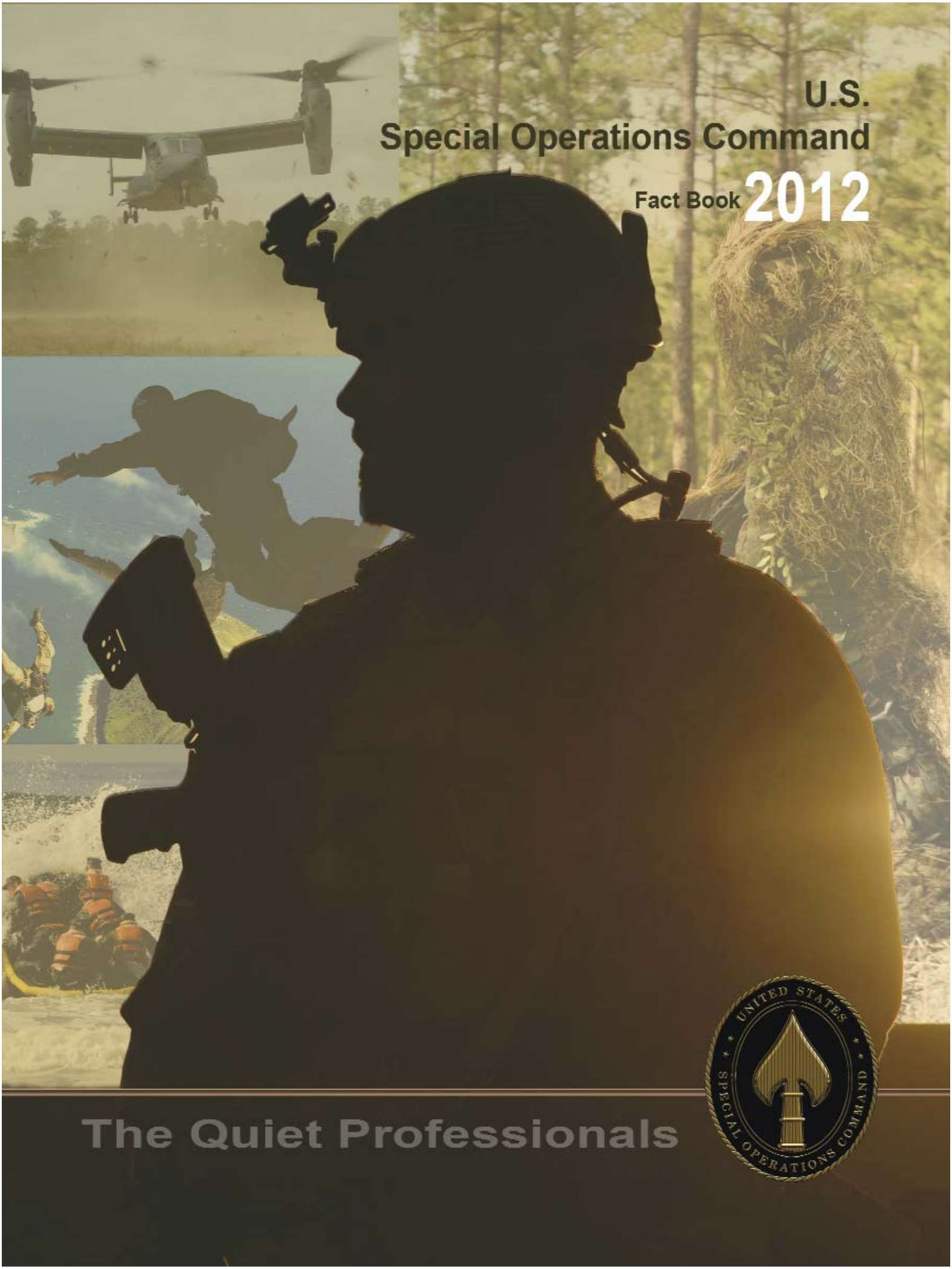
U.S. Special Operations Command

Fact Book 2012



The Quiet Professionals

USSOCOM

LEADERSHIP

U.S. Special Operations Commander

Adm. Bill H. McRaven

U.S. Special Operations Deputy Commander

Lt. Gen. David P. Fridovich

U.S. Special Operations Vice Commander

Lt. Gen. Bradley A. Heithold

U.S. Special Operations Senior Enlisted Advisor

Command Sgt. Major Chris Faris

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Public Affairs Director
Col. Tim Nye

Fact Book design by Mike Bottoms

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USSOCOM

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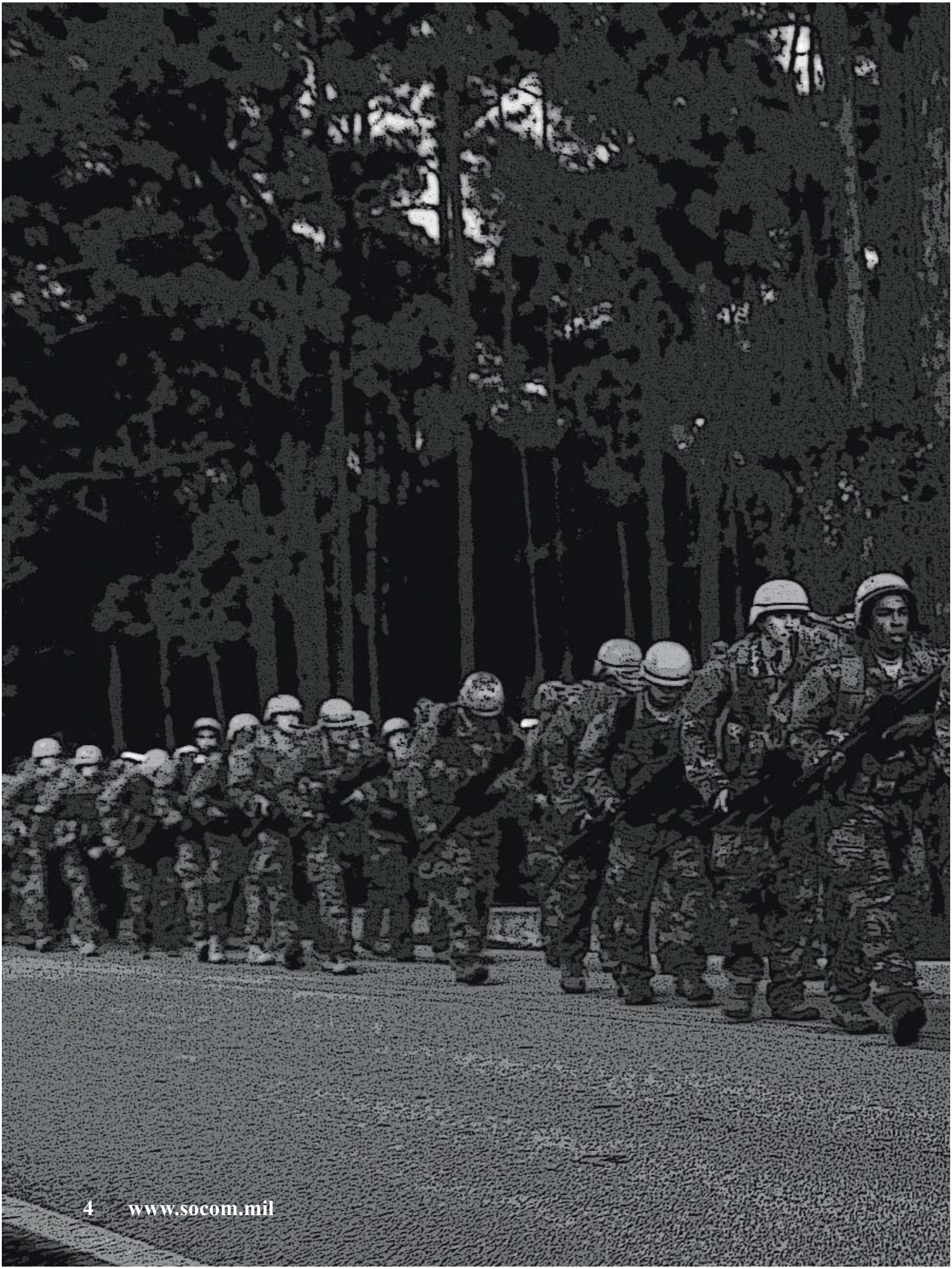
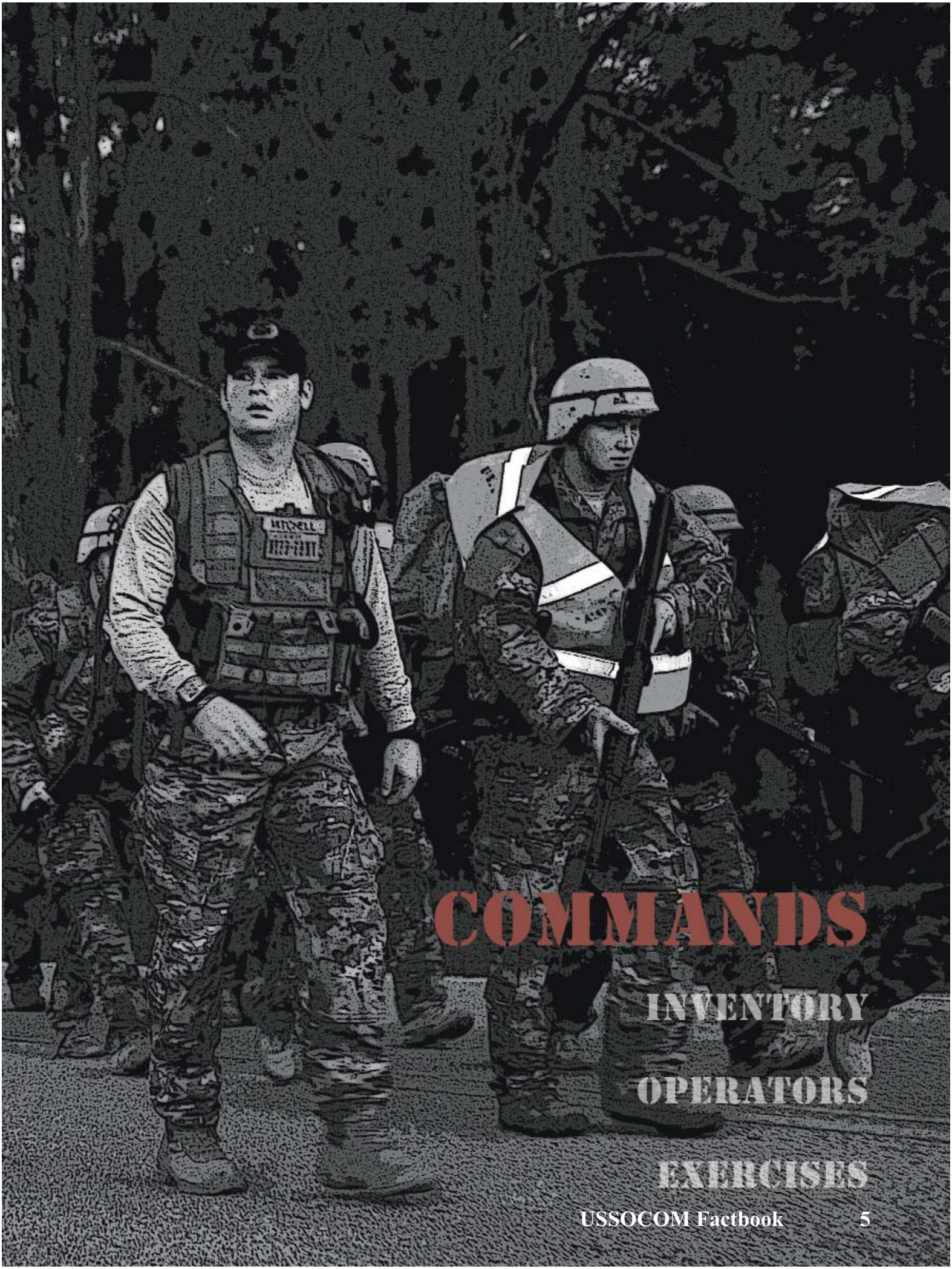




