attacked the town from the northeast.



Gen. Isidoro Torres: successfully defended Malolos, Bulacan, in 1897.

wanted to regain it from the revolutionists.

### Two Days Preparation

By grapevine telegraphy, however, the plan of the Spaniards to attack Malolos came to the knowledge of General Isidoro Torres, commanding the town forces, two days before June 1st, the day for the attack. That gave the town and the revolutionists time to make defense preparations.

On June 1st the sky was overcast. Very early in the morning rain started falling. Then the six o'clock train, on which the Spaniards were expected, arrived at the station. As the train puffed in, the Spanish troops started firing. The attack on Malolos was on!

### Filipino Soldiers Deploy

The Filipino patriots, however, were ready for them. Defending the right side of Catmon bridge was a group of soldiers under Doro-teo Karagdag. Scattered along the railroad tracks that pass through Barrio Caniugan were other soldiers. Still another detachment under Catalino Francisco, Enting "Batangan," Vicente Villavicencio, all well armed, was defending the sector covering the Barasoain cemetery and the road leading to Catmon bridge.

The Spaniards had left the

station and were advancing towards the town. The battle continued for four hours without any respite. At ten o'clock one of Karagdag's men was taken away, wounded. A few hours later, the brave Enting "Batangan" was dead.

### Fighting "Kabisa" Dies

By this time, the Spaniards had taken Catmon bridge and crossed it.

Courageous revolutionists tried to check them, while "Kabisa" Ente (Vicente Villavicencio) led the defense firing behind a wooden mortar which he had rolled near the road to Barrio Liyang.

Without reinforcements, "Kabisa" Ente's handful of men kept the invaders at bay. But about 11:30 a bullet went through the

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**THE DEFENSE OF MALOLOS**  
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"Kabisa's" chin, killing him instantly. The patriots last words were: "Bayan ko!" (My country!)

*General Torres Grieved*

They carried the bloody body of the "Kabisa" to the town. General Isidoro Torres, commanding the defending forces, seeing the body of his dear friend, could not hold back the tears that welled in his eyes.

The rain continued, and the Filipinos were growing tired with hunger and severe cold. But they fought on, with General Torres shouting encouraging words of hope.

*Fresh Troops Arrive on Time*

The Spanish soldiers, with death-dealing rifles, had now reached the Barasoain church. Here, however, the revolutionists made another vigorous stand and the advance was halted.

At 4:00 p.m., when defeat was

almost sure, reinforcements from Hagonoy under the command of Captain Maximo Angeles arrived. Side by side they fought and together they forced the Spaniards to fall back. At sundown, the invaders were retreating. The Spanish troops built a fire near the railroad station and then retreated toward Calumpit. But General Torres followed them and before midnight the Castilian soldiers surrendered.

\* \* \*

**AS A THIEF**  
*Continued from page 47*

ris' cupboard, and that was presumably hers—though she didn't admit it—contained no arsenic; at least the analyst said it didn't, though as it smelt of lavender and had a red stain at the bottom, I feel convinced that it had Fowler's Solution in it. What do you think, Doctor? Don't you think the

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**MYSTERY SHROUDS WAITRESS' DEATH**



*Victorina Melgarejo: whose death is shrouded in mystery.*

early Tuesday morning of May 26th?

Victorina Melgarejo, 27, of 826 Int., Asuncion street, died at about 3:20 a.m. Shortly after, Eduardo and Emilio Jison, brothers, from a prominent Silay, Occidental Negros, family, were arrested on charges of homicide through reckless imprudence, but were released on bail of P1,000 each. They merely said "she had jumped out of the car."

Victorina left her house shortly before 7 o'clock the previous evening to go to work. She wore a NEPA sports dress, carried a red handbag and her Legaspi Garden waitress' uniform. She took a rig that brought her to the Rialto Studio on Calle Dasmariñas.

