

B-299
94-37191

Defense Intelligence Reference Document

March 1993
DOD-2680-RP-93



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Defense Intelligence Reference Document

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Information Cutoff Date: 1 March 1993

This is a Department of Defense Intelligence Document
Prepared by:

Asia Division,
Office for Research and Assessments,
Directorate for General Military Intelligence,
Defense Intelligence Agency

Product Manager: [REDACTED]
Asia/Pacific Branch,
Philippine Section

[REDACTED]

DOD-2680-RP-93

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FOREWORD

(U) Military capabilities studies reflect essential elements of information (EEI) established and agreed upon at the 1990 General Military Intelligence Production Program (GMIPP) conference. The studies are designed to serve as ready reference documents for national, operational, and tactical planners and consumers. Each study presents a compilation of intelligence on forces and resources that contribute to the military security of each country, and on the political and economic factors affecting the country's military capabilities.

(U) Major contributors to this study are:

(U) Information summarized in each study is also available in detail in DoD order of battle and installation data bases such as the Integrated Data Base (IDB) or other intelligence publications. A list of related publications is published in the *Register of Intelligence Publications* (DRS-2600-35-YR). The *Intelligence User's Guide* (DVP-2600-397-83) explains how to obtain finished intelligence products and services from the DIA.

(U) GMIPP coordinated Defense Country Studies Program modules and the equivalent Military Capabilities Study (MCS) chapter are as follows:

GMIPP Module

MCS Chapter

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
MILITARY POLITICAL
ARMED FORCES

NATIONAL MILITARY OVERVIEW
NATIONAL MILITARY OVERVIEW
GROUND FORCES
NAVAL FORCES
AIR FORCES

(U) GMIPP Coordinated Defense Country Studies Program modules not covered in short format study are as follows:

ECONOMICS
GEOGRAPHY
ENERGY
ARMS TRANSFER

TRANSPORTATION
DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION
MEDICAL/HEALTH
PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS

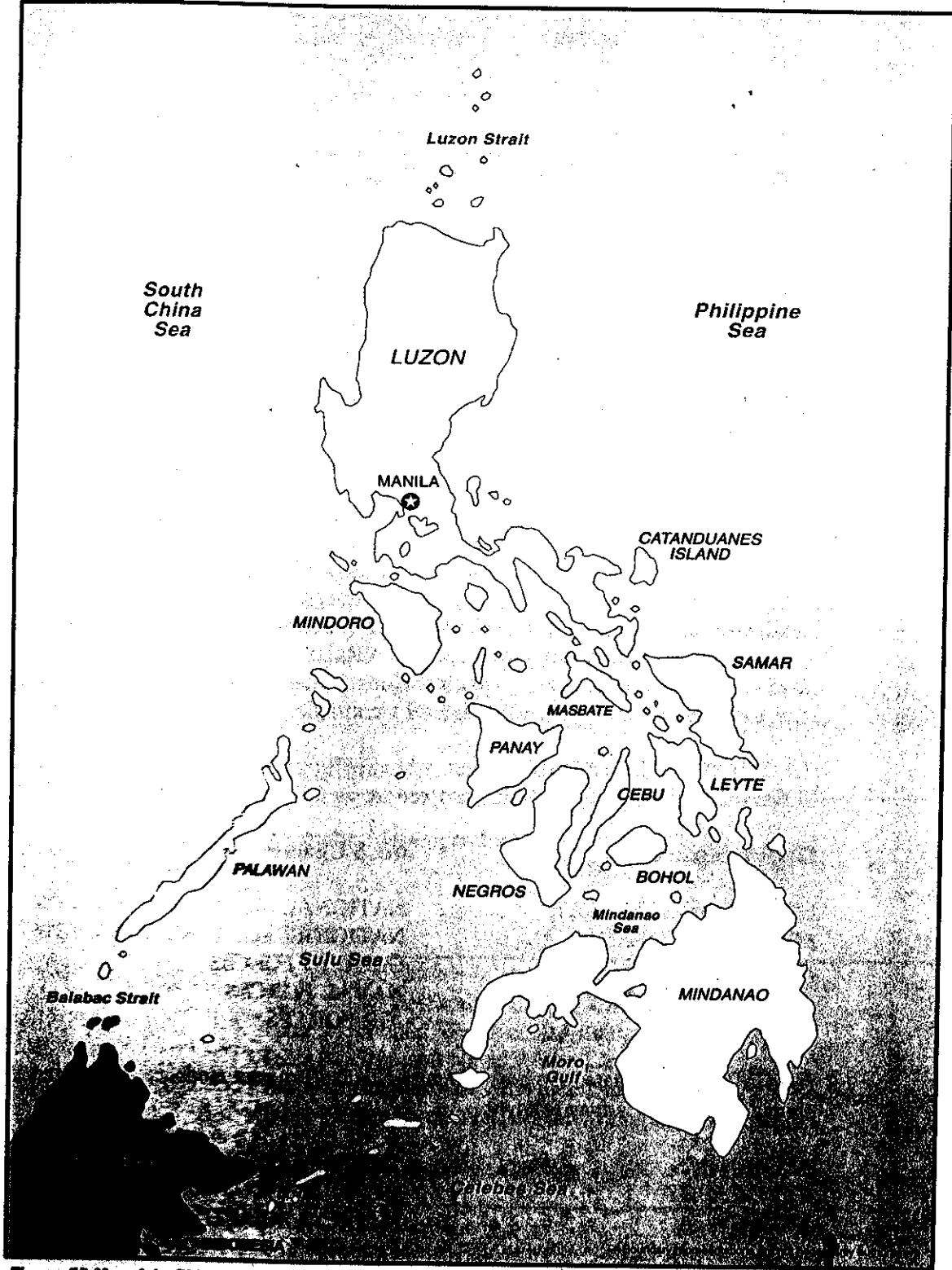


Figure. (U) Map of the Philippines.

