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## **REPORT ON TRAINING OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES**

**FOR THE PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014**

The estimated cost of this report for the Department of Defense (DOD) is approximately \$9,300 in DOD Labor In Fiscal Year 2015. Generated on February 27, 2015 Reference ID: F-B846156

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**U.S. Special Operations Command Fiscal Year 2014 Joint Combined Exchange Training Program Annual Section 2011  
Report to Congress**

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2014, U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) deployed U.S. Special Operations Forces (SOF) under a broad range of operating environments and conditions in response to national and Geographic Combatant Commanders' (GCC) requirements. The strategic operating environment continues to be increasingly complex and uncertain, requiring a special operations capability that is agile and ready for a broad range of contingency missions and engagement activities. Although the drawdown in Afghanistan has resulted in a smaller SOF footprint, SOF continues to be heavily tasked and deployed globally. The Joint Combined Exchange Training (JCET) program is critical to maintaining a ready special operations capability and helps SOF gain the exceptional cultural, regional, and global understanding that USSOCOM is focused on achieving. JCET events are overseas deployments of U.S. SOF units and personnel conducted under the provisions of 10 U.S.C. § 2011 to train U.S. SOF with friendly foreign nation forces. In FY 2014, USSOCOM's JCET program saw increases across the board. The overall number of JCET events increased by 13 percent from last year (154 to 176 events) and resulted in increased support to GCC requirements, increased partner nation (PN) participation, and an increase in the number of U.S. SOF personnel trained.

The primary purpose of JCET activities is to train U.S. SOF units in their mission-essential tasks, particularly foreign internal defense and unconventional warfare. These activities are also essential for U.S. SOF to build capability to conduct combined operations in an unfamiliar environment, develop language skills, and gain familiarity with regional and local geography and culture. Many aspects of the training available through JCET activities prepare U.S. SOF for other types of missions, including humanitarian activities, disaster relief operations, and personnel recovery. The conditions under which JCET activities are conducted are the key to their effectiveness, and cannot be duplicated in a simulated training environment on a military base in the United States. JCET activities also have important incidental benefits, including: building and maintaining military-to-military contacts; gaining regional access with a minimal footprint; improving interoperability between U.S. SOF and PN forces; and enhancing PN forces' counter-terrorism (CT) abilities. These incidental benefits are achieved with relatively low-risk, low-cost, and low-signature, and directly support the GCC's Campaign Plan, U.S. Embassy Country Integrated Action Plan objectives, and the National Security Strategy.

This report provides an overall summary of "Section 2011" deployments for FY 2014. Additionally, the report provides an overview of U.S. SOF activities within each Combatant Command and the relationship of these activities to the GCCs' regional strategies. Also included is a summary of the type of training conducted and detailed information for each country deployment.

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**U.S. Africa Command and  
Special Operations Command, Africa**

U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM), in concert with other U.S. Government departments and agencies, and with international partners, conducts sustained security engagement through military-to-military programs, military-sponsored activities, and other military operations as directed to promote a stable and secure African environment in support of U.S. foreign policy. With 54 countries comprising the African region, USAFRICOM stands ready to promote stability and thwart aggression throughout its area of responsibility (AOR). To accomplish these theater strategic goals, the Commander, USAFRICOM relies on U.S. SOF to provide the unconventional military options essential to the theater strategy of military-to-military activities and operational support to the Horn of Africa and Trans-Sahel regions.

Special Operations Command, Africa (SOCAF), located at Kelley Barracks, Stuttgart, Germany, is USAFRICOM's headquarters for special operations. SOCAF is a joint military organization, consisting of Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps SOF units either stationed in Europe or deployed from the continental United States (CONUS). SOCAF employed U.S. SOF in support of USAFRICOM's named operations in three primary areas on the African continent: Operation JUNIPER SHIELD and JUNIPER MICRON in Northwest Africa; Operation OCTAVE SHIELD in East Africa; and Operation OBSERVANT COMPASS in Central Africa. In FY 2014, SOCAF's SOF theater engagement strategy had a slight increase in the number of countries participating while maintaining the same number of JCETs as were conducted in FY 2013.

