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HEADER

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FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

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CONTROLS

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ SECTION 01 OF 05 (b)(3):10 USC 424

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SERIAL: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) MEXICO (MX).

SUBJECT: (b)(3):10 USC 424 /HISTORY OF THE
MEXICAN AIRBORNE BRIGADE (U).

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE REPORT
CLASSIFIED -- ~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ --
NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 459001-920710.

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PAGE: 0133

REQS: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

SOURCE: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

SUMMARY: (C/NF) (b)(1),1.4 (c)

TEXT: 1. (C/NF) (b)(1),1.4 (c)

2. (U) THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE, LTG FRANCISCO L. ((URQUIZO)) (450901-461130), AND THE AERONAUTIC DIRECTOR, LTG GUSTAVO ((SALINAS)) CAMINA, ORDERED A STUDY TO CREATE A UNIT OF PARATROOPERS, HAVING DECIDED THAT A GROUP OF OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS WOULD BE TRAINED IN THE U.S., IN THAT MANNER FORMING A BASE GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS, WHICH WOULD THEN BE IN CHARGE OF TRAINING FUTURE MEXICAN PARATROOPERS.

3. (U) ON 460401, CPT PLUTARCO ((ALBARRAN)) LOPEZ WAS DESIGNATED TO REVIEW AND SELECT THE VOLUNTEERS; ON THE SAME DATE, THE MESSAGE TO RECRUIT VOLUNTEERS WAS DISSEMINATED TO THE MEXICAN ARMY.

4. (U) ON 460408, 170 OFFICERS AND 190 SOLDIERS TOOK THE EXAMINATIONS, OF WHICH 20 OFFICERS AND 30 SOLDIERS WERE SELECTED. THESE INDIVIDUALS WERE ORGANIZED INTO TWO GROUPS, AND WERE READIED TO UNDERGO TRAINING AT THE U.S. ARMY AIRBORNE SCHOOL IN FORT BENNING, GEORGIA.

5. (U) THE FIRST GROUP WAS UNDER THE COMMAND OF CPT ALBARRAN, AND THE GROUP'S EXECUTIVE OFFICER WAS LT JOSE ((HERNANDEZ)) TOLEDO. ON 460518, THIS FIRST GROUP DEPARTED FOR FORT BENNING, BEGINNING THE COURSE ON 460527, WITH THE JUMP PHASE STARTING ON 460601, BECOMING PARATROOPERS ON 460620.

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PAGE:0134

6. (U) THE SECOND GROUP HAS UNDER THE COMMAND OF LT JORGE ((MUNGUIA)) GONZALEZ, AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER WAS LT ISIDRO ((SANCHEZ)) ZEPEDA. THIS GROUP FOLLOWED THE FIRST GROUP TO FORT BENNING, AND COMPLETED ITS TRAINING ON 460803, QUALIFIED AS PARATROOPERS AND GLIDER PERSONNEL.

7. (U) UPON RETURN TO MEXICO, THE UNIT HAS STATIONED AT "CAMPO MILITAR BALBUENA" (MILITARY BASE BALBUENA), AND IN THAT MANNER THE FIRST UNIT OF MEXICAN PARATROOPERS HAS BORN.

8. (U) ON 460915, THE UNIT JUMPED FOR THE FIRST TIME ON MEXICAN SOIL, AND RECEIVED THE FIRST MODEL OF MEXICAN PARATROOPER WINGS.

9. (U) ON 461001, A NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS FROM THE AIRTROOP COMPANY, CONSISTING OF 18 OFFICERS AND 32 SOLDIERS, WAS ASSIGNED TO THE "PLAZA DE PUEBLA," PUEBLA (b)(3):10 USC 424, PUEBLA, AND UNDERWENT AN INFANTRY TRAINING COURSE.

10. (U) ON 470215, THE UNIT HAS DEACTIVATED FROM BALBUENA, AND REACTIVATED AS THE "COMPANIA DE AEROTROPAS" (AIRTROOP COMPANY) IN THE "CAMPO MILITAR NO. 1" (b)(3):10 USC 424, AND FROM THIS DATE THE TRAINING OF THE FIRST CLASS OF PARATROOPERS TRAINED IN OUR COUNTRY WAS BEGUN.

