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THE INFLUENCE OF THE ROLES OF THE CITIZENS ARMED FORCES GEOGRAPHICAL UNIT (CAFGU) IN MAINTAINING THE PEACE AND ORDER SITUATION IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBAY

GOMER G. LUMAGUE
University of Northeastern Philippines
Master of Public Adminstration

ABSTRACT

This study determined the extent of the influence of the roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in maintaining the peace and order situation in the Province of Albay for Calendar Year 2025-2026. Further, it assessed the influence of CAFGU along: Conduct of Regular Patrols and Visibility Operations, Engagement with Community Leaders and Stakeholders, Reporting and Monitoring of Suspicious Activities, Participation in Community Development Programs, and Implementation of Conflict Resolution Mechanisms; tested the significant agreement on the rank orders of the extent of influence of CAFGU roles in maintaining peace and order; and formulated policy recommendations.

This study used the descriptive-survey method of research. The respondents of the study were composed of Local Government Unit (LGU) employees, CAFGU personnel, and regular military officers in the Province of Albay. The researcher-made questionnaire served as the primary instrument in gathering the data. Weighted mean, rank, Kendall Coefficient of Concordance W, and Chi-Square were used to treat the data statistically. Significance level was set at 0.05.

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The findings derived from this study were as follows:

1. The Extent of the Influence of the Roles of CAFGU in Maintaining the Peace and Order Situation. All indicators rated, "Very Much Influential", in descending order were: Coordination with Local Law Enforcement and Military Limits, 4.92; Intelligence Gathering and Threat Detection, 4.89; Civic Action and Public Service and Support, 4.84; Community Security and Patrol Operations, 4.60; and Disaster Response Emergency Assistance, 4.51. The result means that the overall implementation of the roles of CAFGU in the Province of Albay is perceived to be very highly implemented across all identified aspects, indicating that CAFGU effectively performs its functions in maintaining peace and order.

2. On the Test of Significant Agreement on the Rank Orders of the Extent of the level of Influence of the Roles of CAFGU in Maintaining Peace and Order, the Coefficient of Concordance W and the computed Chi-Square (X^2) value yield to: Community Security and Patrol Operations, 0.84 and 25.20 ($p<0.005$); Intelligence Gathering and Threat Detection, 0.93 and 27.90($p<0.005$); Coordination with Local Law Enforcement and Military Limits, 0.98 and 29.40 ($p<0.005$); Civic Action and Public Service and Support, 0.99 and 26.73 ($p<0.005$); and Disaster Response Emergency Assistance, 0.69 and 18.63($p<0.05$). The null hypotheses was rejected.

3. The Summary of the Extent of the Influence of the the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU)in Maintaining the Peace and Order Situation. All indicators rated, "Very Much Evident", in descending order were: Conduct of Regular Patrols and Visibility

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Operations, 4.93; Implementation of the Conflict Resolution Mechanisms, 4.92; Participation in Community Development Programs, 4.91; Reporting and Monitoring of Suspicious Activities, 4.83; and Engagement with Community Leaders and Stakeholders, 4.79.

4. On the Test of Significant Agreement on the Rank Orders of the Extent of Influence of the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in Maintaining the Peace and Order Situation, the Kendall Coefficient of Concordance W and the computed Chi-Square (X^2) value yield to: Conduct of Regular Patrols and Visibility Operations, 0.89 and 24.03 ($p<0.005$); Engagement with Community Leaders and Stakeholders, 0.98 and 26.46 ($p<0.005$); Reporting and Monitoring of Suspicious Activities, 0.91 and 24.57($p<0.005$); Participation in Community Development Programs, 0.91 and 27.30($p<0.005$);and Implementation of the Conflict Resolution Mechanisms, 0.96 and 28.80($p<0.005$). Thus, the null hypothesis was rejected.

5. On Policy Recommendations. The Department of National Defense (DND) Officials shall formulate and support policies for resource allocation and program development to ensure CAFGU units are properly funded, equipped, and aligned with national security objectives; The Local Government Units (LGUs) Officials shall strengthen community engagement programs and support CAFGU participation in peace and order initiatives; and The Philippine National Police (PNP), Barangay Peace and Order Councils, and CAFGU officials shall strengthen coordination, communication systems, patrol operations, and conflict resolution mechanisms to further improve community safety and security.

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The conclusions were summarized as follows:

1. The roles of CAFGU in maintaining peace and order in the Province of Albay are Very Much Evident.

2. There is a significant agreement on the rank orders of the extent of influence of the roles of CAFGU in maintaining peace and order.

3. CAFGU personnel are highly effective in conducting patrol operations, community engagement, suspicious activity monitoring, community development participation, and conflict resolution activities.

4. Strengthening coordination, communication, and stakeholder engagement can further improve the effectiveness of CAFGU operations in maintaining peace and order.

5. The policy recommendations were formulated based on the findings of the study.

The following recommendations were:

1. The Department of National Defense (DND) Officials should formulate and strengthen policies that support CAFGU operations, funding, and development programs.

2. The Local Government Units (LGUs) Officials should strengthen collaboration and regular coordination with CAFGU personnel to improve peace and order initiatives.

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3. The Philippine National Police (PNP), Barangay Peace and Order Councils, and CAFGU officials should establish effective communication systems, reporting mechanisms, and joint operational protocols.

4. The CAFGU personnel should continue conducting regular patrols, community engagement activities, conflict resolution initiatives, and monitoring operations to sustain peace and security within the community.

5. The policy recommendations should be implemented to further strengthen the effectiveness of CAFGU roles in maintaining peace and order in the Province of Albay.

The following were recommended for future research:

1. The effectiveness of CAFGU community engagement programs in strengthening public trust and cooperation.

2. The impact of patrol visibility operations on crime prevention and public safety.

3. The role of CAFGU in disaster response and community resilience programs.

4. The effectiveness of inter-agency coordination among CAFGU, LGUs, and the PNP in maintaining peace and order.

5. The challenges encountered by CAFGU personnel in implementing peace and order initiatives in remote and high-risk communities.

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CHAPTER I

The Problem

The Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) plays a crucial role in maintaining peace and order situation in the Philippines, particularly in the areas affected by insurgency as a reserve force under the operational control of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). The **Republic Act No. 7077 1991 Citizen Armed Forces of the Philippines Reservist Act.** Replacing the Civilian Home Defense Forces (CHDF). The constitutional basis of Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) is found in **Article XVI(General Provisions), Section 4 of the 1987 Philippine Government Constitution**, which states that:

> **The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) shall be composed of a citizen armed force, which undergoes military training and serves as provided by law. It requires maintaining a regular force necessary for state security.**

As defined in **Section 4, Article II, of the 1987 Constitution** mandates that: **The prime duty of the Government is to serve and protect the people. The Government may call upon the people to defend the State and, in the fulfillment thereof, all citizens may be required, under conditions provided by law, to render personal military or civil service.**

The CAFGU is composed of reservist and civilians who undergo military training and are tasked with supporting the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) in counter-insurgence efforts. Assist in counter-insurgency efforts, secure cleared areas and support local communities. Their presence helps extend the reach of the Military and ensure the sustained

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security of vulnerable communities. Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) are primary tasked with preventing of the re-infiltration of insurgents into areas previously cleared by the AFP. They act as a force multiplier, augmenting the regular military's capacity in combating armed groups.

They are deployed to serve specific geographical areas, often remote barangays, and maintain peace and order at the grass-roots level. This include conducting patrols, check points, and surveillance to defer criminal activities and insurgent movements. CAFGU's are often involved in community development initiatives, working alongside local government units and often agencies to address the root causes of conflict and promote peace. The CAFGU's role as reserve force allows the AFP to dedicate more resources to active combat operations while maintaining a presence in cleared areas. Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) members are often drawn from the local population, providing them with valuable knowledge of the terrain, local customs, and potential treats within their communities.

The historical concerns about the potential for Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) to be used for personal or political gain, particularly in areas with weak governance or where they are used as private armies. Ensuring that Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) are accountable for their actions and that human rights violations are addressed is crucial. Providing adequate support, including financial compensation, training, and equipment is essential for maintaining the effectiveness and morale of Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) units.

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The **Civilian Home Defense (CHDF)** was an irregular, armed paramilitary unit established in 1977 by President Marcos Sr. **(via P.D. No. 1016)** to act as a force multiplier for the military against insurgents during the martial law era. The CAFGU was formed as a replacement, aiming to be more organized and under close supervision. The 1987 Constitution called to a Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU).

CAFGU units are considered Active Auxiliary Units, part of the Citizen Armed Force, and are instituted from volunteers who undergo screening. The CAFGU's primary role is to support the AFP in counter-insurgency activation, particularly in defending their respective localities.

Despite efforts to improve oversight, concerns remain about potential human rights abuses by CAFGU members as documented by organizations like the commission on Human Rights.