National Military Overview

(U) Key Government Officials

President: Fidel *Ramos*
Vice President: Joseph *Estrada*
Secretary for Foreign Affairs: Roberto *Romulo*
Secretary of National Defense: Renato *De Villa*
Secretary of Interior and Local Government: Rafael
Alunan III

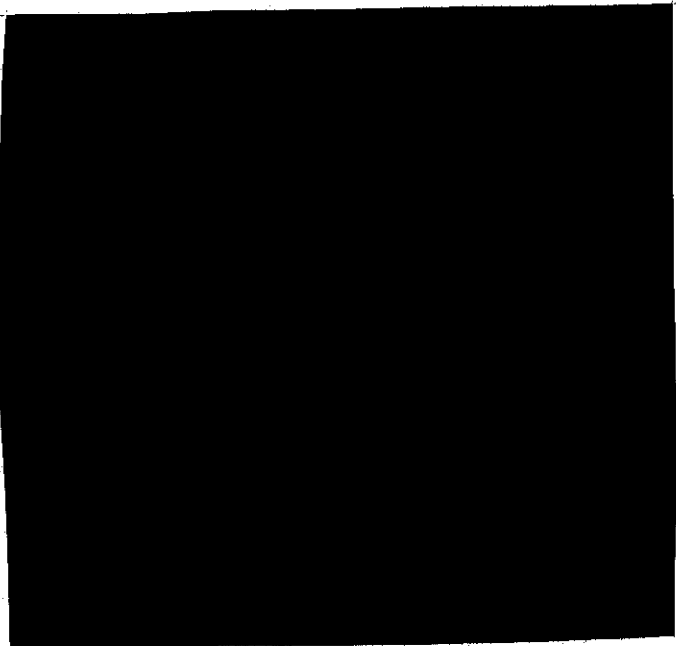
(U) Key Military Officials

Armed Forces Commander in Chief: President Fidel
Ramos
Secretary of National Defense: Renato *De Villa*
Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines: Gen
Lisandro Abadia
Vice Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines:
Lt Gen Guillermo Flores
Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence (J-2): Brig Gen
Raul Urgello
Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations (J-3): Brig Gen
Clemente Mariano
Deputy Chief of Staff, Logistics (J-4): Como Daniel
Delgado
Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans (J-5): Como Armando
Madamba
Deputy Chief of Staff, Comptrollership (J-6): Brig
Gen Jose *Ramiscal Jr.*
Commander, Philippine Army: Lt Gen Arturo *Enrile*
Flag Officer-in-Command, Philippine Navy: RAdm
Mariano Dumancas
Commander, Philippine Air Force: Maj Gen Leopoldo
S. Acot
Commandant of Marine Corps: Brig Gen Eduardo
Cabanlig

Commandant of the Coast Guard: Como Carlos
Agustin

Type and Stability of Government

(U) The Philippine government is described as a constitutional republic. A new constitution went into effect in February 1987, nearly a year to the day after the ouster of former President Ferdinand Marcos in the 1986 elections. It provided for a bicameral legislature composed of a 24-member senate and a 200-member house of representatives, both of which are popularly elected. Executive power is vested in a president, who is elected by direct vote for a single 6-year term. The incumbent, President Fidel Ramos, was chosen in May 1992, after a hotly contested national election. The next presidential election is scheduled for 1998. The Philippine judiciary is headed by a 12-member Supreme Court.



(U) President Ramos is affiliated with the National Union of Christian Democrats (LAKAS-NUCD) party. The Laban Party (Struggle Party), which has controlled the post-Marcos government, remains the largest political party.

(U) Political affiliation is not a major concern for the population nor its politicians. The Constitution does not require president and vice president to be in the same party. A plurality of votes establishes each officerholder. Hence Ramos' Vice President, Joseph "Erap" Estrada - former Senator, former movie star - is a member of the Nationalist People's Coalition. This style of political leadership is consistent throughout the country. Personal relationship is the dominant characteristic. Institutions and issues are peripheral to leadership style. Political dynamics are likely to be most intense in the House of Representatives, where Ramos-backer Jose De Venecia wrested the House Speakership from the Laban leader and brother of former President Aquino, Jose "Peping" Cojuangco. Ramos' sponsorship of De Venecia is one of several moves against Aquino supporters that have strained the Ramos/Aquino relationship.

Military and Political Alignment


(U) The Philippines maintains diplomatic, military, commercial, and cultural ties with many nations. Of particular importance are its security and economic relationships with the United States, its economic relations with Japan, its cooperative association with several southeast Asian neighbors, and its employment agreements with countries in the Middle East. Currently, there are no third country military missions in the country. Under UN auspices, the Philippines provided medical personnel to support the UN-sanctioned military operations in the Middle East in 1991 and military personnel for the UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia in 1992.

(U) The Philippines has been militarily allied with the United States since the 1940s. Under a military bases agreement, concluded in 1947, the government granted the United States the right to develop, maintain, and occupy several military installations on Philippine soil. A second agreement was the basis for security assistance. In 1951, a third agreement, the Mutual Defense Treaty, pledged the protection of Philippine sovereignty against external aggression, in accordance with each country's "constitutional procedures."

(U) Although the Mutual Defense Treaty remains intact, the bases agreement was terminated in September 1991, and total U.S. military withdrawal followed in November 1992. The security assistance program continues, but its future is unclear. Philippine policy concerning territorial overflights, landings, and port access by U.S. forces also has not been clarified.

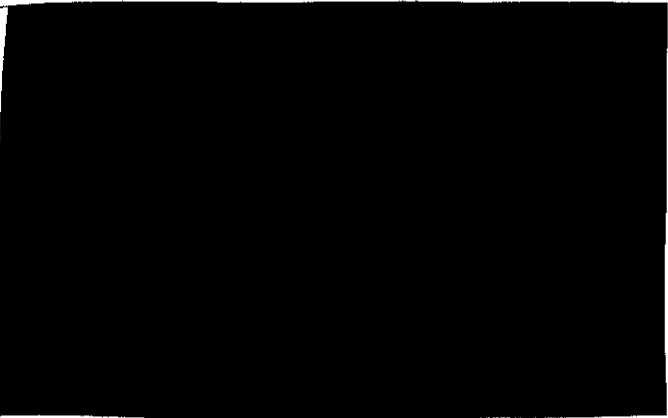
(U) In the international arena, in addition to its membership in the United Nations, the Philippines is involved in an important regional alliance, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). That organization, which includes Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand, and the

Philippines, seeks to strengthen economic, cultural, and technical ties among its members.