COMMANDS

INVENTORY

OPERATORS

EXERCISES

LEADERSHIP

Adm.
Bill H. McRaven
USSOCOM
Commander

Command Sgt. Major
Chris Faris
USSOCOM
Command Sgt. Major

Lt. Gen.
David P. Fridovich
USSOCOM
Deputy Commander

Lt. Gen.
Bradley A. Heithold
USSOCOM
Vice Commander

SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

Korea

Army Master Sgt. Ola L. Mize

Vietnam

Army Capt. Humbert Roque Versace
Army Capt. Roger H. C. Donlon
Army 1st Lt. Charles Q. Williams
Air Force Maj. Bernard F. Fisher
Army Capt. Ronald E. Ray
Navy Boatswain's Mate 1st Class James E. Williams
Army 1st Lt. George K. Sisler
Navy Seaman David G. Ouellet
Army Master Sgt. Charles E. Hosking, Jr.
Army Sgt. Gordon D. Yntema
Army Staff Sgt. Drew D. Dix
Army Sgt. 1st Class Eugene Ashley, Jr.
Army Sgt. 1st Class Fred W. Zabitosky
Army Master Sgt. Roy P. Benavidez
Air Force Lt. Col. Joe M. Jackson
Army Specialist 5th Class John J. Kedenburg
Air Force Col. William A. Jones III
Army Staff Sgt. Laszlo Rabel
Air Force Capt. James P. Fleming
Army Staff Sgt. Robert L. Howard
Army Specialist 4th Class Robert D. Law
Air Force Airman 1st Class John L. Levitow
Navy Lt. j.g. (SEAL) Joseph R. Kerrey
Army Sgt. 1st Class William M. Bryant
Army Staff Sgt. Robert J. Pruden
Army Staff Sgt. Franklin D. Miller
Army Sgt. Gary B. Beikirch
Army Sgt. 1st Class Gary L. Littrell
Army Sgt. Brian L. Buker
Army Staff Sgt. John R. Cavaiani
Army 1st Lt. Loren D. Hagen
Navy Lt. (SEAL) Thomas R. Norris
Navy Engineman 2nd Class (SEAL) Michael T. Thornton

Somalia

Army Master Sgt. Gary I. Gordon
Army Sgt. 1st Class Randall D. Shughart

Afghanistan

Navy Lt. (Seal) Michael P. Murphy
Army Staff Sgt. Robert Miller
Army Sgt. 1st Class Leroy A. Petry

Iraq

Navy Master-at-Arms 2nd Class (SEAL) Michael Monsoor

**Navy Lt. (Seal)
Michael P. Murphy
Medal of Honor awarded
posthumousy Oct. 22, 2007**

**Navy Master-at-Arms 2nd
Class (SEAL)
Michael Monsoor
Medal of Honor awarded
posthumousy Apr. 8, 2008**

**Army Staff Sgt.
Robert Miller
Medal of Honor awarded
posthumousy Oct. 6, 2010**

**Army Sgt. 1st Class
Leroy Petry
Medal of Honor awarded
July 12, 2011**

USSOCOM Mission

- Provide fully capable Special Operations Forces to defend the United States and its interests.
- Synchronize planning of global operations against terrorist networks.

