

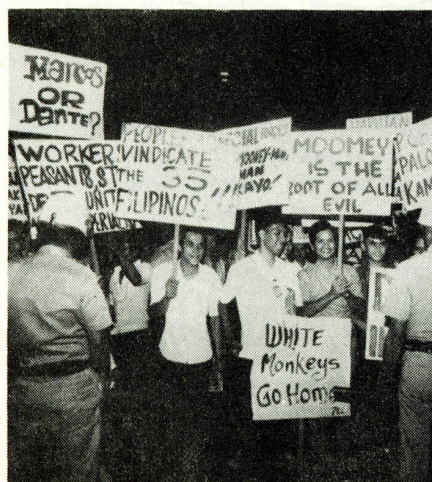
(1) That the Senate pass a resolution urging the immediate renegotiation of the RP-US Military Bases Agreement setting forth the following as guidelines for the Philippine negotiating panel:

(a) In all instances the Philippines shall have the exclusive right to exercise jurisdiction over all offenses committed in the Philippines whether inside or outside US bases, by members of the U.S. armed forces, civilian components, and their dependents. Such right, however, may be waived in special situations if the Philippines so desires. (b) Philippine authorities shall have free access to all U.S. bases for the purpose of making arrests and searches and for service of processes. (c) In all instances, the Philippines shall have custody of the accused pending trial.

(2) That the President of the Philippines, the Secretary of Justice, the Provincial and City Officials concerned and the Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey be requested to take the necessary steps to have the provincial and city boundaries inside U.S. bases clearly defined and marked for the purpose of determining the proper venue of court cases which may result from crimes committed therein.

(3) That upon the realization of the recommendation immediately preceding, the regular appropriation for the so-called special municipal courts in U.S. bases be withdrawn from the budget.

(4) That the President of the Philippines be requested to negotiate a treaty of extradition with the United States.



Manila demonstration

Angeles City: views of a Black G.I.

*by Freemont Vance Cooper, Jr.
Aircraft Mechanic, Clark Air Base
5/27/69-1/25/70*

From the moment one walks out the main gate he is more than likely to be greeted by a pig—correction, several pigs. The streets are cluttered with strands and booths that peddle cigarettes, gum, etc. Most of these small-time merchants offer money conversion at 5 to 1 or 6 to 1. Correct conversion is 4 pesos to one dollar. After walking through this market, one comes upon a taxi stand or hangout that takes after Grand Central Station. Actually they are W. W. II surplus jeeps that have been given or sold very cheaply by the U.S. government. Would you believe they pack nine people, eight average-sized Americans and one rather small Filipino. By the way, these taxis are called jeepneys or jeepnees.

Down the main drag a ways, and then a right turn—that is the beginning of the million of escapades and adventures each GI will inevitably encounter. The streets on both sides are lined with bars and clubs and nothing else, save for a sari-sari store or pharmacy here and there.

Now let's get down to what the PI really is. Women. That's all. Women. Clark Air Base has 33,000 personnel on base. More than half are GI's most of whom have wives or girlfriends back in the world.* Have you put it together yet? Sex, baby! Sex is the most wanted, sought after and expensive commodity in Angeles City. That's what GI's want more than anything else. So it isn't very strange to see women (girls most of them) sitting or standing in and around the clubs and bars all day long. At night, they are all dressed and painted up getting GI's to "Buy me coke" or "Buy me beer" or "Let's go Big House."*** Remember, I am asking you to imagine this. Dig.

People—economy and unemployment

First let's agree that the level of employment of a country has a great deal to do with the economy of that same country. Well folks, for the average Filipino, employment is at an all-time low. I don't mean that the government doesn't supply any jobs at all. All I am say-

ing is that the government doesn't come nearly close enough to supplying enough jobs in relation to the population. At the same time the president, that motherfucker Marcos, drains the people by taxes, high prices and doing Big Business with America which, quite naturally, keeps employment nil. We all know the first law of nature. For the average Filipino, that law is very real. If a woman doesn't give her body for \$5 a night, or \$2 a nut, she starves. It's that basic. It's really unfortunate for the males that homosexuality is a no-no in the armed services, or they would clean up too. But they get along. They can steal anything, from the cigarettes out of your top pocket to a security guarded helicopter on base. You could say that Clark Air Base is a means to an end for many Filipinos. But of course, as in any class society, there are white collar workers among the populace. They are the ones that are hired by the Air Force to do very nice, very clean, but very unnecessary jobs on base. This type of employment is an attempt to maintain what are supposed to be good relations between both governments. Let's not forget that there is a president, motherfucker Marcos. He employs teachers, both at elementary and college levels. I checked out the pads that some of these teachers live in. Man, these yoyos live pretty good. But this is a class society and the bourgeoisie live better and eat more than the lower working class. (He also hires the Philippine Constabulary.) After I was shipped out of the PI, I picked up an Ohio paper several days later and saw a caption that read something like this: "...students' riot at American Embassy in Philippines." The article reported that the students tore the Embassy apart while chanting, "Pres. Marcos is a fascist puppet for American imperialism..." Funny, I share the exact same sentiments.