11. (U) ON 480427, THE AIRTROOP COMPANY CEASES TO BELONG TO THE AIR FORCE AND JOINS THE PRESIDENTIAL GUARD CORPS.

12. (U) ON 520915, THE NEWLY FORMED "BATALLON DE PARACAIDISTAS" (AIRBORNE BATTALION) PASSES IN REVIEW IN FRONT OF PRESIDENT MIGUEL ((ALEMAN)), HAVING BEEN ACTIVATED THAT SAME DAY BY THE PRESIDENT.

13. (U) ON 530101, THE AIRBORNE BATTALION IS REASSIGNED TO THE AIR FORCE.

14. (U) BG ALBARRAN, GIVES COMMAND OF THE UNIT TO LTC LUIS ((GRANADOS)) ALAMILLO.

15. (U) ON 640508, THE UNIT MOVES FROM "CAMPO MILITAR NO. 1" TO "BASE AEREA MILITAR NO. 1 - BAN NO. 1" (MILITARY AIR BASE NO. 1), IN SANTA LUCIA (b)(3):10 USC 424, STATE OF MEXICO.

16. (U) ON 650171, THE UNIT MOVES BACK TO "CAMPO

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PAGE:0135

MILITAR NO. 1," WHERE IT REMAINS TO THIS DAY.

17. (U) ON 690101, THE "BRIGADA DE FUSILEROS PARACAIDISTAS" (AIRBORNE BRIGADE) IS CREATED UNDER THE DIRECTIVE OF PRESIDENT GUSTAVO ((DIAZ)) ORDAZ, AND PLACED UNDER THE DISPOSITION OF LTG "ARCELINO ((GARCIA)) BARRAGAN, SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE. THE UNIT HAS ORGANIZED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER--

- HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY
- 1ST AIRBORNE BATTALION
- 2D AIRBORNE BATTALION

THE UNIT COMMANDERS WERE--

- MG JOSE ((HERNANDEZ)) TOLEDO, BRIGADE COMMANDER
- MAJ GREGORIO ((GUERRERO)) CAUDILLO, CHIEF OF STAFF
- MAJ ANGEL JORGE ((LASSO DE LA VEGA)) Y CORONA, COMMANDER OF THE 1ST BATTALION
- LTC EDMAR ((EUROZA)) DELGADO, COMMANDER OF THE 2D BATTALION

NOTE-- THE CREATION OF THE 3D AIRBORNE BATTALION DATES FROM 740701, AND THE FIRST COMMANDER HAS LTC NICABARDO DANIEL ((VELAZQUEZ)) CARDONA.

18. (U) THE FOLLOWING GENERALS AND FIELD GRADE OFFICERS HAVE BEEN COMMANDERS OF THIS GREAT UNIT--

- MG JOSE ((HERNANDEZ)) TOLEDO, 690101-701231
- COL EDMAR ((EUROZA)) DELGADO, 710101-710131
- MG RAUL EMILIO ((FOULLON)) CABRERA, 710201-721201 (MEXICAN AIR FORCE)
- COL LUIS ENRIQUE ((GRANADOS)) ALAMILLO, 721201-770416 (MEXICAN AIR FORCE)
- BG EDMAR ((EUROZA)) DELGADO, 770416-821216
- BG JOSE ((NUNO)) SENCION, 821216-830116 (MEXICAN AIR FORCE)
- MG DELFINO MARIO ((PALMERIN)) CORDERO, 830116-881201
- MG GREGORIO ((GUERRERO)) CAUDILLO, 881201-PRESENT

((b)(3):10 USC 424 -- LTG GUERRERO TURNED OVER THE BRIGADE TO MG RAMON R. ((ARRIETA)) HURTADO ON 910716; CITE ((b)(3):10 USC 424).

