

"NEWS" from the PHILIPPINES

PLEAS and threats broadcast by Tokyo for over a year have unwittingly told the world a story of unending resistance by unconquered Filipino and American soldiers against the Japanese invaders of the Philippines.

On July 2, 1943, in what amounted virtually to a battle communique, the Japanese reported on the operations against Filipino forces on the island of Cebu. This statement declared that the Japanese forces, "since the start of operations in Northern Cebu March 10, have been defying every hardship in the achievement of the pacification campaign and on the night of June 13, the unit commander, accompanied by members of his unit, launched a surprise thrust on the bandit headquarters and freed three native prisoners and captured four of the enemy, as well as a quantity of munitions."

On many occasions since the fall of Corregidor, the Japanese have announced the "complete pacification" of the Philippines. But they continue to report the surrender of groups of "guerrillas" and "bandits," as the enemy calls the Americans and Filipinos who refuse to submit to Nippon's new order. The Japanese propaganda machine plays up to the limit stories of the "surrenders," giving names and ranks of captured leaders and quoting statements purport-

edly made by them about the kindness and courtesy extended to them by Japanese military authorities.

By JAPANESE ADMISSION, Filipino "guerrillas" and "bandits" have been destroying communication lines and storehouses and distributing anti-Japanese handbills. Oftentimes they engage the Japanese in bloody skirmishes.

Here are some of the contradicting items spewed by the enemy radio:

On April 2, 1942, a week before the fall of Bataan, Tokyo confidently announced "complete restoration of peace and order on Luzon." On May 4, 1942, shortly before Corregidor's capitulation, Tokyo admitted that "the cleaning-up campaign is continuing on Luzon" and accused Filipino-American forces of "sacking, raping, setting buildings on fire and fleeing into the hills."

On June 28, 1942, Tokyo stated that Filipinos could be made men of good character if they cooperated with the Japanese. Only four days before, the Japanese had announced the execution of eight Filipinos for distributing anti-Japanese pamphlets on "day of all days" — the Emperor's birthday.

On November 3, 1942, Tokyo again admitted that Japan had been forced to send an expedition to clear out the last strongholds of resistance in the Cuyo Islands. On March 19, 1943, the Japanese controlled Manila radio called for the "pacification of Mindanao."

The Japanese have promised independence for the Philippines this year "but only on condition that peace and order" reign throughout the country.

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that the results exceeded all expectation. In the first place, the first meeting of all the United Nations had removed all doubt that these nations can really work together, at least on some subjects. Although it is true that controversial subjects were in the main avoided, it is also true that delegates discussed each other's problems with understanding and sympathy. Contacts were eagerly sought and made, friendships established, toasts drunk to the next meeting.

Out of the conference arose the first formal organization and secretariat of the United Nations. An Interim Commission has been established in Washington to which

all the countries represented have sent representatives. This Interim Commission, which has already met, will draft the detailed organization of a permanent organization to carry out the recommendations of the Conference. Acting for the President, who was away on a vacation, Vice-President Osmeña designated Joaquin M. Elizalde, Resident Commissioner, to represent the Philippines on the Interim Commission.

The first conference of the United Nations had started the ball rolling. Other conferences are already scheduled; relief and rehabilitation, trade and commerce, mineral resources, are topics that may soon be the subject of discussion by the United Nations.

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