

Fact Book 2024

United States Special Operations Command

Created by USSOCOM Office of Communication

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Special Operations
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The Quiet Professionals





SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES

Medal of Honor

RECIPIENTS



World War I

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. William Donovan

World War II

U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Kenneth D. Bailey
U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Merrit A. Edson
U.S. Marine Corps Pfc. Henry Gurke
U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Clyde Thomason
U.S. Army Lt. Jack L. Knight

Korea

U.S. Army Master Sgt. Ola L. Mize
U.S. Army Col. Ralph Puckett, Jr.

Vietnam

U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Bennie Adkins
U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Eugene Ashley, Jr.
U.S. Army Sgt. Gary B. Beikirch
U.S. Army Master Sgt. Roy P. Benavidez
U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class William M. Bryant
U.S. Army Sgt. Brian L. Buker
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Jon R. Cavaiani
U.S. Army Col. Paris Davis
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Drew D. Dix
U.S. Army Capt. Roger H. C. Donlon
U.S. Army Maj. John J. Duffy
U.S. Air Force Maj. Bernard F. Fisher
U.S. Air Force Capt. James P. Fleming
U.S. Army 1st Lt. Loren D. Hagen
U.S. Army Master Sgt. Charles E. Hosking, Jr.
U.S. Army Col. Robert L. Howard
U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Joe M. Jackson
U.S. Air Force Col. William A. Jones III
U.S. Army Specialist 5th Class John J. Kedenburg
U.S. Navy Lt. j.g. (SEAL) Joseph R. Kerrey
U.S. Army Specialist 4th Class Robert D. Law
U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class John L. Levitow
U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Gary L. Littrell
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Franklin D. Miller
U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Melvin Morris
U.S. Navy Lt. (SEAL) Thomas R. Norris
U.S. Navy Seaman David G. Ouellet
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Robert J. Pruden
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Laszlo Rabel
U.S. Army Lt. Col. Ronald E. Ray
U.S. Army Master Sgt. Jose Rodela
U.S. Army Capt. Gary M. Rose
U.S. Army 1st Lt. George K. Sisler
U.S. Navy Engineman 2nd Class (SEAL) Michael E. Thornton
U.S. Army Capt. Humbert R. Versace
U.S. Army 1st Lt. Charles Q. Williams
U.S. Navy Boatswain's Mate 1st Class James E. Williams
U.S. Army Sgt. Gordon D. Yntema
U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Fred W. Zabitosky

Somalia

U.S. Army Master Sgt. Gary I. Gordon
U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Randall D. Shughart

Afghanistan

U.S. Navy Master Chief Petty Officer (SEAL) Edward C. Byers Jr.
U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Christopher A. Celiz
U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. John Chapman
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Robert J. Miller
U.S. Navy Lt. (SEAL) Michael P. Murphy
U.S. Army Master Sgt. Leroy A. Petry
U.S. Army Master Sgt. Earl Plumlee
U.S. Navy Master Chief Petty Officer (SEAL) Britt Slabinski
U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Ronald J. Shurer II
U.S. Army Sgt. Maj. Matthew O. Williams

Iraq

U.S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class (SEAL) Michael A. Monsoor
U.S. Army Sgt. Major Thomas P. Payne



HEADQUARTERS USSOCOM

Role - Organize, train, equip and provide fully capable special operations forces to defend the United States and its interests.

Personnel - Entire command approximately 70,000

Location - MacDill Air Force Base, Florida

Established - April 16, 1987

Commander - U.S. Army Gen. Bryan P. Fenton

Deputy Commander - U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Sean M. Farrell

Vice Commander - U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Francis L. Donovan

Command Senior Enlisted Leader - U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Shane W. Shorter

Headquarters Staff

Chief of Staff - U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Guillaume Beurpere

J1 Directorate of Personnel - U.S. Army Col. Francisco Pena

J2 Directorate of Intelligence - U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Constantin E. Nicolet

J3 Directorate of Operations - U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Michael E. Martin

J4 Directorate of Logistics - U.S. Army Col. Christopher L. Paone

J5 Directorate of Strategy, Plans and Policy - Ms. Kimberly C. Field

J6 Directorate of Communications - Mr. Peter J. Tragakis

J8 Directorate of Force Structure, Requirements, Resources and Strategic Assessments - U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Steven M. Marks

J10 Directorate Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction - Mr. Michael Dudas (Acting)

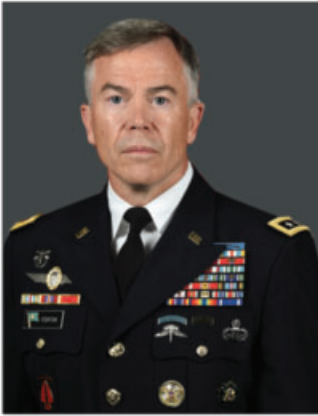
Special Operations Forces Acquisition, Technology & Logistics - Ms. Melissa Johnson

Special Operations Financial Management - Ms. Tesa Lanoy

Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer - Dan Folliard

Joint Special Operations University - Dr. Paul Brister

Deputy Commander for Mobilization and Reserve Affairs - U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Shawn Satterfield



**U.S. ARMY GEN.
BRYAN P. FENTON
COMMANDER**



**U.S. ARMY COMMAND SGT. MAJ.
SHANE W. SHORTER
COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER**

USSOCOM



**U.S. AIR FORCE LT. GEN.
SEAN M. FARRELL
DEPUTY COMMANDER**



**U.S. MARINE CORP LT. GEN.
FRANCIS L. DONOVAN
VICE COMMANDER**

USSOCOM MISSION

USSOCOM develops, and employs, the world's finest SOF to conduct global special operations and activities as part of the Joint Force, in concert with the U.S. Government Interagency, Allies, and Partners, to support persistent, networked, and distributed combatant command operations and campaigns against state and non-state actors all to protect and advance U.S. policies and objectives.

