



528TH
SUSTAINMENT
BRIGADE
HISTORY
HANDBOOK

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Introduction

Within U.S. Army Special Operations Forces (ARSOF), unsung patriots enable those at the tip of the spear to perform their missions. Collectively known as ARSOF Support soldiers, they provide combat forces with tailored logistics, signal, medical, and intelligence services to meet ARSOF's unique battlefield requirements. They can be found in the 528th Sustainment Brigade; in support battalions of five active duty and two Army National Guard Special Forces Groups (SFG); in the 75th Ranger Regiment Military Intelligence Battalion and Special Troops Battalion; and in various support-focused companies, detachments, and staff sections throughout the U.S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC).

This handbook focuses primarily on the 528th Sustainment Brigade and its subordinate units, while honoring the service of all ARSOF Support soldiers, past and present. It provides 528th soldiers with a pocket-sized reference that includes a brief historical overview, timeline of key events, unit lineages and honors, insignia, and organizational structures.

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THE UTMOST



Additional information can be found at:
arsof-history.org/branch_support.html

Historical Overview

The history of Army Special Operations Forces (ARSOF) Support begins in World War II, when the forerunners of today's support units were first activated. Like most ARSOF units, these support units were inactivated after WWII, but their lineage and wartime honors live on today in the 528th Sustainment Brigade, 112th Signal Battalion, and 389th Military Intelligence Battalion. This brief historical narrative explains their evolution.

In July 1942, the First Special Service Force (FSSF), an American-Canadian commando unit in the lineage of U.S. Army Special Forces (SF), was activated at Fort William Henry Harrison, Montana. It was made up of three combat regiments, and a separate service battalion, with Headquarters, Maintenance, and Service Companies. After leading the recapture of the Aleutian Islands, the FSSF moved to Italy, where it fought grueling mountain battles with the Germans in late 1943 and early 1944, held the defensive line at Anzio, and was among the first Allied units to occupy Rome on 4 June 1944. The Force spearheaded the amphibious assault on the southern coast of France (Operation DRAGOON) in August 1944, and fought its way inland before being disbanded on 5 December 1944.

Elsewhere in the summer of 1942, at Camp Savage, Minnesota, Japanese-American soldiers entered the Military Intelligence Service (MIS)



The FSSF Service Battalion maintained the M-29 Weasel, a tracked cargo vehicle designed specifically for the Force. An earlier T-24 model is pictured here near the Rapido River in Italy, 23 January 1944.



Unidentified WWII signalmen bury spiral-4 cable near the Rhine River.

as linguists. One MIS unit, the 389th Translator Team, was activated in February 1945, and fought alongside the Army's 96th Infantry Division on Leyte, Philippines, and Okinawa, earning a Presidential Unit Citation. The 389th Military Intelligence Battalion carries on that lineage today.

In December 1942, the 528th Quartermaster Service Battalion was activated at Camp McCain, Mississippi. It first saw action in Sicily in July 1943, as part of Lieutenant General George S. Patton's U.S. Seventh Army. Subsequent operations in Italy, France, and Germany earned the 528th Quartermaster Battalion (QMB) six campaign streamers. It was also awarded two bronze arrowheads for amphibious assault landings on Sicily and southern France. Since 2008, the 528th Sustainment Brigade has perpetuated the lineage of the 528th QMB.

On 14 July 1944, Headquarters, Seventh Army, at Lido de Roma, Italy, activated the 512th Airborne

Signal Company, consisting of a wire section, radio section, message center, and Signal Office section. In August 1944, the 512th provided communications to the 1st Airborne Task Force during Operation DRAGOON. It was later merged into the 112th Airborne Army Signal Battalion, which activated on 10 February 1945 and parachuted into Germany with the First Allied Airborne Army in Operation VARSITY on 24 March 1945. The 112th Signal Battalion inherited the lineage of these two early airborne signal units.

By the end of World War II, the lineage predecessors of the 528th Sustainment Brigade, and its component battalions (112th Signal and 389th Military Intelligence), had all been activated and seen combat. These units were inactivated following World War II, and none were reactivated for service in the Korean War. The 389th Military Intelligence Detachment was activated in 1962, and attached to the 11th Special Forces Group

528th QMB personnel in RVN used 6,000-pound rough terrain forklifts to load, offload, and move ammunition and heavy ordnance.



(SFG) the following year. In 1969, the 528th QMB was reactivated for duty in the Republic of Vietnam (RVN), where it supported conventional forces in the I Corps Tactical Zone/Military Region One until 1971. Logistical support for SF in Vietnam was provided by the Counterinsurgency Support Office, located in Okinawa, and by the 5th SFG Logistics Support Center, in Nha Trang, RVN.

During the 1980s, ARSOF experienced significant growth and modernization following the failed mission to rescue U.S. hostages in Iran in April 1980 (Operation EAGLE CLAW). The Army established the 1st Special Operations Command (1st SOCOM), under U.S. Army Forces Command, in 1982 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina (NC), as the headquarters for SF, Psychological Operations (PSYOP), Civil Affairs (CA), Ranger, and Special Operations Aviation units. A 1983 Army study validated the need for dedicated ARSOF support units. After this, 1st SOCOM staff officers began planning for the establishment and activation of a Special Operations Support Battalion (SOSB) and Special Operations Communications Battalion

COL (Ret.) Louis G. Mason's long association with ARSOF logistics began in 1967 with his assignment to 5th SFG, RVN, and culminated in his command of the 13th/528th SOSB, from 1986 to 1988.

(Image Credit: Louis G. Mason)



Mason Icon Bio

(SOCB). Their efforts came to fruition in 1986, with the activation of 1st SOCOM's first dedicated support units.

The 13th Support Battalion was activated on 2 June 1986, at Fort Bragg, to provide dedicated administrative, logistical, and maintenance support to 1st SOCOM and, when directed, to other ARSOF. A year later, on 16 May 1987, the 13th was 'reflagged' by the U.S. Army Institute of Heraldry as the 528th Support Battalion, but was often referred to as the 528th SOSB. Authorized 12 officers, 5 warrant officers, and 146 enlisted soldiers, it was organized into a headquarters company, and supply, maintenance, and transportation detachments. In 1988, the 528th adopted the motto: "We Support to the Utmost."

On 17 September 1986, the 112th Signal Battalion was activated at Fort Bragg, with an authorized strength of 16 officers and 229 enlisted soldiers. Its mission was to provide tactical command and control communications to deployed Army and Joint Special Operations Forces. The battalion focused its efforts toward Special Operations Command, South (SOC SOUTH) and Special Operations Command,



As the first Commander, 112th Signal Battalion, MG (Ret.) James D. Bryan was the first to hold the title "Shadow Six."

(Image Credit: Department of the Army)



Bryan Icon Bio

Europe (SOCEUR), which belonged to the two Army-supported combatant commands (U.S. Southern Command and U.S. European Command). 112th soldiers quickly identified themselves as “Shadow Warriors,” derived from the unit motto *Penetra Le Tenebre* – Penetrate the Shadows.

Initially, both the 528th SOSB and 112th Signal Battalion reported directly to 1st SOCOM, but they were later administratively aligned under the Commander, 4th PSYOP Group. This makeshift arrangement, known as the ARSOF Support Command, was in effect in May 1989, when the U.S. Army Forces Command published an inactivation order for the 528th SOSB, effective 15 September 1990. With the situation in Panama deteriorating in mid-1989, the 528th simultaneously prepared for war and inactivation.

