

MAJ. GEN. BASILIO J. VALDES, Chief of Staff of the Philippine Army, informed the Filipino people that America has seized the offensive initiative in the Southwest Pacific.

Disclaiming any attempt to raise false hopes, he answered the question, "How soon will the Japanese be driven out of the Philippines?" in the light of developments in the first fourteen months of war.

"There is no doubt that America has begun the job of beating Japan," he said. "It will take a long time yet of bitter fighting to bring her to her knees. But whether it takes months or years, one thing is certain—the job is going to be done, and done uncompromisingly."

The General concluded with President Roosevelt's address to the American people in which the President declared: "We do not expect to spend the time it would take to bring Japan to final defeat by inching our way forward from island to island across the vast expanse of the Pacific. Great and decisive actions against the Japanese will be taken in the skies of China—and in the skies over Japan itself. The discussions at Casablanca have been continued in Chungking with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek by General Arnold and have resulted in definite plans for offensive operations. There are many roads which lead right to Tokyo. And we're not going to neglect any of them."

Quezon Pleads for Pacific Aid

EXPRESSING grave concern over recent reports of Japanese naval concentration in the island arc north of Australia and a new Japanese mass air offensive on allied Southwest Pacific bases, President Manuel L. Quezon issued this statement on April 15:

"The whole world knows that my heart is in the Philippines; and I cannot forget that the fate of the Filipino people, who are now under the iron heel of a ruthless enemy, is bound up with the course of the war in the Pacific.

"Japan must not be allowed to make further gains. She must not be granted time to devote all her energies to consolidating her position and mastering the immense natural resources now available to her—resources even greater than those available to Hitler. To give Japan the chance to do these things would mean very serious risks for the United Nations and would raise tremendously the price of her ultimate defeat in lives and in sacrifices.

"I hope, therefore, that steps will be taken—and taken immediately—to strengthen our arms in the Pacific, at least enough to stop Japan in her tracks.

"It is true that, in waging this global war, many cold-blooded decisions must be made. There have been, and no doubt will continue to be, times when whole battlefronts and even whole nations will be considered temporarily expendable in order to win the final victory. But it is impossible for me to conceive that the entire Far East is expendable."

JAIME HERNANDEZ, Auditor-General of the Philippines, assured the Filipino people that the Commonwealth Government will be as financially sound at the end of the war as it was before the Japanese invasion of the Philippines.

The Auditor-General reported that practically all the funds of the Philippine Government were saved from Japanese hands and that the interest accruing to Government bonds and funds on deposit in the United States is sufficient to meet the much-reduced expenses of running the Government, the payment of interest on Government bond issues, and the payment of allowances to Government pensionados and to young Filipino students stranded in the United States.

Mr. Hernandez stated that the Commonwealth Government is keeping its expenses within its limited income.

"We are saving every peso we can for the day of victory," he said. "And when that day comes, as come it must, your Government will be financially prepared for the gigantic task of our country's reconstruction."

This he believed possible through continued cooperation between the United States and the Philippines. He concluded, "With the economic assistance of the United States, we can face the future with confidence. With God's help, we can look forward to a greater, stronger, more prosperous Philippines."

Tribute to Wainwright

On April 19 President Quezon paid tribute to the gallant defender of Bataan and Corregidor, Lt. Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright, on the occasion of the President's participation in the state ceremonies honoring General Wainwright and the heroes of Bataan and Corregidor, at Hartford, Connecticut.

He reminded his audience that in thus rendering due honor to General Wainwright, who was the son of the State, they should remember that they owed him more than a citation.

"You owe him," President Quezon emphasized, "the pledge that he will soon be freed from the prison camp; that the flag of freedom will again fly over Corregidor, and that the Filipino people will be liberated from the invader, governing themselves under the independent Republic they will establish after the enemy is driven out."

The full text of the President's address follows:

"I have come to share with you the sentiments that inspire this official recognition, by the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, of the gallantry and heroism of that great soldier, Lieutenant General Jonathan M. Wainwright, and his American and Filipino officers and men.

"The memory of those desperate days of fighting in the Philippines is always with me, and my heart is pierced by that memory. I think of those fighting men—yours and

ours—battling side by side until the bitter end. Their weapons were practically those of a bygone military age. They fought against an enemy superior to them in numbers, an enemy armed with all the modern tools of war. And yet, they held him at bay for a time. But, in the end, they were defeated by the cruel combination of bullets and bombs, hunger and disease, and sheer fatigue.

