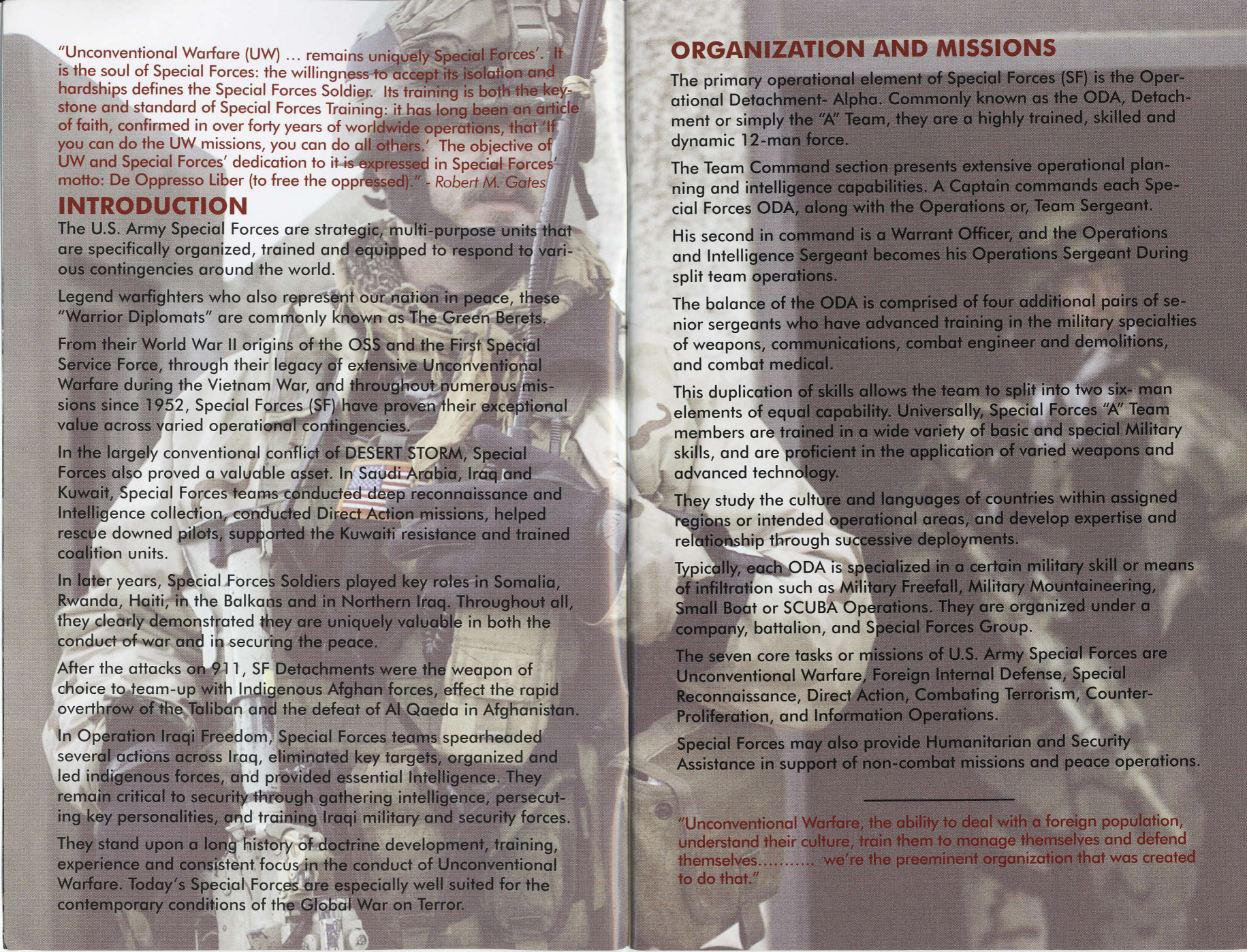


WHY WE FIGHT NOW



THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR





"Unconventional Warfare (UW) ... remains uniquely Special Forces'. It is the soul of Special Forces: the willingness to accept its isolation and hardships defines the Special Forces Soldier. Its training is both the keystone and standard of Special Forces Training: it has long been an article of faith, confirmed in over forty years of worldwide operations, that 'If you can do the UW missions, you can do all others.' The objective of UW and Special Forces' dedication to it is expressed in Special Forces' motto: De Oppresso Liber (to free the oppressed)." - Robert M. Gates

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Army Special Forces are strategic, multi-purpose units that are specifically organized, trained and equipped to respond to various contingencies around the world.

Legend warfighters who also represent our nation in peace, these "Warrior Diplomats" are commonly known as The Green Berets.

From their World War II origins of the OSS and the First Special Service Force, through their legacy of extensive Unconventional Warfare during the Vietnam War, and throughout numerous missions since 1952, Special Forces (SF) have proven their exceptional value across varied operational contingencies.

In the largely conventional conflict of DESERT STORM, Special Forces also proved a valuable asset. In Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait, Special Forces teams conducted deep reconnaissance and Intelligence collection, conducted Direct Action missions, helped rescue downed pilots, supported the Kuwaiti resistance and trained coalition units.

In later years, Special Forces Soldiers played key roles in Somalia, Rwanda, Haiti, in the Balkans and in Northern Iraq. Throughout all, they clearly demonstrated they are uniquely valuable in both the conduct of war and in securing the peace.

After the attacks on 9/11, SF Detachments were the weapon of choice to team-up with Indigenous Afghan forces, effect the rapid overthrow of the Taliban and the defeat of Al Qaeda in Afghanistan.

In Operation Iraqi Freedom, Special Forces teams spearheaded several actions across Iraq, eliminated key targets, organized and led indigenous forces, and provided essential Intelligence. They remain critical to security through gathering intelligence, persecuting key personalities, and training Iraqi military and security forces.

They stand upon a long history of doctrine development, training, experience and consistent focus in the conduct of Unconventional Warfare. Today's Special Forces are especially well suited for the contemporary conditions of the Global War on Terror.

ORGANIZATION AND MISSIONS

The primary operational element of Special Forces (SF) is the Operational Detachment- Alpha. Commonly known as the ODA, Detachment or simply the "A" Team, they are a highly trained, skilled and dynamic 12-man force.

The Team Command section presents extensive operational planning and intelligence capabilities. A Captain commands each Special Forces ODA, along with the Operations or, Team Sergeant.

His second in command is a Warrant Officer, and the Operations and Intelligence Sergeant becomes his Operations Sergeant During split team operations.

The balance of the ODA is comprised of four additional pairs of senior sergeants who have advanced training in the military specialties of weapons, communications, combat engineer and demolitions, and combat medical.

This duplication of skills allows the team to split into two six-man elements of equal capability. Universally, Special Forces "A" Team members are trained in a wide variety of basic and special Military skills, and are proficient in the application of varied weapons and advanced technology.

They study the culture and languages of countries within assigned regions or intended operational areas, and develop expertise and relationship through successive deployments.

Typically, each ODA is specialized in a certain military skill or means of infiltration such as Military Freefall, Military Mountaineering, Small Boat or SCUBA Operations. They are organized under a company, battalion, and Special Forces Group.

The seven core tasks or missions of U.S. Army Special Forces are Unconventional Warfare, Foreign Internal Defense, Special Reconnaissance, Direct Action, Combating Terrorism, Counter-Proliferation, and Information Operations.

Special Forces may also provide Humanitarian and Security Assistance in support of non-combat missions and peace operations.

"Unconventional Warfare, the ability to deal with a foreign population, understand their culture, train them to manage themselves and defend themselves..... we're the preeminent organization that was created to do that."

