



# USSOCOM FACT BOOK

United States Army Special Operations Command

Naval Special Warfare Command

Air Force Special Operations Command

Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command

A large, dark, and somewhat desaturated photograph of a soldier in full combat gear, including a helmet and tactical vest, holding an M4-style rifle. The soldier is looking down and to the right. The image is the background for the bottom half of the cover.

**SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES**

# USSOCOM



## LEADERSHIP

U.S. Special Operations Commander

Adm. Eric T. Olson

U.S. Special Operations Deputy Commander

Lt. Gen. David P. Fridovich

U.S. Special Operations Vice Commander

Lt. Gen. Eric E. Fiel

U.S. Special Operations Senior Enlisted Advisor

Command Sgt. Major Thomas H. Smith

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## **USSOCOM FACT BOOK**

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## USSOCOM Mission

- ♣ Provide fully capable Special Operations Forces to defend the United States and its interests.
- ♣ Synchronize planning of global operations against terrorist networks.

## USSOCOM Priorities

### Deter, Disrupt & Defeat Terrorist Threats

- ♣ Plan & Conduct Special Operations
- ♣ Emphasize Persistent, Culturally Attuned Engagement
- ♣ Foster Interagency Cooperation

### Develop & Support our People & Families

- ♣ Focus on Quality
- ♣ Care for our People and Families
- ♣ Train & Educate the Joint Warrior/Diplomat

### Sustain & Modernize the Force

- ♣ Equip the Operator
- ♣ Upgrade SOF Mobility
- ♣ Obtain Persistent Intelligence, Surveillance & Reconnaissance Systems



# Special Operations Forces Medal of Honor Recipients

## **Korea**

Army Master Sgt. Ola L. Mize

## **Vietnam**

Army Capt. Humbert Roque Versace

Army Capt. Roger H. C. Donlon

Army 1st Lt. Charles Q. Williams

Air Force Maj. Bernard F. Fisher

Army Capt. Ronald E. Ray

Navy Boatswain's Mate 1st Class James E. Williams

Army 1st Lt. George K. Sisler

Navy Seaman David G. Ouellet

Army Master Sgt. Charles E. Hosking, Jr.

Army Sgt. Gordon D. Yntema

Army Staff Sgt. Drew D. Dix

Army Sgt. 1st Class Eugene Ashley, Jr.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Fred W. Zabitosky

Army Master Sgt. Roy P. Benavidez

Air Force Lt. Col. Joe M. Jackson

Army Specialist 5th Class John J. Kedenburg

Air Force Col. William A. Jones III

Army Staff Sgt. Laszlo Rabel

Air Force Capt. James P. Fleming

Army Specialist 4th Class Robert D. Law

Air Force Airman 1st Class John L. Levitow

Navy Lt. j.g. (SEAL) Joseph R. Kerrey

Army Sgt. 1st Class William M. Bryant

Army Staff Sgt. Robert J. Pruden

Army Staff Sgt. Franklin D. Miller

Army Sgt. Gary B. Beikirch

Army Sgt. 1st Class Gary L. Littrell

Army Sgt. Brian L. Buker

Army Staff Sgt. John R. Cavaiani

Army 1st Lt. Loren D. Hagen

Navy Lt. (SEAL) Thomas R. Norris

Navy Engineman 2nd Class (SEAL) Michael T. Thornton

## **Somalia**

Army Master Sgt. Gary I. Gordon

Army Sgt. 1st Class Randall D. Shughart

## **Afghanistan**

Navy Lt. (Seal) Michael P. Murphy

Army Staff Sgt. Robert Miller

## **Iraq**

Navy Master-at-Arms 2nd Class (SEAL) Michael Monsoor

# Special Operations Forces



## 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**

# Title 10 Authorities and Responsibilities

- ♣ Develop special operations strategy, doctrine and tactics
- ♣ Prepare and submit budget proposals for SOF
- ♣ 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 United States based Special Operations Forces
- ♣ Provide Special Operations Forces to the geographic combatant commanders
- ♣ Activities specified by the President or SECDEF

## SOF Core Activities

**Direct Action:** Short-duration strikes and other small-scale offensive actions taken to seize, destroy, capture or recover in denied areas.

**Special Reconnaissance:** Acquiring information concerning the capabilities, intentions and activities of an enemy.

**Unconventional Warfare:** Operations conducted by, through and with surrogate forces that are organized, trained, equipped, supported and directed by external forces.

**Foreign Internal Defense:** Providing training and other assistance to foreign governments and their militaries to enable the foreign government to provide for its country's national security.

**Civil Affairs Operations:** Activities that establish, maintain or influence relations between U.S. forces and foreign civil authorities and civilian populations to facilitate U.S. military operations.

**Counterterrorism:** Measures taken to prevent, deter and respond to terrorism.

**Military Information Support Operations:** Operations that provide truthful information to foreign audiences that influence behavior in support of U.S. military operations.

**Information Operations:** Operations designed to achieve information superiority by adversely affecting enemy information and systems while protecting U.S. information and systems.

**Counterproliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction:** Actions taken to locate, seize, destroy or capture, recover and render such weapons safe.

**Security Force Assistance:** Unified action by joint, interagency, intergovernmental and multinational community to sustain and assist host nation or regional security forces in support of a legitimate authority.

**Counterinsurgency Operations:** Those military, paramilitary, political, economic, psychological and civic actions taken by a government to defeat insurgency.

**Activities Specified by the President or SECDEF**

# USSOCOM: A brief history

Two aircraft crashed. Eight servicemembers lost their lives. Fifty-three hostages remained in captivity. Operation Eagle Claw was a heroic effort, but this tragic secret mission in April 1980 showed the need for a joint Special Operations Force, leading to the creation of U.S. Special Operations Command.

The operation occurred at a remote site in Iran known as Desert One, and its purpose was to rescue 53 American hostages held at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, Iran. Servicemembers from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps were involved in the operation, but miscommunication, lack of standardized training among the branches and other external factors caused the mission failure, which showed the need for a unified, multi-service

Special Operations command.

Special Operations Forces had declined in the 1970s due to significant SOF funding cuts. Over the next few years following the Desert One disaster, Congress began taking the necessary steps toward building adequate SOF. In 1983, the Senate Armed Services Committee began an in-depth study of the Defense Department, including a careful examination of SOF. When the study was completed two years later, the SASC published a review of its findings entitled, "Defense Organization: The Need for Change." This document, which analyzed past SOF missions and future threats, influenced the creation of the Goldwater-Nichols Act of 1986.

The Goldwater-Nichols Act caused major reorganization throughout the DOD. Shortly after its creation, Congress passed SOF reform bills, calling for a unified combatant command headed by a four-star general for all SOF. The final bill, which amended the Goldwater-

## Milestones In Special



Maj. Gen.  
William Donovan

Office  
of Coordinator  
of Information  
predecessor to the  
OSS established  
July 11, 1941



Operation Ivory Coast  
Nov. 20-21, 1970



Operation Eagle Claw  
April 24, 1980



Operation Earnest Will  
July 1987 - Sept. 1989



Operation Just Cause  
Dec. 1989 - Jan. 1990



Operations Desert  
Shield &  
Desert Storm  
Aug. 1990 - Feb. 1991

Operation Urgent Fury (Grenada)  
Key impetus to  
USSOCOM establishment  
Oct. 25, 1983

**USSOCOM**  
formally established as  
four-star headquarters  
April 16, 1987

WORLD  
WAR II

KOREAN  
WAR

VIETNAM  
WAR

PERSIAN GULF  
WAR



Office of the Strategic  
Services  
June 13, 1942



Joint Special  
Operations Command  
Oct. 22, 1980



Naval Special Warfare  
Command  
April 16, 1987

WWII



Nichols Act, marked the first time Congress mandated a president create a unified combatant command.

