

ROYAL MILITARY POLICE BELIZE BRITISH ARMY TRAINING SUPPORT UNIT(BATSUB) CENTRAL AMERICA



Belize forms part of the Commonwealth Caribbean and is located in Central America, bordering Mexico to the North and Guatemala to the West and South. The country's name was changed from British Honduras to Belize in 1973.

	<p>KEY FACTS</p>
	<p>Joined Commonwealth: 1981 Capital: Belmopan Official Language: English Time: GMT – 6 hrs (7 hrs BST) Currency: Belize Dollar (Bz\$)</p>

Independence was however delayed by the claim to the whole territory by neighbouring Guatemala and in 1975 and 1977 British troops were used to protect Belize from the threat of Invasion. Following constitutional talks the UK agreed to provide a defence guarantee, notably by patrolling the border with Guatemala. Thus the forming of Headquarters British Forces Belize (HQ BFB). RMP strength at this time was a SIB WO2, a GPD WO2, 2 GPD Sgt's, a SIB Sgt, 12 JNCO's and a section of RAFF, who were locally known as the Caribbean Precinct.

In January 1994 and following a change of Government in Guatemala, relations improved between the two counties, responsibility for defence was transferred to the Belize Defence Force and later that year the UK withdrew most of its 1,500-strong

garrison. So in Sep 94, Headquarters British Forces Belize (HQ BFB), became The British Army Training Support Unit Belize (BATSUB)
BATSUB is under command Commander Collective Training Group in Headquarters Land Warfare Centre (HQ LWC).
BATSUB is located within Price Barracks, Ladyville next to Belize International Airport, located some 14 miles from Belize City.

The British Army has access to over 1,000 square miles of training area in Belize so houses a lot of visiting troops conducting a vast range of exercises including:

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| EX TROPICAL STORM | - | 6 week Inf BG Ex |
| EX SAILFISH | - | RE Design and Construction EX |
| International Jungle Patrol Cse | - | 6 week jungle survival cse |
| EX CIVIL BRIDGE | - | CIMIC Ex |
| EX WATERFRONT | - | RE Sustainability Ex |
| EX WINDBREAK | - | RE Clearance Ex |
| EX SIGNET REEF | - | Strategic Arms Ex |

During these periods life as the RMP in Belize can become busy so with the TROPICAL STORM Exercises a RMP JNCO (Augmentee) is sent in for 6 weeks.

But life is not all Police Work in Belize the RMP SNCO is also the unit Road Safety Officer, Vice Chairman of the Sports Board and the BATSUB Swimming Pool line manager.



And if all that doesn't tempt you the scenery in Belize is enough to make anyone smile ☺

