Operation Iraqi Freedom: Special Operations
ACSC Research Topic

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Contents

- Internet Resources
- Books
- Documents
- Periodicals

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Some materials listed below require access to subscription databases. If you cannot gain access, contact your local library for availability. AU students and faculty can contact AUL's Web Maintainer for a password.

All sites listed were last accessed on March 27, 2005.

Internet Resources

Available online at: http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/story?id=97679&page=1

Available online: http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory?id=275069

Air Force Doctrine Document AFDD 2-7 Special Operations.

Air Force Special Operations Command. Website.
Available online: https://www.afsoc.af.mil/

Special Operations, Air University Library Bibliography, compiled by Janet Seymour, September 1997.


CENTCOM Leaflet Gallery.
Available online at: http://www.centcom.mil/Galleries/leaflets/showleaflets.asp
Shows examples of actual leaflets that have been dropped both in English and Arabic, plus the dates the leaflets were dropped.


Available online at: http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/ops/iraqi_freedom.htm


Available online at: http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0317/web-psyops-03-21-03.asp

Federation of American Scientists. *Special Operations Command (SOMCO).*
Available online at: http://www.fas.org/irp/agency/dod/socom/
Describes the organization and missions of SOMCO.

Available online at: http://globalsecurity.org/military/ops/iraqi_freedom.htm
Discusses special operations forces operations that cover the entire country of Iraq.

IWS - The Information Warfare Site. *Psychological Operations.*
Available online at: http://www.iwar.org.uk/psyops/
Documents, news articles and links to relevant sites.

Jane's Defence News. *Iraq's Western Desert: A 'Special Forces Playground'.*
Available online at: http://www.janes.com/defence/news/jdw/jdw030403_1_n.shtml
Discusses the U.S., British and Australian special forces operations in Northern Iraq.

Available online at: http://search.ebscohost.com/direct.asp?an=J0E304482219203&db=f5h
Covert forces target Iraq's technology and leaders. Article describes the efforts conducted behind the scenes to pave the way for convention ground forces into the heart of Iraq.


Available online at: http://www.usmc.mil/marineline/mcn2000.nsf/ac95bc775efc34c685256ab50049d458/882d3568d415d1d885246d01004ad2d0?OpenDocument

United States Special Operations Command. Website.
Available online: http://www.socom.mil/


Books

*Book call no.: 355.31 A428s

Covers United States Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy special operations personnel, tactics and equipment.
*Book call no.: 356.1670973 A428u

*Book call no.: 356.167 D924p
Book call no.: 356.167 M265

956.70443 M823h

Book call no.: 356.16 M959s

Book call no.: 358.4 P9871u

Book call no.: 356.160973 P987c

An illustrated guide to the weapons of the world's special forces. Covers the range of purpose-built guns, grenades, ammunition and observation tools.  
Book call no.: 355.824 W232w

Documents

Some of the documents cited in this section are student papers written to fulfill PME school requirements.

Doc. call no.: M-U 42525 F8251i

"Technological and political changes are taking place today that require that the United States Army be prepared to fight in every conceivable environment and under any conceivable conditions and constraints. Recent events in Afghanistan and Iraq testify to the fact that Special Operations Force, with the proper integration into and the support of the joint targeting process, are truly indispensable on the battlefield as well as before and after the conflict. "  
Also available online at: http://handle.dtic.mil/100.2/ADA416890  
Doc. call no.: M-U 42022 H5881i

Examines the art of deception and analyzes the potential use of employing U.S. Special Operations Forces to conduct deception in support of conventional operations.  
Doc. call no.: M-U 42022-2 L5541e

Doc. call no.: M-U 42525 R173f

Doc. call no.: M-U 43903-23

Periodicals


This article focuses on special operations joint forces. A familiar complaint about Special Operations Forces (SOF) is that they are not integrated with conventional forces. However, SOF leaders recognize that they support other forces, land, sea, air, and space, just as those forces support special operations and one another. This reality has led to the improvement of special operations joint forces in Iraq, which is largely based on experiences in Afghanistan. Prior to Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, Special Operations Forces understood the need to integrate joint force. Doctrine indicates that SOF headquarters should include joint forces expertise in mission planning and execution.


Focuses on the combined military efforts of Kurdish peshmerga guerrillas and U.S. Special Operations Forces in Iraq, and how the close cooperation between U.S. Special Forces and the peshmerga has led to a sense of camaraderie.

Also available online at: [http://search.ebscohost.com/direct.asp?an=9406938&db=aph](http://search.ebscohost.com/direct.asp?an=9406938&db=aph)


Discusses the rise in the demand for U.S. Air Force's special operations forces. War on terrorism; Increases in manpower, responsibilities and equipment; Standards of the special operations forces.


This article reports that "U.S. News & World Report" was given exclusive access to this counterterrorist unit, modeled on the Delta Force, and another elite unit, the 36th Commando Battalion, which make up the Iraqi Special Operations Forces Brigade, as well as to the Americans grooming them since last year. In an unpublicized action in mid-January, Operation Trojan Roundup, both units of the ISOF carried out a massive raid in Baghdad in search of those who attacked a Kellogg Brown & Root convoy and captured American soldier Keith Maupin last year.


Reports that an estimated 10,000 special operations forces (SOF) are fighting in Iraq. Discusses the various operations that are underway.

Also available online at: [http://search.ebscohost.com/direct.asp?an=9460483&db=aph](http://search.ebscohost.com/direct.asp?an=9460483&db=aph)


Focuses on a small group of super-secret U.S. commandos with state-of-the-art weaponry who protect the presidency in ways that have never been fully revealed before. Deployment of these elite forces after the September 11, 2001 attacks; Secret counterterrorism program under which these commandos operate; Mention of the commandos in William M. Arkin's "Code Names: Deciphering U.S. Military Plans, Programs and Operations in the 9/11 World"; Observation that the precise number of these Special Operations forces in Washington, D.C. is highly classified; Information on the special-missions units; Why the role of the armed forces in the U.S. has been a contentious issue.


Reports that the Pentagon has created battlefield intelligence units that for the first time have been assigned to work directly with Special Operations forces on secret counterterrorism missions, tasks that until now were largely the province of the Central Intelligence Agency. Use of the small clandestine teams to provide the military's elite Special Operations units with battlefield intelligence using advanced technology, to recruit spies in foreign countries, and to scout potential targets; Example of Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's desire to expand the Pentagon's ability to gather human intelligence (information gathered by spies rather than technological means) both within the military services and the Defense Intelligence Agency, whose focus is on intelligence used in the battlefield.


Discusses how psychological warfare operators used cultural stereotypes to defeat the undisciplined Fedayeen. Examines the role of U.S. special forces in looking for leadership targets and gathering intelligence data.

Also available online at: [http://search.ebscohost.com/direct.asp?an=9515790&db=aph](http://search.ebscohost.com/direct.asp?an=9515790&db=aph)
Shanker, Thom. *Pentagon Sets Bonuses to Retain Members of Special Operations*. *New York Times* 10 February 6, 2005. Reports that the U.S. Defense Department has approve a series of incentives for members of Special Operations Forces who remain the military. Bonus given to experienced and trained combat personnel who promise to extend their military service for a number of years; Design of the pay and incentives package to reduce the number of officers transferring to higher-paying civilian security jobs in Iraq and elsewhere.