SOCAF executed the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) Exercise FLINTLOCK 14 in Niger while providing command and control (C2) of JCETs and other events across the region, including in Chad, Tunisia, and other regional countries. These events were invaluable training platforms that allowed U.S. SOF to train and sustain in both core and specialized skills, while working hand-in-hand with host nation forces. Using these assets, SOCAF forms multiple special operations engagement teams capable of conducting special operations throughout the USAFRICOM AOR. SOCAF provides the tools to engage friends and confront adversaries, respond to crises, and prepare for the future in areas that require the unconventional approach that only SOF can provide.

SOCAF participated in 20 JCET events in 10 countries during FY 2014.

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**U.S. Central Command and  
Special Operations Command, Central**

U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM) is assigned an AOR that includes 20 nations. To meet the distinct regional challenges of the theater, USCENTCOM pursues a multi-faceted theater strategy to defeat regional aggression, promote stability, and deter conflict. USCENTCOM's overall strategy takes into consideration the diverse cultural aspects of the region and the varying capabilities of the region's militaries. The strategy capitalizes on mutual trust and working relationships forged over the last half century. Although USCENTCOM has the capability to act unilaterally to defend U.S. regional concerns, long-term U.S. goals are best achieved by working cooperatively by, with, and through our friendly regional populations in partnerships and coalitions.

Special Operations Command, Central (SOCCENT), located at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, supports the regional strategy of the Commander, USCENTCOM through a variety of initiatives and activities including C2 of all JCET training events. SOCCENT executes a regional strategy that cultivates mature insights into the people, cultures, and issues of the USCENTCOM AOR. U.S. SOF helped actualize the USCENTCOM regional strategy of working by, with, and through PN SOF Forces, increasing U.S. SOF capability, and providing long-term regional influence in support of USCENTCOM objectives. The Theater Special Operations Command (TSOC) continued to utilize theater-deployed and CONUS-based SOF to execute JCETs as one of the supporting elements to USCENTCOM's Engagement Strategy. In FY 2014, SOCCENT JCET execution decreased by five percent (1 event) from FY 2013, while the number of countries participating increased by 1 country; however, overall SOCCENT employment of U.S. SOF increased due to SOF support to Commander, USCENTCOM's emerging theater crisis requirements.

Multiple JCET training events spread across eight countries throughout the region provided U.S. SOF the ability to train and sustain in both core and specialized Mission-Essential Task List (METL) skills, while working hand-in-hand with host nation forces simultaneously accomplishing theater engagement objectives in a low-cost, low-impact manner. U.S. SOF substantially increased critical skills with Jordan during seven combined training events, which continued to sustain and promote U.S. and Jordanian military-to-military relationships.

(b)(3) (10 U.S.C. § 130c) (b)(3) (50 U.S.C. § 3024(i)) (b)(5)  
(b)(3) (10 U.S.C. § 130c) (b)(3) (50 U.S.C. § 3024(i)) (b)(5) Army Special Forces, both active and reserve, U.S. SOF Military Information Support Teams, and Navy SEALs executed training in support of their wartime tasks while conducting combined training with Kuwaiti and Saudi forces. Bahrain and Qatar, with two events each, allowed U.S. SOF to focus on their instructional training, coaching, and mentoring skills. Egypt, Oman, and the UAE, with one event each, fully supported the refinement of USSOF skill sets, language immersion, and cross-cultural communications.

This unique U.S. SOF ability to train across multiple AOR countries and their terrain, both human and physical, allows our SOF to apply their skills and training through reinforcement in the locations where they may be called upon to execute future operations. SOCCENT successfully executed C2 of multiple JCETs and other events throughout the region and, when feasible,

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grouped them under Multilateral Exercises, such as JCS Exercises aligning multiple JCET events with high-priority USCENTCOM SOF partners. SOCCENT executed JCS Exercise EAGER LION 14 in Jordan while providing C2 of JCETs and other events across the region including in Jordan, Lebanon, and other regional countries. Completion of these 22 JCET events contributed to overall AOR regional security by leveraging SOF training with relationships fostered with partner nation counterparts.

