

## AGUINALDO SUES FOR PEACE AND PLOTS TO GAIN TIME

### ENVOYS OF FILIPINOS MEET OTIS

Told That There Must Be Unconditional Surrender Before Armistice.

### NO TIME IS GRANTED

Americans Promptly Decide That the So-Called Native Congress Cannot Be Recognized.

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MANILA, April 28.—Colonel Arguelles and Lieutenant Bernal, the members of the insurgent General Luna's staff who came through the American lines near Calumpit this afternoon, arrived in Manila this afternoon to consult with General Otis regarding peace negotiations. They report that Aguinaldo is at San Isidro.

In an interview which I had with General Otis at the former Spanish Governor's palace in Malacanán the American commander said:

"The insurgents thought their position on the river bank at Calumpit was impregnable. There they made a successful stand against the Spaniards in 1896.

"Our success in storming their very strong entrenchments has demoralized them, and the people are ready to give up the fight.

"As to the emissaries which have been sent by General Luna, my opinion is that they desire to gain time.

"They say they wish to submit the question of continuing the war to their Congress, meeting in May. These leaders think that they represent the Filipino people.

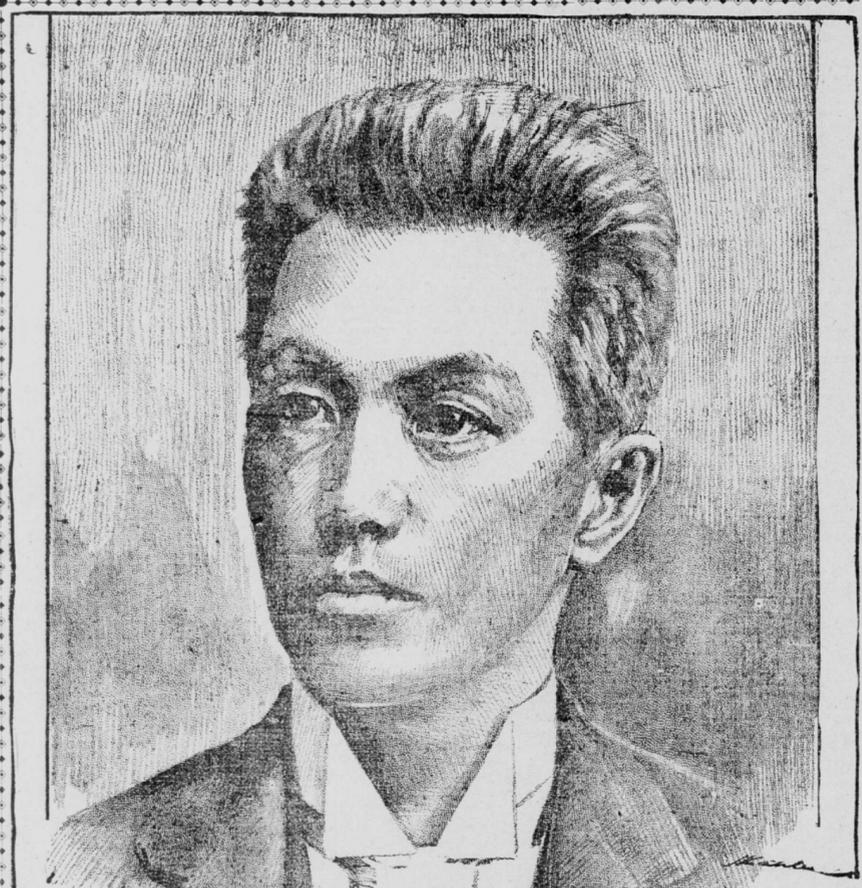
"I answered that I would be glad to receive emissaries from the insurgent chiefs, provided they came with a proposition for absolute surrender. These were the only terms that I could consider.

"The emissaries would not agree to this, as they thought it contrary to the dictates of honor. The emissaries added that if peace was forced upon them it would not be permanent."

