

A group of US Army Officers assembled from around the United States are in the Dominican Republic ~~xxxxxx~~ to conduct extensive training for the Dominican 1st Infantry Brigade. ~~the nation's Military Assistance Program supported~~

*(see attached list)*

The team is ~~xxxxxx~~ conducting the training under the auspices of the ~~US Military Assistance Group~~ MAAG. The MAAG US Army Element Chief, LtCol William Wyrick and his Training Officer, Major Ildefonsol Lombrano discuss the training plan which is laid out for the team headed by Senior Infantry Advisor, Major William Camper and Sanchez Battalion (1st Inf Bde) Advisor, Captain Channing Greene.

The approximately 34-hundred man 1st Brigade is stationed in and around Santo Domingo. It consists of two light, and one heavy, weapon battalions ~~xxxxxx~~. Under the MAAG training plan, the 1st Brigade is to become the Dominican Republic's elite force. (Under Dominican Military organization, the 1st Brigade is a weapons-only unit which receives medical, signal, etc, support from ~~xxxxxx~~ smaller, attached units.)

Elementary training of the brigade in basic counter-guerrilla warfare and riot control was begun by the 82nd Airborne Division stationed in the republic as part of the Inter American Peace Force. Shortly after this program began, interest grew in making the training program more extensive and broader in scope, and the first men of a long-term cadre began arriving in early April of 1966. The ~~xxxxxx~~ initial training was also aimed at having (See DCS 314-21/66) a force ready in case of trouble during or after the June elections. But the troops were not needed after the election, but more training was.

MAAG had had a program of training ready for some time, but never enough instructors to conduct it at the battalion and company level. This situation was temporarily relieved through use of ~~xxxxxx~~ 82nd Division personnel, and permanently solved with the assembly of the infantry advisors. And some of these TDY instructors will be retained by MAAG, and others added, to establish the long-term ~~xxxxxx~~ training corps of advisors and instructors for the brigade.

begin w/Conf.  
Officer

DCS 314-41/66

(2)

A group of US Army ~~lieutenants~~ assembled from around the United States are in the Dominican Republic under the auspices of the US Military Aid and ~~Advisory~~ Group to train members of the 1st Brigade stationed in and around Santo Domingo.

(See attached list)

The approximately 34-hundred man brigade, consisting of two light weapons and one heavy weapon battalion, is to be ~~the~~ island nations elite force ~~w/support from the attached medical, signal, etc. units.~~

Elementary training of this brigade was begun by men of the 82nd Airborne in the Dominican Republic as part of the Inter American Peace Force. At first, the purpose of ~~the~~ swift-moving training was merely to have a unit ready in case of trouble during or after the June elections.

(See DCS 314-21/66) The MAAG has had a program of training for Dominican troops in existence for some time, but never enough instructors to enable them to teach at the battalion and company level. The decision has now been made to retain some of the current ~~temporarily~~ ~~instructors~~, and others, and establish a ~~permanent~~ long-term corps of instructors for the brigade.

The 1st Brigade is the only ~~Dominican~~ Military Aid Program and MAAG advised unit in the Dominican Republic. It is headquartered at the  $6\frac{1}{2}$  Kilometer Camp on the outskirts of Santo Domingo where most of the training takes place now.

The training is being conducted with an eye toward the creation of a fully-equipped, ready infantry brigade and the various Officers are assigned as advisors and/or instructors to sub-units of the brigades three battalions. Associated training (DCS 314-40/66) on the 4.2" mortar is aimed at creating a nucleus unit which will be able to train others on the arrival of more mortars.

The Infantry Advisors began arriving in early April. One went with

his assigned Dominican unit through the course conducted by the 82nd, thus establishing a personal working relationship with his Dominican student-soldiers. They are scheduled to remain in the republic until the end of September at which time all but four will return to their home units. The four will be joined by others to form the long-term advisor group under MAAG.

For the enlisted members of the 1st Brigade, the training is in basic unit tactics from the squad level up. In weaponry, it includes the 81mm mortar, the .30 calibre machine gun, the M-60 machine gun. Tactics run from infantry combat to riot control and dispersal formations.

There has also had to be some special side training as in the case of the drivers training. The brigade, recently the recipient of a large number of trucks and other vehicles, had no qualified drivers. The US Officers had to drive the trucks to the Dominican camp where, in short order, they launched the drivers education program.

Among the Dominican Officers, the US Advisors are also conducting additional training, bringing out basic concepts needed by those running an infantry brigade. These subjects include leadership, map reading, staff procedures, supply, etc.

This training is more detailed, more concerted than the stop-gap measures instituted in the 82nd Airborne's Mountain School. At that time, time was of the essence. Now, ~~themselves~~ greater care is being taken to impress details, to establish procedures, to instill unit spirit, to test and re-test student progress.

Conference - ? full names