SPECIAL FORCES OPERATIONAL DETACHMENT - ALPHA



Detachment Commander
Captain/18A
"Team Leader"



Operations Sergeant
Master Sergeant/18Z
"Team Sergeant"



Weapons Sergeant
(Senior)
Sergeant First Class/18B



Engineer Sergeant
(Senior)
Sergeant First Class/18C



Medical Sergeant
(Senior)
Sergeant First Class/18D



Communications
Sergeant (Senior)
Sergeant First Class/18E



Assistant Detachment
Commander
Warrant Officer/180A



Operations and Intelligence
Sergeant
Sergeant First Class/18F



Weapons Sergeant
(Junior)
Staff Sergeant Class/18B



Engineer Sergeant
(Junior)
Staff Sergeant/18C



Medical Sergeant
(Junior)
Staff Sergeant/18D



Communications
Sergeant (Junior)
Staff Sergeant/18E

"Twelve guys can go in there and do that. Train 500 people or more.. to work with us against a common enemy. We're the only unit that can do that. Everybody else can dabble in it. But, that's our bread and butter, day and night. That's what we do."

DETACHMENT DUTY POSITIONS

DETACHMENT COMMANDER: Responsible for supervision and leadership of the team. Of particular importance is the training and deployment of the detachment. In addition to supervisory abilities, during deployments he is primarily concerned with establishing rapport with U.S. and foreign counterparts and serves as a liaison between the team and other units.

OPERATIONS SERGEANT: The Team Sergeant is responsible for planning, organizing and executing detachment training. He ensures all detachment members remain proficient in their individual specialties and are cross trained in at least one additional skill. He ensures all members are extremely physically fit, and advises the commander on all matters concerning operations, training and the health and welfare of the detachment. During overseas deployment operations he assists indigenous forces in recruiting, organizing, training and supervising their soldiers and advising them in the conduct of their operations.

WARRANT OFFICER/ASSISTANT DETACHMENT COMMANDER: Stands prepared to take the lead whenever the Captain is absent, or if a mission calls for the ODA to be split into two teams. A former Special Forces Sergeant, he is qualified in at least one core specialty, and has advanced training in Special Forces tactics, techniques and intelligence operations.

ASSISTANT OPERATIONS/INTELLIGENCE SERGEANT: Special Forces operations often require being behind enemy lines in hostile areas, and Intelligence information is vital for force protection. But during all deployments, collection and processing of Intelligence information is critical to tactical and strategic planning. So, each team is given an 18F Intelligence specialist who collects, evaluates, and develops information for both direct and indirect missions.

WEAPONS SERGEANT (SENIOR): Expertise is light infantry tactics. He leads and trains small units in conventional and unconventional combat operations, small arms, light and heavy crew served weapons, indirect fire, anti-aircraft and anti-armor weapons.

WEAPONS SERGEANT (JUNIOR): Trained on numerous types of weapons, both foreign and domestic. Because of the variety of weapons found in many of the countries to which the detachment may deploy, he is required to remain proficient in 89 different weapons systems.

ENGINEER SERGEANT (SENIOR): Duties include performing, supervising, instructing light construction and demolitions in conventional and unconventional warfare operational areas.

ENGINEER SERGEANT (JUNIOR): In addition to conventional and field expedient demolitions, the Engineer is trained in carpentry, electrical work, plumbing, and masonry construction. He has the skills to build a schoolhouse or a bridge as well as the ability to destroy enemy targets.

MEDICAL SERGEANT (SENIOR): Principal duties include ensuring the detachment's medical preparedness and establishing field medical facilities to support operations. He provides emergency, routine, and long term medical care for the detachment, associated allied, or indigenous personnel in conventional or unconventional warfare operational areas.

MEDICAL SERGEANT (JUNIOR): Trains allied personnel in basic emergency and preventive medical care. Gathers medical intelligence, and provides mission related veterinary care. Can operate with minimal or no medical supervision or assistance. Medical Sergeants are trained to conduct emergency surgery in life threatening or critical situations.

COMMUNICATIONS SERGEANT (SENIOR): Duties include installing and operating communications equipment used by team to communicate with higher headquarters or other units. Trains indigenous forces in the installation and operation of radios, radio teletype, radio traffic, facsimile and wire communications. He advises the commander on all communications matters, and prepares communications plans.

COMMUNICATIONS SERGEANT (JUNIOR): Qualified to install and operate FM, AM, HF, VHF and UHF, super HF and satellite radio communications equipment to transmit and receive radio messages in voice, International Morse Code, and burst radio nets. This includes remote radio equipment, secure fax, and other transmission equipment. In many instances his communications link is the detachment's only means of communication to the United States or base installations in Theater.

"The military has one force that is specially tailored to either fight insurgencies or fight counter-insurgencies, and that's Special Forces. We're trained for itIt's the doctrine that we work off of."

THE UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIAL FORCES GROUPS



1st Special Forces Group (Airborne):

Initially activated on 24 June 1957 at Camp Drake, Japan. All its elements were either en route to Okinawa or on temporary duty in South Vietnam on that date.

Was inactivated on 28 June 1974 and then reactivated in 1984. The first element was reactivated at Fort Bragg, NC on 15 March 1984. The Group is stationed at Fort Lewis, WA with one of its battalions forward-stationed at Okinawa. The black border was added after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy as a marker of respect.



3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne):

Formed with cadre from the 1st, 5th and 7th Special Forces and the Special Forces Training Group. The flash colors reflect its origination from each of these units. The 3rd was initially activated on 5 December 1963. They

were deactivated in 1969 after service during the Vietnam War and then reactivated at Fort Bragg, NC on 29 June 1990 with members primarily from the 5th Special Forces Group. The 3rd SFG initially had responsibility for the Caribbean and all of the western part of the continent of Africa. Stationed at Fort Bragg, NC.



5th Special Forces Group (Airborne):

Derives its lineage from The First Special Service Force of World War II. Reconstituted on 15 April 1960 as the 5th Special Forces Group and officially activated on 21 September 1961 at Fort Bragg, NC. By February 1965, the

Group was fully deployed to Vietnam and remained until 5 March 1971. The 5th remained at Fort Bragg, NC until 10 June 1988, and uncased its colors on 16 June 1988 at its new home at Fort Campbell, KY. The flash once bore diagonal yellow and red stripes, in recognition of the Vietnam service of the 1st and 7th Special Forces Groups. The white border was added in memory of President Kennedy.



7th Special Forces Group (Airborne):

Traces its lineage to the First Special Service Force of World War II, and the flash color reflects its lineage back to the red US-Canada arrowhead of the commando unit's shoulder patch. It was reactivated on 25 September 1953 at Fort

Bragg as the 77th Special Forces. In 1960 the Group was designated as the 7th Special Forces Group. Several other Groups were formed from the 7th during Special Forces expansion in the early 1960s. Upon the deactivation in 1972 of one of those units (the 8th SFG in Panama) the 3rd Battalion, 7th SFG was formed. The 7th SFG, in its entirety, is currently stationed at Fort Bragg, NC



10th Special Forces Group (Airborne):

Traces its lineage back to the First Special Service Force of World War II. The 10th was activated 19 June 1952 at Fort Bragg, NC. On 11 November, 1953, they established a forward base in Bad Tolz, Germany. As a bat-

talion, this unit moved to Stuttgart, Germany in July 1991. In September 1968, the Group, minus one battalion, was restationed at Fort Devens, MA where they stayed through August 1995. On September, 1995, they officially uncased their colors at Ft Carson, CO. The original flash was cut from a felt pool table cover.



