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The following component part numbers comprise the compilation report:
ADP010797 thru ADP010815

UNCLASSIFIED
Special Operations in Desert Shield / Desert Storm

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Purpose of Briefing

To inform attendees on the unclassified activities of the Army Special Operations Task Force during Desert Shield/Desert Storm (DS/DS)
What Briefing is Not

- A detailed account of DS/DS
- An account of all Special Operations activities during DS/DS
ARSOTF Mission

- Deploy to Saudi Arabia with all personnel and equipment
- Provide liaison and conduct Foreign Internal Defense (FID) operations with the Saudi Arabian Land Forces and on order conduct FID with Pan Arab forces in the Eastern Area Command ...
Army Special Operations Task Force in DS/DS

- Formed Army Special Operations Task Force OPCON to CENTCOM
- First time USSF/SOF have been used in day to day direct support of MRC
- Conducted Coalition Support Activities
- Developed TTP for Coalition Support activities
Alerted on 6 August 90 at Ft Campbell, KY

- Admonished to bring everything
- Planned and Prepared For
  - 24 hours
    - 1st Bn
    - Group Battle Staff
  - 48 hrs
    - 2nd Bn
    - Support Co (-)
  - 72 hours
    - Remainder less OPCON/attached units
Deployment Sequence

- 1- 5th Special Forces Group and Special Forces Operational Base Battle Staff
- 5th Special Forces Group Hq (-)
- 2-5 Special Forces
- 3-5 Special Forces
- 5 SFG Support Center
Deployment

DEPLOYMENT A/C
- 33, C-141
- 19, C-5
- 1902 SHORT TONS
- 1147 PAX

GUIDANCE
- ALL EQUIPMENT
- BARE BASE
- 30 DAYS SUSTAINMENT
- UBL AMMO
- 5 DAYS RATIONS
ORGANIZATION IN THEATRE
CENTCOM Command Structure

USCENTCOM

CENTAF

NAVCENT

ARCENT

ARSOEF

AFSOC

NSWTG

CMD

OPCON
CENTOM Mission Statement

- Neutralize Iraqi National Command Authority
- Eject Iraqi Armed Forces From Kuwait
- Destroy Iraq's Ballistic Missile, NBC Capability
- Assist in the Restoration of the Legitimate Government of Kuwait
3-16th Special Operations Aviation Bn

- CSAR
- DEEP PENETRATION
- SR
- DA
- MEDEVAC (EMER EXFIL / MEDEVAC)
- 8 x MH 60s
- 7 x MH 47s
112th Special Operations Signal Bn (Abn)

- Provided invaluable communications support to the ARSOTF
- NRI (1)
- SOCA (8)
- LDC (13) (PART OF HFMUX AND SOCAS)
- HFMUX (8)
- COMMAND AND CONTROL
- PLANS
528th Special Operations Support Bn (Abn)

- LINKAGE INTO SUPCOM (EAC)
- ALL CLASSES OF SUPPLY
- TRANSPORTATION
- MAINTENANCE
- PLANS / COORDINATION TO SUPPORT
- CINC DEFENSIVE / OFFENSIVE CAMPAIGN
Desert Shield Activities
Incompatibility problems between US and PanArab Forces

- Language differences and cultural differences
- Communications, equipment and procedures
- Different tactics / doctrine
- Equipment
- Staffing procedures
- Combat Support and Combat Service Support
- Use of Threat equipment by Pan Arab forces (T-72, BMP, BTR, D-30, etc.)
Pan Arab Forces

Equivalent to seven divisions +

NAC = Northern Area Command
EAC = Eastern Area Command
Initial Concept

- Train, coordinate, train
- Provide early warning of ground attack
- Attrit attacking forces
- Fall back to Saudi Brigades while continuing to attrit Iraqi forces
- Conduct passage of lines, under contact, thru XVIII Corps forces
- Move into assembly area prepare to continue attack
Border Surveillance