"I am proud of that memory—as you all must be, too. For, in the language of General MacArthur, no army has done so much with so little.

"From the first day of the war, Jonathan Wainwright was in the front lines, facing the enemy and brilliantly executing the plan of defense laid out by General Headquarters.

"MacArthur and Wainwright—they made a superb team. And they commanded a superb body of men. Only such a combination of military leadership and fighting forces could have climbed to the heights of human glory where rests the name of the men of Bataan and Corregidor.

"General Wainwright was given supreme command of the heroes of Bataan and Corregidor after General MacArthur was ordered to proceed to Australia. No soldier ever faced inexorable destiny with more bravery than did General Wainwright, nor ever led his troops toward certain

doom with greater glory. He lost the battle. But he won the admiration of the world for his army of Filipinos and Americans—he won the respect of mankind for his country and the Philippines—he won a future freedom and security for the Filipino people who had fought by his side.

"Now General Wainwright is a prisoner in the hands of a ruthless enemy. The flag for which he risked his life has been hauled down. His men lie in bloodstained graves under the skies of Bataan, or they languish, with him, in the enemy's prison camps. And the seventeen million people of the Philippines are enslaved.

"You people of Connecticut are rendering due honor to a great General who is the son of a proud State. But you owe Jonathan Wainwright more than this.

"You owe him the pledge that he will soon be freed from the prison camp; that the flag of freedom will again fly over Corregidor, and that the Filipino people will be liberated from the invader, governing themselves under the independent Republic they will establish after the enemy is driven out.

"Then, and only then, will it be said that those who suffered and died in the Battle of the Philippines have not died in vain."

Vice-President Osmena Stresses Cooperation, Defines Criteria for Lasting Peace

A SIGNIFICANT basic refrain runs through Vice-President Sergio Osmeña's speeches, delivered before American and Filipino audiences in various sections of the United States—that of Filipino-American cooperation, which found crystallization in the Battle of the Philippines, and which should continue to endure in the hard years ahead.

Never is this more clearly presented than in a speech the Vice-President delivered before the Philippine Society of Southern California, on December 5, 1942.

"The exemplary cooperation between the United States and the Philippines is not new," he said. "It is the logical continuation of a cordial relationship that took root many years ago and grew warmer as the years ripened. Suspicious and even hostile at first, the Filipino people learned to trust America because of her sincerity. In 1901, even before the end of the Filipino-American war, the Filipino people first showed their conciliatory attitude by participating in the first municipal elections held under American sovereignty. Then, in 1907, the first Philippine Assembly was established. The Filipino people, through their chosen representatives, decided upon a policy of complete cooperation. From that time on, a real partnership between the United States and the Philippines began."

This important theme is also emphasized in other addresses the Vice-President has delivered—in his first speech at the United Nations Rally at Boston, on June 14, 1942; at the Institute of Pacific Relations in New York, on July 13, 1942; in Cincinnati, Ohio, before the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, on August 31, 1942; before

the American Women's Voluntary Services of New York City, on October 9, 1942; and more recently, before the Bendix Aviation Plant Employees of New York.

In one of his most solid and constructive addresses, delivered at the 47th annual meeting of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on April 10, 1943, he said: "Peace, if it is to be lasting, can only be a people's peace, and force is not enough to achieve it. Within the domains of a people's peace force must be supplemented by the maintenance of justice, and the cultivation of understanding, goodwill, and cooperation among peoples. But, before we can ever hope to achieve harmony and cooperation, we must first dissipate the distrust of subject peoples, for it is principally to them that the United Nations address the democratic principles of the Atlantic Charter. This war, in the military sense, may or may not be won without their active collaboration, but an enduring peace can not be established without their whole-hearted support."

The full text of the Vice-President's speech follows:

THE United Nations are engaged in a war for survival. They are fighting the diabolical attempts of the exponents of force to subject the whole world to perpetual slavery by depriving mankind of all rights and liberties within the four walls of the so-called "new order". A common danger has brought them together, but more lofty aims have also impelled them in their struggle.

The United Nations are fighting to establish a new world of freedom and justice, of equality and progress, not for a