SOF Core Activities

Preparation of the Environment

Special Reconnaissance

Security Force Assistance

Military Information Support Operations

SOF Core Operations

Counterinsurgency

Unconventional Warfare

National Strategies, Global Campaign Plans and Theater Plans

Stability

Foreign Internal Defence

Direct Action

Civil Affairs Operations

Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction

Counterterrorism

Support to Major Combat Operations & Campaigns

SOF Combat Support

SOF Service Combat Support

Hostage Rescue and Recovery

Interdiction & Offensive CWMD Operations

Title 10 Authorities and Responsibilities

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

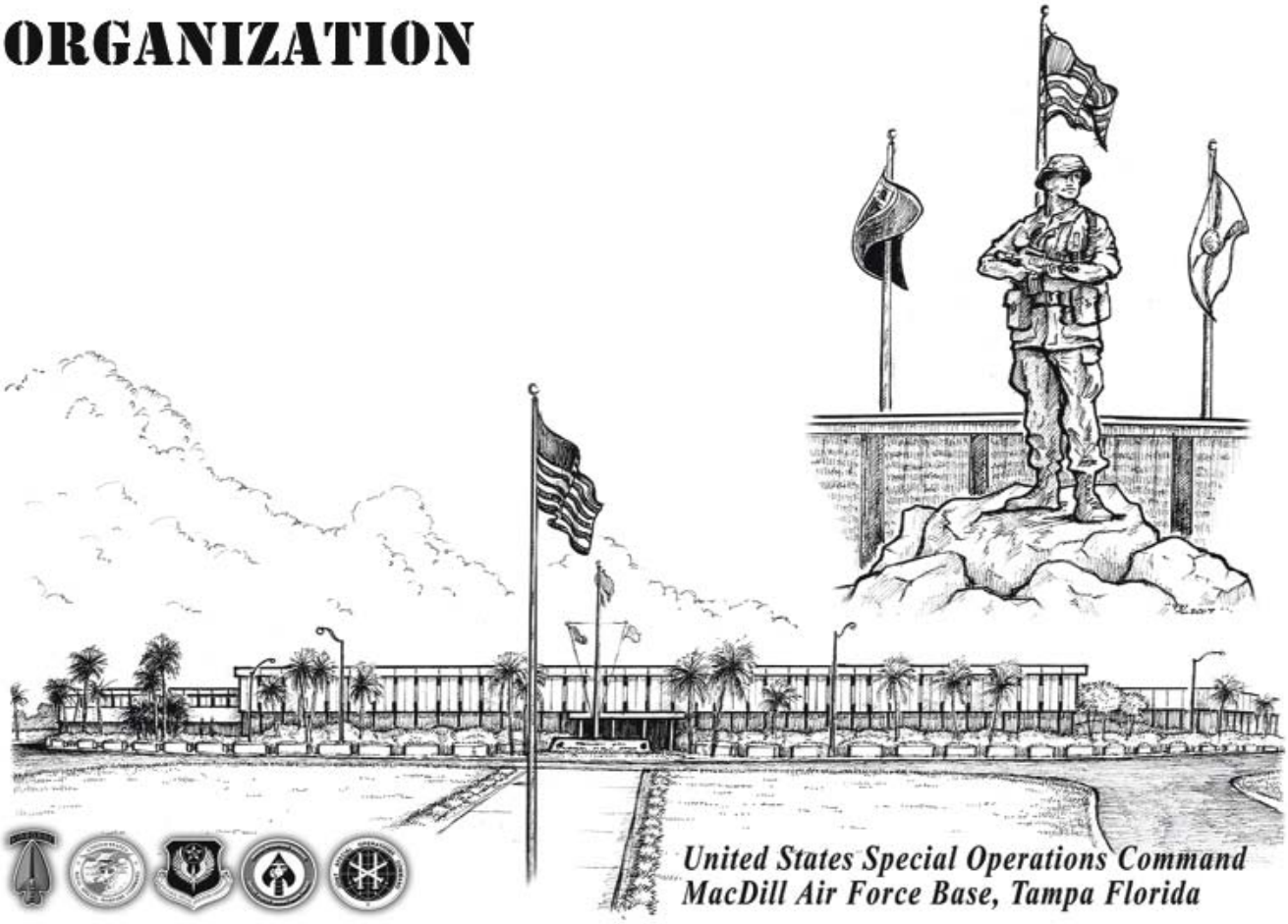
Civil Affairs

Foreign Internal Defense

Military Information Support Operations

Unconventional Warfare

Direct Action



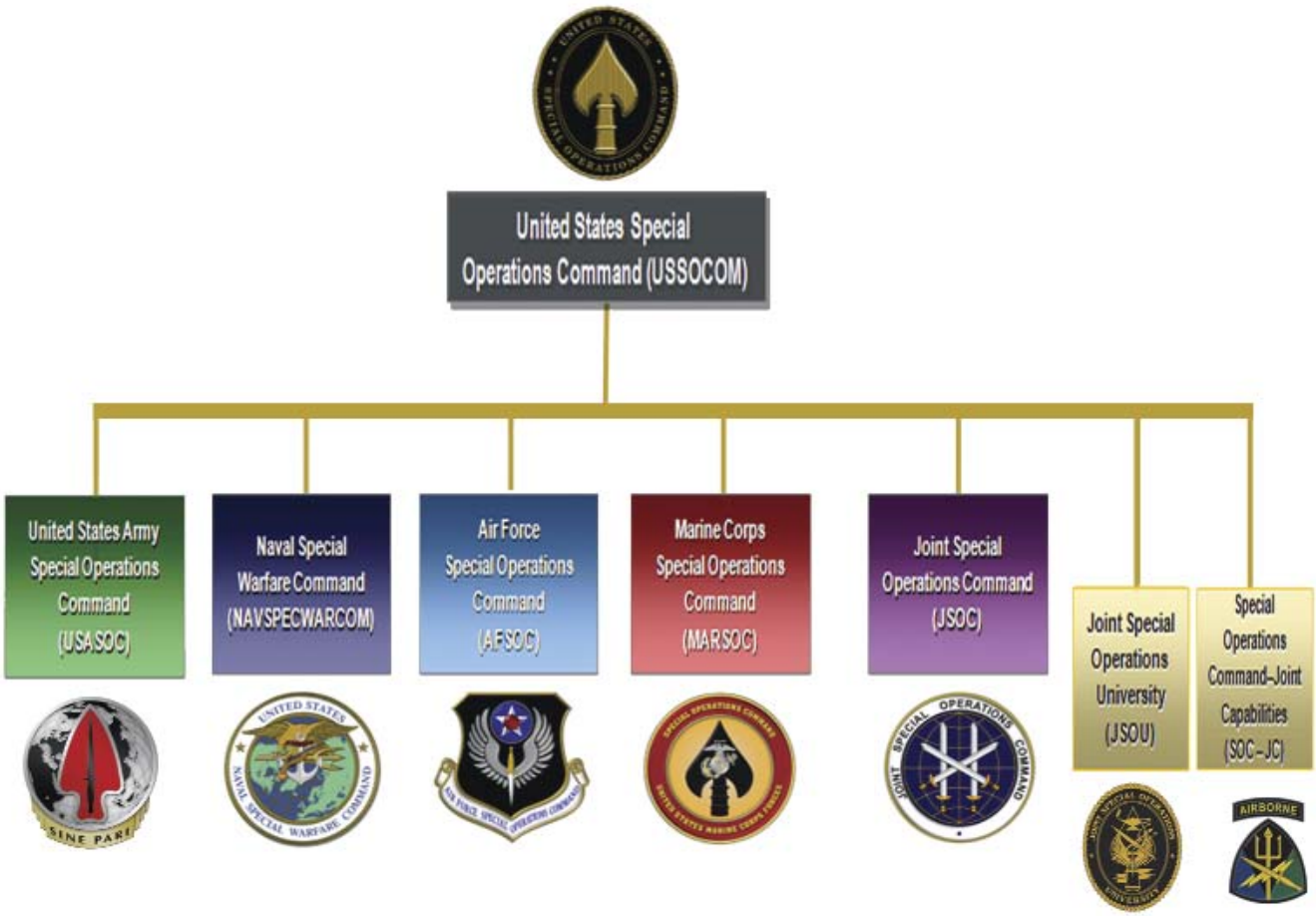
Artwork by Timothy Lawn

Headquarters USSOCOM

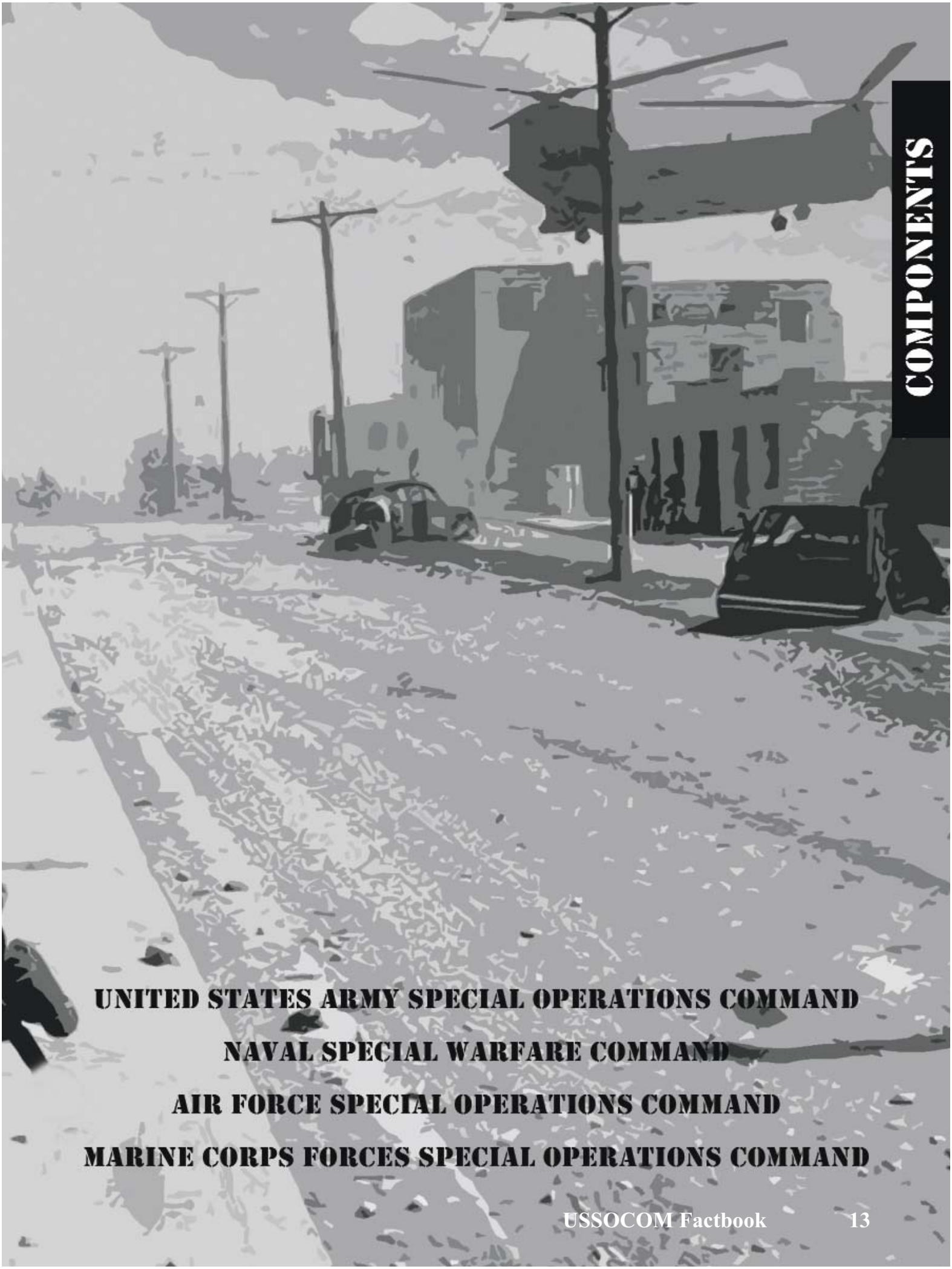
Location MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.
Established April 16, 1987
Commander Adm. Bill H. McRaven
Deputy Commander Lt. Gen. David P. Fridovich
Vice Commander Lt. Gen. Bradley A. Heithold
Command Sgt. Major Command Sgt. Major Chris Faris
Role Provide fully capable Special Operations Forces to defend the United States and its interests
People Approximately 2,500

Headquarters Staff

Chief of Staff and Command Support Directorate
Special Operations Research, Development and Acquisition Center
Directorate of Interagency Task Force
Special Operations Financial Management
J1 Directorate of Personnel
J2 Directorate of Intelligence
J3 Directorate of Operations
J4 Directorate of Logistics
J5 Directorate of Strategy, Plans and Policy
J6 Directorate of Communications
J7/J9 Directorate of Training, Doctrine, and Capability Development
J8 Directorate of Force Structure, Requirements, Resources and Strategic Assessments


United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM)
United States Army Special Operations Command (USASOC)
Naval Special Warfare Command (NAVSPECWARCOM)
Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC)
Marine Corps Special Operations Command (MARSOC)
Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC)
Joint Special Operations University (JSOU)
Special Operations Command–Joint Capabilities (SOC–JC)

Army Special Operations Command
Fort Bragg, NC
Joint Special Operations Command
Fort Bragg, NC
Special Operations Command – Joint Capabilities
Norfolk, VA
Marine Corps Special Operations Command
Camp Lejeune, NC
Naval Special Warfare Command
Naval Base Coronado, CA
Air Force Special Operations Command
Hurlburt Field, FL
U.S. Special Operations Command
Joint Special Operations University
MacDill AFB, FL



COMPONENTS

UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

NAVAL SPECIAL WARFARE COMMAND

AIR FORCE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

MARINE CORPS FORCES SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

USASOC

UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

Commander
Lt. Gen. John F. Mulholland Jr.
Command Sgt. Major
Command Sgt. Maj. Parry L. Baer
Web Address
www.soc.mil

Location Fort Bragg, N.C.
Established Dec. 1, 1989
Deputy Commander Maj. Gen. Kurt Fuller
Mission To enhance the readiness of Army Special Operations Forces
People Approximately 28,500

Subordinate commands

U.S. Army Special Forces Command (Airborne)
- 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 10th, 19th and 20th Special Forces Groups (Airborne)

U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School
- 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne)
- Special Warfare Medical Group (Airborne)

U.S. Army Special Operations Aviation Command
- 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne)

75th Ranger Regiment
- 1st, 2nd, 3rd Battalions and the Regimental Special Troops Battalion

4th Military Information Support Group (Airborne)
- 6th, 7th, and 8th Military Information Support Battalions

8th Military Information Support Group (Airborne)
- 1st, 5th, and 9th Military Information Support Battalions

95th Civil Affairs Brigade
91st, 92nd, 96th, 97th, and 98th Civil Affairs Battalions

528th Sustainment Brigade (Airborne)
112th Special Operations Signal Battalion (Airborne)

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

- **U.S. Army Special Forces Command (Airborne)**
  - 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 10th, 19th, & 20th Special Forces Groups (A)
- **U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center & School**
  - 1st Special Warfare Training Group (A)
  - Special Warfare Medical Group (A)
- **U.S. Army Special Operations Aviation Command**
  - 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (A)
- **75th Ranger Regiment**
  - 1st, 2nd, & 3rd, Ranger Battalions
  - Regimental Special Troops Battalion
- **4th Military Information Support Group (Airborne)**
  - 6th, 7th, & 8th Military Information Support Battalions
- **8th Military Information Support Group (Airborne)**
  - 1st, 5th, & 9th Military Information Support Battalions
- **95th Civil Affairs Brigade**
  - 91st, 92nd, 96th, 97th, & 98th Civil Affairs Battalions
- **528th Sustainment Brigade (Airborne)**
  - 112th Special Operations Signal Battalion (Airborne)

SINE PARI – WITHOUT EQUAL

NSWC

NAVAL SPECIAL WARFARE COMMAND

Commander
Rear Adm. Sean A. Pybus
Force Master Chief
Force Master Chief Stephen D. Link
WebAddress
www.public.navy.mil/nsw

Location Coronado, Calif.
Established Apr. 16, 1987
Deputy Commander Rear Adm. Garry Bonelli
Mission Man, train, equip, deploy and sustain NSW Forces for operations and activities abroad, in support of Combatant Commanders and U.S. National Interests
People Approximately 8,900

Subordinate commands

Naval Special Warfare Group ONE
- SEAL Teams 1, 3, 5, and 7, Logistics Support Unit 1, NSW Units 1 and 3

Naval Special Warfare Group TWO
- SEAL Teams 2, 4, 8, and 10, Logistics Support Unit 2, Unit 2 Detachment South, NSW Unit 10

Naval Special Warfare Group THREE
- SEAL Delivery Team 1, Logistics Support Unit 3, SEAL Delivery Vehicle Detachment 1

