

OPERATION BROTHERHOOD INTERNATIONAL





OSCAR J. ARELLANO, president and managing director of OB receives an award from the King of Laos.

CITATIONS

- * The Ramon Magsaysay Award
"For Promoting International Understanding"
August 31, 1958
- * The Lane Bryant President's International Volunteer Award
— in recognition of the fact that selfless devotion to the welfare of others is not confined to any one place or people.
Presented on November 19, 1959
- * Award of Merit
From the Ateneo Alumni Association
December 6, 1959
- * Chevalier de l'Ordre de Instruction Publique Du Laos
By His Majesty the King, Sri Savang Vatthana of Laos
July 28, 1960
- * Promoting International Understanding and Friendship
From The League of Women Voters of the Philippines
December 5, 1960
- * Chevalier de l'Ordre de l'Instruction des Millions d'Elephants
et du Parasol Blanc du Laos
By His Majesty the King, Sri Savang Vatthana of Laos
July, 1964

OB IN VIETNAM, 1954-'56



NOBEL PRIZE FOR OB URGED

Washington, June 21, (AP) Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, (Minnesota Democrat, now vice-president-elect of the United States of America) says he is recommending a Nobel Peace Prize to the Filipino Operation Brotherhood for its 1955 aid to refugees from communist persecution in Northern Vietnam.

Humphrey in a senate speech Friday announced he was calling attention to the Nobel Peace Prize selections committee in a letter to the manner in which doctors, nurses and medical technicians from the Philippines went to Vietnam to help 850,000 refugees from communism packed into refugee camps.

He said the prize was not awarded in 1955 or 1956 and he is suggesting that it be awarded retroactively, to recognize what he termed a magnificent performance by the Filipino mercy mission.

— The Sunday Times
June 22, 1958

WHAT IS OPERATION BROTHERHOOD?

Operation Brotherhood, or OB, as it is commonly known, is a civic, non-profit organization established to undertake projects designed to improve the social and economic conditions of peoples in the rural areas in the Philippines and in Asia.

It was conceived by Oscar J. Arellano after he saw the pitiful plight of the refugees in Vietnam in 1954. This spurred him to undertake, under Jaycee auspices, a project of relief and medical assistance utilizing Philippine experience and know-how.

Operation Brotherhood terminated its operations in Vietnam in December 1956, after serving for 26 months, and moved to Laos, January 7, 1957, upon the invitation of the Lao Jaycees and the Royal Government of Laos.

Through assistance from the Royal Government and the United States Agency for International Development, OB has expanded its operations in Laos, and services, to date, seven areas — Vientiane, Paksong, Sayaboury, Attapeu, Kengkok, Moung Phieng and Van Vieng. Its personnel force, composed of Filipinos and Laotians, runs hospitals and dispensaries, vocational and agricultural training centers.

Operation Brotherhood, now on its tenth year of operations, has received a number of awards and citations, among which is the coveted Ramon Magsaysay Award for International Understanding in 1958.

WHAT IS OPERATION BROTHERHOOD DOING IN THE PHILIPPINES?

Operation Brotherhood was invited into Sapang Palay by the government in February, 1964. With the help of the PHHC, CARE, CRS, CWS and other agencies, OB immediately began a medical assistance and training program.

It's plans for Sapang Palay emphasize vocational training aimed at providing an economic base for the community.

Operation Brotherhood also runs a piggery pilot farm in Los Baños with the initial stock provided by CARE. It intends to use the piggery to launch a nationwide swine breeding and dispersal program to backstop expanding projects in our rural areas in the future.

WHAT DOES OB NEED?

OB needs medical equipment, agricultural development and vocational training equipment.

Medical equipment would include medicine, minor and major surgical equipment, examination beds/stools, bandages, linen and the like.

Agricultural development equipment would include the following; irrigation and pumping equipment, tractors, food processing equipment, farm machineries, tools and implements, animal feed plants, dairy equipment, heavy and light duty vehicles, generators, small power plants and the like.

Vocational training equipment would include the following; research laboratory facilities, carpentry and wood-working shop equipment, office equipment and supplies, books, training aids, audio-visual equipment, tinsmithing shop, equipment and the like.

Sources of the above types of equipment, aside from the Junior Chamber International, which supported OB in its early years, are international foundations, voluntary agencies and private donors who have expressed their willingness to help OB set up its programs in the Philippines.

