

AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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TO - AID/W

TOAID A 1863 X

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DATE REC'D.
<i>Pelton to</i>
<i>W. Engel</i>
DATE SENT 5/3/63

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ACTION

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INFO.

FROM - Bogert

SUBJECT - Monthly Report of Public Safety Division, Colombia (April)

REFERENCE - Report Control Nr. U-127

GROUP 4

Downgraded at 3-year intervals.
Declassified 12 years after date of origin.

THE NATIONAL POLICE

I. SITUATION

A. GOC has started an "austerity" program in order to balance the budget and it is understood that all Ministries and Government Agencies have had to reduce their budgets. There were considerable rumors, and occasional newspaper articles, that the National Police faced a drastic reduction in personnel and that it probably would close the six training centers located in the Departments. The Chief Advisor asked the Deputy Director of National Police for factual information on the effect of the austerity program. The Deputy Director stated that the police budget was reduced 15% and that the present number of agents (24,000) probably would be reduced to between 20,000 and 21,000. He stated that at the present time they have no intention of closing any of the training centers, although no doubt they will operate at reduced capacity. The National Police, by accepted standards, is undermanned at the present time (1.4 agents per 1000 population), and the loss of 3000 agents or more will severely handicap police operation. In the event that the National Police accepts PS recommendations for better utilization of manpower - and there are indications this may be done - the effect of this reduction in force will be less severe.

B. Following are police statistics on deaths in the violence areas directly attributable to banditry during the first three months of 1963:

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OTHER AGENCY
State
CIA
NSA
ASC
Navy
Army
PHC

DRAFTED BY <i>DLaughlin: jm</i>	OFFICE <i>Public Safety</i>	PHONE NO.	DATE 6 May 1963	APPROVED BY <i>Charles P. Fossum, Director</i>	PAGE 1	PAGES OF 7
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AID AND OTHER CLEARANCES
HDavis
SDEaton

cc: The Ambassador
EMarxen
Col. Vallery

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date MAR 18 1982

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ACTION OFFICE - Return this copy to (Do not type below this line) Branch.
Attach reply or note No Action Necessary block.

NO ACTION NECESSARY 10-62	
DATE	INITIALS

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	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
Civilians	159	149	181
Bandits	34	40	31
Police and Military	14	20	10
Total	207	209	222

II. OPERATIONS

A. Public Safety has just completed a project designed to improve police capability in Bogotá, with the expectation that a similar project soon will be underway in Departments throughout the Republic. PS prepared and presented a course on "Patrol Techniques and Methods" to a total of 1010 police personnel (78 officers, 124 non-commissioned officers, and 808 agents) in 12 stations and 3 training centers in Bogotá. This course, requiring from three to four hours in each police installation, lasted three weeks. Originally it was planned that Public Safety would handle this only during the first three days and that police officials who were assisting would conduct the course in the remainder of the stations and schools. Colonel Camacho, Deputy Director of Police, urged, however, that PS conduct the entire course and it was handled accordingly. The course dealt with observation, patrol techniques, search, knowledge of the patrol sector, answering alarms, etc. Top police officials gave this their full support. By order of the Director-General, police officials who attended the course are required to repeat it to personnel who were on active duty and unable to attend and to new personnel in the future. Eventually this will be conducted in all Departments and will be integrated into the curricula of all training centers.

B. The newly created Public Relations Section of the National Police continues with plans to hold a conference for police officials from all Departments of the Republic. The agenda has been established but the date of the conference will not be determined until all instructors and speakers have submitted their materials for review. PS will have an active part in the conference.

C. Previous reports have described the training, instigated by PS, in the use of the police baton that is taking place throughout the Republic. During a recent manifestation, the first police units sent to the scene were squads of men who had received this training and who were equipped with the new style baton as advocated by PS. Although PS advisors did not witness this, they were told that police officials were quite pleased with the manner in which these police squads operated.

D. As previously reported, PS believes the most severe police problem is the very low number of agents patrolling or engaged in constructive police work.

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During a recent conference with Colonel Camacho, Deputy Director of the National Police, he stated that he was not in accord with a PS recommendation that the working shifts of the police agents be increased from 6 to 8 hours. The Chief Advisor explained that at present only about five percent of the agents are on patrol at any given hour and that this proposal was one of several designed to increase the number of agents doing general police work; but that perhaps the objective could be attained by other means. Not entirely convinced that the situation was so bad, the Colonel conducted an experiment from his office. He personally called all stations in Bogotá to determine the number of agents on active duty and in public service at that time. Out of a total of 3,360 agents in Bogotá only 490, at that particular hour, were on active duty and most of those were assigned to fixed posts. The number on patrol was well below five percent. The Colonel was quite startled and agreed to take immediate steps to study and correct this. On the following Monday, Colonel Camacho, accompanied by the Chief PS Advisor and the Commander of the Bogotá area, started personal and minute inspections of the principal stations in order to investigate the utilization of manpower. Unannounced visits are being made daily to the stations and, during the four to five hours spent in each station, a thorough investigation is made. Deficiencies noted to date include an excessive number of fixed posts, agents assigned routine duties inside the station, poor utilization of commanding officers, etc. In some cases, corrections are made at the time and in other matters notes are taken as the basis for a general directive to be issued upon the completion of this program. This project, which Public Safety considers the most important project undertaken since the start of the program, is still underway and will continue for another week or more. If handled properly upon completion, it can have far reaching results and can do much to offset the reduction in personnel mentioned earlier in this report. Upon completion of this project, Public Safety will submit a report of the results, either in the text of the monthly report or in a special report.