SOCCENT participated in 22 JCET events in eight countries during FY 2014.

**U.S. European Command and  
Special Operations Command, Europe**

U.S. European Command (USEUCOM) defends the homeland forward and supports U.S. strategic interests by maintaining ready forces for global operations (unilateral or in concert with coalition partners), securing strategic access, enabling global freedom of action, enhancing transatlantic security through support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), promoting regional stability, and countering terrorism. USEUCOM's assigned AOR encompasses 51 nations.

Special Operations Command, Europe (SOCEUR), located at Patch Barracks, Stuttgart, Germany, is USEUCOM's headquarters for special operations. SOCEUR is responsible to the Commander, USEUCOM for U.S. SOF readiness, targeting, exercises, plans, joint and combined training, NATO/partnership activities, and execution of CT, peacetime, and contingency operations. SOCEUR successfully executed C2 of multiple JCETs and other Theater Campaign Plan (TCP) events throughout the region and, when feasible, grouped them under Partner Nation Exercises and Multilateral Exercises, such as JCS Exercises aligning multiple SOF activities and JCET events with high-priority USEUCOM SOF partners. SOCEUR executed Norwegian Partner Nation Exercise COLD RESPONSE 14 in Norway, and Exercises JACKAL STONE 14 and GAUNTLET CHALLENGE in Bulgaria, while providing C2 of JCETs and other events across the region, including in Croatia, Moldova, and Romania.

SOCEUR has provided C2 of numerous JCETs in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Romania in support of Operation ATLANTIC RESOLVE, focusing efforts with key partners in the region. The execution of these and all theater JCET events allows U.S. SOF to sharpen and refine their skills in instructional training, coaching and mentoring, language immersion, and cross-cultural communications. In FY 2014, USEUCOM JCET execution decreased by 15 percent from FY 2013. SOCEUR exercises operational control (OPCON) of theater Army, Navy, and Air Force Special Operations Forces.

SOCEUR participated in 30 JCET events in 15 countries during FY 2014.

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**U.S. Pacific Command,  
Special Operations Command, Pacific, and  
Special Operations Command, Korea**

The U.S. Pacific Command (USPACOM) AOR encompasses more than one-half of the earth's surface, approximately 105 million square miles. The AOR traverses 14 time zones, from the west coast of the U.S. mainland to the western border of India, and from the North Pole to Antarctica; and it includes the States of Hawaii and Alaska. The 36 countries that comprise the Asia-Pacific region are home to more than 50 percent of the world's population, three thousand different languages, several of the world's largest militaries, and five nations allied with the United States through mutual defense treaties. Two of the four largest economies are located in the region, along with 10 of the 14 smallest. Lastly, the AOR includes the most populous nation in the world (China), the largest democracy (India), and the largest democratic Muslim-majority nation (Indonesia).

Special Operations Command, Pacific (SOCPAC) remains poised to respond to crisis or conflict while focusing on transnational and regional terror networks within its AOR. Instability in the USPACOM AOR is an ever-present danger, from terrorism to large-scale war. SOF must be ready and capable across the spectrum of operations. SOCPAC works to build capacity with allies and partner nations, and it remains the lead organization for Operation ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF) - Philippines. As a sub-unified command, SOCPAC exercises OPCON of all Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force SOF allocated and deployed forces to USPACOM.

Special Operations Command, Korea (SOCKOR) continually prepares for conducting special operations mission sets within the Korean theater of operations. SOCKOR successfully executed C2 of multiple JCETs and other events on the peninsula and, when feasible, executed them leading up to a Multilateral Exercise, such as JCS Exercises KEY RESOLVE and FOAL EAGLE with high-priority Republic of Korea (ROK) units. SOCKOR is a sub-unified command supporting U.S. Forces – Korea, and exercises OPCON of all CONUS-based SOF when assigned within the Korean theater of operations. These events have had a global impact enabling ROK forces to become an exporter of security capabilities within Asia and Africa.