The 528th SOSB and 112th Signal Battalion first entered combat in December 1989, supporting Operation JUST CAUSE in Panama. Then, in late August 1990, both battalions deployed lead

LTC Steven R. Sawdey (left), 112th Signal Battalion Commander, CPT Eric G. David (center), and CPT James S. Kestner (right), pictured here at a June 1990 change-of-command ceremony, all deployed to Panama during Operation JUST CAUSE. (Image Credit: James S. Kestner)



elements to Saudi Arabia as part of Operation DESERT SHIELD, remaining there through the end of Operation DESERT STORM in 1991. Spared from inactivation by its superb performance in Panama and the Persian Gulf, the 528th SOSB expanded from fewer than 200 to approximately 400 personnel over the next few years. Additionally, Theater Army Special Operations Support Commands (TASOSCs) were established in 1989-90 at each geographic combatant command (GCC) to coordinate logistical support to deployed SOF elements.

In 1995, the Special Operations Support Command (SOSCOM) was activated to provide a brigade-level command structure for ARSOF Support units. That same year, signal detachments (SIGDETs) from the 112th Signal Battalion were permanently assigned to each of the five Theater Special Operations Commands (TSOCs). Special Operations Theater Support Elements (SOTSEs) from SOSCOM replaced the TASOSCs, performing the same coordination mission with a fraction of the personnel. In 2008, these were renamed ARSOF Liaison Elements (ALEs).

SOSCOM units were among the first deployed following the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the United States. They accompanied Task Force Dagger (5th SFG) to Karshi-Kanabad (K2) Air Base, Uzbekistan, using it as an intermediate staging base for operations in Afghanistan in the early stages of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF). When the focus shifted to Iraq in early 2003, the 528th SOSB and 112th Signal Battalion were again called on to support SF-led task forces in northern and western Iraq. Meanwhile, SOSCOM Headquarters was operationalized during the early days of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF), providing command and control for a Logistics Task Force

supporting SOF in western Iraq. It was during this initial phase of the Global War on Terrorism that SOSCOM adopted the nickname “Sentinels,” to reflect its constant state of readiness.

In 2005, USASOC started implementing the ARSOF Logistics Transformation Plan, which shifted support personnel and resources from SOSCOM to the U.S. Army Special Forces Command (USASFC). Accordingly, both SOSCOM and the 528th SOSB were inactivated by year’s end. In their place, a provisional Sustainment Brigade (Special Operations) and a Special Troops Battalion (STB) were established. Some 528th SOSB personnel positions were redistributed to help stand up SF group support battalions (GSBs), formally activated in 2009 to provide SFGs with sustainment, signal, and military intelligence capabilities.

In December 2008, the 528th Sustainment Brigade (Special Operations) (Airborne) was activated, inheriting the 528th SOSB number and lineage. It commanded the 112th Signal Battalion, six ALEs, and an STB consisting of the 195th Forward Support Company (Nebraska Army National Guard), the 197th Special Troops Company (Texas Army National Guard), and a Special Operations Medical Detachment (SOMEDD), with two eight-man Special Operations Resuscitation Teams (SORTs). In April 2008, the first SORT deployed to Afghanistan (OEF) as a proof-of-concept; its success helped justify a third SORT. From 2012 through 2016, SORTs operated in South Sudan, as part of Operation OBSERVANT COMPASS, the successful ARSOF-led mission to remove Joseph Kony’s Lord’s Resistance Army from the battlefield.

Top: LTG John F. Mulholland, CG, USASOC, affixes campaign streamers to the 528th Sustainment Brigade colors at its July 2009 activation ceremony. **Bottom:** SORT personnel conduct vertical hoist training with 10th SFG, near Nzara, South Sudan. (Image Credit: Louis K. Haase)





In August 2018, LTC Richard A. Malaga (left) passed command of the 1st SFC MI Battalion (Provisional) to LTC Sapriya Childs (center).

Initially, the 528th Sustainment Brigade had reported directly to Headquarters, USASOC. This changed in July 2014, when USASOC provisionally established the 1st Special Forces Command (1st SFC) as a deployable ARSOF headquarters, replacing USASFC. In 2016, the Commanding General, 1st SFC, directed 528th soldiers to don the SF Shoulder Sleeve Insignia (SSI). This was the same SSI that

their predecessors in the 528th SOSB and 112th Signal Battalion had worn twenty-five years earlier, while supporting the 5th SFG-led Army Special Operations Task Force during Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM.

In 2015, USASOC approved the establishment of a provisional Military Intelligence Battalion, under the 528th Sustainment Brigade. It was formally activated in July 2019 as the 389th Military Intelligence Battalion, with an authorized strength of 5 officers, 5 warrant officers, and 86 enlisted personnel, organized into two companies, and a headquarters detachment. It provides command and control for intelligence operations in support of the 1st SFC, its subordinate SF, CA, and PSYOP units, and mission partners. The battalion can also deploy as part of a Special Operations Joint Task Force (SOJTF).

In recent years, the 528th Sustainment Brigade, 112th Signal Battalion, 389th Military Intelligence Battalion, and STB have supported the counter-Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) mission, known as Operation INHERENT RESOLVE, as well as Operation FREEDOM'S SENTINEL in Afghanistan. They stand ready to support 1st SFC and its subordinate units "to the utmost," wherever and whenever the need arises. A chronological account of the organizational and operational history of these units, and other ARSOF legacy units, follows in the next section.



[ARSOF Support main page](#)



Historical Timeline

World War II

7 December 1941

Japan attacks Pearl Harbor. The U.S. Congress declares war on Japan the following day. No dedicated ARSOF units exist at the time.

1 June 1942

Class begins at the Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS), Camp Savage, Minnesota. Japanese-American recruits, mostly Nisei (second generation), study the Japanese language before deployment to the Southwest Pacific and China-Burma-India Theaters. As part of the Military Intelligence Service (MIS), these linguists will accompany several ARSOF legacy units in combat, including Merrill's Marauders, the MARS Task Force, and Office of Strategic Services (OSS) Detachments 101, 202, and 404.

9 July 1942

First Special Service Force (FSSF), a combined American – Canadian commando unit, is activated at Fort William Henry Harrison, Montana. Supporting its three infantry regiments is a Service Battalion with Headquarters, Maintenance, and Service Companies, and a Medical Detachment. Service Battalion administrative, construction, food service, maintenance, and medical personnel are

1941-2019

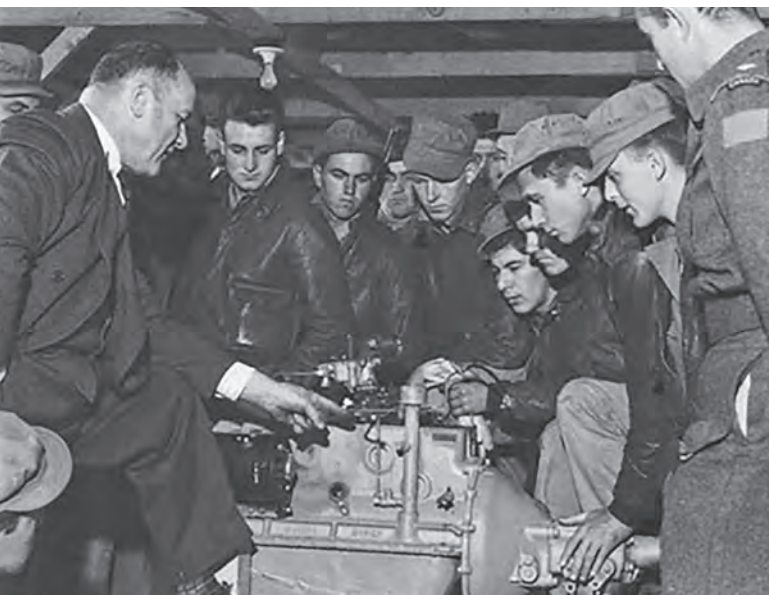


among the earliest ARSOF Support soldiers in the U.S. Army.



