

In ~~xxxxxx~~ mid-1966, the Organization of American States voted that within 90 days of the inauguration of Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer on 6-nation July 1st, the/inter American Peace Force would be disbanded and sent home. The

evacuation of the IAPF began on June 28th with the departure of the US Army's ~~320th Artillery, 82nd Abn Bde~~ 320th Artillery, 82nd Abn Bde. It ended on September 21st with the departure

of USFORDOMREP Commanding General, Brig Gen Robert R. Linvill. IAPF CG

departed one day ahead of Gen Linvill for the 2 day trip back to Brazil.

On September 15th the 'Palace', home of Headquarters, USFORDOMREP was evacuated as the various headquarters functions grew more concentrated. The

offices were moved into temporary quarters at a hotel as US Army communications

~~teams~~ *teams* began dismantling the ~~part~~ *part* of the ~~headquarters~~ *headquarters* the

US ~~headquarters~~ *headquarters*. The IAPF ~~hq~~ *hq* remained in its ~~quarters~~ *building* until the last day.

As General Linvill's one-star flag was taken down from in front of the new form er headquarters building for the last time, moving crews loaded trucks with footlockers, filing cabinets, boxes of papers. In the rear of the headquarters complex, men of the 206th Sig Svc Company began tearing down the 'Sage' switchboard, long the heart of the IAPF communications. The two-van, nine-position switchboard logged, in one 24-hour period, some 15,000 calls. During its existence from June of 1965 through late September, ~~more~~ an estimated 2 and a half million calls went through 'Sage'. From, or through, 'Sage' ran 60 trunk lines, 182 local lines, hundreds of miles of wire through Santo Domingo.

Atop the headquarters building, 206th crews pulled down VHF antennae, another important link in the island-wide communications system so vital in helping the IAPF /restoring order to the politically strife-torn republic. And among the last things to leave....the heavily guarded, top security boxes containing the workings of the USFORDOMREP cryptography section. Armed guards were on duty at alltimes as a crane lifted the boxes onto a truck for transport to the

temporary headquarters. Meanwhile, Latin American and US units continued pulling out, diminishing the number of the IAPF day by day until the departure of the Commanding General, the final act of ~~the~~ disbanding for the 17-month old IAPF.

IAPF Commanding General, Brazilian Division General Alvaro da Silva Braga was the first of the two Generals to leave. In midmorning, September 20th, 1966, General Braga left from San Isidro Air Base for a flight to Puerto Rico aboard a US AF C-123. There, he would change planes for the trip home to Brazil.

~~General Braga had been Commanding General of the peace force since January of 1966.~~

~~There was no plane side ceremony as such scheduled for the departure of General Braga. However,~~ *A large number of IAPF Officers and diplomatic personnel were on hand to say goodby to gen Braga.* Among them were US Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, the ^Honorable John Grimmins; USFORDOMREP Chief of Staff, Col F.P. Field; USAF Col Robert L. Demick who presented the General with a plaque of appreciation from the USAF Tactical Air Command; High ranking officers from most of the five other Latin American contingents who had served as part of IAPF under Gen Braga. ~~(Goose, dave wanna explanation of why no film of Linvill sayin' goodby do?)~~

USFORDOMREP Commanding General, and second in command of the IAPF to General Braga, US Brigadier General Robert M. Linvill left the Dominican Republic on September 21st, 1966. Leaving with him were the last members of the 62nd Awn Div, thus completing the removal of the IAPF after 17 months in the strife-torn ~~republican~~ island nation.

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The General left aboard one of *A* USAF C-130's to fly out of San Isidro that day, taking with them the last of the IAPF. ~~again, there was no plane-side ceremony,~~ but US Officers and diplomatic personnel were on hand to bid *gen Linvill* ~~gen Linvill~~ goodby. Among his well-wishers were US Ambassador ~~in Dominican Rep~~ Grimmins;

mission chief
US MAAC ~~Commander~~, Marine Col Henry V. Joslyn; and a group of reporters, both American and Dominican.

General Linvill spoke to the 82nd ABn troops flying back with him as they boarded the plane for the trip to Pope AFB. He then answered newsmen's questions, spoke again with Ambassador Crimmins, and then boarded the plane. By 10:45, his plane was airborne; by 12:22 p.m., the last of the ~~US troops~~ ~~and the IAPF had left~~ planes were in the air. The IAPF had ceased to exist.