Brigadier General Charles Cleveland
Commanding

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SOCSOUTH
Special Operations Command South

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Commanding
**POINTS OF INTEREST**

**Panama**
- Canal security
- Border security

**Ecuador and Peru**
- Civil unrest / national strikes
- Narco-trafficking
- Kidnappings
- Alien smuggling
- Shining Path resurgence

**Bolivia**
- Political, civil unrest

**Colombia**
- Increased urban terrorism
  - FARC, ELN, AUC
  - FARC expanding international alliances & AOR presence
- Increased threat to US personnel
  - SRS hostages

**Venezuela**
- Political, civil unrest

**Haiti**
- Political, civil unrest

**Tri-border Area**
(Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay)
- Base of operations for Islamic radical groups

**Argentina**
- Economic crisis causing political, civil unrest
Challenges

- Most inequitable income distribution of any region in world
  - Wealthiest 10% receive 40-50% of national income
- Poverty reflected in increasing crime rates (30/100,000 murder rate vs. US rate of 6.3; Brazil – 50; Guatemala – 100)
  - Only 10% of crimes prosecuted
- Disaffected indigenous groups
- Corruption rampant
- COL, BOL, PER supply majority of world’s cocaine
- 40+ year insurgency in COL has killed over 40,000 in last decade (over 6,000 in past 3 years)
- Alien smuggling networks as conduit to US
- Region vulnerable to wide variety of natural disasters
- Foliage Penetrating Imaging System
- Partner Nation operations kits (NVG’s, Comms, Selected Weapons)
- Surrogate/Partner Nation “Blue Force” tracking system
- Inexpensive FW/RW support
- Forensic Exploitation Systems