

AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION UNIT

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CLASSIFICATION

For each address check one ACTION INFO

TO - AID/W TOAID A- 781 X
POLAD CINCSOUTH USAID A- 18 X

OPS/LA
DATE REC'D.
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DATE SENT
21 January 1966

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FROM - **BOGOTA**
SUBJECT - Monthly Report -- Public Safety Division
December 1965
REFERENCE -

DECLASSIFIED
Arnold H. Dadian W.A.H.
AID/OFA 10/3/80

I. SITUATION

The year 1965 ended in relative quiet with deaths from rural violence returning almost to their October low. However, extremist oriented groups ~~operated in Huila, Toluca, and Magdalena.~~ operated in Huila, Toluca, and Magdalena.

The National Police fared better against the rural bandits, with captures, kills, and wounding up and police casualties down. The number of attacks on fincas rose sharply. While the number of petty street crimes in urban centers was high during the Christmas shopping rush, the incidence of the spectacular type offenses remained low.

Strikes continued at about the same level while there were no riots or demonstrations.

Terrorism was also low.

Morale in the National Police was believed somewhat improved by a general increase in base pay which automatically increased family subsidies because of the percentage formula.

National Police Daily Intelligence reports yielded the following information:

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS

OPS/LA FILE MATERIAL
Please refer to room
257 of phone 719 B

PAGE	PAGES
1	OF 8

DRAFTED BY H. Hardin/J. Doney: jal	OFFICE Public Safety	PHONE NO.	DATE 1/17/66	APPROVED BY: Herbert O. Hardin, Chief, PSD
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AID AND OTHER CLEARANCES
ED/ED Fisher
EME/POL/SAC Comiskey
PO/C Barnett

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cc: The Ambassador
Chief, MI/Grp
EME/POL/RSampson
ADDP/Charkina
PO/RCE Brown
MA/Col. Studer

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Rural Violence

Citizens murdered by bandits.....21
 Citizens wounded by bandits..... 5
 National Police murdered by bandits..... 8
 National Police wounded by bandits..... 7
 Bandits captured by National Police.....30
 Bandits killed by National Police.....16
 Bandits wounded by National Police..... 1
 Smugglers captured by National Police..... 1
 Bandits wounded by citizens..... 1
 National Police patrols attacked..... 1
 National Police posts attacked..... 1
 Fincas attacked..... 1
 Settlements attacked.....17
 Hi-Jack (highway robbery buses, trucks, etc.)..... 2
 Kidnap rural..... 5
 2

On December 3 at 5:30 p.m., Department of Magdalena, Municipality of La Paz, Valledupar region, eight bandits armed with rifles and carbines killed a National Police agent in the course of his patrol, taking his revolver and other equipment. The band followed up immediately with an attack on the National Police post and an intense firefight ensued until the 2 police personnel exhausted their ammunition after which they attempted to flee. The bandits captured them, relieved them of their revolvers and other personal equipment, and were holding them when one managed to escape and notify the National Police station at Valledupar. National Police believe that the assault was perpetrated by ELN personnel with some support from Venezuelan FALN elements. The group remained in the area for twelve hours before releasing the other police agent and leaving.

On December 5, in the Municipality of Teruel, Department of Huila, a National Police patrol encountered the gang of Saul Quintero, alias "El Rencó", an author of almost fifty murders. In the ensuing fight El Rencó was killed and one National Police agent was wounded by a grenade fragment.

The Tiro Fijo gang was still believed to be operating in southern Tolima. A gang of bandits believed to be his was seen "casing" small settlements and fincas in the Municipality of Matagaima during the first part of the month.

On December 7, in the Municipality of Guacarí, Department of Valle, a National Police patrol captured three men carrying arms and ammunition. They

* FALN support not confirmed by any information available to the Embassy.

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claimed to be students at the University of Valle. Police stated that they were later identified as leftist agitators, one being a known terrorist and saboteur. They were turned over to the Army Third Brigade Command for further investigation. On December 16, the three agreed to show army personnel where a large cache of arms was concealed. Once in the field, the three broke custody, ~~one~~ attempted to escape, and were killed by gunfire.

On December 9, in Tulua, Department of Valle, National Police, acting under a court order, raided the office of a lawyer and ~~representative~~ alternate ~~in the National Congress~~, Dr. Octavio Arias Miranda, accused of providing arms, funds and supplies to subversive elements. Captured were five alleged bandits, two revolvers, large quantities of subversive literature, and other miscellaneous materials.