19th Special Forces Group (Airborne):

One of two Special Forces Groups in the National Guard, they plan, conduct and support special operations in any operational environment. The National Guard Special Forces Groups have a two fold mis-

sion. Their federal mission is to provide trained Soldiers and units to designated commands to conduct special operations in support of a federal mobilization. Their state mission is to support state and local agencies in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. With headquarters in Draper, Utah, they are geographically spread across eight States (UT, WA, WV, OH, RI, CO, CA, TX). Since the deactivation of the 11th and 12th SFG of the Army Reserve on 15 September 1995, the 19th is one of two remaining Special Forces Groups in the Reserve system. The teal blue flash dates back to the color given to unassigned units in the 1950s, and is also the color of the SF shoulder patch.



20th Special Forces Group (Airborne):

Headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama the 20th Special Forces Group is one of the two Army National Guard Special Forces Groups. The 20th has units dispersed across seven states (MA, MD, VA, AL, MS,

KY, IL). The first-ever Reserve Component Special Forces Group to be mobilized, the 20th entered federal active duty on 20 February 1991. They mobilized, trained, and were validated at Fort Bragg, NC. The 20th SFG began modification of the original teal blue flash in 1967. The current flash was adopted in 1973. Both the 19th and 20th Group were activated in 1961, making them the second oldest Special Forces Groups currently in service.

"There's a need for... what you might call a direct action type mission on occasion to separate the bad guys from the population. It has to be balanced, because the effect that you get on a population is the greatest if it's balanced- there has to be some security in the area."

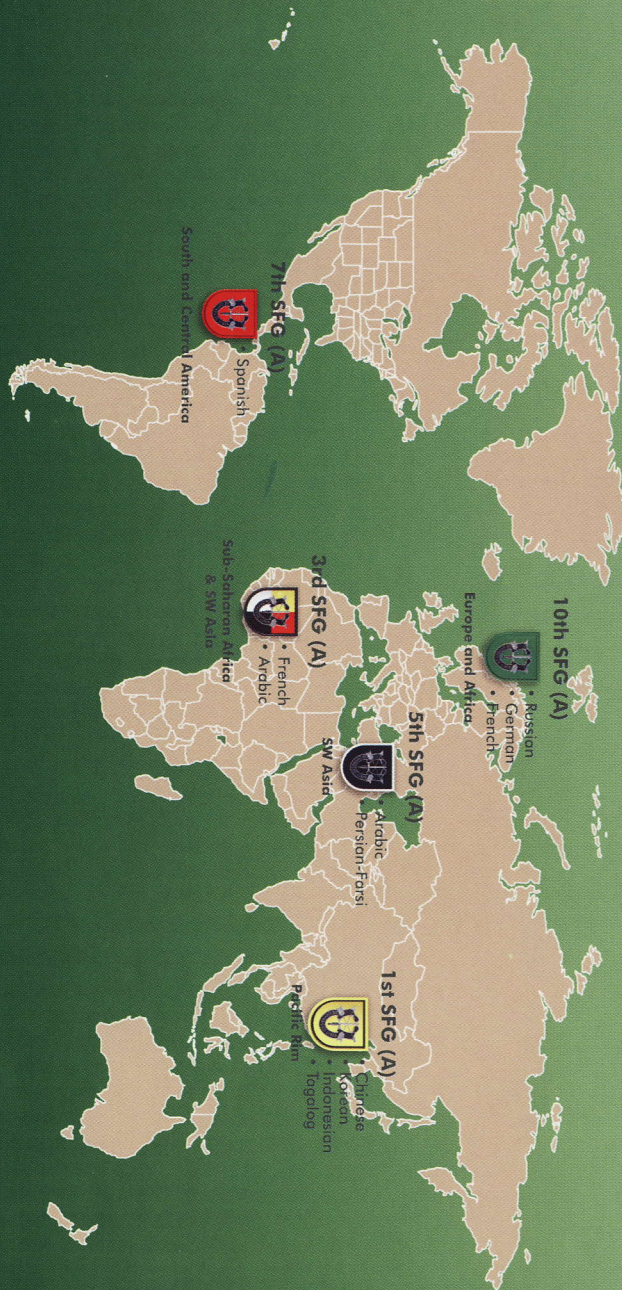
A map of the United States with state boundaries outlined in white. Six locations are marked with colored circles and labeled with their respective Signal Field Group (AFG) numbers and names. The locations are: 1st SFG (AFG) in the top right (yellow circle), 19th SFG (AFG) in the upper middle (blue circle), 10th SFG (AFG) in the center (green circle), 5th SFG (AFG) in the lower middle (black circle), 20th SFG (AFG) in the bottom left (light blue circle), and 3rd & 7th SFG (AFG) in the bottom right (red circle). Each circle contains a stylized graphic of a signal field group's emblem.

Signal Field Group (AFG)	Location
1st SFG (AFG)	Fort Lewis WA & Okinawa, Japan
19th SFG (AFG)	HQ, Draper UT
10th SFG (AFG)	Fort Carson, CO & Stuttgart, Germany
5th SFG (AFG)	Fort Campbell, KY
20th SFG (AFG)	HQ - Birmingham, AL
3rd & 7th SFG (AFG)	Fort Bragg, NC

```

graph TD
    SFGA[SFG(A)] --- HHC[HHC]
    SFGA --- HHD[HHD]
    SFGA --- SPTCO[SPT CO]
    HHC --- GSB[GSB]
    HHC --- MIDCOMMO[MID, COMMO, CSS  
MED, CRD]
    HHC --- SFBN[SF BN]
    HHC --- TACPUSAF[TACP  
USAF]
    HHD --- SPTCO2[SPT CO]
    HHD --- SFCO[SF CO  
(ODB)]
    SPTCO2 --- SFODA1[SF ODA]
    SPTCO2 --- SCUBA1[SCUBA]
    SPTCO2 --- MF1[Military Freefall]
    SFBN --- SFODA2[SF ODA]
    SFBN --- SCUBA2[SCUBA]
    SFBN --- MF2[Military Freefall]
    SFCO --- SFODA3[SF ODA]
    SFCO --- SCUBA3[SCUBA]
    SFCO --- MF3[Military Freefall]
  
```


SPECIAL FORCES GROUPS - GLOBAL ORIENTATION



SPECIAL FORCES CORE TASKS

- Unconventional Warfare
- Foreign Internal Defense
- Special Reconnaissance
- Direct Action
- Combating Terrorism
- Counter-Proliferation
- Information Operations

SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRUTHS

- Humans are more important than Hardware
- Quality is better than Quantity
- Special Operations Forces cannot be mass produced
- Competent Special Operations Forces cannot be created after emergencies occur

SPECIAL OPERATIONS IMPERATIVES

- Understand the operational environment
- Recognize political implications
- Facilitate interagency activities
- Engage the threat discriminately
- Consider long-term effects
- Ensure legitimacy/ credibility of S.O.
- Anticipate and control psychological effects
- Apply capabilities indirectly
- Develop multiple options
- Ensure long-term sustainment
- Provide sufficient Intelligence
- Balance security and synchronization

A HISTORY OF SPECIAL FORCES



HISTORY AND HERITAGE

Special Forces Soldiers today can trace their history and heritage back to early antecedents in the Colonial era. What is now the U.S. Army Special Forces Command has evolved through three centuries and numerous organizations since the French and Indian Wars of 18th Century North America.

FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR

During the French and Indian Wars (1754 – 1763), two special operations units emerged: Gorham's Indian Rangers of the Backwoods, and the Independent Com-

pany of Rangers known as Rogers' Rangers. Both utilized small unit tactics, integrated Native American pathfinders and scouts, and traversed great distances under difficult conditions, often in uncharted territory.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Facing the challenge of numerically superior, better equipped and better supplied British forces, General George Washington emphasized the use of strategic and tactical intelligence operations to advantage the Continental Army. Of special note in the Carolinas was Lieutenant Colonel Francis Marion "The Swamp Fox" (later promoted to Brigadier General). He commanded a disparate, rugged band of Continentals and used tactics honed while fighting the Cherokee in the French and Indian Wars. Seeking cover in swamps and taking advantage of low-country riverine systems, he and his troops harassed the British with a success out of all proportion to their small numbers.

CIVIL WAR

In the Civil War, the most famous guerilla fighter was Colonel John Singleton Mosby who ranged the northern and western counties of Virginia. Following tactics and strategy perpetuated in the Carolinas during the Revolutionary War, he and his command were successful in spreading disinformation to Federal forces about troop strength and positions, disrupting Federal supply and communication lines, and distracting large contingents of troops to protect their rear areas. He and his band were the scourge of Union Generals.



FRONTIER WARFARE

After the Civil War, the U.S. Army turned its attention turned westward. To help manage the frontier, they organized a special Native American unit called the U.S. Army Indian Scouts. They knew the language and customs of the varied tribes, knew the nuances of tracking and were expert in other

aspects of field craft. They actively served from 1869 to 1939, but the last Scout detachment was not disbanded until 1943. Their Branch colors were scarlet and white and their insignia was silver crossed arrows capped with the initials U.S.S. Their legacy is preserved by the arrowhead shape of the patches of the First Special Service Force of World War II, the U.S. Army Special Forces, and the U.S. Army Special Operations Command today. A similar crossed arrows insignia is currently worn by U.S. Army Special Forces Soldiers.

WORLD WAR II

Even before the U.S. entry into World War II, key civilian and military leaders saw the need for unconventional approaches to gain advantage over a well prepared enemy. Among the units developed and activated during the War included the Office of Strategic Services and The First Special Service Force. These two organizations are the more dominant, modern era antecedents of the present day United States Army Special Forces.

FIRST SPECIAL SERVICE FORCE

In the Army's official Lineage and Honors, several Special Forces Groups are linked to the regiments of the First Special Service Force, an elite unit composed of American volunteers and Canadian Airborne Soldiers. They had prepared for a behind the lines operation in Norway but finally fought in the Aleutians, North Africa, and most notably in Italy and Southern France. Activated in 1942 under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Robert T. Fredericks, "The Force" specialized in winter warfare, mountaineering and amphibious operations. Highly trained special infantry, they were renowned for their ability to swiftly cover difficult terrain, and for ferocity in combat. They wore the crossed arrow insignia and an arrowhead patch, evocative of the Indian Scouts' legacy. Their structure included an embedded service battalion with admin, service, aviation, maintenance and security elements, making them totally self-sufficient. They were formally disbanded in France in December 1944. Special Forces Groups today still commemorate Menton Day to recognize the legacy of this exceptional unit.





OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

The Office of Strategic Services (OSS) was the product of Colonel William J. Donovan (later promoted to Major General). A veteran of World War I, he had received the Medal of Honor for his actions as an infantry commander on the Western Front in October 1918. When World War II finally erupted in Europe and threatened to engulf the United States, Donovan became convinced that a new type of

organization would have to be formed to collect intelligence and wage secret operations behind lines. In 1941, President Roosevelt directed Colonel Donovan to form a quasi-civilian agency named the Coordinator of Intelligence (COI). In 1942, the agency was activated as a military unit, renamed the OSS, and operated under the auspices of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The sudden U.S. involvement in World War II warranted a still more unconventional kind of warfare which focused on the development of indigenous fighting units to combat enemy forces. This Unconventional Warfare became a primary concentration of the agency. Special teams were formed to provide liaison and logistics support, and to advise and assist resistance groups in the conduct of small-unit guerilla warfare. Eventually, the OSS was operating out of seventeen field offices, four theaters of operation, and had established a full scale research and development laboratory to produce James Bond type weaponry.



Recruited heavily from ethnic communities in the United States, operatives were specially chosen and trained to perform defined missions and work hand-in-hand with specific partisan groups in Europe and also in East Asia. To ensure volunteers were up to the task, the OSS employed a detailed and comprehensive selection and assessment program as part of their recruitment process. These personnel with extensive cultural and language expertise were trained in both conventional and guerilla tactics. A dominant feature of training was their detailed planning and preparation for missions. All these features of the OSS formed the original model and template for the later development of U.S. Army Special Forces, and are characteristic of the doctrine, training, organization and operations of United States Army Special Forces today. More than any one entity or antecedent, The OSS special force units informed the later U.S. Army Special Forces and their focus on Unconventional Warfare. The two distinct types of units formed for operations in Europe were the Operational Groups (OGs), and the Jedburgh Teams. The OGs would also conduct operations in the China-Burma-India Theater.

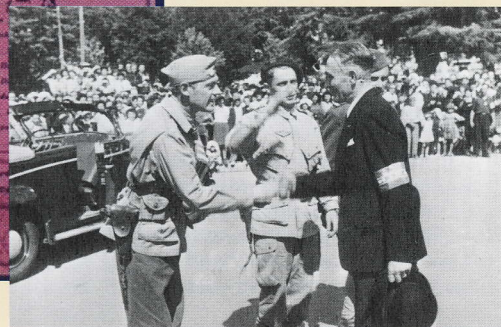
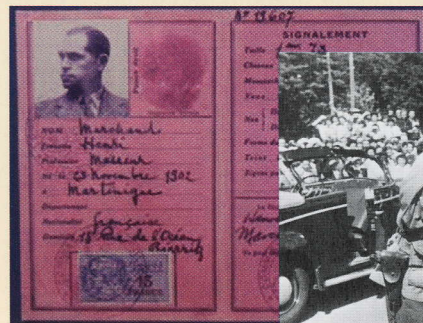
OSS OPERATIONAL GROUPS

The actual size of OG teams in the field would vary greatly, but they were essentially 30-34 man units (26-30 enlisted men and 4 officers) which generally fought as split teams or cells of 15-17 men. Primarily infantrymen and demolition experts, they also contained medical technicians and radio operators. The teams inserted behind enemy lines by parachute or by boat to conduct guerrilla operations, conduct raids, lead and train the local resistance movements and generally create the maximum amount of confusion for the enemy. By mission and design the Operational Groups were the most direct pattern for the Special Forces "A" Team, and the 12-man Operational Detachment is a faithful modification of the Operational Group concept.



JEDBURGH

In 1944, the Jedburgh Mission was a major operation of the OSS in Europe. The 93, three-man Jedburgh teams typically consisted of a French officer or an individual from the country in which the team was to operate, an American or British officer and an enlisted radio operator. They received training in close combat, infiltration and exfiltration techniques, small unit tactics, light weapons, demolitions and a host of skills necessary for survival behind German lines. Formed to deploy in support of the D-Day Normandy invasion and subsequent push toward Berlin, they parachuted into France, Belgium and the Netherlands and performed as liaison for Resistance groups. They supplied, trained and guided partisans in attacks on German units and communications, ambushed retreating columns, kept major installations from demolition, rescued downed Allied pilots, screened the flanks of conventional forces, and gathered vital battlefield intelligence.