19. (U) ON 690422, THE FIRST CLASS OF PARATROOPERS TRAINED BY THE BRIGADE GRADUATES, AFTER 52 CLASSES TRAINED BY PREVIOUS AIRBORNE UNITS.

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PAGE:0136

20. (U) UP TO THIS DATE, 106 CLASSES OF THE BRIGADE/BATTALION HAVE MADE THEIR FIVE QUALIFYING JUMPS; 29 FOREIGN CLASSES; 12 MILITARY ACADEMY CLASSES; 6 CLASSES FROM THE MILITARY SCHOOL FOR NURSES; 1 CLASS FROM THE MILITARY SCHOOL OF AVIATION; 1 CLASS FROM THE MILITARY SIGNAL SCHOOL; 1 CLASS FROM THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY POLICE; AND 1 CLASS FROM THE FEDERAL DISTRICT POLICE, TOTTALLING 158 GRADUATING CLASSES OF PARATROOPERS. [REDACTED]

-- THE TERM "CLASS" DOES NOT DENOTE A STANDARD NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS IN GRADUATING GROUP; RATHER, THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING TRAINING VARIES BASED UPON THE REQUIREMENTS. CITE (b)(3):10 USC 424 [REDACTED] FOR A DISCUSSION OF RECENT GRADUATING CLASS STRENGTHS).

21. (U) AIRBORNE UNITS, IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR ARMY, ARE CONSIDERED TO BE A SPECIAL CORPS, AND ARE UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE HIGH COMMAND; AS SUCH, THE UNIT IS SUBJECT TO DIVERSE MISSIONS IN THE ENTIRE NATIONAL TERRITORY. THE UNITS' ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING HAVE ADAPTED ON OCCASIONS TO INFANTRY MISSIONS, MODIFYING ITS ORGANIZATION AND USING SQUAD-SIZED UNITS OF 11 SOLDIERS. (IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT OUR PLATOONS CONSIST OF 2 OFFICERS AND FOUR SQUADS OF 9 PARATROOPERS EACH).

22. (U) THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES OF MISSIONS WHICH THIS GREAT UNIT HAS CONDUCTED IN VARIOUS TIMES AND PLACES ARE PRESENTED--

A. (U) IN 660000, AS A RESULT OF STUDENT LED PROBLEMS AND CIVIL DISTURBANCES AT NICOLAITA UNIVERSITY IN MORELIA [REDACTED] (b)(3):10 USC 424 [REDACTED] MICHOACAN.

B. (U) IN 670000, WHEN ALTERCATIONS OCCURRED DURING THE GUBERNATORIAL ELECTIONS IN HERMOSILLO [REDACTED] (b)(3):10 USC 424 [REDACTED] SONORA.

C. (U) IN 680500, IN THE CITY OF VILLAHERMOSA [REDACTED] (b)(3):10 USC 424 [REDACTED] TABASCO. DURING THE DISTURBANCES CAUSED BY STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TABASCO.

D. (U) IN 680600-681200, IN THE SQUARE IN WHICH A VARIETY OF STUDENT MOVEMENTS OCCURRED, AND PROTESTS PROVOKED BY SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS, IN TLALTELOLCO, SCHOOL BUILDINGS, AND OTHER AREAS OF MEXICO CITY.

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E. (U) IN 690000, FOR ALMOST 10 MONTHS, THE 2D AIRBORNE BATTALION WAS ASSIGNED TO DURANGO (b)(3):10 USC 424 DURANGO, ASSISTING IN THE MAINTAINING ORDER DURING THE STUDENT MOVEMENT AGAINST THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF DURANGO.

F. (U) ON 729610, DURING THE RESURGENCE OF THE PROBLEMS AND CONFRONTATIONS NEAR THE TEACHERS COLLEGE KNOWN AS "JUEVES DE CORPUS" IN MEXICO CITY.

G. (U) DURING 740000, MEMBERS OF THE BRIGADE WERE TRANSPORTED TO CULIACAN (b)(3):10 USC 424 SINALOA, TO SUPPORT LOCAL UNITS AND GUARANTEE THE TRANQUILITY IN THE FACE OF LABOR AND STUDENT CONFLICTS.