Force Geographical Units (CAFGU)in **Executive Order No. 264 (s,1987)**,which formalized their establishment and operation and was later supplemental by **Republic Act No. 7077**, also known as the " Citizen Armed Forces of the Philippine Reservist Act", outlines the structure for reservist to serve in a military auxiliary capacity allowing them to be organized into units for local defense and to receive arms for their locality.

Executive Order No. 264 (s.1987). This order signed by President Aquino, attested the Citizen Armed Force and subsequently established the CAFGU structure to address the local insurgency threat. It tasked the Department of national Defense with organizing the CAFGU units.

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Republic Act. No. 7077 (The Citizens Armed Forces of the Philippines Reservist Act). This Law provides the framework for the military auxiliary service that CAFGU's perform. It specifies that reservist serving under this category are organized into Ready Reserve Units and are listed and allowed to carry firearms for the defense of the their localities.

Other laws and executive orders, such as **Executive Order No. 69 (s. 2018) and Executive Order No. 94 (s. 2019)**, have provided financial support to CAFGU Active Auxiliary (CAA) members recognizing their service.

High-ranking officials have historically viewed CAFGU's as a necessary tool to address national security challenges, citing their role in complementing regular troops, holding territory and providing economic benefits to communities. However, the nation and management of CAFGU units have also down criticism from human rights groups and some officials who point to issues like the in appropriate selection of members, potential for abuse and human rights violations and the revival of paramilitary structure under new names.

Significant accomplishments of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in the Province of Albay has made significant contributions in maintaining peace and order, particularly in remote and geographically isolated barangays. Through close coordination with the Armed Forces of the Philippines and local government units, CAFGU members have effectively supported security operations, conducted regular patrols, and helped deter criminal activities, thereby ensuring the safety of local communities.

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One of its major accomplishments is its active support to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) in safeguarding remote and geographically challenged areas, particularly in upland and coastal barangays. Through regular patrols and community presence, Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) members have helped deter criminal activities and strengthen local security. The CAFGU has also been instrumental in disaster preparedness and response, especially during typhoons, volcanic activities of Mayon Volcano, floods, and other natural calamities common in Albay. Their assistance in evacuation operations, relief distribution, and coordination with local government units has contributed greatly to the safety and welfare of affected residents.

Furthermore, the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) has strengthened civil–military relations by actively engaging with barangay officials and residents. Their involvement in information dissemination, peace-building initiatives, and support to community programs has helped build trust and cooperation between the military and the local population. These accomplishments highlight the CAFGU's valuable contribution to peace, resilience, and community development in the Province of Albay.

The related studies conducted by the previous researchers that had bearing to the present study were those of: **Torres, (2017); Lopez, (2019); Marquez, (2020); Santos, (2018) and Breva Jr. (2020)** formulated the importance of citizen participation, inter-agency coordination, and grassroots engagement.

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While these studies focus on civilian-led mechanisms, they reinforce a central theme also present in Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) literature: sustainable peace and order depends on trust-building, visibility, and collaboration between security personnel and local communities.

Statement of the Problem

This study determined the influence of the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in Maintaining the Peace and Order Situation in the Province of Albay for calendar year 2026.

Specifically, it answered the following questions:

1. To what extent is the level of the influence of the roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU)

in terms of:

1.1 Community security and patrol operations,

1.2 Intelligence gathering and threat detection,

1.3 Coordination with local law enforcement and military limits,

1.4 Civic action and public service and support,

and

1.5 Disaster response emergency assistance?

2. How significant is the agreement on the rank orders of the extent of the level of the influence of the roles of the CAFGU along the aforementioned aspects?

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3. To what extent does the influence of the roles of the CAFGU in maintaining the peace and order situation along:

3.1 Conduct of regular patrols and visibility operations,

3.2 Engagement with community leaders and stakeholder,

3.3 Reporting and monitoring of suspicious activities,

3.4 Participation in community development programs, and

3.5 Implementation of conflict resolution mechanism?

4. How significant is the agreement on the rank orders of the influence of the roles of the CAFGU in maintaining the peace and order situation among the different groups of respondents?

5. What policy recommendations can be formulated based from the findings of the study?

Assumptions of the Study

This study was based on the following assumptions:

1.The extent of the influence on the roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in terms of: Community Security and Patrol Operations, Intelligence Gathering

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and Threat Detection, Coordination with Local Law Enforcement and Military Limits, Civic Action and Public Service and Support, and Disaster Response Emergency Assistance.

2.The extent does the influence of the roles of the CAFGU in maintaining the peace and order situation along: Conduct of Regular Patrols and Visibility Operations Engagement with Community Leaders and Stakeholder, Reporting and Monitoring of Suspicious Activities, Participation in Community Development Programs, and Implementation of Conflict Resolution Mechanism.

3.The policy recommendations that can be formulated based from the findings of the study.

Hypothesis of the Study

The study anchored on the following hypotheses:

1.(Intelligence and local Knowledge) Null Hypothesis (H_0): The use of CAFGU personnel does not significantly enhances the effectiveness of intelligence gathering, leading for maintenance of peace and order in communities

2. Alternative Hypothesis (H_1) The utilization of CAFGU personnel significantly enhances the effectiveness of intelligence gathering leading to better maintenance of peace and order in communities due to their unique local knowledge and community connections.

Significance of the Study

The significance of the study explains the researcher's importance, its contribution to knowledge and and how it benefits specific groups or the broader society.

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The researcher considers the result of this study to be beneficial to the following:

Constituents. The study will benefit constituents by promoting awareness of CAFGU's role in ensuring safety and security. Enhanced peace and order can foster a safer environment, encourage community participation, and strengthen trust between civilians and security forces.

Punong Barangay. This study will benefit the Punong Barangay by providing insights into the role of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in maintaining peace and order at the barangay level. The findings may assist Punong Barangays in strengthening leadership strategies, improving coordination with CAFGU,

Barangay Definder. Enhancing the implementation of barangay peace and order programs. This study may also support informed decision making in addressing security concerns within their respective communities. During their duty at night they can patrol with ease and confidence as they will be assisted by CAFGU personnel during operations.

Local Government Units (LGUs). The findings of this study will serve as a useful reference for the LGUs of Manito, Albay in assessing the effectiveness of CAFGU in supporting peace and order initiatives within the municipality. It will help local officials strengthen coordination between the LGU, the Armed Forces of The Philippines (AFP), and community members, leading to improved local security policies, crime prevention strategies, and disaster response planning.

Local Chief Executives. This study will benefit local chief executives, such as the Municipal Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Barangay Officials of Manito, Albay, by providing evidence

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based information on the effectiveness of CAFGU in maintaining peace and order. The findings may assist them in formulating informed decisions, strengthening local peace and order programs, and enhancing policy implementation through improved coordination with military and law enforcement agencies. It may also guide them allocating resources and support for community security initiatives.

Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU). This study will contribute to deeper understanding of CAFGU's roles and responsibilities in maintaining peace and order. The results may guide improvements in training, deployment, and community engagement, enabling CAFGU memebers to perform their duties more effectively and responsibly.

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and Law Enforcement Agencies. The research findings may assist the AFP and other law enforcement agencies in evaluating the impact of CAFGU as a force multiplier. It can help improve collaboration, operational planning, and resource allcation in maintaining peace and order in the province.

Community and Other Stakeholders. This study will be significant to stakeholders as recognized under **Republic Act No. 7160,** otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, which mandates the participation of local officials, community members, and sector representatives in maintaining peace and order at the local level. The findings of this study may assist stakeholders in understanding their shared responsibilities in supporting the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) as partners of the Local Government Units in ensuring public safety and security.

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Future Researchers. This study will serve as a reference for future researchers interested in local security, civil military relations, and peace and order initiatives. It may provide baseline data and insights that can be expanded or compared with similar studies in other localities.

Researcher Himself. The research of this study can truly benefit the outcome of this study in the real accomplishing this research/thesis but also in his professional growth as CAFGU Officers.

Scope and Delimitation of the Study

This study focused on the Influence of the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in Maintaining Peace and Order in the Province of Albay, specifically within the Local Government Units of Manito, Albay, with particular emphasis on Barangay Nagotgot for Calendar year 2026.

The scope of the study covers the assessment of CAFGU's roles in maintaining peace and order in Barangay Nagotgot, including their participation in security patrols, crime prevention, assistance to barangay officials, and coordination with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Philippine National Police (PNP), Barangay Tanod, and local government official. The study also examines the perceptions of selected respondents regarding CAFGU's effectiveness in promoting safety and stability within the barangay.

The respondents of this study is delimited to fifty (50) respondents residing in Barangay Nagotgot, Manito, province of Albay, Local Government Employees, CAFGU members and Regular Military Officer assigned in the area, of Manito, Albay.

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The study is delimited to the geographical boundaries of Barangay Nagotgot, Manito, Albay, and does not include other barangays within the municipality or other municipalities in the Province of Albay. It is further limited to peace and order concerns and does not cover military combat operations, national defense strategies, or classified security information. The study does not evaluate CAFGU performance in disaster response, counter-insurgency operations outside the barangay, or other non-peace-and-order-related functions.