In FY 2014, SOCPAC's SOF theater engagement strategy had a 30-percent increase in U.S. SOF training compared to FY 2013. These SOF-unique training events prepared U.S. SOF to execute assigned mission-essential tasks to respond to crises in support of Commander, USPACOM objectives. Strong bilateral SOF and CT relationships continue to mature with allies, partners, and host nations, setting conditions to marginalize violent extremism and ultimately to disrupt or deny violent extremist organizations' capabilities and safe havens. SOCPAC expanded JCETs in Mongolia, designed to foster SOF military cooperation supporting U.S. – Mongolian relations. SOCPAC continued military-to-military relationships across the AOR, with an increased focus on South Asia (India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Nepal). SOCPAC continues to conduct measured Senior Key Leader Engagements to

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support Department of State work with Indonesian Special Forces Command (Kopassus). Additionally, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment is a high-demand, low-density asset that is continuously synchronized through USSOCOM, SOCPAC, SOCKOR, and USPACOM in order to provide sufficient opportunity to support the overall USPACOM TCP through the JCET program.

SOCPAC and SOCKOR participated in 68 JCET events in 19 countries during FY 2014.

**U.S. Southern Command and  
Special Operations Command, South**

The U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) AOR encompasses the entire land mass of Latin America south of Mexico; the waters adjacent to Central and South America; the Caribbean Sea and its island nations; European and U.S. territories, dependencies, and protectorates; and a portion of the Atlantic Ocean (excluding the Bahamas). Thirty-one countries and 10 dependencies (including territories over which the French, British, Dutch, and U.S. Governments exercise sovereignty) comprise the AOR, which encompasses one-sixth of the world's land area. More than 390 million people live in the region. Official languages spoken in the region include English, Spanish, Dutch, Portuguese, French, Quechua, and Aymara. Special Operations Command, South (SOCSOUTH) is a sub-unified command headquartered at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Florida, and is responsible for all U.S. SOF missions and activities in the USSOUTHCOM AOR.

U.S. SOF under the OPCON of SOCSOUTH supports USSOUTHCOM objectives to secure the United States from threats, enhance hemispheric security, ensure cooperative PN relationships, enhance PN consequence management and disaster response, and enable effective PN exercise of sovereignty. Theater Security Cooperation (TSC) events are the primary means by which USSOUTHCOM "operationalizes" its regional security plan to address vulnerabilities presented by illicit trafficking networks and safe havens in the AOR. U.S. SOF support to TSC events forms a vital part of USSOUTHCOM strategic shaping efforts and is the primary means of building partner capacity, countering transnational threats, and ensuring domain awareness. The JCET program forms a cornerstone of SOCSOUTH's supporting engagement plan and is primarily focused on conducting combined training with CT/counter-narcoterrorist units of key PNs.

In FY 2014, U.S. SOF JCETs continued to be focused primarily on Central America -- El Salvador, Belize, and Honduras in particular -- and select PNs in South America, primarily Colombia, Peru, and Brazil. The United States and strategic PNs share common interests in promoting hemispheric security and stability. FY 2014 JCETs helped advance those objectives by enabling and serving as a model for key PNs to export security in the region as well as by fortifying perceptions of the United States as the security partner of choice. The total number of JCET events executed in FY 2014 represented a 29 percent increase from the previous year's

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number of JCETs. The JCET program will continue to be an essential component of U.S. SOF engagements, providing invaluable opportunities to develop the environmental and cultural expertise of regionally aligned U.S. SOF, while promoting hemispheric security through the professionalization of PN security forces throughout the USSOUTHCOM AOR.

SOC SOUTH participated in 35 JCET events in 14 countries during FY 2014.

**U.S. Northern Command and  
Special Operations Command, North**

The U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) AOR encompasses the United States, Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and the Bahamas. Special Operations Command, North (SOCNORTH) is a sub-unified command under USNORTHCOM headquartered at Peterson AFB, Colorado, and it is responsible for all U.S. SOF missions and activities in the USNORTHCOM AOR.