The Filipino refugees are all gathered at San Fernando. The insurgent soldiers are looting and are said to be in a state of mutiny. Peasants in large numbers are returning to their homes within our territory.

New telegraphic connections with General Lawton by way of Bocave were completed to-night.

The insurgents attacked the Americans at Naguig yesterday, killing two of our men and wounding twelve. They were subsequently repulsed by five



With kindest regards to Mr J. L. Stickney Emilio Aguinaldo

companies of the First Washington and three companies of the Twelfth Infantry. There are indications that a considerable force of the enemy is gathered in that vicinity. The insurgents are constructing breastworks on the shore of Laguna de Bai and have one piece of artillery mounted. Several Macabebes came through the lines yesterday afternoon and asked for American protection. They want General MacArthur to occupy San Fernando, where they report that the insurgents are looting and destroying property.

### FILIPINOS' ADVANCES HAVE BEEN FRUITLESS

MANILA, April 28.—The Filipino advances for peace at terms which would be in any way advantageous to Aguinaldo have been fruitless. Colonel Manuel Arguelles and Lieutenant Jose Bernal, who came into General MacArthur's lines under a flag of truce, told General Otis that they were representatives of General Luna, who had been requested by Aguinaldo to ask for a cessation of hostilities in order to allow time for the summoning of the Filipino congress, which body would decide whether the people wanted peace.

General Otis replied that he did not recognize the existence of the Filipino government. There will be another conference to-morrow.

The Filipino officers walked down the railroad track to the Kansas regiment's outpost at 9 o'clock this morning. The Kansas captain in command there escorted them to General Wheaton's headquarters, where they were provided with horses and sent to the headquarters of General MacArthur. The latter invited the Filipinos to sit down at lunch with him and conversed with them for some time. He refused, however, to speak authoritatively on the subject of their errand, referring all inquiries to General Otis. The Filipinos were then escorted by Major Malloney of General MacArthur's staff to Manila, reaching this place at 3 p. m. General Otis' aid, Lieutenant Sladen, was awaiting their arrival at the depot with a carriage, in which they were driven to the palace entrance. The Filipino officers attracted much attention. They were dressed in uniforms of checked blue and white cloth and wore straw hats. They carried no side arms. They were escorted directly to the office of General Otis. Jacob B. Schurman, president of the Philippine Commission, and Hon. Charles Denby, a member of the commission, soon joined the party there. The news of the arrival of Filipino officers under a flag of truce spread through the city rapidly and many officers gravitated

to the corridors of the palace, while a crowd of natives gathered in the square opposite.

At 5 o'clock the two Filipino officers, escorted by Lieutenant Sladen and Major Malloney, left the palace. They did not look at all elated as a result of their meeting with General Otis and the members of the Filipino Commission.

In offering to submit a peace proposition to his so-called Congress Aguinaldo hopes by subterfuge to overcome General Otis' consistent policy of ignoring the Filipino Government. The Filipino's argument is that it is impossible to arrange an armistice without the sanction of the Congress.

General Otis punctured this assumption to-day by asking the emissaries if General Aguinaldo could make war without the sanction of Congress, why he could not stop without reference to that body?

While the insurgents are undoubtedly tired of war, the leaders are torn with dissensions. There is a suspicion that it was hoped by means of a conference to ascertain what they could expect, if they saw that anything was to be gained by continuing the war, an armistice would afford them an opportunity for recuperating their demoralized forces.

It is an interesting commentary upon Aguinaldo's proposition that only sixty of the 300 members of the Filipino Congress have taken the oath of allegiance which their constitution requires.

A Filipino proclamation replying to the proclamation of the American Commissioners has appeared. It is signed by Mabini for the President and is dated at Canlasdro, April 15. It is in the usual grandiose style, and declares that President McKinley issued the proclamation in order to force the American Congress to ratify the cessation of the islands under the treaty of Paris.

