

Filipinos Hear from Quezon On Memorial Day

IN a Memorial Day address broadcast to the Philippines, President Quezon paid tribute to the memory of the Unknown Soldier whose story of "unflinching courage and loyalty unto death . . . is written in blood, in the forests and hills of Bataan and on the rock that is Corregidor."

The President said: "Memorial Day this year finds us still engaged in the grim task of winning the war. Behind us are memories of blood and suffering, of battles fought and lost. Ahead of us is the hope and promise of certain victory. While we move steadily forward to that certain day, it is well for us to pause a moment and pay tribute to the memory of the Unknown Soldier. From his gallant example we must gather strength and vision for the giant, grim task that lies ahead of us. His was unflinching courage, his was loyalty unto death. His story is written in blood, in the forests and hills of Bataan and on the rock that is Corregidor.

"It is a story of supreme sacrifice. He and his comrades fought to the bitter end, knowing that they themselves had no hope. They were a lost battalion—men doomed to certain defeat. And yet, when the Battle of the Philippines was over, Secretary of State Cordell Hull could say to the world: 'Corregidor and Bataan stand for reverses that are but preludes to victory.' For there is such a thing as losing in victory, and winning even in defeat. Our soldiers fought a forlorn-hope battle, and they lost. But not in vain. For with their blood they have earned for us the respect of the world, the undying friendship of America, the comradeship of thirty-one United Nations. Shoulder to shoulder with these gallant allies we shall, in God's good time, march onward to victory."

CONTINUING, he reminded our countrymen in the Philippines that the same promise of independence given by Premier Tojo during his visit to Manila was given to the men of Bataan and Corregidor, who paid no heed to it because they knew what had happened to China, Manchukuo, and Korea.

"Not many weeks ago, on the anniversary of the Fall of Corregidor, Premier Tojo came to Manila to reiterate Japan's promise of independence. That same promise had been given to the men of Bataan and Corregidor. But there was only one answer, and that answer was sounded at the mouth of their guns. Those men knew history. They have read it as it is written on the face of China, Manchukuo and Korea. They knew that surrender to Japan could only mean one thing—the surrender of our human freedom and dignity—the death of our ancestors' dream of a free and independent Philippines.

"That is why they fought though they knew that they themselves had no hope. And though we mourn over their graves today, though our country groans under the iron heel of the invader, still we know in our heart of hearts

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Alberto Navarrete . . .

Japanese planes followed. And so, temporarily at least, all was quiet again on the Bataan eastern front.

Capt. Navarrete, the hero of this brief encounter, is a slender and tall, handsome lad, so bashful and unassuming that the honor that came upon him as his due as a result of this intrepid action, must have embarrassed him no little. He was only doing his duty was his self-effacing remark.

Born in Pangasinan and educated in Philippine public schools, he was a third year engineering student at the Mapua Institute of Technology when he enrolled as cadet in the Philippine Constabulary Academy from which he graduated in 1935.

Where his brother-in-arms Capt. Molina was gay and full of life, Navarrete was pensive, and much too serious for his young years. He is noted for his pleasing personality and quiet efficiency.

The last time he was heard from—it was the latter part of February—he and his men in their frail, speedy Q-Boats were still patrolling the coasts of Manila Bay, hoping to make good and real to the bitter end that little phrase of a song, Navarrete and his men learned in school and knew by heart:

*"Ne'er shall invaders
Trample our sacred shores"*

Pedro Q. Molina . . .

Capt. Molina, or P. Q. as he was popularly known, is a thoroughly progressive young Filipino. Nearly six feet tall, naturally athletic, well-built, and fair complexioned, he held his own among all officers of the corps. With his genial camaraderie and winning personality, he made friends among officers and enlisted men.

Educated at the Ateneo de Manila, he joined the Philippine Army a few years after the passage of the National Defense Act, and in 1938 came to the United States to study.

He took up flying at Randolph Field, Texas and later enrolled for advanced instruction in Kelly Field. He also underwent training in Chanute Field, Illinois. He returned to the Philippines in the spring of 1940 with his American wife, a former army nurse in Texas, Miss Virginia James Dickson. She is a native of Oklahoma. Incidentally, the Captain is a nephew of President Quezon.

It is presumed that Capt. Molina is now a prisoner in one of the Japanese prison camps somewhere in the Philippines. But wherever he may be, those who know him well and remember him with fondness, believe that he must be spreading cheer and hope among his fellow prisoners, for a prison camp does not kill the spirit of a soldier like P. Q.

