

~~AIRGRAM~~

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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TO - AID W TOAID A 68

OLAD GINGSOUTH USAID A 4

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ARCH

DATE SENT

July 16, 1965

FROM - BOGOTA

SUBJECT - Monthly Report - Public Safety Division  
June 1965

REFERENCE -

Ex-3 - Downgraded at 3-year intervals

I. SITUATION

June was a quiet month in comparison with the preceding one. Rural violence continued at about the same level, but the number of kidnappings dropped to one, and there was a sharp increase in the number of bandits captured or killed by the National Police, and also those killed by citizens. The two most noteworthy events of the month were the killing of the dreaded bandit leader Efraim Gonzalez (Conservative) in South Bogota, and the cold-blooded assassination of Col. Asdrubal Romero Escobar, National Police Commander of the Department of Magdalena.

National Police Intelligence reports yielded the following figures:

Rural Violence

Citizens murdered by bandits	44
Citizens wounded by bandits	8
National Police murdered by bandits	2
National Police wounded by bandits	1
Bandits captured by National Police	32
Bandits killed by National Police	20
Bandits killed by citizens	5
Fincas attacked	24
Settlements attacked	1
Highway robbery (hi-jackings of trucks, buses, taxis, etc.)	
National Police posts attacked	

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Public Safety

PHONE NO.

DATE

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APPROVED BY

Chief, FSD

PAGES

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OTHER CLEARANCES

FDFisher:DD

SAC@niskey:POL

CBarnett:APO

cc: Chief, MILGP

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2 TOpenchowski:PO

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National Police patrols attacked ..... 1  
 Kidnappings ..... 1

Although Efraim Gonzalez met his death in an urban center on June 9, he was a rural bandit who had terrorized parts of Boyaca and Southern Santander for several years. He had 253 murders and numerous other crimes to his credit.

The following is a summary of events leading to Gonzalez' end:

On June 9, shortly after noon, military intelligence agents operating in South Bogota received information to the effect that Gonzalez was hiding in a house two blocks east of the south end fire station.

The Military Brigade Institute was notified and ordered a relatively large number of soldiers to the scene. A lieutenant, one non-commissioned officer, and three soldiers went to the door to break it in, and as the door came open, Gonzalez appeared. He opened fire with a Madsen submachine gun, killing the non-commissioned officer and wounding one soldier. In this melee, Gonzalez captured the submachine guns of his two victims, along with eight loaded clips for each gun before retreating into the house. In the meantime, the lieutenant gained entrance to the house and secured himself in one of the rooms from which he was able to fire on Gonzalez, from time to time, but apparently without effect. Gonzalez fired bursts from different points in the house, conserving his ammunition, and at the same time finding his mark to the extent that he was able to kill three more soldiers, one civilian employee of the Brigade and wounding others. In the meantime, more soldiers reinforced those at the scene and the total was estimated between 300 and 400. In all, eleven soldiers (one of whom died later), one civilian brigade employee, and three civilians, including one woman and two male infants were wounded by bullets.

The acting DAS Chief stated that at 3:00 p.m. that afternoon, the Minister of War had called him and told him that the operation would go on, and told him to keep his personnel out of it, that this was strictly a military operation. No National Police personnel participated until almost the end of the fight.

After returning Gonzalez' fire without effect (it is estimated that the Army expended between 55,000 and 71,000 rounds of small arms ammunition against the house), a 40 MM antiaircraft gun was brought up and cartridges were fired at the house at point blank range, opening large holes in the walls. More than 150 fragmentation grenades were lobbed through these holes, but to no avail. It is understood that the Army also used CW and DM (tear gas and sickening gas) grenades, but without effect.

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At about 5:00 p.m., Major Mario Castillo, U.S. trained (National Academy and other), Assistant Director of the National Police School for Officers and Cadets here, heard of the fracas and asked General Bernardo Canache Leyva, Director General of National Police, for permission to form a gas squad and offer assistance to the Army. With Canache's consent, Castillo chose one sergeant and two agents, with three police gas rifles and 37 M1 Flite-rite projectiles for same, and reported to Lt. Colonel Joaquin Matallana, commanding the operation, offering police assistance. Colonel Matallana was at first reluctant, saying that the troops would get most of the gas. However, when Castillo reconstituted, Matallana relented. The Army provided cover fire for Castillo and his team while they went into position. After a barrage of three projectiles was fired into the house, the forces outside drew fire from Gonzalez. Four more barrages of three projectiles each were fired into the house through windows and other openings. (The numerous holes blasted by the 40 MM gun made a concentration of gas difficult.)