Locale of the Study

This study will focus only on Province of Albay, where the 50 respondents will come from Barangay Nagotgot, town of Manito, Albay.



Source: Municipal Library of Manito, Albay

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Figure 1

The Location Map of Barangay Nagotgot, Manito, Albay

The Municipality of Manito is a coastal municipality located in the Province of Albay, part of the Bicol Region (Region V) in the Philippines. It lies at the southeastern portion of the province, facing the Albay Gulf, and serves as one of the gateways connecting Albay to the neighboring province of Sorsogon. Manito is classified as a fourth-class municipality, with a local economy largely dependent on fishing, agriculture, and small-scale trading. Based on the 2020 Census, Manito has a population of approximately 26,000 residents, most of whom reside in rural communities. The municipality covers a land area of about 107 square kilometers, characterized by coastal zones, rolling terrain, and agricultural lands. Its geographical location makes it vulnerable to natural hazards such as typhoons and coastal-related risks, which highlights the importance of community-based security and disaster preparedness. Politically, the Municipality of Manito is subdivided into fifteen (15) barangays. Among these barangays, It-Ba (Poblacion) serves as the administrative and commercial center of the municipality, while the remaining barangays are primarily rural. These barangays function as the basic units of local governance and play a vital role in maintaining peace and order, implementing government programs, and promoting community development.

The history of the province of Albay includes a pre-colonial civilization, the introduction of Catholicism by the Spanish in 1569, periods of progress under American rule, and the Japanese occupation during world war II. The province is renowned for the iconic Mayon

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Volcano and has a rich cultural heritage, reflected in its centuries - old churches like the Cagsawa Church Ruins. Before Spanish Colonization, Albay was home to indigenous groups who had a striving civilization with rich culture. The people practiced agriculture and fishing, and the land was characterized by fertile soil and lush vegetation.

Catholicism was first introduced to the region in 1569-1898. The Spanish established their rule and the city of Legazpi was named after the Spanish conquistador Miguel Lopez de Legazpi. During this time, the Cagsawa Church was built but later destroyed during Mayon Volcano's violent eruption in 1814. Under American rule, Albay experienced peace and sustained economic progress. However, this period of peace ended with the Japanese invasion and occupation of Legazpi in 1941 during World War II.

Albay is famous for the active Mayon Volcano, landmark that has shaped the province's history. The province is home to historical sites like the Cagsawa Ruins, a reminder of Mayon's devastating eruption. Albay cultural heritage is celebrated through its vibrant festival art, music and traditions, such as the Magayon Festival.

Manito, Albay was named by settlers from the Visayas in 1840, who established the town due to an abundance of "nito" vines and to escape Moro invaders. Early Civilizations in the Bicol Region predates the arrival of Spaniards, with local evidence of Bicolano life and the area served as a natural sanctuary with thick forests. Later, other natives from there nearby towns also sought refuge there from Moro raiders. Visayan settlers established Manito, naming it for the prevalence of the "nito" vine, a rattan used for making baskets, which was abundant in the area during early settlement in 1840.

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The Bicol Region , including areas near Manito, had a thriving civilization,before Spanish colonization, with evidence of earlier Bicolano settlers and civilizations. Both the initial Visayan settlers and later arrivals from nearby Albay, Bacon, and Rapu-Rapu were fleeing from the attacks of Moro raiders. The thick forests surrounding Manito provided a natural and safe haven from the raiders, making it an attractive settlement of location.

In 1982, Manito became a focus of attention as a reservation area for geothermal exploration and development, leading to the operation of the Bacman Geothermal Production Field. Traditional cottage industries like basket making have continued to be a significant source of livelihoods for many households, despite a dwindling supply of nito vines.

The Municipality of Manito was chosen as the locale of this study due to its relevance, accessibility, and representativeness. Manito is a geographically remote and partly upland municipality where security concerns, community safety, and the presence of CAFGU personnel are more evident compraed to highly urbanized areas. Therefore, Manito, Albay is an appropriate and strategic choice as the research locale for investigating the influence of CAFGU in maintaining peace and order.

Definition of Terms

The following terms are defined both operationally and conceptually to clarify their meanings and to ensure a clear understanding of how they are used within the context of this study.

Influence the capacity to affect, shape, or contribute to changes in behavior, decisions, or conditions of individuals or communities.

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Roles refers to expected functions, duties, and responsibilities performed by individuals or groups within a specific organization or system.

Citizen Armed Force Geographical Unit (CAFGU) is an irregular auxiliary paramilitary force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). Military force that works to maintain or restore peace, either by mediating conflicts between groups by deploying international troops to prevent fighting and protect civilian in volatile areas.

Community security and patrol operations consider as organized efforts aimed at maintaining peace, order, and safety within a specific locality. These activities involve regular monitoring of communities to deter criminal activities, prevent disturbances, and ensure that residents feel protected in their daily lives. Patrol operations, whether conducted on foot or through mobile units, serve as a visible reminder of authority presence, which discourages potential lawless actions. Community security emphasizes partnership between security forces and civilians, recognizing that safety is a shared responsibility.

Intelligence gathering and threat detection involve the systematic collection and analysis of information that may indicate potential risks to peace and order. This includes observing unusual activities, identifying patterns of behavior, and receiving reports from community members. Effective intelligence gathering is proactive rather than reactive; it aims to prevent incidents before they occur.

Through proper documentation and evaluation of information, authorities can anticipate threats and implement preventive measures to protect the community.

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Coordination with local law enforcement and military limits highlights the importance of collaboration among different security sectors. No single agency can address all security concerns alone; therefore, cooperation ensures efficiency and unity of action. Clear communication channels, defined responsibilities, and respect for operational limits are necessary to avoid overlap or abuse of authority. Such coordination strengthens the overall security framework while ensuring that actions remain within legal and ethical boundaries.

Civic action and public service support refer to programs and activities that promote goodwill and strengthen the relationship between security personnel and the community. These may include medical missions, clean-up drives, educational assistance, and other outreach initiatives. By participating in civic activities, security groups demonstrate their commitment not only to protection but also to community development and welfare, fostering trust and cooperation among residents.

Disaster response and emergency assistance involve immediate and organized action during natural or human-made disasters. Security forces often assist in evacuation, rescue operations, distribution of relief goods, and maintaining order in evacuation centers. Their presence ensures safety and prevents panic, looting, or confusion during emergencies. Quick and coordinated disaster response reduces harm and helps communities recover more effectively.

Maintaining the peace and order a preventive strategy to maintain peace. When security personnel are visibly present in streets, barangays, and public areas, it creates a sense of security among citizens and deters potential offenders. Regular patrols also allow

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authorities to assess the condition of the community and respond promptly to emerging concerns.

Conduct of regular patrols and visibility operations emphasizes dialogue and partnership. Leaders such as barangay officials, youth representatives, religious figures, and civic organizations play a vital role in maintaining peace. Through meetings, consultations, and collaborative planning, security personnel can better understand local issues and craft appropriate responses. This engagement strengthens mutual respect and collective responsibility.

Reporting and monitoring of suspicious activities are essential components of maintaining order. Community members and patrol units are encouraged to report unusual behavior, unidentified individuals, or potential threats. Proper documentation and timely reporting enable authorities to act swiftly and prevent escalation. Continuous monitoring ensures that risks are identified early and addressed effectively.

Participation in community development programs reflects the broader role of security forces in nation-building. By supporting livelihood programs, educational campaigns, environmental protection, and youth development initiatives, they contribute to addressing the root causes of conflict and crime. Development-oriented activities promote stability and long-term peace.

Implementation of conflict resolution mechanisms focuses on peaceful settlement of disputes. Rather than allowing misunderstandings or disagreements to escalate into violence, structured dialogue, mediation, and negotiation are encouraged. Conflict

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resolution mechanisms promote understanding, fairness, and harmony within the community. By fostering peaceful communication, communities become more resilient and united in maintaining peace and order.

Policy Recommendations refers to evidence-based proposals derived from the findings of the study that aim t to guide decision-makers in formulating improving policies related in maintaining the peace and order in security of the community.

CHAPTER 2

Review of Related Literature and Studies

This chapter presents the different literature and studies that are relevant to the present study. It discusses several important knowledge both local and international. The topics are as follows: The Influence of the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in Maintaining the Peace and Order Situation in the Province of Albay; and the policy recommendations. Additionally, it also includes its inputs, such as the legal bases, the theories, surveys and other tools and instruments used to conduct this research study. Without sufficient input, the efficacy and/or the effectiveness of this study may not be achieved.

The synthesis of the state-of-the-Art, gap bridged of the study, theoretical and conceptual framework and theoretical and conceptual paradigm are also included.

Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU)

Executive Order 264 in 1987, Studies on the **Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU),** established by often focus on its creation, controversy, and

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evolution within the context of a broader Philippines Civilian Armed Force and Security Strategy: Local contributions highlights legislative attempts to demobilize it, its role in combating insurgencies and its problematic human right record , with notable mentions of authors like **COL Floria**, and **Senator Mercado** in legislative discussions. Foreign contributions, thought not explicitly named in these search results, generally analyze these local studies for a global perspective, examining the intersection of paramilitary forces with local conflict, human rights issues, and effectiveness of civilian forces. **Executive Order No. 264 (1987), S**igned by President **Aquino**, this order established the CAFGU, part of the broader "Civilian Armed Force" strategy, focusing on the "clear consolidate, hold and develop" approach to maintain peace and order Executive Order 264 in 1987in rural areas.

Republic Act No. 7077(1991), this law supplemental **Executive Order No. 264,** providing legal framework for the CAFGU program. Implementing Rules and Regulations to **Executive Order No. 264 (1988),** Develop by the Department of National Defense, these regulations provided specific guidance for the CAFGU program.

The Influence of the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU)

Dela Cruz, (2018) conducted Community-Based Security Mechanisms: Assessing the Role of CAFGU in Rural Peacekeeping Operations, examined the effectiveness of CAFGU personnel in implementing community-based security strategies in selected rural municipalities in Luzon. The research focused on patrol visibility, intelligence gathering, and collaboration with local government units to reduce insurgency-related incidents. It

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emphasized how grassroots-level security forces contribute to stabilizing conflict-prone areas through community immersion and localized defense strategies.

This study is similar to the present research because both investigate the influence of CAFGU roles in sustaining peace and order. Both highlight the importance of community engagement and patrol operations. However, the difference lies in scope and setting. **Dela Cruz, (2018)** concentrated broadly on rural Luzon, while the present study specifically focuses on the province of Albay. Moreover, the current research centers more directly on measuring the overall influence of CAFGU roles in maintaining peace and order within a defined provincial context.

Ramirez, (2019) studied about The Operational Performance of CAFGU in Support of the Armed Forces of the Philippines Counterinsurgency Program. This research analyzed how CAFGU units support the Armed Forces of the Philippines in counterinsurgency campaigns, particularly in intelligence reporting and area security. The study concluded that CAFGU plays a significant supporting role in maintaining territorial stability and assisting regular military forces.

The similarity between **Ramirez's, (2019)** research and the present study lies in their shared focus on the operational roles of CAFGU and their contribution to peace and security. However, Ramirez concentrated primarily on military support functions within counterinsurgency programs, while the present study in Albay takes a broader approach by assessing CAFGU's overall influence on peace and order, including community relations and public safety, not limited solely to counterinsurgency.

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Villanueva, (2022) presented the study of Effectiveness of CAFGU in Crime Prevention and Barangay Security, the research examined how Citizens Armed Forces in Geographical Unit (CAFGU), deployment at the barangay level contributed to crime reduction statistics in selected provinces in the Bicol Region. The study measured crime rate changes before and after CAFGU assignments and analyzed coordination with local police authorities.

The similarity with the present study is the geographic relevance to the Bicol Region, which includes Albay, and the focus on peace and order outcomes. However, **Villanueva, (2022)** concentrated primarily on crime prevention metrics, while the present research covers a broader range of CAFGU roles, including patrol operations, intelligence gathering, disaster response, and community engagement as contributing factors to maintaining peace and order.

Herrera, (2024) conducted the study in Assessing the Strategic Contribution of CAFGU in Localized Defense and Internal Security Operations, evaluated CAFGU's participation in internal security operations and their readiness in responding to local threats. The research focused on training, discipline, coordination with military leadership, and strategic defense positioning.

Herrera's (2024) work is similar to the present study in its examination of CAFGU's strategic contributions to security and stability. Both studies acknowledge the unit's importance in localized defense mechanisms. The key difference is that Herrera emphasized organizational readiness and strategic defense performance, whereas the present research

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specifically evaluates the influence of CAFGU roles on maintaining peace and order within the socio-political and geographic context of the province of Albay.

Santos, (2018) established Community-Based Security Mechanisms and Crime Prevention Strategies in Rural Philippines, examined the effectiveness of barangay patrol systems and citizen participation in reducing crime incidents in rural municipalities. The research focused on grassroots-level coordination between local government units and community volunteers. Santos emphasized participatory governance and localized response mechanisms as essential tools in maintaining peace.

This study is similar to the present research because both highlight community-level efforts in sustaining peace and order. However, while Santos concentrated on civilian lead barangay initiatives, the present study focuses specifically on the structured roles of CAFGU as a military auxiliary force in Albay, analyzing their direct influence on security stability rather than purely civilian participation.

Maintaining the Peace and Order in the Community

Reyes, (2019) investigate Military Auxiliary Forces and their contribution to counterinsurgency operations in Southern Luzon. Reyes analyzed the operational support provided by auxiliary forces in assisting the Armed Forces of the Philippines during counterinsurgency missions. The study centered on tactical cooperation, intelligence sharing, and territorial defense.

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The similarity with the present study lies in its focus on auxiliary forces supporting peace efforts. However, Reyes' research concentrated on counterinsurgency operations in a broader Southern Luzon context, whereas the

present study narrows its scope to the province of Albay and examines peace and order not only in terms of insurgency but also community safety, crime deterrence, and public trust.

Garcia, (2022) conducted the Assessing the Effectiveness of Community Defense Units in Crime Reduction measured crime statistics in areas with active community defense units compared to those without. Garcia's findings suggested that visible patrol presence and rapid response mechanisms significantly lowered minor crime rates.

The similarity to the present research lies in assessing measurable impacts on peace and order. However, Garcia's study focused on statistical crime reduction across multiple provinces, while the present study emphasizes the perceived influence, operational roles, and community engagement of CAFGU in a single province, offering a more localized and role-specific analysis.

Breva Jr., (2020) formulated the Evaluation of the Peace and Order and Public Safety Plan: Its Relation to the Crime Prevention Priority Issues of the Province of Albay.

This study evaluated the Peace & Order and Public Safety (POPS) Plan adopted by multiple municipalities within Albay to address crime and public safety concerns. The study measured the relevance and effectiveness of the plan and the participation of community members, police officers, and barangay officials in its implementation.

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The research shares similarities with the present study is that both investigate peace and order efforts within Albay and consider the roles of official structures in addressing crime and maintaining public safety. However, Breva's study focuses on the overall provincial plan and its implementation effectiveness, while the present study specifically examines how the roles of a defined auxiliary force influence peace and order outcomes. In other words, Breva looks at broader policy implementation, whereas your research targets a specific group's operational influence within the peace framework.

Torres, (2017) presented the study about Community Policing Initiatives and Crime Prevention in Selected Municipalities in Luzon. **Torres's** research analyzed community policing programs implemented by local police stations and their effects on reducing petty crimes and enhancing public cooperation. The study highlighted how active engagement between law enforcement officers and local residents fostered trust, prompt reporting of offenses, and collaborative responsiveness.

The similarity between Torres's study and the present research lies in their shared focus on community involvement in achieving peace and order. Both recognize that stability is not solely achieved through formal law enforcement, but also through partnerships with the community. However, a key difference is that Torres concentrated on formal police–community relations, whereas the present study places emphasis on the roles of CAFGU, which are auxiliary forces that often assist in both military and civilian operations. In this way, the present study provides insights into military support functions that go beyond conventional policing examined in Torres's work.

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Lopez, (2019) conducted the Effectiveness of Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs) in Reducing Crime Incidence in Mindanao. **Lopez** investigated BPATs, which are community-based security groups formed at the barangay level, and assessed their involvement in monitoring suspicious activity, reporting crime, and supporting law enforcement during emergencies. Lopez found that BPATs significantly contributed to improving vigilance in neighborhoods and served as deterrents to criminal activity.

Lopez's research and the present study both emphasize localized peace and order mechanisms and involve community stakeholders in security roles. However, a notable difference is that BPATs are civilian volunteers with limited formal training, while CAFGU units are structured auxiliary forces with military training and responsibilities. Thus, while both groups aim to enhance public safety, the scope of authority and type of engagement with official security agencies differ substantially. The present study's focus on CAFGU's structured roles adds a dimension of formal security assistance not explored in Lopez's work.

Policy Recommendation

Based on the findings of the study on the influence of the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in Maintaining Peace and Order in the Province of Albay, several policy recommendations are proposed to strengthen the effectiveness, professionalism, and sustainability of community-based security operations.

The **Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP)** should strengthen continuous capability development programs for CAFGU personnel through regular training on intelligence gathering, conflict management, disaster response, and community relations.

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Enhanced training programs aligned with the provisions of **Republic Act No. 7077** will ensure that CAFGU members remain competent auxiliary forces capable of supporting military operations while safeguarding civilian welfare and human rights.

Stronger coordination mechanisms between CAFGU units, the Philippine National Police, and local government units should be institutionalized through joint operational guidelines and communication protocols. Regular coordination meetings, shared intelligence systems, and joint patrol operations may prevent duplication of responsibilities and improve rapid response to criminal and insurgent activities within barangays.