From there, vague reports state that Victorina was seen in a city theater with the young men, and later on in a dining place. Next, witnesses said they saw and talked with Victorina at 2 o'clock Tuesday morning at the Santa Ana cabaret. Two men, the Jison brothers, were with her, drinking beer while she took an orange ale.

The party left the cabaret at 2:30 o'clock. Half an hour later, Victorina's dead body, her skull smashed, was being picked up on the Dewey boulevard.

A taxi driver related that while he was conducting passengers to Pasay by way of the Dewey boulevard, he noted a closed car speeding from the south end of the drive. The speeding car suddenly jammed its brakes, backed up and men got out. He saw the men carry something inert inside the car. He gave the car's number, 21-541—the Jison car.

Eduardo and Emilio, accompanied by another, brought the girl to the Phil. General hospital, sought treatment for her, but Dr. Benvenuto R. Diño, night physician on duty, pronounced her dead. The police were called at 3:45 a.m.

Examined, the death car produced a defective front door; also it was found that the backseat was unusually mused up; the floor covered with blood spots and the ash-tray wrenched off the side. Tufts of the girl's hair and broken bits of glass, presumably from her handbag were among the things found in the back seat.

Dr. Sixto de los Angeles and Dr. Pablo Anzures, medico-legal experts, performed the autopsy, submitted their findings of contusions and abrasions on Victorina's body, and reported also tears (rips) and marks of dragging on the dress and chemise at the region of the buttock. They said she died of "extensive fractures of the skull and meningeal hemorrhage resulting from external violence."

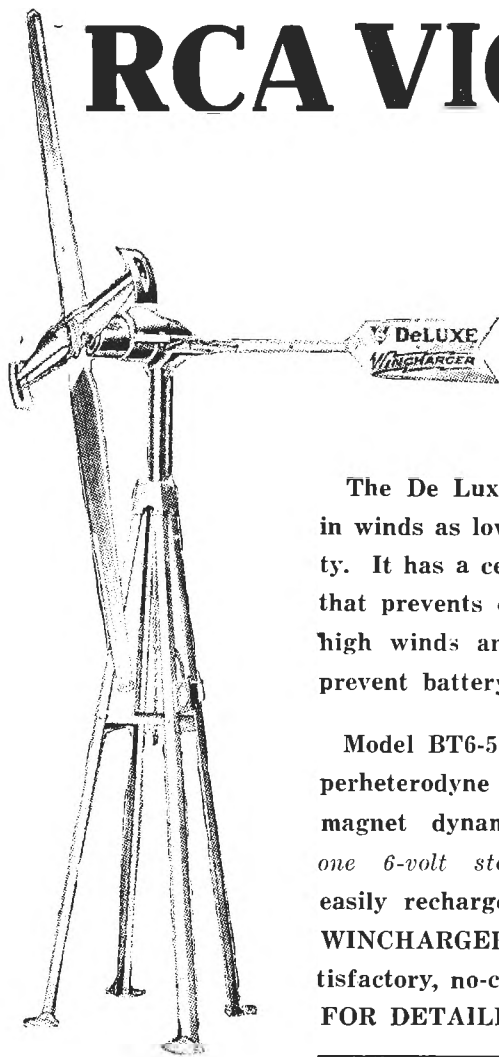
The first charges against the Jison brothers were altered to homicide by Fiscal Francisco Albert, and the bail was raised to P8,000 each.

\* \* \*

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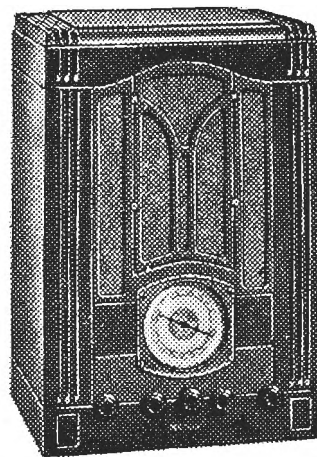
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