U.S. Special Operations Command

Lt Gen Tom Trask
Vice Commander
“We will grow overall Special Operations Forces end strength to 69,700 personnel, protecting our ability to sustain persistent, networked, distributed operations to defeat al Qaeda, counter other emerging transnational threats, counter weapons of mass destruction, build the capacity of our partners, and support conventional operations.” QDR

“Our recommendations seek to protect capabilities uniquely suited to the most likely missions of the future, most notably special operations forces used for counterterrorism and crisis response. Accordingly, our special operations forces will grow to 69,700 personnel from roughly 66,000 today.” SECDEF
UNCLASSIFIED

USSOCOM TOA

* FY 12-14 totals represent EOY actuals; FY 15 represent enacted base/OCO funding;
2015 BUDGET RESOURCES COMPARISON

- USSOCOM receives about 1.5% of the DOD Total Obligation Authority
- Services provide additional $7B in enabler support
- With Service support USSOCOM is < 4% of DOD TOA

Source: DOD Resources Data Warehouse FY2015 Baseline Budget Request by Service (PB15)
Panel Members
Panel 1: "Special Operations Roles Countering Evolving Global Terrorist Threat & Political Warfare"

LTG Charles T. Cleveland
Commander
US Army Special Operations Command

2/6/2015
**ARSOF 2022: Toward Force Readiness**

**U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND**

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**Operationalize CONUS Base**
- Establishment of MEG and CMAG.
- Office of Special Warfare / Regional Desks.

**Optimize Resourcing and Commodity Areas:**
- Consolidation of SW Training.
- SW Network Development Course.

**Invest in Human Capital**
- Project DIANE.
- CAC SOF Education
  - Pre-Commissioning Modules.
  - KU Interagency Studies Program.
- All SF MFF Qualified.

**Develop SOF Capability at Operational Level**
- SO Campaign Artist Program (SOCAP).
- SILENT QUEST and SOF Planner's Handbook.
- ADP 3.05 / 7th WFF.

**Facilitate SOF Mission Command**
- 1st SFC (A).
- TDA => MTOE
- 4th BNs.
- Average ODA Strength: 70% to 100%.
- Improved PE / AFO.

**Optimize SOF/CF/JIM Interdependence**
- OPS GP – J
- Institute for Military Support to Governance.
- SOF Cells at Army COEs.
Political warfare is the employment of all means at a nation's command, short of war, to achieve its national objectives. - George Kennan
• **Framing the Environment**
  - What does 'Winning' look like in that future environment?

• **Framing the Win: Alternate Concepts for Success**
  - Preserve decision space for our national leaders.
  - Set conditions for an acceptable political outcome (Pre-Crisis)
  - Maintain positional advantage to advance U.S. interests.

• **Defining the Win: What does that look like?**
  - Remain in a position to impose costs on our adversaries and competitors.
  - This requires Persistent Influence in a hyper-connected world.
  - Support to Governance: When governments can secure their populations, social movements do not metastasize into resistance movements.
The Defense Innovation Initiative Secretary of Defense Memo - 15 Nov 2014

Past Offset Strategies

➢ 1950s: Eisenhower's New Look- Deter USSR with US Nuclear weapons to offset Soviet advantages in conventional force levels.

➢ 1970s: Precision Guided Munitions, ISR, GPS, SATCOM- Fed new Air-Land Battle Doctrine

Current Challenges

➢ Near Peer Competitors: Cyber Capabilities, Miniaturization, Robotics, Next-Gen Manufacturing (3D Printing)

➢ Declining Resources

SOF's Role in a Third Offset Strategy

➢ Small number of highly trained, culturally astute Operators: Properly Equipped - Globally Engaged

"We are entering an era where American dominance in key warfighting domains is eroding, and we must find new and creative ways to sustain, and in some areas expand, our advantages even as we deal with more limited resources"
• **What is Political Warfare?**
  > "Political warfare is the employment of all means at a nation’s command, short of war, to achieve its national objectives." - George Kennan

• **Why Does Political Warfare Matter?**
  > It is being employed by select competitors.
  > It works well in a highly connected, social media environment.
  > It is an area where we have lost capability.

• **What Can SOF Contribute?**
  > SOF forces are purpose-built for working by, with, and through, indigenous movements.
  > A far less expensive approach than conventional formations.
  > Highly scalable and tailored force packages.

"Nonviolent campaigns have a participation advantage over violent insurgencies.... local support is more reliable source of power than the support of external allies, which many violent campaigns must obtain to compensate for their lack of participants." *Why Civil Resistance Works - The Strategic Logic on Nonviolent Conflict.* Dr. Chenoweth.
VISION
Air Commandos, highly trained, capable and ready to conduct special operations...Anytime...Anyplace

MISSION
Organize, train, and equip Airmen to execute global special operations...We are America's Air Commandos

PRIORITIES
• Provide combat ready forces
• Create an environment for our Airmen and families to thrive
• Transform training to optimize human performance
• Modernize and sustain the force

America's Air Commandos...Anytime...Anyplace
Provide Combat Ready Forces

Maximize Combat Readiness • Predictable Deployment Cycle • Optimize Aircraft Availability
Create an Environment for our Airmen and Families to Thrive

Dignity & Respect • Force Development • Pride Epidemic • Safety & Security • Resilience • Support
Transform Training to Optimize Human Performance

Institutionalize Training • Effectiveness, Efficiency, & Proficiency • Develop Air Commandos
Modernize and Sustain the Force

- Precision Strike
- Specialized Mobility
- NSAv
- Tilt-Rotor
- RPA CAPs
- Manned ISR

Optimize Force Structure • Preserve & Enhance Combat Capability • Next-generation Capabilities
AFSOC
Anytime...Anyplace
Small teams or individuals employing modern camouflage; highly integrated with technologies working across all networks to defeat global threats...