External Threat and Government Counterstrategy

(U) Although the Philippines has been involved in territorial and commercial disputes with several of its neighbors, it currently perceives no major external threat to national security. Its military occupation of, and historical claim to, several of the Spratly Islands (known to the Philippines as the Kalayaan group), however, could prove to be a future flashpoint between the Philippines and other claimants, including Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan, and the People's Republic of China, especially if a major oil field or other commercially exploitable resource is discovered.



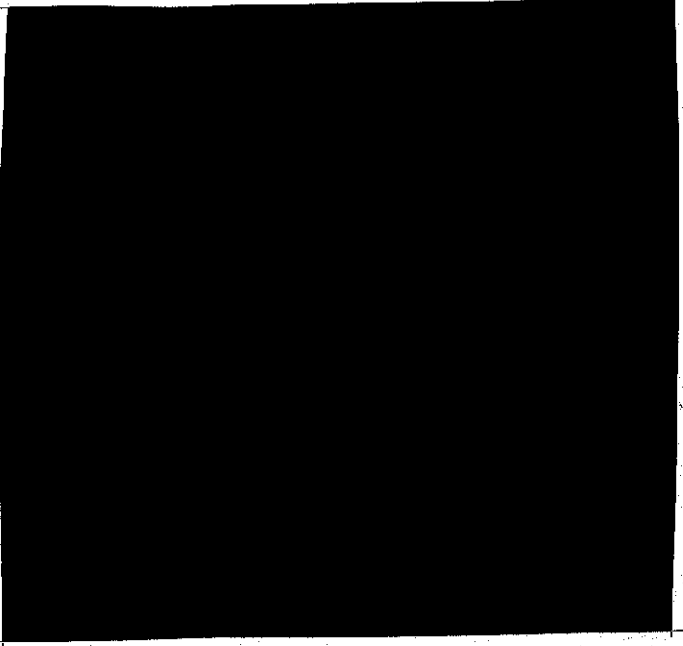
Internal Threat and Government Counterstrategy



(U) Communist strength evolves from a well organized centralized administrative system supported by the classic cellular structure of underground organizations. The communists are experienced in both combat and political action. Thus far, however, they have been unable to acquire sufficient strength to overpower the AFP and have been incapable of generating uniform support throughout the country.

(U) A second threat facing the AFP is the Muslim separatist movement centered on the southern island of Mindanao, where the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) seeks Muslim autonomy from the central government. Although organized resistance has fragmented in recent years, and the threat has diminished, several thousand armed fighters continue to support the separatist goals of the MNLF and other Muslim groups.

(U) Still another threat to the Philippine government is the organization of disillusioned former military officers known as the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM) and Young Officers Union (YOU). Although the members and supporters of these organizations have been involved in at least seven attempts to overthrow the Philippine government, support for their activities has weakened and their numbers have diminished. A small cadre of dedicated members remain, however, and have some potential to reestablish a destabilizing influence in the nation.







Foreign Influence

(U) Over the last 45 years, the Philippine and U.S. governments have concluded military agreements regarding defense, military bases, and security assistance, and U.S. forces have been allowed to develop and occupy a number of military facilities on Philippine territory. The military agreements served not only as a means of deterring foreign aggression, but also as a continuing commitment of the U.S. government to pursue the overall welfare of its former colony. They assured the continued flow of badly needed material assistance, and resulted in a significant boost to the Philippine economy.

(U) The June 1991 Mount Pinatubo volcanic eruptions and the September 1991 Philippine Senate rejection of the United States/Philippine bases treaty changed the long-established relationship between the two countries. Former security assistance agreements are in jeopardy, and the military base-related segment of the Philippine economy has been permanently affected. As a result, the Philippine government is attempting to develop or expand its economic and/or military relationships with countries other than the United States, such as Japan, Taiwan, China, and North and South Korea.


(U) Although the relationship has been weakened, the AFP will continue to be influenced by the U.S. military for some time to come. Most of the AFP's military hardware is of U.S. origin, and the AFP must rely heavily upon U.S. sources for the acquisition of spare parts. Although its level will be reduced, U.S. military assistance to the Philippines will continue, as will foreign military training and other forms of military support.



National Command Structure


(U) The Philippine Constitution mandates civilian control of the military and establishes the President as the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces. The President controls those forces through the Secretary of Defense. The Secretary is by law a civilian and is a member of the Philippine Cabinet. The Secretary of Defense exercises administrative control over all of the AFP and is charged with defense planning and internal security.

(U) The National Security Council, which includes members selected by the president and uses the Chief of Staff, AFP (CSAFP) as a technical adviser. Overall responsibility for national security is vested in the Secretary of Defense. The Vice Chief of Staff of the AFP works directly with the Secretary of Defense on a day-to-day basis as the CSAFP's representative while the CSAFP and the joint AFP headquarters (General Headquarters - GHQ) deal directly with the major services. The organization of the armed forces consists of the GHQ and three subordinate services: Army, Navy, and Air Force.