USSOCOM PRIORITIES

People. “Humans are more important than hardware” speaks to our center of gravity and our #1 Enterprise Priority -- our People. Our Force and families are USSOCOM's competitive and comparative advantage. Our People are the reason we "win." In support of current and future mission success, we will recruit, assess, select, educate, train, diversify, equip, and transform our innovative and groundbreaking team.

Win. We will “Win” -- every time, every place, in any environment. The “SOF Way” is unconventional, irregular, asymmetric, asynchronous, and done alongside the U.S. Government Interagency, as well as with Allies/Partners.

Transform. USSOCOM will trail-blaze, and lead, for DoD and the Nation. As stewards of precious resources, we will meet current and future challenges via optimizing, modernizing, innovating, inventing, and transforming our people, organizations, and technology.

USSOCOM VALUES

Honor: Earn the trust of the Nation by doing what is right.

Courage: Be steadfast in the face of physical and moral danger.

Excellence: Commit to achieving the highest possible standards.

Creativity: Seek innovative and novel solutions to the hardest, most complex problems.

Respect: Treat our teammates and partners with the highest regard.

WHAT USSOCOM DOES

- Civil Affairs
- Counterinsurgency
- Counterterrorism
- Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction
- Direct Action
- Foreign Humanitarian Assistance
- Foreign Internal Defense
- Hostage Rescue and Recovery
- Military Information Support Operations
- Security Force Assistance
- Special Reconnaissance
- Unconventional Warfare

TITLE 10 AUTHORITIES

- Develop special operations strategy, doctrine and tactics
- Prepare and submit budget proposals for special operations forces
- Exercise authority, direction and control over special operations expenditures
- Train assigned forces
- Conduct specialized courses of instruction
- Validate requirements
- Establish requirement priorities
- Ensure interoperability of equipment and forces
- Formulate and submit intelligence support requirements
- Monitor special operations officers' promotions, assignments, retention, training and professional military education
- Ensure special operations forces' combat readiness
- Monitor special operations forces' preparedness to carry out assigned missions
- Develop and acquire special operations-peculiar equipment, materiel, supplies and services
- Command and control of U.S.-based special operations forces
- Provide special operations forces to the geographic combatant commanders
- Activities specified by the president or secretary of defense



FOREIGN INTERNAL DEFENSE



**MILITARY INFORMATION SUPPORT
OPERATIONS**



CIVIL AFFAIRS



DIRECT ACTION



UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE



NAVSPECWARCOM

**Commander,
U.S. Navy
Rear Adm.**

Milton J. Sands III
HQ Coronado, Calif.



USSOCOM

&

Components



UNITED STATES
ARMY SPECIAL
OPERATIONS COMMAND
USASOC

WEB ADDRESS www.soc.mil

LOCATION: Fort Liberty, North Carolina

ESTABLISHED: Dec. 1, 1989

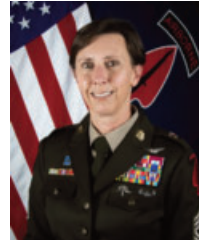
MISSION: The United States Army Special Operations Command mans, trains, equips, educates, organizes, sustains, and supports forces to conduct special operations across the full range of military operations and spectrum of conflict in support of joint force commanders and interagency partners, to meet theater and national objectives.

PEOPLE: Approximately 36,000



COMMANDER

Lt. Gen. Jonathan P. Braga



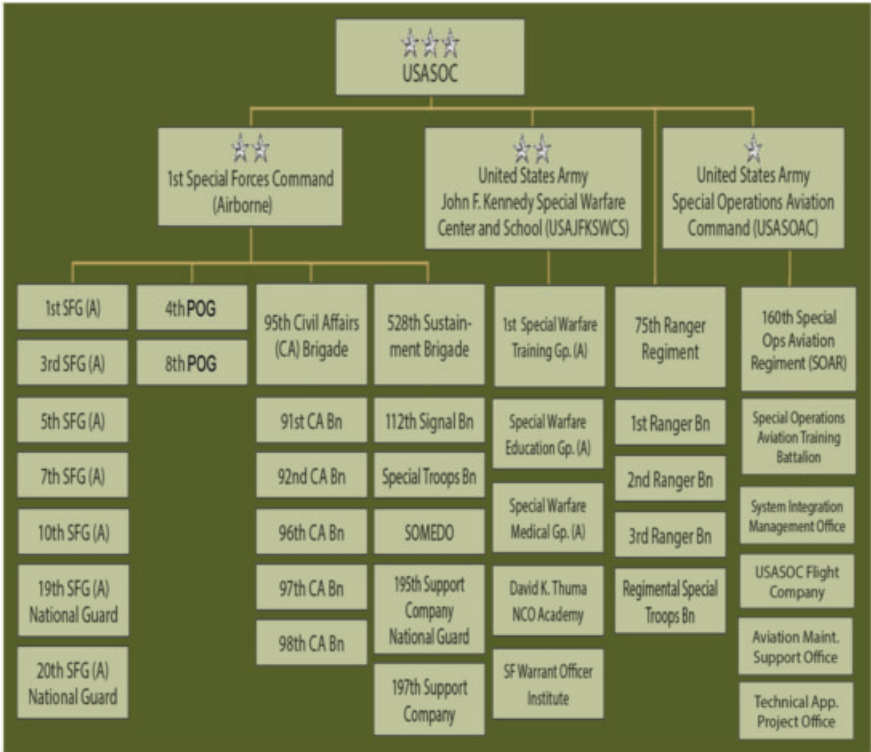
**COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED
LEADER**

Command Sgt. Maj.
JoAnn Naumann

USASOC IS HOME TO:

- Special Forces (Green Berets)
- Rangers
- Special Operations Aviators
- Civil Affairs Soldiers
- Psychological Operations Units
- Training Cadre
- Sustainment Soldiers





SINE PARI – WITHOUT EQUAL



NAVAL SPECIAL WARFARE COMMAND NAVSPECWARCOM

WEB ADDRESS
www.nsw.navy.mil



COMMANDER
Rear Adm. Milton J. Sands III

NAVSPECWARCOM IS HOME TO:

- Sea, Air, Land (SEALs)
- Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen (SWCC)
- Enablers



**COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED
LEADER**
Master Chief Petty Officer (SEAL)
Walter S. Dittmar

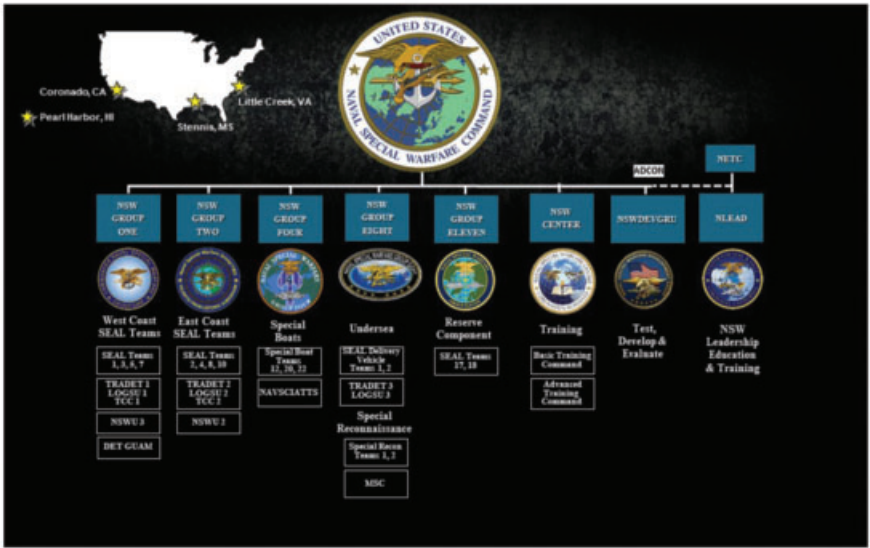
LOCATION: Coronado, California

ESTABLISHED: April 16, 1987

MISSION: Man, train, equip, educate, deploy, resource, and sustain forces to conduct direct action and special reconnaissance, support advise-and-assist programs, and build partner capability, in or out of the maritime environment, by employing tailored capabilities in support of military commanders, chiefs of mission, interagency, and foreign partners and allies.

PEOPLE: Approximately 11,000







WEB ADDRESS
www.afsoc.af.mil

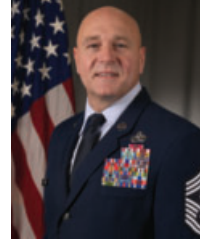


COMMANDER
Lt. Gen. Michael E. Conley

AFSOC IS HOME TO:

AIR COMMANDOS

- Special Tactics
- Special Operations Aviators
- Support Air Commandos



COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER
Chief Master Sgt. Anthony W. Green

LOCATION: Hurlburt Field, Florida

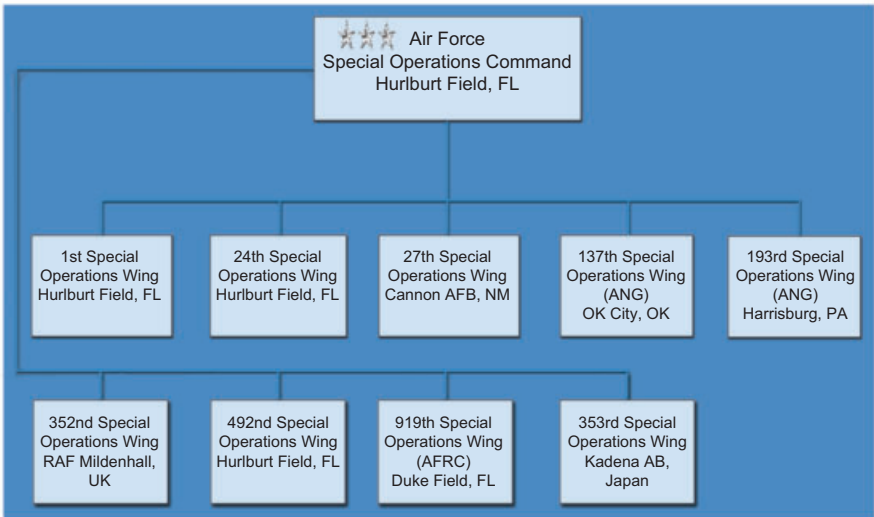
ESTABLISHED: May 22, 1990

MISSION: Provide our nation's specialized airpower capability across the spectrum of conflict. Any place, any time, anywhere.

VISION: Air Commandos. Ready today, relevant tomorrow, resilient always.

PEOPLE: Approximately 17,000





MARINE FORCES
SPECIAL OPERATIONS
COMMAND
MARSOC

WEB ADDRESS

www.marsoc.marines.mil

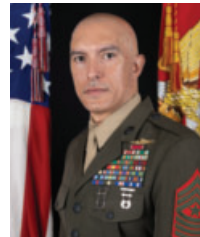


COMMANDER

Maj. Gen. Peter D. Huntley

MARSOC IS HOME TO:

- Critical Skills Operators/Special Operations Officers
- Special Operations Independent Duty Corpsmen
- Special Operations Capabilities Specialists
- Combat Service Support Specialists



**COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED
LEADER**

Sgt. Maj. Rafael C. Vargas

LOCATION: Camp Lejeune, North Carolina

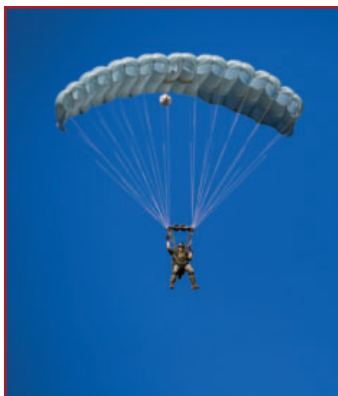
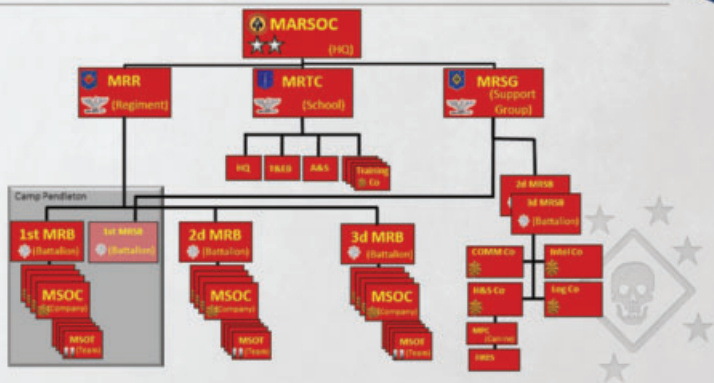
ESTABLISHED: Feb. 24, 2006