People—health

The people are rather unhealthy, many are diseased, others are seriously ill. The rest die. Angeles City has no sanitation department or means for control. The water runs through pipes or lines directly from the river or lake.

without being purified. The food that is sold in markets is done so without being inspected. The sewer system is a joke. During the heavy rainy season, water gushes out of sewer holes, bringing with it garbage, turds and all the crap in the world. Toilets in many of the clubs overrun, with it comes the shit that didn't come out of the sewer holes. Many of the bar girls that have syphilis or the clap aren't treated or are treated with obsolete drugs. The people that come down with other illnesses aren't treated properly if at all. The proper medications are just not available for the various health problems that plague the people.

Dig this. Each year there are 25,000 cases of syphilis or clap among GI's. How come the proper medications aren't available to deal with health problems in Angeles City? I wonder about that myself sometimes. Especially when motherfucker Marcos received \$2 million for making expendible 2,000 soldiers to fight in the Viet Nam war in 1969 or was it '68? I wonder what he did with all that money.

III People — social

"Hi nigger, let me see tail." Three white cats sitting in deepest, darkest corner they could find at a table laughing their asses off. It was my first time in downtown Angeles City and I was accompanied by three cats I had just met. We walked into a bar in chucktown*** and a young bar girl greeted me with the above salutation. I was going to kick her ass and the three asses over in the corner, and then order a nice cold beer to cool me off. But my newly found companions cooled me from the jump and we split. It wasn't until months later that I realized that Black Americans were targets for racist attacks from a people that had no real cause or reason to hate us. The town was divided by a bridge. On the east side was chucktown, on the west side was the Block. Chucktown was where whitey hung out and why not. East Angeles had the better bars and clubs, the nicer dress shops and restaurants, and the nicer apartments, many of which were rented to GI's. The Block, however, has no clubs with live bands as compared to Chucktown, the dress shops are alright, and the restaurants are infested with rats and roaches. The residential area is commonly referred to as el Barrio. There is one thing, however, that the Block has that is completely alien to Chucktown. The street-walking pigs mentioned prev-

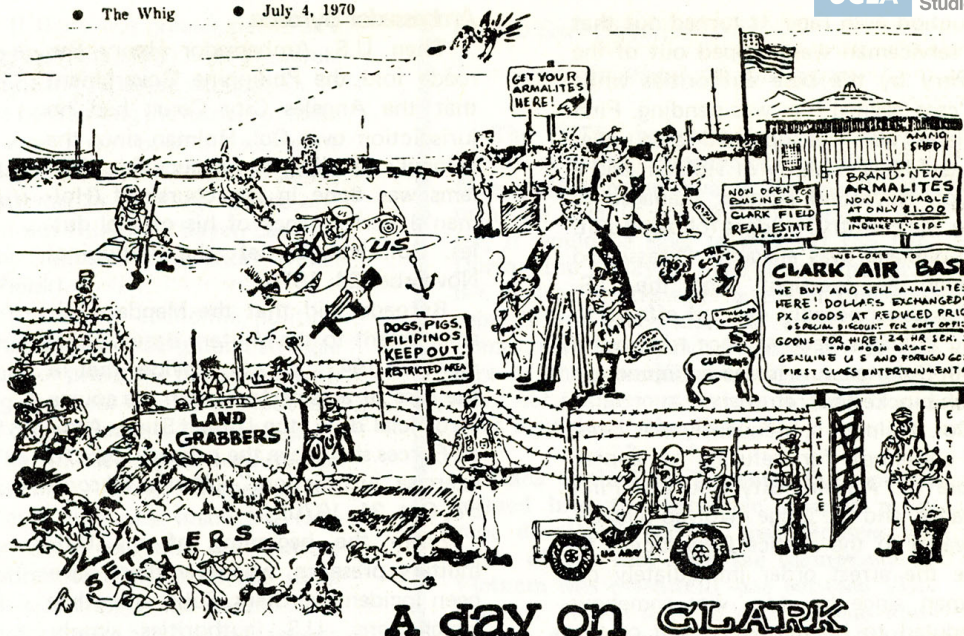
iously, the garbage, the filth and most of the sickness.