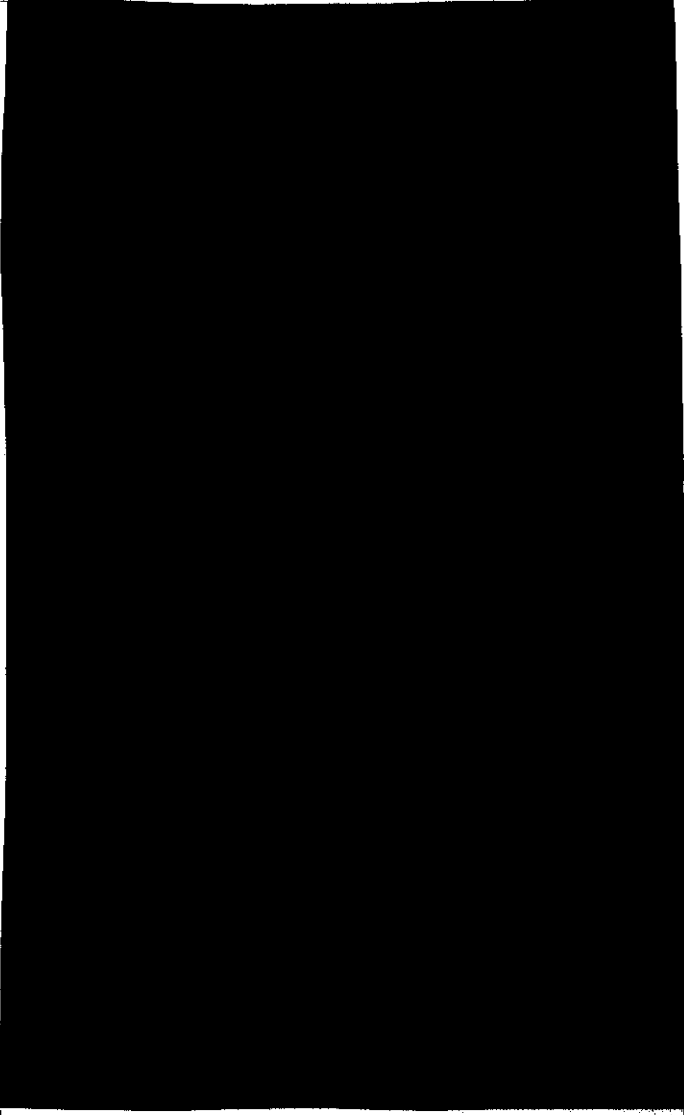




Military Mission and Capabilities

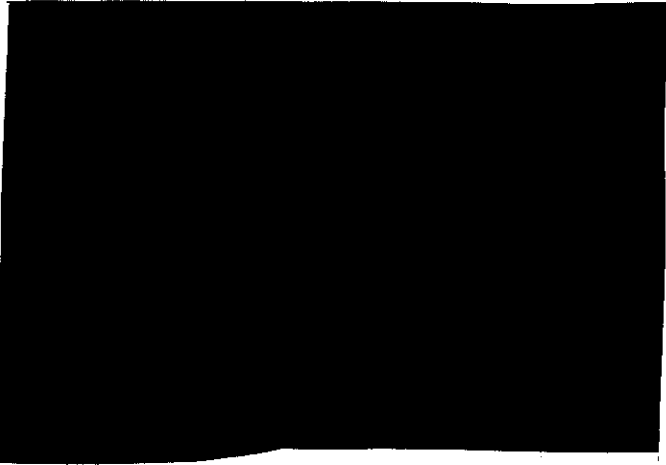


(U) The mission of the Philippine Armed Forces includes territorial defense and internal security. According to the Philippine Constitution, the AFP is expected to "uphold national sovereignty, support the constitution and defend the territory of the Republic of the Philippines against all enemies foreign and domestic; promote and advance national aims, goals, interests and policies; plan, organize, maintain, develop and deploy regular citizen reserve forces for national security; and perform such other functions as may be provided by law or assigned by higher headquarters."




Military Command and Control

(U) The highest staff organization in the AFP is the GHQ located at Camp Aguinaldo in Metro Manila. This joint staff is headed by the CSAFP and is roughly the equivalent to the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, although it possesses more command authority. The Chief of Staff reports directly to the Minister of National Defense on all military matters and is responsible for the overall control of the Army, Navy, and Air Force. He executes presidential directives, controls the joint service schools, and directs the area unified commanders.



(U) Most of the AFP's operational forces have been assigned to Area Unified Commands (AUC), whose commanders are directly responsible to the CSAFP. The five operational commands are the Northern Luzon Command, the Southern Luzon Command, the Visayas Command, Western Command, and Southern Command. In addition, there is a National Capital Region Command in Metro Manila. Administrative support to these commands is usually provided by the individual services.



Population (see appendix for additional information)

Demography

(U) The total population of the Philippines is about 66 million, and it has an annual growth rate of 2.1 percent. The population remains predominantly rural (about 70 percent). Metro Manila has by far the largest concentration of people with over 8 million residents. The number of military aged males (ages 15-49) is 16,255,000. Of these, 11,491,000 are considered fit for military service. About 715,500 males reach military age (20) annually.

Ethnic Composition

(U) Philippine society is relatively homogeneous, especially considering its distribution over some 7,100 islands. Muslim and upland tribal peoples represent the most obvious exceptions, while approximately 90 percent of the society remains united by a common

cultural and religious background and ethnically referred to as Lowland Christians. Minority groups exist in 11 of the 12 regions in the Philippines. A 1986 survey revealed that there were about 73 cultural minority groups with a total population of 5,756,018. The Cagayan Valley Region had the highest concentration of cultural minorities with 1,670,564, or 29 percent. Southern Mindanao Region followed with 1,369,179, or about 23.7 percent. Northern Mindanao and Ilocos Regions had 12.4 and 11.7 percent, respectively. Central Visayas had the smallest concentration of minorities, amounting to only 23,202 or .4 percent. This was followed by Western Visayas with 35,101 or .6 percent, and the Bicol Region, which had 38,417, or .66 percent.

Language

(U) The two major languages of the Philippines are Pilipino (based on Tagalog) and English (spoken by about 45 percent of the population), both considered official languages. There are, however, more than 80 different languages and/or dialects spoken in the country. Tagalog is the major Philippine dialect and is spoken in about 30 percent of the households. This is followed by Cebuano, which is spoken in about 24.4 percent, and Ilocano, which is spoken in about 10.4 percent. Tagalog and Ilocano speakers are found primarily on the island of Luzon, while Cebuano is common to the Visayas.

Religion

(U) Roman Catholicism is the dominant religion in the Philippines. It is the religion of about 83 percent of the population. Although the Philippine Constitution calls for separation of church and state, the Catholic Church is still able to manipulate some government policy decisions. Islam antedates Catholic Christianity by about three centuries but has remained confined to the Sulu Archipelago and some of the coastal areas of Mindanao. Approximately 5 percent of the population practices the Muslim religion. Protestantism, also a minor religion, and its followers are found throughout the archipelagos. Approximately 9 percent of the population practices some form of Protestantism, whereas Buddhism and other minor religions make up 3 percent of the population.