DETACHMENT 101

In 1943, OSS Detachment 101 was developed under Colonel Carl Eiffler to conduct operations in the China-Burma-India Theater. Responsible to not only recruit and train, but also to command indigenous members against a much greater Japanese force, OSS Detachment 101 was the first unit ever to be formally built for this purpose. They ran disinformation campaigns, gathered intelligence, performed sabotage, scouted for conventional units, and rescued downed Allied flyers. They had their own aviation assets, a signal Company which included a company of carrier pigeons to relay messages, and a medical detachment. They later spawned other organizations, including Det 202 in China, Det 303 in Thailand and Detachment 404 in French Indo-China.



PHILIPPINE GUERRILLAS

As Japanese military forces invaded the Philippines in 1942, many American and Filipino soldiers went into the hills to conduct guerilla warfare rather than surrender. Prominent among those included then Lieutenant Colonel Russell Volckmann, who along with others raised a partisan force of some 20,000 soldiers. Due to their efforts, conventional forces faced much less opposition upon

their return. Volckmann and the partisans continued to provide vital support to conventional forces until the final Japanese surrender.

ALAMO SCOUTS

General Douglas MacArthur would not allow the OSS entry into the Pacific Theater, and consequently, the Army ground commander developed a force of 127 volunteers known as the "Alamo Scouts" to coordinate with Volckmann and the various guerilla organizations in order to secure intelligence on Japanese strength and disposition in the Philippines. Over 18 months, the Scouts' 8 man detachments performed 106 missions without a man captured or killed. They performed two daring prisoner rescues- one with the 6th Ranger Battalion at Cabanatuan ("The Great Raid") and the other in New Guinea where they rescued 66 Dutch prisoners. The accomplishments of these few also remain a storied part of the Army's Unconventional Warfare experience and heritage.



POST WWII

After World War II, effective 1 October 1945, President Truman disbanded the OSS. Its functions and assets were moved to other agencies in the State Department or were discarded. UW capabilities in the military rapidly degenerated and senior military leaders focused on the disposition of conventional forces to oppose the Soviet threat. In response to the growing danger posed by communist aggression and subversion in Europe and Asia, the National Security Act of 1947 created the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The CIA took the lead in UW, began coordinating intelligence overseas, and conducting strategic covert activities.

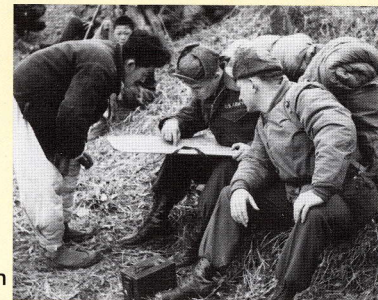
Several of the OSS operatives were prominent and formative in the early days of U.S. Army Special Forces, and are recognized as among the Founding Fathers of the Special Forces Regiment. Colonels Aaron Bank, Carl Eiffler and Lieutenant Colonel Hubert Brucker were among former OSS members who worked to establish U.S. Army Special Forces in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Lieutenant Colonel Russell Volckmann, noted for the conduct of guerilla warfare in the Philippines, also used his experience and lessons learned to help formulate the doctrine of Unconventional Warfare that became the cornerstone for U.S. Army Special Forces.

KOREAN CONFLICT

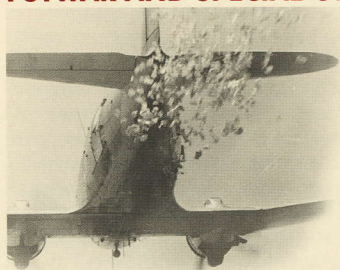
When the Korean Conflict began in 1950, many anti-communist displaced persons from North Korea traveled to nearby islands and began a covert war of their own against the North. A Korean partisan force was organized

in 1951 as the 8240th Army Unit. This United Nations Partisan Force, Korea (UNPFK) operated in much the same manner as the guerillas had done in the Philippines or as the European partisans had done under the OGs and Jedburghs. Eventually attaining the rank of Brigadier General, Russell Volckmann had also become involved with the UNPFK until his evacuation in 1951. By 1952, members of the

new 10th Special Forces Group began to augment the cadre. They added Evasion and Escape operations to unit tasks, and dispatched several operatives to various known POW camps in North Korea. In March 1953, the 10th Group sent more officers and NCOs to the 8240th who eventually established the 8086th Army Unit and worked with partisan forces on their own. They were credited with effectively tying up more than 75,000 enemy troops by the end of the war.

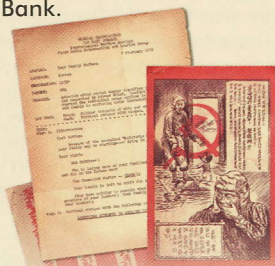


PSYWAR AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS



The success that Psychological Warfare (PSYWAR) had in Korea and the respect its impact garnered among conventional commanders paved the way for special operations capability to remain and for Unconventional Warfare to be reestablished in the U.S. Army. This PSYWAR connection was very helpful for the early development of U.S. Army Special Forces. Later promoted to Major General, Robert A.

McClure, a Psychological Operations (PSYOP) Officer in World War II, understood the need for special force units and was determined to get them reinstated in the Army. He had personally witnessed their benefit in war, and advocated the benefits of low intensity conflict resolution. Along with veterans from various special units, the OSS and from guerilla warfare in the Philippines, he was also instrumental in forging what would later become the modern day U.S. Army Special Forces. One of the special operations officers who General McClure had recruited was the guerilla fighter from the Philippines, Russell Volckmann. Brigadier General Volckmann had written Field Manuals on guerilla fighting and had worked to establish an Unconventional Warfare Directorate on the General Staff during his assignment in Washington, DC. Another officer he recruited who would figure very prominently in the early development of U.S. Army Special Forces was the OSS Jedburgh veteran Colonel Aaron Bank.



THE ORIGIN OF THE SPECIAL FORCES COMMAND

In response to recommendations by then Brigadier General McClure, the U.S. Army Psychological Warfare Center and School was moved to Fort Bragg, NC in Apr/May 1952. In charge of the Center's Special Operations Division was Colonel Bank, who was sent to Fort Bragg to choose a suitable location for the Center and School. His Division was activated at Fort Bragg on June 19, 1952 as the 10th Special Forces Group, with Colonel Bank as the first commander. So what is now the Special Forces Command grew from the Special Operations Division of the Psychological Warfare Center and School. The Psychological Warfare Center and School was renamed the U.S. Army Special Warfare School in 1956, and became the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School in 1983.

