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Department of State
TELEGRAM

123734
XR Pal 23-8 Mex
367



INDICATE
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ACTION: Amembassy MEXICO IMMEDIATE

STATE

SUBJECT: Congressional Inquiry on Police Training

REF: Mexico 3331 *Pol 23-8 Mex*
XR Pol 18 Mex

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AID(us) 8-77 Mex
XR 23-8 Mex

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Summary - Senator Fulbright has inquired about reported training of "Halcon" officers in the United States. We answered using previously agreed-upon contingency statement contained reftel, plus some additional remarks.

1. Chairman Fulbright has sent following letter to Mr. Matthew Harvey, AID Office of Legislative Affairs, Quote: A press report from Mexico City carried in the 'Foreign Broadcast Information Service' for June 18 (page L1) alleges that the military officers in charge of the 'Falcons' were trained in the United States. The reports specifically mentioned Colonel Manuel Diaz Escobar.

Paragraph. I would appreciate any information available

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DRAFTED BY: ARA/MEX:FJAlberti:lje	DRAFTING DATE 7/8/71	TEL. EXT. 29480	APPROVED BY: ARA/MEX - Mr. Smith
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CLEARANCES:
ARA - Mr. Hurwitch
AID/OPS - Mr. Goin (info) *CS*
H - Mr. Samuels (subs) *CS*
AID - Mr. Harvey *MA*

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to AID with respect to this matter. Paragraph. In addition, please supply a detailed description of AID's police or related training programs involving Mexican nationals for the last five years. Include the names of each Mexican receiving such training, as well as the dates, location, and nature of training. End quote.

2. We made following reply: Quote: I refer to your letter of June 25 concerning a report from Mexico City carried in the 'Foreign Broadcast Information Service,' which claimed that military officers in charge of the 'Falcons,' allegedly a group used to smash student demonstrations, were trained in the United States. Paragraph. In early January this year the Mexican Government, through the Secretariat of Foreign Relations, asked the United States Government for assistance in arranging a special observation and training program in

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FORM DS-322 4-68

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Authority: 11/10 969012



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the United States for selected Mexican police officials. Colonel Manuel Diaz Escobar was the Mexican police official designated by the Mexican Government to coordinate this program with the United States Government. Paragraph. There has been an international program for police training in the United States for foreign police officials for the last 16 years, and for the past eight years this program has been offered by the AID-administered International Police Academy in Washington, D.C. Sixty-five nations from all over the world have availed themselves of this program. I have enclosed additional literature on the International Police Academy. Paragraph. Following discussions between United States and Mexican officials, the United States Government agreed to cooperate with a program for training in police administration, management, and operations at the

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International Police Academy for a total of 20 Mexican police officials in four different groups. We understood that, at the same time, similar programs were requested and undertaken in Japan and the United Kingdom. All costs, such as transportation and per diem, are borne by the Mexican Government. Courses include training in border and customs control, the use of firearms, criminal and security investigations, instructor methods, patrol operations, and traffic control. All participants must be qualified police officials accredited by the Government of Mexico. Paragraph. Pursuant to the Mexican Government's request, there are currently 17 Mexican professional police officers undergoing training at the International Police Academy. The first Mexican police trainees began this course on March 8 and will terminate their training on July 9. Remaining groups are scheduled to train

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through December 10. None of the trainees has yet returned to Mexico. Paragraph. I have enclosed, as you requested, a list of all Mexican police trainees to date, including the dates and nature of their training. Paragraph. I hope that this information has been responsive to your inquiry. However, if you have any further questions, please let us know. End Quote.

3. In view of past close coordination this matter between Embassy and GOM, you may wish to pass substance above on to Mexican officials on confidential basis.

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