One night I came home from work rather late (I had an apartment off base in Chucktown that I was sharing with a partner and his girlfriend.) I stopped off in what I presumed was a sari-sari store. It was, however, a pad belonging to a Filipino. He forced me into the street with a billy club. Before I knew what was going on, a street full of angry Filipino men were beating the shit out of me. All the while yelling and shouting, "Nigger, nigger, nigger." After I hit the deck two Filipino policemen picked me up and started hitting and clobbering me with a sugar can and the butt of a carbine rifle. I found out from somewhat painful experience that hate can be taught. Those Filipinos didn't kick my ass that night, America did it. The racism and hatred that I and every other Black GI experienced is not perpetrated in the PI, but in America.

*States

** hotel or motel

*** white part of town



The Holman Incident

"From all indications, Philippine justice is due to suffer another inglorious beating within our own country in the contempt case against Col. Averill F. Holman, commander of Clark Air Base. It got its first serious jolt last year in the celebrated case of U.S. First Gunnery Mate Michael Moomey, who was surprisingly acquitted by a U.S. Navy court-martial from a manslaughter rap for the self-confessed shooting to death of a Filipino laborer whom he had fatally mistaken for a wild boar inside the Subic Naval Base." (the *Manila Chronicle*, Nov. 1, 1970).

The Holman case stemmed from the commander's failure to produce an American serviceman (Sgt. Bernard Williams), who was facing trial for forcible

abduction with rape. It turned out that the serviceman was shipped out of the country by the base authorities while the case against him was pending. First Williams, who was supposed to be under the technical custody of Holman and a Lt.Col. Raymond Hodges, managed to leave the country; Hodges followed suit. Sgt. Williams was allegedly "reassigned through an oversight" and the U.S. Embassy supposedly exerted efforts to bring Williams back to face trial, but a North Dakota court issued an injunction which blocked his return.

Col. Holman subsequently was cited for contempt for refusing to appear before the Angeles City Court of First Instance, and the judge involved (Gaddi) appealed to the Justice Department to serve the arrest order immediately on Holman since he, too, was somehow scheduled to be reassigned out of the Philippines the following month. The Justice Department could implement the warrant either by forcible arrest of Holman at the Base, or by requesting the American Government to respect Philippine sovereignty by giving up Holman.

The U.S. Embassy, in a diplomatic note to the Philippine Foreign Office, said that the U.S. Air Force was not disposed to extend Holman's tour of duty in the Philippines, which meant he would have to leave despite diplomatic efforts to stay his departure.

Ambassador Byroade

Then U.S. Ambassador Henry Byroade told the Philippine Government that the Angeles City Court had no jurisdiction over Col. Holman since the colonel's inability to produce Sgt. Williams was done in the course of (Holman's) performance of his official duties. Col. Holman left the Philippines November 24, 1970.

Byroade said that the Mendez-Blair amendment to the Military Bases Agreement of 1947 "clearly provides that in the case of acts performed in the course of official duty, the United States Armed Forces shall have the primary right to exercise jurisdiction." (*Manila Chronicle*, Oct. 31, 1970).

From the beginning of the U.S. military presence, whenever there have been incidents at Clark, Subic and other installations, U.S. authorities simply have certified that the person was performing an official duty.

"It is this little bit of loophole," wrote editorialist Alfredo R. Roces in the *Manila Times*, "that renders the U.S. military immune from Philippine laws.

"The obvious conclusion is that there is no Philippine jurisdiction to all practical purposes within U.S. bases; and, at times, even beyond them. If there were no rampant abuses, with Filipinos killed or beaten up, and Filipinas raped, then this might be just an academic point, but the facts speak for themselves. There is no good faith when one clings

to technicalities. We should never have allowed such a clause in the first place."

Red Patches

According to the underground GI paper, the *Whig* there exists in Clark Air Base a "liquidation squad" consisting of 50 to 80 non-commissioned officers. It is composed exclusively of white airmen, mostly Southerners; blacks are not permitted to join. Because it was organized by Col. Holman, the *Whig* calls the group the "Holman Gestapo Squad." Popularly, it is known as the "Red Patches" because the members of the group wear red cloth patches sewn on the arms of their uniforms. (the color of the patches has recently been changed because of the uproar).