"This contract of cessation was made with the Spanish after Spanish domination had been ended by the valor of our troops," the writer asserts. The proclamation complains that the Filipinos were not represented at Paris during the negotiation of the treaty and that they are without assurances of the fulfillment of American promises. It fulfills upon the alleged Anglo-Saxon hatred of blacks, and asserts a desire to enslave them. Deploping a lack of foreign aid in prosecuting the war the proclamation concludes:

"We stand alone, but we will fight to the death. Coming generations will pray over our graves, shedding tears of gratitude for their freedom."

Yesterday furnished added proof that the United States troops have a fear of bushwhacking that is above their fears of battle. The Washington Regiment, which is holding Taguig with three companies of the Twelfth regulars, engaged a large force of insurgents in a fight in the jungle. The Americans lost two killed and ten wounded.

The Filipinos have been massing at the lake mouth of the Pasig River, and it is estimated that there are 2000 of

them now there. They have mounted two guns—one a three-inch Krupp—and have thrown a number of shells into the American lines. The gunboat Rapidan, which is guarding the entrance to the river, shelled a launch which was carrying supplies.

Yesterday a large force of rebels approached the town, seemingly bent on luring the Americans from Calumpit. Three companies of the Washington troops sailed from the town and attacked the natives and found that they had their hands full. Two other companies of the Washingtons and three of the Twelfth regulars reinforced them and drove back the enemy, who removed their dead and wounded as they retired, as usual.

### AGUINALDO MUST ACCEPT PEACE AT OUR TERMS

NEW YORK, April 28.—The Herald's correspondent sends the following: "It is the beginning of the end. When the enemy stops fighting and wants to talk it is a pretty good sign that he is licked."

This is the general view of the administration as expressed to me to-day by Adjutant General Corbin and substantially to the same effect by other members of the War Department of the cablegram received from General Otis this morning giving the result of yesterday's battle at Calumpit.

The authorities are jubilant over the turn affairs have taken, and predict the surrender of Aguinaldo within forty-eight hours. The report that the Filipino emissaries left the conference with the American commander and Commissioners at Manila discouraged over the reply they received to the request that hostilities cease until the Filipino congress can pass upon the question of peace does not alarm officials here.

The mere fact that Aguinaldo has begun to sue for peace is considered tantamount to saying he will, after a little dicker, accept peace at our terms.

Speculation is already rife here as to the conditions which will be granted. I obtained to-day from a high source this statement regarding the position of the administration with respect to the Filipinos:

"Negotiations for peace will be conducted by the Philippine Commission and not by General Otis alone. Before negotiations can be begun the Filipinos will be required to lay down their arms. When they have given this evidence of their intention to abandon them the War Commission will be authorized to announce to them the intentions of the Government.

"There is no disposition on the part of the President to punish Aguinaldo or any other Filipino. The insurgent leader will be treated like any other native. Should he desire a special treaty for himself or indicate that he is not getting all he desires he will be invited to leave the country. The other Filipinos will be invited to resume their peaceful avocations and will

### GILLMORE AND PARTY PRISONERS OF WAR

It Is Reported That the Men Who Landed From the Yorktown Are Held by Insurgents at Baler.

MANILA, April 28.—General Otis has been informed that Lieutenant Gillmore and his party of sailors from the Yorktown are alive and are being held as prisoners of war by the insurgents at Baler, where they were captured. If this information proves correct the party will undoubtedly be turned over to Admiral Dewey upon the conclusion of an armistice.

ON April 19 the Navy Department at Washington gave out the following corrected cablegram from Admiral Dewey:

MANILA, April 18.—Secretary of the Navy, Washington: The Yorktown visited Baler, on the east coast of Luzon, P. I., April 12 for the purpose of rescuing and bringing away the Spanish forces, consisting of eighty soldiers, three officers and two priests, which were surrounded by 400 insurgents. Some of the insurgents were armed with Mauser rifles, as reported by natives. Lieutenant J. C. Gillmore, while making an examination of the mouth of the river in an armed boat, was ambushed, fired upon and captured. Fate unknown, as insurgents refused to communicate afterward. The following are missing: The officer previously referred to, Chief Quartermaster W. Walton, Cockswain J. Ellsworth, Gunner's Mate H. J. Hygard, Sailmaker's Mate Vendigt, Seaman W. H. Rynders and C. W. Woodbury, Apprentices D. V. A. Yenille, J. Peterson, Ordinary Seaman F. Briscoe and O. B. McDonald, Landsmen L. T. Edwards, F. Anderson, J. Dillon and C. A. Morrissey. DEWEY.

