Filipino "OPERATION BROTHERHOOD" doctors and Royal Lao Army officers unloading medical supplies at Attopeu, Laos, 1958.
During the clean-up campaign in Rangoon City, authorities placed refuse boxes at lamp posts along the streets. In the picture Lt. Col. Saw Mya Thein is seen fixing one of such refuse boxes.
In the clean-up campaign in Rangoon, Army authorities assisted with haulage equipment to remove rubbish from drains and culverts.
Soldiers take a lead in the clean-up campaign in Rangoon City.
THE EDCOR PLAN

I. Basic Objectives -

A. General

1. To rehabilitate both socially and economically the great masses of our people who need a new start.

2. To populate large, uncultivated tracts of land in order to distribute population from the congested to the less congested areas.

3. To embark on an agricultural progress geared to the needs of the resettlement project with the end in view of recovering in whole or in part money invested in the resettlement project.

4. To solve the peace and order problem by establishing peacefully law-abiding towns.

5. To organize model communities in many parts of the Philippines, peopled by peaceful, progressive citizens.

6. To give landless persons a chance to own a piece of land at low cost through their own efforts.

7. To produce new money crops to hasten our economic self-sufficiency.

8. To pioneer in the establishment of new home industries.

9. To provide training in agriculture for trainees while undergoing military training.

B. Immediate

1. To take over surrendered or captured dissident elements, who are neither indicted nor convicted by civil courts for the purpose of re-educating them in the democratic, peaceful and productive way of life.
2. To open resettlement projects in fertile but unpopulated areas where settlers will be given a chance to own a home and farm lot.

3. To operate EDCOR Farms which will conduct experiments and later produce on a commercial scale for the purpose of recovering in whole or in part the money invested in the project.

4. To establish poultry, piggery, and other livestock projects for eventual resale to settlers at cost or to continue as a profit-producing enterprise.

5. To show by example to people who have been lured away by communism that democracy is the better ideology.

6. To prove by concrete, definite actions that the government is sincere in the implementation of its social and economic amelioration program.

7. To provide convenient credit facilities to settlers, especially at the initial stage of the project.

II. Who can be settlers

A. The following may apply as settlers:

1. Surrendered or captured dissident elements who are neither indicted nor convicted by the courts.

2. Ex-servicemen and guerrillas.

3. Trainees who desire to continue farming after the completion of their training period.

4. Other Filipino citizens who satisfy the requirements of EDCOR.

B. All settler-applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Must be a Filipino citizen.

2. Must be 18 years old or over or head of a family.

3. Must have an agricultural background or at least an inclination to it.

4. Must have no pending case in court.

5. Must not belong to any subversive organization.
6. Must be willing to sign a contract agreeing to all the terms of EDCOR.

III. Selection of settlers

Initially, settlers to EDCOR projects will be recruited from surrendered or captured dissident elements all over the Philippines. Screening of prospective settlers will be done by a committee composed of representative of EDCOR as chairman, and with representatives of G-1 and G-2 as members.

The number of settlers to be sent at any given time will depend upon the availability of temporary quarters at the settlement site. The Farm Administrator or his representative will certify from time to time as to the number of additional settlers that can be accommodated.

As soon as all dissident elements have been accommodated, applicants will be screened from the following elements in order of preference:

1. Ex-servicemen
2. Former guerrillas
3. Applicants already in the vicinity of the settlement site but also who do not own a piece of land.
4. All other applicants who may be recruited by recruiting officers or who apply direct to the EDCOR Office.

In the screening process, the following points will be considered:

1. Physical fitness.
2. Agricultural background or aptitude for farming, and/or livestock raising.
3. Ownership of work animals and farm implements.
4. Sincere desire to begin a new life.
5. Number of dependents who can help in farm work.
6. Present financial condition.

IV. Transportation and Accommodation of Settlers

Commanding Officers of Military Areas concerned will be responsible for the transportation, security, billeting and mess of settlers from their
respective homes or collecting points to Port of Embarkation. CO's of
Military Areas may request transportation facilities from The QMG to
effect movement of settlers and their families to Port of Embarkation.

Comdr. PN will be responsible for the transportation, security,
and mess of settlers from Port of Embarkation to Port of Debarkation.

C. EDCOR will be responsible for transportation, security,
billeting and mess of settlers from Port of Debarkation.

Subsistence of settlers and their families from the time they
arrive at Port of Embarkation will be chargeable against EDCOR funds.

V. Interim Period

Upon arrival at settlement site, settlers and their families will
be accommodated in temporary family barracks or settler's huts, depend­
ing on their availability. Settlers will be allowed to draw supplies from
the EDCOR store to be charged against their account.