The Squad's function is interrogation and investigation of cases within the Base. The group, according to the *Whig*, "teaches the ideals of democracy through kicks, karate blows and verbal obscenity." Following is one of many cases reported in *Whig* about the conduct of "Red Patch" airmen:

A recent case involved a poor farmer who was cutting grass outside the Base perimeter fence; he sold the grass to horse carriage drivers downtown. Two Americans wearing fatigues and armed with M-16's came by and started kicking him. When he shouted for help, they covered his mouth and kicked him more. Then they threw him over the fence and dragged him to their waiting jeep. Refusing to turn him over to Police Constabularies stationed nearby, they drove him toward the flightline security office and, on the way, stepped hard on his face, breaking three teeth, and causing profuse bleeding. As he was brought in this condition into the office, he was met by 18 "Red Patch" airmen, who then alternated in hitting him (with karate and closed fist) and pushing him from one to another. Then the first two Red Patches threw him into their jeep, drove him to the Base perimeter fence, and threw him back outside again. Although barely conscious, he managed to get help.

The *Whig* reported that this case was the first legal case ever filed against the "Red Patches." In a line-up, the victim had been able to identify two of his torturers and a case was filed at the Office of the Fiscal of Angeles City. Unfortunately, the farmer was easy prey for the Air Force. They came to him offering 6,000 pesos (about \$1,000) if he would drop the charges. "A man in his position could do little else," said *Whig*, "but take the money and hope his wounds would heal..."

THE MANILA TIMES

Monday, Feb. 16, 1970, p. 4

'See you in Las Vegas!'



It was in 1966 that President Marcos committed the first 2,300-man task force to South Vietnam as a combination of an engineer construction battalion and medical and civic action teams known as Phil-CAG—Philippine Civic Action Group. The U.S. government offered support by providing certain items:

1. to equip PhilCAG in Vietnam on a loan basis and provide it logistic support;

2. to pay overseas allowances, over and above the regular pay to be provided by the Philippine government;

3. to provide replacement costs for a replacement unit in the Philippines.

In addition, the following were offered:

4. two 50-foot patrol boats to assist the anti-smuggling campaign;

5. accelerated funding in 1966 of equipment for three engineer construction battalions which were to be financed at a later time under the military assistance program; and

6. M-14 rifles and M-60 machine guns for one battalion combat team.

All were to be funded by the Defense Department as Vietnam-related costs and not from the military assistance program, but the State Department makes it clear that the latter three items were already under consideration for the Philippines' domestic program so that only their delivery was accelerated at the time of the Phil-CAG discussions—all charged to the cost of the Vietnam War.

It is not clear as to who took the initiative to send troops from the Philippines. There was considerable interest on the part of the United States Government to have allies in this war by bringing in troops from other countries. Thailand, Korea, Australia, New Zealand, as well as the Philippines were approached. President Marcos noted in a speech that on April 14, 1965, further aid was requested by the Republic of Vietnam asking for

engineer troops. However, support within the Philippines for sending troops was questionable, reflected in the fact that the Congress failed to act on the appropriation measure. Then there were talks between Presidents Marcos and Johnson in September, 1966. It was at this time that the U.S. agreed to make additional veterans' payments of about \$31 million and to consider special programs under AID to improve the economic internal development in the Philippines. It was quite a coincidence that these payments were given at the same time that President Marcos agreed to send the PhilCAG.

Much of this information is reflected in the Symington Hearings on U.S. Security Agreements and Commitments Abroad held September 30, October 1, 2, and 3, 1969. (During his election campaign, about October 5, Marcos announced a gradual withdrawal of troops "sometime" after the November 11 election). There was a clash between the State Department and the subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee over whether to make public these financial arrangements. The State Department reportedly objected to publication of information showing that the Philippines agreed to contribute to the war effort only after receiving assurances of financial and military assistance or that the U.S. had to increase its military aid to the government as well as underwrite the cost to get the troops sent to Vietnam. It feared that the public would get the impression that the Filipino troops did not go as a willing contribution but as mercenaries paid by the U.S. Senator Fulbright, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, interpreted this arrangement whereby the U.S. paid four times as much as the Philippine Government to support PhilCAG in Vietnam as further evidence that the U.S. has undertaken extraordinary efforts to demonstrate allied support for the war. It was in November, 1969, that the Nixon Administration conceded that the U.S. had spent nearly \$36 million to finance, equip, and send PhilCAG to Vietnam in 1966.

