

QUEZON SAYS IDEAL IS SET FOR WORLD

**He Hails Our Record in the
Philippines as Hope for All
Lands Seeking Freedom**

POINTS TO FILIPINO DEAD

**Statement Marks Anniversary
of Commonwealth—Sayre
Predicts Japan's Ousting**

The following statement was issued to mark the seventh anniversary today of the Philippine Commonwealth:

**By MANUEL L. QUEZON
President of the Commonwealth
of the Philippines**

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14 (U.P.)— Under the command of General MacArthur, in 1941 and 1942, some 20,000 Filipino soldiers were killed in action in the Philippines before American and Filipino resistance was overwhelmed.

Nobody compelled them to fight—these 20,000 Filipino soldiers who died and their 75,000 comrades who fought to the last. They were fighting because they were determined to keep the large degree of freedom which was already theirs, and to protect the final, complete independence which they knew was definitely to be theirs in 1946 under the Philippine Independence Act. This act was passed by the United States Congress and signed by President Roosevelt in 1934.

In these days of global war, the story of American-Filipino cooperation is something that every citizen of the United States ought to know and take pride in.

Hails Our Accomplishment

America accomplished something in the Far East which explains exactly why the Filipino people were willing to spring to arms and fight so fiercely when attacked by the Japanese. In that accomplishment is the real reason why those 20,000 young Filipinos were willing to lay down their lives in the hour of our common peril.

Luckily, the United States started out, after the Spanish-American War, with none of the "experience" and prejudices of the so-called "colonial powers." As a result, America treated the people of the Philippines as human beings entitled to a square deal, rather than as helpless subjects fit only to be ruled and exploited for selfish gain.

The United States wisely promised the Philippines a system of democratic government modeled on American institutions. By an act of the United States Congress, the Commonwealth of the Philippines was formally created in 1935 with a pledge that my country would become a completely independent republic in 1946.

Thus, years before the principles of the Atlantic Charter were enunciated, America was already applying those principles in actual practice and was proving that the Filipinos, or any other people, given a fair chance, can successfully arrive at democratic self-government.

Occasion of Significance

The whole process of democracy in the Philippines, under the administration of the United States, is the more remarkable when you remember that the Philippines consist of 7,000 islands spread over 750,000 square miles, comprising a total land area about equal to that of the British Isles.

If the Japanese had not subjected the Philippines to ordeal by fire in 1941 and 1942, the seventh anniversary of the Philippine Commonwealth on Nov. 15 would be no more than a patriotic observance of interest chiefly to the people of my country.

But with the coming of this global war, in which the Filipinos have undergone the terrible trial of battle, death, invasion and occupation by the enemy, this anniversary becomes an occasion of significance, not only to Filipinos, but also to freedom-loving men everywhere throughout the world.

What has been done cooperatively by the United States and the Philippines can be done by the United Nations in the world of tomorrow, throughout the whole Southwest Pacific and wherever men yearn for liberty and the right to work out their own destiny.