On December 13, in the Municipality of Anserma, three bandits in a jeep kidnapped an hacienda owner. Two hours later a National Police patrol established contact with the gang which had been joined by two others. Three were killed and two captured. The victim was rescued. One of the bandits killed was wanted for the murder of two detectives and escape from a prison sentence of 12 years.

On December 12, in the Municipality of Rioblanco, Department of Tolima, National Police made contact with the gang of Jesus Chanputis, alias Champurrio, a "B team" group. Champurrio and two of his followers were killed. He was wanted for various mass murders and other crimes.

On December 11, in the Municipality of La Paz, Department of Magdalena, a National Police agent was intentionally run down and killed by a truck which he attempted to stop. The driver was captured as was the truck and 160 sacks of contraband coffee.

On December 19, in the Municipality of Baraya, Department of Huila, a gang of about fifty bandits, apparently from the Guayabero, attacked a settlement, killing four campesinos and kidnapping another.

On December 24, in the same municipality and department, a gang of about 40 bandits descended on a finca and murdered two campesinos.

On December 22, in the Municipality of Buga, Department of Valle, National Police captured a gang of five bandits as they prepared to sack a finca. The leader was using the alias of "Captain Chispas", killed several years ago and considered the worst bandit leader in Colombian history with 65 murders to his record.

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Urban Crime

Citizens murdered by gangsters	4
Citizens wounded by gangsters	4
Gangsters captured by National Police	6
Gangsters wounded by National Police	1
Bank robberies	2
Hi-Jack urban (payroll)	2

On December 10, in the city of Medellin, Department of Antioquia, six hoodlums entered the Bank of Bogotá branch there and made off with 170,000 pesos after wounding an employee. On December 20, National Police intercepted a car containing five hoodlums as they were believed about to attack another bank in that city. They were heavily armed with submachine guns and revolvers. Members of the gang were implicated in several previous bank robberies, murders, and other offenses. One was an escapee from jail.

On December 26, in Bogotá, two submachine guns were discovered missing from the police section of the National Museum. (The Washington Park Police uniform donated through AID in 1961 was not disturbed.)

On December 31, in Bogotá, several hoodlums armed with submachine guns and revolvers entered a branch of the Grand Colombian Bank on the south-west edge of the central business district. They were intercepted by the guard who killed one of the group, who killed him with his return fire. The group fled, loitering to fatally shoot a National Police agent in the back on their way.

The types of offenses described above were well below the number of the previous year. However, pickpockets, purse snatchers and other such operators were busy plying their trades among the Christmas crowds. Police agent chauffeurs for the USAID Public Safety Division, in addition to their regular duties, took time out to capture three purse snatchers.

Civil Turbulence

Civic stoppages	1
Strikes	10

Terrorism

Bombs placed and/or exploded	2
Harrassment by firearms	1
Harrassment by firearms - persons wounded	1

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The President of the Republic signed a decree providing general salary increase for all members of the armed forces, including the National Police, to begin in January. The base pay of police agents was increased from 500 to 600 pesos per month. Those with families receive a 10% allowance for a wife and 5% additional for each child. This is in addition to medical care and other fringe benefits already in effect. Although the increase will probably accomplish little more than offset the recent rise in the cost of living, it should counter a decline in the morale which had begun to set in among the rank and file.

Seventeen transfers of personnel in general staff, departmental command, and other key posts in the National Police were scheduled to become effective January 1, 1966. It is not known what material effect these reassignments will have on the overall operation or policy of the organization. There were no retirements of any significance.

There were no changes in high level personnel in DAS during December.

Accomplishments of DAS during December include breakup of a gang of bootleggers in Bogotá; thwarting of a planned payroll robbery in Bogotá with the killing of one subject and arrest of three others; arrest in collaboration with military investigators of several subjects in the air mail robbery which took place August 22; capture of three subjects in Cali upon attempting a robbery of a hardware store; identification of the gang which robbed the maritime terminal in Cartagena November 29 and the capture of two members of the gang; the killing of one of the lieutenants of Saul Quintero, alias "El Renco", an important bandit, by a patrol of DAS agents in the Huila area after "El Renco" himself was killed by a patrol of Carabineros of the National Police. In the last mentioned action by DAS the key element was one of the shotguns recently distributed by Public Safety.

