

U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM)

What is it?

The Army National Guard's 19th and 20th Special Forces Groups (SFGs) and the seven Special Operations Detachments directly support the combatant commands worldwide through USSOCOM.

What has USSOCOM done?

FY10 saw two Army National Guard Special Operations Force battalion-sized deployments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and a Special Operations Command and Control Element (SOOCE) to the Horn of Africa. Army National Guard special operations forces were also active in the counter-narcotics fight, in Southeast Asia and South America. Each group also supported a number of joint combined exchange training events in various countries around the world. The two Special Forces Groups utilized nearly \$18 million in the successful execution of more than 14 combined training missions with foreign national soldiers. The Special Operations Detachments (SOD) is oriented to their Theater Special Operations Commands within each of the geographical combatant commands, as well as USSOCOM. They form the nucleus of a combined joint special operations task force which can quickly multiply a theater's special operations force capabilities. Two SODs mobilized in support of Operation Enduring Freedom-Caribbean and Central America (SOC SOUTH) and to assist in the organization build-up of a new theater special operations command (SOCAFRICA).

What continuing efforts does USSOCOM have planned for the future?

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Why is this important to the Army National Guard?

Special Operations Detachments (SODs) are capable of forming the U.S. Army nucleus of a combined joint special operations task force and/or individual staff augmentation which can quickly multiply a theater's special operations force capabilities exponentially.

Resources:

U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM)

www.socom.mil

Army National Guard Special Operations Division

https://gkportal.ngb.army.mil/sites/G3_ARO/SO/default.aspx