

APPENDIX L

Sample SOC Mission Letter

The special operations command (SOC) mission letter provides authoritative direction to a SOF unit's planning and training efforts. It extracts unit tasks and other relevant guidance from SOC plans and consolidates them in priority into one unit-specific letter. The letter also establishes mission-essential training requirements. It thus serves to focus the SOF unit's planning and training efforts.

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SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND ATLANTIS
ATLANTICA, REPUBLIC OF CAMARGO
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SOCATL

20 June 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, 1st POG (Airborne), Fort Bragg, North Carolina
28307-5000

SUBJECT: SOCATL Mission Planning Guidance (U)

1. () REFERENCES.

- a. () JSCP Annex E (Special Operations) (U).
- b. () SACATLDEFCON OPLAN 2640, ATLDEFCON Combined Theater Campaign Plan (U).
- c. () CINCUSATL OPLAN 2640, USATLCON Subordinate Campaign Plan (U).
- d. () CINCUSATL CONPLAN 2641, USATLCON Plan for Peacetime Contingency Operations (U).

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Figure L-1. Sample SOC mission letter.

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e. () CINCUSATL OPLAN 2642, USATLCOM Plan for Military Operations in the Republic of Nuevo Bravo (U).

f. () CINCUSATL OPLAN 2643, USATLCOM Plan for Military Operations in the Republic of Camargo (U).

g. () CINCUSATL CONPLAN 2644, USATLCOM Plan for Military Operations in the People's Democratic Republic of Atlantis (PDRA) (U).

h. () CINCUSATL CONPLAN 2644, USATLCOM Noncombatant Evacuation Plan (U).

i. () CINCUSATL OPLAN 2646, USATLCOM Plan for Combatting Terrorism (U).

j. () CINCUSATL OPLAN 2647, USATLCOM Plan for Support of Drug Interdiction Activities (U).

k. () CINCUSATL OPLAN 2648, USATLCOM Plan for Support of Resistance in the Socialist Republic of Nagos (SRN) (U).

l. () CINCUSATL OPLAN 2640, SOCATL Subordinate Campaign Plan for Special Operations in the USATLCOM Area of Responsibility (AOR) (U).

2. () **GENERAL.**

a. () This memorandum provides the SOCATL concept for the employment of your group in the USATLCOM AOR. It specifies your responsibilities for deployment, employment, and sustainment. It identifies the high priority tasks for which you must train. (See Enclosure 1.)

b. () The SOCATL concept envisions the continued use of your group in the AOR. Your group will provide PSYOP support. Your group will support the National Union for the Total Independence of Nagos (UNITN) resistance. Your group will support CD activities. It assigns your group's contingency missions for FID and contingency operations. It provides options for your employment in a regional crisis or conflict that threatens U.S. national interests and in a global crisis or conflict between the U.S. and the USSR.

c. () The USSR can project its power and influence into the AOR from two client states, the PDRA and the SRN. Through the Blazing Torch Movement, the PDRA actively supports terrorism and insurgency

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Figure L-1. Sample SOC mission letter (continued).

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in Nuevo Basque, Camargo, and Costa Oro. The PDRA and SRN both actively support the FELON insurgency in southern Nubia. The PDRA also has international drug trafficking ties with the Brotherhood crime syndicate in Agricola.

d. () The U.S. national security strategy promotes collective security and protects U.S. interests in the region. Specific U.S. military strategic objectives are to-

(1) () Deter and, if necessary, successfully oppose PDRA and SRN attempts to achieve geopolitical gains by aggression and coercion.

(2) () Deny the USSR chances to expand its presence and influence.

(3) () Preserve and protect U.S. and allied access to Atlantis oil resources.

(4) () Help friendly governments defend themselves against antidemocratic insurgencies.

(5) () Support selected resistance movements that enhance U.S. interests.

(6) () Combat terrorism.

(7) () Support activities to interdict and eliminate drug trafficking.

e. () Three variables complicate the attainment of these objectives. These variables are as follows:

(1) () If a regional crisis or conflict, will the crisis or conflict be confined to the Atlantis continent, or will it be before, concurrent with, or after crisis or conflict in other theaters?

(2) () If a regional or global crisis or conflict, will the USSR commit major forces in the theater?