The study recommends that local government units in Albay integrate CAFGU participation into local peace and order programs and disaster preparedness initiatives consistent with the mandate of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council. Considering the province's vulnerability to natural disasters, CAFGU personnel may serve as support responders during evacuation operations, traffic control, and community protection during emergencies.

The government should enhance welfare and compensation programs for CAFGU members to promote morale and operational commitment. Providing adequate allowances, insurance coverage, and access to livelihood opportunities may reduce financial vulnerability among members assigned to geographically isolated communities. Welfare support also reinforces professionalism and reduces risks associated with operational stress.

Strict monitoring and evaluation systems should be implemented to ensure accountability and adherence to ethical standards. The AFP may strengthen supervision

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mechanisms consistent with the principles embodied in the **1987 Philippine Constitution**, particularly the protection of human rights and civilian supremacy over the military. Establishing grievance reporting mechanisms within communities can further strengthen public trust.

Recruitment policies should prioritize qualified local residents who possess good moral character and strong community ties. Local recruitment enhances intelligence gathering capability and promotes cooperation between civilians and security forces, which is essential in sustaining insurgency-free communities.

The study recommends strengthening civil-military cooperation programs through community engagement activities such as peace education campaigns, youth outreach initiatives, and barangay security forums. Such programs help build trust between security forces and civilians and contribute to long-term peace-building strategies.

The national government may consider expanding logistical support, communication equipment modernization, and transportation resources for CAFGU detachments assigned in remote areas. Adequate operational resources allow CAFGU members to respond effectively to emerging threats while maintaining visibility as partners of the community in preserving peace and order.

Strengthening training, welfare support, institutional coordination, accountability systems, and community engagement programs will enhance the overall effectiveness of CAFGU personnel in supporting sustainable peace and order in the Province of Albay. These

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policy recommendations aim to reinforce CAFGU's role as a reliable force multiplier in safeguarding communities while upholding democratic principles and public safety.

Previous Philippine studies conducted provided important policy directions relevant to the present study entitled The Influence of the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in Maintaining Peace and Order in the Province of Albay. These studies emphasized strengthening auxiliary forces, improving civil-military coordination, professionalization, community participation, and governance mechanisms in addressing insurgency and maintaining public safety.

Martinez, (2023) formulated the Impact of Local Government Unit (LGU) Security Policies on Public Order in Central Visayas. Martinez examined how policies enacted by local government units such as curfew ordinances, community intelligence networks, and joint task forces — influenced crime trends and community perceptions of safety. His research highlighted policy effectiveness in coordinating multiple stakeholders and the implementation challenges that arise in diverse urban and rural contexts.

Martinez's work and the present CAFGU study share an interest in evaluating institutional strategies for maintaining peace and order, but while Martinez focused on policy frameworks and administrative outcomes, the present research is more concerned with operational roles and direct influence of a specific auxiliary unit (CAFGU) at the community level. In other words, Martinez's thesis approaches peace and order from a governance and policy effectiveness perspective, whereas the CAFGU study offers a more role-specific, execution-oriented analysis of how auxiliary forces contribute on the ground.

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Soriano, (2023) aimed at formulating the Evaluative Study and Policy Recommendations on Community Crime Prevention Programs in Urban Areas of Metro Manila. Soriano assessed various crime prevention programs implemented by urban municipal governments in Metro Manila, identifying strengths, weaknesses, and evidence-based policy interventions such as community surveillance enhancements, youth engagement initiatives, and interagency advisory councils.

Soriano's thesis and the present research both address strategies for maintaining peace and order and include practical policy recommendations. However, whereas researcher focus is on urban crime prevention policies in highly populated cities, the CAFGU study examines auxiliary force roles in a provincial context. The urban focus brings unique policy recommendations relevant to densely populated areas, while the CAFGU study's recommendations pertain to reinforcing auxiliary force effectiveness in a larger territorial and socio-political environment like Albay.

Marquez, (2020) conducted Policy Recommendations for Strengthening Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs) and Community Security. Marquez examined how BPATs help deter local crime and improve reporting systems in selected barangays. His research concluded with policy suggestions, including training standardization, better funding, and integration of technology for real-time reporting between BPATs and law enforcement agencies.

Marquez's study aligns with the present research in its focus on localized peace and order initiatives and policy suggestions that enhance community security actors. The

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difference is that Marquez looked at BPATs, which are local civilian peacekeepers, and emphasized policy standardization and technological integration, while the present CAFGU study concentrates on a semi-military auxiliary force's roles and influence, assessing how those roles affect community safety outcomes and what policy reforms could strengthen that influence within a specific provincial context.

Delgado and Cruz, (2019) formulated the Policy Challenges and Recommendations for CAFGU Financial Support and Welfare. The researchers investigated how economic support and welfare policies affect CAFGU members' morale and commitment to public safety. Their study used interviews and policy analysis, finding that while the government had introduced financial incentives e.g., monthly aids in 2018 and 2019, the support often fell short of addressing members needs. They recommended consistent livelihood programs, better compensation, and policy provisions for post-service reintegration. (This study is framed around documented executive orders granting financial support to CAFGU members.

This research differs from the present study because it focuses on economic and welfare policies rather than operational roles and influence. However, both studies acknowledge that supportive policy environments help CAFGU members contribute more effectively to peace and security.

Luna, (2024) determined the Policy Interventions and Community Participation in Enhancing Public Safety in Southern Luzon. The study proposed interventions to boost citizen engagement with peace and order programs in Southern Luzon. Luna's recommendations

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included establishing volunteer training programs, enhancing local policy transparency, and strengthening community-police partnerships.

This recent work relates to the CAFGU study in that both highlight community participation as critical to peace and order. The primary difference lies in the subjects of participation: Luna focused on community volunteers and police partnerships, while the CAFGU research emphasizes a structured auxiliary paramilitary group and its formal influence on peace and order. Luna's policy interventions aim to empower civilian stakeholders, whereas the CAFGU study's recommendations are more oriented toward improving auxiliary force policies and role integration within security frameworks.

The reviewed studies consistently recommended professionalization, improved training, welfare support, and stronger institutional coordination between CAFGU units, police agencies, and local governments. These policy recommendations directly support the present study by emphasizing that effective CAFGU participation significantly contributes to sustainable peace and order, particularly in geographically isolated and insurgency-prone provinces such as Albay.

Synthesis of the State-of-the-Art

The body of literature related to the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) and community-based security in the Philippines demonstrates an evolving understanding of auxiliary forces as essential contributors to peace and order. Across studies researchers consistently emphasize the role of grassroots security mechanisms, civil–military coordination, and localized defense strategies in stabilizing conflict-prone and crime-affected communities.

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Earlier studies on the influence of the roles of CAFGU, such as those of **Dela Cruz, (2018), Ramirez, (2019)** formulated the **Evaluation of the Peace and Order and Public Safety Plan: Its Relation to the Crime Prevention Priority Issues.** This study evaluated the Peace & Order and Public Safety (POPS) Plan adopted by multiple municipalities within Albay to address crime and public safety concerns. For instance, **Villaneuva, (2022)** both examined CAFGU's support to the Armed Forces of the Philippines in counterinsurgency operations, highlighting intelligence sharing, territorial defense, and tactical operation.

Subsequent research expanded the lens from purely military functions to community-based peacekeeping roles. **Herrera, (2024)** and **Santos, (2018)** emphasized patrol visibility, intelligence gathering, barangay-level deployment, and measurable crime reduction outcomes. Their findings illustrate a transition from macro-level security frameworks toward localized security assessments, particularly in rural Luzon and the Bicol Region. Similarly, **Garcia, (2022) r**einforced the significance of visible patrol presence and rapid response systems in reducing minor crimes, supporting the argument that auxiliary forces enhance deterrence and public safety.

On maintaining the peace and order related studies such as **Reyes, (2019), Torres, (2017); Lopez, (2019); Breva Jr., (2020), Garcia, (2022)** underscores the importance of citizen participation, interagency coordination, and grassroots engagement. While these studies focus on civilian-led mechanisms, they reinforce a central theme also present in

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AFGU literature: sustainable peace and order depends on trust-building, visibility, and collaboration between security actors and local communities.

Policy Recommendation recent works **Marquez, (2020); Martinez, 2023; Soriano, 2023; Luna, 2024; Delgado** and **Cruz, 2019** reflect a policy-oriented and evaluative trend. These studies examine **institutional readiness, governance frameworks, welfare support, financial sustainability, and community participation policies.** Notably, **Delgado and Cruz, (2019)** highlight the importance of **welfare and compensation systems in sustaining CAFGU morale.** The study of **Martinez, (2023)**, conducted in Central Visayas, situates peace and order within the framework of local governance. Similarly, **Soriano, (2023)**, focusing on Metro Manila, evaluates urban crime prevention programs and proposes evidence-based policy interventions such as youth engagement and enhanced surveillance systems. **Marquez (2020)** shifts the discussion toward community security actors by examining Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs). His research advocates for training standardization, improved funding, and technological integration, illustrating how localized actors can be strengthened through structured policy reforms.