Accompanying this there was published the following press dispatch:

MANILA, April 19, 4:30 p. m.—Admiral Dewey has been notified of the strange disappearance of J. C. Gillmore and fourteen members of the crew of the United States gunboat Yorktown. On Saturday last the Yorktown anchored off Baler, on the east coast of the island of Luzon and about 200 miles from here, where there was a Spanish garrison of about fifty men, which had been defending itself against several hundred Filipinos for months past.

Lieutenant Gillmore, Ensign W. H. Standley and a boat's crew were sent up the river from Baler Bay to communicate with the Spaniards, the town of Baler being situated some distance inland. Ensign Standley, who landed at the mouth of the river, reports that he heard three volleys, a bugle call and cheers from up the river, but that the automatic gun which was part of the equipment of the boat was not heard firing. Standley later paddled to the Yorktown in a canoe. A search was made for the Yorktown's boat and her crew, but no trace of them was found, and the Yorktown sailed for

Lolilo, from which place her commander reported to Dewey his theories that the Filipinos had captured or sunk the boat, or that the Spaniards had rescued the American party.

Later the statement was published that Admiral Dewey did not know whether his men had fallen into the hands of the Filipinos or the Spaniards. The Spanish garrison at Baler, it appears, beleaguered since the beginning of the war, did not know that peace had been concluded and looked upon the Americans as enemies as well as the Filipinos, who besieged them. The flag of Spain still flies at Baler, the garrison holding its native assailants at bay, and the Admiral thought it might well be that the Spaniards, seeing the boat from the Yorktown approach, had ambushed and captured its occupants. This, as it happens, was not the case. The Yorktown's men are safe, at all events, for their lives will be precious as hostages while Aguinaldo is seeking for peace. On their safety his own may depend.

be treated with consideration by the American forces."

When American supremacy is established in the island of Luzon the authorities think there will be a prompt collapse of the revolt in the island of Panay. Natives of other Philippine islands have been watching with keen interest the course of affairs in Luzon, and as they have been stirred up by Aguinaldo's emissaries the defeat of Aguinaldo and his army will undoubtedly have a good effect throughout the archipelago.

After concluding peace with Aguinaldo's army the commission will arrange for visiting other islands to confer with the natives concerning reforms they desire and to determine the character of legislation for the government of the islands which should be recommended to the President for presentation to Congress.

The terms which will be offered to the Filipinos will not differ materially from those stated in the recent proclamation issued by the commission. The commission then declared the Philippine people would be granted the largest liberty and self-government reconcilable with the maintenance of a wise, just, effective and economical administration of public affairs and compatible with the sovereign rights and obligations of the United States. Civil rights of the Filipinos will be granted to the fullest extent. Religious freedom will be assured and all persons will have equal standing before the law.

While in some quarters there is a disposition to think that the Filipinos have made this move simply to gain time, high officials think the action of Aguinaldo is due to the fact that he and his troops have had enough of fighting American forces.

As General Otis has undoubtedly refused the armistice requested, it is apparent that Aguinaldo has really lost

by his course, for the reason that the moral effect of his attempt to obtain peace will be great throughout the archipelago. For this reason the authorities believe that the insurgents are sincere in their desire for peace.

Secretary Alger said as the department closed that, while it could not be said that peace was assured, he regarded the prospects as of the brightest and felt confident that the end of the insurrection was near. To his mind there would be a repetition of the negotiations which were had before Santiago. The Secretary left Washington to-night for a ten days' trip in the West, and it gave him great satisfaction to leave affairs in such promising shape.

