

History Office

XVIII Airborne Corps and Joint Task Force South

PANAMANIAN DEFENSE FORCE ORDER OF BATTLE

OPERATION JUST CAUSE

Fuerzas de Defensa (F.F.D.D.)

- Fuerzas Armadas de Panama

Comandancia General de las Fuerzas de Defensa

- Comando General de la Comision de Defensa y Seguridad (COGECODESE)
- Comando Operacional de Fuerzas Especiales (C.O.F.F.E.E.)

Jefatura del Estado Mayor General

Jefatura del Estado Mayor Conjunto

- Subjefatura de Estado Mayor de la Fuerza Terrestre
 - Batallon 2.000
 - Batallon Atlantico [being formed]
 - Batallon Cemaco
 - Compania de Apoyo de Servicio de Combate
 - Bateria de Apoyo de Combate, Primera Compania de Infanteria "Tigre"
 - Escuadron de Bacalleria
 - Segunda Compania de Infanteria "Puma"
 - Tercera Compania "Diablo Rojo"
 - Cuarta Compania "Urraca" [disbanded after October 1989 coup attempt]
 - Batallon de Policia Militar
 - Quinta Compania de Infanteria "Victoriano Lorenzo" [Pacific side]
 - Octava Compania de Policia Militar [Atlantic side]
 - Sexta Compania Expedicionario Mecanizada
 - Septima Compania de Infanteria "Macho de Monte"
- Subjefatura de Estado Mayor de la Fuerza Aerea
 - Escuadron de Rescate
 - Escuadron de Transporte

- Transporte Aereo Militar
- Fuerza de Marina
 - Flota del Atlantico
 - Flota del Pacifico
 - Infanteria de Marina
- Fuerza de Policia
 - Direccion Nacional de Transito Terrestre (D.N.T.T.) [patrol roads]
 - Departamento Nacional de Investigaciones (D.E.N.I.)
 - Policia
 - Policia de Turismo
 - Policia Comunitaria
 - Guardia Nacional
 - Guardia Penitenciaria
 - Guardia Presidencial
 - Guardia Forestal
 - Guardia Portuaria
 - Guardia Ferroviaria [being formed]
 - Guardia Aduanera [being formed]
 - Guardia Costera Insular [being formed]

4 Military Regions (12 Military Zones)

- Primera Region Militar (Provinces of Panama, Panama Oeste and Colon, plus the San Miguelito Special District)
 - 1st Military Zone (Province of Panama)
 - 2d Military Zone (Province of Colon)
 - Reaction Platoon: "Cazadores"
 - 10th Military Zone (Province of Panama Oeste and Chorrera)
 - 11th Military Zone (San Miguelito Special District)
 - Reaction Force: 3 platoons
- Segunda Region Militar (Province of Darien and Comarca de San Blas)
 - 9th Military Zone (Province of Darien)
 - 12th Military Zone (Comarca de San Blas)
- Tercera Region Militar (Provinces of Veraguas, Cocle, Herrera, and Los Santos)
 - 3d Military Zone (Province of Veraguas)
 - Reaction Platoon: "Quibian"
 - 4th Military Zone (Province of Herrera)
 - 6th Military Zone (Province of Cocle)
 - Reaction Platoon: "Indio"
 - 7th Military Zone (Province of Los Santos)
 - Reaction Platoon: "Los Bravos de Canajagua"
- Cuarta Region Militar (Provinces of Chiriqui and Bocas del Toro)
 - 5th Military Zone (Province of Chiriqui)
 - 8th Military Zone (Province of Bocas del Toro)
 - Reaction Platoon: "Bucaneros"

UNIT: Batallon 2.000

- Headquarters: La Joya
- Initially Organized: 12 August 1984
- Motto: Lealtad-Coraje-Decision
- Mission: Assume defense of Canal in 2000

- Strength:
- Organization:
 - Compania de Maniobras "Aguila"
 - Compania de Maniobras "Furia"
 - Compania de Maniobras "Mecanizada"
 - Compania de Apoyo de Combate "Loyola"
 - OPCON:
 - Segunda Compania Aerotransportada "Puma" [see below]
 - Primera Compania de Infanteria "Tigre" (Compania de Apoyo de Combate) [see below]

UNIT: Segunda Batallon Paz

- Headquarters: District of Renacimiento
- Initially Organized: 16 August 1985
- Motto: Por la Paz al Frente
- Mission: Control of Northwestern Frontier
- Strength:
- Organization:
 - Compania de Comando
 - Compania A de Asalto Aereo "Fortuna"
 - Compania B de Asalto Aereo "Copal"

UNIT: Cuarta Batallon Cemaco

- Headquarters: La Palma
- Initially Organized: 24 January 1984
- Motto: La Selva es Nuestra Aliada
- Mission: Control of Southeastern Frontier
- Strength:
- Organization: As a comando with 3 platoons
 - Primera Compania de Montana