H. (U) IN 740000-760000, MEMBERS OF THE BRIGADE PARTICIPATED IN OPERATIONS IN THE STATE OF GUERRERO, TO COMBAT BANDITS SUCH AS GENARO ((VAZQUEZ)) AND LUCIO ((CABANAS)), AS WELL AS CARRYING OUT ACTIONS AGAINST NARCOTRAFFICKING IN THAT STATE.

I. (U) IN 760000, PERSONNEL FROM THE BRIGADE WERE SENT TO CAPINGO, STATE OF MEXICO, TO HELP LIMIT THE PROBLEMS IN THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURE SCHOOL LOCATED IN THAT CITY.

J. (U) IN 761200, A BATTALION PARTICIPATED DURING RURAL-BASED ALTERCATIONS IN TLAXCALA

(b)(3):10 USC 424

K. (U) IN 860600-861200, BRIGADE PERSONNEL PARTICIPATED IN SECURITY EFFORTS AND PATROLLING IN THE CITY OF CHIHUAHUA //GEOCOD: 1925N/09810W// CHIHUAHUA AND ENVIRONS, DURING PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM GUBERNATORIAL ELECTIONS.

L. (U) IN 860600-860700, MEMBERS OF THE BRIGADE AGAIN PARTICIPATED IN SECURITY EFFORTS AND PATROLLING IN THE STATE OF MICHOACAN DURING THE GUBERNATORIAL ELECTIONS IN THAT STATE.

M. (U) FROM 890922-891025, THE MAJORITY OF THE BRIGADE PARTICIPATED IN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRUG CROPS IN SOUTHERN JALISCO, WITH THE BRIGADE COMMAND POST ESTABLISHED IN SAYULA (b)(3):10 USC 424 (b)(3):10 USC 424 JALISCO.

N. (U) FROM 890200, BRIGADE PERSONNEL HAVE PARTICIPATED IN TASK FORCE "MARTE VII, VIII, IX, X,

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PAGE:0138

AND XI," UNTIL TODAY DURING WHICH THEY OPERATED IN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRUGS AND APPLICATION OF THE FEDERAL LAW OF FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES IN THE STATES OF CHIHUAHUA, DURANGO, AND SINALOA. DURING THESE ACTIONS, ELEMENTS OF THE BRIGADE HAVE BEEN WOUNDED, AND OTHERS HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES WHILE PERFORMING THEIR MISSION.

23. (U) THE FOLLOWING ARE EXAMPLES OF MISSIONS OF ASSISTANCE TO THE CIVILIAN POPULACE WHICH THIS GREAT UNIT HAS CONDUCTED IN VARIOUS TIMES AND PLACES--

(b)(3):10 USC 424

A. (U) IN 510000, AIRBORNE PERSONNEL ASSIST THE PEOPLE IN THE CITIES OF TIJUANA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BAJA CALIFORNIA; TAMPICO [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] VERACRUZ; AND NUEVO LAREDO

[REDACTED] TAMAULIPAS-- WHO HAD BEEN DISRUPTED BY SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS-- BY AIRDROPPING CLOTHING, FOOD, AND MEDICINE, AS WELL AS BUILDING MATERIAL AND OTHER EQUIPMENT.

(b)(3):10 USC 424

B. (U) IN 511100, ON THE SKIRTS OF THE VOLCANO POPOCATEPETL [REDACTED], WHEN AN AIRPLANE CRASHED IN WHICH SENATOR RAMOS (("ILLAN)) AND THE ACTRESS BLANCH ESTELA ((PAVON)) WERE RIDING; MEMBERS OF THE BRIGADE ASSISTED IN THE RESCUE ATTEMPTS.

C. (U) IN 520800, RESCUE AND EVACUATION EFFORTS WERE CONDUCTED IN THE AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT IN THE "CERRO DE MAMULIQUE" IN THE STATE OF NUEVO LEON.

