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# 1,000 U.S. Paratroopers Leave Grenada

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 — About 1,000 paratroopers of the 82d Airborne Division, the last United States combat forces to have fought in the invasion of Grenada, were flown off the Caribbean island today, a Defense Department spokesman said.

Left behind was a force of 1,200 support troops, also mostly from the 82d Airborne, that will be drawn down to about 300 by the end of the week, the spokesman said. No date has been set for their withdrawal.

About half of those remaining behind are military policemen. The others are medics, civic action specialists, intelligence specialists, a few air controllers, and supply, maintenance, and administrative personnel, the spokesman said.

In addition, an Army training team of 100 soldiers has begun working with troops from Grenada and other Caribbean island nations, and four Coast Guard ships have relieved the Navy of patrolling offshore, he said.

The paratroopers and support soldiers were among the 7,000 Army Rangers, marines, sailors, and airmen who took part in the invasion of Grenada, which began Oct. 25. The Reagan Administration said the invasion was necessary to rescue United States students on the island and to wipe out what the Administration said was a Soviet and Cuban base for subversion.

The Administration, in an attempt to head off a Congressional resolution invoking the War Powers Act, had said that all combat troops would be out of Grenada before Christmas. That act requires Congressional approval for a stay of longer than 60 days.

The Defense Department spokesman said that the company of United States military policemen in Grenada would help local authorities keep order and train the Grenadian police force. The United States soldiers have been given authority to arrest Grenadian lawbreakers or those thought to be a threat to public order.

## Backup for Soldiers

While the military police are trained in law enforcement techniques similar to those of civilian police, they can also fight as infantry, thus providing a backup for the soldiers of the Caribbean Peacekeeping Force and a modest deterrent to the Cubans.

The civic action group, which, like the 82d Airborne, is from Fort Bragg, N.C., has been helping resettle about 1,400 refugees, working to get water supplies restarted, and helping to repair the mental hospital that was inadvertently bombed by Navy planes during the fighting.

The intelligence specialists, the spokesman said, would help local authorities gather and analyze information of military value. He gave no details, but that presumably meant watching for an effort by Cubans to regain influence on the island.

The Air Force's air traffic controllers will continue to guide United States aircraft in and out of Grenada as the remainder of the support force is withdrawn, the spokesman said. A handful will then stay on to control aircraft that bring in supplies to the stay-behind force.

The military training team of 100 soldiers is in addition to the 300 members of the stay-behind unit. The team will train troops of Grenada and other Caribbean nations in Grenada and perhaps on other islands, the spokesman said. The team is similar to those sent all over the world to teach basic military skills.

The four Coast Guard ships have released Navy ships for duty elsewhere. The Coast Guard, in addition to providing maritime safety, will also be on the lookout for Cuban or other subversive movements back into Grenada, the spokesman said.