SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND AFRICA

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Procedimus Una
“We go forward together”

BG Christopher K. Haas
Commander
Bottom Line Up Front About U.S. Africa Command

- Provides dedicated focus on Africa
  - Single geographic combatant command responsible for all Department of Defense programs and activities in Africa
  - Continent, island nations, maritime zones, and airspace
- Supports U.S. foreign policy goals and objectives
- Protect American lives and interests in Africa and in the homeland
  - Performs military-to military activities that help build capacity of African partners to counter transnational threats
  - Foster increased security and stability
  - Support peacekeeping operations
  - Address consequences of humanitarian disasters
African Problems are **Global Security Challenges**

- Trafficking
- Piracy
- Irregular Militaries
- Terrorism & Extremism
- Ethnic Strife
- Undergoverned Areas
- Pilferation of Resources (e.g., Illegal Fishing)
- Pandemic Disease – HIV/AIDS
- **Insufficient Means to Confront Challenges**
- **Dependence on Foreign Assistance**

**Large**

**Diverse**

**Complex**

11.7 million square miles

3-1/2 times the Continental United States

53 Nations, 1 Billion people

Over 800 ethnic groups and 1000 languages
Many and Increasing Opportunities

“Africans must solve Africa’s problems, but with a little help from our friends” -- Nelson Mandela

- Growing political will to confront challenges
- Promising regional security & economic communities
- Increasing democratization
- Growing economies

The key is Stability that allows Africans to leverage their opportunities
What Resources and Authorities are Changing for SOF?

- Conventional budget and manpower reductions translate to less BOS/Logistics Support for SOF.

- Special Operations requires non SOF Support assistance.

- On the verge of setting the precedent that SOF supports itself.
What TSOC Needs

- Logistical Support and BOS for enduring and episodic SOF activities:
  - Rapid
  - Durable and expeditionary
  - Small footprint that is tailorable
  - BOS Providers who understand the human terrain
TSOC Activities, Way Ahead

• To register the demands of SOCAFRICA with interagency and DoD partners in an effort to expand the scope and quality of support for SOF requirements.

• Focus efforts in key partner nations in order to achieve regional effects

• Prepare and rapidly respond to crisis events on the Continent