After the last three projectiles, Gonzalez ran out through one of the holes blasted by the canon, apparently blinded and coughing from the GH gas, but firing bursts from his Madsen as he took a diagonal route across the street toward the police gas squad, almost jumping on top of them. The police sergeant tackled him and he fell, but he stood up again, whereupon Major Castillo grabbed his right arm and a police agent grabbed his left and they disarmed him. Although still struggling madly, he was overpowered. At this precise moment a soldier approached and administered several bullets at point blank range, killing the man instantly. Major Castillo delivered Gonzalez' weapons to Colonel Matallana.

Major Castillo attributed his success and confidence in the operation to the training which he had received at the FBI National Academy in Washington and at the Federal Laboratories, Inc., Saltzberg, Pennsylvania.

The reaction of the little man on the street, the bootblack, the taxi driver, etc., was that Gonzalez was "my cache" or very brave and masculine to have held off so many troops with so much force for so long and to have taken such a heavy toll. The place of his death has become a shrine where many people from the massive lower classes come and place a candle. The enterprising trinitarios have established a concession to charge admission for inspection of the scene.

On the evening of June 3 in the Department of Magdalena, Municipality of Chiriguana, a gang of 12 bandits assaulted the settlement of El Paso, robbing two of the citizens. The citizenry reacted with a hail of gunfire, killing one of the marauders. Upon being notified, the National Police took after the remainder, a company of 10 men. Shortly thereafter, the irate citizens located more of the desperadoes and killed four more of them.

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In the same Department, Municipality of Pailitas, a gang of bandits attacked a newly established National Police Post on June 6 and delivered eight prisoners being held by the police.

In the Department of Cundinamarca, Municipality of Soacha, the National Police on June 9 raided a house where they seized numerous police uniforms, materials for making bombs and reloading ammunition, and a small number of arms.

There was still no news of the whereabouts or fate of Oliverio Lara, millionaire cattleman, kidnaped from his large hacienda in Caquetá on April 26. On June 8 National Police captured three houses in the Department of Huila, who were attempting to collect money from the Lara family.

In the Department of Antioquia, Municipality of Guatapé, on June 11, a patrol of National Police made contact with the gang of Gilberto Bastardo Gallego, alias "Sincante" (Mockingbird). He had been aspired to the bandit "Hall of Fame." In the gunfight which ensued, Sincante was killed. A carabinieri agent was also killed. National Police had been whittling away at Sincante's gang for some months, gradually reducing its numbers by capturing or killing the members. As a result, Sincante had taken to the defensive.

Urban Crime

Citizens murdered by gangsters	2
National Police murdered by gangsters	2
National Police wounded by gangsters	4
Gangsters captured by National Police	11
Gangsters killed by National Police	1
Banks and financial institutions attacked	2

Colonel Romero, mentioned in the opening paragraph, was shot to death at 10:30 on the night of June 29 in Santa Marta as he was about to enter a Grill with some friends. Five suspects were immediately taken into custody. One of them was a former National Police Lieutenant who had been "kicked" because of dishonesty and abusive acts in line of duty. He and another member of the gang, all identified as smugglers, are alleged to have fired the shots from revolvers. All of the shots were fired from behind without warning. Members of the gang had followed Col. Romero all day as he moved about Santa Marta, apparently awaiting a favorable opportunity to strike. Revenge and the desire of the gang to remove a formidable obstacle to its operations appeared to be the motives. Col. Romero was said

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to have played a prominent hand in bringing about the dismissal of the lieutenant, and in recent months had been bringing heavy pressure to bear on smuggling operations in the Department of Magdalena. Col. Romero was highly popular among the officers as well as the rank and file of the National Police. He also enjoyed a high degree of public esteem.

On the morning of June 7 in Bogota, a gang of three attacked a Savings and Loan Company in Bogota, escaping with 90,000 pesos. A few minutes later, National Police, operating in an AID provided radio patrol car, arrested the heavily armed trio with the lost interest. Among the arms seized was a hand grenade of Venezuelan manufacture.

Civil Turbulence

Demonstrations and manifestations .....	1
Strikes .....	3
Riots .....	1
National Police Injured in Riots .....	2
Persons arrested in riots .....	2

In connection with the death of the student in last month's rioting in Bogota, a judge appointed by President Valencia to investigate the case has ordered a National Police lieutenant arrested and charged with homicide. The medical report is quoted as stating that the victim died of a blow on the back of the head inflicted by the broad side of a saber. (It is not known how such an exact determination could have been made since the same type of wound can result from a blow by a variety of instruments.) The reasoning of the judge was that since only National Police officers carry sabers and that there were only two officers in the area at the time, and that one was not active in the operation, it had to be the lieutenant. There is no record of any witnesses of contact between the student and any police personnel. General Bernardo Cancho Leyva, Director General of National Police, expressed indignation because of charges based on such reasoning and because the judge did not consult him with respect to the case.