U.S. SOF under the OPCON of SOCNORTH support USNORTHCOM objectives to secure the borders of the United States from threats, enhance hemispheric security, ensure cooperative PN relationships, increase PN consequence management and disaster response, and enable effective PN exercise of sovereignty. Although currently not the primary means of engagement in the USNORTHCOM AOR, the JCET program remains a valuable tool for achieving U.S. SOF training objectives and improving PN relationships.

SOCNORTH participated in one JCET event in one country during FY 2014.

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FY 2014 JCET 2011 REPORT SUMMARY

THEATERS	US SOF PERSONNEL	NUMBER OF TRAINING EVENTS	HOST NATION PERSONNEL	U.S. SOF EXPENSES	U.S. SOF SUPPORT EXPENSES PAID TO HN:	HOST NATION INCREMENTAL EXPENSES PAID BY U.S. SOF	TOTAL EXPENSES
USAFRICOM	417	20	2,770	\$5,754,442.25	\$0.00	\$465,187.54	\$6,219,629.79
USCENTCOM	315	22	1,456	\$3,582,895.93	\$0.00	\$200,725.07	\$3,783,621.00
USEUCOM	799	30	1,547	\$8,296,370.75	\$0.00	\$128,237.00	\$8,424,607.75
USNORTHCOM	6	1	25	\$186,319.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$186,319.00
USPACOM	2,575	68	7,163	\$25,454,886.31	\$0.00	\$886,071.69	\$26,340,958.00
USSOUTHCOM	712	35	2,257	\$10,728,378.27	\$0.00	\$479,901.87	\$11,208,280.14
TOTALS	4,824	176	15,208	\$54,003,292.51	\$0.00	\$2,160,123.17	\$56,163,415.68

USAFRICOM	#	USCENTCOM	#	USEUCOM	#	USNORTHCOM	#	USPACOM	#	USSOUTHCOM	#
1. CHAD	3	1. SAUDI ARABIA	2	1. ALBANIA	1	1. BAHAMAS	1	1. AUSTRALIA	4	1. BELIZE	2
2. DJIBOUTI	1	2. EGYPT	1	2. BULGARIA	1	TOTAL	1	2. BANGLADESH	3	2. BRAZIL	3
3. KENYA	4	3. JORDAN	7	3. CROATIA	2			3. CAMBODIA	4	3. CHILE	2
4. MOROCCO	2	4. KUWAIT	4	4. DENMARK	2			4. HONG KONG	1	4. COLOMBIA	4
5. NIGER	1	5. OMAN	1	5. ESTONIA	3			5. INDIA	1	5. DOMREP	4
6. NIGERIA	1	6. QATAR	2	6. GREECE	3			6. INDONESIA	3	6. EL SALVADOR	2
7. SENEGAL	1	7. SAUDI ARABIA	3	7. ITALY	2			7. JAPAN	2	7. GUATEMALA	1
8. TANZANIA	1	8. UAE	2	8. LATVIA	1			8. KOREA	7	8. GUYANA	1
9. TUNISIA	2	TOTAL	22	9. LITHUANIA	3			9. MALAYSIA	8	9. HONDURAS	8
10. UGANDA	4			10. POLAND	4			10. MALDIVES	4	10. PANAMA	2
TOTAL	20			11. PORTUGAL	1			11. MONGOLIA	1	11. PARAGUAY	2
				12. ROMANIA	3			12. NEPAL	4	12. PERU	3
				13. SLOVAKIA	2			13. NEW ZEALAND	1	13. SURINAME	1
				14. SLOVENIA	1			14. PHILIPPINES	7	14. TRINIDAD/TOB	3
				15. TURKEY	1			15. SINGAPORE	3	TOTAL	35
				TOTAL	30			16. SRI LANKA	2		
								17. TAIWAN	3		
								18. THAILAND	8		
								19. VIETNAM	2		
									68		

TOTAL COUNTRIES	67
TOTAL MISSIONS	176

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