The legislation promised to improve SOF significantly. It fostered joint service cooperation, as a single commander would promote greater interaction among forces within the same command. It also provided SOF with its own resources, allowing the command to modernize forces as needed. Just days after President Ronald Reagan approved the establishment of the new command, the DOD activated USSOCOM April 16, 1987, at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

Gen. James A. Lindsay was the first commander of USSOCOM. Since Lindsay, there have been seven other USSOCOM commanders: Generals Carl W. Stiner, Wayne A. Downing, Henry H. Shelton, Peter J. Schoomaker, Charles R. Holland, Bryan D. Brown, and the current commander, Adm. Eric T. Olson, who has held this position since July 2007.

Over the years, USSOCOM's missions and organizational structure have evolved to meet the needs of modern warfare. Originally, the command's mission was

“to prepare SOF to carry out missions and, if directed by the President or the Secretary of Defense, to plan and conduct special operations.” Commanders refined the mission statement over the years to reflect the need and role of SOF during their periods of time in command. Upon becoming USSOCOM commander, Olson further refined the mission: “Provide fully capable Special Operations Forces to defend the United States and its interests. Plan and synchronize operations against terrorist networks.”

SOF deployments have greatly increased since USSOCOM's inception, measured by both personnel deployed and the number of countries visited. Currently, approximately 58,000 servicemembers and civilians work at USSOCOM headquarters or one of its unified commands: U.S. Army Special Operations Command, Naval Special Warfare Command, Air Force Special Operations Command, Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command, and Joint Special Operations Command, a sub-unified command.

# Operations History



Haiti - Operations  
Support Democracy  
**May 1991 - Sept. 1994**  
Uphold Democracy  
**Sept. 1994 - March 1995**  
Restore Democracy  
**March 1995 - UN Mission**



Operation Provide Comfort  
**Iraq 1991**



Joint Endeavor  
**Dec. 1995 - Dec. 1996**  
Joint Guard  
**Dec. 1996 - June 1998**  
Joint Forge  
**June 1998 - May 2001**  
Joint Guardian  
**June 1999 - 2006**  
Allied Force  
**March - June 1999**



Operation Enduring Freedom  
Afghanistan  
**Oct. 19, 2001 - Present**



Operation Iraqi Freedom  
**March 19, 2003 - Aug. 31, 2010**  
Operation New Dawn  
**Aug. 31, 2010 - Present**



Somalia - Operations  
**1992-1995**



Operation Enduring Freedom  
Philippines  
**Jan. 2002 - Present**



OIF OEF



**U.S. Army Special Operations Command**  
**Dec. 1, 1989**



**Air Force Special Operations Command**  
**May 22, 1990**



**Operation Noble Eagle**  
**Sept. 11, 2001**



**Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command**  
**Feb. 24, 2006**

Present

# USSOCOM



## **Naval Special Warfare Command**

**Naval Base  
Coronado, Calif.**



# Organizations



**Joint Special Operations Command**  
Fort Bragg, N.C.



**U. S. Army Special Operations Command**  
Fort Bragg, N.C.



**U.S. Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command**  
Camp Lejuene, N.C.



**Air Force Special Operations Command**  
Hurlburt Field, Fla.



**Joint Special Operations University**  
MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.



**U.S. Special Operations Command**  
MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.



## U.S. Army Special Operations Command

U.S. Army Special Operations Command was established Dec. 1, 1989, by the Department of the Army at Fort Bragg, N.C., as an Army Service Component Command to enhance the readiness of Army Special Operations Forces. USASOC is home to the fighting forces that conduct operations across the full spectrum of warfare, including unconventional warfare, counter-proliferation, direct action, military information support operations, special reconnaissance, civil affairs, foreign internal defense and information operations. USASOC commands and controls two component subordinate commands and five component subordinate units, which in turn train and maintain forces for deployment by USSOCOM to combatant command theaters worldwide.

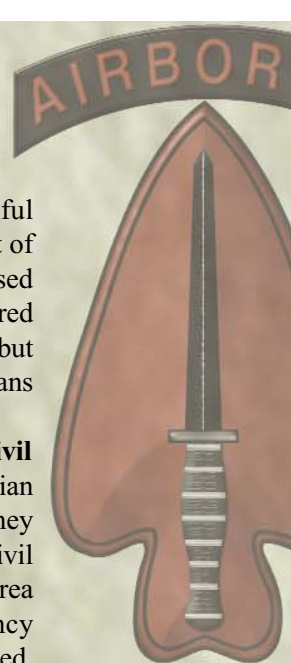
USASOC's two component subordinate commands are U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School and the U.S. Army Special Forces Command (Airborne) both headquartered at Fort Bragg. The component subordinate units include the 75th Ranger Regiment, headquartered at Fort Benning, Ga.; 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) at Fort Campbell, Ky.; 4th Military Information Support Group (Airborne), 95th Civil Affairs Brigade (Airborne) and

528th Sustainment Brigade (Special Operations) (Airborne), all at Fort Bragg.

The command also provides oversight of Army National Guard Special Forces' readiness, organization, training and employment in coordination with the National Guard Bureau and state adjutants general.

Known as a world-class Special Operations training center, the **John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School** with more than 600 military and civilian instructors and staff train thousands of agile, adaptive, warrior-focused Soldiers each year. The center and school trains and educates civil affairs, military information support operations and Special Forces Soldiers by providing superior training and education, effective career management and an integrated force-development capability. The center and school leads change based upon today's lessons learned by developing innovative doctrine and ultimately providing an operational force with the most relevant advanced skills necessary to make ARSOF an irreplaceable force.

Spread among seven Special Forces groups, more than 15,000 Soldiers are ever ready, properly trained, oriented and equipped for today's fight. Special Forces



warriors are organized, trained and equipped as the right force, fully prepared to support all Geographic Combatant Commanders in a broad spectrum of special operations across the many phases conflict throughout the world

**Rangers** are the masters of special light infantry operations. This lethal, agile, and flexible force is capable of executing a wide array of complex joint Special Operations missions across all types of terrain and against our Nation's toughest foes. Their capabilities, responsiveness and reliability define the Ranger Regiment as the versatile and adaptive force of choice for missions of high risk and strategic importance in sensitive or uncertain environments.

**Special Operations aviation** is a unique unit that organizes, equips, trains, resources and employs Army Special Operations aviation forces worldwide in support of contingency missions and ground force commanders. Known as the Night Stalkers, these Soldiers are recognized for their proficiency in nighttime operations. They are highly trained and ready to accomplish the very toughest missions in all environments, anywhere in the world, day or night, with unparalleled precision.

The mission of **Military Information Support**

**Operations** is to disseminate truthful information to foreign audiences in support of U.S. policy and national objectives. Used during peacetime, contingencies and declared war, these activities are not forms of force, but are force multipliers that use nonviolent means in often violent environments.

In support of Special Operations, **Civil Affairs** units are designed to prevent civilian interference with tactical operations. They provide vital support by working with civil authorities and civilian populations in the area of operations during peace, contingency operations and war. These culturally-oriented, linguistically-capable Soldiers play critical roles in global peace and stabilization and provide support for ongoing missions in various countries.

The **528th Sustainment Brigade** provides logistical, medical and signal services for Army Special Operations Forces worldwide in support of contingency missions. This constantly rotating force ensures Special Operations Forces have what they need to fight and win.



