

28 March, 1945

FILIPINOS ASK IMMEDIATE INDEPENDENCE

WASHINGTON, March 27 - Jaime Hernandez, Finance Secretary of the Philippine Commonwealth said today that the Philippines want their independence on July Fourth, 1946 or sooner despite the fact that their islands have been ravished by war. He was commenting on the suggestion of Paul V. McNutt, former High Commissioner of the Philippines that independence of the Commonwealth be deferred until the islands recover from the ravages of war.

Hernandez said "political and economic questions are entirely distinct. There is no question in the mind of any Filipino that he desires his independence at the time promised by Congress or earlier."

He said most Filipinos would prefer "independence with hardship to political trust with economic benefits."

LUFTWAFFE VIRTUALLY GROUNDED

LONDON, March 27 - As Allied bombers went back to strategic bombers after the bombing prelude to the Rhine offensive, Lt. Gen. Ira Eaker, chief of the Mediterranean Air Force declared the German Air Force is "virtually grounded" due to lack of fuel as the result of allied attacks on refineries.

Two synthetic oil plants, a gun factory and an armor factory in Southeast Germany were attacked today by over 300 escorted American bombers.

The heavy bombers split into two task forces over Leipzig. One went for the synthetic oil plant and natural oil refinery at Zeitz, 20 miles south of Leipzig, while the other flew to Plauen, ten miles from the Czechoslovakian border and blasted factories.

RAF Mosquito bombers attacked Berlin again last night for the 34th consecutive night.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS CAN BE FOUND IN THE  
TROOP COMMANDER'S OFFICE

2 - carbines, Nos. 1685976 and 116500.

SOUTH FORMOSA BLACKED OUT BY BOMBS

GUAM, March 27 - Continuing the air attacks on Formosa, heavy bombers escorted by fighters flew from the Philippines yesterday dealing crippling blows on Formosan power facilities. The bombers hit the Jitsegetsu Hydro-Electrical plant which supplies the main power for the island's industrial areas.

General MacArthur announced that 145 tons of 2000 pound bombs were dropped on targets wrecking power plants, transformers and leaving water pouring from broken penstocks. Fighter bombers also attacked the Takao factory area starting large fires.

Following the study of reconnaissance photographs, an Air Force staff officer said the "whole southern two-thirds of Formosa and its war industries will be seriously hampered or even permanently cut off as a result of attacks. He said all southern Formosa will be forced to black out and that possibilities of repair is remote because all the transformation stations were destroyed and generators received a number of direct hits.

WARNS AGAINST QUICK PACIFIC VICTORY

WASHINGTON, March 27 - In his annual report covering combat operations for the year beginning March 1, 1944, Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King, Commander in Chief of the United States Fleet and Chief of Naval Operations, warned that a "quick and easy Pacific victory can not be taken for granted even after the European war is over."

While stating that the "war is ahead of our expectations of last year," he pointed out that "we are only now gaining positions from which we can assault the inner defenses of the Japanese empire itself."

Contrasting the war in the Pacific with the land campaign in Europe, Admiral King stated "there are times in the Pacific when the troops are beyond the range of naval gun support but much of

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7 ALLIED ARMIES SMASH NAZISOKINAWA HIT BY NAVY AGAIN

GUAM, March 27 - Carrier aircraft of the U. S. Pacific Fleet attacked airfields and other installations on Okinawa in the Ryukyus Monday. Shore installations on the island were brought under fire by fast battleships. During these operations our forces were attacked by a small group of enemy aircraft of which six were destroyed. One of our light units suffered some damage.

An enemy air attack on Iwo Jima Sunday and Monday night was broken up by our Black Widow night fighter planes. A number of enemy bombers were destroyed off the island. No hostile planes reached the island.

NAZIS SAY REDS ADVANCE ON BERLIN

LONDON, March 27 - The Berlin Radio today reported that nine Russian divisions were attacking on the Berlin front west of Kustrin toward Seelow, 25 miles east of Berlin. There was no confirmation from Moscow.

In an Order of the Day, Marshal Stalin announced that Red Army troops have captured the Czechoslovakian city of Banska Bystrica on the west bank of the Hron river, 120 miles east of Vienna.

Banska Bystrica, former headquarters of the Czechoslovak underground movement, was captured in a new offensive launched north of the Danube. It was the fourth launched by the Russians up the Danube and

(Cont'd on Page Two)

SHAEF, PARIS, March 27 - With the crossing of the Rhine by the U.S. Seventh Army announced today in an Associated Press dispatch, seven Allied armies were pushing into the heart of Germany seeking a knockout blow. The Seventh Army made the crossing without either air or artillery support. No details have been received of where the crossing took place.

A powerful U.S. First Army tank column broke through the German lines in a 22 mile gain smashing into the town of Limburg, 32 miles northwest of Frankfurt on the Main where the Third Army was battling. The dispatch from this front stated "There is no solid line in front of the First Army now."

Two divisions of the Third Army were now 136 miles inside the Reich.

Austin Belmer, Associated Press correspondent, reported that the entire Western front was exploding in what might become a direct menace to Berlin. American and British forces in the north have driven 15 to 17 miles beyond the Rhine against bewildered enemy resistance bypassing the great arsenal city of Essen.

The United States Third Army has entered the southern section of Frankfurt, Germany's ninth largest city with a peacetime population of 546,000. The U.S. Ninth Army was battling in northern suburbs of Duisburg, great Ruhr port on the Rhine.

Not stopping to conquer Frankfurt, Patton's Third Army dashed on 10 miles east of Frankfurt to the Main river opposite

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HOW TO MAKE SENS OUT OF YEN

Army troops aboard the Neshoba after learning through bitter experience with Filipino laundry women the shape, color, size and value of various Filipino peso and centavo pieces now must face even greater difficulty in their poker and crap games making change in yen and sen.