UNIT: Primera Compania de Infanteria de Combate y Apoyo de Fuego "Tigre"

- Headquarters: Cuartel de Tinajita (San Miguelito Special District)
- Initially Organized: 12 May 1959
- Motto: Mas sudor en el entrenamiento, menos sangre en la batallas
- Mission: Firepower
- Strength:
- Organization: OPCON to Batallon 2.000
 - Headquarters
 - 3 rifle platoons
 - 2 mortar sections
 - 1 antitank section

UNIT: Segunda Compania de Infanteria Aerotransportada "Puma"

- Headquarters: Aeropuerto "Belisario Porras" (Tocumen) with elements at Corregimientos Chepo and Canitas
- Initially Organized: 14 May 1959
- Motto: Lealtad, Disciplina y Superacion
- Mission: Infantry or paratroopers
- Strength:
- Organization: Commando OPCON to Batallon 2.000
 - Headquarters
 - 3 rifle platoons
 - 1 mortar section
 - 1 interior guard platoon

UNIT: Tercera Compania de Infanteria "Diablo Rojo"

- Headquarters: Chiriqui
- Initially Organized: 10 March 1969
- Motto: Lealtad sin Precio ni Duda
- Mission: Defense of 5th Military Zone
- Strength:
- Organization:
 - Headquarters
 - 3 platoons
 - 1 special unidad
 - 1 mortar section
 - 1 interior guard

UNIT: Cuarta Compania de Infanteria "Urraca"

- Headquarters: La Comandancia (El Chorrillo)
- Initially Organized: 14 February 1969
- Motto: Lealtad sin Precio ni Duda
- Mission: Security of La Comandancia
- Strength:
- Organization:
 - Headquarters
 - 3 infantry platoons
 - 1 platoon de armas de apoyo

UNIT: Sexta Compania Expedicionaria Mecanizada

- Headquarters: Base Militar "General de Division Omar Torrijos Herrera" (Rio Hato)
- Initially Organized: 14 June 1974
- Motto: Lealtad o Muerte
- Mission:
- Strength:
- Organization:
 - Headquarters
 - 3 mechanized infantry platoons

- 1 platoon de apoyo de fuego
- 1 antitank section
- 1 mortar section

UNIT: Septima Compania de Infanteria "Macho de Monte"

- Headquarters: Base Militar "General de Division Omar Torrijos Herrera" (Rio Hato)
- Initially Organized: 7 April 1969
- Motto: Lealtad sin Precio ni Duda
- Mission:
- Strength:
- Organization:
 - Headquarters
 - 3 rifle platoons
 - 1 mortar section
 - 1 interior guard platoon
 - 4 special sections:
 - Comando
 - de Hombres Rana
 - de Explosivistas
 - de Pana-Jungla
 - 1 motorized section "Cocuyos Montaneros"

UNIT: Batallon de Policia Militar "Victoriano Lorenzo"

- Headquarters: Fort Amador
- Initially Organized: 14 January 1970
- Motto: Patria-Honor-Disciplina-Lealtad
- Mission:
- Strength:
- Organization:
 - Headquarters
 - Quinta Compania de Infanteria (Fort Amador)
 - Octava Compania de Infanteria (Fort Gulick)
 - Canine Compound (Avenida Juan Pablo II)
 - 4 platoons
 - 1 intelligence section
 - 1 canine section
 - Unidades de Transito, Enlace, Comunicaciones y Transporte

UNIT: Escuadron de Caballeria "General Jose A. Remon C."

- Headquarters: La Comandancia
- Initially Organized: 6 March 1920
- Motto: Los Cien del Comando
- Mission: Security of La Comandancia and ceremonial demonstrations
- Strength:
- Organization:

- Headquarters and Staff
- Squadron of Equitation
- El Haras "Mayor Felipe Camargo"
- Special Service Platoon
- Regular Platoon

UNIT: Departamento de Comunicaciones

- Headquarters:
- Initially Organized: 14 April 1948
- Motto:
- Mission:
- Strength:
- Organization:

UNIT: Servicio de Material de Guerra

- Headquarters:
- Initially Organized: 23 December 1953
- Motto:
- Mission:
- Strength:
- Organization:

UNIT: [Batallon de] Transporte y Mantenimiento

- Headquarters: Chorrillos
- Initially Organized: 10 October 1985
- Motto:
- Mission:
- Strength:
- Organization:
 - 1 transportation company
 - 1 maintenance company of "equipo liviano"
 - 1 maintenance company of "equipo pesado"
 - maintenance sections for Atlantic side, Pacific side, Rio Hato Military Base school [see below]

UNIT: Fuerza Aerea Panamena (F.A.P.)

