

2025

Fact Book



United States Special Operations Command

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editor via unclassified network at public.affairs@socom.mil

The Quiet Professionals





SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES

Medal of Honor

RECIPIENTS



World War I

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. William J. Donovan

World War II

U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Kenneth D. Bailey

U.S. Navy Vice Adm. John D. Bulkeley

U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Richard E. Bush

U.S. Marine Corps Col. Justice M. Chambers

U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Merritt A. Edson

U.S. Marine Corps Pfc. Henry Gurke

U.S. Army 1st Lt. Jack L. Knight

U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Arthur M. Preston

U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Clyde Thomason

U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. William G. Walsh

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 G. 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 Sgt. Maj. Jon R. Cavaiani
U.S. Army Col. Paris D. Davis
U.S. Army Maj. Drew D. Dix
U.S. Army Col. Roger H. C. Donlon
U.S. Army Maj. John J. Duffy
U.S. Air Force Col. Maj. Bernard F. Fisher
U.S. Air Force Col. 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 Capt. Thomas G. Kelley
U.S. Navy Lt. j.g. (SEAL) Joseph R. Kerrey
U.S. Army Specialist 4th Class Robert D. Law
U.S. Air Force Sgt. John L. Levitow
U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Gary L. Littrell
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Maj. 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
Lt. (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 D. Plumlee
U.S. Navy Master Chief Petty Officer (SEAL) Britt K. Slabinski
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. 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 - 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 N. Beaurpere

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

J2 Directorate of Intelligence - U.S. Army Brig. Gen. James T. Blejski Jr.

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 - Mr. John A. Pelleriti

J6 Directorate of Communications - Mr. Peter J. Tragakis

J7 (Provisional) Joint SOF Force Development and Design -

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Shawn R. Satterfield

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 G. Dudas

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

Special Operations Financial Management - Ms. Tesa L. Lanoy

Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer - Mr. Dan E. Folliard

Joint Special Operations University - Dr. Paul D. Brister

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



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



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



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



**U.S. MARINE CORPS 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 successes, 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 | - Foreign Internal Defense |
| - Counterinsurgency | - Hostage Rescue and Recovery |
| - Counterterrorism | - Military Information Support Operations |
| - Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction | - Security Force Assistance |
| - Direct Action | - Special Reconnaissance |
| - Foreign Humanitarian Assistance | - Unconventional Warfare |

TITLE 10 AUTHORITIES

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



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





LOCATION: Fort Liberty, North Carolina

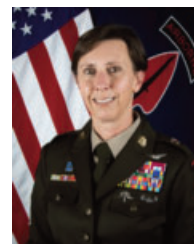
ESTABLISHED: Dec. 1, 1989

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





www.nsw.navy.mil

NAVSPECWARCOM

IS HOME TO:

- Sea, Air, Land (SEALs)
- Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen (SWCC)
- Combat Support
- Combat Service Support

LOCATION: Coronado, California

ESTABLISHED: April 16, 1987

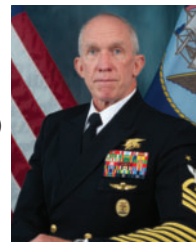
MISSION: : NSW provides maritime SOF capability to enable Joint Force lethality and survivability inside denied and contested areas. NSW mans, trains, equips, educates, deploys, resources, and sustains forces to conduct direct action and special reconnaissance, support advise-and-assist programs, and 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



COMMANDER

Rear Adm. Milton J. Sands III



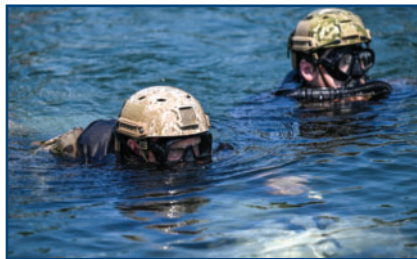
COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED

LEADER

Master Chief Petty Officer (SEAL)

Walter S. Dittmar







www.afsoc.af.mil



COMMANDER

Lt. Gen. Michael E. Conley

AFSOC IS HOME TO:

AIR COMMANDOS

- Special Tactics
- Special Operations Aviators
- Support Air Commandos

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.

