

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING
THE ACTIVATION, ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING
of the 2d RANGER BATTALION - BOLIVIAN ARMY

PREFACE: Based on an exchange of notes signed at La Paz (Annex A) *
April 26, 1962. The Government of the United States of America
agreed to make available to the Government of Bolivia defense
articles and defense services for internal security, subject to
the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961. Recognizing a possible threat
to the internal security of the Republic of Bolivia in the Oriente,
specifically the 3d, 4th, 5th, and 8th Division areas of responsi-
bility, it is agreed that a rapid reaction force of battalion size
capable of executing counterinsurgency operations in jungle and
difficult terrain throughout this region will be created in the
vicinity of Santa Cruz, Republic of Bolivia.

1. Terms of Cooperation.

a. The Bolivian Armed Forces agree to provide a cuartel
whose environs include, as a minimum, suitable training areas and
facilities for maneuvering of tactical units and the combat firing
of all organic weapons; additionally, buildings and shelter will
be provided to insure adequate storage, protection, and maintenance
of MAP supplied equipment.

b. The Bolivian Armed Forces agree to assign personnel to
this unit in the numbers and talents indicated at Annex B. The re-
assignment of personnel from or within this unit will be minimal, and
their period of service will be not less than two years.

c. The Bolivian Armed Forces agree to furnish initial suffi-
cient quantities of training ammunition to this unit out of its on-
hand stocks of MAP and non-MAP ammunition.

d. The Bolivian Armed Forces agree to maintain all U.S.
supplied equipment at the highest degree of combat readiness. This
includes technical maintenance as well as such "soft goods" as tires,
batteries, lubricants, cleaning and preserving materials in reasonable
and adequate quantities. Verification that these standards are met
will be accomplished within the terms of Paragraph 6 "Exchange of notes"
(Annex A) for recurring inspections made jointly by U.S.-Bolivian army
representatives. Additionally equipment status reports will be rendered
by the unit commander to U.S. Army Section/MILGP through 4th Dept.
Bolivian Army on a bi-monthly basis.

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e. For purposes of identification, the U.S. Army section-MILGP recognizes this unit as The Second Ranger Battalion. This in no way precludes the Bolivian Army from designating this unit by any historical or traditional name that it might desire.

f. The U.S. Army Section-MILGP agrees to equip this unit as rapidly as possible in accordance with the equipment list shown at Annex D. This equipment to be provided within the terms of "Exchange of Notes" 22 April 1962. (sic) (Annex A)

g. The U.S. Army Section-MILGP agrees to support the maintenance of U.S.-provided equipment with reasonable quantities of spare and replacement parts, through established logistical channels of the Bolivian Army. It is recognized that the duration of this support will be in accordance with any future modifications of the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

h. The U.S. Army Section-MILGP agrees to provide advisor effort on a continuing basis in both technical and operational areas within its capabilities. Additionally, it will receive requests for special training assistance not locally available.

1. The U.S. Army Section-MILGP will initiate actions, e.g., as soon as an adequate site has been established and personnel have been provided.

2. Recognizing a request from the Armed Forces of Bolivia for special training assistance during the initial organization and training phase of this unit, there will be provided a training team of U.S. Specialists from the 8th Special Forces, U.S. Army Forces, Panama, C.Z., within the following conditions:

a. The team shall consist of specialists, ranger-qualified, and combat experienced.

b. The team will consist of 16 officers and noncommissioned officers, commanded by an officer not less than the grade of Major. (Team strength to be modified as needed.)

c. The mission of this team shall be to produce a rapid reaction force capable of counterinsurgency operations and skilled to the degree that four months of intensive training can be absorbed by the personnel presented by the Bolivian Armed Forces.

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d. The program of training to be presented will be as shown at Annex E.

e. The members of this team will enjoy the same responsibilities, rights, and privileges as afforded other U.S. Army Mission members in Bolivia.

f. The members of this team will not exercise command authority over any member of the Bolivian Armed Forces. However, it is expected that in any training situation, their instructions will be accepted and followed in a spirit of understanding and mutual cooperation. Any misunderstanding arising from these training situations which cannot be resolved by the unit commander and the team chief will be referred to Chief USARSEC and the Army Commander.

g. All members of this Special Training Team are specifically prohibited from participating in actual combat operations either as observers or advisors with members of the Bolivian Armed Forces.

h. All members of this Special Training Team are under the operational control of Chief USARSEC. Any incidents requiring disciplinary action will be referred to Chief USARSEC for necessary action.

3. Wilful disregard, in whole or in part, of these generally stated agreements by either party will in fact nullify this memorandum of understanding.

KENNETH T. MACEK
Colonel, GS
Chief USARSEC/MILGP

DAVID LAFUENTE
Commander
Bolivian Army

ALFREDO OVANDO C
General
Commander, Armed Forces

* Annexes not provided