Meanwhile, **Delgado and Cruz (2019)** contribute to the literature by focusing specifically on CAFGU welfare and financial support policies. More recently, **Luna (2024)** expands the conversation to community participation and volunteerism in Southern Luzon. By recommending enhanced transparency, volunteer training, and stronger police-

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community partnerships, Luna reinforces the importance of civilian engagement in sustaining peace initiatives.

Gap Bridge of the Study

From among the studies enumerated herein, it can be noted that there were similarities on the variables used but not exactly the same with the present study. Resemblance was common only in some aspects but not the whole study. The current study concept refers to addressing strategic, operational, or tactical shortcomings in counter-insurgency efforts by enhancing coordination between the military (especially CAFGU Units) and civilian agencies to improve socioeconomic programs that task the root causes of insurgency. This could involve bridging the gap in resources, communication, the government's ability to implement effective, cohesive counter-insurgency strategies at the local level. The current research focused on The Influence of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical

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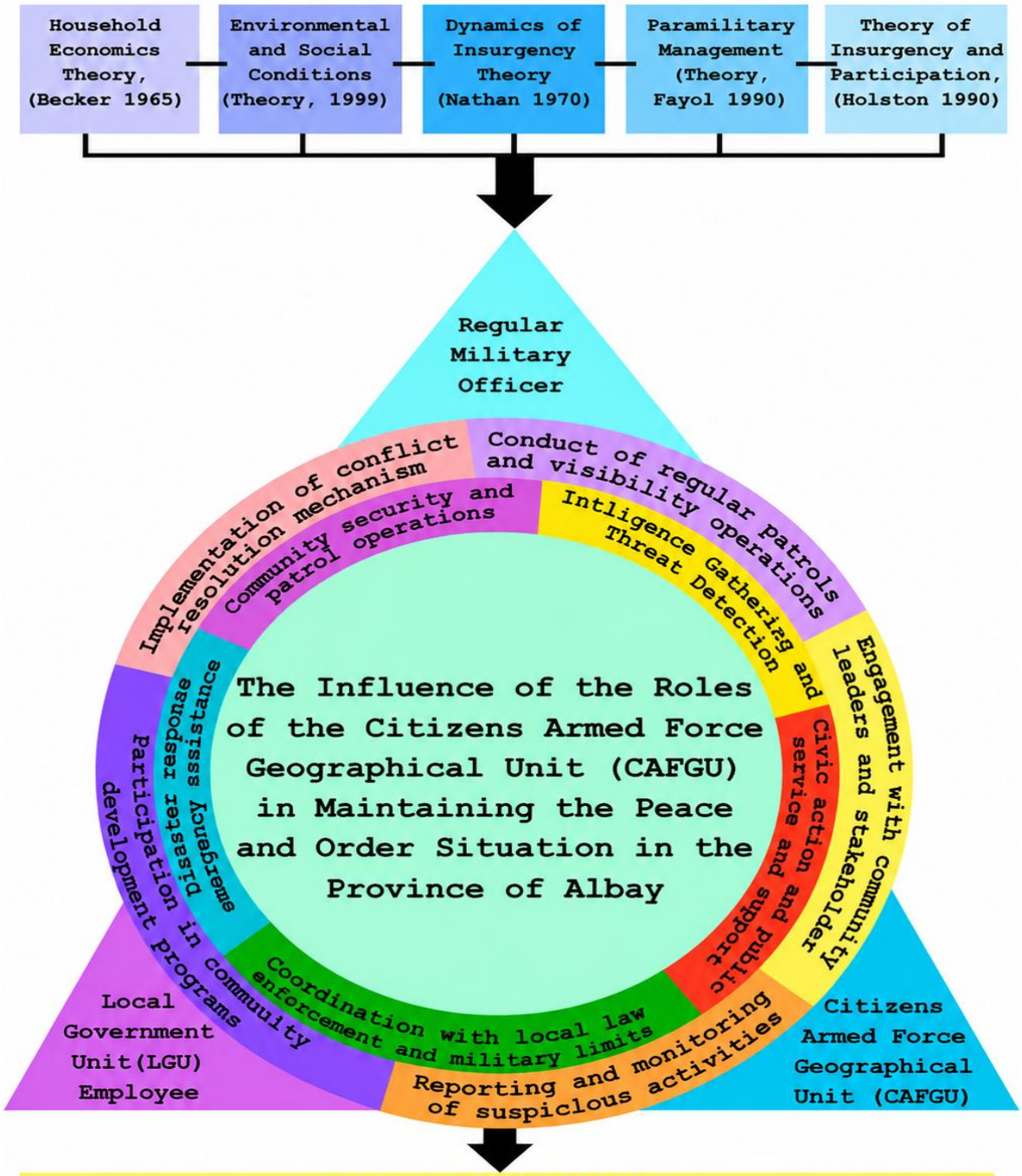
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Researcher's Theory

Analyzing the Influence of the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in maintaining peace and order situation in the province of Albay that will lead to the formulation of Policy Recommendations for the security of the community.

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Figure 2

The Theoretical Paradigm

Unit (CAFGU) in Maintaining the Peace and Order in the Province of Albay. This was the gap that the present study has bridge.

Theoretical Framework:

This study was anchored on the **theoretical paradigm** of the following theories as indicated study: **Household Economics Theory (Becker, 1965); Environment and Social Conditions Theory (Barry, 1999); Dynamics of Insurgency Theory (Nathan, 1970); Paramilitary Military Theory (Fayol, 1990); Theory of Insurgency and Participation (Holston, 1990);** and the **Researcher's (Lumague) Theory.**

Household Economics Theory, (Becker, 1965). The Author primarily created with developing the theory of New Household Economics particularly through his influential 1965 paper, A Theory of the Allocation of Time. Becker's work established that household, are not just consumers but also producers, using purchased goods and their own time to "produce" desirable characteristics, and services. This framework revolutionized the economic analysis of family delivering, consumption, and time allocation.

Environmental and Social Conditions Theory (Barry, 1999). The book explores the relationship between human societies and the natural world for a theoretical perspective. His work explores the complex interplay and intersection of social and environmental phenomena within political and economic context. This theory posits that

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person's development is influenced by the entire system of their environment, which includes multiple interconnected levels.

Dynamics of Insurgency Theory (Nathan, 1970). His work on insurgency established the concept of an insurgency's evolution from a formative stage to a more mature one. He further stressed that insurgency and terrorism from revolution to apocalypse, is a foundational work that influenced early thinking on insurgency and its relationship to terrorism.

Paramilitary Military Theory (Fayol, 1900). The theory's origin traced to the organizational principles of Henri Fayol in the nearly 1900's, which emphasized military-inspired hierarchical structures, unity of command and strict discipline.

Theory of Insurgency and Participation (Holston, 1990). The researcher expressed that this theory describes how marginalized groups engaged in practices outside formal state structures to create their own forms of citizenship and belonging, particularly in urban peripheries.

Researcher's (LUMAGUE) Theory. Upon considering the ideas gained from those five (5) theories, the researcher was able to formulate the researcher's theory that guided him in the conduct of the study. The main focus of this study was to determine The Influence of the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit(CAFGU) in Maintaining the Peace and Order Situation in the Province

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of Albay. This will serve as the output of the study. Presented in figure 2, in the Theoretical Paradigm of the study where the five theories were drawn for conceptualization based on the authors comments and explanations.

The Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework of the study serves as the researcher's guide, concepts, ideas and the main trust of the study as indicated in **figure 3**, the **Conceptual paradigm.**

Input. The conceptual framework presents the foundational elements that guide the study. It includes the legal bases such as the 1987 Philippine Constitution (Article XVI, Section 4), the 1987 Philippine Constitution (Article II, Section 2, Executive Order No. 264 s. 1987, Republic Act No. 7077, and Presidential Decree No. 1016. These policies establish the authority, organization, and functions of the Citizens Armed Force Geographical Unit (CAFGU). Alongside these are relevant theories that support the understanding of CAFGU's

