

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

RELEASE IN FULL 2003

Military Base1. Location

Hqs located in city of Coban. (Coban is reached from Guat City via Natl Route No. 5, a rough, rocky, ledge-clinging, and in many places, single-lane dirt road, thru mountainous terrain. Trip takes 8 hours, at 16 mph, from Guat City, distance approx. 130 miles.)

- Zone Hqs in bldg. six blocks from central cuartel.
- central cuartel, where troops quartered. troops allowed use of municipal stadium for traning, latter within city limits.
- National Finca, "Chicoyoguito," 550 acres, on Coban outskirts, adjacent to airport. Airport is west of Coban, about 3.6 miles by road from Puente Magdalena over Rio Cabahon at extreme western end of Calle Minerva.
- Military infirmary within city limits.

Officers quartered privately, except Exee Offer, who has apt in Central Cuartel.

2. Responsible Offer

Col. Victor FERNANDEZ Moreno. (NOT Escuela Politecnica).

3. Organization

Headquarters ✓
Headquarters & Services Platoon
Heavy Weapons Company
Rifle Company
Recon. Platoon
Battery 7mm Krupp (3 guns)

4. Strength

RUFUS OB gives foll: 2 Chiefs
31 Officers
355 EM's

IR-47-52 gives foll: 23 Officers
295 EM's

5. Weapons

3 75mm Pack Howitzers
2 M.G. ZB 7mm
2 M.G. Mendoza 7mm
2 M.G. Hotchkiss 7mm
1 Rifle Springfield 7mm M-1
300 Rifle Remington 7mm
200 Rifle Mauser 7mm
100 Rifle Checas 7mm
20 Carbines 7mm
1 Carbine cal. 30

Info of 29 Apr 53 says weapons same, except 7mm Krupp Howitzers not in usable condition.

All officers have pistols or revolvers.

(JStewart lists foll, unconfirmed: 2 .42mm, 2 .50 cal. antiaircraft m.g., 2 .30 cal. mg, handgrenades.)

6. Ammunition

em's--each 100 rds 7mm
supply room--about 100 cases of 1,000 rds each of 7mm

Rufus: 2 42 m.m.

7. Transportation

2 jeeps
1 2½ ton truck
1 ½ ton Dodge commercial pick-up truck
May commandeer civilian vehicles in emergency.

Guardia Civil

2 Chiefs Arms: 64 38mm pistols
4 Officials 64 7mm pistols
64 guards from RUFUS OB

From SECANT: 4 Officers, 49 EM's. + 15 = 68

Sources: Rufus OB
R-064-53
IR-47-52

Military Base1. Location

(REFUS map showing location of garrison in Garrison General File)

City at important RR junction between the line from Pto Barrios to Guat City and line from Pto Barrios to El Salvador. 5½ hours rail Guat to Zacapa.

Following depts under Zacapa jurisdiction:

Progreso
Chiquimula.

Base located SE outskirts of city and consists of small tng field and tempo housing for all units except Hqs and Hqs and Services Company, which are located in an old brick structure on main plaza of Zacapa, ½ mile from present Base. Hqs. includes: office quarters for C/O and Staff, living for Hqs & Serv Co., ammo and munitions storeroom, commo room. Morale not high, doubtless due to intense heat. Combat effectiveness described as poor and below standard of that observed in other zones. (The opposite is said by SECANT: "Only zone that could mobilize rapidly and probably not be suprised.")

2. Responsible Officer

Col. Bernardo J. ORDONEZ.

3. Organization

Headquarters

1 Hqs and Services Co.
3 Rifle Companies ()
1 Heavy Weapons Company
1 Recon Platoon
1 Battery 75mm Anderson (6 guns)
MC Cal. 50 Battery (?)

Minus 1 rifle company to Chiquimula

1 rifle company to Guat. (the Army Attache believes that this company is actually the one which is assisting in the construction of the Atlantic Highway, since there is no confirmation of its existence in the Base Militar. However, it is entirely possible that it could be absorbed within the unit.)

Also detachments of rifle platoons (approx 50 men) at Equipulas & El Florido. (above detachments rotated every 3 months)

4. Strength

RUFUS: 2 Chiefs	AA: 42 Officers	SECANT: 32 Officers
43 Officers	601 EM's	650 EM's
771 EM's		

RUFUS Breakdown:	Zacapa: 2, 32, 551	=	585
	Chiquimula: —, 7, 140	=	147
	Equipulas: —, 2, 30.	=	32
	La Union —, 1, 30	=	31
	El Florido —, 1, 20.	=	21
		=	816

30 paratroopers to Chiquimula 9 May.
200 Infantry to Zacapa

from Guardia de Honor & Base Militar.
Source: ESCHEL.

