

During the night of July 29-30, 1966, the first Latin American contingent of the Inter-American Police Force in the Dominican Republic to leave, ~~the force~~ ~~departed~~ ~~on an 8,000 km journey via~~ ~~US Airforce~~ ~~airlift~~ ~~decided its job was done.~~ departed ~~in~~ a six-plane airlift.

While two United States units have already returned home, the Paraguayan Company was the first unit of the five-nation Latin American Brigade to leave ~~the IAPF~~ after the Organization of American States voted to remove the ~~IAPF~~ ~~after~~ ~~peace-keeping force.~~ ~~deciding its job was done.~~

During the 29th, the 186-man Paraguayan company finished packing the last of personal equipment and belongings, stacking their gear where their tents had stood since the 26th of June, 1965.

During that ~~13 months~~, the Paraguayans had been assigned to the Fraternity Battalion, a unit composed of four companies from different countries under a unified command. The mission of the Paraguayans, as assigned them during the Dominican crisis in 1965, was the establishment of a detainee camp. Following the restoration of order, the Fraternity Battalion, ~~including~~ ~~the Paraguayans~~, were assigned security duties in Ciudad Nueva, a section of Santo Domingo.

With packing complete, the battle-dressed Paraguayans formed up and marched onto the review grounds at the Fraternity Battalion camp for the now traditional farewell ceremony accorded each departing unit departing the IAPF.

Prior to a brief farewell statement, Brazilian Div. Gen. Alvara Alves da ~~IAPF Comm Gen~~, Silva Braga and USA Brigadier General Robert R. Linvill, Commanding General, USFORDOMREP, joined the Paraguayan Commanding Officer, Colonel Roberto Cubas in reviewing the departing troops.

First to be reviewed was ~~the~~ ~~international~~ color guard with ~~a~~ flag and ~~accompanying~~ soldier representing each of the IAPF member nations, ~~as~~ ~~the~~ ~~Organization of American States~~. Following that, the three Officers ~~the~~ Paraguayan Company ~~to cross the line~~ ~~then~~ General Braga spoke briefly to the departing troops and presented the Paraguayan Officers with awards of appreciation.

In addition to their duties as security guards for Ciudad Nueva, the Paraguayans engaged in regular training and found time to walk off with the intra-force volleyball championship. They also engaged in some medical ~~Civic Action with their various training areas involving Dominican residents of the immediate vicinities.~~ *for Dominican residents near the*

The Paraguayan Company ~~had~~ furnished valuable personnel *for service* in IAPF headquarters positions. For example, Colonel Cubas served as IAPF Chief of Intelligence and Security. Other Paraguayan Officers ~~had~~ *were assigned to* various high-level positions within the Latin American Brigade of the peace-keeping force as well as in the Fraternity Battalion.