somewhere in Bataan and that he expected to hear from Captain at 6 p.m.

From his house I rushed to Stanley Gen. Hospital where I confered with Colonel Carroll regarding my plans. Then I returned to the Red Cross Headquarters and arranged for 100 painters and sufficient paint to change its present color to white, with a huge Red Cross in the center of the sides and on the funnel.

At 3 p.m. I again called Collector de Leon and inquired if he would try to contact the "Apo". He assured me that he would endeavor to contact

the Captain. (Panopio). At 11 p.m. Mr. de Leon phoned me that he had not yet received any reply to his radio. I could not sleep. I was worried.

Dec. 29, 1941

At 5 a.m. I phoned Collector de Leon. His voice showed that he was worried. "I have not heard from the Apo", he said, "I fear that it may have been sunk." I decided to take other steps, if no reply were received at 6:30 a.m.

At 6:30 am I called up Mr. José (Peping) Fernandez one of the Managers of Companies

Maritima and told him that I had to see him on an important problem. I rushed to his house. He realized my predicament. "I can offer you ships, but they are not Liberty," he said. After studying my needs from all angles we decided that the best thing to do would be to ask the U.S. Army to release the S.S. Mactan.

We contacted Col. George in charge of water transportation and asked him to meet us at USAFFE Headquarters so that we could discuss the matter with General Marshall. We met at

8 a.m. and it was decided that the U.S. Army would release the Mactan to me to convert it into a hospital ship. The S.S. Mactan, I was told was in Corregidor and it would not be in Manila until after dark. I rushed to the Red Cross Headquarters and asked Mr. Forster to have the painters in readiness to start the painting without delay, as soon as the ship docked at Pier No. 7.

Last night Mr. Forster sent a telegram to the A.R.C. at Washington informing them of our plan.

At 11 a.m. Chester de Leon phoned me that the Apo was sailing for Manila that evening & thanked him and informed him that it was too late.

At 5 p.m. Mr. Wolff phoned me that they have received an important radiogram from the Secretary of State Hull and that my presence in the Red Cross was urgent to discuss the contents of this radiogram. I rushed there. Mr. Wolff, Mr. Forster, Judge Dewitt and Dr. Buss of the High Commissioner's Office were already busy studying the contents of Mr Hull's radiogram. It was

specified in it that the sending out of a Red Cross Hospital Ship was approved; that the Japanese government had been advised of its sailing through the Swiss Ambassador and that it was necessary that we radio such the name of the ship and the route that would be followed. Moreover we were told to comply strictly with the articles of the Hague convention of 1907. These articles define what is meant by Red Cross Hospital Ships, how it must be painted and what personell it must carry. It clearly specifies that

no civilian can be on the boat.

I left the Red Cross Headquarters at 6:30 pm. No news of the S.S. Mactan had been received. At 9 p.m. I called Dr. Canuto of the Red Cross, and I was advised that the ships had not yet arrived.

At 11 pm. I went to Pier No. 1 to inquire. No one could give me any information about the Mactan. There was a big fire in the Engineer Island. It had been bombed the previous day and the oil deposit took fire late this evening. The flames were very impressive & I left at 11:45 pm.

Dec. 30, 1941.

At 5 a.m. Mr. Williams of the Red Cross phoned me that the ships had arrived but that he was not willing to put the painters on because there was still some cargo & rifles and ammunition left. He informed me that the Captain (Ramayo) and the Chief Officer were in his office. I asked him to hold them. I dressed hurriedly and rushed to the Red Cross Headquarters. They repeated the information given to Mr. Williams. Believing that this cargo belonged to the U.S. Army I asked them to come with me to the USAFFE Headquarters. I had to awake General Marshall