As soon as practicable, a home lot will be assigned to a settler
on which he should plant food crops especially vegetables. This will
enable him to have vegetables even before he moves to his new home.

Whenever possible, EDCOR will build the settler's house so that
the settler may have a house upon arrival. Cost of labor and materials
of this house will be charged to the settler. If the settler feels that he
needs a larger place, he may enlarge his house through his own efforts
or through carpenters paid for by EDCOR and charged to the settler's
account.

Where the construction of houses by EDCOR is not feasible, this
will be built by the settler himself through the help of other settlers, or
paid carpenters who will work under the supervision of the settlers. This
method has the advantage of allowing the settlers to plan his own house and
thus making him more attached to it. It is also more economical in the
long run.

During this period, services of settlers may be used for the develop­
ment of EDCOR Projects such as farms, poultry, piggery and for which
reasonable wages in cash or kind will be paid to the settler.

VI. Credit System

The basic plan for settlers should be one where the EDCOR helps
the settler to help himself. The settler will thus have greater pride in
his work and also feel that his government has merely given him a chance
to have a decent start in life. Most men need only initial help and can be
left alone once they are on the way.

Outright charity pampers the lazy and shames the diligent settler. Aside from the staggering cost to the government, there is also the question of personal pride in accomplishment. The bounty of the government should be extended only to those who are willing to improve themselves.

In the case of surrendered or captured dissidents to give everything free would be to reward dissidents and punish law-abiding citizens. All other settlers do not get this consideration. The government should therefore give the same conditions at least as were given to settlers of the former NLSA, which by the way are very reasonable.

All settlers needs such as work animals, farm implements, carpentry tools, food, clothing, and other household necessities should be advanced in kind to the settler and charged to his account. These supplies should be issued through the EDCOR store which should keep all essential necessities always in stock.

Advances to settlers in kind should be limited to a quota of one peso (₱1.00) daily for all persons over 10 and fifty (₱.50) centavos for those below 10, provided that the settlers be not allowed to draw more than ₱1,000.00 a year for food, clothing, and household necessities. These quotas may be increased or decreased as the need for it arises.

Based on above quota, advances to settlers may be estimated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subsistence, clothing and household necessities for one year</td>
<td>₱ 1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work animal</td>
<td>350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm implements</td>
<td>110.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>₱ 1,860.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No cash will be advanced to the settler. All his needs will be given in kind chargeable to his account. Should the settler work in an administration project where he is to receive wages, his quota should be reduced or suspended for the duration of his employment especially if his earnings exceeds his quota. This will reduce his indebtedness.

The settler will be given at most five years to pay his account. However, after the first crop year, and every year thereafter, the settler should start amortizing his loan by giving thirty per centum (30%)
of his yield. When a settler gets an income from his crop, his advances for subsistence, clothing and household necessities should be suspended for a definite period to be determined by EDCOR.

In later years, advances to settlers will be determined by the extent of the settler's improvements. If the settler has shown interest in working his lot and has enough improvements to show for his work, further credit may be extended to him.

VII. Development Plan for Settler

A. Home Lot. As soon as practicable, a home lot will be issued to the settler within a townsite. The establishment of a well-ordered community, complete with all the essentials of a modern town, should be the primary objective of EDCOR. Administration buildings, barracks, schoolhouse, church, parks, markets should be adequately located in a master community plan to be followed in all EDCOR settlements. This plan may serve as a model for all communities to be built later on.

On the home lot EDCOR or the settler will build the settler's house which should be cheap but practical. As much as possible, materials available within the vicinity of the site should be utilized.

EDCOR will draw up a plan for the home lot which should include a place for vegetables, fruit and shade trees, toilets, garbage pit, a piggery and poultry project, and a small flower garden. The settler should follow this development plan and the EDCOR should provide cuttings, seedlings and other planting materials for vegetables, fruit trees. Settlers should also be required to fence their lots so they will look trim and home like.

For the first and succeeding batches of settlers, distribution of home lots for any given group should be by lottery so as to preclude favoritism in the issuance of lots.

B. Farm Lot

Immediately after survey, farm lots of at least six (6) hectares will be issued to settlers.

The EDCOR agricultural experts will determine from time to time what food and money crops to plant having in mind always the welfare of the settler and the benefits to the country. Agriculturists of EDCOR should insure that only the best seeds of any major crop are planted and that settlers are properly instructed in the method of planting these crops. The EDCOR should continually experiment on better ways of planting various crops so as to produce the best
results.

If sufficient farm machinery is available, opening of settlers lots should be undertaken by EDCOR which should prepare for planting one or two hectares or even more for the settler, depending upon the availability of farm machinery and time to do it in.

The EDCOR should see to it that the agricultural development plan is geared to the present economic needs of the country. If possible, the EDCOR should not compete in the production of crops already over-produced in other parts of the country. It should pioneer in the production of money crops which will make us economically self-sufficient.

