

THE 70TH INFANTRY BATTALION (CAFGU) UNIT HISTORY

On 21 April 1983, the first GHQ Battalion was organized with pioneering personnel from the different Major Services of the AFP. It first saw action with its deployment in Abra and Mountain Province at the peak of the Communist insurgency in that part of the Cordilleras. Despite bad weather, rugged terrain and nostalgia of being away from loved ones, the unit scored decisively against the Communist Terrorists.

On 01 December 1985, the unit was redeployed in Bataan amidst the economic and political instability brought about by the February revolution and the succeeding coup attempts launched by Ultra-Rightist Groups.

The unit witnessed the “show-of-force” that the CPP/NPA/NDF publicly staged, especially in Samal, Bataan as an aftermath of the government’s peace initiatives and ceasefire agreement between the government and the National Democratic Front.

On Dec 1987, the unit moved out from Bataan to push through with its assigned task primarily to constrict, destroy and deny the enemy of their mass and guerilla bases in the province of Tarlac at the height of its counter insurgency campaign in the said province.

On 16 July 1988, the first GHQ Battalion was deactivated, pursuant to GO NR 69, GHQ, AFP. Its personnel, equipment, firepower and mobility assets formed the nucleus of the 70th Infantry Battalion assigned to the 7th Infantry Division, Philippine Army, pursuant to General Order #391, AFP dated 16 July 1988 which was further placed OPCON to 703rd Brigade.

In 1990, the Area of Responsibility of the 7th Infantry Division was inevitably extended to Ifugao, Nueva Vizcaya and portions of Isabela. Beyond the call of duty, the Officers and men of the 70th Infantry Battalion endured their assignment in Ifugao despite tribal, cultural, social idiosyncrasies of the people in that area, the 70IB made possible the surrender of some 143 CPP/NPA/NDF armed regulars and members.

After its retraining last 20 February 1996, the battalion was put to test following its redeployment to pursue its internal security operations in coordination with and support to the PNP covering the whole province of Aurora, Alfonso Castaneda of Nueva Viscaya, Dinapigue of Isabela and the municipalities of

Carranglan, Pantabangan, Rizal, Bongabon and Gabaldon all of Nueva Ecija, again the unit made sterling success.

On November 1996, the battalion was credited for its role of providing area security for the APEC Summit in Olongapo City.

On 16 August 1997, the OPCON of 70IB to 703rd Brigade was terminated and subsequently absorbed by 702nd Brigade pursuant to GO # 676, H7ID, dated 22 AUG 97.

On August 1999, the Battalion Headquarters was transferred from Barangay Canantong, Laur, Nueva Ecija to Barangay Wenceslao, Maria Aurora, Aurora to pursue its Internal Security Operations in Aurora province.

In response to the Letter of Instruction 14/99 of AFP Campaign Plan 01/99 “Makabayan” dated 01 Jan 1999 and National Peace and Development Plan approved by the president pursuant to Malacanang Memorandum Number 88 dtd 21 January 2000, the Commanding Officer 70th Infantry Battalion presented to the Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council (PDCC), with the heads of the Local Government Units (LGUs), National Government Agencies (NGAs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Peoples Organization (POs) in attendance.

On 14 March 2001, the unit implemented the CMO Implan 01-01 “Barangayan” directing all its OPCON companies to conduct intensive operations and simultaneous dialogues/ pulong-pulong and organizational activities for the improvement of security and enhancement of livelihood of the local populace and to deny the reentry of the Communist Terrorists (CTs) to the barangay.

On 10 September 2003, the 70IB underwent retraining in place. The first batch of battalion retraining was composed of Alpha Company which was followed by the Charlie Company. However, before completely finishing the battalion retraining on the last quarter of 2003, the 70 Infantry Battalion was reconfigured as 70th Infantry Battalion (CAFGU) pursuant to GO # 655, HPA dated 11 Dec 03 effective 15 Dec 2003 which was tasked to administratively control and supervise all the CAA companies within 7ID AOR. With this, all personnel of 70IB were required to undergo CAA Cadre Training during the third quarter of 2003. Subsequently, series of CAA Refresher and CAA Basic Military Trainings was conducted to CAFGU and CV volunteers in the different designated training areas

On October 2005, the Battalion Headquarters was transferred from Camp Tinio, Nueva Ecija to Barangay San Francisco, San Antonio, Nueva Ecija in support Internal Security Operations of the maneuver units.

On January 2008, the Battalion Headquarters was transferred from Barangay Bayanihan, Gapan, Nueva Ecija to Ft Ramon Magsaysay, Palayan City, Nueva Ecija collocated with the Division Headquarters per HPA directive.

Pursuant to Bde IMPLAN dtd 25 Jan 2011, the unit was tasked to assume operational jurisdiction over the whole province of Pangasinan and assumed Tactical Control (TACON) of Bravo Coy 24IB, 7ID, PA that directly confronted the RYS Group influencing the 6th District of Pangasinan Province. Along this line, the Battalion composed of three (3) officers and twenty nine (29) Enlisted personnel established TCP East at Brgy Prado, Umingan, Pangasinan to confront the RYS Group operating Eastern part of Pangasinan and TCP West at Brgy Malabobo, Mangatarem, Pangasinan to confront the Pinagsanib Na Sangay Sa Platoon (PNS) operating the Tri- boundary of Tarlac-Zambales and Pangasinan.

With the extension of unit's AOR, the Battalion was able to activate seven (7) companies to compose the Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta, Echo, Foxtrot and Golf Company.

On 18 March 2011, the Battalion Headquarters was officially transferred from Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija to Brgy San Isidro Norte, Binmaley, Pangasinan and at the same time assumed Administrative Control (ADCON) to all CAAs in the whole Province of Ilocos Sur and Ilocos Norte.

