

pino people nor the rest of the world believed that the United States intended ever to withdraw. The Filipinos demanded immediate independence. When this was refused, they concluded that the Philippines had delivered itself of one foreign tyranny only to find itself burdened with another. A fierce and tragic fight followed. It ended only when numerically superior American forces, better trained, better fed and better equipped, made further resistance impossible. But the Filipinos were not conquered by guns alone. Finally they began to realize the honest efforts of America to help them make progress in every field of human endeavor and, through trial and error, to achieve the democratic way of life. President McKinley had declared:

"The Philippines are ours, not to exploit but to develop, to civilize, to educate, to train in the science of self-government. This is the path of duty which we must follow or be recreant to a mighty trust committed to us."

Each American President after McKinley said somewhat the same thing, in words of greater or lesser grace. During Wilson's administration, Congress enacted the Jones Law, promising independence when a stable government could be established in the Philippines. Eighteen years later, with President Roosevelt's recommendation, Congress kept the earlier pledge. The Tydings-McDuffie Act of 1934 gave the Filipino people an opportunity to write their own democratic constitution, establish the Commonwealth Government, elect a President, and prepare the inauguration of the full-fledged Philippine Republic in 1946.

That was America's record in the Philippines. It is the secret of Bataan. The Filipinos fought for the American flag, when it was attacked, because they knew they were fighting for their own freedom. And the Filipinos are still fighting the Japanese everywhere in the Philippines. Broadcasts from Tokio reveal this information when, now and then, they tell the world of executions of Filipinos en masse.

The forty-year record of American-Philippine collaboration is not merely an explanation of Bataan. It is a signpost for the future. For here, charted through trial and error, is the blueprint of the practical solution for working out the future destiny of dependent peoples after the war. Underlying the whole story of America in the Philippines is the promise of Filipino freedom made and kept. This is the essence of the Atlantic Charter, to which the United Nations are pledged. A return to the outworn ways of imperialism will sooner or later plunge mankind into another world war. For the millions who yearn for liberty, it would make little difference who their masters are, if masters they will have. Dictatorships or democracies are all in the same category from the point of view of the subjugated people, unless democracies mean to recognize their right to govern themselves.

Today in the Philippines, my people are suffering from want, from sickness, from lack of everything they had prior to the invasion. Their wages have been reduced. There is vast unemployment. Free speech and a free press are things of the past. In what was once the best-informed Eastern nation there are now only the skimpy, censored newspapers printing falsehoods from Domei. Filipino eyes are on America and Filipino hopes are for deliverance.

Filipinos remember what President Roosevelt told them while they were in the thick of the fight in Bataan.

"I give to the people of the Philippines my solemn pledge that their freedom will be redeemed and their independence established and protected. The entire resources in men and material of the United States stand behind that pledge."

The Filipinos are convinced that this pledge will be fulfilled. They know that, great as are their losses in men and property, much as they are suffering, their sacrifice is not in vain.

Even now, and before the invader has been expelled from my country, the freedom for which our ancestors and our own generation have fought and died is already a reality.

President Roosevelt has, in effect, already given the Philippines recognition as an independent nation.

He has recognized our right to take part in the Pacific War Council, with Great Britain, China, the Netherlands and the self-governing Dominions of Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The President of the United States himself presides over the Council table.

In the name of the Philippines, I am a signatory to the Atlantic Charter. We are one of the United Nations. And whether the war is ended before or after July 4, 1946, the date fixed for the establishment of the Philippine Republic. I am certain that we shall have our own representation in the Peace Conference. The only thing lacking is the formal establishment of the Philippine Republic, which will certainly take place as soon as the Filipinos have been freed from the clutches of the enemy and can exercise their full right to elect the officials of the Government of the Republic.

Moreover, by agreement between President Roosevelt and myself, studies are now being made for submission to Congress of the means to rehabilitate the Philippines economically and financially.

This is a real application of the Atlantic Charter, the unanimous statement of war aims by all the United Nations. It is the way in which the American people and the Filipino people can keep faith with the American and Filipino boys who died on Bataan and Corregidor.

Communicating with the Philippines

How can I send word to the Philippines? How can I hear from my folks there? These are two questions uppermost in the minds of many people now in the United States who have relatives and friends in Japanese-occupied Philippines.