Terrorism

Bombs placed and/or exploded .....	7
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On the night of June 20, four bombs of considerable power, were placed in various parts of Bogota, mostly in the north. One of the bombs was placed under the rear of a U.S. Air Mission auto parked in front of a residence. The car appeared to be a total loss.

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DAS accomplishments in June include: the killing in Bogotá of Hector Afanador, alias "El Largo," and capture of five of his gang after they tried to rob a factory; capture in Bogotá of Gustavo Franco Pinilla, wanted for robbery, after a gunfight with a DAS detective; capture in Barranquilla of three bandits after they attacked a taxi.

The Rural Security Service of DAS reports that while at present there are no organized gangs operating in the Llanos Orientales there is considerable organizational activity of the "Hard Line" EPL (leftist) in which the orientation is toward violent revolution in the Llanos. A continual alert and intensive intelligence activity is necessary to counteract this. The Middle Magdalena operation of the Rural Security Service is proceeding in an orderly manner, but is still in the organizational and training stage.

Many problems are being experienced in the implementation of the Judicial Reform Program in Colombia, and one section of the program has been declared unconstitutional. However, it is expected that the provision for dividing criminal investigative jurisdiction between DAS and the National Police will officially take effect on July 1. Implementation will take place over a period of time as the National Police develop the necessary investigative capability.

There were no high level changes in DAS personnel in June.

The new salary scale for DAS which took effect June 1 provides basic monthly salaries of 1,600 pesos, 1,520 pesos, and 1,120 pesos, for the first, second, and third categories of detectives. The new scale has already had a beneficial effect upon DAS recruiting. The current training class at the DAS Academy, Sabá, has 20 members as compared to an average of 40 members in recent classes. Better recruiting standards, better performance, and reduced turnover are also being experienced.

It has become clear that as various prosecutions resulting from the recent campaign against contraband are brought to court the Customs Judges are being subverted by the highly influential people involved in these prosecutions. This has been a major scandal in the Colombian Press during June, and threatens to nullify the excellent efforts of the Director of Customs in ridding himself of a host of rascals in the Customs Guard and in arresting important smugglers with large quantities of contraband.

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II. OPERATIONS

With a more stable internal security situation during the month of June and the new advisors "getting their feet on the ground," more progress could be seen in Public Safety Program activities.

Mr. George Kuch, Public Safety Bureau Consultant, completed his study and rendered what the Public Safety Division considers an excellent report on the firearms situation in the National Police and DAS. Mr. Kuch also presented a summary of his findings and recommendations to the Country Team Internal Defense Group. He took the original copy of his report to AID/W for review and approval. In the meantime, preparations are being made to reconcile the recommendations of the report to the conditions peculiar to the police here and the priorities which apply.

Mr. Jack Jimick, Chief Public Safety Advisor on TDY from Bangkok, was making good progress on his Motor Vehicle Maintenance and Fleet Management Survey. He is due to complete the study in July.

The study of personnel assignments in the National Police was initiated June 14 by the Municipal Public Safety Advisor and a National Police Officer of the Bogotá command, the scene of the first part of the study. The police sub-stations and the entire sector of each station are being visited. After all initial visits are completed, personnel distribution data forms will be distributed to all station commanders for completion and return to the Bogotá commander, after which follow-up visits will be made to each station for the purpose of discussing the contents of the forms. The Municipal Advisor reports that excellent responses is being received from the station commanders.

The Criminal Investigation Course which began April 12 ended prior to the middle of June after a seven week period, graduating 35 agents and non-commissioned officers, 25 from the Bogotá command and 10 from the Department of Cundinamarca which surrounds Bogotá. The course lost most of its effectiveness because of the 16 day absence of Major José María EIA EZ Lozada, F-2 from Bogotá, who was assigned to the Laza case in Tequetá for that period, and without the responsibility for the course being given someone else.

The Model Station Activity moved slowly because of the refusal of the Ministry of Justice to move the judge out of the first floor in Station 100. A conference between the Chief Public Safety Advisor and General Canacho produced a decision to locate the laboratory in Precinct Station VI, next door, where there is ample space. This will provide additional space in Station 100 for operations of the lab and for records. The new laboratory

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site is more adequately suited to its purpose. Large map for the dispatch center was completed by a National Police draftsman and accepted by the Bogotá commander who ordered it installed in the dispatch room.