QR: "Unique Support for a Unique Unit" Article

Left: First Special Service Force Shoulder Sleeve Insignia (SSI). **Bottom:** A Studebaker Corporation representative provides FSSF Service Battalion personnel maintenance instruction on the T-24 Weasel.



15 December 1942

528th Quartermaster Service Battalion is activated at Camp McCain, Mississippi. The lineage predecessor of the 528th Sustainment Brigade, its four 160-man companies transport and distribute supplies, operate supply depots, and supervise civilian and prisoner of war (POW) labor.

10 July 1943

Operation HUSKY, the Allied invasion of Sicily, begins. The 528th Quartermaster Service Battalion supports the U.S. Seventh Army, led by Lieutenant General (LTG) George S. Patton, earning its first campaign streamer and arrowhead.



U.S. Seventh Army SSI

15 August 1943

FSSF occupies the island of Kiska, Alaska. The Service Battalion supports the landings from the nearby island of Adak.

16 November 1943

FSSF Service Battalion arrives in Naples, Italy, for Operation AVALANCHE. It supports the night attack on Monte la Difensa in early December, and subsequent operations to break the German Winter Line. The battalion's Service Company provides litter-bearers to transport wounded down treacherous mountain paths under fire.

18 January 1944

528th Quartermaster Service Battalion is reorganized and redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 528th Quartermaster Battalion (QMB). Companies A, B, C, and D become the 4098th, 4099th, 4100th, and 4128th Quartermaster Service Companies, respectively.



A FSSF Service Battalion 6 x 6 truck unloads from an LST (Landing Ship, Tank) at the Anzio beachhead.

1 February 1944

FSSF Service Battalion lands in Anzio, Italy, as part of Operation SHINGLE. It spends the next three months manning defensive positions under constant German observation and frequent artillery bombardment, providing casualty evacuation for the Force's three infantry regiments.

4 June 1944

Liberation of Rome. FSSF soldiers are among the first Allied troops to enter the Italian capital. Separately, the 528th QMB earns a campaign streamer for contributions to the Rome – Arno campaign.

14 July 1944

512th Airborne Signal Company is activated. Its 3 officers, 2 warrant officers, and 129 enlisted soldiers are organized into a wire section, radio

section, message center, and Signal Office section. The company first sees action in Italy, during the drive from Rome to Arno.



QR:
"Airborne
Signal"
Article

14 August 1944

Operation DRAGOON, the Allied invasion of southern France, begins. The 528th QMB, the 512th Airborne Signal Company, and the FSSF Service Battalion all participate.

5 December 1944

Final formation of the FSSF at Menton, France. Canadians return to their forces and Americans are reassigned to U.S. Airborne units. The event is commemorated annually on Menton Day.

14 December 1944

389th Translator Team is created by the Army.

Attached to the 96th Infantry Division, it consists of Japanese-American graduates of the MISLS at Camp Savage, Minnesota.



96th Infantry SSI

6 January 1945

FSSF officially disbanded. Remaining American soldiers are reassigned.

15 January 1945

112th Airborne Army Signal Battalion is constituted in the Army.

10 February 1945

512th Airborne Signal Company is disbanded in France; 112th Airborne Army Signal Battalion is activated in France.

25 March 1945

112th Airborne Army Signal Battalion soldiers participate in Operation VARSITY. They are among the 10,000 troops of the First Allied Airborne Army that parachute and glider-assault across the Rhine River into Germany. It is the largest airborne operation of World War II.



First Allied Airborne SSI

1 April 1945

Operation ICEBERG, the Allied invasion of the Ryukyus Islands, begins. The 389th Translator Team comes ashore on Okinawa with the 96th Infantry Division. The fight for the island lasts until late June 1945. For its part in the battle, the 389th is awarded a campaign streamer embroidered OKINAWA.

On 1 April 1945, the USS *Mendocino* (APA-100), a 492 foot long, Bayfield Class attack transport (APA), delivered the 389th Translator Team to Beach White I, Okinawa. (Image Credit: National Archives and Records Administration)



5 April 1945

512th Airborne Signal Company is reconstituted in the Army and consolidated with 112th Airborne Army Signal Battalion.

8 May 1945

Victory in Europe (V-E) Day. The war in Europe ends with the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany. The 528th QMB remains in Europe on occupation duty, experiencing a number of redesignations and reorganizations until its eventual inactivation on 20 November 1947.

17 July–2 August 1945

112th Airborne Army Signal Battalion provides communications support to the Potsdam Conference. U.S. President Harry Truman, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill (replaced on 26 July by Clement Attlee), and Soviet leader Joseph Stalin negotiate terms for the end of World War II and the administration of post-war Germany. The 112th uses a cutting-edge fax machine to transmit draft surrender terms, and radio-transmits the first color photo to the White House.

2 September 1945

Victory over Japan (V-J) Day. Japan surrenders to the Allies, ending World War II. The ceremony is held on the battleship USS *Missouri*.

The first ever color photo transmitted by radio: (L to R) British Prime Minister Clement Atlee, U.S. President Harry S. Truman, and Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin at the Potsdam Conference, in August 1945.



Post-World War II

11 November 1945

389th Translator Team arrives in Korea. It is sent to facilitate the surrender and return of Japanese troops to Japan. The 389th performs occupation duty tasks until being inactivated on 25 March 1947.

12 December 1945

112th Airborne Army Signal Battalion is inactivated at Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia.

12 October 1948

528th QMB is transferred to the Organized Reserve Corps, and reactivated on 22 October at Clarksburg, West Virginia.

Korean War

25 June 1950

North Korea invades South Korea, beginning the Korean War. Psychological warfare, Ranger, guerrilla warfare, and military government units are formed, but no dedicated ARSOF Support units are activated during the war.

6 September 1950

The 389th Translator Team is redesignated the 389th Translator Detachment and transferred to the Army Reserve on 2 October 1950. It is stationed in Cincinnati, Ohio, until inactivated two years later, on 20 July 1952, at Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

15 January 1952

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 528th Quartermaster Battalion is taken from the

Organized Reserve Corps and returned to the Regular Army. It is activated on 1 February 1952 at Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

27 July 1953

Armistice ends fighting in Korea.

Vietnam War

5 November 1962

The Army redesignates the 389th Translator Detachment as the 389th Military Intelligence Detachment (MID). Activated on 7 January 1963, the 389th is headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky, and attached to 11th Special Forces Group (SFG) (U.S. Army Reserve). It has an authorized strength of 8 officers, 7 warrant officers, and 30 enlisted soldiers.