MISSION: Marine Forces Special Operations Command is made up of more than 120 military occupational specialties encompassed within the MARSOC Headquarters, Marine Raider Training Center, Marine Raider Support Group, and Marine Raider Regiment all working together to support special operations. Through specialized and advanced training, MARSOC builds upon the Raiders' unique attributes and ethos as Marines to produce agile, scalable, fully-enabled, and responsive SOF, comprised of operators and SOF-specific combat support and combat service support specialists. MARSOC formations are task organized for every assigned mission. Marine Raiders leverage their robust mission command and fused operations and intelligence down to the team level to succeed in distributed environments, and enable partners at the tactical and operational levels of war. MARSOC provides supported commanders with full-spectrum special operations capabilities to combat complex transregional problems.

PEOPLE: Approximately 3,500



MARSOC Organization



JOINT SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND



JSOC



COMMANDER - U.S. Navy Vice Adm. Frank M. Bradley

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - Command Sgt. Maj. Andrew Krogman

ESTABLISHED - Oct. 22, 1980

The **JOINT SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND**, located at Fort Liberty, North Carolina, is a sub-unified command of the U.S. Special Operations Command. JSOC prepares assigned, attached and augmented forces and, when directed, conducts special operations against threats to protect the homeland and U.S. interests abroad.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND - AFRICA



COMMANDER - U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Ronald A. Foy

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - U.S Air Force Command Chief Master Sgt. Evan Serpa

ESTABLISHED - Oct. 1, 2008

MISSION

SOCAFRICA is a sub-unified command of USSOCOM under operational control of United States Africa Command, with headquarters in Kelley Barracks, Stuttgart-Mohringen, Germany. Subordinate SOCAFRICA organizations include: Special Operations Task Force -East Africa, Special Operations Task Force - North West Africa, Naval Special Warfare Unit 10, Joint Special Operations Air Component Africa, and SOCAFRICA Signal Detachment. Commander SOCAFRICA serves as the Special Operations Advisor to commander, USAFRICOM. SOCAFRICA's primary responsibility is to exercise operational control over theater-assigned or allocated Air Force, Army, Marine, or Navy special operations forces conducting operations, exercises, and theater security cooperation in the USAFRICOM area of responsibility.

COMMAND VISION

SOCAFRICA conducts the full spectrum of SOF missions and closely works with component, interagency and partner nations to protect U.S. lives and interests in Africa. The command builds tactical and operational counter-VEO (violent extremist organization) capability in select, key partner nations and assists in developing regional security structures to create stability and combat transregional threats. SOCAFRICA activities directly support USAFRICOM's four theater strategic objectives of defeating VEOs, developing persistent access to partner nations through SOF engagement, building partner nation and regional capacity that promotes stability, and mitigating the underlying conditions that permit violent extremism.

AREA OF FOCUS

The African continent is large and diverse, three and one-half times the size of the United States, with 54 countries spanning 11 million square miles. SOCAFRICA is routinely engaged, on average, in half of these countries, working with and through our African counterparts.

MAJOR ENGAGEMENT

Fliotlock is an exercise focused on improving military interoperability and capacity building of participating militaries from Northern and Western Africa, Europe and the United States.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND - CENTRAL



COMMANDER - U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Kevin C. Leahy

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - Master Gunnery Sgt. Andrew D. McCurry

ESTABLISHED - Dec. 1, 1983

MISSION

SOCCENT, in partnership with interagency and international partners, supports CENTCOM's and SOCOM's objectives by employing special operations to deter and degrade malign actors, influence relevant populations, and enhance regional partners to protect U.S. national interests and maintain regional stability. When directed, SOCCENT employs special operations forces for contingency and crisis response.

COMMAND VISION

Assist commander, USCENTCOM in strengthening regional stability and protecting U.S. interests. SOCCENT will employ a combination of SOF core activities, engagements, and posture in conjunction with interagency partners, other CENTCOM components, and partner nation's SOF and counterterrorism forces. Expand the capabilities of regional SOF and CT forces and provide them with enhanced capabilities while influencing relevant target populations. These actions counter threats and maintain our deep understanding of the environment, enabling us to achieve our assigned tasks. We will relentlessly empower our people with rich information and decentralized authority in a networked enterprise that's constantly improving in speed, agility, and effectiveness. We succeed in our mission by making effective and sustained contributions toward CENTCOM and SOCOM's desired end states.

AREA OF FOCUS

SOCCENT's area of focus includes 20 countries. These countries include Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, and Yemen.

MAJOR ENGAGEMENT

Eager Lion is one of U.S. CENTCOM's premiere exercises held in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan annually. Eager Lion is designed to promote cooperation and interoperability among more than 11,000 participating troops, build functional capacity and enhance readiness.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND - EUROPE



COMMANDER - U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Joseph G. Lock

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - Command Sgt. Maj. Jeremy Life

ESTABLISHED - Jan. 22, 1955

MISSION

SOCEUR will integrate with the USEUCOM components and the Interagency to achieve theater objectives. SOCEUR will preserve its distinct theater operational response capability through a culture of readiness, decentralized mission command, and empowered tactical operators. The priorities for SOF operational employment are to gain and maintain persistent access to areas of potential conflict and violent extremist organizations areas of operations, to enable preparation of the environment tasks in support of USEUCOM OPLANs and CONPLANs, while assuring our European Allies and partners of U.S. commitments to bilateral and NATO obligations.