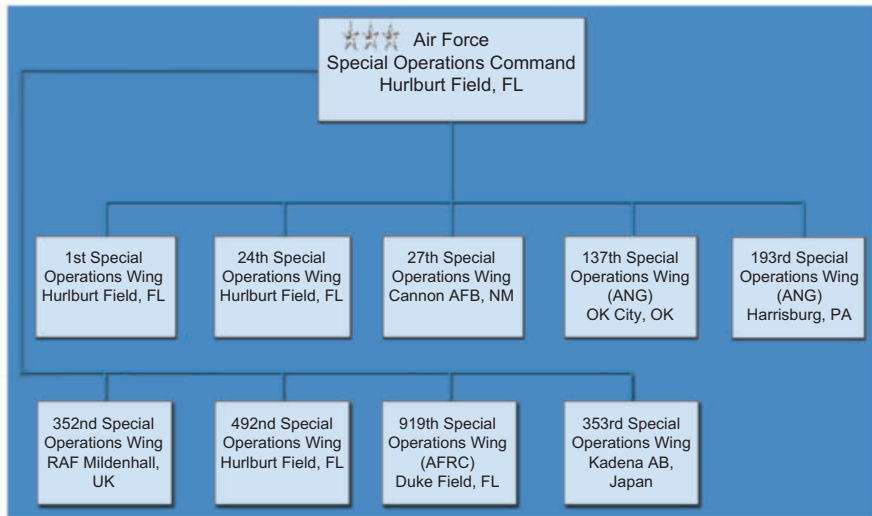
VISION: Air Commandos. Ready today, relevant tomorrow, resilient always.

PEOPLE: Approximately 17,000

**COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED
LEADER**

Vacant



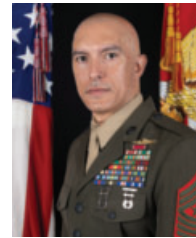




COMMANDER
Maj. Gen. Peter D. Huntley

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 the Joint Force. MARSOC provides supported commanders with full-spectrum special operations capabilities to combat complex transregional problems.

PEOPLE: Approximately 3,500

JOINT SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND



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

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - Command Sgt. Maj. Andrew J. 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 R. 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: Joint Special Operations Task Force-Somalia, Special Operations Task Force - North West Africa, Special Operations Task Group-East Africa, CBRN Assessment and Response Team, Theater Civil Military Support Element, 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 theater strategic objectives of enhancing African partner defense resilience, coordinating with African partners and allies on shared security interests, and exposing and countering threats.

AREA OF FOCUS

USAFRICOM's area of responsibility consists of 53 African states. SOCAF is routinely engaged, on average, in half of these countries, working with and through our African counterparts.

MAJOR ENGAGEMENT

Flintlock 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. Jasper Jeffers III

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Joshua King

ESTABLISHED - Dec. 1, 1983

MISSION

SOCCENT, in partnership with interagency and international partners, campaigns to support 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

Support the CENTCOM Commander in strengthening regional stability and protecting U.S. interests while adapting to shifts in the operating environment. As Special Operations forces, we assess that the partners, places, technology, and tools that made us successful over the past 20 years are unlikely to be the ones we need for the next 20 years. To address this, we will retool our campaign construct to work through interest aligned regional partners and leverage technology that expands our operational reach and efficiency. This campaign will support an Irregular Warfare approach that includes a bias to on-demand precision tactical intelligence and long term investments in the human capital of our regional partners. At all times, and in all efforts, we will safeguard the trust bestowed upon us by upholding the integrity, judgement, and relevance expected of Special Operators.

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 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 Lt. Gen. Richard E. Angle

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - Command Sgt. Maj. Steven W. Fields

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.

MAJOR ENGAGEMENT

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. The exercise 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 N. Lipson

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

ESTABLISHED - July 14, 1986

MISSION

SOCKOR plans and conducts special operations in support of the commander of United States Forces Korea, United Nations Command, and Combined Forces Command during armistice, crisis, and war. SOCKOR is a USSOCOM theater special operations command (TSOC) operationally controlled by United States Forces Korea as a functional component command tasked to plan and conduct special operations in the Korean Area of Operations (KAO).

