

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

BRAZIL

2 809 0045 66

(U) 3rd Cavalry Regiment

30 November 1966

2

DIRM 1.J.11

16 Nov 1966

COMUSARMA RIO DE JANEIRO BR

Sao Luiz Gonzaga, Brazil, 16 Nov 66

VERNON A. WALTERS, BRIG 6
U.S. Defense Attache

Personal Observation

(U) On 16 November 1966, accompanied by AARMA Major Schuler, I visited the 3rd Cavalry Regiment at SAO LUIZ GONZAGA (2824S-5458W), State of Rio Grande do Sul.

CONSULATE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEC - 5 1966

PORTO ALEGRE, BRAZIL

1. (C) LOCATION. This unit is located in a large barracks built in 1922 at the northern edge of the town of SAO LUIZ GONZAGA at the end of Rua Venancio Aires. It is located on top of a ridge and dominates the area around it.

2. (C) SUBORDINATION. This unit is a component of the 1st Cavalry Division with Hqs. at SANTIAGO DO BOQUEIRAO (2911S-5453W), and is directly subordinate to it and through it to the 3rd Army.

USCINCSO
COMUSARSO

AmConsulate, P. Alegre

GP-3

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR INTERVALS
NOT AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND53328

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

2 809 0845 6
2 2

OUSAIMA RIO DE JANEIRO BR/

3. (C) COMMAND. At the time of my visit this unit was commanded by Lt. Col. ALBERTO CARLOS MAZIERON. His Executive Officer was Major EDU VILLA DE AZAMBUJA.
4. (C) STRENGTH. The strength of this unit is around 500 officers and men. (There are 16 officers present for duty).
5. (C) RECRUITMENT. 25% of the men in this unit are recruited locally and the remainder come from the northern part of the State of Rio Grande do Sul and have the usual high percentages of soldiers of German, Polish and Italian ethnic origin. About 15 to 20% are illiterate and the regiment conducts literacy classes for them.
6. (C) ORGANIZATION. This unit like almost all Brazilian Cavalry Regiments is organized into:
- 1 Hqs and Service Squadron
 - 2 Rifle Squadrons
 - 1 Heavy Weapons Squadron
7. (C) WEAPONS. The basic individual weapon is the Brazilian Army 1934 Mosquetao. In the Rifle Squadrons there are 12 automatic rifles (Madsen). All Weapons Squadrons have 4 81mm Mortars. All non commissioned officers carry Brazilian INA sub-machine guns and officers carry their individual side arms.
8. (C) COMMUNICATIONS. This unit has 2 transmitters located in a fixed installation within the barracks area which maintain CW communications with the Division Hqs, with adjacent units and with III Army. While equipment was not observed, it is probably Brazilian made RD-300 equipment.
9. (C) MEDICAL. A Doctor, a Dentist and a Veterinary are present. More serious cases are evacuated to SANTIAGO DO BOQUEIRAO Military Hospital.
10. (C) VEHICLES. 3 new Willys jeeps, 12 older ones, 4 Chev. 1 1/2 ton trucks.
11. (C) HORSES. Present in adequate numbers for all personnel requiring mounts.
12. (C) ACTIVITIES. In addition to normal training and internal security missions this unit occasionally sends patrols out as far as the Argentine border. They also have intelligence agents reporting to the Regimental S-2 active in areas between SAO LUIZ GONZAGA and the border. More Argentine troops have withdrawn from the border, leaving control to Gendarmeria. There is little or no arms smuggling in this area. Relations with the Argentine Military in this area are excellent and intelligence is fully exchanged on a local basis. (See referenced IR)
13. (C) EFFECTIVENESS: Morale training and discipline in this unit compared favorably with other Cavalry Regiments observed during our November visits.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND53328