D. (U) ON 540623, BRIGADE PERSONNEL PARTICIPATED IN RESCUE OPERATIONS ON A C-47 AIRCRAFT, REGISTRATION NUMBER 6014 OF THE MEXICAN AIR FORCE IN THE TOWN OF CARBON MONTEALTO [REDACTED] (b)(3):10 USC 424 [REDACTED], STATE OF MEXICO.

E. (U) DURING 560000, THE BRIGADE ASSISTED THE PEOPLE OF NUEVO LAREDO, TAMAULIPAS, AND VILLA ACUNA (b)(3):10 USC 424 [REDACTED] COAHUILA, DUE TO THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE FLOODING OF THE RIO BRAVO.

F. (U) IN 590000, DURING A RESCUE CONDUCTED IN THE OAXACAN MOUNTAINS WHEN A BELL 205 HELICOPTER OF THE MEXICAN AIR FORCE CRASHED. THE BRIGADE UTILIZED RAPPELLING TECHNIQUES TO ASSIST.

G. (U) IN 590000, THE BRIGADE PROVIDED ASSISTANCE TO THE CITY OF COLIMA (b)(3):10 USC 424 [REDACTED]

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COLIMA, WHICH HAD BEEN DAMAGED BY A HURRICANE.

H. (U) IN 610000, ON THE COAST OF THE STATE OF GUERRERO, THE BRIGADE ASSISTED PEOPLE HURT BY THE FLOODING AND OTHER EFFECTS OF HURRICANE "TARA" IN THE TOWNS OF TECPAN [REDACTED] NUSCO [REDACTED] (b)(3):10 USC 424 AND ATOYAC [REDACTED] AMONG OTHERS.

I. (U) IN 680000, A GROUP FROM THE BRIGADE, VALIANTLY RECOVERED THE BODIES OF 11 CLIMBERS OF THE SCHOOL "INSTITUTO DE CIENCIAS" OF GUADALAJARA [REDACTED] (b)(3):10 USC 424 JALSICO, WHO HAD BECOME LOST AND DIED ON THE VOLCANO IXTACCIHUATL [REDACTED] (b)(3):10 USC 424

J. (U) IN 740000, A GROUP FROM THE BRIGADE HELPED IN THE RESCUE OF A "HALLOWET" HELICOPTER WHICH HAD CRASHED ON THE VOLCANO IXTACCIHUATL.

K. (U) IN 820400-821100, A COMPANY FROM THE BRIGADE ASSISTED THE POPULACE WHEN THE VOLCANO CHICHONAL ERUPTED, CAUSING DAMAGE IN THE STATES OF TABASCO AND CHIAPAS.

L. (U) THE BRIGADE DISTINGUISHED ITSELF WITH ITS TIMELY, ENERGETIC, DECISIVE, AND VALIANT PERFORMANCE DURING THE TRAGIC EARTHQUAKE IN MEXICO CITY IN 850900. THREE OFFICERS AND SIX SOLDIERS WERE DECORATED FOR THEIR PERFORMANCE. ONE OFFICER HAS CRUSHED AND BURIED WHEN A BUILDING COLLAPSED ON TOP OF HIM.

24. (U) IT IS NOT THE INTENT TO SAY THAT THE PARATROOPER IS THE IDEAL SOLDIER TO DEAL WITH THESE TYPES OF MISSIONS, BUT WE KNOW THAT HE HAS EARNED THE CONFIDENCE OF THE HIGH COMMAND TO DO SO; WITH THE ASSURANCE THAT WE KNOW HOW TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY, WITH ZEAL AND INTELLIGENCE, ADAPTING OURSELVES TO THE DIRECTIVES AND INSTRUCTIONS TO OBTAIN THE RESULTS WHICH THE HIGH COMMAND EXPECTS.

COMMENTS: 1. (C/NF) [REDACTED] (b)(1),1.4 (c)
2. (C/NF) [REDACTED] (b)(1),1.4 (c)

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(b)(1),1.4 (c)

3. ~~(C/NF)~~

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

4. ~~(C/NF)~~

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

(b)(3):10 USC 424

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