The Bogotá commander has been approached on further bomb disposal training and has reacted favorably. It is seen as desirable to combine this training with the construction of a bomb disposal truck for use in Bogotá and as a demonstration project for the remainder of the country. A request has been forwarded to the Director General for use of an obsolete dump truck and other materials. The Municipal Advisor has the competence to direct conversion of the truck into a bomb disposal vehicle with use of some sandbags, concrete and a discarded metal cylinder such as a boiler or a cement mixer, and can instruct the classes.

The Public Safety Training Advisor and the Telecommunications Advisor met with SEMA (National Apprenticeship Institute) to establish another six month course for radio maintenance technicians, scheduled to begin July 5. The course which ended June 24 with the graduation of 8 National Police and 1 MAS students was considered highly successful. These people are considered qualified in installation, servicing, and inspection of the communications equipment.

The Public Safety Training Advisor also pushed riot control training with plans to make an improved riot control training film including use of the non-rigid canvas stretcher and a plastic shield which is being produced by a local plastics factory. The P-5 in the General Directorate has appointed a Captain on his staff to work with the Training Advisor and Major Mario Castillo, U.S. trained Assistant Director of the School for Officers and Cadets, on the production of this and three other training films. USIS support has been solicited and is under discussion. In the meantime, Major Castillo is training officer instructors at the school in the use of the stretcher, the shields, and also a training baton made of long bamboo slivers and covered with leather reinforced canvas. This baton has the feature of the rigidity and leverage of a wooden baton, but can be used freely in training without fear of inflicting injury on the trainees.

The Public Safety Telecommunications Advisor with the National Police Communications Officer completed surveys for tactical communications nets in the Departments of Antioquia, Tolima, Huila, and Cauca. Although the latter three are not necessarily in order of priority, they fitted in well with other business which had to be conducted in the area and were done in order to best use of time and travel. He also prepared a time phase chart for survey, purchase, delivery, installation, test, final completion, and training in operation of the nets. This chart by itself illustrates the need for additional communications personnel in the Public Safety program here if the schedule is to be maintained.

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The Public Safety Telecommunications training, testing, and calibrating laboratory is completed and in operation on the same floor with the other Division Offices and six National Police personnel are currently undergoing advanced training on maintenance of the SSB and the tactical equipment. The laboratory was located in the Public Safety Division because no other suitable place could be found to locate it in a GOC facility, because it is advantageous to bring personnel from different organizations together to work and train, and because the Public Safety Communications Advisor or his contract assistant can offer continuous supervision and instruction.

With the DAS Communications Chief, the Public Safety Telecommunications Advisor made a survey of that organization's radio monitoring facilities and completed installation plans for the new equipment. Completion of this project is expected in July or August.

During June the Investigations Advisor visited the DAS Field Offices at Girardot, Cundinamarca, and Ibagué in Tolima. The DAS Chief in Ibagué, Diego Nichols (IAPA), and in Girardot, Major Antonio Bustamante, are both doing an increasingly effective job in the development and reporting of internal security intelligence in their respective areas.

Attachment I contains two photographs of Rural Security Service activities, one an air photo of the Rural Security Service School construction at Agua Azul, and another of Col. Eduardo Roman D., Chief of the Rural Security Service, and several of his agents at RSE Headquarters, El Yopal.

The Special Internal Security Group of DAS in Bogotá is increasing substantially in effectiveness due to investigative techniques developed from recent training. Most of the internal security intelligence being produced by DAS results from techniques developed by this group. The effectiveness of the group is being currently augmented by the addition of a three man technical section. Similar special groups are being planned for Cali, Medellín, and Barranquilla. One member of the group, a law graduate, is currently engaged in receiving intelligence reports from the other field offices. He not only evaluates the reports, but with the cooperation of the Investigations Advisor attempts to suggest ways in which the other offices may improve their coverage and reporting.

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III. EVALUATION

Although the month was relatively quiet with no further attacks of the Simacota or Inza variety, there is adequate reason to expect such forays of greater incidence and intensity, accompanied by an increase in the amount of urban terrorism which heretofore has been sporadic. The effects of the rapidly deteriorating economic situation on internal order, and the efforts of extremist groups of both the right and left to exploit these conditions to their advantage will bear close vigilance. The Public Safety Division considers such periods of quiet as opportunities to "make hay while the sun shines" as far as the program and the police are concerned. Energy is being expended accordingly.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That efforts to fill the Rural Public Safety Advisor's position proceed as rapidly as possible.
2. That a TDY Telecommunications advisor (FOAID 1235) be provided as quickly as possible.
3. That the Kuch Firearms Survey Report be reviewed, ~~examined~~ <sup>reproduced</sup> reproduced, and transmitted as soon as possible. These
4. That the revised FY 66 Public Safety Program Proposal be approved on the basis of need.