11th Special Forces Group
beret flash

27 February 1963

Department of Army establishes the Counterinsurgency Support Office (CISO) in Okinawa. It supplies clothing, weapons, and equipment for indigenous forces directed by Special Forces (SF) in Vietnam. The 5th SFG establishes a Logistical Support Center at Nha Trang, Republic of Vietnam, to deliver food, equipment, and supplies, and repair weaponry (from small arms to artillery pieces) for SF Operational Detachments – Alpha (ODAs) throughout Vietnam.

25 November 1966

The 528th QMB is inactivated at Fort Lee, Virginia.



Heavy duty cranes were required to issue heavy ordnance to combat units in Vietnam. By early 1970, some units were using up to ten times as much ordnance as projected.

25 September 1969

The 528th QMB is activated in Phu Bai, Republic of Vietnam. It performs ammunition and petroleum support missions in the I Corps Tactical Zone.

15 April 1971

528th QMB inactivated at Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam. The withdrawal of most U.S. combat troops in 1971 includes the 528th QMB. During its eighteen months in Vietnam, the 528th qualifies for four campaign streamers.

Post-Vietnam

31 December 1974

389th MID becomes part of the 11th SFG Security Assistance Force (SAF) for Europe. With an SFG as its core, the SAF has civil affairs, psychological operations (PSYOP), engineer, medical, intelligence, military police, and Army Security Agency elements. The 389th MID provides planning, coordination, advisory assistance, and operational support for intelligence and counterintelligence aspects. Contingency plans align the 389th MID with the 11th SAF in Europe, if federalized (SAFs had previously been known as “Special Action Forces”).

25 April 1980

Operation EAGLE CLAW fails. The unsuccessful Iran hostage rescue mission results in a decade-long restructuring of U.S. Special Operations Forces.

The 389th MI Detachment, seen here on a frigid morning run in November 1980. (Image Credit: Paul E. Beane)



1 October 1982

1st Special Operations Command (Airborne) (Provisional) is established at Fort Bragg, NC. It assumes command and control of ARSOF from U.S. Army Forces Command.



June 1983

Special Operations Forces Mission Area Analysis identifies shortfalls in organic combat service support capabilities. It is followed by the 1984 SOF Master Plan.

1st SOCOM SSI

August 1984

1st SOCOM staff officers begin planning for a Special Operations Support Battalion (SOSB), and a Special Operations Communications Battalion (SOCB). Lieutenant Colonel Louis G. Mason, G-4, 1st SOCOM, leads the SOSB planning effort. Major James D. 'Dave' Bryan, G-6, 1st SOCOM, is the lead for the SOCB.

1st SOCOM staff photo from 1985 (LTC Louis G. Mason is in the 3rd row, 2nd from right; MAJ James D. Bryan is in the back row, 4th from left). (Image Credit: Louis G. Mason)



16 March 1985

389th MID becomes the 389th Military Intelligence Company (Combat Electronic Warfare Intelligence) (Special Forces Group) (Airborne). Authorized 10 officers, 11 warrant officers, and 100 enlisted soldiers, the 389th remains aligned with the 11th SFG.

17 December 1985

Department of the Army publishes activation order for the 13th Special Forces Battalion (Special Operations). It will be authorized 7 officers, 3 warrant officers, and 77 enlisted soldiers, which is half of what is authorized by the SOSB Table of Organization and Equipment, approved 1 April 1985. An amended order, dated 13 May 1986, clarifies that the new battalion will be the 13th Support Battalion, Special Operations.

2 June 1986

The 13th Support Battalion is activated at Fort Bragg, NC, as the SOSB for 1st SOCOM.

Its mission is to provide dedicated administrative and logistical support to 1st SOCOM,

LTC Louis G. Mason takes the colors of the newly activated 13th Support Battalion from MG Leroy N. Suddath, Jr., Commanding General (CG), 1st SOCOM, at the battalion's 2 June 1986 activation ceremony.

(Image Credit: Louis G. Mason)





112th Signal Battalion soldiers pose outside their temporary battalion headquarters near Gruber Road on Fort Bragg, NC, shortly after activation. (Image Credit: William D. Childs)

and, when directed, to provide direct support to its units. It is organized into a Headquarters Company, Supply Detachment, Maintenance Detachment, and Transportation Detachment.

17 September 1986

112th Signal Battalion is activated at Fort Bragg, NC, as the SOCB for 1st SOCOM.

With an authorized strength of 16 officers and 229 enlisted soldiers, its mission is to provide tactical command and control communications to Special Operations Command, South (SOCSOUTH) and Special Operations Command, Europe (SOCEUR), and to deployed ARSOF headquarters. It is commanded by LTC James D. 'Dave' Bryan.

112th Signal Battalion
Distinctive Unit Insignia (DUI)





528th SOSB soldiers form up for an awards ceremony outside their headquarters at the “Old Stockade” facility, Fort Bragg, NC.
(Image Credit: Robert T. Davis)

16 April 1987

U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) is activated at MacDill Air Force Base, FL.

It provides command and control (C2) and funding for all Department of Defense Special Operations Forces (SOF).

16 May 1987

The 13th Support Battalion is consolidated with the 528th Quartermaster Battalion to become the 528th Support Battalion. Better known as the 528th Special Operations Support Battalion (SOSB), it has an authorized strength of 12 officers, 5 warrant officers, and 146 enlisted soldiers.

1988–89

528th SOSB logisticians deploy to Bahrain to support Operations PRIME CHANCE and EARNEST WILL. It is the first of many operational deployments for the battalion.

1 December 1988

U.S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) is formed provisionally at Fort Bragg, NC. On 1 December 1989, it is formally activated as a Major Army Command (MACOM) and the Army Service Component Command (ASCC) of USSOCOM.



USASOC SSI

11 May 1989

U.S. Forces Command (FORSCOM) orders the inactivation of the 528th Support Battalion, effective 15 September 1990.

3 October 1989

The Chief of Staff of the Army approves the establishment of Theater Army Special Operations Support Commands (TASOSC) for each of the five combatant theaters. The TASOSC mission is to exercise command (less Operational Control) of in-theater ARSOF, and to fulfill Theater Army Service responsibility to facilitate support coordination and sustainment. The first TASOSC is Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Special Operations Support Command (SOSC), U.S. Army, Pacific. It is activated on 16 December 1989 at Fort Shafter, Hawaii to support WESTCOM (now USINDOPACOM).



4th SOSC Beret Flash

20 December 1989

Operation JUST CAUSE begins in Panama.

The 528th SOSB deploys a Forward Arming and Refueling Point (FARP) team and a Logistical Support Element. The 112th Signal Battalion deploys seven, three-person Special Operations Communications Assemblage (SOCA) teams, and several staff planners. Following JUST CAUSE, elements of the 528th and 112th remain in Panama supporting Operation PROMOTE LIBERTY, until mid-1990.



QR: ARSOF in Panama microsite. **Bottom:** 528th SOSB Commander, LTC David L. Shaw, meets the FARP team at Howard Air Force Base in late December, 1989. (Image Credit: Robert T. Davis)





Airborne operations helped build esprit de corps and an elite mindset among ARSOF Support soldiers of the 528th SOSB and 112th Signal Battalion. (Image Credit: James S. Kestner)

Post-Cold War

6 March 1990

At the urging of the Commander, USSOCOM, the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army (VCSA) delays inactivation of the 528th Support Battalion.

The 528th's performance in Panama causes the Department of the Army to reconsider its decision to inactivate the battalion. The Army commissions an in-depth study of ARSOF logistics.