WHY OB NEEDS TAX EXEMPTION

In this proposed bill, Operation Brotherhood International, Inc. is only asking the same privilege that has been granted by Congress to tax-exempt entities like the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation, the Philippine-American Cultural Foundation, the International Rice Research Institute, and others (R. A. No. 1916).

In the course of its work in Southeast Asia, Operation Brotherhood has looked forward to the time it would be able to serve in its own country and among its own people.

The setting up of a center in Sapang Palay marks OB's modest but significant beginnings in the Philippines. For this, it needs all the help and support it can muster from both the public and private sectors.

It is in this light that Operation Brotherhood respectfully asks the honorable members of Congress to approve this bill which would enable it to pursue its programs with confidence and with vigor among our own people.

Fifth Congress of the Republic of the Philippines
Third Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
H. No. 8598

Introduced by Congressman Salonga

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The humanitarian fraternity known as Operation Brotherhood that responded with marked success to helping thousands of sick refugees in South Vietnam in 1954, when its government was weak from war and faced with great problems of national recuperation, conceived the effective methodology of an integrated medico-socio-economic program to develop human and material resources to solve the depression in the rural areas of under-developed countries. Such is its program of action in Laos where it was invited to operate under the sponsorship of the Junior Chamber of Laos (Jaycees).

Its effectiveness in hospital and clinic work, sanitation and public health, training young people in practical trades and skills, and in the promotion of workable community development projects on the people-to-people basis have gained international recognition and acceptance and are emulated in most of the depressed areas of Southeast Asia.

On that basis we laid the foundation of a civic non-profit entity organized in the Philippines called Operation Brotherhood International, Inc., whose sole aim is to render similar programs under the same concepts for the general well-being of our own Filipino people, especially in the rural areas.

The bill, therefore, seeks to exempt said non-profit entity from payment of customs duties, import levy, taxes and margin fees on all articles which will be imported from foreign countries into the Philippines, as well as donations, contributions and gifts given thereto for undertaking specific researches and promoting development projects in the field of socio-economics.

For the reason that the objective of the bill will ultimately redound to the upliftment of the social and economic well-being of our masses and will, in fact, encourage more civic groups to undertake similar social and economic action programs as a result of this incentive, approval of the same is earnestly requested.

(Sgd.) JOVITO R. SALONGA
Congressman, 2nd District
Rizal

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
H. No. 8598

Introduced by Congressman Salonga

AN ACT EXEMPTING THE OPERATION BROTHERHOOD INTERNATIONAL, INC., AS WELL AS DONATIONS, CONTRIBUTIONS AND GIFTS GIVEN THERETO, FROM THE PAYMENT OF CUSTOMS DUTIES, IMPORT LEVY AND TAXES.

WHEREAS, the Operation Brotherhood International, Inc., is a civic, non-profit organization created to advance and promote specific researches and undertake pilot development projects in the field of socio-economics for the general well-being of the Filipino people; and

WHEREAS, in undertaking such researches and in promoting socio-economic projects there will be need to enlist the active participation of domestic and foreign sectors in contributing financial, material, and other forms of assistance: Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. All articles which shall be imported from foreign countries into the Philippines for the exclusive use by, and display or exhibit of, the Operation Brotherhood International, Inc., shall be exempt from the payment of customs duties, import levy and taxes: *Provided*. That any article withdrawn from such use and/or display or exhibit and utilized for a purpose other than that contemplated in this Act shall be subject to the payment of the corresponding customs duties, import levy and taxes, unless the article is donated to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, or to any of its agencies, offices or entities.

SEC. 2. All donations, contributions and gifts given to the organization by a donor shall be exempt from the payment of customs duties, import levy and taxes and margin fee, and such donations, contributions and gifts shall be considered allowable deductions for purposes of determining the income tax of the donor.

SEC. 3. Upon dissolution of the Operation Brotherhood International, Inc., all its equipment, furnishings and exhibits and all other properties of the said organization of the Philippines shall become the property of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines without any payment.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.



THE HONORABLE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Speaker, solons give sum to OB

THE MANILA TIMES
T.S.A. THE 27 1949

By the way

Solons give unanimous confidence vote to OB



MANILA BULLETIN

SPEAKER VILLAFRANCA AND OB

Manila's innkeeper: Repeated History For Operations Brotherhood?



