

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

Korea's independence, in utter disregard of a solemn pledge to respect it, it would be worse than folly to rely on any promise made by the Japanese government.

Vis-a-vis Manchukuo and Korea, let us go over our association with the United States:

COINCIDENT with the organization of Civil Government in the Philippines in the early years of the American regime, the Filipino people enjoyed, for the first time in their history, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of worship, and all the other freedoms guaranteed in the Bill of Rights. Neither the President nor the Congress of the United States could deprive the Filipinos of these rights, for they were under the protection of the Constitution of the United States itself.

With the help of the United States, we made steady progress in every field of human endeavor and rapid advance in the practice of self-government. At last America gave us complete autonomy on matters affecting our domestic affairs, preparatory to the establishment of the Philippine Republic which was set for the Fourth of July 1946. We were a happy and prosperous people when Japan, without the slightest provocation on our part, brought sufferings, death and havoc, and destroyed every vestige of freedom in our country.

BUT our sacrifices have not been in vain. By our decision to fight by the side of the United States, by our heroism, and by our loyalty to the American flag, we won a battle greater than we lost. Our decision and our heroism have won for our people real freedom for all time.

You know what President Roosevelt said in his proclamation to the Filipino people on December 28, 1941. These were his words: "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 materials of the United States stand behind that pledge."

Nor only that. President Roosevelt has, in effect, already given the Philippines recognition as an independent nation.

ON my arrival in Washington, he rendered me honors due only to the heads of independent governments. He met me at the railroad station with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Interior, members of the Supreme Court and other high officials. Mrs. Quezon and I were his official guests at the White House.

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 over 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.

JAPAN now promises you independence. That promise means less than nothing. Our independence is already a reality, since the President of the United States, by his several official acts enumerated above, has given recognition to the Philippines as possessed of the attributes of full nationhood. The only thing lacking is the formal establishment of the Philippine Republic. This cannot happen until our country is liberated from the invader—until you, my fellow citizens, can exercise your full right to elect the officials of the Government of the Republic.

On January 6, 1941, President Roosevelt said:

"In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms.

"The first is freedom of speech and expression—everywhere in the world.

"The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way—everywhere in the world.

"The third is freedom from want—which, translated into world terms, means economic understanding which will secure to every nation a healthy peacetime life for its inhabitants—everywhere in the world.

"The fourth is freedom from fear—which, translated into world terms, means worldwide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such a thorough fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbor anywhere in the world."

THOSE are the Four Freedoms for which we fight. They will come after the victory of the United Nations. When that glorious day arrives, the Filipino people will enjoy the blessings of these four freedoms—freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want and freedom from fear. The first two need no elaboration. You have known and exercised them before this war began. But, in the past, the other two have only been the hope and the ambition of our people.

Now we can look forward to these human rights with the assurance of their realization after the war. We shall secure for every Filipino the satisfaction of the basic human needs which are the rights of all men—food, clothing, and shelter, and economic opportunity. With the help of the United States, we shall rebuild our ravaged land, and make of it a prosperous member of the family of free nations.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT and I have already agreed that studies be made now for the economic rehabilitation of the Philippines, so that we shall be ready to proceed with the gigantic task of rebuilding our country as soon as the enemy is expelled.

As for the fourth freedom—the freedom from fear of aggression—we have before us, not only the commitment in principle of the United Nations, but also the pledge of the Government of the United States, as given by President Roosevelt in his proclamation to the Filipino people. In furtherance of this pledge, President Roosevelt has au-

thorized the State Department to discuss with me the question of our future security and of the safeguarding forever of the mutual interests of the United States and the Philippines in the Pacific area.

I GIVE you my solemn assurance that the Philippines is not being neglected. The President, the Congress, the American people, are doing and will do everything in their power to redeem you as soon as possible from the heel of the invader.

I have been authorized by the President of the United States to tell you that the text of this broadcast has been submitted to him, and that "he is very glad to authorize me to make the statements concerning United States policy which are contained in this broadcast."

