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I was born in the year 1889. The city of Cogy situated  
in the tobacco center of Port Rico - called the Pearl  
of the Antilly -

My father - a photographer - my mother a midwife  
nurse & were Spanish descent - their parents having  
migrated from - Spain -

When I arrived at the age of 21 days my father  
Placido Ramos - died suddenly of heart attack  
leaving my mother Oliva Vasquez with 4 children  
two boys and 2 girls.

My brother Pascasio & my two sisters Beñit  
and Cruzito - died in an epidemic of black  
small pox. all within six weeks - leaving my  
mother by me alone in the world. At this time I had  
attained the age of 3 & I can remember my mother  
packing me on behind her on a saddle horse &  
traveling to Guayama - a sea port 20 miles away  
there to give me sea barks night & morning in  
order to keep me from getting the dreaded disease.  
Whether it is a cure or not. I was spared after  
having been exposed - My uncle Louis Morales  
saw to it that I had my daily plunge in the  
salty water. -

After this episode my memory was a blank until  
the year 1897. On a certain Sunday day the Indian  
women came from the hill and tell fortunes, I  
remember my mother objecting to my pleas to  
have my fortune told. She thought it a waste  
a money. I but I won out - The Indian woman  
said "Placido you will soon be crossing the  
ocean. You are going to live in a rich country  
you are going to be educated & you will be  
have a good rich life. Of course every one  
had a good life and..."

⑦ Kelaifu - my mother was very angry with me, and I was in the dog house for the rest of the day.

Within six weeks the American soldiers entered our town & the town was placed under martial law.

I became acquainted with the American soldiers and followed them wherever they went. Captain Hommel was in charge of the town - and on several occasions he had me eat at their mess hall, & I was very proud that he would hold me on his mess and tried to teach me English.

At this time our school instructor (our priest) instructed us not to fraternize with the American soldiers. If any one caught doing so would be punished severely - Considering it one of his business I continued to follow the soldiers.

One morning I was called to the Prof office and I was severely punished with a raw hide whip - I told ~~my~~ a little negro boy sitting next to me that if he would throw my hat down stairs he would never see me again, he immediately took up my clove and he never saw me again.

As I descended the stairs the American soldiers were marching out of town & I entered their ranks and after bedding my mother goodly I walked ~~with~~ for 15 miles before the soldiers realized that I was following them.

In the City of Atlanta Captain Hommel took me to an interpreter who was white with yellow face - I was told that I could not go - but I continued to march with them - Five miles out near the City of Atlanta - One of the soldiers told Capt

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Hommel that the little Porto Rico was still with them. He immediately told them to place me on top of one of the supply wagons.

Here I found myself with a little white poodle dog called Bourque - after the original name of Porto Rico - also in my management was a parrot in a cage, a Porto Rican monkey in another cage and 20 canary birds in a cage. When ever Capt. Hommel gave a command the dog would both end jump off the wagon only to be brought back for me to take care of. Many times the monkey would reach out between the bars of the cage & pull my hair - & my desire was to jump off the wagon and walk with soldiers.

Our next stop was Ponce. The port of embarkation. Here Capt. Hommel tried to get in touch with my mother but all efforts were fruitless.

One day a Major Williams a friend of Capt. Hommel came into our tent & after looking me over he remarked Capt. Why don't you adopt this boy and take him back to America. He is the picture of your two daughters. Capt. Hommel looked at me & right then and there ~~was~~ my future was decided.

We sailed on the Manitoa & after 6 or 7 days on the rough sea we reached New York. I was amazed - but not being able to ~~to~~ speak English I was compelled to keep my thoughts to myself.

The 2nd day in New York Capt. Hommel took me to the city & I was with him & I

I was doted with the best money could buy. You can imagine my joy - In America, American clothes - American food - Capt Hammel made up his mind that I should not be homesick and he out did himself. We were then placed on a train & never having seen a train I was very much surprised.

We next arrived to our destination in Millsville Wisconsin where I was received with enthusiasm - too much so I was showered with so much candy that I was possessed by it & my first week in my new home - I spent in bed.

After 2 1/2 years I had mastered the English language sufficient to be allowed to continue with my education - my courses of studies under Spanish instructors were so advanced over the American courses that I was allowed to advance from the 4th - to the 6th grade & from the 6th to the 8th - I graduated from the Millsville high school in 1910 - 1911 - 1912. I attended Carroll College at Wausau Wis - then I decided to study.

I then took the competition exam for West Point at Lacrosse Wis - against 70 post-graduates. I secured the appointment, was sent to West Point for final exams - but was unable to pass the Physical on account of my height -

I then entered Carroll College at Wausau Wis - where I spent 2 years - I then made up my mind to study medicine - finished my 2 years of medicine in 1914 and since Wisconsin only had 2 years of medicine I had to go elsewhere for my final 2 years, I entered Illinois University 1915 and graduated in medicine in 1916 - I then

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Here correct my future partner names :-  
In Sept of 1917 I was drafted in The Army  
received my commission - 1917. Went to France  
Feb - 1917. I served two years with The 2nd  
Division of Regiments Surgeon - Commissioned  
Capt in 1918 -

Discharge in 1920 - Located in Elkhorn in  
June 20th 1920 - And here I have been noted  
since