COMMAND VISION

Across Europe, our adversaries are challenging national sovereignty, alliance solidarity, and U.S. resolve. Within this contested environment, SOCEUR is uniquely postured to galvanize the interagency with Allies and partners to counter malign influence, build cohesion, rapidly respond to emerging threats, and if necessary, defeat aggression.

SOCEUR is an inclusive community, dedicated to a culture where all voices are heard, respected, and valued. We benefit from a broad range of perspectives, backgrounds, experiences, and historical relevance to foster enduring teamwork and camaraderie as the most trusted special operations partner in Europe.

AREA OF FOCUS

SOCEUR's Area of Responsibility (AOR) consists of the 51 countries within US European Command's AOR that extends from Greenland east through the European continent and all of Russia, and south of the continent to include the Mediterranean Sea, south to the Caucasus region and Israel.

MAJOR ENGAGEMENTS

Trojan Footprint is the premier special operations forces exercise in Europe. While the exercise is focused on improving the ability of SOF to counter myriad threats, it also increases integration with conventional forces and enhances interoperability with our NATO allies and European partners. Most importantly, Trojan Footprint fortifies military readiness, cultivates trust, and develops lasting relationships which promote peace and stability throughout Europe. incorporates NATO Allies and partners across Europe to exercise multinational mission command across echelon, and integrate SOF with conventional forces to set conditions for the combined joint force.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND - KOREA



COMMANDER - U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Derek Lipson

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - Command Sgt. Maj. Paul Langley

ESTABLISHED - July 14, 1986

MISSION

SOCKOR plans and conducts special operations in support of the commander of United States Forces/United Nations commander/Combined Forces commander in armistice, crisis and war. SOCKOR is a functional component command of United States Forces Korea, tasked to plan and conduct special operations in the Korean theater of operations.

COMMAND VISION

Since its inception, SOCKOR continues to be the only theater SOC in which U.S. and host nation SOF are institutionally organized for combined operations. SOCKOR and Republic of Korea (ROK) Army Special Warfare Command (SWC) and ROK Naval Special Warfare Flotilla personnel regularly train in their combined roles, while SOCKOR's Special Forces Detachment-39 acts as the liaison between ROK Special Forces and the U.S. Special Forces.

AREA OF FOCUS

In peacetime, SOCKOR is responsible for the planning, training and execution of all U.S. SOF activities in Korea. The SOCKOR commander serves as senior advisor to COMUSFK regarding all U.S. SOF issues. If the armistice fails, SOCKOR and ROK SWC will combine to establish the Combined Special Operations Component Command-Korea (CSOCC-K) under the Combined Forces Command (CFC). Under the current plan, when CSOCC-K is formed, the SOCKOR commander becomes both the CSOCC-K deputy commander and the Special Operations Joint Task Force-Korea (SOJTF-K) commander. SOCKOR is also designated as the United Nations Command Special Operations Component (UNCSOC) under the United Nations Command (UNC).

SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND - NORTH



COMMANDER - U.S. Army Col. Matt Tucker

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - Chief Master Sgt. Clint A. Grizzell

ESTABLISHED - Nov. 5, 2013

MISSION

SOCNORTH in conjunction with interagency and regional partners – plans, coordinates and when directed, executes special operations to defend the United States and its interests.

COMMAND VISION

SOCNORTH provides USNORTHCOM an understanding of irregular threats and facilitates cooperative action with mission partners in defense of the Homeland. As an integral member of the USNORTHCOM team, SOCNORTH provides unique options to support their #1 priority – Homeland Defense. SOCNORTH is USNORTHCOM's supported command for counterterrorism, counter weapons of mass destruction, and counter transnational organized crime.

AREA OF FOCUS

SOCNORTH maintains relationships with the U.S. interagency, Canadian and Mexican SOF, and the Royal Bahamian Defence and Police Forces, enabling and enhancing their contributions to the cooperative defense of North America. SOCNORTH's area of responsibility encompasses Mexico, Canada, the Homeland and portions of the northern Caribbean region to include: The Bahamas, Puerto Rico, U.S. and U.K. Virgin Islands, the Turks and Caicos, and Bermuda. SOCNORTH's maritime domain extends out to approximately 500 nautical miles in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and includes the Arctic Ocean (above 75° North) and southern approaches.

MAJOR ENGAGEMENT

SOCNORTH participates in two major exercises annually. **VITAL ARCHER** is focused on the USNORTHCOM counterterrorism mission. **VIGILANT SHIELD** focuses on USNORTHCOM's homeland defense mission against threats in all domains. SOCNORTH also executes interagency exercises each year to rehearse SOF-specific support for resolution of threats to the Homeland.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND - PACIFIC



COMMANDER - U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Jeremy B. Williams

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - Command Sgt. Maj. Walt Zajkowski

ESTABLISHED - Nov. 1, 1983

MISSION

SOC-PAC is a sub-unified command of USSOCOM under the operational control U.S. Indo-Pacific Command and serves as the functional component for all special operations missions deployed throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. SOC-PAC coordinates, plans, and directs all special operations in the Pacific theater supporting commander, USINDOPACOM objectives of deterring aggression, responding quickly to crisis, and defeating threats to the United States and its interests.

COMMAND VISION

Provide flexible response to contingencies in the Indo-Pacific. Integral to this capability is our forward-deployed posture and continuous engagement with partners and ally forces, heightening mutual interoperability and our regional expertise. Mission command of our forces is founded on trust and enabled when responsibility resides at the lowest possible level - with competent SOF elements empowered to maximize our diverse team. Creative solutions leverage the breadth and depth of our interagency network, informed by consideration of the regional context and inherent complexity of the mission sets. Our success is predicated upon a healthy, motivated force, trained, educated and fully supported by our programs and processes.