On 26 October 2012, the Battalion Headquarters was transferred from Brgy San Isidro Norte, Binmaley, Pangasinan to Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija.

On 31 October 2012, the Battalion assumed responsibility in securing the Fort Magsaysay Military Reservation (FMMR) including the 26 barangays entirely within and along the boundaries of FMMR, namely: Brgy Bago, Palale and Nazareth all if Gen Tiinio, NE; Brgys Liwayway and Mapalad both of Sta Rosa, NE; Brgy Bagong Buhay, Caballero, Doña Josefa, Langka and Maligaya all of Palayan City, NE; Brgys Canantong, Nauzon, San Felipe, San Isidro, San Josef, San Juan and Sagana all of Laur, NE; Brgys Bantug, Bugnan, Calabasa, Ligaya and Pinamalisan all of Gabaldon, NE; and Brgys Butas na Bato, Caragsacan, Ibuna and Matawe all of Dingalan, Aurora.

On 25 February 2013, the Battalion Headquarters was transferred from Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija to Brgy Canantong, Laur, Nueva Ecija.

On 06 August 2013, the Inspector General, 7ID made a recommendation for the deactivation of excess CAFGU Coy based on the Table of Organization and Equipment for a CAFGU Battalion as prescribe in Tanggol Bayan Delta.

On 15 December 2013, 70IB assumed ADCON to 11th Nueva Vizcaya CAA Company and 1st Quirino CAA Company from 77IB, 5ID, PA per HPA directive

On 28 January 2014, 70IB assumed ADCON of all CAAs/SCAAs in the provinces of Bataan and Zambales immediately after the reconstitution of 24IB (Territorial) into regular Infantry Battalion.

On 01 July 2014, 70IB handovered ISO responsibility over the Fort Magsaysay Military Reservation (FMMR) including the twenty-six (26) barangays along the boundaries of FMMR to 703rd Bde pursuant to 7ID Campaign Plan "KsB-Bravo" and FRAG O 01-14 to 7ID Campaign Plan "KsB-Bravo".

LINEAGE OF COMMANDERS

NAME	INCLUSIVE DATE
LTC RODERIC A CASTRO (CAV) PA	21 Apr 83-01 Dec 85
MAJ OSCAR A MACASA (INF) PA	01 Dec 85-01 Dec 87
LTC JOVENCIO F MENDOZA INF (GSC) PA	01 Dec 87-01 Jul 89
MAJ ANTONIO Y YRREVERRE (INF) PA	01 Jul 89-01 May 90
LTC JACINTO C CORDERO (INF) PA	01 May 90-20 May 91
LTC ERNESTO P BEDON (INF) PA	20 May 91-02 Dec 93
LTC ALLAN C BONTUYAN (INF) PA	02 Dec 93-01 Sep 95
LTC ROBERTO L MORALES (INF) PA	01 Sep 95-30 Jun 97
LTC AVELINO A DOLERO (INF) PA	30 Jun 97-18 Aug 99
LTC ROMEO F FAJARDO INF (GSC) PA	18 Aug 99-24 Jan 01
LTC HERBERT S YAMBING INF (GSC) PA	24 Jan 01-23 Apr 03
LTC EDGARDO L BALMONTE INF (GSC) PA	23 Apr 03-01 Feb 04
COL ABERTO C DINOPOL INF (GSC) PA	01 Feb 04-01 Nov 05
LTC EDITO M NISNISAN INF (GSC) PA	01 Nov 05-01 Feb 07
LTC DIMANGANDAM P MAGONDACAN INF (GSC) PA	01 Feb 07-01 Jul 07
LTC JUNY DJ CASTRO INF (GSC) PA	01 Jul 07-31 Jul 08
LTC EDISON V CAGA INF (GSC) PA	31 Jul 08- 01 Feb 11
COL JESUS B SARSAGAT FA (GSC) PA	01 Feb 11 – 16 May 12
LTC ALFREDO P PATARATA INF (GSC) PA	16 May 12 – 02 Dec 13
LTC JERRY T BORJA INF (GSC) PA	02 Dec 13- 09 May 14
LTC GILMAR N GALICIA INF (GSC) PA	09 May 14- to date

THE UNIT WAS DEPLOYED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

PROVINCE	CALENDAR YEAR
Abra / Mountain Province	1983-1985
Bataan	1985-1987
Tarlac	1987-1989
Nueva Ecija / Aurora	1989-1991
Ifugao / Aurora (one (1) Coy stayed behind in Aurora Province)	Dec 1991- Aug 1992
Nueva Ecija / Aurora	Aug 1992-April 1994
Bulacan (One Coy)	April 1994-Sep 1995
Bataan	April 1994-Sep 1995
FMPC (Bn Retraining)	Sep 1995-Sep 1996
Nueva Ecija / Aurora	Feb 1996-Aug 1996
Bataan (APEC Scty)	Aug 1996-Dec 1998
Nueva Ecija / Aurora	Dec 1998-Mar 1999
Aurora / Dinapigue, Isabela	Mar 1998-Dec 2003
Aurora / Bulacan / Nueva Ecija / Pampanga / Tarlac / Pangasinan / Bataan/Zambalez/Part of Nueva Vizcaya	Dec 2003 to Dec 2010
Ilocos Sur/Ilocos Norte.	Extension of AOR Jan 2011 Sep 2012
26 Brgy within FMMR	Oct 2012 to June 2014
Nueva Vizcaya/ Quirino	15 Dec 2013 to date
Bataan and Zambales	28 Jan 2014 to date