COMMAND VISION

As the only TSOC in which the U.S. and host-nation Special Operations Forces (SOF) are institutionally organized for combined operations, SOCKOR enables integrated deterrence in support of the mutual defense of the U.S. and ROK homelands through a ready, capable, and combined force. Driven by people who are experts in their functions and disciplines, SOCKOR maintains a campaigning mindset that enables great power competition through SOF-unique access, placement, relationships, and capabilities in the KAO and Northeast Asia region.

AREA OF FOCUS

SOCKOR, the Republic of Korea (ROK) Army's Special Warfare Command (ROKSWC), ROK Naval Special Warfare Flotilla, ROK Air Force, and U.S. conventional personnel regularly train to deter aggression, defend the mutual ROK and U.S. homelands, and remain prepared to prevail in conflict if called upon. Designated as the lead by the UNC, SOCKOR maintains relationships with the 18 UNC Member States' SOF elements as the United Nations Command Special Operations Component Command (UNCSOCC). If the armistice fails, SOCKOR and ROK SOF will combine to establish the Combined Special Operations Component Command (CSOCC) under the ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command (CFC). When CSOCC is formed, the SOCKOR commander becomes both the CSOCC deputy commander and the Special Operations Joint Task Force-Korea (SOJTF-K) commander.

MAJOR ENGAGEMENT

SOCKOR participates in biannual Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) exercises with the ROK and U.S., testing the establishment of CFC and its components in a wartime scenario. The 11-day exercises validate the combined, joint, multi-domain, and interagency requirements, as well as strengthening the relationships, institutions, and infrastructure needed to prevail.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND - NORTH



COMMANDER - U.S. Army Col. Matthew A. Tucker

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - Command Sgt. Maj. Sgt. Kevin P. Dorsh

ESTABLISHED - Nov. 5, 2013

MISSION

SOCNORTH plans and executes all-domain Special Operations to detect, deter and disrupt threats throughout the USNORTHCOM AOR, and generate positions of advantage for the Nation.

COMMAND VISION

SOCNORTH plans, coordinates, and conducts special operations in collaboration with mission partners, to assure allies and partners, compete below the level of armed conflict, deter conventional and irregular threats, and set conditions to execute contingency operations in order to defend the United States and its interests.

AREA OF FOCUS

In support of USNORTHCOM objectives, SOCNORTH employs SOF to degrade adversary capabilities, contest lines of communication, and enhance domain awareness to enable the fight forward. SOCNORTH's area of responsibility ranges from the western end of the Aleutian Islands to Canada, across the Homeland, Mexico, 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 ENGAGEMENTS

Under NORAD/USNORTHCOM's Operation NOBLE DEFENDER, SOCNORTH executes Operation POLAR DAGGER, which is the Command's premier operation that is a demonstration of rapidly deployable SOF to the Arctic. SOCNORTH's annual field training exercise is Arctic Edge, which provides SOF the opportunity to sharpen their ability to thrive and operate in the austere environment of the High North. Additionally, SOCNORTH executes interagency exercises each year to rehearse SOF-specific support for the resolution of threats to the Homeland.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND - PACIFIC



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

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - Command Sgt. Maj. Walter J. 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 Adm. Mark A. Schafer

COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER - Command Sergeant Maj. Sean R. Arnts

ESTABLISHED - Aug. 4, 1986

MISSION

SOC SOUTH conducts special operations with our allies and partners in the USSOUTHCOM area of responsibility (AOR) to achieve U.S. national security objectives and respond to crisis.

COMMAND VISION

SOC SOUTH is strategically postured to disrupt and counter threats. We do so with critical access and placement in the multi-domain environment, by maintaining crisis response capabilities, and by being the SOF trusted partner to our Joint, Interagency, Intergovernmental, Multinational, and Commercial (JIIM-C) partners and allies.

AREA OF FOCUS

The area of responsibility for SOC SOUTH includes 31 countries, 12 dependencies and areas with special sovereignty. This region accounts for approximately one-sixth of the world's landmass assigned to regional unified commands. SOC SOUTH organizes its focus into four distinct 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, and 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.