AREA OF FOCUS

SOC-PAC's area of focus includes 36 countries and encompasses half of the earth's surface. SOC-PAC divides its area of focus into four regions: **South East Asia:** Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. **South Asia:** Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka. **Northeast Asia and Oceania:** Australia, China, Fiji, Japan, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Mongolia, Nauru, New Zealand, North Korea, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, South Korea, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

MAJOR ENGAGEMENT

The biennial Pacific Area Special Operations Conference (PASOC) is SOC-PAC's largest multilateral engagement. PASOC brings together SOF leaders from around the region to discuss challenges to regional security, share information and best practices to improve regional security, and build habitual relationships.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND - SOUTH



COMMANDER - U.S. Navy Rear Admiral Mark A. Schafer

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - Command Sergeant Maj. Sean Arnts

ESTABLISHED - Aug. 4, 1986

MISSION

SOC SOUTH plans and coordinates special operations to find and fix threats and enable the interagency, intelligence community, and partner nations to counter threats to U.S. interests, maintain regional stability and compete in a complex environment. On order, SOC SOUTH employs special operations for contingency and crisis response.

COMMAND VISION

SOC SOUTH competes in a complex environment to challenge and counter evolving threats and respond rapidly to emerging crisis and ensure a secure area of responsibility.

AREA OF FOCUS

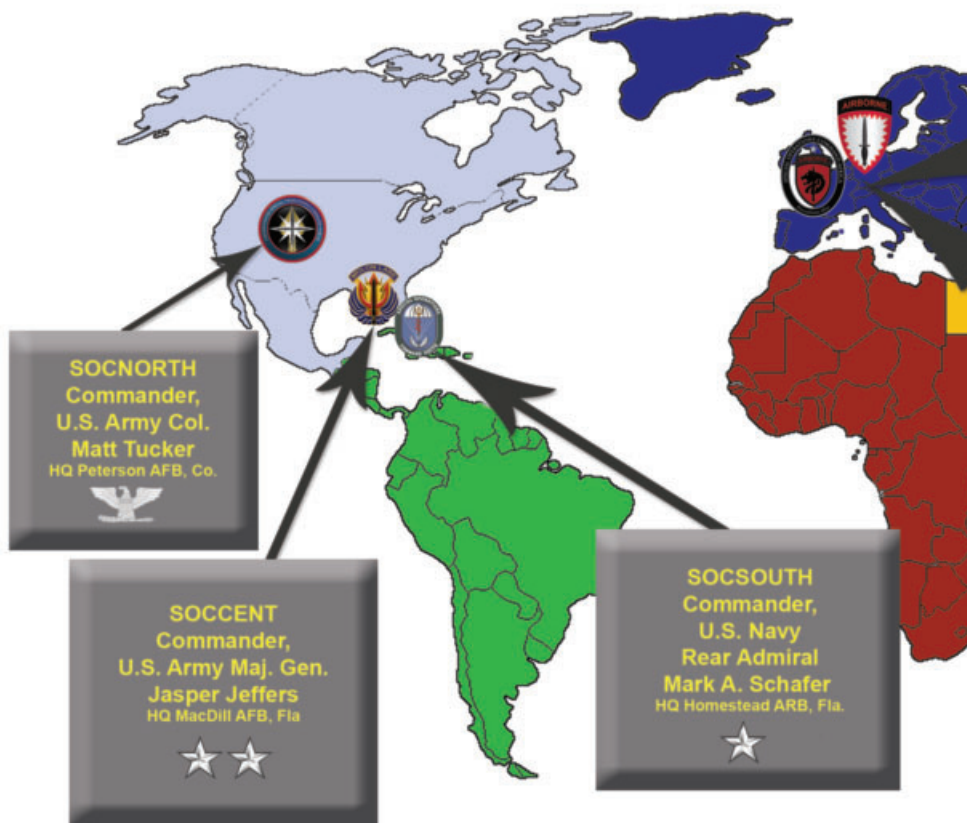
Its area of responsibility includes 31 countries and 16 areas of special sovereignty and divides its area of focus into four regions: **Caribbean:** Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Barbados, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago. **Central America:** Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama. **Andean Ridge:** Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela. **Southern Cone:** Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

MAJOR ENGAGEMENTS

Fuerzas Comando: A special operations skills competition and senior leader seminar designed to promote military-to-military relationships, interoperability, and regional security.

Fused Response: An annual exercise designed to improve time-sensitive crisis action planning and joint integration with partner nation and government agencies.

Panamax: A multinational combined/joint task force exercise designed to respond to any request from the governments of Panama and Colombia to protect and guarantee safe passage of traffic through the Panama Canal and ensure its neutrality.



Theater Special Operations Commands



- Special Operations Command Africa (SOCAFRICA)
- Special Operations Command Central (SOCCENT)
- Special Operations Command Europe (SOCEUR)
- Special Operations Command Korea (SOCKOR)
- Special Operations Command North (SOCNORTH)
- Special Operations Command Pacific (SOCPAC)
- Special Operations Command South (SOCSOUTH)

AIRCRAFT - FIXED WING



AC-130W STINGER II

Primary function: Close air support and air interdiction. **Speed:** 300 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132ft. 7 in.; length 97 ft. 9 in.; height 38 ft. 6 in. **Range:** 1300 miles. **Armament:** AC-130U, 25mm Gatling gun, 40mm Bofors and 105mm Howitzer; AC-130W, 30mm Bushmaster II chain gun, AGM-176 Griffin and GBU-39/B Small Diameter Bomb. **Crew:** Seven.



AC-130J GHOSTRIDER

Primary function: Close air support and air interdiction. **Speed:** 385 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 7 in.; length 97 ft. 9 in.; height 38 ft. 9 in. **Range:** 3000 miles. **Armament:** 30 mm Bushmaster II chain gun, 105mm Howitzer, AGM-176 Griffin and GBU-39/B Small Diameter Bomb. **Crew:** Nine.



C-145 SKY TRUCK

Primary Function: Short take-off and landing, aerial delivery, multi-engine currency and training for Combat Aviation Advisors. **Speed:** Cruise speed 223 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 72 ft 4in. Length 43 ft.; height 16 ft. 1 in. **Range:** 1,010 miles **Crew:** Three.



C-146A WOLFHOUND

Primary Function: Short takeoff and landing, austere delivery of personnel and cargo, and casualty evacuation. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 68 ft. 10 in., length 69 ft. 10 in., height 23 ft. 9 in. **Speed:** In excess of 310 mph. **Range:** 1500 miles **Crew:** Three.



