

Roosevelt, Quezon Broadcast to the Philippines Promise of Early Liberation from the Enemy

ADDRESSES by President Roosevelt and President Quezon were broadcast to the Philippines by shortwave.

President Roosevelt said in his address. "I give the Filipino people my word that the Republic of the Philippines will be established the moment the power of our Japanese enemies is destroyed. The Congress of the United States has acted to set up the independence of the Philippines. The time will come quickly when that goes into full effect. You will soon be redeemed from the Japanese yoke and you will be assisted in the full repair of the ravages caused by the war."

The address was given on the forty-fifth anniversary of American occupation of the Philippines. In his broadcast, President Roosevelt emphasized the fact that our country won its undisputable right to freedom and its place among the free nations of the world during the heroic stand at Bataan and Corregidor. He said:

"When the Filipino people resisted the Japanese invaders with their very lives, they gave final proof that here was a nation fit to be respected as the equal to any on earth, not in size or wealth, but in the stout heart and national dignity which are the true measures of a people."

In his address, the President also took occasion to assail the "Made-in-Japan" brand of independence promised by Tojo. President Roosevelt warned the Filipinos "to stand firm against the false promises of the Japanese."

The text of the President's speech follows:

"TO THE PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES:

"On December 28, 1941, three weeks after the armies of the Japanese launched their attack on Philippine soil, I sent a proclamation to you, the gallant people of the Philippines. I said then:

"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."

"We shall keep this promise just as we have kept every promise which America has made to the Filipino people.

"The story of the fighting on Bataan and Corregidor—and indeed everywhere in the Philippines—will be remem-

bered so long as men continue to respect bravery and devotion, and determination. When the Filipino people resisted the Japanese invaders with their very lives, they gave final proof that here was a nation fit to be respected as the equal to any on earth, not in size or wealth, but in the stout heart and national dignity which are the true measures of a people.

"That is why the United States, in practice, regards your lawful government as having the same status as the governments of other independent nations. That is why I have looked upon President Quezon and Vice-President Osmeña, not only as old friends, but also as trusted collaborators in our united task of destroying our common enemies in the east as well as in the west.

"THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT is a signatory of the declaration by the United Nations, along with thirty-one other nations. President Quezon and Vice-President Osmeña attend the meetings of the Pacific War Council, where the war in the Pacific is charted and planned. Your government has participated fully and equally in the United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture, and a Philippine representative is a member of the Interim Commission created by that Conference. And, of course, the Philippine government will have its rightful place in the conference which will follow the defeat of Japan.

"These are the attributes of complete and respected nationhood for the Philippines, not a promise but a fact.

"As President Quezon himself has told you, 'The only thing lacking is the formal establishment of the Philippine Republic.' These words of your President were uttered to you with my prior knowledge and approval. I now repeat them to you myself. I give the Filipino people my word that the Republic of the Philippines will be established the moment the power of our Japanese enemies is destroyed. The Congress of the United States has acted to set up the independence of the Philippines. The time will come quickly when that goes into full effect. You will soon be redeemed from the Japanese yoke and you will be assisted in the full repair of the ravages caused by the war.

"We shall fight with ever-increasing strength and vigor until that end is achieved. Already Japan is tasting defeat in the islands of the southwest Pacific. But that is only the beginning.

President Quezon Approves Cooperative Plan

IN BEHALF of the Philippine Government, President Manuel L. Quezon has given his approval in principle to a plan laid before him for a more active and effective participation of Filipinos in the United States and Hawaii in the post-war reconstruction of the Philippines.

The plan, sponsored by Mr. Manuel Adeva, Nationals Division Assistant to the Philippine Resident Commissioner, was warmly received and unanimously approved by the delegates attending the Fifth Annual Convention of the Filipino Inter-Community Organization of the Western States, which was held in Stockton, California, from July

1st to July 4th. The plan was also presented after the convention to the Filipinos in Vallejo, Fresno, Reedley, and Oxnard where it was likewise enthusiastically approved.

According to this plan, the Philippine Government in Washington will receive for safekeeping United States War Bonds owned by Filipinos who voluntarily agree to deposit these with the Philippine government for the duration. Cash deposits will be converted into U. S. War Bonds in the name of the depositor. These bonds may not

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"I call upon you, the heroic people of the Philippines, to stand firm in your faith—to stand firm against the false promises of the Japanese, just as your fighting men and our fighting men stood firm together against their barbaric attacks.

"The great day of your liberation will come, as surely as there is a God in heaven.

"The United States and the Philippines have learned the principles of honest cooperation, of mutual respect, in peace and in war.

"For those principles we have fought—and by those principles we shall live."

President Quezon assured our countrymen in the Islands that they "will soon learn of heavy action in the Pacific theater—action which will mark the beginning of the defeat of Japan." He urged them to "take courage" and to bear in mind that "Japan is not invincible."

His address, delivered on August 19, his 65th birthday, follows in full:

"MY BELOVED COUNTRYMEN:

"For the second time since the Japanese invasion of our Islands, I observe my birthday anniversary far away from you. Today, even more than any other day, I wish that I could be with you to share your hardships and your tribulations. But even while on Corregidor I had to make the hard decision that I knew would keep me away from the Motherland until I could return with the forces of liberation and independence. The months have been long since the day of my departure but, as they have passed, it has become more and more clear that the time of redemption is not far off.

"Today every effort is being made by Japan to convince you that she will grant you independence. Perhaps she will. Perhaps, as she has declared Burma independent, she will declare the Philippines independent too.

"To those of you who, in good faith, may take such independence seriously if it is granted, I offer a reminder of the fate of the people of Korea and of Manchuria and the other occupied provinces of China. They know full well how unreal that independence is and how lacking in liberty.

"To those of you who may believe that Japan is invincible, I say, take courage. Japan is not invincible. The truth is that she is on the decline. Month after month, her

troops are meeting defeats on the battlefields of the South Pacific. Her fleet is being decimated.

"The military picture today is most encouraging. On the Russian front the German allies of Japan have suffered a series of defeats from which they cannot recover. In Southern Europe the indomitable troops of the United States, Canada and Great Britain have occupied most of Sicily, and Italy lies faltering at their feet. The Italian leader who not so long ago was boasting of the invincibility of his Fascist regime has resigned, and his party is crumbling under the wrath of his own people. Italy is no longer of any consequence in this war.

"Closer to our own land, the brave men under General MacArthur are continuing their offensive against the Japanese. The strategically important air base of Munda has fallen into our hands. More victories are planned, and I can assure you that you will soon learn of heavy action in the Pacific theatre—action which will mark the beginning of the defeat of Japan.

"The President of the United States himself, in his broadcast to you on Occupation Day, the 13th of this month, said: 'The great day of your liberation will come as surely as there is a God in Heaven.' President Roosevelt makes no promises lightly. He spoke with the power and might of the strongest nation on earth standing behind every word he said.

"The President also renewed his pledge made on December 28, 1941, that the freedom of the Philippines will be redeemed and their independence established and protected. And he confirmed what I reported to you on the occasion of the first anniversary of my departure from Corregidor, namely, that the United States, in practice, regards the Government of the Philippines as having the same status as the governments of other independent nations, and that the only thing lacking is the formal establishment of the Philippine Republic. He assured us that this will be done the moment the power of Japan is destroyed, and that we will be assisted in the full repair of the ravages caused by the war.

"The speech of President Roosevelt is the best gift that you and I can receive on this anniversary of my birthday, and my last word to you today is to keep your faith in President Roosevelt and in the American people.

"God bless you all."