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Annual Unit History

*Due NLT 01 February each year for the previous calendar year.
Refer to 28ID Military History Program SOP, dtd. 15 August 2008, for specific guidance.*

For Calendar Year: 2008

Unit: Bravo Troop, 1-104th Cavalry

Unit Address: 2700 Southampton Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19154

Unit POC: 1SG Charest, David Unit Readiness NCO

Unit POC Phone Number: 215-560-6042

I. Introduction or Forward *(A brief account on the unit's origin and its accomplishments over the years and a statement about the current period covered)*

Troop B 1-104th Cavalry is known as the "State Fencibles" and was formed in 1813 for home defense in the War of 1812. The unit is and was an integral part of the militia infrastructure of Philadelphia and the State of Pennsylvania. President Calvin Coolidge was a former member of the State Fencibles and many prominent Philadelphians have served in its ranks.

The 2007-2008 deployment of Troop B 1-104th Cavalry was the third such for the unit since 2002. The MFO mission is a peaceful one, and helps to facilitate the Middle East peace process by enforcing the 1979 Treaty of Peace between Egypt, Israel, and the United States. This is accomplished through political dialogue and monitoring troop levels and movement throughout the Sinai Peninsula using air/ground/naval forces. Troop B contributed to this mission by manning observation points, conducting route reconnaissance, and by providing South Camp force protection. Troop B conducted this mission in a professional, expedient manner and suffered no casualties.

The unit had a significant Rear Detachment which stayed CONUS during the period that B Troop Forward was deployed to MFO 51. During this period the rear detachment conducted MCCTT 3 times in order to maintain proficiency on route security/clearance, identify IED's, and remain familiar with the BFV. The rear detachment integrated 12 new soldiers and mobilized 11 soldiers in support of the 56 Stryker Brigade. The detachment also conducted Annual Training consisting of range operations in order to maintain training standards on unit weapons. The rear detachment also had the opportunity support the 82nd airborne association with their Saint Patrick's Day parade.

II. Organization and Administration

A. Organization *(Select the type of organization from the pull-down menu)*

Calvary

B. Mission *(A brief mission statement and the Mission Essential Task List)*

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To conduct reconnaissance and surveillance in support of the development of the brigade's situational awareness and knowledge in the area of operations. Squadron operations empower the brigade to anticipate, forestall and dominate threats, ensuring brigade mission accomplishment through decisive action and freedom of maneuver.

Conduct Route Security
 Conduct ReDeployment Operations
 Conduct ReIntergration

C. Personnel

1. Commander and Staff (Brief biographical sketches)

CPT Jason R. Secrest, Troop Commander (October 2005)

CPT Jason Secrest was born in 1978 in York, PA. He attended York Suburban High School, graduating in 1997. Upon graduation, he entered York College and received degrees in History and Public Administration in 2001. CPT Secrest continued his education at the graduate level studying Public Administration and Business Administration, earning an MBA in 2004 from York College of PA.

CPT Secrest began his military service in 1999 when he enlisted in the 193rd Special Operations Wing of the PAANG. Following Basic Training, he transferred to the PAARNG where he completed the State OCS program, earning a Commission as a 2LT in 2002. CPT Secrest has served as a Platoon Leader, Executive Officer, and Troop Commander in the 1-104th Cavalry, serving as the Commander of Troop B 1-104th Cavalry, since October 2005. CPT Secrest has the distinction of being the Commander with the most deployment time as Commander in either the lineal decendent units of the 1-104th Cavalry or State Fencibles since World War II, serving for a total of 20 months as deployed Commander.

CPT Secrest's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal w/2 stars, Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, MFO Medal, and Combat Action Badge.

1SG David F. Charest, First Sergeant (May 2007)

1SG David Charest was born in 1970 in Lewisburg, PA. He attended Lewisburg Area High School, graduating in 1989. Upon graduation, he entered Active Duty Army, serving at Fort Drum, NY. After his initial three year enlistment he attended East Stroudsburg University.

1SG Charest continued his military career after Active Duty by enlisting in the PA Army National Guard in C / 1-109th Mech. Inf. in East Stroudsburg, PA. 1SG Charest has served as Team Leader, Squad Leader, Platoon Sergeant, First Sergeant, BN Operations Sergeant and BDE Operations Sergeant.

1SG Charest's awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, Nato Medal, MFO Medal, Kosovo Medal, Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab and the Expert Infantry Badge.

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2. Medal of Honor Winners (Brief biographical sketches, if available, and a brief account of the action or a copy of the citation) (If none, enter "NONE")

NONE

3. Others (Winners of Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Bronze Star, and other) (If none, enter "NONE")

NONE

III. Major Accomplishments during the Year

A. Operations

Completed Multi-National Force & Observers rotation #51 in A.R.E.

B. Training and Exercises

October STX Lanes (Egypt), Officers of the Unit participated in OPDs to Israel, conducted numerous squad & platoon collective mini exercises. Troopers maintained proficiency in Army Warrior Tasks and MFO Tasks throughout the year.

C. Special Events

1. Unit Day Ceremonies

2. Civil Actions (State active duty)

3. Permanent Changes of Station

TCS move from Ft. Lewis (MOB SITE) in Feb 2008 to Sharm El Sheikh Egypt. Troop B returned from Egypt to Fort Lewis on November 17th 2008. The unit released from Federal Active Duty on 29 December 2009.

4. Recruiting Initiatives

Unit's excellent performance and strong R&R program enabled the unit to achieve a 123% end strength.

5. Other (Include community activities, morale support activities, Christmas party, etc.)

Conducted Family Readiness Group Christmas Party in December 2008. This event was planned and implemented by the FRG leader, Donna Berrios

IV. Special Equipment Fielding

1. Unit received its first M3 CFVs and facilitated the transfer of equipment related to the previous Division Cavalry MTOE.

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2. Unit received its first Table Top Trainer (TTT) for the BFV, unit should receive the second in the 2nd Quarter of 2009.

V. Appendices

A. Lineage and Honors Certificate

Unit will add GWOTEM streamer for service in MFO.

B. Unit Citations

No new Citations.

C. Selected Orders *(Include alert orders, mobilization orders, etc)*

PERMANENT ORDER: 1A-07-250-017(A1), 10SEP07 Mobilization order for MFO 51
PERMANENT ORDER: 005-019, 05JAN09, Re-Organization order from DA releasing unit from Active Duty

D. Other.

VI. Glossary *(A list of words not commonly used, acronyms and their explanations)*

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