

NICARAGUA (Combat)

Subject: The Nicaraguan Revolution
(Military Situation)

From: M/A Nicaragua

Report No. 46

April 13, 1927

ACTIVITIES:

Referring to my radio No. 12 of April 5, Generals Viquez and Gomez continued their attack against Tierra Azul and the hills immediately west thereof on April 6 with about 1800 men, captured the town and advanced to positions south and east of the hills which covered the main avenue of escape in these directions; On the same date Generals Delgadillo and Reyes advanced south and east, through Muy Muy, with 1700 men to positions north and west of the hills to prevent Moncada's escape in those directions. By night April 6, Moncada's force of about 1200 men was completely surrounded on the hills west of Terria Azul by the three government armies totaling about 3500 men, yet on the 7th day of April the government forces rested and continued to rest until April 11.

Moncada's forces were known to be short of supplies and Viquez hoped to starve them out and capture them without further bloodshed. Viquez and Gomez attacked the enemy position on April 11 and Mena, after severe fighting, managed to escape with about 350 men in the direction of Matiguas with Cruz Hurtado in hot pursuit with about 500 men. When the government forces finally advanced to Moncada's position on the hills on April 12 they found the enemy had

abandoned it and broken up into small parties, most of which they report are retreating independently in the direction of San José de los Remates pursued by the armies of Delgadillo and Reyes.

The government claims that it has gained a decisive victory over Moncada, who is reported to be fleeing with eight or ten men toward Rio Negro with a view to reaching the Atlantic Coast.

The government reports that it captured 20,000 rounds of small Arms Ammunition, 135 rounds of Artillery Ammunition, 3 Cannon (obsolete), 5 Machine Guns and many rifles.

It is estimated that about 300 men were killed on each side. There are no figures available at this time on the number of prisoners and wounded.

It is impossible to state at this early date what effect the engagement will have on the continuation of the revolution, but it is probable that the small revolutionary bands will attempt to reassemble and carry on unless they are captured within the next few days.

Sources - American Legation, Nicaraguan Government, and personal observation:

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United States National Archives, College Park MD, Record Group 165, Entry 77,
Box 2660.

Transcribed by Nicholas J. Quadri.