- Headquarters: Tocumen
- Initially Organized: 17 January 1969
- Motto: Desde el Aire, Orden Paz y Lealtad
- Mission:
- Strength:
- Organization:
 - Base "Teniente Coronel Jorge Jurado" [Curundu]
 - Base Aerea de Paitilla [Paitilla]
 - Base Aerea de Santiago [Santiago]
 - Base Aerea Subteniente Vincente Vargas [David]

UNIT: Fuerza de Marina Nacional

- Headquarters: El Comando de la Marina (Fort Amador)
- Initially Organized: 17 January 1969
- Motto: Con Bien Viento y Buena Mar
- Mission:
- Strength:
- Organization:
 - Pacific Base: Muella 17 de Puerto de Balboa
 - Atlantic Base: La Base Naval de Coco Solo
 - Apostadero: Puerto Mutis
 - Lesser Bases:
 - Puerto Pedregal
 - Colon Island (Province of Bocas del Toro)
 - Punta Cocos

UNIT: Comando Operacional de Fuerzas Especiales (C.O.F.F.E.E.)

- Headquarters: Buildings 8 and 47, Fort Amador
- Initially Organized: 5 November 1985
- Motto:
- Mission: Unified command of special operations forces and schools
- Strength:
- Organization:
 - Headquarters
 - Three Schools [see below]
 - Unidad Especial de Seguridad Antiterror (U.E.S.A.T.)
 - Location: Flamenco Island
 - Initially Organized: 6 June 1980
 - Motto: Fuerza Para la Paz
 - Strength:
 - Organization:
 - Unidad de Comandos
 - Location: Fort Espinar
 - Initially Organized: 7 May 1986
 - Motto: Por la Paz, Vencero o Morir
 - Strength:
 - Organization:
 - Headquarters
 - Tactical Group A
 - Tactical Group B
 -
 - Centros de Instruccion y Adiestramiento (Panamanian Defense Force School System)

Instituto Militar "General Tomas Herrera"

- Location: Rio Hato
- Founded: 7 May 1974

- Curriculum: Technical subjects

Escuela de Suboficiales "General Benjamin Ruiz"

- Location: Rio Hato
- Founded: 13 March 1986
- Curriculum: Basic combat training

Centro de Adiestramiento "General Jose Domingo Espinar"

- Location: Fort Espinar
- Founded: 26 November 1984
- Curriculum: Health, police, military intelligence, and transportation training

Escuela de Supervivencia "Panajungla"

- Location: Soposo area, Province of Bocas del Toro
- Founded: 16 June 1977
- Curriculum: Jungle survival and jungle warfare

Centro de Adiestramiento "Cimarron"

- Location: La Joya
- Founded: 14 February 1969
- Curriculum: Basic combat training; infantry training; parachute training

Las Fuerzas Especiales dentro de la Institucion Comando Operacional de Fuerzas Especiales (C.O.F.F.E.E.)

- Location: Buildings 8 and 47, Fort Amador
- Founded: 8 November 1985
- Organization:
 - Headquarters
 - Operational Elements [see above]
 - Escuela de Comandos y Operaciones Especiales (E.C.O.E.)
 - Location: Playa Hermosa, Coiba Island
 - Founded: 7 March 1986
 - Curriculum: Special operations
- Escuela de Explosivos, Demolicion y Sabotaje (E.E.D.S.)
 - Location: Cerro Tigre
 - Founded: 15 July 1980
 - Curriculum: Explosives, demolition and sabotage
- Escuela de Hombres Rana (E.H.R.)
 - Location: Perico Island
 - Founded: 19 September 1970
 - Curriculum: Underwater demolition

Escuela de Formacion Feminina "Rufina Alfaro"

- Location: Gamboa

- Founded: 19 April 1985
- Curriculum:

Fuerza de Policia

- Headquarters:
- Initially Organized: 19 March 1913

Direccion Nacional de Transito Terrestre (D.N.T.T.) [patrol roads]

- Headquarters:
- Initially Organized: 29 September 1983
- Patrulla de Caminos ("Transitos")
 - Initially Organized: 20 March 1964

Departamento Nacional de Investigaciones (D.E.N.I.)

- Headquarters: Ancon
- Initially Organized: 28 May 1960

Policia

- Policia de Turismo
- Policia Comunitaria

Guardia Nacional

- Guardia Penitenciaria
 - Headquarters: Carcel Modelo
 - Initially Organized: 25 October 1925
- Guardia Presidencial
 - Headquarters: Palacio Presidencial
 - Initially Organized: 25 June 1941
- Guardia Forestal
 - Headquarters: Gamboa
 - Initially Organized: 12 March 1979
- Guardia Portuaria (Fuerza de Policia Portuaria)
 - Headquarters:
 - Initially Organized: 4 October 1984
- Guardia Ferroviaria [being formed]
- Guardia Aduanera [being formed]
- Guardia Costera Insular [being formed]

