

SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND AFRICA

22nd Annual SO/LIC Symposium & Exhibition

09 Feb 2011



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