ARSOF – Conventional Army Integration:

An Army perspective on integration and synergies in the current and future environment

-LTG John F. Mulholland

Commanding General,
United States Army Special Operations Command
(USASOC)





SOF- Conventional Army Integration

The Army has a long history of participate operations—from Marion's Swamp Foxes operations were in conjunction with oper forces. Today's events call for emphasis of Warfare, that of counterinsurgency. We finsurgents] and also teach them skills visit changes in the world in recent years clear part of Special Warfare of prime importations.

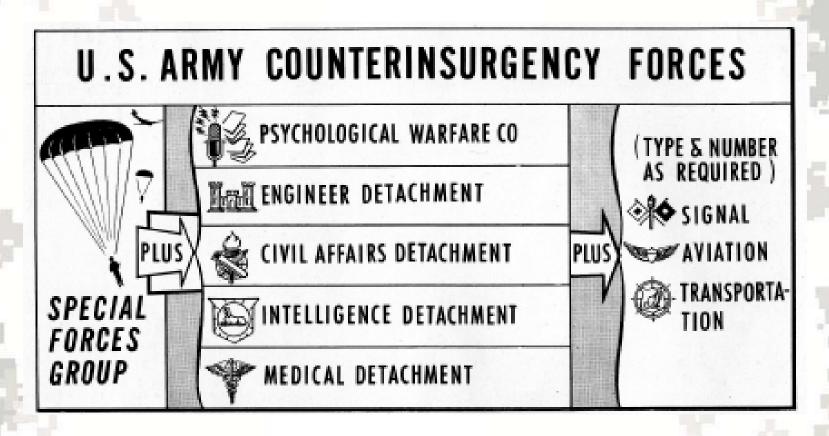




- General George H. Decker, Chief of Staff United States Army, Special Warfare Booklet, published by War Office, April 1962



Emergence of SOF- Conventional Army Structure









SOF- Conventional Army Emergence Pre-9/11



El Salvador, 1992
After over a decade of involvement, Farabundo Marti
National Liberation Front (FMLN) brought to the peace
table due to Army Special Forces ability to train El
Salvador Armed Forces (ESAF), and gain local
populace support



Colombia, Operation Willing Spirit 2003-2008

Years of collaboration with Colombian government and armed forces at all levels culminates with Colombian Rescue of 5 US Hostages held in captivity for 5 years





SOF- Conventional Army Response to 9/11



October 16th, 2001, U.S. Army Rangers conduct a combat parachute assault to kill or capture Mullah Omar.



US ground campaign into Afghanistan begins with Army Special Forces infiltrating via 160th SOAR to begin unconventional warfare combat operations alongside Afghan resistance forces





SOF- Conventional Army Throughout the Battlefield



2002, US Army Special Forces, supported by the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, begin their work with the Philippine Armed Forces in OEF-PI



March 2003, Army Special Forces provide "classic" special operations enabling support to Army conventional operations on the march to Baghdad





SOF- Conventional Army Synergy in the Current Global Environment



Integration of US Infantry Battalions into SOF Formations in Iraq and Afghanistan



SOF persistent engagement is critical component to Geographic Combatant Command Theater Security Cooperation Plans (TSCP)





ARSOF – Conventional Army Integration Successes

Operational Integration

- Pre-Deployment Academies
- LNO Exchange
- Village Stability Operations
- Pre-Mission Training Integration
- Forcible Entry Initiatives
- Intelligence Sharing
- Fusion Cells
- CS/CSS Integration
 - Lift/Attack Aviation
 - Cultural Support Teams
 - HIMARs
 - Logistics

Equipment Testing and Transfer

- SUAS (Raven)
- MICH Helmet (ACH)
- MBITR (AN/PRC 148 Radio)
- AN/PVS-26 (AN/PVS-30)
- M4 SO-P MOD
- Army Combat Uniform (Mult Cam)

TTP Migration

- Targeting Methodologies
- ISR Use and Effectiveness
- Exploitation
- Biometrics
- Operations/Intelligence Fusion
- Rotary Wing Aviation TTPs



Providing Strategic Options for Ambassadors and GCCs through Tactical and Operational Excellence and Collaboration



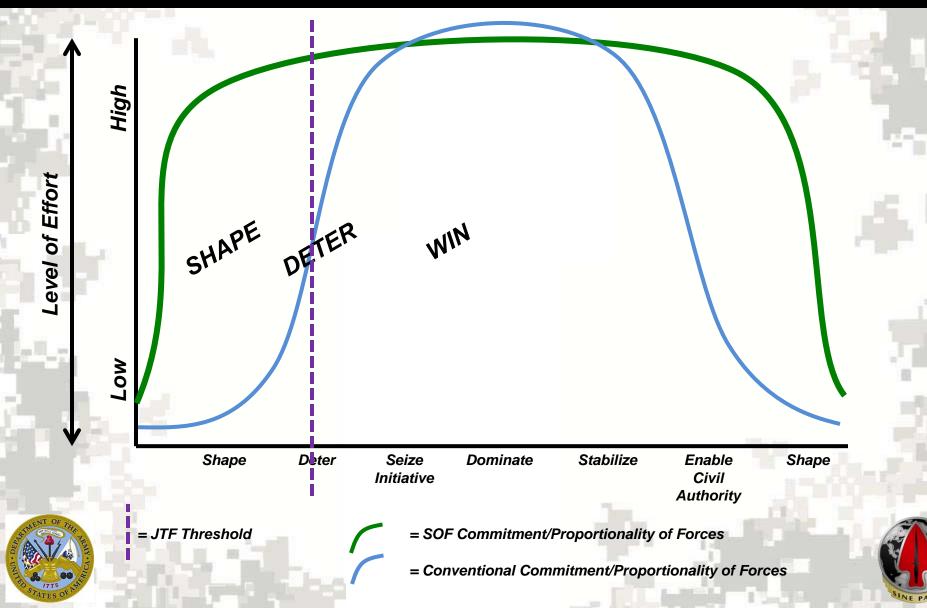
ARSOF – Conventional Army Synergy in the Future

- ☐ As large-scale conventional force deployments decrease, ARSOF deployments remain consistent or increase
 - Economy of force SOF needed both in Phase 0 as well as post-conflict
 - ARSOF objectives must nest within strategic campaigns
- ☐ ARFORGEN and SOFORGEN synchronization/capability
 - SOF Persistent Engagement throughout the globe critical to developing and shaping strategic options throughout the phases of conflict
 - Ensure SOF and Regionally Aligned Brigade concept is complementary toward mission success
- Continued efforts in technological advances
 - C4I compatibility
 - Understanding SOF RDT&E efforts and solutions to best equip the force at large
- ☐ Greater ARSOF-Army collaboration on Army materiel solutions





Proportionality and Commitment of Forces



SOF Focus Throughout Operational Phases

- Shaping
 - Preparing the Environment
 - Building the Network
- Assessment
 - Operational Environment
 - Host Nation Capacity
 - Threat
- Active Deterrence
 - Targeted Engagement (UW, FID, COIN, CT)
 - Right Nation, Unit, Location, Training
- Disruption
 - Collaborative or Unilateral Direct Action (UW/FID/COIN/CT)
- Influence
 - Persistent and Sustained Engagement
 - Induce/Reinforce attitudes and behaviors favorable to our objectives