Everybody is praising the volunteers, a marked change in the sentiment expressed a few days ago, when it was understood the same men were pleading to be brought home. Colonel Funston came in for the most commendation, even the regular officers taking note with admiration of the fact that his achievements were all strictly within the lines of the plans laid down for him by his superior officer, General Wheaton.

General Corbin said that every volunteer who participated in the fighting in the Philippines since peace was declared should have a medal of honor. By the terms of their enlistments they were entitled to withdraw from the service, but they remained voluntarily, performing more than was required of them, which was more than the ordinary duty of a soldier.

It is expected that to-morrow there will be further negotiation with the insurgent representatives.

Adjutant General Corbin says the Filipino peace overtures will not bring about any change of plan in this country as to forwarding ships' supplies and troops to the Philippines. Transports

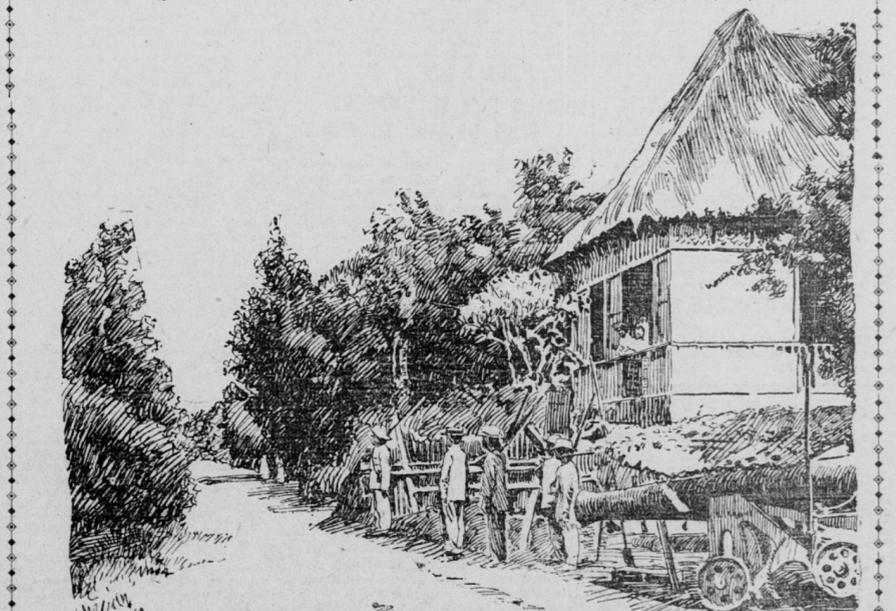
are about to sail from San Francisco and a considerable number of troops are under orders to proceed to Manila. It is said at the Navy Department that the developments of the day make it improbable that the Iowa will be sent to Manila, according to the original programme. In view of the state of affairs in China, however, the American fleet on the Asiatic station will be kept at a high stand.

### VOLUNTEERS AS ALLIES OF THE ADMINISTRATION

NEW YORK, April 28.—A Washington special to the Herald says: President McKinley and the administration have been relieved of a great load of anxiety by the apparent collapse of the Philippine insurrection. They have hoped for an early termination of the conflict with Aguinaldo not only because it would stop the shedding of blood and would relieve them of the necessity for calling for more volunteers, but because it meant much to the administration and the party politically.

The restoration of peace would enable the President to turn the Philippine problem over to Congress in December in much better shape than would have been possible had the war still been going on. By that time he will have put into operation under military authority a form of government which the Philippine Commission will have recommended. He will have the report of that commission and be able to give Congress valuable information as to the situation in the islands and the capabilities of the people for self-government.

There is no doubt that this commission will report in favor of the United States retaining the islands indefinitely, and such a policy will be much



ONE OF THE OLD GUNS USED BY FILIPINOS AGAINST THE AMERICANS.