

truce, and tell him as a Tokyo radio broadcast said Yamashita told Lieut. Gen. Percival at Singapore and probably Lieut. Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright at Corregidor: "I want your replies to be brief and to the point. I will accept only unconditional surrender. Answer yes or no."

THE KILLER OF BATAAN

The reported return to the Philippines of Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita to take command of Japanese forces in the islands is particularly fitting, and probably is welcomed by General MacArthur. It is Yamashita's second visit there. In the spring of 1942 he was sent to the Philippines to take over from Lieut. Gen. Masaharu Homma when the latter's campaign stalled in front of the desperate defenders of Bataan and Corregidor. Ruthlessly throwing his men against the American and Filipino defenders, Yamashita finally succeeded in beating down the half-starved, wholly-sick remnants of the original forces. He still was in command presumably when the death march from Bataan was made. If Yamashita did not order the march, he surely could not have been unaware of it and he did nothing to halt his blood-thirsty troops in their barbaric cruelties. What little is known of him in this country bears out the impression his photographs give of a heartless, unprincipled barbarian.

The most successful of the Japanese field generals, conqueror of Singapore as well as Corregidor, General Yamashita's reassignment to the Philippines at this critical moment adds further proof for the belief that one of the decisive campaigns of the Pacific war is shaping up there. Japan is determined to hold the islands at any cost. A stalemate probably would be considered a victory.

It should be a very pleasant occasion for General MacArthur when he is able to receive Yamashita under a flag of