2 August 1990

Iraq invades Kuwait. The U.S. responds with Operation DESERT SHIELD to prevent further Iraqi aggression. Both the 528th SOSB and 112th Signal Battalion receive alert orders on 9 August, and soldiers from both units deploy to Saudi Arabia with 5th SFG, which forms the core of an Army Special Operations Task Force (ARSOTF). The 528th also supports 3rd Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment.



A 389th MI Company group photo at Fort Knox, Kentucky, in June 1987. (Image Credit: Paul E. Beane)

15 September 1990

The 389th Military Intelligence Company is inactivated at Louisville, Kentucky. Some of its soldiers continue to provide intelligence support to the 11th SFG, until the group is inactivated in 1994.

16–17 September 1990

Additional TASOSCs are activated. They support U.S. Army South (3rd SOSC), U.S. Army Central (5th SOSC), U.S. Army Atlantic (6th SOSC), and U.S. Army Europe (7th SOSC).



3rd SOSC
Flash



5th SOSC
Flash



6th SOSC
Flash



7th SOSC
Flash

27 November 1990

The U.S. Army Special Forces Command (USASFC) is formally activated at Fort Bragg, NC. It replaces 1st SOCOM as the higher headquarters for the 112th Signal Battalion and the 528th Support Battalion.

17 December 1990

ARSOF Combat Service Support Review validates the need for both TASOCs, and a SOSB. Prepared by USASOC for the Commander, USSOCOM, and the VCSA, the report includes a concept for a more robust SOSB, with a Headquarters, Main Support Company, and three Forward Support Companies, totaling 745 personnel. The proposal is never fully adopted, but the SOSB does grow considerably in the early 1990s.

17 January 1991

Operation DESERT STORM begins with an intense air campaign. The goal is to expel Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

CH-47 helicopters delivered potable water, purified by 528th SOSB soldiers, to ARSOF outstations in Saudi Arabia using sling-loaded 500-gallon blivets. (Image Credit: Stephen R. Anderson)



5 February 1991

Commander, 112th Signal Battalion, deploys to Saudi Arabia with the balance of the battalion. The 112th provides command and control connectivity between 5th SFG; 1st Battalion, 3rd SFG; Special Operations Command, Central (SOCCENT); U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM); XVIII Airborne Corps; and other military elements.

24 February 1991

The 100-hour ground war begins. The U.S.-led coalition drives the Iraqi Army from Kuwait, and President George H.W. Bush announces a cease-fire on 28 February. Throughout DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM, the 528th SOSB supplies Class I (food and water), Class III (Petroleum, Oils, Lubricants), Class V (ammunition), Class VI (personal items), and provides an arrival/ departure airfield control group, direct support transportation and maintenance, and water production to the ARSOF and other SOF in theater.

6 April 1991

Joint Task Force (JTF) PROVIDE COMFORT formed; deploys to Incirlik, Turkey. 7th Special Operations Support Command, 528th SOSB, and 112th Signal Battalion support JTF Alpha (10th SFG) and JTF Bravo (24th Marine Expeditionary Unit) efforts to protect the Kurdish population from Iraqi military reprisals and prevent a humanitarian crisis.

Fall 1991

Materiel Management Activity (MMA) added to the 528th Support Battalion Table of Organization and Equipment. Later renamed the Materiel Management Center (MMC), it

provides the 528th with a deployable element capable of consolidating all active duty ARSOF assets under a single property book management system. Although part of the 528th, the MMA is attached to the G-4, USASOC.

26 August 1992

Hurricane Andrew strikes Florida. The 112th Signal Battalion dispatches communications teams to operate command and control communications for Special Forces detachments augmenting Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) disaster relief efforts.

15 October 1992

528th Support Battalion and 112th Signal Battalion are realigned under USASOC.

27 February 1993

112th Signal Battalion deploys a team to Europe, to support humanitarian assistance and No-Fly Zone enforcement in the former Yugoslavia. This leads to a proposal to migrate the existing Special Operations Command, Europe (SOCEUR) Signal Detachment to the 112th, and create forward-based Signal Detachments (SIGDETs) for each Theater Special Operations Command (TSOC).

8 October 1993

Harlan County Incident. Armed Haitian mobs prevent the USS *Harlan County*, carrying 200 U.S. and United Nations troops, from docking at Port-au-Prince. During the ensuing standoff, a 112th Signal Battalion team in Haiti provides critical communications for USSOCOM and ARSOF.

July 1994

112th Signal Battalion teams deploy to northern Iraq (Operation PROVIDE COMFORT II) and Rwanda (SUPPORT HOPE).

19 September 1994–31 March 1995

Operation UPHOLD DEMOCRACY. 112th Signal Battalion soldiers are among the first soldiers into Port-au-Prince, Haiti, supporting the Army Special Operations Task Force. The Forward Support Element, 528th SOSB, performs a wide variety of humanitarian assistance missions, in addition to supporting 3rd SFG. Its soldiers are awarded the Humanitarian Service Medal.

29 June 1995

At the direction of the Command General, USASOC, the Special Operations Support Command (SOSCOM) is provisionally established at Fort Bragg, NC. Its mission is to plan, coordinate, and provide communications and basic combat service support to all ARSOF.

31 August 1995

112th Signal Battalion is awarded the Army Superior Unit Award, 1994-95, for meritorious performance of challenging missions from 16 September 1994 to 2 January 1995.

October 1995

TASOSCs are deactivated. Their functions are transferred to five new geographically-aligned Special Operations Theater Support Elements (SOTSEs).

12 November 1995

112th Signal Battalion deploys soldiers to Italy to support peacekeeping operations in

Macedonia (Operation ABLE SENTRY). They return to Fort Bragg on 28 February 1996.

16 November 1995

112th Signal Battalion fields five forward-deployed SIGDETs, to provide a communications capability to the TSOCs. These detachments are designated 112th Signal Detachment-Europe, 112th Signal Detachment-South, 112th Signal Detachment-Pacific, 112th Signal Detachment-Central, and 112th Signal Detachment-Korea.

8 December 1995

Special Operations Support Command is activated. A Table of Distribution and Allowances (TDA) unit, it provides a brigade-level headquarters for the 528th Support Battalion, 112th Signal Battalion, and USASOC MMC.



SOSCOM DUI

10 December 1995

112th Signal Battalion deploys in support of Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR in Bosnia. The battalion deploys to an intermediate staging base at San Vito, Italy, and immediately establishes communications for SOCEUR.

6 April 1996

112th Signal Battalion teams deploy to the West African country of Sierra Leone, supporting a non-combatant evacuation operation (NEO) in neighboring Liberia (Operation ASSURED RESPONSE).

June 1997

112th Signal Battalion is awarded the Army Superior Unit Award for its actions in Operations JOINT ENDEAVOR and ASSURED RESPONSE.

April to May 1998

112th Signal Battalion provides command and control communications for forces in Senegal and Ghana as part of the African Crisis Response Initiative.

16 August 1999

The Special Operations Logistics Area is opened on Fort Bragg, NC. It is dedicated to Special Forces Medal of Honor recipient, Master Sergeant Roy P. Benavidez.

18 September 2000

SOSCOM supports 3rd SFG in Operation FOCUS RELIEF in Nigeria. The mission lasts until November 2001.

July 2001

Company C, 112th Signal Battalion is activated at Fort Bragg, NC.

112th Signal Battalion soldier, circa 2001.