### Commander

*Lt. Gen. John F Mulholland*

### Senior Enlisted Advisor

*Command Sgt. Maj. Parry Baer*

### People

*Total Force      Approximately 28,500*

### Organization

- ♣ *U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School – Fort Bragg, N.C.*
  - *1st Special Warfare Training Group (A)*
  - *Special Warfare Medical Group (A)*
- ♣ *U.S. Army Special Forces Command (Airborne) – Fort Bragg, N.C.*
  - *1st Special Forces Group (A)*
  - *3rd Special Forces Group (A)*
  - *5th Special Forces Group (A)*
  - *7th Special Forces Group (A)*
  - *10th Special Forces Group (A)*
  - *19th Special Forces Group (A) (Army National Guard)*
  - *20th Special Forces Group (A) (Army National Guard)*
- ♣ *75th Ranger Regiment – Fort Benning, Ga.*
  - *1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment*
  - *2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment*
  - *3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment*
  - *Regimental Special Troops Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment*
- ♣ *160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) – Fort Campbell, Ky.*
- ♣ *4th Military Information Support Group (Airborne) – Fort Bragg, N.C.*
- ♣ *95th Civil Affairs Brigade (Airborne) – Fort Bragg, N.C.*
- ♣ *528th Sustainment Brigade (Special Operations) (Airborne) – Fort Bragg, N.C.*



# **U.S. Army**

## **John F. Kennedy**

### **Special Warfare**

#### **Center and School**

The U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School at Fort Bragg, N.C. is one of the Army's premier education institutions, managing and resourcing professional growth for Soldiers in the Army's three distinct Special Operations branches: Special Forces, Civil Affairs and Military Information Support. The Soldiers educated through SWCS programs are using cultural expertise and unconventional techniques to serve their country in and across the globe. More than anything, these Soldiers bring integrity, adaptability and regional expertise to their assignments.

On any given day, approximately 2,200 students are enrolled in SWCS training programs. Courses range from entry-level Special Operations training to advanced warfighter skills for seasoned officers and noncommissioned officers. The 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne) qualifies Soldiers to enter the Special Operations community and teaches them advanced tactical skills as they progress through their careers. The

Joint Special Operations Medical Training Center is the central training facility for Department of Defense Special Operations combat medics. Furthermore, SWCS leads efforts to professionalize the Army's entire Special Operations force through the Special Forces Warrant Officer Institute and the David K. Thuma Noncommissioned Officer Academy. While most courses are conducted at Fort Bragg, SWCS enhances its training by maintaining facilities and relationships with outside institutions across the country.

SWCS offers 41 unique courses to give Soldiers the skills they need to survive and succeed on the battlefield.

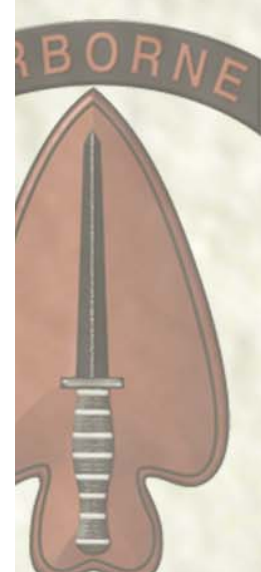
The Army's Special Operations force is only as good as its education system. Likewise, that education system is only as

good as its instructors. By employing the most experienced Soldiers within its units and directorates, SWCS ensures the U.S. Army of tomorrow is equipped with the very best Special Operations force.

SWCS classes and field exercises are led by more than 400 military instructors, each of whom has operated in the same environments or for the same units as their students will. Their real-world experience not only enhances the courses' instruction, but it also fosters camaraderie built on students' and instructors' shared sense of duty and commitment. Annually, one third of the uniformed instructors rotate back to the operational force from which they came in order to maintain operational relevancy in both SWCS and the Army's Special Operations units. Maintaining continuity and providing unique skill-sets are approximately 200 expert civilian instructors and staff members supporting training, doctrine development and publishing initiatives.

Special Operations Soldiers cannot be mass produced and are elite because only the best are selected. As the gateway to the Special Operations community, SWCS selects only the top candidates to even attempt its rigorous training – Soldiers who demonstrate character, commitment, courage and intelligence in their daily lives and professional careers. The Army's Special Operations unit commanders rely on the SWCS directorates to select the strongest candidates and give them the tools to succeed on the battlefield. Using lessons learned from the battlefield, curriculum and doctrine can be amended in a matter of weeks when gaps in training are identified. Together, these directorates oversee administration and policy throughout the community, serving the operational units while allowing them to focus on their missions with full confidence in their Soldiers' preparedness.

Army Special Operations Soldiers have a tremendous impact on today's world, and at each stage in their careers, the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School is with them to guide and develop their skills.



# U.S. Army Special Forces Command (Airborne)



The Army 1st Special Operations Command was redesignated the U.S. Army Special Forces Command (Airborne) Nov. 27, 1990. The mission of USASFC (A) is to organize, equip, train, validate and prepare Special Forces units to deploy and execute operational requirements for the U.S. military's warfighting geographical combatant commanders throughout the world.

Within USASFC (A), there are five active component groups and two U.S. Army National Guard groups. Each group has three line battalions, a group support battalion and a headquarters company. The companies within the line battalions have six Operational Detachment Alphas, or A-teams, assigned to them. The ODA is the heart and soul of SF operations.

Unlike any other divisional-sized unit, USASFC (A) components are not located in one place, but spread out from coast-to-coast and throughout the world.

Each Special Forces Group is regionally oriented to support one of the warfighting geographic combatant commanders. Special Forces Soldiers routinely deploy in support of the GCCs of U.S. European Command, U.S. Pacific Command, U.S. Southern Command, U.S. Central Command and U.S. Africa Command.

Special Forces units perform seven doctrinal missions: unconventional warfare, foreign internal

defense, special reconnaissance, direct action, combating terrorism, counter proliferation and information operations. These missions make Special Forces unique in the U.S. military because they are employed throughout the three stages of the operational continuum: peacetime, conflict and war.

Special Forces Command's unconventional warfare capabilities provide a viable military option for a variety of operational taskings that are inappropriate or infeasible for conventional forces, making it the U.S. military's premier unconventional warfare force.

Foreign internal defense operations, SF's main peacetime mission, are designed to help friendly developing nations by working with their military and police forces to improve their technical skills, understanding of human rights issues, and to help with humanitarian and civic action projects.

SF units are often required to perform additional, or collateral, activities outside their primary missions. These collateral activities are coalition warfare/support, combat search and rescue, security assistance, peacekeeping, humanitarian assistance, humanitarian demining and counter-drug operations.

On an everyday basis, Soldiers of the U.S. Army Special Forces Command (Airborne) are deployed around the world, living up to their motto – **"De Oppresso Liber," To Free the Oppressed.**



# Rangers lead the way



## 75th Ranger Regiment

The 75th Ranger Regiment is a lethal, agile, and versatile Special Operations Force that conducts forcible entry operations and Special Operations raids across the entire spectrum of combat. As the Army's elite Special Operations offensive infantry force, the regiment is capable of planning and executing complex worldwide operations in high-risk, uncertain, and politically sensitive areas. It is constantly transforming to meet future operational requirements without sacrificing mission success.

The regiment's four battalions, geographically dispersed throughout the U.S., can deploy anywhere in the world for no-notice missions. Their capabilities include direct action raids in limited visibility, adverse weather, varied terrain

and complex operating environments to capture/kill designated targets and/or seize terrain and strategic installations.