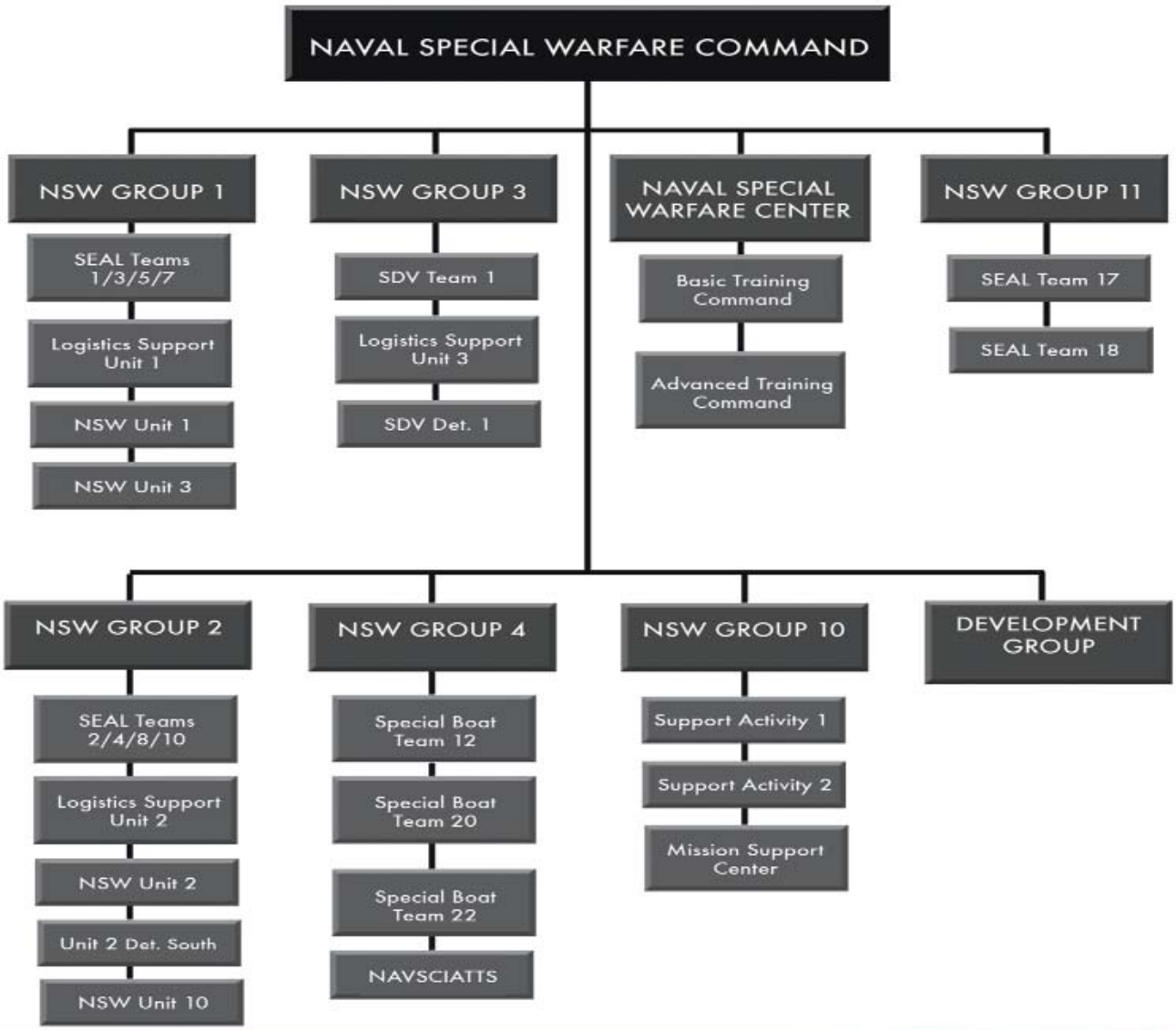
Naval Special Warfare Group FOUR
- Special Boat Teams 12, 20 and 22, Naval Small Craft Instruction and Technical Training School

Naval Special Warfare Group TEN
- Support Activity 1 and 2, Mission Support Center

Naval Special Warfare Group ELEVEN
- SEAL Teams 17, 18

Naval Special Warfare Center
- Basic Training Command, Advanced Training Command

Naval Special Warfare Development Group


NAVAL SPECIAL WARFARE COMMAND
NSW GROUP 1
SEAL Teams 1/3/5/7
Logistics Support Unit 1
NSW Unit 1
NSW Unit 3
NSW GROUP 3
SDV Team 1
Logistics Support Unit 3
SDV Det. 1
NAVAL SPECIAL WARFARE CENTER
Basic Training Command
Advanced Training Command
NSW GROUP 11
SEAL Team 17
SEAL Team 18
NSW GROUP 2
SEAL Teams 2/4/8/10
Logistics Support Unit 2
NSW Unit 2
Unit 2 Det. South
NSW Unit 10
NSW GROUP 4
Special Boat Team 12
Special Boat Team 20
Special Boat Team 22
NAVSCIATTS
NSW GROUP 10
Support Activity 1
Support Activity 2
Mission Support Center
DEVELOPMENT GROUP

AFSOC
AIR FORCE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

Commander
Lt. Gen. Eric E. Fiel
Command Chief
Chief Master Sgt. William Turner
WebAddress
www2.afsoc.af.mil

Location Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Established May 22, 1990
Deputy Commander Maj. Gen. O.G. Mannon
Mission Conduct global special operations missions ranging from precision application of firepower, to infiltration, aviation foreign internal defense, exfiltration, resupply and refueling of SOF operational elements
People Approximately 16,000

Subordinate commands

23rd Air Force
1st Special Operations Wing
623d Air Operations Center
27th Special Operations Wing
919th Special Operations Wing (AFR)
193rd Special Operations Wing (ANG)
USAF Special Operations Training Center
720th Special Tactics Group
352rd Special Operations Group
353rd Special Operations Group
724th Special Tactics Group

AIR FORCE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND
23d Air Force
623d Air Operations Center
1st Special Operations Wing
27th Special Operations Wing
919th Special Operations Wing (AFR)
193rd Special Operations Wing (ANG)
USAF Special Operations Training Center
720th Special Tactics Group
352d Special Operations Group
353d Special Operations Group
724th Special Tactics Group

MARSOC

MARINE CORPS FORCES SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMMAND

Commander
Maj. Gen. Paul E. Lefebvre
MARSOC Sgt. Major
Sgt. Maj. Richard W. Ashton
WebAddress
www.marines.mil/unit/marsoc

Location Camp LeJeune, N.C.

Established Feb. 24, 2006

Deputy Commander Col. Peter Warker

Mission Direct action, special reconnaissance and foreign internal defense, counterterrorism, information operations, and unconventional warfare.

People Approximately 2,600

Subordinate commands

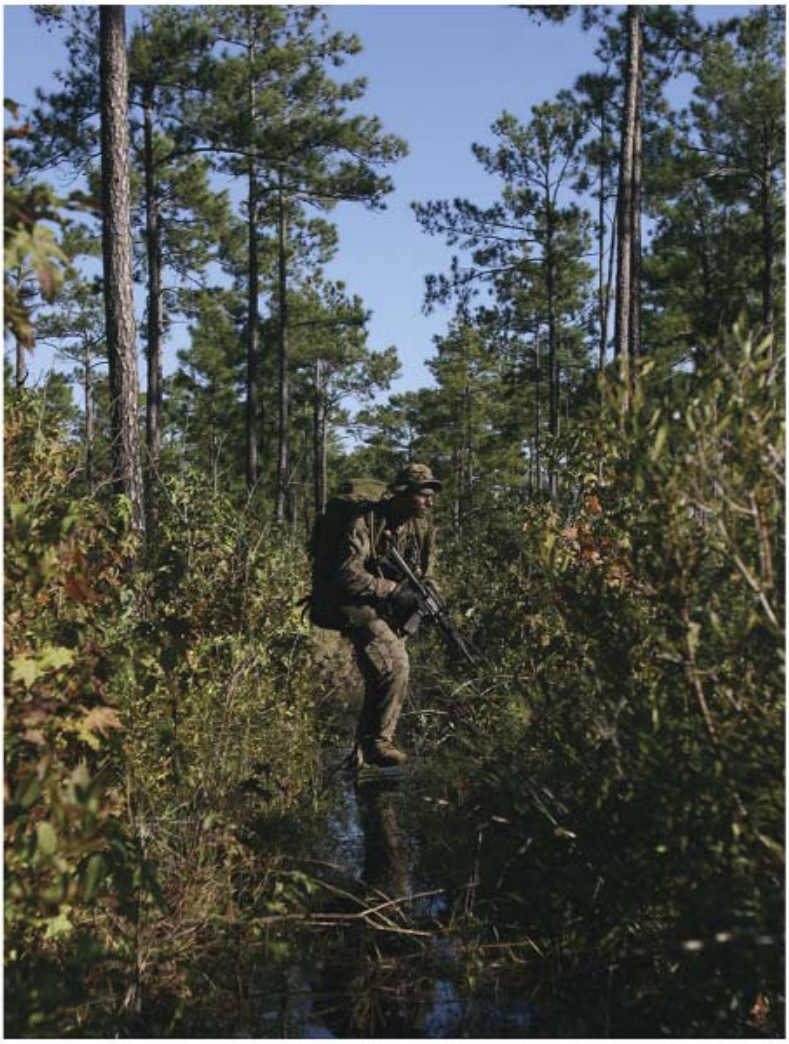
Marine Special Operations Regiment
- **1st Marine Special Operations Battalion**
- **2d Marine Special Operations Battalion**
- **3d Marine Special Operations Battalion**

Marine Special Operations Support Group

Marine Special Operations Intelligence Battalion

Marine Special Operations School

MARSOC
Marine Special Operations Regiment
Marine Special Operations Support Group
Marine Special Operations Intelligence Battalion
Marine Special Operations School
1st Marine Special Operations Battalion
2d Marine Special Operations Battalion
3d Marine Special Operations Battalion



USSOCOM SUBORDINATE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMANDS

Established in 1980, the **Joint Special Operations Command** is a sub-unified command of USSOCOM. JSOC provides a joint headquarters to study Special Operations requirements, ensures interoperability and equipment standardization, develops joint Special Operations plans and tactics, and conducts joint Special Operations exercises and training.

The **Joint Special Operations University** resides at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. JSOU's mission is to educate Special Operations Forces executive, senior and intermediate leaders and selected other national and international security decision-makers, both military and civilian, through teaching, research and outreach in the science and art of Joint Special Operations.

The **Special Operations Command - Joint Capabilities** headquartered at Norfolk, Va., has the mission of acting as the Department of Defense's primary joint special operations forces trainer and integrator.

THEATER SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMANDS

Each geographic combatant command have a Special Operations component commander just like it has a ground, air and naval component commander. The TSOC provides the geographic combatant commanders with a separate element to plan and control joint SOF in their theaters.

SOCAFRICA

Special Operations Command - Africa supports AFRICOM and is headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany.

SOCCENT

Special Operations Command Central is headquartered at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., and supports U.S. Central Command.

SOCEUR

Special Operations Command Europe headquarters is located at Stuttgart, Germany, support European Command.

SOCKOR

Special Operations Command Korea, located at Camp Kim in Yongsan, Korea, is the Theater SOC for United States Forces Korea .