In the second and succeeding years, if the settler has shown industry, and resourcefulness in cultivating his lot, EDCOR should again open up one or two hectares for the settlers. Even when the settler has been given title to his land, the EDCOR should continue to help him prepare the land provided farm machinery is available and provided always that the settler has demonstrated enough interest and can show improvement in both his home and farm lots, which will make him a good investment. Laziness should never be encouraged by taking over work which the settlers should have done for himself.

VIII. Issuance of Title

No later than the end of five years, if the settler has paid up all his indebtedness, has cultivated at least one-fourth (1/4) of his assigned farm lot and complied with all the requirements of the EDCOR, arrangements will be made for the issuance of title to him for his home and farm lots.

Neither the home lot nor the farm lot shall be subject to any lien or transfer nor shall they stand for the payment of any obligation contracted previously by the settler from private parties. However, prior to the vesting of title, if he proves to the satisfaction of the EDCOR that it is impossible for him to continue with the cultivation of the land through no fault of his, and he has no grown up dependents who can continue it for him and there exists a purchaser in good faith of his rights and improvements and the transfer is not being made for speculative purposes, the settler may, upon approval by the Chief, EDCOR, transfer his rights to the land and improvements thereon to any person having the legal qualification to own said lots. In case the settler should suffer from mental derangement, incurable sickness, or death, or for any reason whatever he should be incapacitated from further cultivating the lots assigned to him, his legal heirs may continue working his lots.

In no case will a lot be transferred to any person who already owns in his name a lot of 24 hectares or more within or outside the settlement site.
IX. Trading Store

For the purpose of supplying the employees and settlers' needs, and of marketing the settlers' produce, a trading store system shall be established by the EDGOR.

The EDGOR trading stores shall be located in all EDGOR sites and will carry in stock all the essential needs of the settlers.

It shall be managed by a trading store Manager and his assistants who shall keep a record and all incoming and outgoing merchandise.

In order to keep personnel down to the minimum, a settler should be allowed to draw supplies, only once a week and they should be divided into six groups, one for each working day. This will enable store personnel to handle only a limited number of people daily.

A surcharge of 5% over landed cost should be imposed to take care of administration and other expenses.

The trading store manager should make contacts with buyers of settlers' produce in advance. All settlers' produce will be deposited at the Trading store bodegas and a corresponding quedans issued to the settlers. These quedans will be good for its value in cash at the Trading store.

The trading store will negotiate for the sale of the produce at the most advantageous price to the settlers and after deducting 5% for handling and 1/3 of the total cost, as amortization of the settler's farm, it shall deliver the balance in cash to the settler.

X. EDGOR Projects

In order to provide income for EDGOR and a source of supply for settlers' needs and also to serve as experimental projects, the EDGOR should undertake the following projects.

A. EDGOR Farm - The EDGOR will reserve a definite area within the settlement site for experimental farms. These will be planted to various crops for experimental purposes. This will test the adaptability of the soil to these crops and serve as a guide for settlers.

Besides, these farms will give income to EDGOR and enable it to return in part the huge outlay needed by the project.

B. Poultry and Piggery - The EDGOR should start without delay the operation of a poultry and piggery project. From this project, the
EDCOR will issue two pullets and weanling to every settler to serve as foundation stock for a home poultry and piggery project. The development of the settler's lot will not be complete without a poultry and swine project.

Officers, employees and enlisted men can get their egg, fowl and pork supply from these projects. This will give more income to EDCOR. Feeds for this project ought to be plentiful as the EDCOR can produce practically all of them.

In due time, EDCOR may provide even outsiders with the beginnings of a small poultry and/or piggery at low cost thus helping to foster a much needed industry.

C. EDCOR Goat Farm and Ranch. - Where enough grazing areas are available, the EDCOR may also operate a ranch and a goat farm. This will enable the EDCOR to have source of supply for beef, cow's milk and/or goat meat and milk especially should the settlement site be located far from the source of beef. If sufficiently large, it can be the source of lucrative income for EDCOR and also provide employment to settler's dependents.

D. Other Projects. - Other projects may also be started as the need for them arises. EDCOR experts should always be on the lookout for worthwhile and profitable undertakings which will be of practical use to the country.

XI. Social Welfare

In line with the policy of the EDCOR to win the settler back to the ways of peace, every effort will be exerted to give the settlers a wholesome atmosphere in a democratic community. Attention will be paid to making democracy work.

A park will be one of the principal features of an EDCOR site. These parks will be improved so that settlers and their families may go there to fore-gather when their work is over. Playground equipment for children will be provided for.

In order to give wholesome recreation to settlers, athletic equipment of all kinds will be made available for daily use. Friendly contacts will be encouraged among the settlers.

