



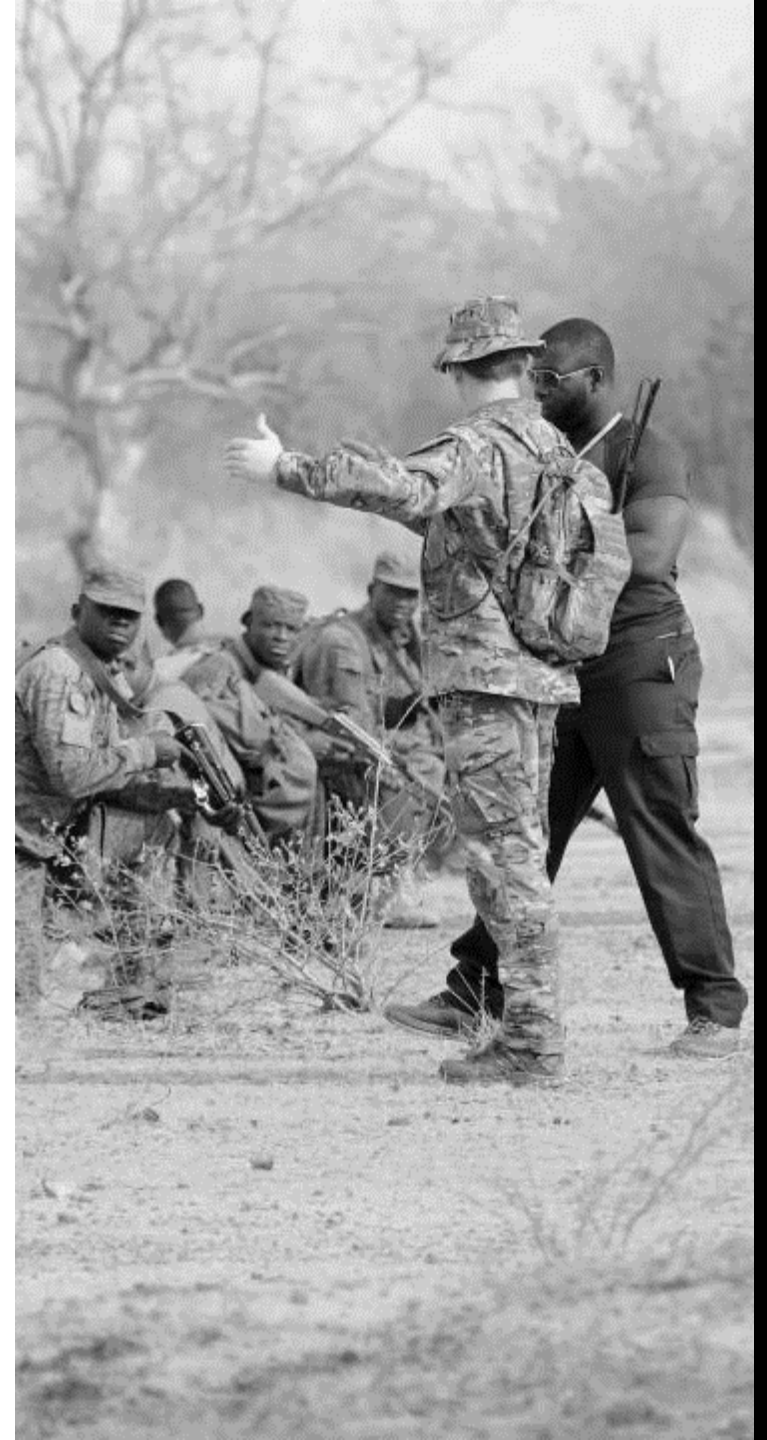
SOCAFRICA
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Support to U.S. Special Operations Forces in

AFRICA

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Outline



Africa

Characteristics of the Theater



Mobility

Intra-theater Transportation



Contract Support

Operational & Contingency



Partner Nation Support

Acquisition & Cross-Servicing Agreements



Africa

Challenges & Opportunities



“Tyranny of Distance”

The African continent is home to 54 countries, nearly 11-million sq miles or roughly 3.5-times the size of the Continental U.S., and characterized by diverse physical geography—including, deserts, jungles, and mega cities



Infrastructure

While infrastructure investments account for half the continent’s economic growth, civil (water, electricity) and transportation (roads, railways, airfields) infrastructure development varies widely across countries and regions, with lack of quality or availability most acute in rural areas



The Support Base

The preponderance of U.S. materiel and personnel supporting and enabling operations, activities, and investments in Africa originate from support bases in Europe or the Continental U.S.

Characteristics of the Theater

Mobility

U.S. SOF are routinely challenged to meet U.S. Transportation Command mission minimums

Moving people and materiel across the “last tactical mile” in Africa requires a blend of strategic, non-standard, and commercial transportation platforms

For operations at more remote or austere locations, U.S. SOF rely on non-standard aviation platforms such as the DHC-8 (pictured) to transport personnel and equipment

Intra-theater Transportation



Channel
Airlift

Non-Standard
Aviation

Commercial
Multi-Modal



Contract Support

With U.S. Conventional Force presence isolated to a handful of contingency bases, U.S. SOF deployed to remote outstations are heavily leveraged against contracted solutions

U.S. SOF are directly supported by contingency contracting officers (KO) warranted up to the unlimited threshold, and capable of letting contracts in days or hours

By contrast U.S. conventional forces can wait months or years for contracts to be awarded

Partner Nation Support

Support agreements with African Partners and Western Partners enhance the ability of U.S. SOF to meet emergent requirements

Acquisition & Cross-Servicing Agreements (ACSA) provide a framework through which U.S. SOF can obtain billeting, food, medical support, and transportation support

Key Takeaways

Support to U.S. SOF in Africa

01

SOF v. Conventional Logistics

SOF logistics accounts for less than 15% of workload – SOF Sustainers must therefore be experts in conventional logistics operations, systems, and processes

02

Austere & Expeditionary

Lead times associated with provisioning materiel in Africa necessitates foresight, anticipation, and tactical patience

03

Capitalizing on the Business Environment

Contingency Contracting and Host Nation support (ACSA) are vital to maintaining and extending the operational reach of U.S. SOF across the continent

Questions

