Coliseum, Quezon City. Thrilla in Manila: the greatest fight of all time. British GQ 1 Oct 2015. It was 40 years ago—on Oct. 1, 1975—that Muhammad Ali took on Joe Frazier in a boxing match that would go down as one of the greatest fights of all time. Look back at stories from behind the scenes of Ali vs Frazier III. You’ll find this Oct. 2, 1975, account of the fight by the now-defunct Business Today. Do you think that Muhammad Ali would have won against Joe Frazier? 1 Oct 2015. The last of Muhammad Ali and Joe Fraziers three contests was a brutal of their famous, career-defining fight in Manila on 1 October 1975.