5. Weapons

IR-47-52: 6 75mm Andersons *
3 42mm Hotchkiss **
4 M.G. Browning Cal. 30
2 M.G. Thompson Cal. 45
5 M.G. Mendoza 7mm
2 M.G. Hotchkiss 7mm
6 M.G. Colt Cal. 50, water/cooled ***
400 Rifle Remington 7mm
500 Rifle Mauser 7mm
50 Rifle Czech 7mm
30 Carbines cal. 7mm

*later AA report says only 4 Andersons. No prime movers, until remedied, mobility of these weapons is extremely limited. AA was told that other two Andersons were at the Guardia de Honor. However, he believes they are at Jutiapa, as there is no confirmation of their presence at Guardia de Honor.

Other changes in above list:

- 2 LMG's, Browning, 30 Cal.
- 5 Czech SMG's, cal. 45

**3 Hotchkiss 42mm's not in working condition. Described as absolutely useless.
 ***Although the water-cooled 50 caliber anti-aircraft machine guns were not seen, four of their tripods were in the patio of the cuartel general. Two appeared to be mounted on a small parapet on the rear of the cuartel, apparently in a logical position for their employment to protect the cuartel from aerial attack.

AA: 900 cases of dynamite (Atlas, 60% gelatin) at New Base. Secured and issued by Capt. Monzon.

RUFUS: 2 37mm guns	Chiquimula: 140 7mm rifles
<u>Zacapa</u> 4 75mm	2 7mm mg's
2 42mm	
600 7mm rifles	Esquipulas: 30 7mm rifles
8 7mm mg's	La Union: 30 7mm rifles
6 45mm mg's	El Florido: 20 7mm rifles
6 50mm mg's	

ESPERANCE, 14 May, reports seeing 2 cannon, abt. 1 pounders. Hotel keeper said "they" had two tanks.

GUAT 492 reports 4 tanks left Guatemala City 26-30 Apr by ~~fer~~ road for Zacapa.

Carter reports small group of troops & 2 mg's at Comatan.

6. Ammunition

- 100 rds 7mm each man
- 8,000 rds Anderson 75mm ammo
- 118,000 rds 7mm

RUFUS: 100,000 rds 7mm	Chiquimula: 16,400 rds 7mm
6,158 75mm	Esquipulas: 3,000 rds 7mm
5,212 37mm	La Union: 3,000 rds 7mm
	El Florido: 2,000 rds 7mm

7. Transportation

- 3 jeeps
- 3 2 1/2 ton trucks
- 4 tanks (see above)

Guardia Civil

<u>SECANT</u>	<u>RUFUS</u>	<u>Ammo</u>
Zacapa 100	Zacapa 102	<u>94</u> 38mm and <u>94</u> 7mm pistols
Chiqui 203	Chiqui 205	<u>192</u> 38mm and <u>192</u> 7mm pistols
El Progr 60	El Progr 62	<u>55</u> 38mm and <u>55</u> 7mm pistols
Jalapa 62 <i>no.</i>	Jalapa 64	<u>56</u> 38mm and <u>56</u> 7mm pistols
363	Monteros 5	<u>5</u> 38mm and <u>5</u> 7mm pistols
	Shupa 5	<u>"</u> " " <u>"</u> " " "
	El Florido 5	<u>"</u> " " <u>"</u> " " "
	<u>Esquipulas 5</u>	<u>3</u>
	389	412-38mm + 412 7mm

New Base

220 acres. 1 mile S of Zacapa, bounded on W by Montagua River & RR from Zacapa to El Salvador; on S by Atlantic Highway and on N by southern extremity of city of Zacapa. Spring of 1954--not yet completed--injurious to morale. Considerable progress since 1953 on bldg. but work now at a virtual standstill.

Sources: RUFUS OB, R-112-53, R-58-54, R-66-53 (not found), SECANT, various.

7. Transportation

1 2½ ton truck (14 yrs old in 1953, constantly breaking down.)
2 jeeps

Guardia Civil

215
6
10
90
64

385

RUFUS: Jutiapa 2, 14, 199
Agua Caliente 6
~~Esquipulas~~ June 2
Asuncion Mita 1, —, 9
Cuitlapa ~~2, 8, 80~~

Armo: Jutiapa 199 38mm's & 199 7mm's
6 " & 6 "
~~5 " & 5 "~~
9 " & 9 "
80 " + 80 "

SECANT: 14 Officers
199 guards

213

Sources: R-62-53, IR-47-52 and RUFUS OB, SECANT.