THE EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL FORCES



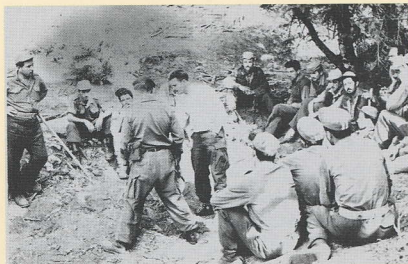
Colonel Bank and the 10th Special Forces Group attracted the best troops in the Army-former OSS officers, airborne troops, ex-Rangers and combat vets of World War II and Korea. Virtually all spoke at least two languages, held at least a sergeant's rank, and were trained in infantry and parachute skills. The 10th Group also benefited from an influx of displaced, stateless persons who fled communist tyranny

of Eastern Europe after World War II. They were brought in under the Lodge Bill, a legislative act that allowed immigrants from political persecution to become U.S. citizens- granting U.S. citizenship in return for five years of military service. These men greatly enhanced the language and cultural effectiveness of Special Forces detachments that targeted the Communist Bloc nations. So Colonel Bank found himself with a cadre of soldiers ideally suited for organizing guerrilla operations in Eastern Europe, precisely his area of focus. But at the same time he was growing and training his new unit for the European Theater, he also had to dedicate assets to the Korean Conflict. By sending cadre and operatives to work with Korean partisans, he showed that worldwide deployment- as in World



War II, would be a defining characteristic of the new Special Forces. Colonel Bank trained the Group in the most advanced techniques of Unconventional Warfare, and on Nov. 11, 1953, in the aftermath of an aborted uprising in East Germany, half of the 10th Group deployed forward to establish a permanent headquarters in the Bavarian town of Bad Tolz, West Germany. The remainder stayed at Fort



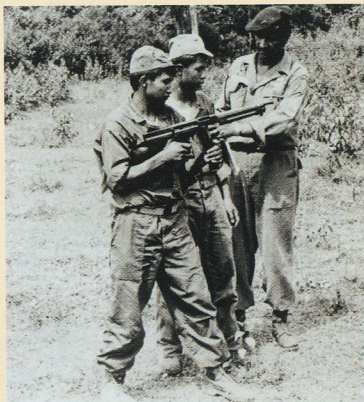


Bragg and were redesignated the 77th Special Forces Group. Elements of the 77th would soon spawn a string of detachments organized from 1956 to 1957 that were oriented toward operations in South East Asia. These were later activated as the 1st SFG in 1957 and were based in Okinawa. The 77th and remaining cadre at Bragg

were redesignated the 7th SFG in May 1960 with a focus toward missions in the Southern Hemisphere.

INDO-CHINA AND COUNTER-INSURGENCY

The late 1950s and early 1960s saw the rise of communist-inspired insurgent movements in many parts of the world. In response, Special Forces teams deployed to Laos to improve the training of the Royal Laotian Army. Called Operation "White Star", this mission was a fine example of Special Forces Soldiers performing the mission for which they were created and trained. The extensive experience gained would shortly be put to use in the Republic of Vietnam.



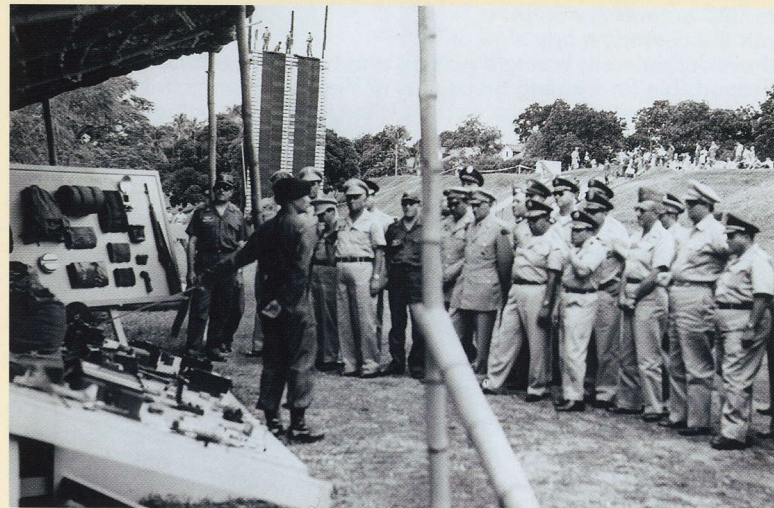
THE EXPANSION OF SPECIAL FORCES

By the time John F. Kennedy was inaugurated as president in January 1961, the three Special Forces Groups - the 10th, 7th and the 1st SFG had firmly entrenched themselves as the Army's elite. As a student of military affairs, Kennedy had developed an interest in counterinsurgency - the art and method of defeating guerrilla movements. During a visit to Fort Bragg in 1961, he gazed upon the ranks of Special Forces and saw the ideal vehicle for carrying out such missions.



Before his visit to Fort Bragg, President Kennedy had asked the Special Warfare Center Commander, then Brigadier General William P. Yarborough, if the SF soldiers would wear their berets for the event. He felt that since they had a special mission, SF soldiers should have something to set them apart. The Green Beret was originally designed in 1953 by then Special Forces Major Herb Brucker, a veteran of OSS. Though it had become common

for Special Forces to wear the Green Beret, the Army had refused to authorize its official use. Kennedy's interest in Special Forces led to the formal adoption of the Green Beret on Sept. 21, 1961, as the official headgear of all Special Forces troops. President Kennedy considered the Green Beret to be "symbolic of one of the highest levels of courage and achievement of the United States military." Soon, the Green Beret became synonymous with Special Forces, so much so that the two terms became interchangeable. With Kennedy firmly behind Special Forces, new SF groups sprang up with dizzying rapidity. On Sept. 21, 1961, the 5th Group was activated, followed by the 8th SFG on April 1, the 6th SFG on May 1, and the 3rd Special Forces Group on December 5, 1963. The 11th and 12th Special Forces of The Army Reserve, and the 19th and 20th Special Forces Groups of the National Guard were also activated in 1961.



fought by the U.S. Army. In Grenada, Haiti, Panama, in the Balkans and in Africa, Special Forces teams conducted special and Unconventional Warfare operations in support of the regular Army and proved their unique value to the nation throughout all aspects of international military deployment.



The 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne), deactivated after Vietnam, was reactivated in 1984- a direct counter to prevailing Cold War tensions and threatened communist expansion in South East Asia and Pacific Rim nations. The need for Special Forces capabilities had become especially apparent with the rise of guerrilla movements and communism in Central and Latin America. Through the persistent deployment of training missions and advisors during the 1980s, the 7th Special Forces Group helped improve the lives of various host populations, strengthened the military forces of democratic regimes, and contained the spread of communism throughout the region. Nicaragua was controlled by a communist regime, and with the support of Cuba, they were working hard to export their revolution to El Salvador and Honduras. Throughout the 1980s the 7th Special Forces Group deployed training missions to help the Salvadoran military grow from a constabulary force of 12,000 to a counter-insurgency force of 55,000.

The 7th also played a very important role in preparing the Honduran military to resist and defeat an invasion from Nicaragua. The extensive 7th Group operations throughout Honduras in the 80s not only prepared them for the threatened invasion, but also assisted the Honduran forces



in conducting their own counter insurgency operations and ultimately defeating the Honduran communist-supported insurgency. During the last half of the 1980s, the 7th Group became involved in counter narcotics operations in the Andean Ridge countries of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. Reflecting increased concern over conditions on the African continent, the 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne), another Group that had been deactivated after Vietnam, was reactivated at Fort Bragg, NC on 29 June 1990. The 3rd Group was responsible for the Caribbean as well. The reactivation of the 3rd Group brought to five the number of Groups on active-duty status.



ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE AND REALIGNMENT

In June 1983, the Army authorized a Special Forces tab to be worn



by SF-qualified troops, and Special Forces was established as a separate Army career field for enlisted personnel on Oct. 1, 1984. The warrant officer career field soon followed, and on April 9, 1987, the Army established the Special Forces Branch for officers. With competing funding requirements after the end of the Cold War, the 11th and 12th Special Forces Groups were deactivated from the Army

Reserve on 15 September 1995, but the two National Guard Special Forces Groups- the 19th and 20th Special Forces remained active in the Ready Reserve system. They continue to deploy in the support and conduct of SF missions world wide.

The United States Army Special Forces Command (Airborne) was activated at Fort Bragg on 27 November 1990 as a Major Subordinate Command (MSC) of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC), which is the Army Component of the U. S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) at MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida.