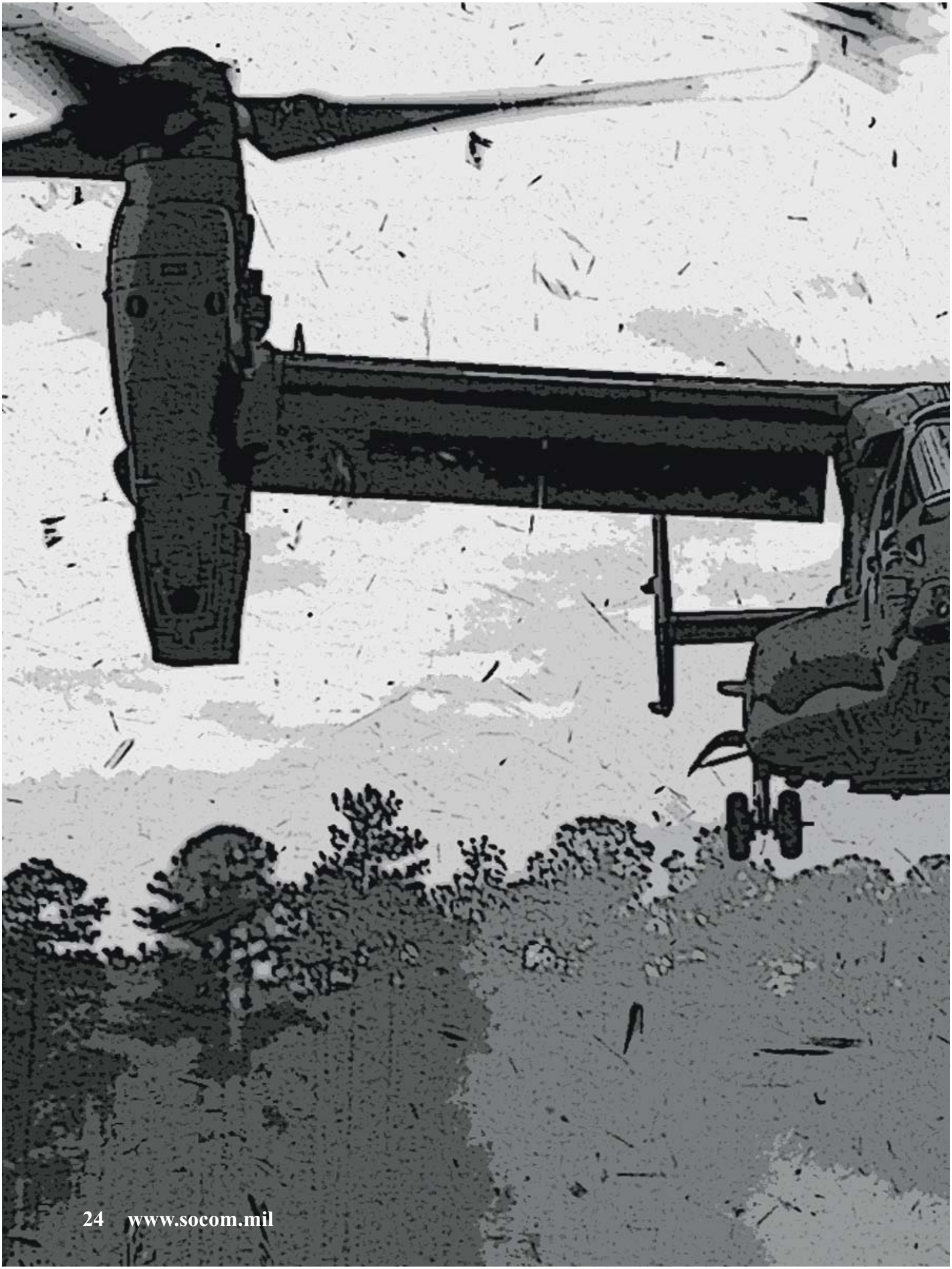
SOCPAC

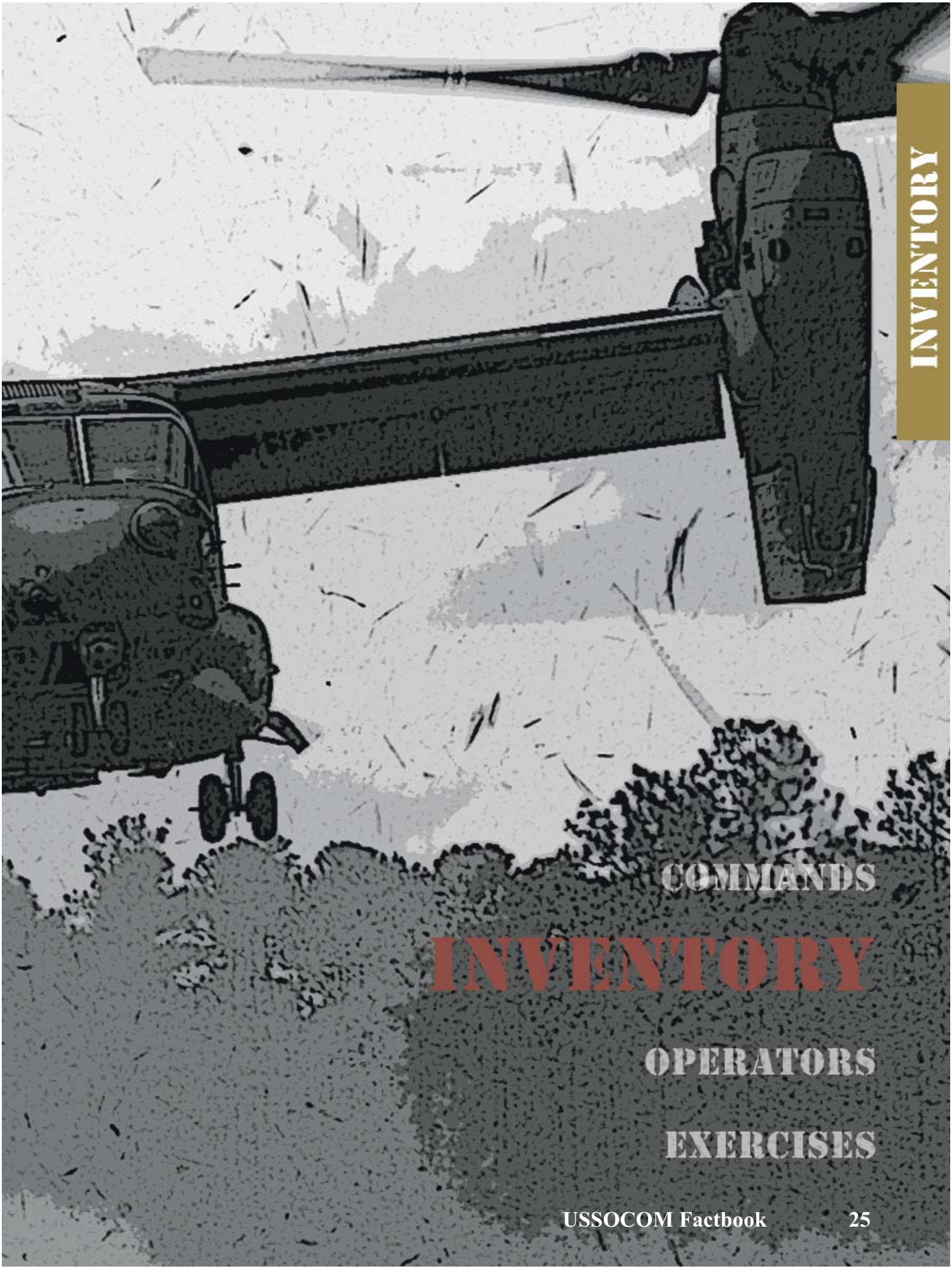
Special Operations Command Pacific, located at Camp H. M. Smith, Oahu, Hawaii, and serves as the SOF component command for the U.S. Pacific Command.

SOCSOUTH

Special Operations Command South is headquartered at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., and supports Southern Command.

SOCEUR
SOCCENT
SOCKOR
SOCPAC
SOCAFRICA
SOCSOUTH
SOCPAC
JSOC
SOC-JC
JSOU





COMMANDS INVENTORY OPERATORS EXERCISES

INVENTORY

AIRCRAFT

AC-130H/U

Primary function: Armed over-watch, close-air support, air interdiction and force protection. **Speed:** 300 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 7 in.; length 97 ft. 9 in.; height 38 ft. 6 in. **Range:** 1,496 miles unlimited with air refueling. **Armament: AC-130H,** 40 mm Bofors cannon and 105 mm Howitzer. **AC-130U,** 25 mm Gatling gun, 40 mm Bofors cannon and 105 mm cannon.**Crew:** AC-130H, 14, and AC-130U, 13.

CV-22B Osprey

Primary function: Special Operations Forces long range infiltration, exfiltration and re-supply. **Speed:** 277 mph (cruising speed). **Dimensions:** Wingspan 84 ft. 7 in.; length 57 ft. 4 in; height 22 ft. 1 in.; rotary diameter, 38 ft. **Range:** 2,100 miles with one re-fueling **Crew:** Four.

EC-130J Commando Solo

Primary function: Military information support operations. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 6 in.; length 97 ft.; height 38 ft. 8 in. **Speed:** 335 mph. **Range:** 2,300 miles unrefueled. **Crew:** 10.

MC-130E/H Combat Talon

Primary function: Infiltration, exfiltration and resupply of Special Operations Forces. **Speed:** 300 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 7 in.; length MC-130E 100 ft. 10 in.; MC-130H 99 ft. 9 in.; height 38 ft. 6 in. **Range:** 2,700 miles unrefueled. **Crew:** MC-130E, nine; MC-130H, seven.

MC-130P Combat Shadow

Primary function: Air refueling Special Operations Forces helicopters. **Speed:** 289 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 7 in.; length 98 ft. 9 in.; height 38 ft. 6 in. **Range:** 4,000 miles unrefueled. **Crew:** Eight.

MC-130J Combat Shadow II

Primary function: Infiltration, exfiltration and resupply of Special Operations Forces; in-flight refueling of special operations vertical lift aircraft. **Speed:** 385 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 7 in.; length 97 ft. 9 in.; height 38 ft. 9 in. **Range:** 3,200 miles unrefueled. **Crew:** Seven.

MC-130W Combat Spear

Primary function: Infiltration, exfiltration and resupply of Special Operations Forces; in-flight refueling of special operations vertical lift aircraft. **Speed:** 300 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 132 ft. 7 in.; length 98 ft. 9 in.; height 38 ft. 6 in. **Range:** 1,208 miles unrefueled. **Crew:** Seven.

U-28A

Primary function: Provide support to Special Operations Forces. **Speed:** 359 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 57 ft. 11 in.; length 46 ft. 8 in.; height 14 ft. 4 in. **Range:** 350, 1,700 miles. **Crew:** Two.

INVENTORY

AIRCRAFT

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:** 230NM. **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:** 230 NM. **Payload:** up to 6 personnel. **Crew:** Two.

MH-60K/L/M Black Hawk

Primary Function: Conduct overt or covert infiltration, exfiltration and resupply of Special Operations Forces. **Speed:** Max 222 mph, Cruise 138 mph. **Dimensions:** Length: 64 ft. 10 in. **Range:** 450NM. **Payload:** 10 personnel w/internal tanks. **Armament:** 2 x 7.62 mini-guns. **Crew:** Four.

MH-60L/M 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: 450NM. **Armament:** 2x7.62 mm M134 minigun, M230 30MM Chaingun, 70mm Hydra rockets, AGM-114 Hellfire air to ground missiles. **Crew:** Four.

MH-47 Chinook

Primary function: Conduct overt and covert 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:** 525 NM. **Armament:** M-134 and M-240 7.62mm machine guns. **Combat Crew:** Six.

NSAV (Light) PC-12
Primary Function: Provides flexible rapid, short suspense operational movement of personnel. **Speed:** 359 mph, **Dimensions:** Wingspan 57ft. 11 in., length 46ft. 8in., height 14ft. 4in. **Range:** 350, 1,700 miles 350ER 2,700 miles. **Crew:** Two

NSAV (Light) M-28
Primary Function: Provides flexible rapid, short suspense operational movement of personnel. **Speed:** Max 220 mph. **Dimensions**: Length 5.26 m, width 1.74m, height 1.72m. **Range:** 785 ER **Crew:** Three.

NSAV (Medium) Do-328
Primary Function: Provides flexible rapid, short suspense operational movement of personnel. **Speed:** In excess of 310 mph. **Range:** 500 nm with 8,750 lb payload **Crew:** Two.

MQ-1 Predator
Primary function: Armed reconnaissance, airborne surveillance and target acquisition. **Speed:** Up to 135 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 48 ft. 7 in.; length 27 ft.; height 6 ft. 9 in. **Range:** 454 miles. **Armament:** AGM-114 Hellfire missiles.

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:** 3,682 miles. **Armament:** AGM-114 Hellfire missiles; GBU-12, GBU-38 JDAM. **Crew:** Pilot and sensor operator on the ground.