(3) () Will the NCA commit major forces in the theater, or will the USATLCOM AOR be a secondary, economy-of-force theater?

f. () The ATLDEFCON campaign plan and USATLCOM subordinate campaign plan accommodate these three variables with their three-phased approach to military operations in the AOR. Your group is used in all three phases.

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Figure L-1. Sample SOC mission letter (continued).

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(1) () In the ongoing Phase I (Minimum Force), CINCUSATL uses 1/1st POG and other forward deployed forces to plan, conduct, and support PSYOP and other military operations in the AOR.

(2) () In Phase II (Deterrence), the NCA allocate more forces to USATLCOM to credibly convey the U.S. intent to oppose successfully any aggression by the PDRA or SRN against an allied or friendly nation. During this phase, the entire 1st POG deploys to the AOR. COMSOCATL expands Phase I activities. On order, he starts SO to get early warning of aggression. If deterrence fails and hostilities start, COMSOCATL conducts SO against hostile forces to defend the region's key oil facilities. COMSOCATL's priorities are to-

(a) () Interdict LOC.

(b) () Disrupt the movement of second-echelon forces from the PDRA and/or SRN into the oil-rich Aciete Triangle area.

(c) () Divert as many hostile forces as possible to rear area security missions.

(3) () In Phase III (Warfighting), major U.S. forces deploy in the AOR to oppose an attack by the PDRA seeking to achieve geopolitical gains and disrupt U.S. and allied access to Atlantis oil resources. During this phase, COMSOCATL conducts SO to support conventional military operations and end the conflict on terms favorable to U.S. and allied interests.

g. () In addition to preparing for the threats specified above, the entire 1st POG must prepare to respond to a wide range of unspecified threats in a "no plan" crisis. Actual crisis requirements may include SO, but your preparation priorities are-

(1) () Loudspeaker operations.

(2) () Print operations.

(3) () Counterpropaganda operations.

(4) () Disaster relief, NEO, and other humanitarian assistance operations.

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Figure L-1. Sample SOC mission letter (continued).

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3. () **SOCATL CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS.**

a. () Phase I is ongoing. COMSOCATL operates and maintains a joint forward operational base (FOB) at San Sebastian, Nuevo Basque, to conduct joint and combined SO to—

(1) () Deter PDRA and SRN aggression and coercion.

(2) () Help friendly Atlantica Pact governments defend themselves against insurgency.

(3) () Combat terrorism in the region.

(4) () Support selected resistance movements that enhance U.S. interests in the region.

(5) () Support regional activities to interdict and eliminate drug trafficking.

b. () On order, COMSOCATL conducts UW, DA, SR, PSYOP, and other SO to neutralize threats to U.S. regional interests from the PDRA, SRN, and any other source. If regional or global hostilities occur, COMSOCATL conducts SO in coordination with friendly regional forces and indigenous resistance movements to—

(1) () Harass and disrupt hostile exploitation of the region's resources and geopolitical position.

(2) () Divert as many hostile combat forces as possible to rear area security.

(3) () Cause the PDRA and SRN to rely on force to impose and maintain control over any occupied territory.

4. () **GENERAL GROUP MISSION.** Continue ongoing PSYOP in the AOR. When directed, deploy the rest of the group to designated locations in the AOR. On order, conduct PSYOP in the USATLCOM AOR.

5. () **SPECIFIC MISSION GUIDANCE.**

a. () Force Operating Locations.

(1) () Phase I: One OB at San Sebastian, Nuevo Basque.

(2) () Phase II: One OB located at Atlantica, Camargo. One operational base (OB) at New London, Camargo. One OB at La Cruz, Agricola.

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Figure L-1. Sample SOC mission letter (continued).

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b. () Readiness Standards.

(1) () Prepare forward deployed battalion to—

(a) () Establish an OB at a peacetime location in 24 hours (N+1).

(b) () Execute preplanned PSYOP missions starting at N+4.

(c) () Commit all operational elements not later than (NLT) N+10.

(2) () Prepare the remainder of the group to—

(a) () Deploy advance party in 24 hours (N+1) and main body in 72 hours (N+3).

(b) () Establish an OB and two additional OBs NLT N+5.

(c) () Execute preplanned PSYOP missions starting at N+8.

(d) () Commit all operational elements NLT N+14.

c. () Specified Operational Tasks.