DESERT STORM



Characterizing their role in Operation DESERT STORM during 1991, General Norman H. Schwarzkopf described the Special Forces as "the eyes and ears" of the conventional forces and "the glue that held the coalition together." Detachments were used in long-range Special Reconnaissance missions and played a key part in the training of the

coalition forces. In Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait, Special Forces teams conducted deep reconnaissance, performed Direct Action missions, and helped rescue downed pilots. During the ground war, 109 SF teams accompanied virtually the entire range of forces into battle, and they were among the first U.S. soldiers into Kuwait City. Trained and equipped for that purpose, SF teams performed an important role in both training and working closely with foreign military. They patrolled border areas as part of combined reconnaissance teams with the Saudis. Special Forces teams organized resistance groups, reconstituted the Kuwaiti army and trained them and the other coalition partners in tactics, NBC operations, close air support, minefield breaching and urban combat. After DESERT STORM, Special Forces continued to participate in significant humanitarian and conflict operations across the world in the Caribbean, across the continent of Africa, and in Northern Iraq. Deployed worldwide in a variety of missions, they continued to affirm that they are a key asset in the conduct of warfare and in operations other than war.

EASTERN EUROPE AND THE BALKANS

The mid 1990's saw significant change across the landscape of Europe as former communist states of the old Soviet Union began to develop their own democracies and to engage in joint training missions with western militaries. The latter was a made to order mission for the 10th Special Forces Group, who also became a prominent feature in America's response to conflict and events in the Balkan states. Special Forces teams worked with the ethnic enclaves and NATO allies, and the unique talent of the Special Forces Soldiers to gather information and defuse potentially deadly situations was particularly helpful in an area torn with ethnic and religious strife. The 10th Special Forces arrived in Bosnia as part of the Implementation Force (IFOR) in December 1995. With a preliminary package of 240 personnel, they established liaison teams to help in the coordination of multi-national efforts, assisted in the apprehension of key individuals, conducted Special Reconnaissance, and provided military assistance to the Kosovo Liberation Army in Albania. Following the cessation of hostilities, they continued to perform extensive liaison duties.



OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM- OEF (GWOT BEGINS)



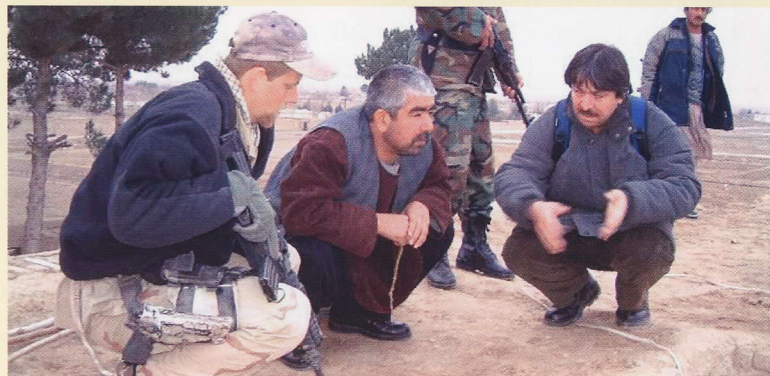
Following the attacks of September 11th, amidst the "Fog of War", the nation was faced with immediate challenges that required both thoughtful and decisive action. On 19 and 20 October 2001, two Special Forces teams launched to remove the Taliban regime and destroy the Al Qaeda base within

Afghanistan. During the lightning campaign in Afghanistan, Special Forces validated the classical tenets of Unconventional Warfare, and the motivating criteria for choosing to deploy Special Forces were never more clear. The only viable option for the nation was U.S. Army Special Forces. By 7 December 2001, every major Afghan city and town had been liberated. The Taliban regime was finally defeated as their last stronghold in Kandahar fell

under the Afghan resistance and their Special Forces advisors on 8 December 2001. Only 7 ODAs and barely 100 men had deployed onto the battlefield over those few short months during which elements of a lone Special Forces Group would see the fall of a terrorist government in distant Central Asia and evict



Al Qaeda leadership from their home in Afghanistan. Special Forces applied their Unconventional Warfare skills; provided the Afghan forces with "on call" Close Air Support, facilitated badly needed logistics, and provided tactical advice to the Afghan resistance commanders. Today, working with their indigenous, host-nation partners and conventional



forces, Special Forces continue to function as a visible symbol of U.S. support for and commitment to the Afghan people. They continue to assist the new, freely elected Afghan government and lend direct, continuous assistance to the first Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police. Special Forces teams continue to conduct Special Operations activities from established outposts throughout the countryside and communities of Afghanistan, and help ensure against an effective resurgence of militant Taliban or Al Qaeda forces.



OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM- OIF

Special Forces were critical to the success of the Coalition ground campaign in Iraq. In Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, Special Forces teams trained and fought with the Kurds in northern Iraq, cleared the western desert of SCUD missiles and provided long-range Special Reconnaissance to the Coalition ground forces on the drive to Baghdad. On 19 March 2003, little more than a year after the defeat of the Taliban and Al Qaeda forces in Afghanistan, Special Forces spearheaded two fronts in the ground invasion of Iraq with the Kurdish UW mission in the North, and the SCUD/WMD hunt and Unconventional Warfare mission in the West. In northern Iraq, Special Forces allied with Kurdish Peshmerga forces to tie up more than 150,000 Iraqi troops- mechanized regiments and divisions, thus preventing them from reinforcing units defending Baghdad. SF teams and Peshmerga fighters quickly eliminat-



saddamist support, and gathered intelligence for coalition operations.

Throughout the conflict, SF contributed significantly to the rapid advancement of conventional forces and proved essential as dynamic force-multipliers. OIF was the second major campaign in the Global War on Terrorism and Special Forces exceeded every standard and expectation across a wide variety of missions.

Special Forces consistently demonstrated their versatility and ability to skillfully adapt to the dynamics of the battlefield. As in Afghanistan, they proved their effectiveness in directing strike aircraft, and demonstrated their unique ability to marshal indigenous forces into the fight. After the fall of Iraq, SF continued to perform transitional UW tasks and conducted advanced special operations. They conducted operations with conventional units and Coalition SOF, but operated independently as well. They assisted in the capture of many key leaders, trained an elite Iraqi Counter-Terrorism force and conducted training of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps. Special Forces continue to train Iraqi military and police units, and are an integral part of the nation's security, rebuilding, and resistance against insurgent, terrorist, and criminal elements.



ed threats of the Ansar al Islam terrorist group near Halabja, and a suspected WMD site. In the south and western desert, SF teams conducted Strategic Reconnaissance and area denial missions, secured strategic airfields, hunted and neutralized SCUD missile threats, successfully deterred the deployment of Weapons of Mass Destruction, gained tribal and anti-

CONTINUING MISSION - GWOT

The operational tempo and deployment of Special Forces reflects wide-ranging involvement in the Global War on Terror, as well as the pursuit of select national strategic interests.

In recent years, besides fulfilling a prominent commitment in both Afghanistan and Iraq, Special Forces Groups have continued to conduct significant missions in Eastern Europe; the Philippines and Pacific Rim; in Colombia and throughout the Americas; across the continent of Africa; the greater Middle East and South West Asia.

They routinely conduct hundreds of operations and training events annually, in multiple countries worldwide. In current times, most of these missions are in direct contribution to the War on Terror. But consistent Special Forces presence and purposeful international relationship is a timeless value for the security of our nation.

In the frequent circumstance of working with countries who may be less economically advantaged than our own, Special Forces seek to help improve peoples' lives through facilitating civic assistance and by providing both medical and veterinary care.