Capable of infiltrating by land, sea or air, the 75th Ranger Regiment is trained on a wide variety of mobility platforms and operates fully integrated with supporting agencies and other Special Operations Forces as required. The unit has an intensive regimental assessment and selection process where only the most exceptional officers, non-commissioned officers, and Soldiers are selected to serve.

From the arduous training to the continuous and demanding worldwide deployments, the Rangers of the 75th Ranger Regiment continue to demonstrate their motto, "Rangers Lead the Way!"

BORNE



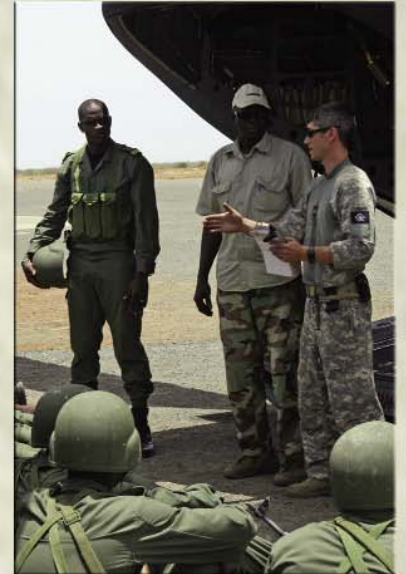




## 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne)

The 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne), which began as an emergency deployment from Fort Campbell, Ky., in 1980, has evolved into a highly specialized SOF rotary wing aviation capability. The 160th SOAR (A) is USASOC's Special Operations aviation unit specifically manned, equipped and trained to provide precision aviation support to SOF worldwide under any operational and threat environment. To accomplish its mission, the 160th SOAR (A) employs a unique combination of sophisticated,

highly modified and combat proven aircraft: MH-60/MH-47/MH-6/AH-6. These aircraft, coupled with the regiment's stringently selected and highly trained aircrews, provide SOF with an ever-expanding array of reliable aviation capabilities. This includes precision rotary wing operations, long-range infiltrations/exfiltration, and performing in adverse weather and all terrain/environmental conditions. The regiment can also conduct long-range precision attack and close-air support for ground SOF and personnel recovery.





## 4th Military Information Support Group (Airborne)

The 4th Military Information Support Group (Airborne), formerly 4th Psychological Operations Group (Airborne), is a vital part of the broad range of U.S. political, military, economic and ideological activities used by the U.S. government to secure national objectives. MISG units develop, produce and disseminate information to foreign audiences in support of U.S. policies and national objectives. Used during peacetime, contingency operations and declared war, these activities are not a form of

force, but are force multipliers that use nonviolent means in often violent environments. Persuading rather than compelling physically, the Military Information Support Group rely on logic, fear, desire or other motivational factors to promote specific emotions, attitudes or behaviors. The ultimate objective of U.S. information support operations is to influence target audiences to take actions favorable to the policies of the U.S.



## 95th Civil Affairs Brigade (Airborne)

Civil Affairs Soldiers enable military commanders and U.S. ambassadors to build and maximize relationships with various stakeholders in a local area to meet the objectives of the U.S. government. Civil Affairs teams work with U.S. Department of State country teams, government and non-governmental organizations at all levels and with local populations in peaceful, contingency and hostile environments.

Civil Affairs units may rapidly deploy to remote areas as well as to larger population centers in countries around the world. They help host nations assess the needs of an area, bring together local and non-local resources to ensure long-term stability, and ultimately degrade and defeat violent extremist organizations and their ideologies. They may be involved in disaster prevention, management and recovery, and with human and civil infrastructure assistance programs.

Civil Affairs Soldiers are Soldiers first, but are adept at working in foreign environments and conversing in one of approximately 20 foreign languages with local stakeholders. They may work for months or years in remote areas of a host nation. Their low profile and command structure allow them to solidify key relationships and processes to address root causes of instability that adversely affect the strategic interests of the United States.



## 528th Sustainment Brigade (Special Operations) (Airborne)

Formerly the Sustainment Brigade (Special Operations) (Airborne), the 528th Sustainment Brigade (Special Operations) (Airborne) assumed the lineage of the 528th Support Battalion. As part of the overall Army Special Operations Forces logistics transformation, the 528th Sustainment Brigade (Special Operations) (Airborne) sets the operational level logistics conditions to enable ARSOF operations worldwide using three Support Operations Teams, two Special Operations Resuscitation Teams, and five Liaison Elements that on order deploy to provide logistical command and control capability. The 528th Sustainment Brigade (Special Operations) (Airborne) plans, coordinates and provides operational and tactical communications for Army Special Operations Task Force commanders with the 112th Special Operations Signal Battalion (Airborne). During the past few years, the brigade has transformed from a unit that does not typically deploy to one constantly rotating into the field to make sure Special Operations Forces have what they need to accomplish mission objectives.



## Naval Special Warfare Command

Naval Special Warfare Command is the maritime component of U.S. Special Operations Command. Established at Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, Calif., in April 1987, NAVSPECWARCOM's mission is to organize, train, man, equip, educate, sustain, maintain combat readiness and deploy Naval Special Warfare Forces to accomplish Special Operations missions worldwide. NSW Forces operate independently or in conjunction with other SOF, allied units and coalition forces.

A tactical force with strategic impact, NSW mission areas include special reconnaissance, direct action, unconventional warfare, combating terrorism, foreign internal defense, information warfare, security assistance, counterdrug operations, personnel recovery and hydrographic reconnaissance. NSW core training is focused on strategic reconnaissance and direct action — critical

skills needed to combat current and future terrorists threats.

Naval Special Warfare Groups are major commands that train, equip and deploy components of NSW squadrons to meet the exercise, contingency and wartime requirements of geographic combatant commanders, Theater Special Operations Commands and numbered fleets located around the world. Two logistical support units are responsible for equipping the teams, and two detachments assume responsibility for individual, unit and squadron-level training. This allows NSW Operators to maintain a strong operational focus.

Naval Special Warfare Combat Service Support Teams provide full-spectrum logistics support to SEAL (sea, air, land) Teams, Special Boat Teams, NSW Task Groups/Task Units. Tasking for each CSST

includes crisis-action and logistics planning and coordination, in-theater contracting, small purchase and leasing actions, and comprehensive forward operating base support.

Naval Special Warfare Center provides basic and advanced instruction and training in maritime Special Operations to U.S. military and government personnel and members of select foreign armed forces. NSWC is responsible for the oversight of all courses that lead to individual SEAL and Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen qualifications or certifications.

Naval Special Warfare Development Group, located in Little Creek, Va., manages the test, evaluation and development of technology applicable to Naval Special Warfare forces. The command also develops maritime ground and airborne tactics for Naval Special Warfare and Defense Department-wide application.

### Commander

*Rear Admiral Edward G. Winters, III*

### Senior Enlisted Advisor

*Force Master Chief Petty Officer (SEAL) Steven D. Studdard*

### People

**Total Force**      *Approximately 8,800*

### Organization

♣ **Naval Special Warfare Command (NAVSPECWARCOM) — Coronado, Calif.**

♣ **Naval Special Warfare Group 1 — Coronado, Calif.**

- LOGSUPPU 1 — Coronado, Calif.
- SEAL Teams 1/3/5/7 — Coronado, Calif.
- NSWU 1 — Guam
- NSWU 3 — ASU Bahrain

♣ **Naval Special Warfare Group 2 — Little Creek, Va.**

- LOGSUPPU2 — Little Creek, Va.
- SEAL Teams 2/4/8/10 — Little Creek Va.
- NSWU 2 — Stuttgart, Germany
- NSWU-2 Det. South — Little Creek, Va.

♣ **Naval Special Warfare Group 3 — Coronado, Calif.**

- SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team 1 — Pearl City, Hawaii
- SEAL Delivery Vehicle Det. 2 Little Creek, Va.