(1) () Conduct loudspeaker operations in Nuevo Basque and Camargo IAW CINCUSATL OPLANs 2642 and 2643.

(2) () Provide in-theater print operations IAW CINCUSATL OPLAN 2646.

(3) () Support regional CD IAW CINCUSATL OPLAN 2647.

(4) () Support UNITN resistance IAW CINCUSATL OPLAN 2648.

(5) () Train Basque stay-behind forces to support PSYOP in occupied Basque if that nation is overrun and occupied.

d. () Specified Planning and Preparation Tasks.

(1) () Prepare to conduct FID operations to help Nuevo Basque and Camargo defend themselves against insurgency.

(2) () Prepare to conduct SO in response to actual or threatened PDRA and/or SRN aggression against Nuevo Basque and Camargo. Give planning priority, in order, to the following missions:

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Figure L-1. Sample SOC mission letter (continued).

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- (a) () Continue to assist HN in internal defense.
- (b) () Conduct SCAME analysis of hostile propaganda in the PDRA and SRN.
- (c) () Conduct counterpropaganda operations in the PDRA and SRN to disrupt propaganda programs and convey U.S. intent to oppose aggression in the region successfully.
- (d) () Conduct loudspeaker and print operations that support conventional military operations. Give planning priority to hostile LOCs from PDRA to Aciete Triangle, PDRA to Atlantica, and SRN to San Sebastian, in that order.
- (3) () Prepare to conduct or support PSYOP with selected resistance elements in the PDRA to oppose PDRA attempts to achieve geopolitical gains by coercion.

(4) () Prepare for operations in (2) and (3) above in an NBC environment.

e. () Specified Area and Mission Orientations.

(1) () Primarily orient two forward operating detachments (FODs) of the forward deployed battalion to conduct PSYOP in Nuevo Basque. Mission orientation is FID, loudspeaker operations, print operations and counterpropaganda, in that order. One FOD will be designated the theater counterterrorism response force IAW reference a.

(2) (U) Primarily orient the third forward-deployed FOD to conduct PSYOP in the SRN. Mission orientation is loudspeaker operations, print operations, and counterpropaganda, in that order. Each FOD will have at least four personnel with ___/___ language proficiency in Spanish or Portuguese, as appropriate. Remaining operational personnel will have ___/___ language proficiency.

(3) () Primarily orient one CONUS battalion to conduct PSYOP in the PDRA. Mission orientation is loudspeaker operations, print operations, and counterpropaganda, in that order. Each FOD will have at least four personnel with ___/___ language proficiency in Celtis. Remaining operational personnel will have ___/___ language proficiency.

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Figure L-1. Sample SOC mission letter (continued).

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6. () **SUSTAINMENT.**

a. () Reduce personnel turbulence and maintain unit integrity at the FOD level to simplify area orientation, language proficiency, and operations security.

b. () Coordinate directly with the Cdr, 6th TASOSC, to get the support you need to complete your assigned tasks.

7. () **COMMAND AND CONTROL.**

a. () COMSOCATL exercises OPCON of all SOF deployed in the AOR, less those elements under the OPCON of an in-country security assistance organization.

b. () In Phase III, most USATLCOM forces pass to the OPCON of the combined theater commander, SACATLDEFCOM, but SOCATL and its assigned SOF remain under the OPCON of CINCUSATL. COMSOCATL exchanges LOs with allied SOF to effect mutual coordination of PSYOP in the region.

c. () The Cdr, 9th Army, exercises direct command less OPCON of all ARSOF deployed in the AOR. Direct coordination between you and Cdr, 6th TASOSC, is authorized and required to ensure you monitor the readiness of 1/1st POG.

d. () When deployed, your OB will retain direct OPCON of sufficient FODs to execute special category (SPECAT) missions.

8. () **OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES.**

a. () Advise and assist COMSOCATL and his staff to observe training and operations, develop exercises, and implement other programs he thinks are necessary to maintain and enhance your command's readiness.

b. () Submit a supporting OPLAN for COMSOCATL OPLANs to COMSOCATL for approval within 90 days of notification that CINCUSATL has approved a new COMSOCATL OPLAN.

c. () Advise COMSOCATL of any shortfalls in your ability to meet your assigned tasks.

Encl

EBERHARDT
Brigadier General, USA
Commander

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Figure L-1. Sample SOC mission letter (continued).