

In late August, 1966 Brazilian Marine and Army units began evacuation from the Dominican Republic. The Brazilians were the last of the five nations in the Latin American Brigade of the Inter American Peace Force to begin sending its troops home after the Organization of American States voted to dismantle it within 90 days of the inauguration of Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer June 1st.

The Brazilian Marines ~~units~~ Company had been part of the inter-Latin American Fraternity Battalion charged with security duties in Ciudad Nueva, Santo Domingo. Other countries ~~unified~~ whose contingents were under the unified command included Honduras, Nicaragua, and Paraguay.

The Brazilian Army had contributed a full Battalion to the Latin American Brigade and the IAPF.

A farewell and awards ceremony was staged for a representative Brazilian unit. At the ceremony, Brazilian Rear Admiral Octavio Jose Sampaio Fernandes decorated a number of American, & Brazilian Officers, most of them from the IAPF staff, for their outstanding contributions and service. (See roll Breakdown #1 for names and awards presented).

~~Whiles in the Dominican Republic~~ The Brazilian Nation

The United States of Brazil had been the second largest contributor of personnel to the IAPF. It had been among the first to respond with men on creation of the IAPF, and among the last to remain after the job was done.

~~And while in the Dominican Republic~~ The Brazilian Nation contributed two Commanding Generals to the IAPF plus a score or more of high ranking Officers for duty in the IAPF headquarters, the Fraternity Battalion, and elsewhere. A Brazilian civilian also worked on the Ad Hoc Committee (DCS 314-29/66) with US Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker in an attempt to solve the Dominican political crisis.

And while in the Dominican Republic, the Marines soldiers of the Brazilian Army and Navy joined forces on a civic action school construction project in La Rosa (DCS 314-16/66) which the troops paid for out of their own pockets while an Army doctor gave medical help and advice to town residents for free.

The Brazilian Army and Marine troops departed variously by ship and plane.

As USFORDCMRP Commanding General Robert R. Linvill was unable to attend the awards ceremony where he was to be given the Brazilian Navy Medal for Distinguished Service the award was made by General Braga aboard the first Brazilian ship. The two Generals emerged shortly after the ceremony to wish the troops a pleasant, ~~trip~~ though long, voyage home to their native country.

At about the same time, other Brazilians arrived at San Isidro Airport where they boarded ~~Brazilian~~ C-130 cargo planes for their flight back to Brazil. Again, Generals ~~Lin~~ Braga and Linvill appeared briefly to troops the line, thank the soldiers for their work with the IAPF, and ~~then~~ wish them a good flight. ~~immediately~~ Shortly after the farewells, the two C-130 aircrafts took off for the two-day flight home to Brazil.