

HERE AND THERE

MacArthur Day

ON SUNDAY, June 13, Filipinos of Los Angeles, particularly soldiers of the Filipino Nationals Reserves, observed the second MacArthur Day, with prayers for the victory of the General, at a pontifical high mass in St. Vibiana's Cathedral. The mass was celebrated by Bishop Joseph T. McGucken and presided over by Archbishop John J. Cantwell. The latter gave a papal blessing to the congregation. He said:

"It is with unfeigned pride that we salute our Filipino brothers in arms today. . . . General MacArthur has referred to the reconquest of the Philippines as our Holy Grail. On those native isles was enacted the full measures of our gallantry—Americans and Filipinos fighting shoulder to shoulder, fighting and dying for all our sanctities.

"We are mindful, then, of them in our prayers to the Most Mighty God; mindful of those who died, of those who linger in prisoners' chains, of their families and friends. May our quest end soon and may peace come dropping fair upon that lovely land from the merciful hand of God."

Spiritual director of the Filipinos was the Rev. John Daly, moderator of the Catholic Filipino Association of America.



Missing

REPORTED missing in the European theater of operation is Tech. Sergt. Simon E. Alojado, who joined the Air Corps shortly after the fall of the Philippines. His brother, Manuel E. Alojado of Washington, D. C. is employed in the film production section of the War Department.

Sergt. Alojado was born in Antique. He studied in Philippine public schools before coming to the United States six years ago. He was noted for his ability in mathematics in his student days at Northwestern University in Chicago. He was also a champion chess player. He completed his training as Flying Fortress crew chief at Kearney, Nebraska, and left for overseas duty last March.



Vice-President Osmeña Praises Gallantry of Chinese People

ON the sixth anniversary of the Japanese invasion of China, Vice-President Sergio Osmeña issued the following statement in tribute to "the bravery, tenacity, heroism and spirit of sacrifice of the great Chinese people":

"On the sixth anniversary of China's fight against Japan, the sympathy and admiration of the Filipino people go out to the valiant Chinese people. We who have also faced the fury of Japanese aggression with little more than bare fists appreciate fully how indomitable must be the will, how strong the faith, and how true the courage of the

Facts on the Philippines

THE POPULATION of the Philippines (18,000,000) is greater than that of any country in the Western Hemisphere, except the United States, Brazil and Mexico. Its land area (115,600 square miles) is greater than that of the British Isles.

The printing shop of Santo Tomas University, in Manila, is the oldest in the world today. It has been under the same management since early in the 17th Century.

Filipinos settled in America around 1710. They arrived in Louisiana, and were known as Malays, but their descendants today still claim to be Filipinos. One of their settlements, not far from New Orleans, has long been known as Manila Village.

The Philippines, after discovery by Ferdinand Magellan in 1521, was known as *Islas del Poniente* (Islands of the West). In 1543, the archipelago was renamed *Islas Filipinas* (Philippine Islands) in honor of the Spanish crown prince who later became King Philip II. In 1935, when the Philippine Commonwealth constitution was adopted, the official name became simply the Philippines.

The first school established by the Americans in the Philippines was opened on Corregidor Island less than one month after the victory of Commodore George Dewey over the Spanish Fleet.

The Philippine flag was turned upside down on December 8, 1941, when the Japanese attacked. By law, the flag is flown with the blue on top in time of peace, and the red in time of war.

More Filipinos were killed in the Battle of Bataan alone than the total of Americans killed on all fronts—land, sea and air—everywhere in the world during the first year and a half since Pearl Harbor.

As a guerrilla officer during the Philippine insurrection, Manuel L. Quezon finally surrendered to General Arthur MacArthur on the peninsula of Bataan. More than forty years later, as President of the Philippines, Quezon led the Filipino people through the bitter fighting on Bataan by the side of Arthur MacArthur's son—General Douglas MacArthur.

Chinese people. Through six long years of painful and arduous struggle, they have carried on admirably amidst dispiriting handicaps and against formidable odds. They have proved that no sacrifice is too great for the sake of liberty, freedom and democracy. More than this, from the ashes of each bloody setback, the Chinese people have risen stronger, more resolute and more united than ever.

"Today, the Filipino people join all freedom-loving nations in saluting the bravery, tenacity, heroism and spirit of sacrifice of the great Chinese people. Just as we are bound together in the fight against the common enemy, so do we look forward with faith and confidence to the time when the Chinese and Filipino peoples will work together in the peace that will follow the victory of the United Nations."