DEARBORN

Attachment:

- 1) Photos (2) of DAS Rurales

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MONTHLY TRAINING REPORT  
NATIONAL POLICE  
ANNEX I (A)  
JUNE 1965

PLACE, TYPE AND LENGTH OF TRAINING	ENTERED TRAINING THIS MONTH	TOTAL IN TRAINING	COMPLETED TRAINING THIS MONTH	COMPLETED TRAINING TO DATE
U. S. TRAINING				
IAPA/PANAMA-12 WKS. GENERAL COURSE				2
IAPA/WASHINGTON 15 WEEKS GENERAL COURSE	4	8		40
IAPA/PANAMA-1 WK. SCMB DISPOSAL COURSE				2

LOCAL TRAINING

USE OF THE BATON				18,000
1 HOUR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION COURSE				335
PATROL METHODS 1 WEEK COURSE				4,404
DRIVER TRAINING 2 WEEKS COURSE				450
REVOLVER REFRESHER TRAINING 2 HR COURSE				4,670
FBI-P9C REVOLVER TRAINING 3 HR COURSE				107
AUDIO-VISUAL - 2 WKS TRAINING COURSE				24
COUNTER-BANDIT TRAINING 12 WKS DURATION		13		102
PUBLIC RELATIONS 2 WKS. TRAINING COURSE				21
COUNTER-BANDIT TRAINING, SPECIAL 3 WEEKS COURSE				450
PRIMALISTICS TRAINING, SARACIS				1
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN 9 MONTHS COURSE	12	12		8

\*\* ABOVE TRAINING IS IN ADDITION TO TRAINING CONDUCTED BY SEVEN POLICE SCHOOLS IN SEVEN POLICE COMMANDS IN THE COUNTRY AND THE OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL "GENERAL SANTANDER"

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MONTHLY TRAINING REPORT  
DEPARTAMENTO ADMINISTRATIVO DE SEGURIDAD (DAS)  
ANNEX I (B)  
JUNE 1965

PLACE, TYPE AND LENGTH OF TRAINING	ENTERED TRAINING THIS MONTH	TOTAL IN TRAINING U.S. TRAINING	COMPLETED TRAINING THIS MONTH	COMPLETED TRAINING TO DATE
IPA, 12 WEEKS SENIOR COURSE				1
IAPA/PANAMA - 12 WKS GENERAL COURSE				41
IAPA/WASHINGTON 16 WKS GENERAL COURSE	12	27		41
IAPA/PANAMA - 1 WK. BOMB DISPOSAL COURSE				7
IAPA/PANAMA - 5 WKS. INTERNAL SECURITY COURSE				30
U.S. POST OFFICE GRAPHOLOGY, 6 MONTHS COURSE				1
TELETYPE MAINTENANCE, 5 WKS. CHICAGO				1
INTERNAL SECURITY SUPERVISORY WASHINGTON - 10 WKS.				1
<u>LOCAL TRAINING</u>				
20 HOUR REVOLVER TRAINING				115
FBI-PPC COURSE (X)	80			3
SENA, SSB RADIO COURSE, 6 MONTHS, MEDELLIN				36
RURAL SECURITY SCHOOL, AGUA AZUL		27		13
INTERNAL SECURITY COURSE, BOGOTA			(Special Group)	132
DAS ACADEMY, SUBA NEW AGENTS - 3 MOS				122
IN-SERVICE - 3 MOS		80		630
TECHNICAL CRIMINOLOGY 4 MONTHS				
CONFERENCES IN FIELD OFFICE BY IAPA GRADUATES				

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ANNEX II (B)

NATIONAL POLICE

Public Safety Commodities not received (long-lead times)

<u>PIG/C Number</u>	<u>Data Issued</u>	<u>Delivery Date</u>	<u>Items Number</u>	<u>General Description</u>
5-31105	7/9/64	12/31/64	40-41	Multiplex Speech - Plus tone unit Automotive Teletype Machine
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY (DAS)</u>				
5-31106	2/25/64	6/30/64	19,20,21,43	SSB Transreceivers and Accessories.

ANNEX II (C)

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY (DAS)

None issued this month

29,485

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