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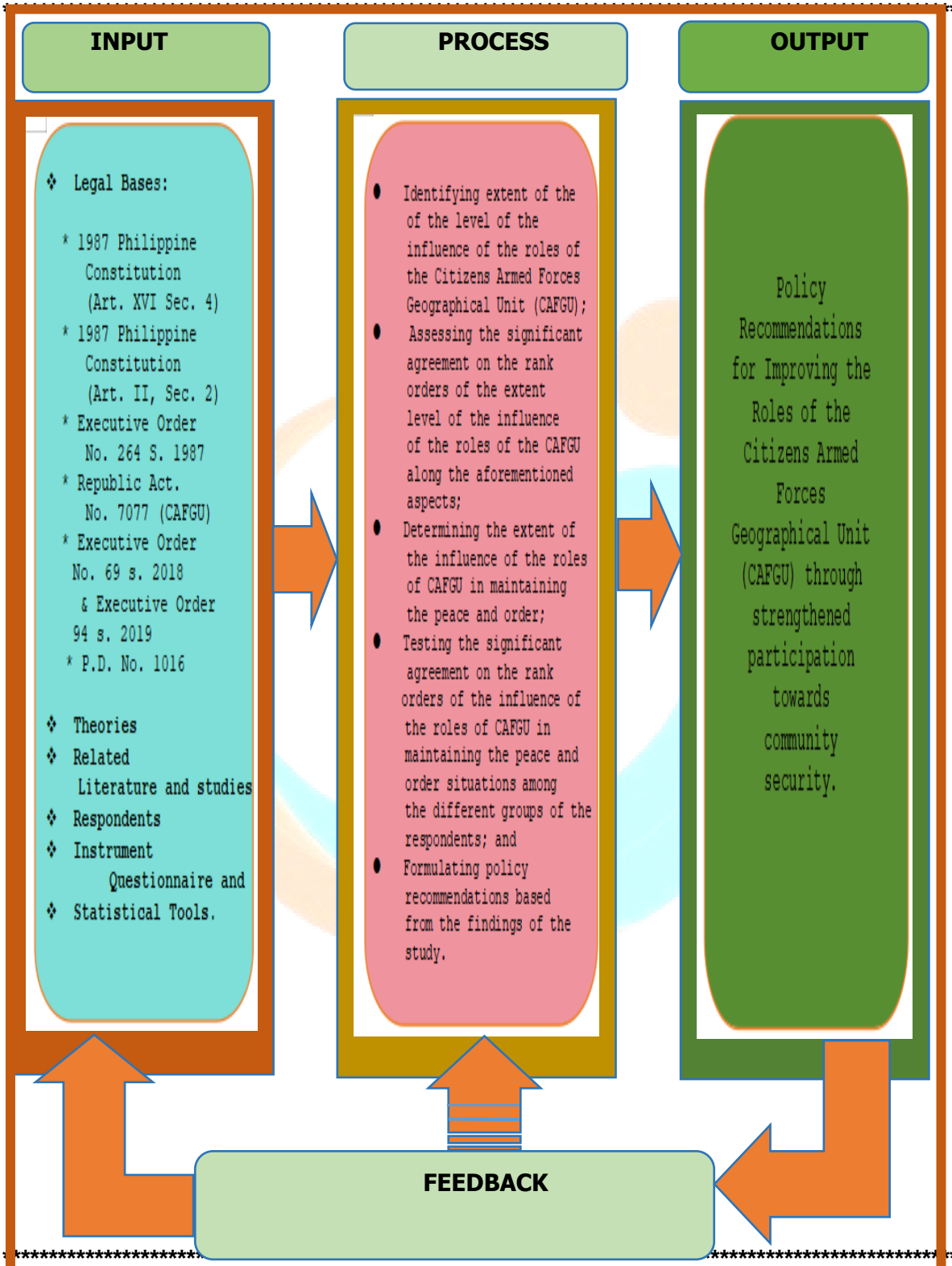
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Figure 3

The Conceptual Framework

role in maintaining peace and order. Altogether, the input provides the legal and theoretical grounding necessary for analyzing the influence of CAFGU.

Process. It explains the methods and procedures used to analyze the study variables. It involves **identifying** extent of the extent level of the influence of the roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU). It also includes **assessing** the significant agreement on the rank orders of the extent level of the influence of the roles of the CAFGU along the aforementioned aspects, and **determining** the extent of the influence of the roles of CAFGU in maintaining the peace and order; **testing** the significant agreement on the rank orders of the influence of the roles of CAFGU in maintaining the peace and order situations among different groups of the respondents; and **formulating** policy recommendations based from the findings of the study. These steps ensure a systematic evaluation of CAFGU's contributions using measurable and analyzable data.

Output. It reflects the expected results of the study after completing the process. In this framework, the output is the development of policy recommendations aimed at improving the roles of the CAFGU through strengthened participation towards community security. These recommendations are based on the findings gathered during the analysis and are intended to enhance operational strategies, coordination, and community engagement of CAFGU units.

Feedback. The policy recommendations generated as output may be reviewed and implemented by concerned authorities, leading to adjustments in policies, strategies, or practices. This, in turn, can influence future inputs such as updated legal frameworks or

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improved theoretical approaches. The feedback loop ensures continuous improvement in the effectiveness of CAFGU in maintaining peace and order.

CHAPTER 3

Research Design and Methodology

This chapter presents the research design, methods sampling techniques, respondents of the study, table of specification, instruments used, validation of the instruments, validity and reliability of survey questionnaire, data gathering and procedures, Gannt Chart and the statistical tools employed in conducted this study.

The researcher propose a qualitative description approach using methods Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) during interviews with CAFGU personnel and affected members to gather in-depth experiences and perspective. Alternatively, a mixed methods approach might combine qualitative surveys with the descriptive methods to gather numerical data on performance metrics and support the qualitative findings by providing context and establishing relationships between variables.

Research Design

This study adopted the descriptive-evaluative- correlational method of research. The descriptive-evaluative method was utilized in describing and assessing the role of Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in maintaining peace and order situation in the province of Albay specifically in combating the presence of insurgents in the community.

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On the other hand, correlational method was availed to determine the significance of agreement on the rank orders of the respondents assessment on the effectiveness of the CAFGU operations on the problems encountered during day to day patrol activities.

Based on the assessment, effective policies and programs were formulated to improve the Role of CAFGU in maintaining peace and order in the community.

Sampling Technique

Purposive sampling was used in the choice of the locale of the study in barangay Nagotgot, Manito, Albay. Total enumeration was employed in the choice of Regular Military Officer, Local Government Employee and the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) residing in the barangay Nagotgot, Manito, Albay as the respondents of the study.

Respondents of the Study

The fifty (50) respondents of this study were from barangay Nagotgot, Manito, Albay as shown in **Table 1.**

Table I

The Respondents of the Study

Indicator	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1. Regular Military Officer	18	36
2. CAFGU	12	24
3. LGU Employees	20	40

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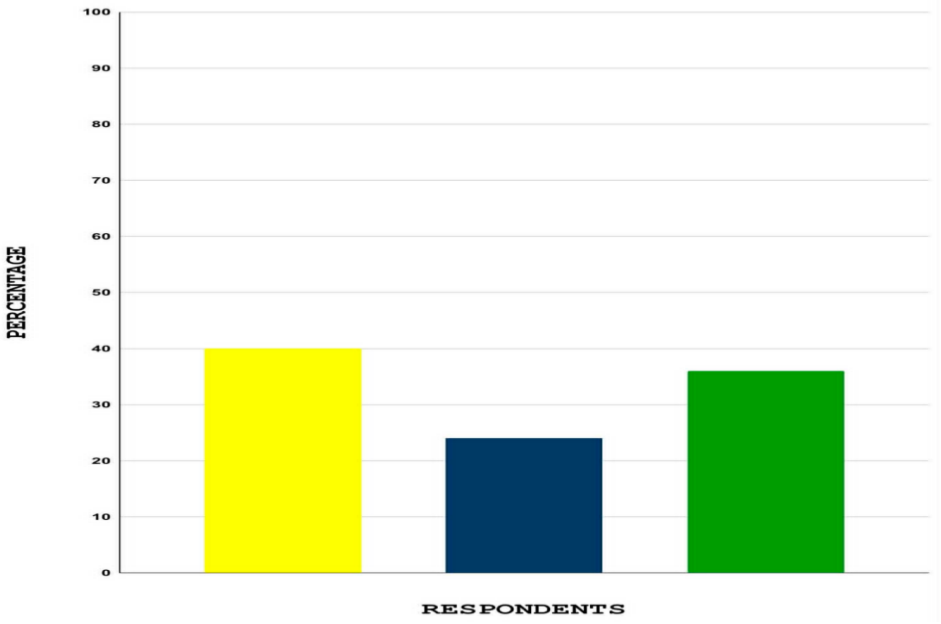
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(MDRRMO & PUNONG BRGY.)		
Total	**50**	**100**

As gleaned from the table, the respondents were composed of eighteen (18) Regular Military Officer, twelve (12) Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) and twenty (20) selected LGU Employees, with the total respondents of fifty (50).

These respondent were chosen according to the following reasons: These respondents were chosen according to the following reasons: The eighteen (18) Regular Military Officers were selected because they possess direct operational experience and command responsibility in the implementation of security and counter-insurgency programs within the area of responsibility. Their professional knowledge and actual field exposure provide reliable



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Figure 4

The Respondents

information regarding the coordination, supervision, and effectiveness of auxiliary forces in maintaining peace and order. Their perspectives are essential in evaluating how security strategies are planned and executed at the operational level.

The twelve (12) members of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit **(CAFGU)** were included as respondents because they serve as front line auxiliary personnel who directly participate in patrol operations, intelligence monitoring, community engagement, and support to military and police activities. Their experiences provide first-hand information regarding the actual performance of assigned roles, operational challenges encountered in the field, and the extent of their contribution to maintaining peace and order within local communities.

