

Headquarters Forty-seventh Infantry, U. S. V.

Legaspi, P. I.,

Copy.

March 4th, 1900.

Assistant Adjutant General,  
Department of the Pacific.

Sir:-

I have the honor to report an eruption of the volcano Mayon (eight miles from Legaspi), commencing on March 1st in the afternoon about 2.30. At this time large stones could be seen thrown out with the naked eye.

The eruption fluctuated from time to time, but gradually grew worse until large streams of red hot lava could be seen at night flowing down the mountain, one of which has apparently reached the sea about six miles from here. For one day and night the eruption was accompanied by a rumbling noise at times increasing to a roar, which was very terrifying- all the houses in Legaspi shook, windows and doors rattling. On the morning of March 3rd this vibration and noise was very trying,- there was no wind and the clouds of smoke only could be seen reaching far into the heavens, perhaps five miles or more above the top of the volcano, this spread out and covered the town- the Sun became obscured and a thin cloud of ashes fell constantly. It cleared in the afternoon sufficiently to show about one half the crater at sun set, but the rumbling and roaring with the flow of lava continued all night.

This A. M. (March 4th) the eruption seems to be practically over, although smoke obscures the mountain and steam is still rising from the hot lava.

(Signed) WALTER HOWE.

COL. 47TH INF. U. S. V.