A 112th Signal Battalion detachment in Afghanistan, circa 2002.

Global War on Terror & Overseas Contingency Operations

11 September 2001

Terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon kill nearly 3,000 Americans. The U.S. launches the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT).

6–7 October 2001

Operation ENDURING FREEDOM begins in Afghanistan. Company A, 112th Signal Battalion, and Company A, 528th SOSB are among the first ARSOF units deployed to Camp Freedom at Karshi-Kanabad (K2) Air Base, Uzbekistan, to support the Joint Special Operations Task Force – North (JSOTF-North, or Task Force Dagger). The core of JSOTF-N, 5th SFG headquarters, arrives on 10 October.

December 2001

SOSCOM soldiers adopt the name “Sentinels.”

31 December 2001

The 96th Infantry Division (ID) receives the Presidential Unit Citation for actions during the World War II Battle of Okinawa. The 389th Translator Team is named in the citation, having been attached to the 96th ID at the time.

26 December 2002

SOSCOM receives alert order for deployment to the Middle East.

19 March 2003

Operation IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF) begins. Bravo Forward Support Company (FSC), 528th Support Battalion, supports Task Force Viking (10th SFG) in northern Iraq by building the base for the Group Headquarters and Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force – North (CJSOTF-North). Company B, 112th Signal Battalion provides communications support to CJSOTF-North.



QR: “Logistical Support to Task Force Viking” article.
Bottom: 528th SOSB soldiers with TF Viking are pictured here refueling a CH-47 helicopter of the 101st Airborne Division.





Logistics soldiers unload humanitarian rations and water for a village in western Iraq.

Spring 2003

SOSCOM headquarters deploys to Iraq, providing command and control for Logistics Task Force—West (LTF-West). The LTF is augmented by elements of the conventional 155th Corps Support Battalion and 30th Corps Support Group.

11 April 2005

LTG Philip R. Kensinger, CG, USASOC, approves the ARSOF Logistics Transformation Plan.

The plan authorizes the creation of a Special Operations Sustainment Brigade under USASOC, Group Support Battalions (GSBs) at each of the five active component SFGs, and Ranger Support Companies for each Ranger Battalion.

17 October 2005

528th Support Battalion is inactivated at Fort Bragg, NC. Its equipment and strength are used to stand up GSBs for 3rd SFG and 7th SFG, both located at Fort Bragg, NC.

2 December 2005

SOSCOM is inactivated and replaced by a provisional Sustainment Brigade (Special Operations) (Airborne). Commanded by COL Edward F. Dorman III, the new brigade is the higher headquarters for the 112th Signal Battalion and a newly formed Special Troops Battalion (STB), consisting of a Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), a medical detachment, and two U.S. Army National Guard sustainment companies.

In July 2007, COL Edward F. Dorman III (R) passes command of the Sustainment Brigade (Special Operations) to COL Dwayne A. Gamble (L), pictured here receiving unit colors from LTG Robert W. Wagner, CG, USASOC.





QR: "SORT(ing) Out the Casualties" article.

Top: SORT personnel from the 528th STB unload a casualty in Farah, Afghanistan.

16 October 2007

1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 10th SFG Support Companies are reorganized and redesignated as Support Battalions. GSBs are added to the two Army National Guard SFGs (19th and 20th SFG) in 2014.

18 October 2007

Headquarters, 528th Support Battalion redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 528th Sustainment Brigade.

April 2008

The first Special Operations Resuscitation Team (SORT) deploys to Afghanistan, supporting OEF. Belonging to the Special Troops Battalion, 528th Sustainment Brigade, the two eight-person SORTs can accompany casualties during evacuation, allowing team-level medics to stay 'in the fight.'

15 December 2008

Special Operations Theater Support Elements (SOTSEs) are officially discontinued and ARSOF Liaison Elements (ALE) are formally activated.

Belonging to the 528th Sustainment Brigade, each ALE is authorized two logistics officers and two non-commissioned officers, and is attached to either an ASCC or TSOC. The ALEs continue to the SOTSE mission of planning theater-level ARSOF logistics.

16 December 2008

528th Sustainment Brigade is activated at Fort Bragg, NC. It provides the higher headquarters for the 112th Signal Battalion and STB.

12 February 2009

U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School publishes Field Manual 3-05.140, *Army Special Operations Forces Logistics*. It is the first standalone ARSOF logistics publication. It is superseded by Army Techniques Publication (ATP) 3-05.40, *Special Operations Sustainment*, in May 2013.

25 March 2009

528th Sustainment Brigade shoulder sleeve insignia (SSI) is approved by the Department of the Army.



528th Sustainment Brigade SSI



Incoming 528th Commander, COL Lenny J. Kness, accepts the brigade colors from LTG John F. Mulholland, CG, USASOC. (Image Credit: Louis K. Haase)

17 July 2009

528th Sustainment Brigade holds formal activation ceremony. At the same ceremony, COL Duane A. Gamble passes command to COL Lenny J. Kness.

31 August 2010

Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, the U.S. combat mission in Iraq, officially ends. Operation NEW DAWN begins the next day, lasting until 31 December 2011.

2 May 2011

Al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden is killed by U.S. forces in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

15 January 2012

528th Sustainment Brigade deploys a SORT to Nzara, South Sudan, to support 10th SFG during Operation OBSERVANT COMPASS



QR: "A Different SORT of Mission" article.

Top: A SORT surgeon examines Caesar Acellam, a senior Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) officer, shortly after his March 2012 capture.

(OOC). The lack of U.S. casualties leads the SORT to find other missions, such as providing medical training to partner forces, and assisting local health care providers . Elements from Company C, 112th Signal Battalion also support the operation, aimed at degrading Ugandan warlord Joseph Kony's Lord's Resistance Army (LRA).

24 July 2014

1st Special Forces Command (1st SFC) is provisionally established. Providing ARSOF with a deployable, division-level headquarters, it becomes the higher headquarters for the 528th Sustainment Brigade.

21 August 2014

Company B, 112th Signal Battalion receives the Valorous Unit Award while attached to 2nd Battalion, 5th SFG, from 1 May 2013 to 1 November 2013.

15 October 2014

Operation INHERENT RESOLVE (OIR) becomes the official name for counter-Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) operations, which began in June 2014.

31 December 2014

OEF-Afghanistan officially ends. Between 2012 and 2014, SOF Equipment Retrograde Teams (SERT) from the 528th's Special Troops Battalion manage the retrograde, turn-in, and final disposition of SOF-Peculiar equipment, munitions, and other supplies. The 528th and 112th continue to support the follow-on ARSOF mission in Afghanistan, Operation FREEDOM'S SENTINEL (OFS).

17 March 2015

The Commander, 528th Sustainment Brigade requests USASOC approval of a provisional Military Intelligence Battalion to support 1st SFC.

2 June 2015

The Military Intelligence Battalion (Special Operations) (Airborne) is approved in provisional status. While provisional, it is known as 1st SFC Military Intelligence Battalion (1st SFC MI BN). It first demonstrates its utility by providing intelligence to Special Operations Joint Task Force-OIR (SOJTF-OIR), and later contributes to contingency planning for the Korean Peninsula.

October 2016

1st SFC directs all of its units to wear the 1st SFC SSI. Soldiers assigned to the 528th Sustainment Brigade trade in their own SSI, worn since 2009, for the more recognizable SF patch.