Through community effort a library will be made available to both settlers and employees. These will be stocked with books and magazines in English, Spanish and the dialects so they can be utilized by settlers.

In collaboration with the Bureau of Public Schools, adult education
classes will also be conducted for the benefit of illiterates. Naturally, a school for children of settlers and employees will be constructed.

Medical officers of EDCOR will make periodical visits to all houses of settlers and employees to see that they are kept clean and neat. The EDCOR will help the settler to improve his home; provide it with a sanitary toilet, garbage pit, and all the essentials of a good home.

It is planned to organize Boy and Girl Scout Troops among children of settlers and employees so as to rear up the youth in the right direction. These young people will be given plenty of chances of leading a wholesome vigorous life.

The women folk of the EDCOR will also be mobilized so that they too may improve themselves and their community. Representatives of the Bureau of Plant Industry or experts from various branches of the government will teach the women various ways of conserving food, cooking the crops raised by the settlers and utilizing the products of the locality for decorative or commercial purposes. Various useful home arts will be taught them so they have something to do in their spare time. Such arts for instance as weaving, basket making, mat weaving, hat making, twine making, and other simple but useful arts will be taught by women who know. It is envisioned that after a reasonable time, many home industries may flourish through this method.

The same plan will be followed for the men. Various trades will be taught by experts so as to occupy the time of young people and the settlers when he is through with farm work. Carpentry, cobbling, blacksmithing, tinsmithing, metal working in general, simple construction, pottery, and allied trades will be taught by experts to the settlers and their children thus insuring a healthy community growth. If followed, all EDCOR sites eventually may become the seat of progressive home industries.

From time to time, movies will be shown free to all. We recognize the tremendous educative value of the screen so the help of various agencies will be sought to acquire good and entertaining films.

Fortnightly or monthly programs for the entertainment of all settlers will be organized. These programs will bring the people together, discover local talent, and give the settlers and employees and their families home made entertainment. It is believed that one of the most effective ways of bringing these people back to the ways of peace is to allow them to mix with their fellowmen in a friendly gathering so often as practicable.

In order to inculcate love of country, retreats will be conducted every afternoon so that the people will be constantly reminded of their country and their flag.
From time to time, a social welfare committee will study and make reports on ways and means of socially improving the lot of the settlers.

XII. Health

A Medical and Dental Officer will take care of the settler's health.

Hospitals and/or dispensaries will be built in all settlement sites to render free medical and dental services.

The Medical Officer will also conduct periodic physical examination of settlers and employees so that the proper treatment for them may be recommended.

Every effort will be exerted to safeguard the settler's health.

XIII. Discipline

As much as possible, the settler will be given freedom of action. Little or no attempt will be made to regiment his activities. However, the EDCOR will see to it that no person or groups of persons prevent other settlers from leading a peaceful life.

Initially, settlement regulations will be promulgated for the good of all and strict compliance of them by all will be enforced.

As much as possible, the idea or atmosphere of a police state or a detention camp should be removed from the settlers. All vestiges of confinement shall not be tolerated.

Offenses will be dealt with in a humane but just manner. The attitude of EDCOR towards settlers will be that of a teacher towards his pupil. Much of the success of the project will depend upon proper handling of settlers.

XIV. Relationship Between Farm Officials and Settlers

The EDCOR, being primarily a social rehabilitation project, depends for its success on the quality of the men who are to lead the settlers. Officers and men should set the model for the conduct of settlers.

From being hunted and persecuted so long, settlers have naturally become suspicious and apprehensive of the attitude of the government towards them. They will feel bitter against any attempt to coerce them. Underdogs for a long time, they will also resent being looked down or bullied or even a mere suggestion of them. Much care, therefore, should be shown by officers in their dealings with settlers lest by one false move
they destroy all the good intentions of the government. It must not be forgotten that at this stage settlers will become sensitive to the point of unreasonableness.

Only officers and employees with broad understanding, patience, and tact should be assigned EDCOR projects. Where possible, officers and men who have at some time or other fought dissidents should not be given assignment at EDCOR. The officer may harbor prejudice against all dissidents; others prevent him from doing justice to settlers. Besides, this might invite reprisals on either side.

Officers should mix with settlers as much as possible so as to gain their confidence. A project such as EDCOR will succeed only when the settlers' confidence has been completely won.

XV. Trainee Instruction

When funds and facilities are available, it is planned to train at least 500 trainees yearly at all EDCOR Farms. Instructions will cover both the military and agricultural phases. At the end of the training period, trainees who desire to stay will be encouraged to do so and given their own home and farm lots. In this way, the government can recover in whole or in part money invested for trainees and will give these young boys training in earning a livelihood.