III. EVALUATION

A. Public Safety has established excellent working relations with the National Police. All police officials are cooperative and very frank in their discussions. The Chief Advisor has almost daily contact with Colonel Camacho, the Deputy Director, who is in charge of operations of the police and also controls all training schools. Colonel Camacho is a dedicated professional police officer with whom PS Advisors can speak frankly. If the Colonel is not in accord with a PS recommendation or if circumstances or conditions prevent its implementation, he states this openly. On the other hand, when he accepts a PS recommendation, he takes immediate and energetic action to implement it.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

A. The Mission will appreciate AID/W action, as soon as possible, in regard TOAID A 1758.

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B. In regard to PIO/C 516 S-71-AA-5-10716, the Mission will appreciate AID/W taking the necessary steps to insure that all vehicles arrive without the AID symbol. Many of these vehicles will be used in the violence areas and others will be used in the control of civil disturbances.

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY
(DAS)

I. SITUATION

A. On April 24, 1963 President Guillermo Leon Valencia announced his new Cabinet appointments which included Alvarez Camacho Rueda, a Liberal, Minister of Government. At this time it is not known how this new appointment will affect DAS, although it is reasonable to expect that the long awaited appointment of the new Chief of DAS will occur shortly.

B. An interesting situation exists with regard to the Rural Security Service of DAS. This service has immense possibilities as an intelligence service to deal with violence and rural crime in Colombia. Yet it has its headquarters in the "Llanos" where no violence problem exists and where the only duty officially assigned to the Rural Security Service is investigation of cattle rustling. This force of over two hundred men is under the command of Col. Eduardo Román (R), and receives a budget of GP\$4,500,000 annually out of a total DAS budget of GP\$32,000,000, more than twice the per capita budget allowed the rest of DAS. The Rural Security Service is not subject to inspection by the regular inspection office of DAS and does not submit reports. It is not responsible to the regular discipline of DAS, and no qualifications are set for the agents of the Rural Service other than those set by Col. Román personally. A school for the Rural Security Service is currently being set up at Yopá, and the curriculum is being determined solely by Col. Román. A few months ago a group of forty Rural agents were sent at the request of the Governor into the Department of Tolima, and some of them are still working in that area. However, these agents are not responsible to the DAS authorities in Tolima, and no intelligence information is being received from them. Such control by and favoritism toward one section chief could be justified on security grounds if a great deal of high quality intelligence were being received. Such is not the case. The evaluation desk of the Public Order Section is currently receiving no information whatever from the Rural Security Service and there is every reason to believe that this service is operated almost solely as a protection service for cattlemen in the Llanos. As Col. Román is undoubtedly an important political figure, there is much doubt as to the possibility of change in the functions and administration of the Rural Security Service. The fact remains, however, that the violence problem is first of all an intelligence problem, and if DAS does not develop a rural intelligence service it will remain for others to do so.

C. The Investigations Advisor has made it clear that he would desire to visit the Rural Security Service at Yopá in order to familiarize himself with

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these operations. Some delay has been evident due to the expressed desire of the Chief of DAS to accompany the Advisor on this trip, but the trip is now planned for early May.

II. OPERATIONS

A. During April the Investigations Advisor visited the DAS field offices at ~~xxx~~ Santa Marta, Barranquilla and Cartagena. At Cartagena he was also able to have a personal conference with the Chief of the field office from Montería.

B. In Barranquilla and Cartagena DAS owns buildings which would very well be used as training schools.

C. The Investigations Advisor has now completed the survey of DAS except for the Rural Security Service and is preparing his report and recommendations. A draft of one chapter of the report entitled "The Role of the Alliance for Progress in New DAS" is submitted separately as a special report in order to obtain approval of AID/Washington for its inclusion in the report.

D. Seven DAS agents are currently attending the Basic Course at IAPA, Fort Davis. Nominations of candidates for future courses are being processed.

III. EVALUATION

No change.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

None.

FREEMAN

Attachment

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ANNEX ITRAINING

<u>Place, Type of Training Dates, Hours</u>	<u>Entered Trng. This Month</u>	<u>Total in Training</u>	<u>Completed this month</u>	<u>Completed Training to date</u>
<u>U. S. Training</u>				
1 week Bomb disposal course Canal Zone	7 (DAS)		7	7
12 week Gen. course Iapa	7 (DAS)	7		
<u>Local</u>				
1 week course "Use of Police Baton" Nat. Police		1,500	3,500	3,500
1 day course in "Patrol Methods" Nat. Police	1,010		1,010	1,010

Note:

There are 9 National Police and 2 DAS training centers in constant operation. This annex, however, includes only that training in which Public Safety assisted or had some connection.

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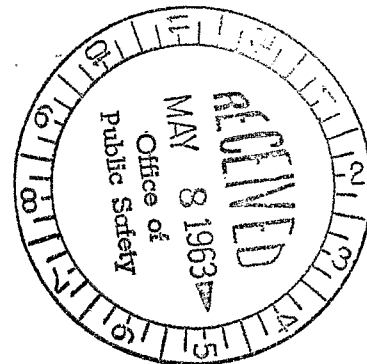
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ANNEX II

COMMODITIES

No commodities have been received since the establishment of the Public Safety Program. In regard to riot control equipment delivered prior to the inception of the program, PS to date has been unable to reconcile Minister of War and police records of deliveries with the AID/W issued PIO/C.



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