C-27J SPARTAN

Primary Function: Parachute jump training and currency for SOF paratroopers. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 94 ft. 2 in., length 94 ft. 2 in., height 31 ft. 8 in. **Speed:** Cruising speed 362 mph **Range:** 1100 miles **Crew:** Three.



CV-22B OSPREY

Primary function: Special operations forces long range infiltration, exfiltration and resupply. **Speed:** 277 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 84 ft. 7 in.; length 57 ft. 4 in; height 22 ft. 1 in.; rotary diameter, 38 ft. **Range:** 575 miles **Crew:** Four.



EC-130J COMMANDO SOLO

Primary function: Military information support operations. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 6 in.; length 97 ft.; height 38 ft. 8 in. **Speed:** 335 mph. **Range:** 2300 miles **Crew:** 10.



MC-12W

Primary function: Intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance. **Speed:** 359 mph. **Dimensions:** 57 ft., 11 in.; length 46 ft., 8 in.; height 14 ft., 4 in. **Range:** 2400 miles. **Crew:** Four.



MC-130H COMBAT TALON II

Primary function: Infiltration, exfiltration and resupply of special operations forces. **Speed:** 300 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 7 in.; length MC-130E 100 ft. 10 in.; MC-130H 99 ft. 9 in.; height 38 ft. 6 in. **Range:** 2700 miles **Crew:** Seven.



MC-130J COMMANDO II

Primary function: Infiltration, exfiltration and resupply of special operations forces; in-flight refueling of special operations vertical lift aircraft. **Speed:** 416 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 7 in.; length 97 ft. 9 in.; height 38 ft. 9 in. **Range:** 3000 miles. **Crew:** Five.



MC-208 COMBAT CARAVAN

Primary Function: Armed Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance and strike currency and training for Combat Aviation Advisors. **Speed:** 196 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 52 ft. 1 in., length 37 ft. 7 in., height 14 ft. 6 in. **Range:** 300-950 miles. **Crew:** Two.



U-28A

Primary Function: Provides a manned fixed-wing, on-call/surge capability for Improved Tactical Airborne Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance in support of special operations forces. **Dimensions:** Wingspan: 53 ft. 3 in., Height: 14 ft. **Speed:** 250 mph. **Range:** 1,726 miles **Crew:** Four.

AIRCRAFT - ROTARY WING



AH-6M LITTLE BIRD

Primary function: Close air support. **Speed:** 143 mph. **Dimensions:** Length: 32.05 ft., rotor diameter: 27.5 ft., height: 8 ft. 11 in. **Range:** 250 miles. **Armament:** 2x 12.7 mm GAU-19 or 2x 7.62 mm M134 minigun, 2x M260 rocket pods or 2x MJ-12 rocket pod; Anti-tank guided missile, 2x AGM-114 Hellfire air to ground missiles. **Crew:** Two.



MH-6M LITTLE BIRD

Primary function: Externally transport several combat troops. **Speed:** 143 mph. **Dimensions:** Length: 32.05 ft., rotor diameter: 27.5 ft., height: 8 ft. 11 in. **Range:** 250 miles. **Payload:** up to six personnel. **Crew:** Two.



MH-60M BLACK HAWK

Primary Function: Conduct overt or clandestine infiltration, exfiltration and resupply of special operations forces. **Speed:** Max 222 mph, Cruise 138 mph. **Dimensions:** Length: 64 ft. 10 in. **Range:** 500 miles. **Payload:** 10 personnel with internal tanks. **Armament:** 2 x 7.62 miniguns. **Crew:** Four.



MH-60M BLACK HAWK DEFENSIVE ARMED PENETRATOR (DAP)

Primary Function: Armed escort and fire support for special operations forces. **Speed:** Max 222 mph, Cruise 138 mph. **Dimensions:** Length: 64 ft. 10 in. **Range:** 517 miles. **Armament:** 2 x 7.62 mm M134 minigun, M230 30mm Chaingun, 70mm Hydra rockets, AGM-114 Hellfire air-to-ground missiles. **Crew:** Four.



MH-47G CHINOOK

Primary function: Conduct overt and clandestine infiltration, exfiltration, heavy assault, resupply, and sling load operations. **Speed:** Max 195 mph, cruise 132 mph. **Dimensions:** Length 99 ft. rotor diameter: 60 ft. height: 18 ft. 8 in. **Unrefueled Range:** 604 miles. **Armament:** M-134 and M-240 7.62mm machine guns. **Crew:** Six.

AIRCRAFT - UNMANNED



MQ-9 REAPER

Primary function: Unmanned hunter/killer weapon system. **Speed:** 230 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 66 ft.; length 36 ft.; height 12.5 ft. **Range:** 1150 miles. **Armament:** AGM-114 Hellfire missiles; GBU-12, GBU-38 JDAM.



MTUAS

Primary function: The Multi-Mission Tactical Unmanned Aerial System (MTUAS) Program acquires, fields, and sustains Navy special operators unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). These systems provide Naval Special Warfare Command an organic, tactical, runway independent UAS capable of deploying in both ground and maritime environments. The UAS is retrofitted with SOF unique payloads to provide near-real time airborne intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance to support theater operations.



EOTACS

Primary function: The Expeditionary Organic Tactical Airborne Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Capability Sets (EOTACS) program is specifically designed to procure commercial off the shelf/government off-the-shelf small unmanned aerial systems for rapid employment by special operations forces operators. EOTACS leverages the existing commercial market as well as partnerships with other government agencies in a family of systems program approach to ensure SOF operators have a range of capabilities they can tailor to their assigned mission.

MARITIME - SURFACE



COMBATANT CRAFT ASSAULT

The Combatant Craft Assault is a fast boat operated by Special Boat Teams. The CCA's primary role is medium range maritime interdiction operations in medium-to-high threat environments. It can also perform insertion and extraction of special operations forces

and coastal patrol operations. The CCA is air transportable in a C-17 aircraft.