AECV/Puma AE
Primary function: All Environment Capable Variant, Small Unmanned Aircraft System. Provides autonomous low altitude electro-optical, infrared camera reconnaissance and surveillance; recoverable either land or maritime. **Speed:** 23-46 mph. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 110 inches; length 56 inches. **Range**: 15 km with a flight endurance of 2 hours.

Viking 400 (V400)
Primary function: Provides Day/Night Reconnaissance. **Speed:** 60 knots. **Dimensions:** Wingspan 20 ft.; Length 14.7 ft.; Height 5 ft. **Range:** 75+ Nautical Miles. **Crew:** Pilot and Sensor Operator.

INVENTORY

MARITIME - SURFACE

MK V Special Operations Craft

The MK V Special Operations Craft performs medium-range infiltration and extraction of SOF, limited coastal patrol and interdiction in low to medium threat environments. The MK V SOC is a high-performance combatant craft sized to permit air deployment aboard C-5 aircraft. Each craft is manned by a crew of five Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen and can carry 16 SOF personnel.

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.

Rigid-hull Inflatable Boat

The Rigid-hull Inflatable Boat performs short-range insertion and extraction of SOF, limited coastal patrol, and interdiction and reconnaissance. The RHIB is a high performance combatant craft that is air transportable by C-5 Galaxy, C-17 Globemaster and C-130 Hercules aircraft, and it can be air dropped from C-130 or larger military aircraft. Each craft is manned by a crew of three Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen and can carry eight SOF personnel.

MARITIME - UNDERSEA

MK VIII MOD SEAL Delivery Vehicle and Dry Deck Shelter

The Dry Deck Shelter is a floodable pressure vessel carried by a host submarine for undersea operations. A minimum crew of six Navy divers operates the controls for flooding, draining and pressurizing the DDS. The host submarine provides the DDS with electrical power and high-pressure air. The DDS can be used to launch and recover a SEAL Delivery Vehicle or to conduct mass swimmer lock-out/lock-in operations utilizing SEALs and Combat Rubber Raiding Craft. The divers who operate the DDS control assist in all launch and recovery operations.

SEAL Delivery Vehicle

The MK VIII MOD 1 SEAL Delivery Vehicle 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 a DDS-equipped submarine, MK V SOC or surface ships.

INVENTORY

GROUND

Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle

The RG-31s/RG-33s/RG-33 Auxiliary Utility Vehicles provide protection for SOF operators against the expanded use of improvised explosive devices, and provide a lethal offensive capability in the form of an integrated remote weapon station.

MRAP All Terrain Vehicle

The M-ATV provides a mine-resistant all-terrain vehicle capability specifically for small-unit combat operations in highly restricted rural, mountainous, and urban environments.

Ground Mobility Vehicle

The GMV is a standardized joint SOF combat vehicle with the operational flexibility to support the SOF core activities of direct action, special reconnaissance, unconventional warfare, counterterrorism, security force assistance, and counterinsurgency operations.

Ground Mobility Vehicle-Navy

The GMV-N is a humvee specifically designed for SEALs that employs a multitude of weapons and is fitted with a modular armor kit. Depending on the mission, armor can be added or removed to either increase speed and maneuverability or increase protection. The GMV-N can carry up to five operators into some of the harshest terrain in the world.

Non-Standard Commercial Vehicle

The NSCV is a commercial vehicle with varying levels of modification, depending upon mission need. Models include, but are not limited to, pick-up trucks, sport utility vehicles, sedans, and vans. Vehicles can range from unarmored and low-profile to heavily armored and overtly military. NSCVs provide SOF with the capability to conduct missions where there is no military logistical presence and where vehicles must be maintained on the economy.

Lightweight Tactical All Terrain Vehicle

The LTATV is a side-by-side seat vehicle that provides a light, all-terrain capability to allow SOF to undertake operations across a wide variety of missions with increased mobility and maneuverability. The LTATV is internally transportable by H-47 and V-22 variant aircraft; carries two personnel; can be used for a multitude of operations from logistic support to casualty evacuation; and provides a high degree of speed and mobility over rough terrain.

All Terrain Vehicle

The ATV provides individual, all-terrain mobility to deployed SOF in austere locations and across a myriad of special operations missions. The vehicles are extremely flexible and internally transportable within rotary wing assets, and they allow fully combat-equipped SOF operators to move around the battlespace rapidly in terrain not easily navigated by larger, heavier vehicles.

INVENTORY

WEAPONS

MK20
Sniper Support Rifle

The **Combat Assault Rifle** is a family of weapons from the MK 13 to the MK 20 and is a modular rifle made for the U.S. Special Operations Command. This family of rifles consist of two main types. The CAR-L, for light, is chambered in the 5.56x45mm NATO cartridge and the CAR-H, for heavy, fires 7.62x51mm NATO. Both are available in Long Barrel and Close Quarters Combat variants.

MK 17 Long Barrel

MK 17 (Close Quarters Battle)

MK 13 mounted to MK 17

MK 13 (Stand Alone)

MK 13 mounted to MK 16

Multi-purpose Anti-armor Anti-personnel Weapon System

The MAAWS capability provides an 84 mm recoilless, shoulder-fired, man-portable, line-of-sight, re-loadable, anti-armor, and anti-personnel weapon system.

Lightweight Assault Weapon

The LAW development is a Fire-from-Enclosure capability, allowing the Warfighter to fire both variants (M72A7 Anti-Armor and M72A9 Anti-Structure Rounds) from confined spaces.

INVENTORY

COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS, AND COMPUTERS

The **Enterprise Networks Division** is responsible for designing, acquiring, fielding, and sustaining the garrison and tactical network automation infrastructure systems. The programs include the Special Operations Command Research, Analysis, and Threat Evaluation System (SOCRATES); C4 and Intelligence (C4I) Automation Systems (C4IAS); and Tactical Local Area Network (TACLAN).

The **Tactical Communications** consists of 1) Blue Force Tracking, 2) Joint Tactical C4I Transceiver System, 3) Joint Base Station/Radio Integration System, and 4) SOF Tactical Communications. These tactical radio systems provide the critical C2 link between SOF commanders and SOF teams deployed globally. They also provide interoperability with all Services, various government agencies, air traffic control, commercial agencies, and coalition forces.

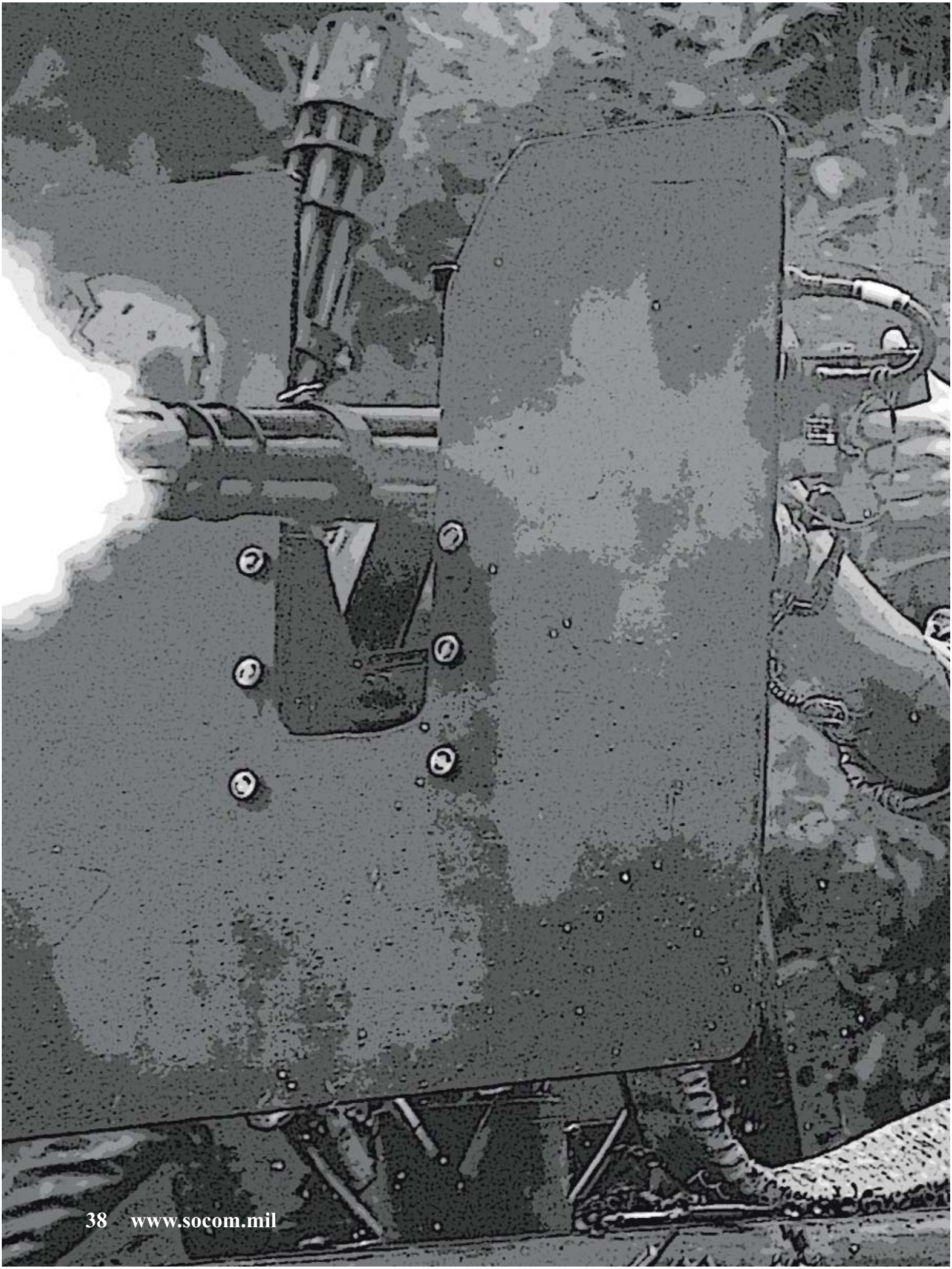
Military Information Support Operations and Civil Affairs Systems include the Media Production Center Heavy, Medium, and Light; Special Operations Media System-Broadcast (SOMS-B); Fly-Away Broadcast System (FABS); and PDS. These systems primarily provide the capability to develop, produce, distribute, and disseminate MISO products to overseas target audiences.