♣ **Naval Special Warfare Group 4**

- Special Boat Team 20 — Little Creek, Va.
- Special Boat Team 12 — Coronado, Calif.
- Special Boat Team 22 — Stennis, Miss.
- NAVSCIATTS — Stennis, Miss.

♣ **Naval Special Warfare Group 11**

- SEAL Team 17 — Coronado, Calif.
- SEAL Team 17 — Little Creek, Va.

♣ **Naval Special Warfare Center — Coronado, Calif.**

- Advanced Training Command — Imperial Beach, Calif.
- Basic Training Command — Coronado, Calif.

♣ **Naval Special Warfare Development Group — Dam Neck, Va.**





## SEALs (Sea, Air, Land)

The SEAL Team is the heart of the NSW force; a multipurpose combat force organized and trained to conduct a variety of Special Operations missions in all environments. SEALs conduct clandestine missions infiltrating their objective areas by fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft, Navy surface ships, combatant craft, submarines and ground mobility vehicles.





## Special Boat Teams

Special Boat Teams are manned by Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen who operate and maintain state-of-the-art surface craft to conduct coastal patrol and interdiction and support special operations missions. Focusing on infiltration and exfiltration of SEALs and other SOF, SWCCs provide dedicated rapid mobility in shallow water areas where larger ships cannot operate. They also bring to the table a unique SOF capability: Maritime Combatant Craft Aerial Delivery System — the ability to deliver combat craft via parachute drop.





# SEAL Delivery Vehicle Teams

SEAL Delivery Vehicle Teams are specially trained SEALs and support personnel who conduct undersea operations from SDVs and Dry Deck Shelters. DDSs deliver SDVs and specially trained

forces from modified submarines. When teamed with their host submarines, SDV platforms provide the most clandestine maritime delivery capability in the world.







# Maritime Surface Platforms

## Rigid-hull Inflatable Boat

The Rigid-hull Inflatable Boat performs short-range insertion and extraction of SOF, limited coastal patrol, and interdiction and reconnaissance. The RHIB is a high performance combatant craft that is air transportable by C-5 Galaxy, C-17 Globemaster and C-130 Hercules aircraft, and it can be air dropped from C-130 or larger military aircraft. Each craft is manned by a crew of three Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen and can carry eight SOF personnel.



## MK V Special Operations Craft

The MK V Special Operations Craft performs medium-range infiltration and extraction of SOF, limited coastal patrol and interdiction in low to medium threat environments. The MK V SOC is a high-performance combatant craft sized to permit air deployment aboard C-5 aircraft. Each craft is manned by a crew of five Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen and can carry 16 SOF personnel.

## 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.





# Ground Mobility Platforms

## Mine Resistant/Ambush Protected Vehicle

The SOCOM employed MRAP is a vehicle with similar handling capabilities as the GMV-N but has been specifically developed to protect the crew from explosive events. The v-hull is designed to survive direct blasts and prevent the crew inside from suffering severe injuries. The weapons system in the turret is remote-operated from inside the cabin, eliminating the exposed gunner position. The MRAP can carry up to eight combat-ready Operators.

## Ground Mobility Vehicle – Navy

The GMV-N is a SEAL-specific humvee that employs a multitude of weapons and is fitted with a modular armor kit. Depending on the mission, armor can be added or removed to either increase speed and maneuverability or increase protection. The GMV-N can carry up to five Operators into some of the harshest terrain in the world. Every member of a SEAL team completes an intensive, four-week tactical ground



Mine Resistant/Ambush Protected Vehicle

mobility training course where they learn the limitations of the vehicle, basic maintenance and tactical driving skill sets.



Ground Mobility Vehicle – Navy



SEAL Delivery Vehicle

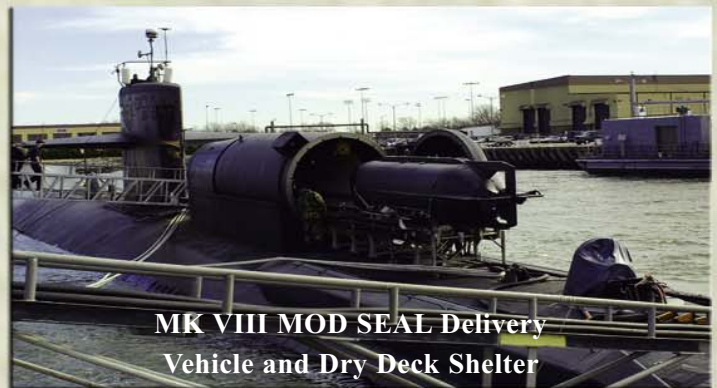
# Undersea Platforms

## SEAL Delivery Vehicle

The MK VIII MOD 1 SEAL Delivery Vehicle is a free-flooding wet submersible designed for undersea special operations including direct action, hydrographic reconnaissance and insertion/extraction of SEALs. It uses a Doppler Navigation Sonar and forward-looking obstacle avoidance sonar to navigate through the water and an underwater telephone with secure, unsecure and data modes to communicate. SDVs can be inserted into the water via a DDS-equipped submarine, MK V SOC or surface ships.

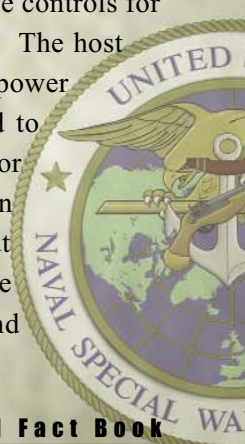
## MK VIII MOD SEAL Delivery Vehicle and Dry Deck Shelter

The Dry Deck Shelter is a floodable pressure vessel carried by a host submarine for undersea operations. A



MK VIII MOD SEAL Delivery Vehicle and Dry Deck Shelter

minimum crew of six Navy divers operates the controls for flooding, draining and pressurizing the DDS. The host submarine provides the DDS with electrical power and high-pressure air. The DDS can be used to launch and recover a SEAL Delivery Vehicle or to conduct mass swimmer lock-out/lock-in operations utilizing SEALs and Combat Rubber Raiding Craft. The divers who operate the DDS control assist in all launch and recovery operations.





# Air Force Special Operations Command



Air Force Special Operations Command, located at Hurlburt Field, Fla., was established May 22, 1990. AFSOC, the air component to USSOCOM, presents combat-ready Air Force Special Operations Forces to conduct and support global special operations missions. AFSOF is comprised of uniquely trained active duty, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard personnel. The total force is rapidly deployable and equipped with highly specialized and modified aircraft. AFSOC Air Commandos deliver the Nation's specialized airpower to

provide SOF mobility, intelligence support, forward presence and engagement with coalition partners.

AFSOC missions include close-air support/precision firepower, infiltration, exfiltration, resupply, aerial refueling, air/ground interface (Battlefield Airmen), aviation foreign internal defense, intelligence support to special operations (including unmanned aerial surveillance), information operations and airborne radio and television broadcast for military information support operations.