Latest information from the American Red Cross is that the situation now is very much like what it was last year immediately after the fall of the Philippines. American Red Cross authorities have not, however, given up hope that their attempts to effect contact between interested parties in the two countries through the International Red Cross in Switzerland may in the near future be successful.

At present any person may file a message of not more

than 25 words at the nearest local chapter of the American Red Cross. The message, written on a standard civilian message form, along with others, will be sent to the Red Cross Headquarters in Washington, which in turn transmits it to the International Red Cross at Geneva, where arrangements are being made with the Japanese Government to allow these messages to be delivered to the addressees now living in the Philippines. It is expected that after successful contact has been made with people in the Philippines, messages from them will find their way eventually to the United States.

There have been few cases of personal messages by cable from the Philippines reaching the United States. So far, however, there are no records in the American Red Cross Headquarters in Washington showing that any of the messages from this country have reached their destination in the Philippines.

In addition to 25-word messages which are transhipped to the Philippines, cables may be sent to the Philippines through Geneva by way of Tokyo. Although the American Red Cross does not guarantee delivery of these cables, the International Red Cross is making every pos-

sible effort to get each one through to the individual addressed. Charges for this special service vary in accordance with existing rates for such cables.

Another question frequently asked by Filipinos in this country concerns their anxiety to send money to relatives in the Philippines. For the present there is no way by which money may be sent to the Philippines. Chances for such an arrangement during the war are slim.

It is known that headquarters of some religious organizations in the Philippines have received information about missionaries in certain sections of the Philippines. The same is true of head offices of commercial houses engaged in business in the Philippines at the outbreak of the war.

To date there is no known list of casualties and prisoners of the Philippine Army, which comprised the bulk of the heroic defenders of the Philippines. A list of casualties in the Philippine Scouts is available at the War Department.

Meanwhile it appears best to wait and keep in close touch with the local chapter of the American Red Cross for the latest developments in the negotiations to reach people in the Philippines by letter or by cable.

PHILIPPINES GIVEN RECOGNITION AS INDEPENDENT NATION

"President Roosevelt has, in effect, already given the Philippines recognition as an independent nation."

This definition of the present political status of the Philippines is contained in a radio speech delivered by President Quezon last February 20. The speech is destined to be one of the most important documents in the political history of the country not only because it is the first official account of the developments that have led to what is tantamount to recognition of the Commonwealth as a sovereign state but also because it was made with the knowledge and approval of the President of the United States. ". . . by our loyalty to the American flag, we won a battle greater than we lost." With these words, President Quezon highlights the history of Philippine-American relations from the establishment of civil government to the Battle of the Philippines.

The message was broadcast by shortwave to the Philippines and was intended primarily to reach the Filipinos whom Premier Tojo is now trying to win over with promises of "independence." Because of its significance, however, it was also released for publication in the United States by the Office of War Information. The full text of the speech follows:

MY BELOVED COUNTRYMEN:

ONE year ago today I began my long odyssey which started from Corregidor and ended in this great capital of the United States. It is now my duty to report to you on what we have accomplished during this year.

I do not have to tell you that from the first day of the

invasion of our country by Japan, the Japanese have directed their propaganda at convincing you that Japan is our friend and liberator. Your answer, our answer, has been to fight them to the bitter end. The flower of our youth died side by side with their American comrades in defense of our country, our liberties, and the American and Philippine flags.

The surrender of Bataan and Corregidor did not end that epic struggle. Even the broadcasts from Tokio that now and then tell of the stern and cruel measures taken by the Japanese Army in the Philippines against Filipinos, reveal that our people have not accepted defeat, and as best they can, they are still fighting the invaders at whatever cost.

Full text of the radio message delivered by President Manuel L. Quezon to the people of the Philippines on February 20, 1943.

BUT Japan is bent upon winning your good will by every possible device—if she can. Knowing that independence is the cause for which our forefathers fought and died; knowing, too, that we have stood by America because she has made good her pledge to make our people free and independent, Japanese propaganda has been insistently telling you that you must not have faith in America, and that the independence of our country will only come from Japan.

In line with this policy of deceit, Premier Tojo, at the last session of the Imperial Diet, has again reiterated his statement made last year that Japan is ready to grant independence to the Philippines. Assuming that tomorrow Japan was to declare the Philippines an independent nation, what would that mean? It would merely mean that the Philippines would be another "Manchukuo"—a government without rights, without powers, without authority. A government charged only with the duty to obey the dictates of the Japanese rulers. After the tragic end of