Special Forces SSI

December 2016

SORT support to Operation OBSERVANT

COMPASS ends. OOC is terminated early in 2017, after accomplishing its primary objective of neutralizing the LRA. The next SORT mission is in Syria, supporting SOJTF-OIR. It later returns to Afghanistan to support OFS.

August 2018

1st SFC Military Intelligence Battalion (Provisional) adds a Processing, Exploitation, and Dissemination (PED) Detachment. Based out of Fort Gordon, Georgia, the detachment's fourteen soldiers did geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) missions for SOJTF-OIR between August and December 2018.

28 December 2018

U.S. President Donald J. Trump announces withdrawal of U.S. forces from Syria. The 528th Sustainment Brigade deploys a command and control element to coordinate the retrograde of equipment.

1st SFC Military Intelligence Battalion (Provisional) soldiers at an August 2018 change-of-command ceremony.





QR: "From Leyte to the Levant" Article **Top:** COL Michael G. Summers, Commander, 528th Sustainment Brigade (Left) and LTC Sapriya Childs, Commander, 389th MI Battalion (Right), uncasing the new battalion colors at its 16 September 2019 activation ceremony.

16 July 2019

The 1st SFC MI Battalion becomes the 389th Military Intelligence Battalion (Airborne).

With an authorized strength of 5 officers, 5 warrant officers, and 86 enlisted personnel, its lineage is traced to the 389th Translator Team and 389th Military Intelligence Company.

16 October 2019

The Special Operations Medical Detachment (SOMEDD), STB, 528th Sustainment Brigade, is authorized two Forward Resuscitative Surgical Teams (FRSTs). SOMEDD combines the FRSTs with its three SORTs to create four Austere Resuscitative Surgical Teams (ARSTs).

Lineages & Honors

528th Sustainment Brigade

Lineage

Constituted: 4 December 1942 in the Army of the United States as the 528th Quartermaster Service Battalion

Activated: 15 December 1942 at Camp McCain, MS



Battalion broken up 18 January 1944 and its elements reorganized and redesignated as follows:

- Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 528th Quartermaster Battalion
- Companies A, B, C, and D as the 4098th, 4099th, 4100th, and 4128th Quartermaster Service Companies, respectively – hereafter separate lineages

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 528th Quartermaster Battalion reorganized and redesignated: 24 May 1946 as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 528th Quartermaster Battalion, Mobile

Converted and Redesignated: 1 August 1946 as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 528th Transportation Corps Truck Battalion

Converted and Redesignated: 1 February 1947 as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 528th Quartermaster Battalion

Inactivated: 20 November 1947 in France

Redesignated: 12 October 1948 as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 426th Quartermaster Battalion, and allotted to the Organized Reserve Corps

Activated: 22 October 1948 at Clarksburg, WV

Inactivated: 8 November 1950 at Clarksburg, WV

Redesignated: 15 January 1952 as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 528th Quartermaster Battalion; concurrently withdrawn from the Organized Reserve Corps and allotted to the Regular Army

Activated: 1 February 1952 at Camp Atterbury, IN

Inactivated: 25 November 1966 at Fort Lee, VA

Redesignated: 5 September 1969 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 528th Quartermaster Battalion

Activated: 25 September 1969 in Vietnam

Inactivated: 15 April 1971 in Vietnam

Consolidated: 16 May 1987 with the 13th Support Battalion (active) (constituted 3 June 1986 in the Regular Army and activated at Fort Bragg, NC); consolidated unit concurrently redesignated as the 528th Support Battalion

Inactivated: 17 October 2005 at Fort Bragg, NC

Headquarters Redesignated: 18 October 2007 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 528th Sustainment Brigade (organic elements concurrently disbanded)

Activated: 16 December 2008 at Fort Bragg, NC

Honors

Campaign Participation Credit

World War II

- Sicily (with arrowhead)
- Rome-Arno
- Southern France (with arrowhead)
- Rhineland
- Ardennes-Alsace
- Central Europe

Vietnam

- Summer-Fall 1969
- Winter-Spring 1970
- Sanctuary Counteroffensive
- Counteroffensive, Phase VII

Southwest Asia

- Defense of Saudi Arabia
- Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

War on Terrorism

- Campaigns to be determined

Decorations

Valorous Unit Award, Streamer

Embroidered IRAQ-KUWAIT 1991

Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer

Embroidered CENTRAL ASIA, 2001–2004

112th Signal Battalion

Lineage

Constituted: 14 July 1944 in the Army of the United States as the 512th Airborne Signal Company and activated in North Africa



Disbanded: 10 February 1945 in France

Reconstituted: 5 April 1945 in the Army of the United States; concurrently consolidated with the 112th Airborne Army Signal Battalion (constituted 15 January 1945 in the Army of the United States and activated 10 February 1945 in France) and consolidated unit designated as the 112th Airborne Army Signal Battalion

Inactivated: 12 December 1945 at Camp Patrick Henry, VA

Redesignated: 17 September 1986 as the 112th Signal Battalion, allotted to the Regular Army, and activated at Fort Bragg, NC

Honors

Campaign Participation Credit

World War II

- Rome-Arno
- Southern France (with arrowhead)
- Rhineland
- Ardennes-Alsace
- Central Europe

Southwest Asia

- Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

War on Terrorism

- Afghanistan
- Iraq

Decorations

Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer
Embroidered SOUTHWEST ASIA 1991

Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer
Embroidered CENTRAL ASIA 2001–2002

Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer
Embroidered SOUTHWEST ASIA 2002–2003

Army Superior Unit Award: 1994–1995

Army Superior Unit Award: 1995–1996

389th Military Intelligence Battalion

Lineage

Constituted: 14 December 1944 in the Army of the United States as the 389th Translator Team

Activated: 27 February 1945 in the Philippines

Inactivated: 25 March 1947 in Korea

Allotted: 13 May 1948 to the Organized Reserve Corps

Activated: 21 May 1948 at Fort Worth, TX

Inactivated: 9 January 1950 at Fort Worth, TX

Redesignated: 6 September 1950 as the 389th Translator Detachment

Activated: 2 October 1950 at Cincinnati, OH



Location Changed: 5 February 1951 to Fort Thomas, KY

(Organized Reserve Corps redesignated 9 July 1952 as the Army Reserve)

Inactivated: 20 July 1952 at Fort Thomas, KY

Redesignated: 5 November 1962 as the 389th Military Intelligence Detachment

Activated: 7 January 1963 at Louisville, KY

Reorganized and Redesignated: 16 March 1985 as the 389th Military Intelligence Company

Inactivated: 15 September 1990 at Louisville, KY

Redesignated: 12 June 2018 as the 389th Military Intelligence Battalion

Activated: 16 July 2019 at Fort Bragg, NC

Honors

Campaign Participation Credit

World War II

- Leyte
- Ryukyus

Decorations

Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer Embroidered OKINAWA

Insignia

Coat of Arms

528th Sustainment Brigade

Symbolism

Shield: The heraldic dance is reminiscent of mountains; the fountain represents water. The fleur-de-lis is emblematic of France. These elements portray the unit's campaign participation in Europe. The unit's two landings are indicated by the red arrowheads. The green is in reference to the unit's mission in support of Special Operations.

Crest: The unit's campaign participation in Vietnam is symbolized by the dragon. Its wings and the crossed arrows symbolize the battalion's mission and capabilities.

Background: The coat of arms was approved on 14 January 1988.