COMBATANT CRAFT MEDIUM

The Combatant Craft Medium, operated by Special Boat Teams, is a reconfigurable multi-mission craft with a primary mission of SOF insertion, extraction, and fire support in medium-to-high threat environments. It can also support maritime



interdiction and visit, board, search, and seizure operations; maritime intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance; and counter-terrorism operations.



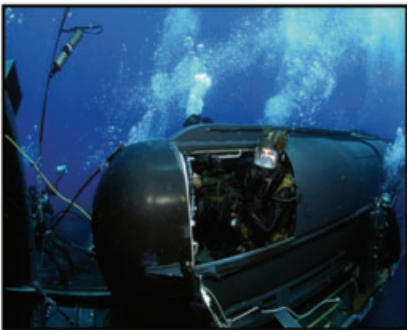
SPECIAL OPERATIONS CRAFT-RIVERINE

The Special Operations Craft-Riverine performs short-range insertion and extraction of SOF in riverine and littoral environments. The SOC-R is a high-performance craft sized to permit air transport aboard C-130 or larger military aircraft. Each craft is manned by a crew of four Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen and can carry eight SOF personnel.

MARITIME - UNDERSEA

DRY COMBAT SUBMERSIBLE

Naval Special Warfare is fielding two new undersea platforms - the Dry Combat Submersible (DCS) and the Shallow Water Combat Submersible (SEAL Delivery Vehicle (SDV) MK 11). The DCS has a dry interior, enabling longer mission durations with improved comfort and communication. DCS contains a compartment to carry operators, a swimmer lock-in/lock-out compartment, and a command compartment where the pilot and co-pilot operate the submersible.



SEAL DELIVERY VEHICLES

The SEAL Delivery Vehicle (SDV) MK8 is a free-flooding wet submersible designed for undersea special operations including direct action, hydrographic reconnaissance and insertion/extraction of SEALs. SDVs can be inserted into the water via Dry Deck Shelter equipped submarines, or surface ships. The SDV MK 11 is slightly larger than the SDV MK 8 with a longer range, higher payload capacity, more advanced computer and communication systems, and improved navigation functionality.

SOF COMBAT DIVING

The SOF Combat Diving program provides for the development, testing and fielding of SOF-peculiar diving equipment for SOF combat divers and interfaces this equipment for use with platforms developed and fielded by Program Executive Office-Maritime. The SOF Combat Diving program supports the fielding of new SOF-peculiar diving equipment via the Middle Tier of Acquisition Authority.



GROUND



GROUND MOBILITY VEHICLE 1.1 (GMV 1.1)

The Ground Mobility Vehicle version 1.1 (GMV 1.1) is a highly mobile Special Operations combat vehicle with the operational flexibility to support a wide range of lethal and non-lethal Special Operations missions and core activities. The GMV 1.1 can be transported inside an MH-47.



**GROUND MOBILITY VEHICLE 1.0
(GMV 1.0)**

The Ground Mobility Vehicle 1.0 (GMV 1.0) is a medium-class High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle with Special Operations-peculiar modifications. Several variants have supported Special Operations Forces reliably in contingency and combat operations.



**NON-STANDARD COMMERCIAL
VEHICLES**

NSCV provides support to special operations forces during overseas missions in politically or operationally constrained permissive, semi-permissive, or denied operating environments.



LIGHTWEIGHT TACTICAL ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE

The LTATV is a SOF modified commercial off-the-shelf lightweight vehicle that is can be transported by CV-22, MH-53 and MH-47 aircraft. The vehicle is low-velocity air-drop certified. It consists of two- and four-seat variants with the ability to change configuration based upon mission and/or threat. It's intended to perform a variety of missions to include offset infiltration, reconnaissance and medical evacuation.



MRAP ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE

The Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) family consists of the RG-33 and SOF M-ATV (1245). The RG-33 allows seven passengers and increased IED survivability. The SOF M-ATV (1245) is an armored highly mobile troop carrier designed to provide off-road mobility for five Operators while protecting them from IED threats.

SOF TRUTHS

- Humans are more important than hardware
- Quality is better than quantity
- SOF cannot be mass produced
- Competent SOF cannot be created after emergencies occur
- Most special operations require non-SOF support



ACRONYM GLOSSARY

AFB	Air Force Base
AFSOC	Air Force Special Operations Command
ATV	All Terrain Vehicle
C4	Command, Control, Communications and Computers
CCA	Combatant Craft Assault
CCT	Combat Controllor
CSO	Critical Skills Operator
DoD	Department of Defense
FID	Foreign Internal Defense
GMV	Ground Mobility Vehicle
ISR	Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance
JCET	Joint Combined Exchange Training
JSOC	Joint Special Operations Command
JSOU	Joint Special Operations University
LTATV	Lightweight Tactical All-Terrain Vehicle
MARSOC	Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command
MISO	Military Information Support Operations
MRAP	Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle
NG	National Guard
NSCV	Non-Standard Commercial Vehicle
NSWC	Naval Special Warfare Command
NSWG	Naval Special Warfare Group
PJ	Pararescueman
RHIB	Rigid-hull Inflatable Boat
RPA	Remotely Piloted Aircraft
SDVT	SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team
SEAL	Sea-Air-Land Forces
SF	Special Forces
SFG(A)	Special Forces Group (Airborne)
SOCAFRICA	Special Operations Command-Africa
SOCENT	Special Operations Command-Central
SOCEUR	Special Operations Command-Europe
SOCKOR	Special Operations Command-Korea
SOCNORTH	Special Operations Command-North
SOCPAC	Special Operations Command-Pacific
SOC-R	Special Operations Craft-Riverine
SOC SOUTH	Special Operations Command South
SOF	Special Operations Forces
SRSE	Special Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Exploitation
SWCC	Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewman
TSOC	Theater Special Operations Command
UAV	Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
USAJFKSWCS	U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center & School
USASOAC	U.S. Special Operations Aviation Command
USASOC	U.S. Army Special Operations Command
USSOCOM	U.S. Special Operations Command



United States Special Operations Command
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