Col. Enrique Millan Perdomo (IPA, Senior Course), Chief of the DAS Field Office in Neiva, Huila, has been enthusiastically promoting the FBI Practical Pistol Course, officially adopted as the DAS pistol training course, in his area. He has constructed an excellent PPC range, and has qualified all his agents in the course. In addition he has given this training to important public officials in the area including the mayor, governor, and their designates, in order to create better relations with local authorities and to promote self defense. Attached are three photographs of this training activity.

II. OPERATIONS

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Preoccupation with the holidays and anticipation of transfers within the National Police made any joint accomplishment difficult. However, USAID attempted to lay its groundwork for early implementation of the FY-66 project.

Public Safety Advisors were able to locate five non-commissioned officers who have had training on the Cal. .30 M-1 Carbine, and will attempt to use them as instructors when the weapons arrive.

A large number of books in the Spanish language on police subjects and related themes was turned over to the newly opened Police Agents' Club for their lending library. The training advisor will study the movement of these books to determine which are of greatest interest to the agents.

Through the efforts of USAID Public Safety Advisors, the National Police have adopted the textbook "Police Planning" by O. W. Wilson as the source of adapted examination material for the coming ten-month promotional course for majors. Questions based on the contents of the book form the basic part of the examination to be given to 40 majors to determine which of them will make up the 20 to attend the course.

General Bernardo Canacho Leyva, Director General of National Police, approved the instructor training to be provided under USAID contract to thirty National Police personnel by the Colombian Civic Organization for Literization. Each class will be 32 hours of training on operation of visual aids units, instructors methods, and human communication. Also approved by General Canacho was training to be provided to 47 officers and non-commissioned officers in public administration, leadership, and supervision under USAID contract with the Superior School of Public Administration. All of the courses will be taught at the police schools in Bogotá.

The Public Safety Telecommunications Advisor went with the National Police Communications Officer to Bucaramanga, Cúcuta, and Santa Marta to determine location of dispatch centers and to establish number of cars to be equipped with radio in each city.

A meeting was held with the Director General of the National Police, the Chief Public Safety Advisor, and the Telecommunications Advisor to review progress to date on the various telecommunications activities and to discuss the sequence of the rural tactical communications installations.

General Canacho has ordered the communications officer to investigate the possibility of selling the land near the center of Bogotá where the police

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communications center is located and using the proceeds to build a new center and radio maintenance shop near the motor maintenance shop at Muzá on the south outskirts of the city. This is based on an AID recommendation.

General Canacho has ordered the Bogotá district commander to assign a project officer to work with the Municipal Public Safety Advisor in reorganizing the riot control plans in the capital, organizing a special squad, and updating the riot control training. The officer is now working with USAID. General Canacho states that this will be done in other cities as well.

On December 29, the first class of forty recruits graduated from the new Rural Intelligence Academy of the Rural Security Service of DAS. The graduation was preceded by a two-day seminar attended by all the post commanders of the Rural Security Service throughout the Llanos, as well as by the Investigations Advisor. This was a highly stimulating seminar which was in part an informal court martial trial concerning cases of alleged misconduct or operational weakness on the part of members present. Part of the graduation ceremony consisted of the designation of 23 members of the Rural Security Service as "founders" of the organization. Another part was the dedication of the memorial cemetery for Rurales killed in action.

The Special Internal Security Group of DAS in Bogotá was augmented by nine men from the recently graduated class from the DAS Academy at Suba. As reported previously the caliber of recruits for the urban sections of DAS has improved materially since the salary increase. These nine men will receive intensive surveillance training and experience and will then be given investigative duties. One member of the group has had two years of electrical engineering at the university and will be added to the new technical section of the group. It is intended that the Special Internal Security group will serve as a model and training facility for selected agents from other population centers. Results in terms of intelligence production from penetration operations against subversive organizations are encouraging.

The group of high DAS officials who graduated from the 16th General Course, IPA, returned to Bogotá in December. These officials were highly enthusiastic about the course. The Chief of DAS is hoping to obtain ten spaces in the next scheduled course of this type. One of the principal benefits of the course cited by returning members is that the high officials tend to be much more enthusiastic about the selection of participants and the utilization of their talents if they themselves have been participants.

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Through the surplus property program USAID has located a suitable bus for the new DAS Academy at Suba. The bus is located at the surplus property depot, Camp Clayton, Canal Zone, and will be inspected there by a DAS official with the cooperation of the Chief Public Safety Advisor in Panama. DAS will arrange for transportation of the bus and will pay incidental costs.