Financial experts on the DEADEYE staff, after studying this problem carefully, report it is simple if you disregard the hen-tracks on the beautifully printed blue, pink and green bank notes, they are Oriental hieroglyphics of some possible meaning to the natives.

Just remember this, there are a 100 sen to a yen. But don't think a sen is worth a penny. A yen is valued at ten cents, making a ten sen bill, the lowest denomination printed, worth a penny. It takes a ten yen to make a dollar.

If you are tearing out your hair at this simple explanation, here is a schedule to follow which can be pasted near what serves as your poker table.

10 Sen	is worth	1¢
50 Sen	" "	5¢
1 Yen	" "	10¢
10 Yen	" "	\$1.00
20 Yen	" "	\$2.00

WARNS AGAINST QUICK VICTORY: Cont. from F.4

the fighting has been, is now, and will continue for some time to be on the beaches where Army and Navy combine in amphibious operations. Therefore the essential element of our dominance over the Japanese has been the strength of our fleet."

He reported that the Navy had participated in 72 actions against the enemy in the Pacific, Atlantic and the Mediterranean during the past year including 24 landings in the Pacific, 35 carrier force attacks and two major naval engagements - those of the Philippine Sea and the Leyte Gulf."

NOW HEAR THIS  
by Feinstein

While helping clean up our quarters this morning, we recalled a police-up detail during the Leyte campaign which certainly rates tops in this branch of military endeavor.

Occupational disease of all soldiers during the campaign from generals to privates was dysentery, popularly known as the "G.I.'s".

Suffering from this ailment, one Deadeye company commander spent a sleepless night punctuated by periodic visits to the latrine and horrible dreams of huge slant-eyed flies landing on piles of carabao dung, taking on loads of dysentery germs, and then taking off for bombing attacks on the chow line. In the morning he decided something must be done about this situation.

With sudden inspiration, he sent a detail of men armed with shovels into the river paddy surrounding the bivouac area to follow the herd of carabao which was gaily romping in the mud and police up after them.

In contrast to the mental efforts displayed by this officer we would like to tell of the genius of a Pfc in a rifle company in meeting a critical situation.

The doughboy's company facing the Japs in the foothills west of Dagami had a most intricate defense system. All outposts were linked by telephone and at any signs of an attempted Jap Banzai attack, the sentry could call for mortar fire immediately from the heavy weapons section.

While contemplating the shadows in front of him, the Pfc thought he detected movement not more than 15 yards away from him in the tall kunai grass. Visions of grinning Japs, all educated in American colleges and speaking fluent English, popped into his mind. He thought if I phone back for help, they certainly will hear every word I say. With true American ingenuity, he picked up the phone and yelled, "Ickquay, endsay up an areflay."

The flare sent up in response to his request revealed nothing. Still we believe that had there been Japs present, boy, would they have been fooled.

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ALLIED ARMIES: (Cont'd from Page One)

Hanau and 13 miles southeast to Aschaffenburg. This city lies 235 miles from Berlin, 140 miles from Czechoslovakia, and 250 miles from the Russians closing in from the east.

As the Allied armies in the west rolled up successes in the supreme bid to bring the war in Europe to a swift conclusion, a conference was held east of the Rhine by four top American generals. General of the Armies Dwight Eisenhower met with Gen. Omar Bradley, Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges, and Lt. Gen. George Patton.

REDS ADVANCE: (Cont'd from Page One)

in Silesia in a converging drive on Vienna. Moscow said that the enemy had shifted forces from Italy and the sagging Western front to defend the Austrian capital.

HITLER CONFERS WITH TOP NAZIS

LONDON, March 27 - A conference which will probably consume the entire German aspirin supply was reported today by the London Evening News. It stated that Adolph Hitler had called a meeting of all his ministers and gauleiters to be held in his Berchtesgarden retreat tonight as Allied advances along the Western Front spread alarm among Nazi officials.

IWO MARINES TAKE FRISCO

SAN FRANCISCO, March 27 - Between 600 and 700 battle torn and weary Marines have arrived in Frisco today from Iwo Jima.

JAP DEFEAT IN BURMA GROWS

CALCUTTA, March 27 - British Twentieth Armored Division troops have pushed ten miles northward along the railroad leading out of Kume to capture Myittha, important rail and road junction in central Burma. The Fourteenth Army headquarters announced that the Japanese have lost 16,500 counted dead since January. In the recent fighting south of Mandalay, the Japs have lost 250 field pieces and are believed to have only 100 field guns left in the Fourteenth Army sector.

South of Kume in the vicinity of Meiktila, Japanese were suffering heavy casualties in an effort to check the flow of supplies to Allied forces in that area. Northwest of Meiktila in the Taungtha - Myingyam area, the enemy are resisting fiercely.

JAPS GAIN IN CHINA OFFENSIVE

CHUNGKING, March 27 - Steady gains were chalked up by the five-pronged Japanese offensive toward the air base town of Lohokow, in northwestern Hupeh province during the past five days. Japanese forces have occupied five large cities including Icheng on the Han river, fifty airline miles from Lohokow. Another Jap column was said to be advancing toward Soyang. Two other Japanese columns driving out from the Peiping-Hankow railroad occupied Nanchao and Fangcheng.

Meanwhile, the Fourteenth Air Force was flying mission after mission in support of Chinese ground troops. Generalissimo Chiang Kai Chek visited the headquarters of the Fourteenth Air Force to express thanks to General Chennault and his men whom he said "have established an enviable record in the past few years."

LLOYD GEORGE DIES

LONDON, March 27 - Earl David Lloyd George, Great Britain's elder statesman and Prime Minister during World War I died last night in his home in North Wales. He was 82 years old.