Education

(U) The formal education system in the Philippines offers 6 years of elementary instruction followed by 4 years of high school. In 1975, only 21.7 percent of Filipinos who were 25 years or older had completed elementary school. Recently, however, 61.5 percent of the eligible population now completes elementary school, and approximately 30 percent of the eligible population now attends high school. Ninety percent of males and females over age 15 can read and write.


Culture

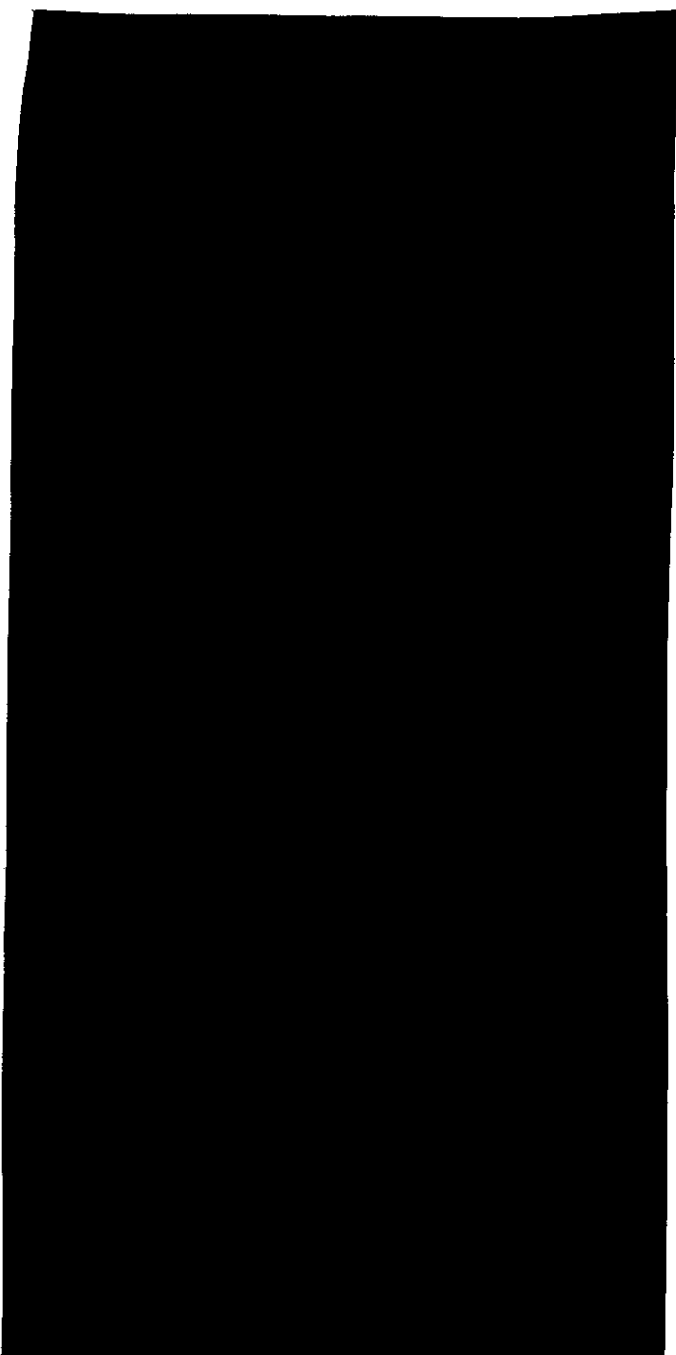
(U) The Philippines is a family-oriented society. Scholars have noted from their very earliest socialization Filipinos are taught not to think for themselves, but to think of the family, the barangay, and the town. In addition, the ethnic diversity of the country reinforces this introverted process. Thus, it is more common for the citizenry to think not in terms of a nation of Filipinos, but in terms of representatives of towns, districts, and ethnic backgrounds. In addition to the family, the Catholic Church is a dominant influence. Most importantly, the Church has inculcated in the people a sense of patience, a conviction that this life is merely preparation for a more glorious life to come. This outlook contributes to popular acceptance of the economic and social imbalances that exist in the country.

Ground Forces

Misslon

(U) The Philippine Army is responsible for defending national territory and, in conjunction with the Philippine National Police (PNP), maintaining internal security. The Army also has a civic action role and may be involved in a variety of government-sponsored socio-economic programs.






(U) In addition to the infantry, the PA also maintains a light armor brigade, a special forces regiment, a scout ranger regiment, and three engineer construction brigades. Distribution of those forces depends upon operational considerations and deployment decisions of AFP Headquarters.