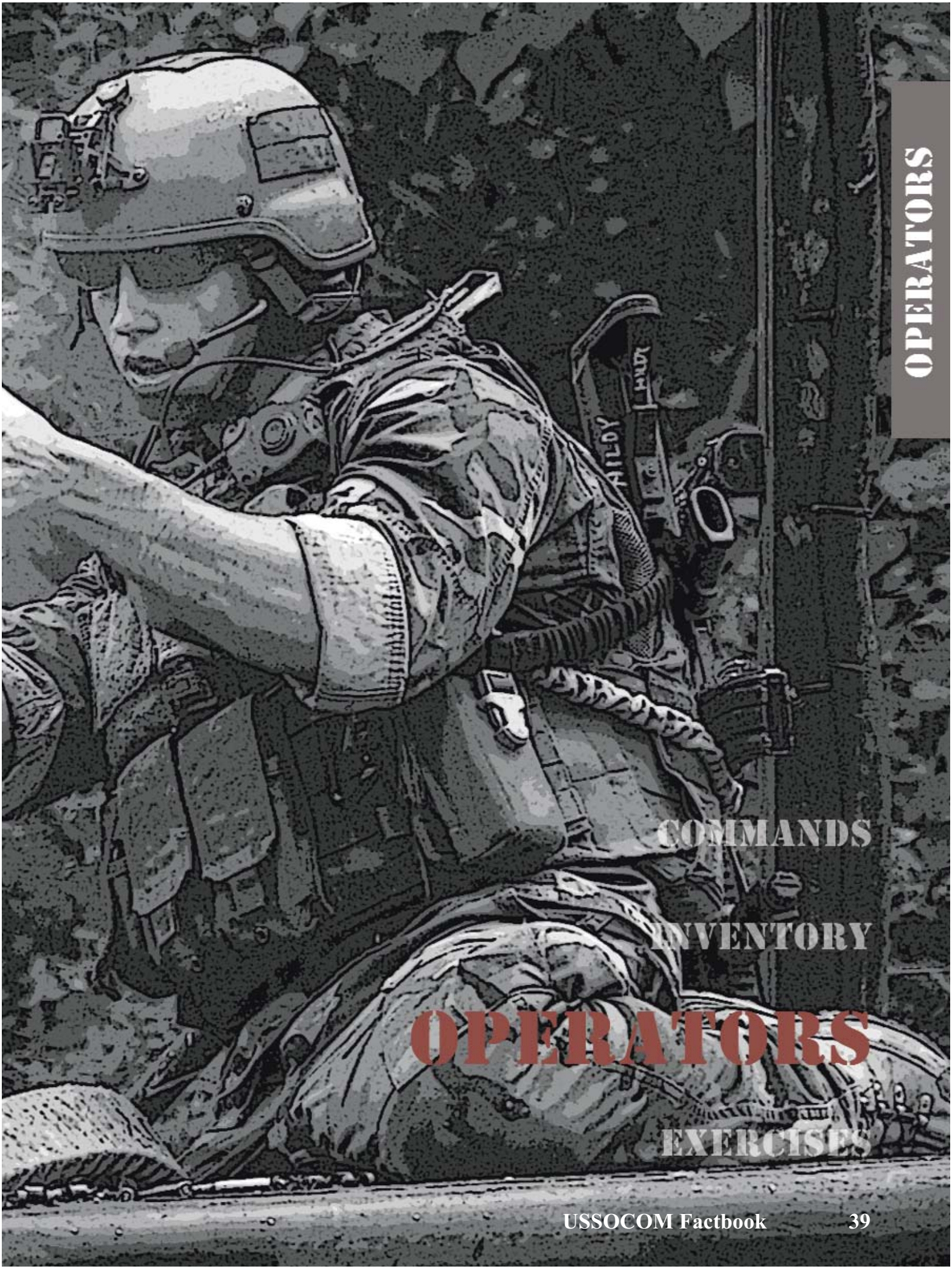
SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE, SURVEILLANCE, AND EXPLOITATION

Biometrics and forensics system equipment provide SOF with the capability to rapidly and efficiently examine and exploit sensitive sites. The collection of forensic evidence and the identity verification of personnel detained on-site produce actionable intelligence that expedites SOF decision-making processes. Biometric tools are also used to gather and store information on captured combatants and to verify the identities of local nationals seeking employment or access to foreign and domestic U.S. bases and installations.

Clandestine Tagging, Tracking, and Locating exploits emerging technologies to locate and track targets or items of interest. CTTL is a Science and Technology development and prototyping program that is unique in its focus on SOF Warfighter-defined capability gaps and selection of highly promising technology solutions.

The **Special Operations Tactical Video System/Reconnaissance Surveillance Target Acquisition** program provides sensor systems that equip SOF with enhanced stand-off capabilities for both manned and unmanned special reconnaissance missions. Capabilities within the portfolio range from man-in-the-loop imagers and data transmission devices to fully automated, programmable unattended ground sensors emplaced by SOF operators that support information and intelligence gathering operations.




OPERATORS
COMMANDS
INVENTORY
OPERATORS
EXERCISES

OPERATORS

USASOC

Special Forces

Special Forces units perform seven doctrinal missions: Unconventional Warfare, Foreign Internal Defense, Special Reconnaissance, Direct Action, Combatting Terrorism, Counter-proliferation, and Information Operations. These missions make Special Forces unique in the U.S. military, because they are employed throughout the three stages of the operational continuum: peacetime, conflict and war.

The "Quiet Professionals," Special Forces units are today deployed worldwide displaying their dominance in full spectrum operations through their unconventional warfare expertise. From humanitarian assistance and training of indigenous forces, to direct action and special reconnaissance missions, Special Forces Soldiers live up to the Special Forces motto: De Oppresso Liber, to Free the Oppressed.

Army Ranger

Rangers are capable of conducting squad through regimental size operations using a variety of infiltration techniques including airborne, air assault and ground platforms. The 75th Ranger Regiment remains an all-volunteer force with an intensive screening and selection process followed by combat-focused training. Rangers are resourced to maintain exceptional proficiency, experience and readiness. The 75th Ranger Regiment is a proud unit and a team of teams serving the Nation - Rangers Lead The Way.

NSWC

Sea, Air, Land (SEAL)

The SEAL Team is the heart of the NSW force; a multipurpose combat force organized and trained to conduct a variety of Special Operations missions in all environments. SEALs conduct clandestine missions infiltrating their objective areas by fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft, Navy surface ships, combatant craft, submarines and ground mobility vehicles.

Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen

Special Boat Teams are manned by Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen who operate and maintain state-of-the-art surface craft to conduct coastal patrol and interdiction and support special operations missions. Focusing on infiltration and exfiltration of SEALs and other SOF, SWCCs provide dedicated rapid mobility in shallow water areas where larger ships cannot operate. They also bring to the table a unique SOF capability: Maritime Combatant Craft Aerial Delivery System — the ability to deliver combat craft via parachute drop.

Enablers

If SEALs and SWCC are considered to be the action arms of NSW, then the Enablers would be the backbone of the organization. SEALs rely heavily on the services of technicians such as mobile communications teams, tactical cryptologic support and explosive ordnance disposal specialists. Enablers contribute heavily toward the success of the special warfare operations mission.

OPERATORS

AFSOC

AFSOC Special Tactics Airmen include Combat Controllers, Pararescuemen, Special Operations Weathermen and Combat Aviation Advisors.

Combat Controllers are Special Operators and certified air traffic controllers who are an integral part of the Air Force Battlefield Airmen team. Their motto, "First There," indicates the CCT commitment to be the first deployed into restricted environments by air, land or sea to establish assault zones.

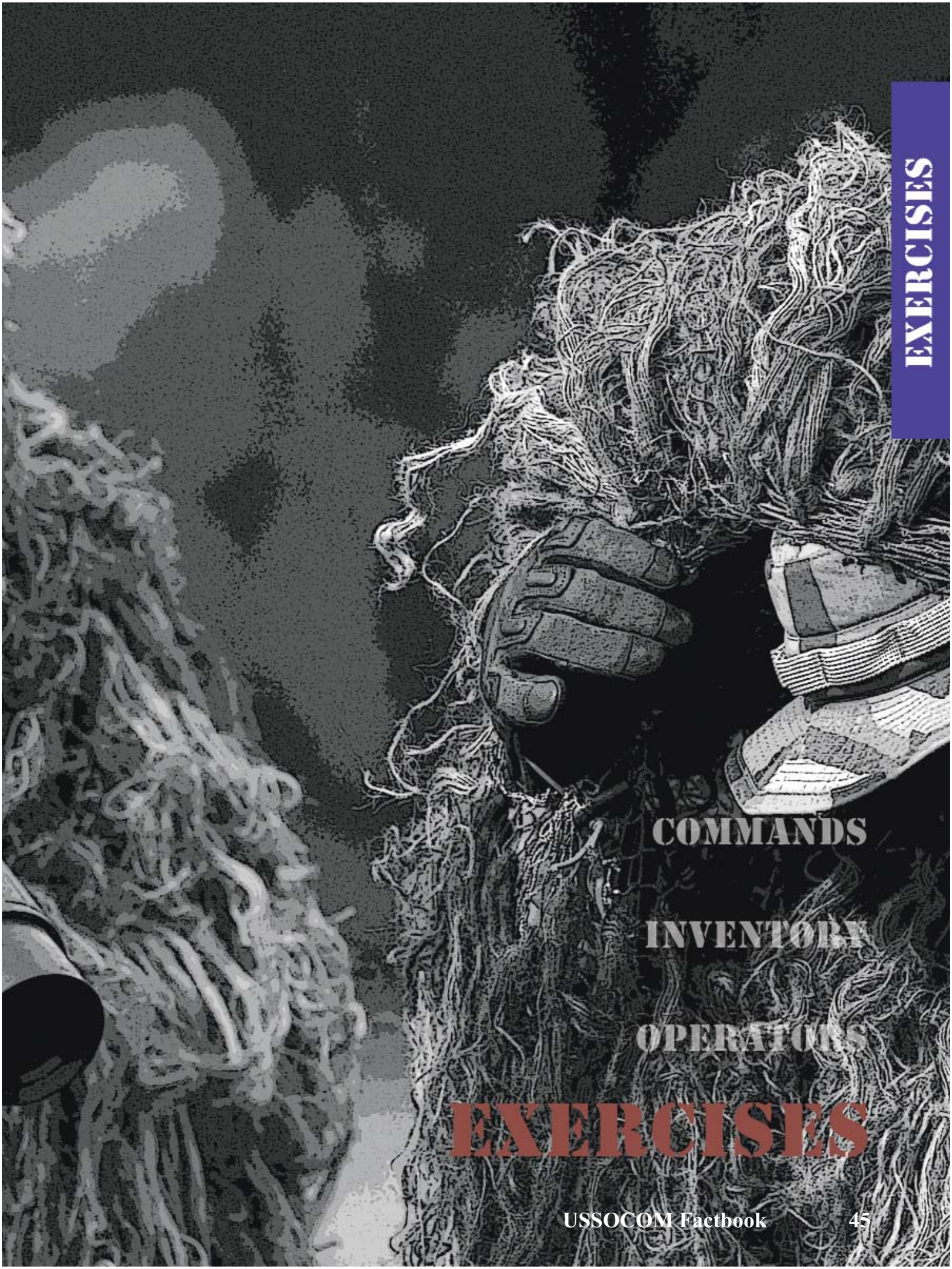
Pararescuemen, commonly known as PJs, are the only Defense Department specialty specifically trained and equipped to conduct conventional and unconventional recovery operations. A PJ's primary function is as a personnel recovery specialist with emergency trauma medical capabilities in humanitarian and combat environments. Their motto, "That Others May Live," reaffirms the Pararescueman's commitment to saving lives and self-sacrifice.

Special Operations Weathermen are Air Force weather technicians with unique training to operate in hostile or denied territory. They gather, assess, and interpret weather and environmental intelligence from forward deployed locations, working with Special Operations Forces.

Combat Aviation Advisors of the 6th Special Operations Squadron help U.S. global partners to wield airpower. These Air Commandos are culturally savvy, linguistically trained and politically astute Airmen, hand selected for their skill, maturity and professionalism to advise foreign forces in rotary and fixed-wing combat aviation, maintenance, base support, security and tactics.