### Commander

*Lt. Gen. Donald C. Wurster*

### Senior Enlisted Advisor

*Command Chief Master Sergeant Michael P. Gilbert*

### People

**Total Force**      *Approximately 16,000*

### Organization

- ♣ **23rd Air Force – Hurlburt Field, Fla.**
- ♣ **1st Special Operations Wing – Hurlburt Field, Fla.**
  - AC-130U
  - CV-22
  - MC-130H/P
- ♣ **27th Special Operations Wing – Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.**
  - MC-130W
  - MQ-1
  - AC-130H
- ♣ **352nd Special Operations Group — RAF Mildenhall, England**
  - MC-130H
  - MC-130P
- ♣ **353rd Special Operations Group — Kadena Air Base, Japan**
  - MC-130H
  - MC-130P
- ♣ **720th Special Tactics Group — Hurlburt Field, Fla.**
- ♣ **Air Force Special Operations Training Center — Hurlburt Field, Fla.**



# AFSOC Special Tactics

Special Tactics, AFSOC's aircraft, fire support, mission planning, Battlefield Airmen, is composed of medical and weather support. Special combat control, pararescue, special Tactics Teams frequently operate with operations weather and Tactical Air Navy SEALs, Army Rangers and Control Party personnel capable of Special Forces in direct action, airfield providing terminal guidance for seizure and personnel recovery weapons, control of assault zone missions in hostile territory.



# Air Force Special Operations Training Center

The Air Force Special Operations Training Center is a primary support unit of AFSOC. Its mission is to recruit, assess, select, indoctrinate, train and educate Air Commandos, other Special Operations Forces and SOF enablers. These missions include aircrew qualification, special tactics, Combat Aviation Advisor and courses conducted at the Air Force Special Operations School.

The Air Force Special Operations School offers focused education in irregular warfare, regional studies and cultural awareness, Special Operations Forces professional development to educate Air Commandos, the special operations community, services and other U.S. government agencies.

The Special Tactics Training Squadron conducts advanced skills training for Combat Controllers, Pararescuemen and Special Tactics officers before they depart for operational special tactics squadrons. The STTS mission will expand to train Special Operations Weathermen, medical field skills, advanced skills for Special Operations Security Forces, integrated combat skills for Combat Aviation Advisors, and Tactical Air Control Party Airmen.

In July 2009, STTS established STTS Det 1 in Yuma, Ariz., to execute the Special Operations Tactical Air Control Course, recently transferred from U.S. Army Special Operations Command to AFSOC to conduct Joint training for SOCOM's Terminal Attack Controllers.

The 19th Special Operations Squadron is an advanced weapons instruction and mission rehearsal unit and is AFSOC's formal school for AC-130U, PC-12, U-28, MC-130E and Combat Aviation Advisors for UH-1, MI-17, and C-130E. The squadron teaches more than 1,100 classes in 70 distinct syllabi of instruction for initial mission qualification, instructor upgrade and continuation refresher training. As a Total Force Initiative, the 5th Special Operations Squadron (Air Force Reserve) has an associate relationship with the 19th SOS with the mission of providing basic aircrew training for U-28 and Combat Aviation Advisor aircrews.

A total force integration effort, the AFSOTC brings together the strengths of active duty, Reserve, Air National Guard, Department of Defense civilians and contract personnel to form an integrated education team dedicated to training new Air Commandos and building warrior ethos to navigate uncertain times ahead.

AFSOTC's newest squadron, the 371st Special Operations Combat Training Squadron, was activated August 13, 2010.

The 371st SOCTS is the AFSOC formal school for

Small Unmanned Aerial Systems and Irregular Warfare integrated skills training. The squadron is responsible for specialized training of combat-ready, joint Special Operations Forces and is AFSOC's designated agent for all recruiting, assessment, and selection of Battlefield Airmen and designated SOF aircrew members. The 371st SOCTS also conducts distributed mission operations and mission rehearsal in support of joint and multinational users and provides training support to all AFSOTC-gained units.

The unit's main base is Hurlburt Field, Fla., with the SUAS Joint Flight Training Unit located at Navy Outlying Landing Field Choctaw, Fla.

The 551st Special Operations Squadron is AFSOC's Formal Training Unit at Cannon Air Force Base, N.M. The unit provides aircrew training at AFSOC's newest base to include AC-130H, M-28, Q-200, Dornier 328, MC-130W and MQ-1/9 Remotely Piloted Aircraft.

The 745th Special Operations Squadron is a joint force provider for Air Force Special Operations Command and U.S. Special Operations Command. This flying training unit provides initial and mission qualification training for Air National Guard, U.S. Air Force, and U.S. Navy aircrew in the RC-26 aircraft. The 745th SOS organizes, trains and equips personnel for global deployments providing regional commanders with a highly capable Search and Rescue platform and immediate short-range airlift.



# Air Force Special Operations Specialties

## Combat Aviation Advisors

Combat Aviation Advisors of the 6th Special Operations Squadron help U.S. global partners to wield airpower. These Air Commandos are culturally savvy, linguistically trained and politically astute Airmen, hand selected for their skill, maturity and professionalism to advise foreign forces in rotary and fixed-wing combat aviation, maintenance, base support, security and tactics. They execute the aviation foreign internal defense mission and train foreign units in specialized and unconventional tactics. The 6th SOS is the only combat aviation advisory unit in



DoD. Every day, the 6th SOS has Air Commandos deployed to any given theater of the globe and maintains instructor qualifications on numerous foreign-made aircraft.

## Combat Controllers

Combat Controllers are Special Operators and certified air traffic controllers who are an integral part of the Air Force Battlefield Airmen team. Their motto, “First There,” indicates the CCT commitment to be the first deployed into restricted environments by air, land or sea to establish assault zones. The assault zone is a drop zone for parachute operations, a landing zone for fixed-wing or helicopter operations, or an extraction zone for low altitude resupply. They set up navigational aid equipment anywhere in the world to guide aircraft for landing on austere runways without the benefit of a tower or large communications system. CCT also control air



attacks from all military services aircraft. In addition, CCT provide vital command and control, intelligence gathering, surveying capabilities, limited weather observations and are qualified in demolition to clear hazards and obstructions from runways and landing zones.



## Pararescumen

Pararescuemen, commonly known as PJs, are the only Defense Department specialty specifically trained and equipped to conduct conventional and unconventional recovery operations. A PJ's primary function is as a personnel recovery specialist with emergency trauma medical capabilities in humanitarian and combat environments. They deploy in any available manner, from any available platform, to include air-land-sea tactics, into restricted environments to contact, authenticate, extract, treat, stabilize and evacuate injured personnel, while acting in an enemy-evading, recovery role. PJs participate in combat search and rescue, peacetime search and rescue, protection of the president of the United States, and



conduct other operations at the commander's direction. Their motto, "That Others May Live," reaffirms the Pararescuer's commitment to saving lives and self-sacrifice.

## Special Operations Weathermen

Special Operations Weathermen are Air Force weather technicians with unique training to operate in hostile or denied territory. They gather, assess, and interpret weather and environmental intelligence from forward deployed locations, working with Special Operations Forces. They collect weather, river, snow, ocean, and terrain intelligence, assist mission planning, generate accurate mission-tailored target and route forecasts in support of global special operations and train joint force members and coalition partners to take and communicate limited weather observations. Additionally, Special Operations Weathermen conduct special reconnaissance, collect upper air data, organize, establish and maintain



weather data reporting networks, determine host nation meteorological capabilities and train foreign national forces. Every Special Operations Forces mission is planned using the intelligence and coordination of Special Operations Weathermen.



# Air Force Special Operations Aircraft



## AC-130H/U

**Primary function:** Close-air support, air interdiction and force protection. **Speed:** 300 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 7 in.; length 97 ft. 9 in.; height 38 ft. 6 in. **Range:** 1,496 mph; unlimited with air refueling. **Armament:** AC-130H, 20 mm Vulcan cannons, 40 mm Bofors cannon and 105 mm Howitzer. AC-130U, 30 mm Bushmaster cannon replacing 25 mm Gatling gun, 40 mm Bofors cannon and 105 mm cannon. **Crew:** AC-130H, 14, and AC-130U, 13.