+ Jalapa 2
6

56
Sec. Jalapa 62. 64

Military Base

1. Location

No specific.
All troops quartered in 1 bldg--Zone Hqs Cuartel.
Drill field on outskirts of Mazatenango-- $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from cuartel.

2. Responsible Officer

~~Col. Augusto MORENO~~ HSSA-521, dtd 22 Mar 54, gives ~~Major~~ ^{Col.} Augusto CONDE ~~ME~~

Mendizabal

3. Organization

Headquarters
1 Hqs and Services Platoon
1 Heavy Weapons Company
1 Rifle Company
1 Recon Platoon
(for detailed breakdown, see organizational chart in Maza Garrison Gen File).

4. Strength

R-4-52 gives: 25 Officers
328 EM's

RUFUS gives: 2 Chiefs
31 Officers
800 EM's

SECANT gives: 28 Officers
359 EM's (Secant's figures include only those in Hqs, NOT small detachments in outlying areas.)

5. Weapons

all men with 7mm Mauser, either Spanish or Czech.

400 Rifles, Remington, 7mm
250 Rifles, Spanish Mauser, 7mm
50 Carbines, U.S., 30 cal.
50 Rifles, Czech Mauser, 7mm
4 7mm mg's
2 Mendoza 7mm mg's
2 Hotchkiss 7mm mg's
NO 81mm mortars.

RUFUS lists only 2 42mm cannon--not listed by Army Attache reports.

6. Ammunition

No info in files.

7. Transportation

one $\frac{1}{2}$ ton truck
two jeeps

Guardia Civil

RUFUS lists:	<u>Mazatenango</u>	2 Chiefs	94 38mm pistols
		4 Officials	94 7mm
		94 Guards	
	<u>Champerico</u>	1 Chief	9 38mm
		9 Guards	9 7mm
	<u>Retalhuleu</u>	2 Chiefs	61 38mm
		6 Officials	61 7mm
		61 Guards	

SECANT lists: no listing for Mazatenango.
Camperico 1 Chief, 11 Guards + 9 = 21
Retal 6 Chiefs, 52 Guards + 9 = 67
Suchitepequez 9 Chiefs, 83 Guards + 11 = 102 ??

190

Sources: RUFUS OB, R-4-52, IR-47-52, SECANT.
Missing: EEI 50 and EEI 61.

[Handwritten signatures and scribbles]

Military Base

1. Location

The main cuartel located in the former RR station (map attached) of the elec rr which ran from Retalhuleu to Quezaltenango. Bldg, resemblin a Natl Guard Armory in US, has sufficient space to quarter all troops and house all facilities, except kitchen and maintenance units. Best housing outside of Guardia de Honor in GuatCity.

Hqs responsible for area including Depts of San Marcos, Totonicapan, Solola, Quezaltenango. Can be reached in dry season in 6 hours in light sedan via Totonicapan and Quiche. All troops, excepting detachments, quartered in 1 large room in main cuartel. All married ofcers live in Quezaltenango(city). *Duty Hrs: 0800-1200 and 1400-1800. 50% all ofers. always on duty.*

2. Responsible Ofcer.

Col. Jose MEYER or MAYER.

3. Organization

Headquarters

- 1 Hqs and Service Company
- 3 Rifle Companies
- 1 Heavy Weapons Company
- 1 Recon Platoon
- 1 Battery 75mm Anderson (6 guns)
- Mobile Company of the Cuartel General (of Guat City)

4. Strength

RUFUS OB gives foll: 3 Chiefs
36 Officers
637 EM's

} *Quezalt.*

IR-47-52 gives 38 officers
601 EM's.

R-66-53 gives 42 officers--and otherwise, same as in R-18-52,

Appear to be best equipped troops outside of Guat City.

5. Weapons

IR-47-52 gives: 6 75mm Pack Howitzers (1953 Report says these not in evidence)
4 M.G. Browning, Cal. 30
2 M.G. Browning, Cal. 50
2 M.G. Thompson, Cal. 45
5 M.G. Mendoza 7mm
4 M.G. Hotchkiss Lt.
2 M.G. Colt Cal. 50
900 Rifles, Remington 7mm
400 Rifles, Mauser 7mm
50 Rifles, Czech. 7mm

Rufus gives: 3,000 rifles
7 7mm's
6 45 mm's
4 75 cannon
4 42 cannon

6. Ammunition

All em's 100 rds 7mm. No other observed.
Rufus says 100,000 rds 7mm.