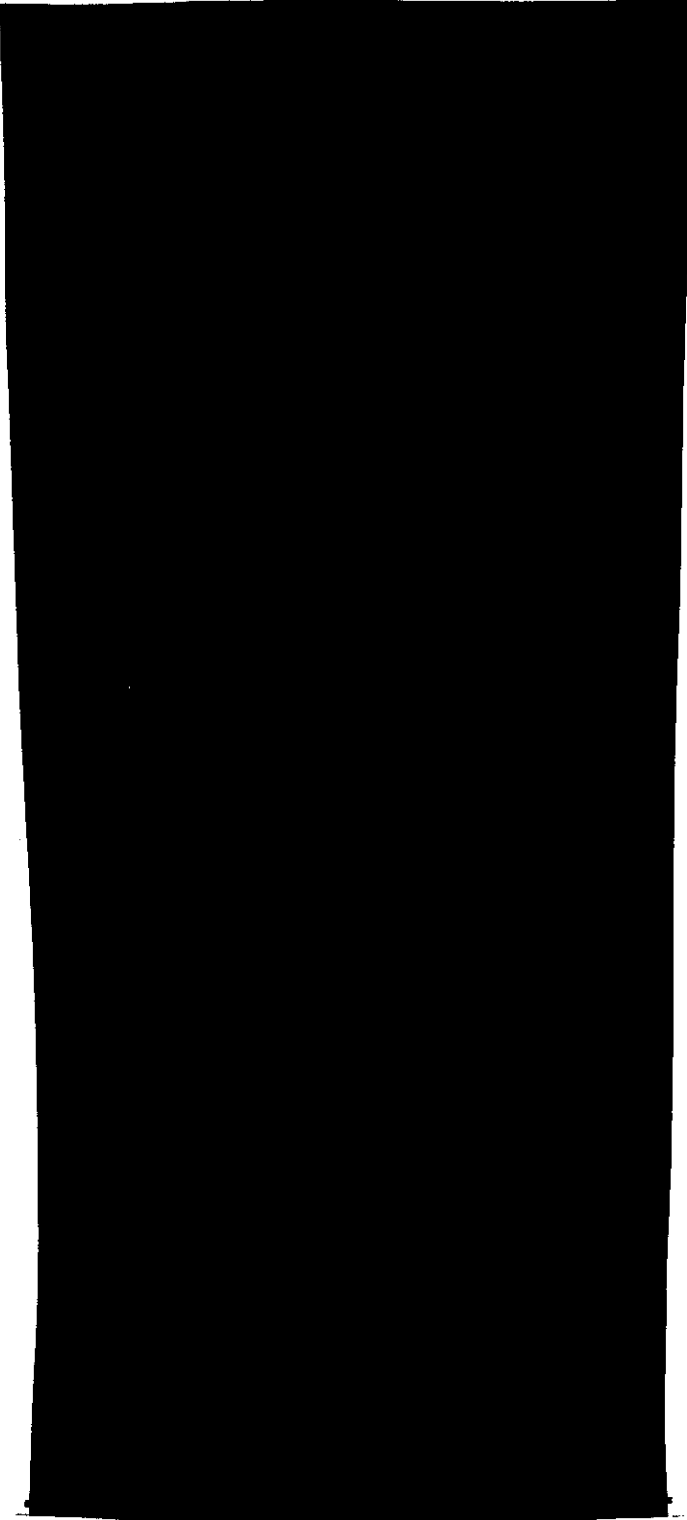
Personnel



(U) Another key aspect of the PA is the reserve components, known as the Citizen Armed Forces. Staff supervision at headquarters is the responsibility



administers and directs all activities pertaining to reserve buildup and undertakes the administration of the reserve elements of the AFP.



of the Civil/Military Operations, Reserve Affairs Office (RAO). To support the reserve system, HQ Army has created a RAO staff section. The RAO

are eligible to move to another branch, all newly commissioned officers, with the exception of some direct commissioned officers, are required to serve in an operational infantry unit for 3 years.

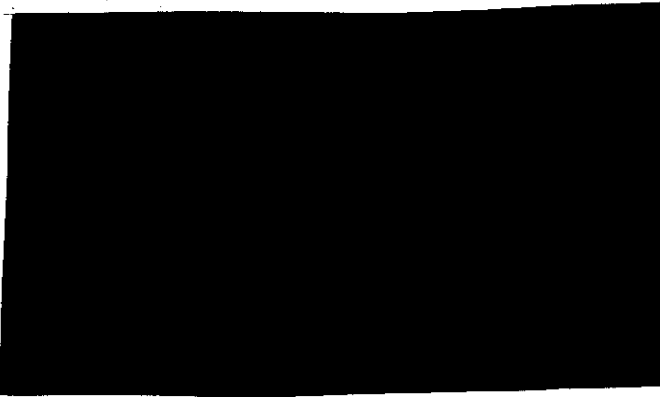
(U) With the exception of individuals who possess skills that are needed in the civilian sector, personnel retention is not a problem. Job security and other benefits encourage service continuation.

Training

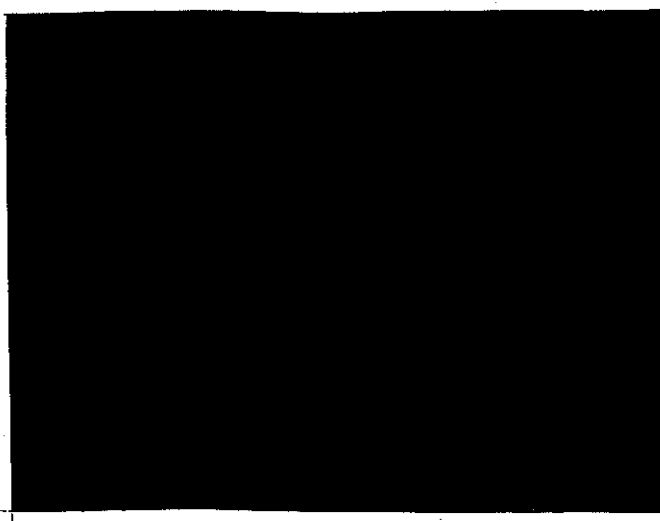
Recruitment and Retention

(U) There is no recruiting command for enlisted personnel. Each division, or subordinate unit, conducts its own recruiting programs. Units announce recruiting periods and specify the numbers needed. Candidates from the local area report to an established location for consideration. Recruits must be 18 years old, have at least a high school education, and must pass security and medical examinations. Upon acceptance, new recruits report to their assigned units for initial entry training.

(U) Officers enter the service from three major sources, the Philippine Military Academy, the Citizen Military Training – formerly the ROTC – and the Officers Candidate School. Only 2 percent come from foreign schools and/or direct commission. Before they




(U) Four types of training institutions conduct formalized training within the Philippine Army. These are the Training Command Philippine Army (TCPA), Service Extension Schools, Army Training Groups, and Divisional Training Groups. Of these, the TCPA is the most comprehensive and widespread. Its mission is to plan, conduct, and/or supervise career progression and specialization courses for all PA personnel. The TCPA creates and teaches basic and advanced course common module (phase I) for all officers and develops and teaches the phase II officer basic and advanced courses for infantry, artillery, ordnance, finance, quartermaster, and adjutant officers. Officers in other branches attend phase II training at their branch extension schools. The TCPA also conducts NCO and basic soldiery training, and a wide variety of specialty courses. It provides guidance to the service extension schools and their subordinate organizations. The Army Training Groups and the Divisional Training Groups provide additional unit level training for regionally deployed personnel.