By tradition and training, they learn language, customs and culture to develop understanding and relationship with people of other lands. They intently look for ways to help people help themselves-and in so doing, render them less vulnerable to terrorist elements.

As important as it is to focus on the population and help them attain an improved standard of living, it is equally critical that host nations are better able to defend themselves and their own people militarily from the terrorist or insurgent elements who may seek their harm.

U.S. Army Special Forces are the best military trainers in the world. The training of indigenous or host nation forces is the most classical Special Forces capability and one of the most important aspects of this current conflict against radical insurgents and global terrorists.

Special Forces have an historic tradition of working in partnership with people of other nations. Our continued ability to work jointly with other services, agencies, coalition partners and host-nation governments will be critical to success in the Global War on Terror.

THE FORCE OF CHOICE

As a military force, Special Forces represent a relatively modest investment of manpower and resources, and yet through effective operational results they continue to prove that they can leverage disproportionate benefits to their size and logistic requirements.

Working in small, well trained and equipped teams, they have an inherent operational efficiency. But through their small-footprint approach, they are also better able to blend with and associate more closely with various indigenous populations.

They are technically and tactically proficient, but also intentionally thoughtful and skilled in working with indigenous populations. They study intended areas of deployment to better ensure operational success.

As Warrior Diplomats, Special Forces have the right qualifications and skills to play a central role in addressing the politically complex and sensitive security challenges that face our nation. Equally important, they can facilitate and deliver precise military power when needed.

Finally, they have succeeded due to their special training, their skill, and the ability to combine indigenous manpower, popular support, and local area knowledge of operational areas with the effects of advanced technology and combined arms firepower.

They have the right tools to get the job done, and precision craftsman to ensure a quality product. Made to specifications, On Time, Anytime, Anywhere. They are the right choice for the conduct of Unconventional Warfare in the Global War on Terror and in conflict situations short of war.

Under the broad scope of their capstone mission, Unconventional Warfare, Special Forces are conducting a variety of activities to target terrorist elements both directly and indirectly to constrain their operating space worldwide.

By culture, tradition and conscious choice, the Special Forces "Quiet Professionals" continue without fanfare to deploy worldwide and conduct a vital role in The Global War on Terror. They continue with deliberate vigilance to undertake the most difficult missions, to help other peoples, and to protect America and the world from terrorism.



"We do have a great deal of sensitivity towards their culture, their religions, and their day-to-day lives. We care about them..... they see that we care. And with that, their hearts and minds come over to our side."

CONTENTS

- Introduction
- Organization and Missions
- The Operational Detachment - Alpha (ODA)
- Detachment Duty Positions
- The Special Forces Groups
- Special Forces Group Organization
- Stationing in the United States
- Global Orientation
- Special Forces Core Tasks
- Special Operations Truths and Imperatives
- A History of Special Forces
- Continuing Mission- GWOT
- The Force of Choice

VIETNAM AND SOUTHEAST ASIA



In Vietnam, Special Forces teams worked as advisors to the Vietnamese Army and the Civilian Irregular Defense Forces. They trained and led quick reaction units called Mike Forces and conducted cross-border operations through units such as MACV-SOG (Military Assistance Command Vietnam, Studies and Observation Group). Vietnam became a watershed in the history of Special Forces, spanning over 14 years from 1956-when

a 16 member detachment deployed to Vietnam to train a cadre of indigenous Vietnamese Special Forces teams. Throughout the remainder of the 1950s and early 1960s, the number of Special Forces advisors in Vietnam increased steadily. The 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) was activated

in September 1961 at Fort Bragg, NC to handle the increasing scope and complexity of missions in Vietnam. By February 1965, The 5th SFG established a permanent headquarters in Nha Trang, making Vietnam the exclusive operational province of 5th Group. Special Forces eventually established up to 270 outposts throughout the country, many of



them defended by a single A team and hundreds of friendly natives. Responsible for training thousands of Vietnam's ethnic tribesmen in the techniques of modern warfare, they took the Montagnards, the Nungs, the Cao Dei and others and molded them into the 60,000-strong Civil Irregular Defense Group. Other missions included civic action projects, in which Special Forces built schools, hospitals and government buildings, provided medical care to civilians and dredged canals. This was designed to win the hearts and minds of the people. Gradually, the Special Forces turned over their camps to the South Vietnamese and on March 5, 1971, the 5th Group returned to Fort Bragg.



However, the Special Forces' role in Vietnam was not completely over as some soldiers continued to serve in various covert missions. In Vietnam, communist forces depended upon the Ho Chi Minh Trail as their logistical lifeline. Located in Cambodia and Laos, the trail was "off limits" to United States forces. To gather intelligence on supply movements down the trail, and to interdict operations, the MACV-SOG was formed to

run clandestine combat operations across the border. The teams from SOG were American-led and manned with indigenous forces. In this example of the versatility of Special Forces, these teams and successor units provided needed and timely intelligence for conventional Army forces. Men from 5th SFG received 16 of the 17 Medals of Honor awarded to Special Forces Soldiers in Theater. The other was awarded to a Soldier of the 7th SFG. Through their substantive experience in Vietnam, Special Forces continued to build upon an already strong base in Counterinsurgency and Unconventional Warfare, and perfected sophisticated tactics, techniques and doctrine.

POST VIETNAM

Immediately following the war in Vietnam, the Army in general and Special Forces in particular languished. By the late 1970s Special Forces was again down to just three active groups - the 5th, 7th and 10th Special Forces Group. The 1st, 3rd, 6th and 8th Special Forces Groups were deactivated, and there was a general de-emphasis of special operations as the Army concentrated once more on conventional warfare, turning its gaze from the jungles of Asia to the well-worn tank paths of Europe. Special Forces continued to train and prepare for its global missions, though the extent of deployment had seen a marked decrease.

THE RESURGENT NEED FOR SPECIAL FORCES

When President Reagan took office in 1980, defense policy received a renewed emphasis and Special Forces generally benefited from that. Special Forces continued to build upon its training and organizational base, helped check the spread of communism in vulnerable countries, and continued to be prepared for daring behind-the-lines missions in the event of a Soviet invasion through Eastern Europe. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, they conducted significant missions in virtually every campaign



THE SPECIAL FORCES CREED

I am an American Special Forces Soldier!

I will do all that my nation requires of me.

I am a volunteer, knowing well the hazards of my profession.

I serve with the memory of those who have gone before me.

I pledge to uphold the honor and integrity of their legacy
in all that I am - in all that I do.

I am a warrior.

I will teach and fight
whenever and wherever my nation requires.

I will strive always to excel in every art and artifice of war.

I know that I will be called upon to perform tasks in isolation,
far from familiar faces and voices.

With the help and guidance of my faith,
I will conquer my fears and succeed.

I will keep my mind and body clean, alert and strong.

I will maintain my arms and equipment in
an immaculate state befitting a Special Forces Soldier,
for this is my debt to those who depend upon me.

I will not fail those with whom I serve.

I will not bring shame upon myself or Special Forces.

I will never leave a fallen comrade.

I will never surrender though I am the last.

If I am taken, I pray that I have the strength
to defy my enemy.

I am a member of my Nation's chosen soldiery,

I serve quietly, not seeking recognition or accolades.

My goal is to succeed in my mission - and live to succeed again.

De Oppresso Liber

Commander

USASFC (A)

Desert Storm Drive

Ft Bragg, NC 28310

(910) 432-2006

Public Affairs Office

(910) 432-4587

<http://www.soc.mil/>

Special Forces Recruiting (Fort Bragg)

(910) 432-1818