7. Transportation

4 jeeps
2 2½ ton trucks.

The following are listed for outlying areas:

Malacatan	1 Ofcr 30 Troops	7mm 30 rifles 6,000 rds 7mm	Rip adds (7mm MC)
San Marcos	1 Ofcr 30 Troops	30 rifles 6,000 rds 7mm	" " " " "
Ayutla	1 Ofcr 41 Troops	41 rifles 8,200 rds 7mm	" " " " "
Huehuetenango	7 Ofcers		
Guardia Civil	41 Em's		* → See Quiche re this figure.

Quezalt
RUFUS OB: 2 Chiefs 150 38MM's
9 Officials 150 7 mm's
150 Guards

SECANT (7 Jan 54)
9 Officers
127 em's
23

Outlying Areas (Guardia Civil) 159

	SECANT	RUFUS	
Ayutla	1 Ofcr 12 Guards 19 = 32	2 Chiefs 1 Official 31 Guards	31 38mm's 31 7MM's <i>pistols rifles</i>
Huehuetenango	7 Officers 55 Guards 38 = 63	7 Chiefs 7 Officials 93 Guards	93 38mm's 93 7mm's
San Marcos	9 Ofers 72 Guards 131 = 212	2 Chiefs 10 Officials 202 Guards	202 38mm's 202 7mm's
Atonicapah	5 Ofers 40 Guards 9 = 45	2 Chiefs 5 Officials 49 Guards	49 38mm's 49 7 mm's

Sources: RUFUS OB, Army & Air Attache Reports/

Following Reports Missing: R-18-52
R-48-53
~~Pictures attached to R-66-53 found.~~
~~Quezaltenango General Garrison File~~

+ Solola 2, 5, 5 3 = 60 53 38's
53 7 mm's

OB, QUICHE, 6th Military Zone (EDDIE)

Military Base1. Location

No specific. Hqs. located in Quiche, 4½ hours driving time (dry season) from Gaat City via Chichicastenango. Depts of Quiche and Huehuetenango under its jurisdiction.

Hqs and Hqs & Services Platoon stationed in main cuartel, which is shared by Guardia Civil, with rooms for instruction, kitchen, in a separate bldg. Rifle Co. and heavy weapons company quartered in separate installations throughout city, which are private residences.

2. Responsible Officer

Col. Jorge H. CRUZ Salazar.

3. OrganizationHeadquarters

- 1 Hqs & Services Platoon
- 1 Rifle Company
- 1 Heavy Weapons Company
- 1 Recon Platoon

R-65-53 states there is a detached Rifle platoon stationed in Huehuetenango with Capt. Roberto MORALES Mino. This number should be subtracted from total strength-- 1 officer and 29 troops, according to Rufus' definition of a platoon.)

4. Strength

R-65-53 gives 24 Officers
295 EM's (This figure confirmed by GUAT 311 of 7 Apr 54)

RUFUS gives: 2 Chiefs
31 Officers
355 EM's

Rufus also lists 7 Ofcrs and 141 men at Huehuetenango, which no. comprises a company and not a platoon.

SECANT lists 28 Officers
359 EM's
including AND a Battery with 6 Officers and 75 men.

5. Weapons

RUFUS lists 2 42mm cannon.
IR-47-52 lists: 1 M.G. Thompson Cal. 45
4 M.G. Mendoza 7mm
4 M.G. Lewis 7.65 mm
2 M.G. Hotchkiss 7mm
400 Rifle Remington 7mm
200 Rifle Mauser 7mm
approx 1,000 Mauser & Czech 7mm rifles in Arms Room.

6. Ammunition

all em's carry 100 rds of 7mm
reserve supply in Arms Room of approx 50,000 rds of 7mm

7. Transportation

2 2½ ton trucks (1 without motor)
2 jeeps (jeeps & trucks confirmed by GUAT 33 311)
1 Ford tractor (?)

