

Quezon had designated as Mayor of Greater Manila, and the city authorities took precautionary measures for the unopposed entry of the enemy. The residents were warned to maintain peace and order. Large signs were hoisted in certain strategic places reading: "OPEN CITY! NO SHOOTING!"

On January 2, 1942, the Japanese invaders entered Manila. The occupation was bloodless. Many Filipinos bravely stayed out of doors and curiously watched the enemy troops. They looked on their new conquerors—sadly and sullenly. None cheered, none applauded.

Heroic Stand at Bataan. In the early days of January, 1942, General Homma hurled his troops against the USAFFE lines in Bataan. The Fil-American troops resisted with magnificent courage. The Battle of Bataan was on. Day and night, week after week, the fierce fight raged. On the blood-drenched, flaming peninsula of Bataan, Filipinos and Americans, fighting side by side as brothers-in-arms, wrote a new epic in the annals of war, a new page in Philippine-American history.

The Fil-American defenders faced a hopeless situation. They had no air and naval support; they were incompletely equipped and outnumbered; they were harassed by shortages of food, medicine, and ammunitions; and the aid which they expected from America did not come because the United States Pacific Fleet had been crippled at Pearl Harbor at the outbreak of hostilities.

The Escape of Quezon and Sayre. Expecting the ultimate collapse of the USAFFE in the Philippines, President Roosevelt wired President Quezon to come to the United States. This was a matter of military expediency and political significance. If President Quezon were to fall into the hands of the Japanese, America's prestige in the Philippines would be weakened; moreover, there would be no Filipino leader who could continue inspiring resistance against the Japanese invaders.

In response to the wishes of the American President, Quezon, with his family and War Cabinet, left Corregidor by submarine on the night of February 20, 1942. Evident-