PhilCAG.. U.S. Style

Caught red-handed



THE MANILA TIMES

Diego

Filipino Workers Strike at Clark

(excerpted from a paper by Olimpio Sangre-Rojo and Louis Wolf)

In the week following his re-election (November 11, 1969) President Marcos announced that he was withdrawing the Philippine battalion before the end of the year. He acknowledged the receipt of "fund contribution" from the U.S. but denied that the money was in return for troop assignment. This disclosure was met with considerable concern on the part of other Filipino leaders. They resented the fact that there was issuance of only a *partial* transcript of the hearings and that testimony of American officials working in Manila was made in secrecy. The rise in anti-American and anti-Marcos expression was touched off by these reports. By December 20, 1969, PhilCAG had returned to the Philippines, turning over its base camp, Tay Ninh, to U.S. troops, marking the end of the three-year Philippine commitment to the Vietnam War.

Meanwhile, Senator Symington continued his investigation into U.S. military spending. He suggested that the Philippine government misused the total \$39 million provided by the U.S. since 1966. Former Philippine Secretary of Defense Mata said the Philippines had received regular checks from the U.S. made out to the Philippine Defense Department since 1965 but that the money was not connected with the PhilCAG in Vietnam. Philippine military officials said that the Philippine contingent never got cash assistance from the U.S. while Symington admits that whether Filipino troops ever received pay cannot be ascertained.

A final quote from the Symington Report may serve to summarize this situation. Testifying with Symington and Senator Aikin is Mr. James M. Wilson, Jr., of the American Embassy, Manila (p.286): "One can only wonder about the extent of self determination of a country that is as dependent on another country to this extent financially and physically for its 'security'."

A very few people are obviously profiting from the U.S. financial aid. It is they who need the military security. But what goes into the thinking of U.S. government officials to feel free to bribe a few Filipino elitists into showing their country's support for an American military venture?

Over 10,000 Filipino workers paralyzed Clark Air Base for five days between March 1 and March 5 of this year, but attempts to focus national and international attention on the plight of the workers proved futile. The news items that did come out made it appear that the strike was illegal, that there were no unfair labor practices committed by the U.S. Air Force against the Filipino civilian workers, and that RP-US relations at Clark have always been rosy.

On February 17, the Filipino Civilian Employees Association (FCEA-CAB) Board of Directors unanimously agreed to stage a general strike, in view of the CAB authorities' failure to act on two immediate FCEA demands, in spite of repeated representations over six months. FCEA officials demanded that 19 Filipino employees at the Airmens Open Mess be returned to their original status, after they were arbitrarily demoted. Negotiations had been moving at a snail's pace since last September. Another immediate demand called for the dislodgement of an American dependent occupying a position originally held by a Filipino.

Both demands arose out of what appeared to be direct and blatant violations of the Base Labor Agreement and the Collective Bargaining Agreement entered into by the United States and the Republic of the Philippines on May 27, 1968 and July 28, 1969. Having experienced such a long and frustrating period with no action taken by Base authorities to correct these two particular cases, the FCEA-CAB decided this time to give the Clark officials until 5 p.m., February 19, to act upon its demands. Or else face a strike.

After heated discussion of the issues, an American panel which included Col. Paul L. Maret, Base Commander, gave its verbal agreement to the two immediate demands, and left the door open for discussion of the other demands, averting a strike at that time. However, neither of the demands was subsequently implemented. Instead, a "Memo of Agreement" was issued through Col. Maret's office which bore no relations to the verbal agreement. Making matters still worse, the *Pacific Stars and Stripes* house organ of the military sold daily at the base, printed a news item on Feb. 27 headlined: "THREATENED STRIKE OFF AT CLARK," in which a Base spokesman purportedly said: "... the petition for dismissal of the seven (American supervisors) had been withdrawn and that needed adjustments had been made by the military in labor employment practices," a negotiation point which had not yet even been discussed.

Meanwhile, workers for three major private concessionaire unions at Clark simultaneously staged a strike on March 1 against their respective managements, and, out of respect for the national Anti-Scab Law, FCEA members stayed off-base. While the FCEA Board of Directors sat in emergency meeting on the evening of March 2 to discuss the impact of the "strike" news, Col. Maret phoned FCEA president Garcia informing him that he was placing all Filipino workers on-leave without pay, for failure to report for work on March 1 and 2. And neither would the Base authorities stick by their earlier verbal agreement to revert the 19 Filipino employees at the Airmen's Open Mess to their original status.

Pushed back against the wall by Clark authorities, the FCEA officials voted unanimously to stage a general strike.

Many GI's openly showed their support of the strike. Black and white airmen made the "V" sign or the clenched fist to them, even as military intelligence agents covering the strike were busily snapping their pictures. Strikers reported they were handed paper bags by air force men containing sandwiches, soft drinks, and small sums of money.