Guardia Civil

RUFUS:	Quiche	OK	2 Chiefs	66 38mm pistols
			8 Officials	66 7mm pistols
			66 Guards	
	Solola		2 Chiefs	53 " "
			8 Officials	53 " "
			53 Guards	

Guardia Civil (cont)

Salama	2 Chiefs	66	8mm pistols
	1 Official	66	7mm pistols
	66 Guards		

Chimaltenango	2 Chiefs	63	"	"
	4 Officials	63	"	"
	63 Guards			

+ Huehuetenango 7 Ofc's
 55 Guards
 38 = 100 (Secant) 937
 Rufus: 700 13

SECANT lists:

OK Quiche 8 Ofc's
 66 Guards

~~ND Solola 5 Ofc's, 53 Guards~~

~~ND Salama 4 Ofc's, 55 Guards~~

~~ND Chimaltenango 4 Ofc's, 63 Guards~~

27 Sacatepequez 4 Ofc's, 55 Guards.

da am

In addition, RUFUS lists the following, description as troops closest to airport,

2 Chiefs
 , 28 officials
 820 em's

2 42mm cannon
 2 50 cal mg's
 2 30 cal mg's
 50 hand grenades plus 2 Ofc's and 30 men of the Guardia Civil.

Sources: R-65-53
 R-46-53(not available)
 R-56-53 (not on HULA-61 list of reports at LINC)
 LINC 1440
 GUAT 311

OB--PUERTO BARRIOS Military Base (Bond)

Info As OF: 23 April 1954

1. Location

Eastern side of the airfield in the quarters occupied by the U.S. Army Air Force during WWII. Situated between airstrip and Bay of Amatique, approx 1 mile east of Pto. Barrios.

2. Reponsible Officer

Col.mRodolfo Solares CASTILLO

3. Organization

- 1 Hqs. platoon
- 1 Rifle company w/7mm rifles
- 1 Battery water-cooled 50 cal. mg's (total of 2 mg's)
- 1 Platoon heavy weapons, w 6 7mm Hotchkiss mg's
- 1 Detachment 15 men from Zacapa (supposed to be armed with 2 water-cooled 50 cal. anti-aircraft mg's, but they were not)

4. Strength

13 officers
185 em

5. Ammunition

In addition to above, dynamite and caps are stored in a small bldg. adjoining Hq's Bldg of Military Base. This is supplied on daily basis to Sto. Tomas for bridge construction purposes.

One Carlos H. FLORES, house between 10th ave & 11th St. has possibly lent his home to store arms for Communists. See HGG-A-814.

B. Airport

- troop detachment: 1 officer
25 em
- ammo: 2 50cal. anti-aircraft mg's
- 2 30mm Hotchkiss mg's
- 26 rifles, w/100 cartridges each.

C. "Prevention Guard" of Base Militar

2 officers
25 em

located 75 meters from the point of the airport. 50 meters ~~to~~ to the North of PG near edge of bay are located 2 sentinels in a guardhouse, equipped with phone.

D. Guardia Civil

2 Chiefs
22 Officials
145 guards.
Arms: 145 38mm pistols and 145 7mm pistols.

Livingston: 1 ofcr., 13 Guards.

13-38mm + 13 7mm pistol.

Sources:

R-71-54

Refus OB - Pages 7, 61

Totals

Military Base: 251 (NOT incl 15 Zaca men)

Guardia Civil: ~~164~~ 183

was jeep assigned to Base Commander.

1. Location

Off main road from Guat City to San Jose, 2 miles from Port of San Jose, on airport occupied by AAF during WWII. Reservation which Base occupies covers area of 86.15 acres. Guard forces of 8 men are detailed to protect the entrance. Responsible for entire Dept. of Escuintla. All troops stationed on reservation. Quarters just west of landing field--area protected by palm and large ceiba trees. Quarters for officers' families.

2. Responsible Officer

Col. Alfredo LEMUS Amador. Directly responsible to Chief of Staff.

At port of San Jose: 2 officers --Responsible to Min. Defense.
6 EM's

3. Organization

1 Rifle Company
1 Battery 59 50 Cal. AA MG (4 guns) 1953 Attache report states this battery exists on paper only.

4. Strength

15 officers
208 EM's

5. Weapons

208 7mm rifles
100 7mm ~~mousers~~ *mausers*, *Tercecerolas*, *Remington 7mm*

6. Ammunition

100 rds 7mm ammo each man.

7. Transportation

2 jeeps
1 commercial sedan

are two trains per day to and from Guat City.

Airfield is one of the best in Guatemala, and with slight improvements could be an excellent HB base ~~ef-t~~ for the Western Hemisphere.

ESSENCE report of 15 Mar 54 states that several unmarked transport planes have been reported in the San Jose airport.

Guardia Civil

2 Chiefs , equipped with 28 38mm pistols and 28 7mm pistols.
2 Officers
28 Guards

Sources: RUFUS OB, R-56--53