My beloved countrymen, you know that day and night

Here and There

PHILIPPINE government pensionados and fellows of the University of the Philippines in the United States were among the first to follow the fight or work policy. Although they were sent to this country by the Philippine Government to specialize in various technical and cultural fields, most of them voluntarily gave up their studies at the outbreak of the war to engage in essential war work. Among those who are already in the armed forces of the United States are an expert on tariff and customs administration, an animal breeding specialist, an architect, two chemical engineers, a graduate in banking, an obstetrics and a cancer specialist. Those who have taken up research work, directly related to the war, include a radio engineer, designers and electrical engineers in bomber plants and researchers on foods; one pensionado is a mathematics instructor in an army school. A mining engineer graduate is now connected with the Federal Bureau of Mines in a technical capacity. An economics specialist is a Far Eastern expert in the Office of Strategic Services.

Not to be outdone, the women pensionados in their respective fields—chemistry, nursing, and war information, are likewise engaged in the all-out effort to win the war and assure the peace.

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THE OFFICE of the Philippine Resident Commissioner reports that to date there are 44 Filipino National Councils and Community Organizations, distributed as follows: California 16, Alaska 3, Washington 2, Arizona 2, Florida 1, Illinois 1, Maryland 1, Massachusetts 1, Michigan 1, Missouri 1, New Jersey 1, New York 1, Pennsylvania 1, Wisconsin 1, District of Columbia 1. These councils and community organizations are recognized by the Office of the Philippine Resident Commissioner and official contacts are made with them on matters pertaining to the rights and interests of Filipino nationals in their respective communities.

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I can only think of you, of the day of your redemption and my return to our beautiful Islands. I would not be here, I would not have left you for a moment, I would have been sharing with you your sufferings and your hardships if I did not feel that I could only be of service to you by my being free from the clutches of the enemy.

DO NOT despair, for our liberation is certain. It may take time, but it will come. Meanwhile, don't let the Japanese fool you. Use your wits and beat him at his own game. Above all, you must continue to have faith in America who has kept faith with every nation, and especially with us. Our bonds of friendship tempered in the heat of battle, will last beyond the war and into the peace of freedom, general well-being and safety that will follow it.

God bless you and keep you all.

THE Philippine Center at 151 West 72nd Street, established as a meeting and recreation place for Filipinos in the metropolitan area and Filipinos visiting New York, was officially opened on March 5.

The Center was created with the cooperation of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines. Major Benvenuto R. Diño, of the staff of President Manuel L. Quezon, has been appointed head of the center. Major Diño, a Philippine Army medical officer, accompanied President Quezon on his epic journey last year from Corregidor to the United States via Australia.

The Center provides without charge an attractive, spacious hall for meetings and social affairs of the Filipino National Council, Filipino Women's club, the Filipino Community Center, Filipino Association of Long Island, Filipino Nurses Association, Filipino-American Citizenship Council, Legionarios del Trabajo and several other Filipino social and civic organizations.

It also furnishes writing desks and stationery, and parlor games for visitors. Thousands of Filipinos in the armed services of the United States are expected to take advantage of the facilities at the Philippine Center.

The Center plans to give free lectures regularly on the Philippines, to which the general public will be invited.

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RECORDS in the Nationals Division, Office of the Philippine Resident Commissioner, show that 7,790 Certificates of Identity have been issued to Filipinos as of March 22, 1943. The Certificate serves the purpose of establishing Philippine nationality in lieu of a birth certificate. Loss of certificate should be reported immediately to the Office of the Philippine Resident Commissioner. These can be replaced only by filing an affidavit stating when, where and how they were lost.

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THE House of Representatives passed on March 1 a bill "to revise the Alaska Game Law," which would classify Filipinos as United States citizens for the purpose of this law only, so that they could get licenses as residents of Alaska.

(Continued on page 10)