

Seventy-five Colombian Army Officers Cadets received their commissions as 2nd lieutenants during the colorful graduation ceremony held in December in Bogota, Colombia. The ceremony was highlighted in part by the presentation of a United States Army West Point Sabre to one ~~the~~ outstanding ~~outstanding~~ ~~cadet~~ ~~cadet~~.

The ceremony was held on the grounds of the academy, the Escuela Militar de Cadetes, in Bogota. It was attended not alone by top Colombian government and military officials, but also by ambassadors and military attaches from several countries, including the United States.

The ceremony actually consisted of three 'graduations' within the total program. The first group were those officers-to-be who received their secondary school diplomas. On entering the academy, a cadet may take as few as ~~the~~ ~~two~~ two years of ~~military~~ mostly military subjects if he is already a secondary (high) school graduate; or, if he has not graduated from a secondary school, he may take up to three years of the required subjects for that secondary diploma before going on to the required two years of more military subjects, which is what the first group of graduates had done.

The second group of men to 'graduate' consisted of 153 student officers who were promoted to the senior class. They will be 2nd lieutenants on completion of about another year of study (the school has June and December graduations each year).

And the final group, of course, were the newly commissioned lieutenants who were the actual 'graduates' of the long-traditional ceremony. This part of the ceremony was highlighted by the recognition of the Honor Graduate, 2nd Lt Rodolfo Herrera Lune and by the presentation of the West Point Saber to 2nd Lt Carlos Rey Castano. This is an annual presentation made to the cadet with the highest scholastic grade in military tactics. The presentation this year was made by the US Ambassador to Colombia, the Honorable Reynold E. Carlson. Other US officials present at the ceremony included the US Army Military

Attache, Colonel Alfred Coffey. Lt Col Lawrence D. Shields, among others, represented the US Army Mission to Colombia. Col Shields is the Artillery Advisor to the Colombian Army and also holds the additional position of advisor to the Military Academy. ~~The academy~~ ^{though not MHP dependent} receives, ~~the~~ USARMIS, training aids, as well as a few vehicles and radios. The mission has also provided the school with guest instructors in a variety of subjects, including signal, psychological warfare, and engineering. ~~✓~~

The ceremonial commissioning of the new 2nd lieutenants took the form of the presentation of a sword, the symbolic manifestation of their Officers rank.

Following the presentation of the swords, the President of the Republic of Colombia, Carlos Lleras Restrepo, addressed the assembled students and newly commissioned lieutenants.

~~✓~~ Also, the school participates with West Point in the annual two-week, two-man exchange of cadet officers. Two men from each of the schools trade places for two weeks for general visiting and orientation to the works of each military academy.

What we did and did not

(Note: See included booklet for school historical information, organization, and student program as well as further general background information)

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A vital link in ~~the~~ communications between 6 locations directly concerned with the United States part in the peace keeping mission in the Dominican Republic is the telegraph relay located in the headquarters building of US Armed Forces, Dominican Republic, in Santo Domingo.

Operated by ~~the~~ United States Army Strategic Communications, the Santo Domingo Telegraph terminal main section contains ~~14~~ ^{several} ~~models~~ FGC-25 teletypewriter machines. 6 of these are in use ~~as~~ ^{constant} senders and receivers while the ~~remaining~~ ^{rest} ~~two~~ are standby units.

The six ~~new~~ circuits operate as relays between, from, and to the following San Isidro Airfield, US military posts: Airborne Brigade, Santo Domingo; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Fort Allen, Puerto Rico; Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, D.C.; CINCLANT, Norfolk, Virginia.

THE Santo Domingo relay station's main function is just that: the receiving, to and from recording, and relaying of messages between those points, and ~~between~~ them. Messages received or sent through the Santo Domingo relay center are, if headed for the states, sent by radio to Puerto Rico and forwarded from there via ~~new~~ underwater cable to Florida and then to their destination. Messages sent through the Dominican Republic station can connect the sender with any one of many STRATCOM stations located throughout the world. However, the center handles ~~mostly~~ ^{primarily} ~~telegraph~~ messages, the voice connections being a separate part of the Santo Domingo ~~communications~~ ^{operation}.

The Santo Domingo STRATCOM facility, ~~which may or may not be moved out~~ when the Inter American Police Force ⁱⁿ retires from the Dominican Republic, is commanded by US Army Captain Karl R. Anderson, Jr. His Crypto Custodian and Security Officer is Warrent Officer William Jarvis.