Filipinos May Now Become Officers In U. S. Merchant Marine

SUCCESSFUL negotiations have just been concluded by the Philippine Resident Commissioner with the Secretary of the Navy, through the Department of the Interior, to allow qualified Filipinos to become officers in the United States Merchant Marine.

A year ago the Resident Commissioner obtained from the Secretary of the Navy a waiver of the statutory citizenship requirement "to permit citizens or subjects of the Philippine Islands to be employed as unlicensed members of the crew of vessels of the United States, irrespective of the limitation of the statute as to the percentage of aliens who may be so employed."

SOON after the acceptance of the Philippine Independence Act or on June 25, 1936, Congress passed the Merchant Marine Act, which in effect included Filipino seamen among those classified as aliens by not permitting them to serve in American vessels, cargo or passenger, except within the limitation of the 25 per centum quota, allowed to aliens. On June 29, 1936 another Merchant Marine Act was passed under which Filipino seamen were further excluded from serving in subsidized American cargo vessels. Under this act, Filipino seamen were permitted employment only as members of the Stewards' Department in subsidized American passenger vessels if they fell within the limited percentage of aliens allowed for employment.

The pertinent provisions of the Merchant Marine Act of June 29, 1936, are as follows:

"Section 302 (a) All licensed officers of vessels documented under the laws of the United States, as now required by law, shall be citizens of the United States, native-born or completely naturalized; and upon each departure from the United States of a cargo vessel, in respect of which a construction or operation subsidy has been granted, all of the crew (crew including all employees of the ship) shall be

citizens of the United States, native-born or completely naturalized.

"(b) For a period of one year after the effective date of this Act, upon each departure from the United States of a passenger vessel, in respect of which a construction or operation subsidy has been granted, all licensed officers shall be citizens of the United States, as defined above, and no less than 80 per centum of the crew (crew including all members of the ship other than officers) shall be citizens of the United States, native-born or completely naturalized, and thereafter, the percentage of citizens as defined above shall be increased 5 per centum per annum until 90 per centum of the entire crew, including all licensed officers of any such vessel, shall be citizens of the United States, native-born or completely naturalized.

"(c) Any member of the crew not required by this section to be citizens of the United States, may be an alien only if he is in possession of a valid declaration of intention to become citizen of the United States, or other evidence of legal admission to the United States for permanent residence. Such alien as defined above may be employed only in the stewards' department on passenger vessels."

SINCE the enactment of this Act, thousands of Filipino able seaman, who have served in the United States Merchant Marine vessels for many years, had been removed from the service, being neither citizens of the United States, native-born, nor completely naturalized.

It is apparent that the suspension of the provisions of this Act as they affect Filipinos, has been made possible through the Second War Powers Act, 1942, which gives the Secretary of the Navy the authority to waive compliance with the navigation laws to the extent deemed necessary in the conduct of the war.

Furthermore, this suspension by the Secretary of the Navy, of the citizenship requirements for officers and unlicensed seamen on the United States Merchant Marine vessels, has opened a new avenue for Filipino Seamen toward further participation in the all out war efforts of the United States.

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that their answer was the only answer to the challenge of freedom—for only those are fit to live in freedom, who are not afraid to die for freedom."

Concluding his address in Tagalog, he reiterated our determination to keep faith with the honored dead, and our hope of final allied victory.

"Mga kababayan: Ang araw na ito ay iniuukol sa mga namatay sa pagtatanggol ng kanilang bayan at ng kala-yaan. Tayung mga Filipino ay dapat sumumpa minsan pa na hindi tayo itigwil hangang hindi matamo ang mithi ng ating mga kapatid at anak na namatay sa Bataan at Corregidor. Ang araw ng ating tagumpay ay darating. Umasa kayo."

IN the same broadcast, Mrs. Quezon addressed herself to

"the mothers of the Philippines, especially those who lost their sons" during the war. She said:

"We are the Guardians of the home. In this holy citadel we must resolve to preserve at whatever cost our Christian ideals, our Christian culture, our Christian way of life. We must preserve the Filipino home, as our soldiers in Bataan and Corregidor would want us to—as the symbol of all that is true and beautiful, of all that is worth fighting for and dying for."

Father Pacifico Ortiz, of the President's staff, also spoke to the Filipino people. He said that in honoring the memory of the Unknown Soldier, "we honor each and every one of our soldiers who died for our country." He stated that it was "tragic" that "we should call him the Unknown Soldier," for "he is not really unknown to you, he might have been your own son, father, husband or sweetheart."