The Manila Chronicle

THE SPEECH OF OB

LADIES FIRST



Sapang Palay needs your charitable aid



DM can't shift blame he gives to Marcos



COLLUSION



Sapang Palay Youths Prepare For The Future

Twelve boys and girls are out to prove that all is not hopeless for Sapang Palay. They are learning a vocation that will be their future livelihood.

The twelve are actually running a hog farm, a four and a half hectare farm in Los Baños, Laguna under the tutelage of four agricultural personnel of Operation Brotherhood.

— Eric Giron
Mirror Magazine
Sept. 19, 1964

What They Say About OB

Few are the governments in Asia — such as the Philippines which need only to call and instantly have at its service for international aid, the experience, the men and the 'best of tradition' that is in Operation Brotherhood.

“Repeated History for Operation Brotherhood”
— Monina Mercado
Philippine Herald, July 2, 1964

Next Week, Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal will hand Oscar Arellano of “Operation Brotherhood” a check for P101,000... With Kune as the prime mover of the idea, each congressman dug into his own pocket (this time) and put in P1,000 to further “Operation Brotherhood’s” activities in the Philippines. More important than the amount, the gift signifies a unanimous “vote of confidence” by our solons in OB. The gesture recognizes OB as a Filipino project which has won the respect of Vietnamese and Laotians for the Philippine concept of Asian brotherhood and which has now been brought home to “Sapang Palay” and other parts of this country as well, to teach Filipinos how to help themselves.

The bi-partisan, non-political move demonstrates that there's still some hope for our politicians, mired in cynicism as they often may seem to be.

— Maximo V. Soliven
“Solons give unanimous confidence vote to OB”
The Manila Times, September 9, 1964

Senator Roxas' advocate of a Philippine technical mission to African nations as a means of forging closer ties with new republics is a natural consequence of the initial success of Filipino engineers deployed in Nigeria through the initiative of Ambassador Mauro Baradi....

Perhaps the mission Senator Roxas has in mind partakes of the nature of Operation Brotherhood where volunteers serve not only for money but primarily to serve mankind and spread Philippine goodwill.

I'm sure that volunteers will not be wanting.

— Jose L. Guevara
“Point of Order”
The Manila Times, Aug. 10, 1964

OPERATION BROTHERHOOD INTERNATIONAL INC.

1991 M. H. DEL PILAR, MANILA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LUIS MA. ARANETA
Chairman

OSCAR J. ARELLANO
President & Managing Director

DONALD S. MUNI
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Director

DIOSCORO L. UMALI
Director

SIXTO K. ROXAS
Director

LUIS A. JOSE
Director

OB IN LAOS 1957--



It is our hope that the magnificent pattern of Philippine-American assistance to Laos shown in Operation Brotherhood will be the design for a still larger program of aid from the two countries to which we are prepared to contribute with our experience in coping with the difficulties that now beset Laotians, with trained personnel in many fields and with our instinctive understanding of the Asian mind and distinctly Asian problems.



— Brig. Gen. S. Pendatun
Speaker Protempore
Phil. House of Rep.
Vientiane, Laos



The friends we make here (Laos) are our best allies in the defense and preservation of the boons of freedom that sometimes people at home may take for granted. You know the common danger in our part of the world...

Now I can testify personally, upon my return to our country, that you are doing your part effectively and that the leaders and people of Laos are most responsive to the spirit of service which has brought you here.

Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal
Speech to OB Personnel
Vientiane, Laos, August 27,
1964.



• OB IN THE PHILIPPINES •

Sapang Palay, San Jose del Monte, Bulacan



Confusion reigned for a time in Sapang Palay. Now, there is promise of prosperity for its residents, thanks to Operations Brotherhood. Quietly catering even to the smallest needs of the community, the OB is effectively lifting the people from the muddle and the hopelessness that was theirs a few months ago. This is largely because sincerity has been the OB's byword and government and relief agencies should take that as a cue.



— Lerna R. Montilla
"Operation Brotherhood
Goes to Sapang Palay"
Chronicle Magazine
July 11, 1964





"The application of humanity and brotherhood is the best approach to man's spiritual, social and economic growth".