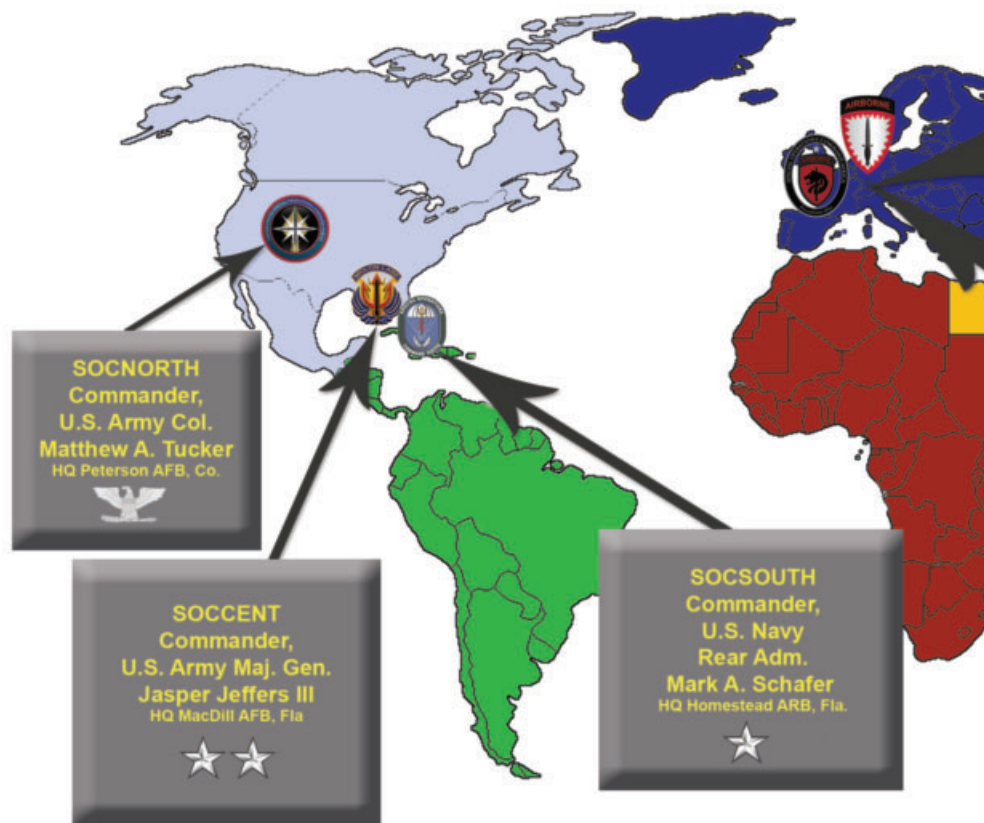
MAJOR ENGAGEMENTS

Fuerzas Comando: A special operations forces skills competition and senior leader seminar to promote military-to-military relationships, interoperability, and regional security focusing on countering transnational threats in the region.

Southern Star: The largest multinational special operations exercise in the western hemisphere and is hosted by the Chilean armed forces focusing on joint, combined, interagency operations to develop interoperable concepts as part of a Combined Forces Special Operations Component Command.

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 requests 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



AIRCRAFT - FIXED WING



AC-130J GHOST RIDER

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-146A WOLFHOUND

Primary Function: Short take-off 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.



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-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.



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.



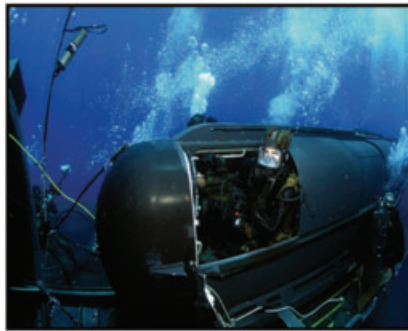
SPECIAL OPERATIONS CRAFT-RIVERINE

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 Controller
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 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
SOCCENT	Special Operations Command-Central
SOCEUR	Special Operations Command-Europe
SOCKOR	Special Operations Command-Korea
SOCNORTH	Special Operations Command-North
SOC PAC	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



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