III. EVALUATION

The active support by the Chief of DAS of the Internal Security Group in Bogotá, devoted exclusively to investigation of subversive organizations is showing good results in spite of difficulties over needed legislative changes, and is forming the nucleus of a truly professional intelligence service within DAS.

The National Police displayed renewed interest in organizing and training for the months ahead which could be turbulent.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

AID/W is urged to follow through on plans to conduct another course for high officials in Spanish early in FY-67 and to allot 14 spaces for this course to DAS and the National Police.

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MONTHLY TRAINING REPORT
NATIONAL POLICE
ANNEX I (A) - DECEMBER 1965

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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/WASHINGTON 16 WEEKS GENERAL COURSE		4		56
USE OF THE BATON		LOCAL TRAINING		
1 HOUR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION COURSE				18,000
PATROL METHODS 1 WEEK COURSE				335
DRIVER TRAINING 2 WEEKS COURSE				4,404
REVOLVER REFRESHER TRAINING 2 HR COURSE				450
FBI-PPC REVOLVER TRAINING 20 HR COURSE				4,470
AUDIO-VISUAL 2 WKS TRAINING COURSE				213
COUNTER-BANDIT TRAINING 12 WKS DURATION				24
PUBLIC RELATIONS 2 WKS TRAINING COURSE			18	138
COUNTER-BANDIT TRAINING, SPECIAL 3 WEEKS COURSE				21
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN 5 MONTHS COURSE				450
COMMUNICATIONS RADIO OPERATOR 3 MONTHS COURSE		12		3
PUBLIC RELATIONS ENGLISH SPEAKING 3 MONTHS				42
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION 3 WEEKS				37
INSTRUCTOR TRAINING 8 HOURS			25	50
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 SANTIANDER"				13
		THIRD COUNTRY		
IAPA/PANAMA-12 WKS. GENERAL COURSE				2
IAPA/PANAMA- 1 WK. BOMB DISPOSAL COURSE				2
CRIMINALISTICS TRAINING, CARACAS				1

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MONTHLY TRAINING REPORT
ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY (DAS)
ANNEX I (B) - DECEMBER 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				
IPA, 12 WEEKS SENIOR COURSE				1
IPA/WASHINGTON 16 WKS GENERAL COURSE		17	9	77
U.S. POST OFFICE GRAPHOLOGY, 6 MONTHS COURSE				1
TELETYPE MAINTENANCE, 5 WKS CHICAGO				1
INTERNAL SECURITY SUPERVISORY WASHINGTON-10 WKS				1
LOCAL TRAINING				
20 HOUR REVOLVER TRAINING				258
FBI-PPC COURSE (A)				3
SENA, SSB RADIO COURSE, 6 MONTHS, MEDELLIN		3		3
RURAL SECURITY SCHOOL, AGUA AZUL			30	93
INTERNAL SECURITY COURSE, BOGOTA				13
Special Group				
DAS ACADEMY, SUBA				262
NEW AGENTS - 3 MOS				122
IN-SERVICE - 3 MOS				530
TECHNICAL CRIMINOLOGY 4 MONTHS				9
CONFERENCES IN FIELD OFFICE BY IAPA GRADUATES				9
RADIO OPERATOR AND MAINTENANCE COURSE				9
THIRD COUNTRY				
IAPA/PANAMA - 12 WKS GENERAL COURSE				41
IAPA/PANAMA - 1 WK. BOMB DISPOSAL COURSE				7
IAPA/PANAMA - 5 WKS INTERNAL SECURITY COURSE				30

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ANNEX II (A)
NATIONAL POLICEPublic Safety Commodities Received
Add to Cumulative Total:

PIG/C No.	Items or P.O.	Value	Condition	Disposition	Organization
0-50162	P.O. 52-66	700.00	Good	Being Dist.	National Police
0-50081	P.O. 238-65	1,332.38	"	" "	" "
"	" 236-65	1,563.00	"	" "	" "
5-50078	7, 11, 12, 14 15, 16, 17, 18 19 and 20	481.85	"	" "	" "
0-50161	P.O. 23-66	1,082.74	Broken	At Warehouse	" "
0-40085	P.O. 053065	400.00	Good	At PDS Lab.	" "

ANNEX II (B)
NATIONAL POLICE
(None)ANNEX II (C)
PIG/C'S ISSUED THIS MONTH
NATIONAL POLICE
(None)

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DR

AID