KUWAIT

IRAQ

Combined Special Operations Area Shannon

CSOA Cochise

SAUDI ARABIA

USMC
Initial Activities

- Patrolling along Kuwaiti/Iraqi Border
- Reconnaissance
- Assessing Pan Arab forces
- Training, training, training
- Begin reconstituting Kuwaiti Army
Training With Coalition Forces

- Individual, Collective and Leader Tasks
- Staffing organization and procedures
- Defensive and Offensive Operations
- Mobility / Counter Mobility
- Maintenance
- NBC warfare
- Logistics
Training With Coalition Forces (cont’d)

- Communications
- Battlefield Coordination
- Reconnaissance TTP
- Tank Gunnery
- Mission Planning
- MOUT
Training with Coalition Forces (Cont)

- Limited visibility operations
- Clearing obstacles (mine fields)/ Crossing trench lines
- Map reading and US/NATO graphics
- Integration of CAS
- Fire Support
Desert Storm Activities
SF LNO Teams
- USMC Divisions x 2
- US Corps X 2
- Br Div X 1
- 82nd Airborne Div
- French Foreign Legion

Special Reconnaissance Teams

NAC + EAC = APP 7 DIV

EAC
- Saudi Bde x 3
- Kuwaiti Bde x 3
- Omani Bn
- Quatar Bn

SAUDI ARABIA

SF LNO Teams

XX

XXX

VII

VIII

Iraq

KU

KC

USMC 197th Bde
1 SF 5 SF

SF LNO Teams

2/3 SF 5 SF

NAC
- Egyptian Corps (-)
- Egyptian Ranger Rgt
- Syrian Div
- Syrian SF Bde
- Saudi Div (-)
- Kuwaiti Bdes x 3
Coalition Support

• Close Air Support
  - Active
  - Passive
• Navigation
• Command and Control
• Passage of lines
• CS/CSS
ARSOTF Activities Desert Storm

- Reporting (Ground Truth)
  - Location
  - Activities
  - Intentions
  - Capabilities by BOS
- Coordination with Adjacent Units
- Counter Revenge Measures

(109 Teams – down to battalion)
Obstacle Belts

KUWAIT

IRAQ

SAUDI ARABIA

Major obstacles included wire, mines, fire trenches
Pan Arab Forces

- Egyptian Corps
  - 2 x Div
  - RGR Rgt

- Syrian Div
  - 2 x Ar Bde
  - SF Rgt
PanArab Forces (Cont)

- Saudi Forces
  - 6 Bdes
- Kuwaiti Forces
  - 6 Bdes
- Other
  - Omani
  - Bangladeshi
  - UAE
Special Reconnaissance

- Deep into Iraq
- Supported 2 x US Corps
- Mission to let Corps Commanders know of enemy movements in/out of AO
Combat Search and Rescue

• 3 – 160 SOAR
• Placed SF Teams personnel on board to:
  – Provide local security at suspected pickup point
  – Search for downed aviator
  – Assist downed pilot to aircraft, if injured
• Picked up one AF pilot
Combating Terrorism

- Ad Hoc mission
- Prepared and launched to assist US Embassy in Somalia
Direct Action

- Planned Destruction of Train carrying Missiles
- Laser designation operations
- Building clearing operations
- Combat operations
Civil Affairs

- Kuwait City Clearing Operations: non-combatants
  - Established evacuation routes
  - Established collection points
  - Established assembly areas
- Established food/water distribution points in KC
- Distributed food/water to noncombatants
- 352 Civil Affairs Group handled majority of CA missions
Other Issues

- Emphasis on not taking revenge against real or suspected collaborators
- Counter fratricide measures
Psychological Operations

- Loudspeaker Operations
- Theme Development
- Leaflet Testing
- 4th POG handled the bulk of PsyOps
Other Special Operations

- SCUD Hunting
- Downed Pilot Recovery (N. Iraq)
Lessons Learned

- SF are ideally suited for this mission (competent, resourceful, professional)
- Reliable communications are critical
  - More/simpler/PTT radios (throw aways) need to be developed
  - Need to explore common communications systems
- Intelligence sharing requires a lot of imagination
- Maps are not available to all players
- Development of a set of basic individual and collective tasks for coalition partners are a must