Naval Forces

Mission

(U) The mission of the Philippine Navy is to provide defense against intruders at sea; to provide reconnaissance and intelligence; to train for and conduct amphibious operations; to maintain territorial integrity; to protect shipping ports and harbors; to inhibit illegal entry, smuggling, and piracy; to repatriate illegal entrants; to enforce maritime laws; to conduct naval operation in support of ground/air forces; and to assist the civilian government in national development.

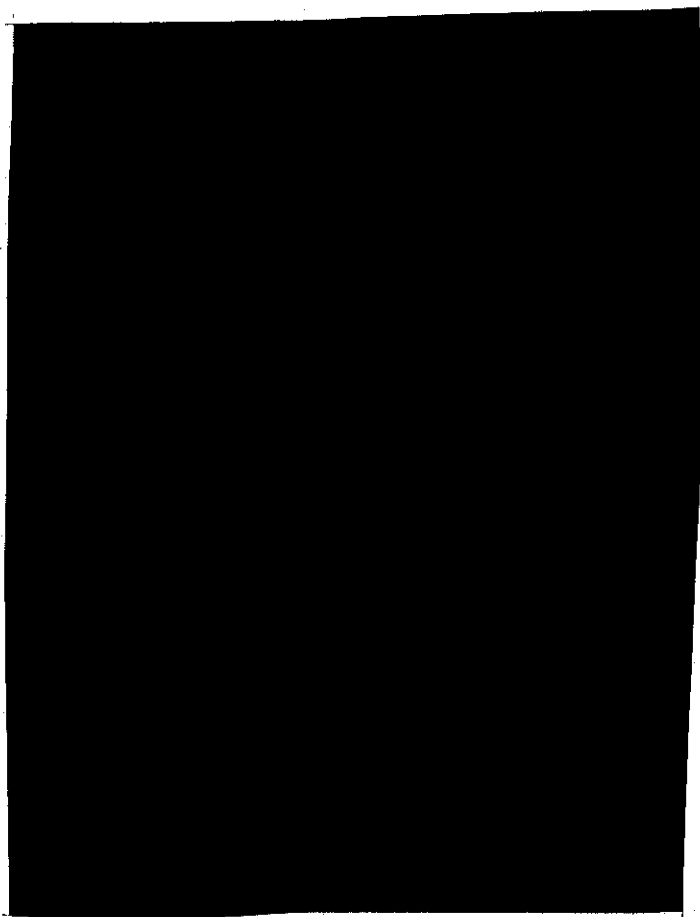




Air Forces

Mission

(U) The mission of the Philippine Air Force (PAF) is to conduct air operations in support of the AFP and the national government. This includes defense of Philippine airspace, support of AFP ground and naval forces, and participation in AFP civic action programs related to health, welfare, and disaster relief.



Appendix Demographics

Demography

Population (July 1992): 67,114,060.
 Density (July 1992): 224 persons per square kilometer.
 Crude birth rate (July 1992): 28 births per 1,000 population.
 Net migration rate (July 1992): -1 migrant per 1,000 population.
 Growth rate (July 1992): 2.0 percent.
 Total fertility rate (July 1992): 3.5 children born per woman.
 Infant mortality rate (July 1992): 53 deaths per 1,000 live births.
 Life expectancy at birth (July 1992): 62 years male, 68 years female.
 Urban-rural (1990): urban 42.7 percent; rural 57.3 percent.
 Sex distribution (1992): male 49.6 percent; female 50.4 percent.
 Age breakdown (1992): under 15, 37.8 percent; 15-29, 28.9 percent;
 30-44, 18.2 percent; 45-59, 9.5 percent; 60-74, 4.5 percent;
 75 and over, 1.1 percent.
 Population projection: (2000) 74,609,000; (2010) 86,493,000.
 Number of military aged males: 15-49 years old, 16,719,421; 11,816,366 fit for
 military service; 698,683 reach military age (20) annually.

Ethnic Composition	Christian Malay	91.5 percent
	Muslim Malay	4.0 percent
	Chinese	1.5 percent
	Other	3.0 percent

Language (by mother tongue of households)	Tagalog	29.7 percent
	Cebuano	24.2 percent
	Ilocano	10.3 percent
	Hiligaynon Ilongo	9.2 percent
	Bicol	5.6 percent
	Samar-Leyte	4.0 percent
	Pampango	2.8 percent
	Pangasinan	1.8 percent
	Chinese	1.5 percent
Other	11.0 percent	

Pilipino (based on Tagalog) and English are the official languages. There are some 70 native languages and dialects spoken in the Philippines. These languages are all closely related, belonging to the Austronesian (Malayo-Polynesian) family of languages.

Religion	Roman Catholic	81.1 percent
	Aglipayan (Philippine Independent Church)	6.2 percent
	Muslim	4.3 percent
	Protestant	3.9 percent
	Other	4.5 percent

The Roman Catholics are organized in 12 archbishoprics, 30 bishoprics, 12 prelatures nullius, 4 apostolic vicariates, 4 apostolic prefectures, and some 1,633 parishes. The Philippine Independent Church, founded in 1902, and comprising about 6.2 percent of the population, denies authority of the Roman Pontiff. It is divided into two groups, one of which has accepted ordinations by the Episcopalian Church.

Education Educational attainment (1980). Percentage of population age 25 and over having no grade completed, 11.7 percent; elementary education, 53.8 percent; secondary, 18.8 percent; college, 15.2 percent; not stated, 0.5 percent.

In 1988-89 there were 34,501 primary schools (ages 7-12) with 302,195 teachers and 9,972,571 pupils; 5,496 secondary schools (ages 13-16) with 111,734 teachers and 3,737,104 pupils; 865 vocational/teacher training institutes with 13,664 teachers and 271,938 students; and 810 institutes of higher education with 52,482 teachers and 1,122,377 students.

There are some four dozen nonstate universities and colleges, about one-third of them in metropolitan Manila, as well as a number of private institutions. There are also many technical institutions and community colleges in the provinces, but the tendency of the students is to go to Manila, despite discouragement by the government.

Literacy (1990) Ninety percent of the population age 15 and over, both male and female, can read and write.