Critical Skills Operator

Critical Skills Operators are the front line Marines and Sailors who are complex problem solvers able to operate across the full spectrum of Special Operations in small teams under ambiguous, sometimes austere, environments while maintaining a high level of mental flexibility and physical endurance. CSOs exemplify the Marine Corps' concepts of Distributed Operations and the Strategic Corporal. These warrior-diplomats are able to operate across the spectrum of force. They are experts in utilizing the right force at the right time with the right effect. MARSOC forces provide Foreign Internal Defense, special reconnaissance, and direct action capabilities to commanders. In other words, MARSOC Marines often train host-nation military groups, gather information about the enemy, and engage the enemy with lethal force when necessary.



COMMANDS

INVENTORY

OPERATORS

EXERCISES

EXERCISES

SOF GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

Special Operations Command - Pacific
Balikatan
Republic of the Philippines

Annual bilateral combined exercise, held in the Philippines, structured to further develop the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Special Operations Command - Europe
Cold Response
Norway

Norwegian sponsored, scheduled, and conducted multinational invitational exercise, with more than 9,000 military personnel from 14 countries.

Special Operations Command - Africa
Flintlock
Trans-Sahara Africa

U.S. Africa Command's premier Special Operations Forces exercise and trains joint multinational forces to improve information sharing at the operational and tactical levels across the Saharan region while fostering increased collaboration and coordination.

Special Operations Command - Korea
Foal Eagle
Republic of Korea

Annual large-scale exercise focused on rear area security and stability operations, onward movement of critical assets to the forward area, special operations, ground maneuver, amphibious operations, combat air operations, maritime action group operations.

Special Operations Command - South
Fuerzas Comando
Central and South America

Military skills competition between top military and police Special Operations teams in the Western Hemisphere. Security forces from 19 countries take part promoting military-to-military relationships, increased interoperability and improved regional security.

Special Operations Command - Europe
Jackal Stone
Europe

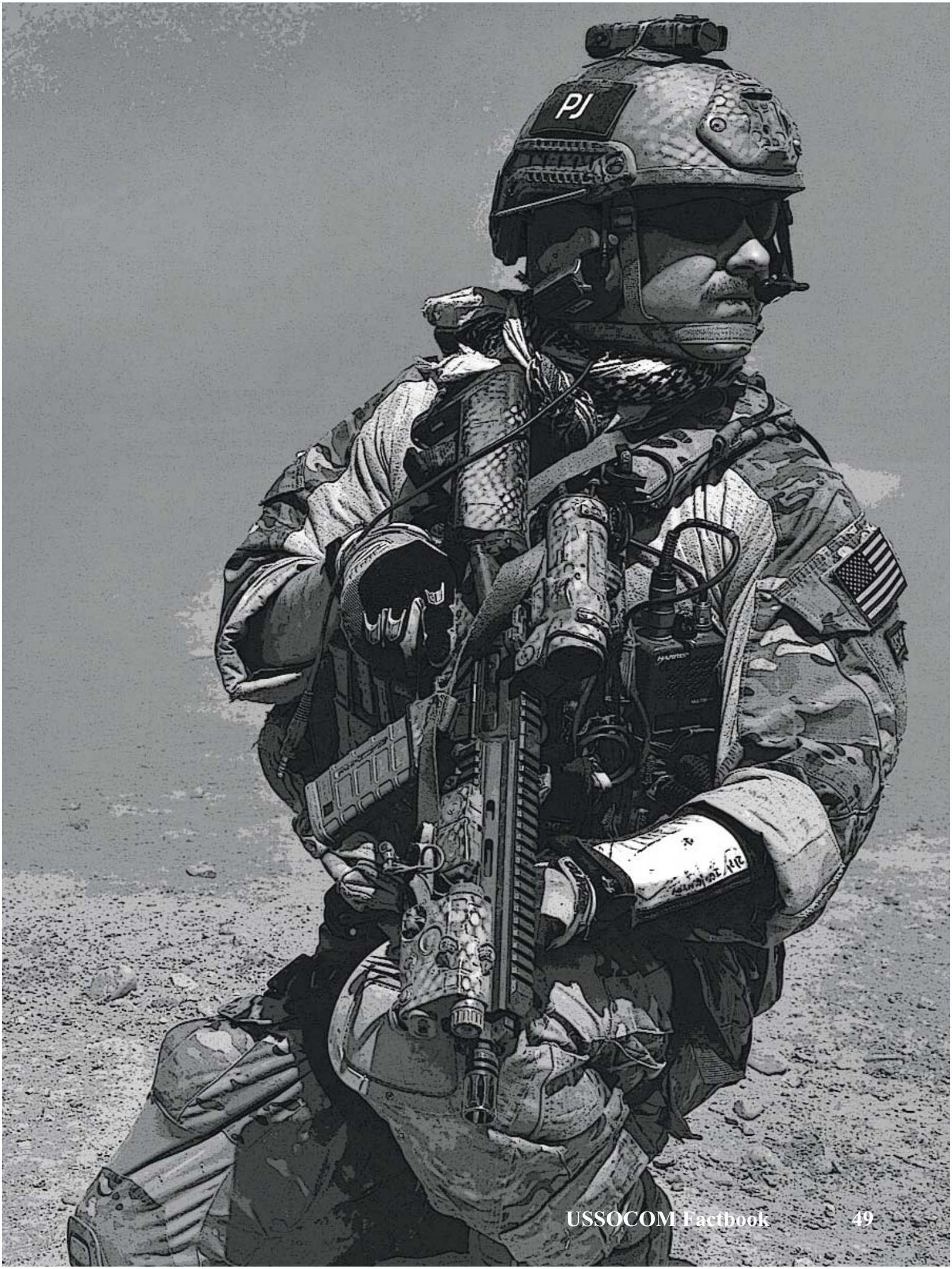
Coordinated by Special Operations Command Europe, the exercise is designed to build Special Operations Forces capacity, the capabilities of current and future partner nations, and to promote interoperability between the participating forces.

Special Operations Command - South
Panamax
Panama

Special operations forces from Peru, Colombia, Brazil, Panama and the United States train together in an exercise simulating a multi-national effort to defend the Panama Canal.

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


PJ

Acronym Glossary

AFB	Air Force Base
AFSOC	Air Force Special Operations Command
ATV	All Terrain Vehicle
C4	Command, Control, Communications and Computers
CCT	Combat Controller
CSO	Critical Skills Operator
DOD	Department of Defense
FID	Foreign Internal Defense
GMV	Ground Mobility Vehicle
JSOC	Joint Special Operations Command
JSOU	Joint Special Operations University
LTATV	Lightweight Tactical All Terrain Vehicle
MARSOC	Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command
MISO	Military Information Support Operations
MRAP	Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle
NSCV	Non-Standard Commercial Vehicle
NSWC	Naval Special Warfare Command
NSWG	Naval Special Warfare Group
PJ	Pararescueman
RHIB	Rigid-hull Inflatable Boat
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
SOC-JC	Special Operations Command-Joint Capabilities
SOCKOR	Special Operations Command Korea
SOCPAC	Special Operations Command Pacific
SOC-R	Special Operations Craft-Riverine
SOCSOUTH	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
USASOC	U.S. Army Special Operations Command
USSOCOM	U.S. Special Operations Command

The Typical Special Operator ...

is married
and
has at least two kids

average age is
29 year-old enlisted;
34 year-old officer

has 8 years experience
in the
General Purpose Forces

receives cultural
and
language training

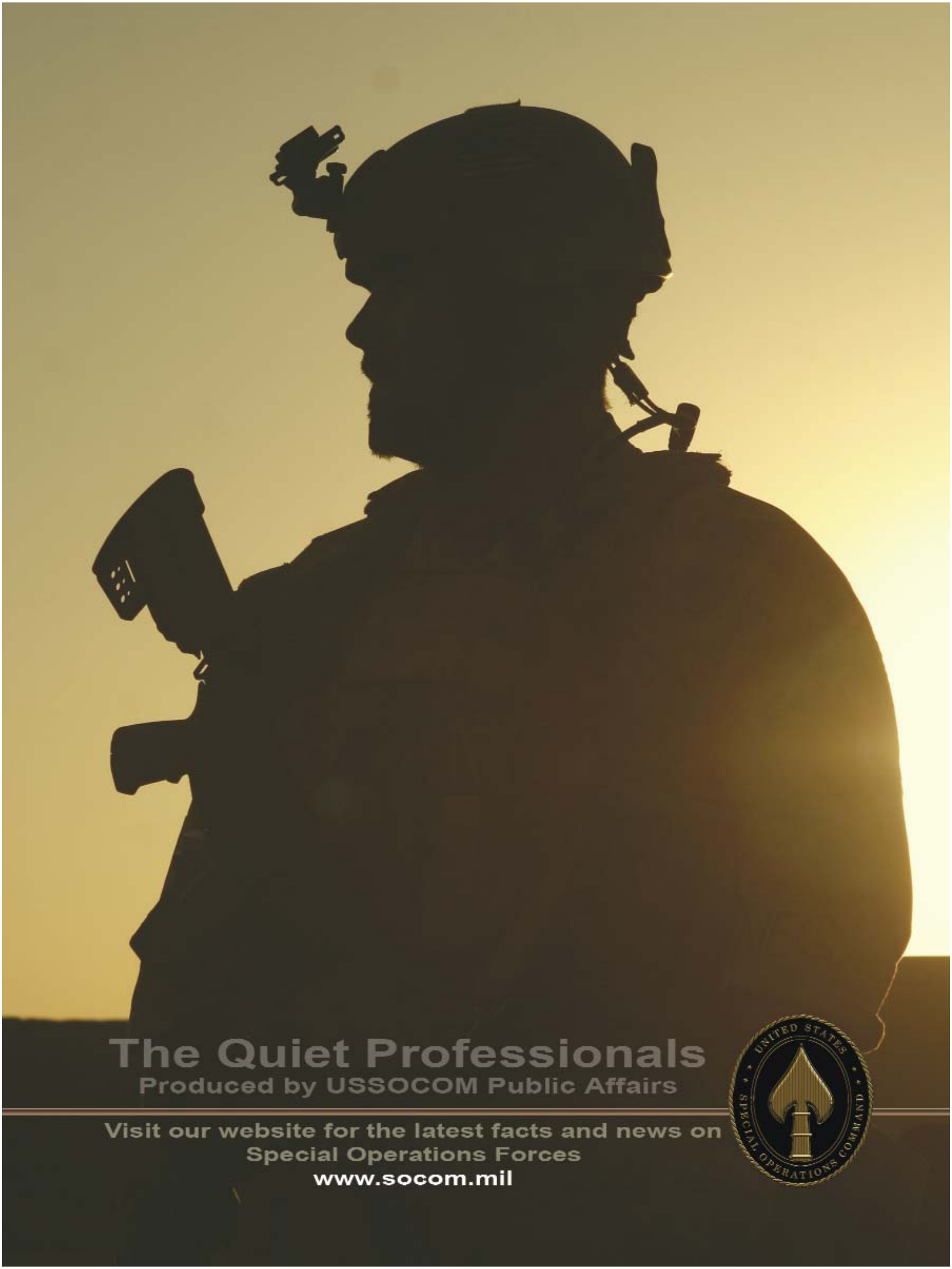
has attended multiple
advanced tactical schools

enjoys games which
require problem solving
like Chess

is well educated
and likely to have a
college degree

is a thinking athlete –
water polo, track,
wrestling or football

U.S. Special Operations Command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