## CV-22A Osprey

**Primary function:** Special Operations Forces longrange infiltration, exfiltration and re-supply. **Speed:** 277 mph (cruising speed). **Dimensions:** Wingspan 84 ft. 7 in.; length 57 ft. 4 in.; height 22 ft. 1 in.; rotary diameter, 38 ft. **Range:** 2,100 miles with internal auxiliary fuel tanks and no refueling. **Crew:** Four.



## EC-130J Commando Solo

**Primary function:** Psychological and information operations. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 6 in.; length 97 ft.; height 38 ft. 8 in. **Speed:** 335 mph. **Range:** 2,300 miles unrefueled. **Crew:** Ten.



## MC-130E/H Combat Talon

**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:** 2,700 miles unrefueled. **Crew:** MC-130E, nine; MC-130H, seven.



## MC-130P Combat Shadow

**Primary function:** Air refueling special operations forces helicopters. **Speed:** 289 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 7 in.; length 98 ft. 9 in.; height 38 ft. 6 in. **Range:** 4,000 miles unrefueled. **Crew:** Eight



### MC-130W Combat Spear

**Primary function:** Infiltration, exfiltration and resupply of Special Operations Forces; in-flight refueling of special operations vertical lift aircraft. **Speed:** 300 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 7 in.; length 98 ft. 9 in.; height 38 ft. 6 in. **Range:** 1,208 miles unrefueled. **Crew:** Seven.



### U-28A

**Primary function:** Provide support to Special Operations Forces. **Speed:** 359 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 57 ft. 11 in.; length 46 ft. 8 in.; height 14 ft. 4 in. **Range:** 350, 1,700 miles 350ER 2,700 miles. **Crew:** Two.

## AFSOC Unmanned Aircraft Systems



### Battlefield Air Targeting Micro Air Vehicle (BATMAV)

**Primary function:** Provides day/night reconnaissance and surveillance with low altitude operation. **Speed:** 20-40 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 28.5 inches; length 10 inches. **Operating altitude:** 150 to 500 feet.



### MQ-1 Predator

**Primary function:** Armed reconnaissance, airborne surveillance and target acquisition. **Speed:** Up to 135 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 48 ft. 7 in.; length 27 ft.; height 6 ft. 9 in. **Range:** 454 miles. **Armament:** AGM-114 Hellfire missiles.



### 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:** 3,682 miles. **Armament:** AGM-114 Hellfire missiles; GBU-12, GBU-38 JDAM. **Crew:** Pilot and sensor operator on the ground.





# Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command



Headquartered at Camp Lejeune, N.C., the U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command is the Marine Corps component of U.S. Special Operations Command. MARSOC trains, organizes, equips, and, when directed by the Commander USSOCOM, deploys task organized, scalable and responsive Marine Corps Special Operations Forces worldwide in support of combatant commanders and other agencies. MARSOC teams consistently create strategic impacts because its Marines are armed with regionally focused language skills, cultural understanding, and state-of-the-art equipment.

In October 2005, the Secretary of Defense directed the Marine Corps to form a service component of USSOCOM and begin providing forces to the commander of USSOCOM. Formally established Feb. 24,

2006, MARSOC's initial manpower authorization is approximately 2,600 Marines, Sailors and civilian employees.

MARSOC includes three subordinate commands: the Marine Special Operations Regiment, Marine Special Operations Support Group, and the Marine Special Operations School.

MARSOC performs the following missions:

- Direct Action
- Special Reconnaissance
- Security Force Assistance
- Counterinsurgency
- Foreign Internal Defense
- Counterterrorism
- Information Operations
- Civil Affairs
- Military Support Operations
- Counter Proliferation Operations

### **Commander**

*Maj. Gen. Paul E. Lefebvre*

### **Senior Enlisted Advisor**

*Sergeant Major Richard W. Ashton*

### **People**

*Total Force      Approximately 2,600*

### **Organization**

- ♣ *The Marine Special Operations Regiment — Camp Lejeune, N.C.*
  - *1st Marine Special Operations Battalion — Camp Pendleton, Calif.*
  - *2d Marine Special Operations Battalion — Camp Lejeune, N.C.*
  - *3d Marine Special Operations Battalion — Camp Lejeune, N.C.*
- ♣ *Marine Special Operations Support Group — Camp Lejeune, N.C.*
- ♣ *Marine Special Operations Intelligence Battalion — Camp Lejeune, N.C.*
- ♣ *Marine Special Operations School — Camp Lejeune, N.C.*





## **MARSOC Personnel**

MARSOC is responsible for finding the appropriate personnel for service in three groups: Critical Skills Operators, Direct Combat Support and Combat Service Support.

### **Critical Skills Operator**

Critical Skills Operators are the front line Marines and Sailors who are complex problem solvers able to operate across the full spectrum of Special Operations in small teams under ambiguous, sometimes austere, environments while maintaining a high level of mental flexibility and physical endurance. CSOs exemplify the Marine Corps' concepts of Distributed Operations and the Strategic Corporal.

### **Direct Combat Support**

Direct Combat Support are those Marines who have specialized training in areas including electronic intelligence,







communications, logistics, combat skills, fire support, and explosive ordnance disposal. These Marines deploy alongside Marine Special Operations Teams and DCS personnel must meet the same screening requirements as Critical Skill Operators.

#### **Combat Service Support**

Combat Service Support personnel are the active-duty and Reserve Marines who fill Combat Service Support billets within MARSOC. These billets range from administrative support to motor transport maintenance.

#### **MARSOC Command and Control**

The wide range of missions assigned to Marine Special Operations Forces requires a high level of flexibility and the ability to operate within various command structures. MARSOF can work unilaterally under the Marine Special Operations Regiment, as part of a Joint Special Operations Task Force, as a Special Operations Task Force or as part of a Marine Corps component of a Joint Task Force.

#### **MARSOC Units**

##### **Marine Special Operations Regiment**

The Marine Special Operations Regiment is located at Camp Lejeune, N.C., and consists of a Headquarters Company and three Marine Special

Operations Battalions. The MSOR, which is led by a Marine Corps colonel, provides tailored military combat-skills training and advisor support for identified foreign forces in order to enhance their tactical capabilities and to prepare the environment as directed by USSOCOM as well as the capability to form the nucleus of a Joint Special Operations Task Force. Marines and Sailors of the MSOR train, advise and assist friendly host nation forces - including naval and maritime military and paramilitary forces - to enable them to support their government's internal security and stability, to counter subversion and to reduce the risk of violence from internal and external threats. MSOR deployments are coordinated by MARSOC, through USSOCOM, in accordance with engagement priorities for overseas contingency operations.

##### **Marine Special Operations Battalion**

There are three Marine Special Operations Battalions within the MSOR: 1st MSOB located at Camp Pendleton, Calif., and 2d and 3d MSOBs located at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Each MSOB is commanded by a Marine Corps lieutenant colonel and organized, trained and equipped to deploy for worldwide missions as directed by MARSOC. MSOBs are comprised of Marine Special Operations Companies and task-organized with personnel uniquely skilled in special



equipment support, intelligence and fire support.

### **Marine Special Operations Company**

Each Marine Special Operations Company is commanded by a Marine Corps Major and is capable of deploying task-organized expeditionary Special Operations Forces to conduct special reconnaissance and direct action missions in support of the geographic combatant commanders. When deployed, each MSOC is augmented with a direct intelligence and enabler capability. The enabling capabilities include a vast array of support ranging from explosive ordnance disposal to military dog handlers.