Health In 1985, there were 51,461 registered physicians (1 per 1,062 persons); and 85,943 hospital beds (1 per 683 persons).

Labor Force Population economically active (1989): total 23,859,000; activity rate of total population 40.2 percent (participation rates: ages 15-64, 66.1 percent; female 37 percent; unemployed 8.4 percent).

Labor Profile	Agriculture	41.3 percent
	Mining	0.6 percent
	Manufacturing	9.6 percent
	Construction	3.8 percent
	Public Utilities	0.3 percent
	Transportation and Communications	4.6 percent
	Trade	12.9 percent
	Finance	1.7 percent
	Services	16.6 percent
	Other	8.5 percent

Organized Labor 3,945 registered unions; total membership 5.7 million (includes 2.8 million members of the National Congress of Farmers Organizations).

Society and Culture Philippine society is an incongruous blend of diversity and homogeneity. Geographically the country is part of the East, but in culture it is strongly Western. It is the fourth most populous country in which English is an official language and

the only predominantly Roman Catholic country in Southeast Asia. Its people, however, are Asian in consciousness and in aspiration.

The people of the Philippines are called Filipinos. According to some anthropologists, the Philippine Islands have 45 ethnographic groups distinct in economic and social life, language, and often physical type. Among the physical groups, the Visayans (also called Bisayans), who inhabit the sugar-rich central islands, constitute the most numerous divisions. They are usually subdivided into three groups: the Cebuano in the center, the Samar-Leyte in the east, and the Hiligaynon in Panay and Western Negros. The Visayans are characterized as being the most carefree and the most Spanish in their music and folkways. In Luzon, the Tagalogs, from the provinces adjacent to Manila, are the most home-loving and learned of Filipinos; the Ilocanos, from the north, the most energetic, thrifty, and migratory; and the Pampanguenos, from the central plains, the sharpest in trading. The Muslims of the far southern islands are considered the most independent Filipinos.

The Muslims are the largest of the organized non-Christian minorities, constituting approximately 4 percent of the population. There are many Muslim groups, each with distinct cultural and linguistic habits. The three main groups are the Tausog, Maranaw, and Magindanaw. Other non-Christian groups adhere to indigenous religious beliefs and practices. The mountain people of northern Luzon include the Ifugaos, Bontocs, Benguets, Kalingas, and Apayaos. Nomadic Ilongots roam the range of eastern Luzon. The Mangyans of Mindoro and the Manobos, Bukidons, and Bagobos of Mindanao all practice slash-and-burn cultivation. The non-Christian minorities have been treated as marginal Filipinos. Adequate political representation has not yet been extended to all these groups. They have been less successfully assimilated by intermarriage than have the Chinese, Spanish, and American mestizos, or mixed groups.

The Chinese have managed the economy as financiers and entrepreneurs, but they have not been allowed to become naturalized. Contacts with China from the 10th century on have resulted in a group of mixed Filipino-Chinese descent, which accounts for a minority of the population. Spanish-Filipinos and Filipino-Americans may be distinguished by their fairer complexion, taller stature, and aquiline nose structure. The relatively small number of immigrants from the Indian subcontinent added to the population's racial mixture. There are small numbers of U.S. nationals and Spaniards. The aboriginal inhabitants of the islands were the Negritos, or Pygmies, also called Aetas or Balugas; they now constitute only a small percentage of the total population.

In the Philippines, the stability of family and community takes precedence over personal desires. The subsistence economy also helps to dictate the authoritarian structure of the family in which control can be enforced at any level of seniority. In Philippine society, self-esteem becomes equated with stature, and one's position in the social order, regardless of actual function, is of major importance. Control is asserted less by physical resistance or punishment than by a sense of public shame or, in extreme cases, by ostracism. Either of these controls is more effective than any appeal to guilt feelings. The pressure of obligatory relations is summed up in the concept of reciprocity. The chief exception to hierarchical structure in the family is

the Philippine wife, who is legally her husband's equal. Today, women hold national public office and executive and professional positions at all levels of society.

The Philippine class structure has been remarkably unchanging throughout the centuries. Of the total population in 1992, it is estimated that about 1 percent is considered in the upper class (large landowners, highly successful professionals, and businessmen, and upper-echelon government officials); 12 percent in the middle class (minor officials, certain educators, most businessmen, and owners of medium-size farms); 32 percent in the upper lower class (skilled laborers, government clerks, most teachers, and office workers, owners of small farms and general stores); and 55 percent in the lower class (unskilled laborers, owners of less than 5 acres of farmland, most tenant farmers, landless farm laborers, the physically handicapped poor, and most household servants).

The population density of the Philippines is high – some 224 persons per square kilometer on the average, although the distribution of the population is uneven. Population density in urban areas is extremely high – that of the National Capital Region is about 13,665 persons per square kilometer – while density in such outlying areas as the Batan Islands and northeastern Mindanao is considerably lower than the national average.

The Filipinos have a high birthrate and a low rate of mortality. The high birthrate is the result of Catholic resistance to birth control, the rural orientation of Philippine Folkways, and in the marginal productivity of its agricultural system. The population rose from 19 million in 1948 to 42 million in 1975, to 48 million in 1980, and to 67 million in 1992. Although the growth rate has declined to an average of 2 percent a year for 1992, it is still above the world average of 1.7 percent. High birthrates and growth rates have made economic and social development difficult to achieve.

Since World War II, the Philippine population has tended to move from rural areas to towns and cities. At the beginning of the 20th century, more than 80 percent of the population was rural. By 1990, the rural population had dropped to 57 percent. Because of this change, there is a serious housing shortage in the urban areas. In many cities and towns people live in their own dwellings, but the houses are often substandard and lack elementary facilities for health and sanitation. To help meet this problem, the government has relocated thousands of squatters from Manila and other large urban areas to resettlement areas in nearby provinces. This program has met with some success.

There is a considerable amount of Filipino emigration, particularly of manual laborers and professionals. Many emigrants have gone to the United States, Okinawa, Guam, and Canada. Also, a large number of skilled and semiskilled workers have taken temporary overseas assignments, mainly in the Middle East.

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