Meanwhile, the twenty (20) selected Local Government Unit (LGU) employees were chosen because they are actively involved in implementing peace and order programs, coordinating with security agencies, and responding to community concerns at the local level. As partners of security institutions, LGU personnel can provide valuable insights regarding the effectiveness of CAFGU participation community-based peacekeeping efforts. Collectively, the selected respondents were considered capable of providing comprehensive, balanced, and reliable data necessary to assess the influence of CAFGU roles in maintaining peace and order in the Province of Albay.

The Table of Specification shown in **Table 2** was used to allocate and distribute the items for the answers sought in this research study. The instrument was consisted of the

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different indicator from Part 1 to 2. Part 1 delved on the level of the influence of the roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in maintaining the peace and order in the Province of Albay in terms of community security and patrol operations, Intelligence gathering and threat detection, coordination with local law enforcement and military limits, civic action and public service and support, and disaster response emergency assistance. Part 2 delve on the extent does the influence of the roles of the CAFGU in maintaining the peace and order situation along conduct of regular patrols and visibility operations, engagement with community leaders and stakeholder, reporting and monitoring of suspicious activities, participation in community development programs, and implementation of conflict resolution mechanism.

Instrument Used

A researcher-made rating scale, Likert Scale was used in gathering the data. These test were used to determine the influence of the roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in maintaining the peace and order in the province of Albay for the Calendar Year 2026 with the Regular Military Officer,(18) CAFGU,(12) and LGU employees (20), totaling fifty (50) respondents in Nagotgot, Manito, Albay.

Table of Specification (TOS). As reflected in Table 2

Part I. The extent of the influence on the roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in terms of: Community Security and Patrol Operations, Intelligence Gathering and Threat Detection, Coordination with Local Law Enforcement and

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Military Limits, Civic Action and Public Service and Support, and Disaster Response Emergency Assistance.

Part II. The extent does the influence of the roles of the CAFGU in maintaining the peace and order situation along: Conduct of Regular Patrols and Visibility Operations Engagement with Community Leaders and Stakeholder, Reporting and Monitoring of Suspicious Activities, Participation in Community Development Programs, and Implementation of Conflict Resolution Mechanism.

Based on the data gathered using the questionnaire (Likert Scale) or assessment tool, the researcher was able to come up with the research output the policy recommendations needed on the level of the influence of the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in maintaining the peace and order in the Province of Albay.

Table 2

Table of Specifications

Topics	Number of Items	Items Placement	Percentage
Part 1 -The Extent of the Level of the Influence of the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in terms of:			
1.1 Community security and patrol operations,	12	1-12	11
1.2 Intelligence gathering and threat detection,	12	13-24	11
1.3 Coordination with local law enforcement and military limits,	12	25-36	11
1.4 Civic action and public service and support, and			
1.5 Disaster response emergency			

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assistance	11	37-47	10
	11	48-58	10
Sub - total	**58**		**50**
Part 2 - The extent of the influence of Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in Maintaining Peace and Order Situation in the Province of Albay along:			
3.1 Conduct of Regular Patrols and Visibility Operations	11	59-69	10
3.2 Engagement with community leaders and stakeholder	11	70-80	10
3.3 Reporting and monitoring of suspicious activities	11	81-91	10
3.4 Participation in community development programs	12	92-103	11
3.5 Implementation of conflict resolution mechanism	12	104-115	11
Sub - total	**57**		**50**
TOTAL	**115**		**100**

The Rating Scale below was utilized.

The level of the Influence of the Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU)

Scale	**Adjectival Interpretation**
4.50 - 5.00	Very Much Influential (VMI)
3.50 - 4.49	Much Influential (MI)

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2.50 - 3.49	Influential (I)
1.50 - 2.49	Fairly Influential (FI)
1.00 - 1.49	Not at All (NA)

The Influence of Roles of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in Maintaining Peace and Order Situation in the Province of Albay

Scale	**Adjectival Interpretation**
4.50 - 5.00	Very Much Evident (VME)
3.50 - 4.49	Much Evident(ME)
2.50 - 3.49	Evident (E)
1.50 - 2.49	Fairly Evident (FE)
1.00 - 1.49	Not at All (NA)

Validation of the Instrument. The instrument, the researcher's made questionnaire (Likert scale) used in this study was validated by a panel of jurors composed of professors, non-respondents, Local Government Employees, university editors, Master in Public Administration (MPA) professors, and other authorities. These experts were requested to evaluate the instrument and provide comments, suggestions, and recommendations regarding its content, clarity, and relevance.

The jurors suggested the deletion, addition, and modification of several items. All their recommendations were carefully considered and incorporated in the revision of the instrument to improve its validity. After reflecting on all suggestions and with the approval of the research consultant, the final questionnaire was reproduced and prepared for distribution.

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Prior to the actual data gathering, the questionnaire was pilot-tested among non-target respondents to further assess its clarity and effectiveness. Their feedback was used to refine the semi-structured survey questionnaire, particularly the rating scale used to measure the respondents' perceptions in terms of status, extent, and activities.

To test the reliability and validity of the instrument, the Kuder-Richardson Formula 21 (KR-21) was used. It was computed using the formula: Diederich (1976)

$$r = 1 - \frac{M(N-M)}{N(S)^2}$$

Where: M refers to the mean

N is the number of items

S means the standard deviation

1 is constant

The significance of the reliability, r, was tested using the t-test for correlation analysis at 0.05 level of significance using the formula:

$$t = r\sqrt{\frac{N-2}{1-r^2}}$$

Where: t = is the unknown

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r = is the reliability

N = is the number of cases

Employing the formula, the reliability arrived at 0.95126 which when compared to the tabular t value with infinitum degree of freedom, it did not only exceed the criterion level at 0.05 which is 1.645 but even that at 0.001 level. This means that the instrument used in this study was significantly reliable and only 4.874% was left to error or to chance.

Study Procedure

The researcher prepared the activity and implementation schedule to facilitate the completion of the study as reflected **Figure 5**, the **Gantt Chart**. The study was conducted considering the following procedures:

1. Formulating the Title.
2. Preparing of manuscript for chapter 1 to 3 for title defense.
3. Proposing of Research Title.
4. Securing of permit to conduct the study. Permission conduct the study was sought from the office of the Municipal Mayor and Barangay Captain.
5. Preparing of the survey questionnaire. The survey questionnaire was drafted for comments and suggestions of the panelists.

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6. Distributing of survey questionnaire to the identified respondents.
7. Retrieving of the questionnaire / Gathering data.
8. Processing of data. Data gathered were tallied, tabulated, analyzed and interpreted.
9. Determining the appropriate statistical tool.
10. Analyzing the interpreting of the data.
11. Encoding of suggestions and corrections.
12. Editing of the manuscript for pre-oral defense.
13. Defending the Pre-oral defense.
14. Reflecting the suggestions and recommendations.
15. Finalizing of the manuscript.
16. Defending the Final Defense.
17. Reflecting the suggestions, comments and recommendations.
18. Encoding of final draft.
19. Submitting for Special Order.
20. Publishing of statistical research output.

Statistical Treatment of Data

The researcher of this study have used the following statistical tools for validation and determining the correctness and exactness of data being gathered.

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The data were analyzed and presented using frequency count, percentage techniques, weighted mean an average calculation where each data point has a specific weight reflecting it's relative importance or contribution to the overall results. This method provides a more accurate and nuanced representation of the data, especially when some values are more significant than others.

Research Procedure and Time Budget	2025					2026						
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
1. Formulating the Title.												
2. Preparing of manuscript for chapter 1 to 3 for title defense.												
3. Proposing of Research Title.												
4. Securing of permit to conduct the study. Permission conduct the study was sought from the office of the Municipal Mayor and Barangay Captain.												
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16. Defending the Final Defense.												
17. Reflecting the suggestions, comments and recommendations.												
18. Encoding of final draft.												
19. Submitting for Special Order.												
20. Publishing the research output.												

Figure 5

The Gantt Chart of the Research Procedure

The likert scale used for rating system in research designed to measure attitudes, opinions, and perceptions by asking respondents to choose from a continuum of response options for a given statement or question. Named after its inventor, (Rensis Likert, 1930) this scale qualities subjective experiences, allowing researchers to gather detailed, nuanced data in fields like psychology, market research and social sciences.

Kendall's Coefficient of Concordance (W) is a non-parametric statistical measure used to assess the level of agreement among multiple judges or raters when they rank a set of items. It provides a single value between 0 and 1, indicating the degree of a consensus, where 1 signifies perfect agreement beyond chances.

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The coefficient accounts for ordinal data (rankings) and is useful for evaluating inter-rater reliability, especially in fields like psychology and social sciences.

Formula of Kendall's

$$W = \frac{12S}{[m^2(n^3 - n)]}$$

Where: W - Kendall's Coefficient of Concordance

S - The sum of the squared differences between the

Sum of ranks for each item and the mean sum of

the ranks

m - The number of groups of respondents

n - The number of items being ranked

The Chi-Square Formula:

$x^2 = k\ (N\text{-}1)\ W$

The significance level was pegged at 0.05.

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