### **Marine Special Operations Team**

Each Marine Special Operations Team is comprised of 14 Marines and is the backbone of MARSOF. An MSOT can conduct operations in remote areas and austere environments for extended periods with minimal external direction and support. The teams help develop, organize, equip, train, and advise or direct indigenous forces. MSOTs conduct Foreign Internal Defense and other SOF disciplines tasked to MARSOC. Each team has a robust language capability and direct intelligence links to the MSOC as well as access to the company's enabling assets.

### **Marine Special Operations Support Group**

The Marine Special Operations Support Group is lead by a Marine Corps Colonel and is tasked to train, equip, structure, and provide specially qualified Marine forces, including operational logistics, intelligence, Military Working Dogs, Firepower Control Teams and communications support in order to sustain worldwide special operations missions.

### **Marine Special Operations Intelligence Battalion**

On Jan. 1, 2010, MARSOC established Marine Special Operations Intelligence Battalion. The newly created battalion was formed to train, sustain, maintain combat readiness and provide task-organized intelligence support at all operational levels in order to support MARSOF.

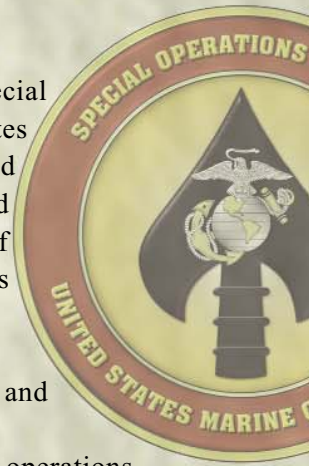
### **Marine Special Operations School**

The Marine Special Operations School screens, assesses, selects, and trains Marines and Sailors for special operations assignments in MARSOC; provides both

initial and advanced individual special operations training; plans and executes the component exercise program; and serves as MARSOC's training and education proponent in support of MARSOC requirements. MSOS is headed by a Marine Corps colonel.

MSOS is tasked to:

- Conduct a formal Assessment and Selection program
- Conduct an entry-level special operations training course to train NCOs and company grade officers for special operations assignments within MARSOC
- Conduct MARSOC's component exercise program
- Conduct special operations advanced and specialty courses
- Develop MARSOF standards, doctrine and Tactics, Techniques and Procedures
- Serve as MARSOC's proponent for weapons and optics requirements
- Serve as the training and education link between MARSOC, USMC and SOCOM component SOF schools to support MARSOC requirements
- Conduct Advanced Linguist Courses
- Conduct Advanced Skill Courses



# USSOCOM

## Subordinate Special Operations Commands



Established in 1980, the **Joint Special Operations Command** is a sub-unified command of USSOCOM. JSOC provides a joint headquarters to study Special Operations requirements, ensures interoperability and equipment standardization, develops joint Special Operations plans and tactics, and conducts joint Special Operations exercises and training.



The **Joint Special Operations University** resides at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. JSOU's mission is to educate Special Operations Forces executive, senior and intermediate leaders and selected other national and international security decision-makers, both military and civilian, through teaching, research and outreach in the science and art of Joint Special Operations.



As a Joint Subordinate Command within USSOCOM, the **Joint Military Information Support Command** serves as a key contributor in the Department of Defense's ongoing efforts to erode adversary power, will and influence. JMISC is responsible to plan, coordinate, integrate, and when directed, execute trans-regional influence over relevant populations in support of Combatant Commands, the Secretary of Defense and select government agencies to achieve operational, strategic and national goals and objectives. The senior-level military and DOD civilians who compose the organization include: military information support operations specialists, strategic and regional intelligence analysts, behavioral scientists, cultural advisors, media experts and multi-media product developers. The JMISC provides the DOD with a dynamic, responsive and sophisticated influence capability that plans, coordinates and manages the execution of trans-regional information programs in support of the DOD and regional security objectives.

### Theater Special Operations Commands

Joint Forces Command and each geographic combatant command have a Special Operations component commander just like it has a ground, air and

naval component commander. The commander of the Theater Special Operations Command is responsible for commanding all SOF in the theater to which the TSOC is assigned. The TSOC is a sub-unified command of the geographic combatant command and the source of expertise in all areas of Special Operations. The TSOC provides the geographic combatant commanders with a separate element to plan and control joint SOF in their theaters.

### SOCCENT

Special Operations Command Central, headquartered at MacDill Air Force Base, is a subordinate unified command of U.S. Central Command. It is responsible for planning Special Operations throughout the USCENTCOM area of responsibility, planning and conducting peacetime joint/combined Special Operations training exercises and orchestrating command and control of peacetime and wartime Special Operations as directed. SOCCENT exercises operational control of assigned and attached SOF that deploy for the execution of training and for operational missions in the USCENTCOM AOR as directed by the USCENTCOM commander. When directed by the USCENTCOM commander, SOCCENT forms a JSOTF.

### SOCEUR

Special Operations Command Europe headquarters is located at Patch Barracks, Stuttgart, Germany. SOCEUR is a subordinate unified command of U.S. European Command exercising operational control of theater Army, Navy and Air Force Special Operations Forces. SOCEUR is responsible to the commander of USEUCOM and the Supreme Allied Commander Europe for SOF readiness, targeting, exercises, plans, joint and combined training, NATO/partnership activities and execution of counterterrorism, peacetime and contingency operations.

### SOCPAC

Special Operations Command Pacific, located at Camp H. M. Smith, Oahu, Hawaii, is a sub-unified command and serves as the SOF component command for the U.S. Pacific Command. The AOR of the commander in chief, USPACOM, represents the largest geographic area of the unified commands. It covers more than half of the Earth's surface with approximately 105

million square miles and nearly 60 percent of the world's population. Distance, diversity, and change characterize the USPACOM AOR.

### **SOCKOR**

Special Operations Command Korea, located at Camp Kim in Yongsan, Korea, is the Theater SOC responsible for Special Operations on the Korean peninsula and, when established, the Korean Theater of Operations. The KTO and SOCKOR exist because there has never been a peace treaty officially ending the Korean War. Military forces on the Korean Peninsula maintain a heightened state of readiness to respond to the resumption of hostilities with little or no warning.

### **SOCJFCOM**

Special Operations Command - Joint Forces Command is a sub-unified command of USJFCOM and is unique among all other Theater Special Operations Commands assigned to combatant commanders. SOCJFCOM is DOD's primary joint Special Operations Forces trainer and integrator. SOCJFCOM's mission is to train conventional and Special Operations joint force commanders and their staffs in the employment of SOF focusing on full integration of SOF and conventional forces in planning and execution to enhance war-fighting readiness. Located in Norfolk, Va., SOCJFCOM supports all geographic combatant commanders and joint task forces in Overseas Contingency Operations, as well

as Combined Joint Special Operations Task Forces in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Joint Task Force Horn of Africa, Theater SOCs and the U.S. Special Operations Command Center for Special Operations.

### **SOCSOUTH**

A subordinate unified command of U.S. Southern Command, SOCSOUTH is the theater functional component for Special Operations. It is responsible for all Special Operations Forces in the theater to include civil affairs and military information operations forces. SOCSOUTH's headquarters is located at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. SOCSOUTH is composed of a joint headquarters, three permanently assigned operational units and CONUS-based deployed SOF. The command manages more than 200 SOF deployments per year with an average of 42 missions in 26 countries at any time.

### **SOCAFRICA**

On October 1, 2008, SOCAFRICA was established as U.S. Africa Command's Theater Special Operations Command — a functional, sub-unified special operations command for Africa. SOCAFRICA contributes to U.S. Africa Command's mission through the application of the full spectrum of special operations forces capabilities including civil affairs, information operations, theater security cooperation, crisis response, and campaign planning.





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