For more information on this and other heraldic items, visit The Institute of Heraldry website at <https://tioh.army.mil>.



112th Signal Battalion

Symbolism

Shield: Orange and white are the colors of the Signal Corps. The pile represents the airborne route of attack, alluding to the unit's service in World War II. The dagger, an established symbol of Special Operations organizations, is black and white in reference to the Battalion's covert and overt missions and is winged to emphasize present day capabilities of rapid deployment by air. The motto is in Italian, in reference to the unit's first areas of combat operations. The lightning flashes symbolize electronic technology. The black color of the wings refer to the motto which is translated "Penetrate the Shadows" and bespeaks the unit's ability to communicate continuously with deployed operational teams and command elements.

Crest: The wings and dragon's head are suggested by the shoulder sleeve insignia of the 1st Airborne Army and the XVIII Airborne Corps, under which the unit served in World War II. Their colors are changed to those of the Signal Corps. The Brandenburg Gate symbolizes Occupation duty in Berlin in 1945.

Background: The coat of arms was approved on 15 August 1986.



Distinctive Unit Insignia

528th Sustainment Brigade

Motto

WE SUPPORT TO
THE UTMOST

Symbolism

The heraldic dance is reminiscent of mountains; the fountain represents water.

The fleur-de-lis is emblematic of France. These elements portray the unit's campaign participation in Europe. The unit's two assault landings are indicated by the red arrowheads. The green is in reference to the unit's mission in support of Special Operations.



Background

The distinctive unit insignia was originally approved for the 528th Support Battalion on 14 January 1988. It was redesignated for the 528th Sustainment Brigade effective 16 December 2008.

112th Signal Battalion

Motto

PENETRA LE TENEBRE
(Penetrate the Shadows)



Symbolism

Orange and white (silver) are the colors of the Signal Corps. The dagger, an established symbol of Special Operations organizations is black and white (silver) in reference to the Battalion's covert and overt missions. It is winged to emphasize present day capabilities for speed of deployment by air. The black color enhances the motto which is translated "Penetrate the Shadows." The lightning flashes reflect electronic technology. The motto is in Italian in reference to the unit's first area of combat operations.

Background

The distinctive unit insignia was approved on 15 August 1986.

389th Military Intelligence Battalion

Motto

ILLUMINATE TO ACTION

Symbolism

The shield's jungle green refers to Special Forces, while silver alludes to Military Intelligence. The V-42 Commando Knife, known as the traditional weapon of American Special Forces, signifies the combat power that Special Operations Forces bring to bear against the nation's enemies. Polaris, the eight-pointed star, is historically used by military forces for precise orientation and navigation. It illuminates against the black sky, suggesting the unit's day and night operations. The eleven polestars, including the one charged in the hilt of the Commando Knife, denotes the eleven component subordinate commands of the 1st Special Forces Command at the time of the battalion's creation. The polestar at the hilt further alludes to the Crux constellation, which is formed in a cross-like shape and located in the southern skies. Together with Polaris, it serves as a guide to the warfighter, and refers to the unit's global mission.



Background

The distinctive unit insignia was approved on 13 January 2020 (effective date: 16 July 2019).

Special Operations Support Command (SOSCOM)

Motto

ASSURED SUPPORT

Symbolism

The parachute represents the airborne capabilities and unconventional operational support missions. The commando dagger symbolizes total military preparedness and has historically been associated with Special Operations. The dual lightning bolts represent both the combat support and combat service support elements of the organization and the speed at which they perform their missions.



Background

The distinctive unit insignia was approved on 18 March 1997.

Inactivated in 2005

Shoulder Sleeve Insignia

Support units have always worn the SSI of the higher headquarters to which they were assigned. Historic patches include:

1st Special Operations Command (1st SOCOM)

The 112th Signal Battalion and 13th SOSB (later 528th SOSB) wore the 1st SOCOM shoulder patch from their activation in 1986 until 1990. The patch was sometimes referred to as the “electric horseman.”



U.S. Army Special Forces

From 1990 to 1992, 528th Support Battalion and 112th Signal Battalion soldiers wore the Special Forces SSI, while assigned to the U.S. Army Special Forces Command. In October 2016, the Commanding General, 1st Special Forces Command (Airborne) directed that all units under his command wear the 1st SFC SSI, including the 528th Sustainment Brigade.



U.S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC)

Upon becoming Direct Reporting Units under USASOC in 1992, the 112th Signal Battalion and 528th Support Battalion donned the USASOC SSI, wearing it until 2009.



528th Sustainment Brigade

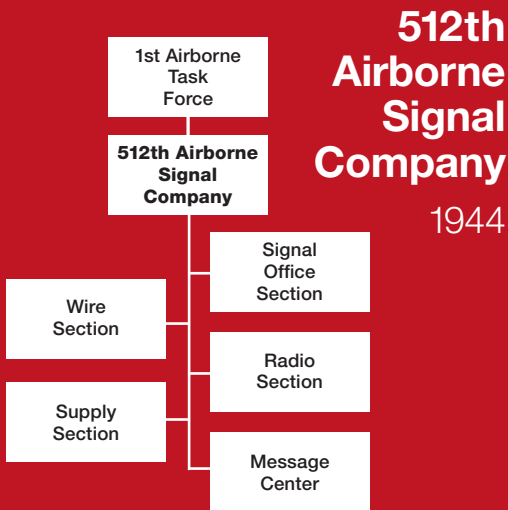
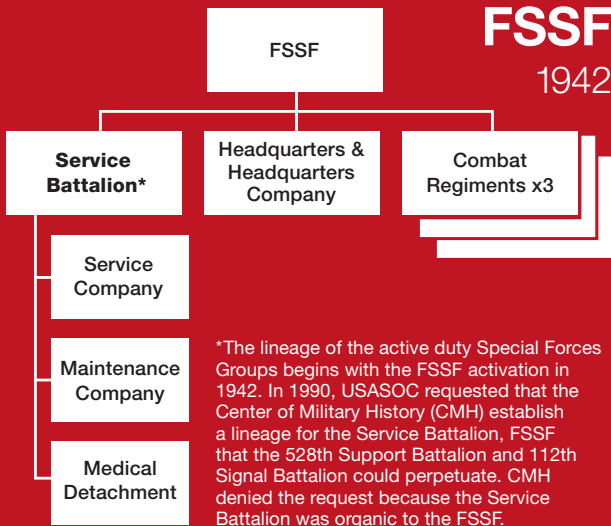
The Department of the Army approved the shoulder sleeve insignia (SSI) for the 528th Sustainment Brigade on 25 March 2009. Soldiers of the 528th Sustainment Brigade and its subordinate units wore it until 2016, when they switched back to the Special Forces SSI, at the direction of the Commanding General, 1st Special Forces Command (Airborne).



Organizational Evolution

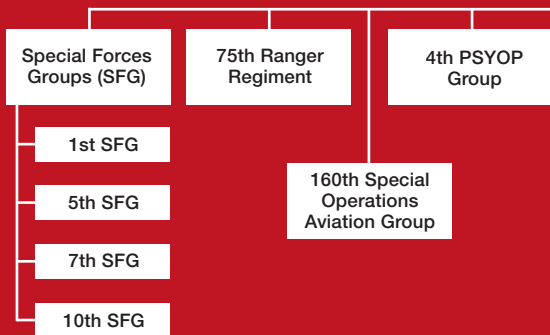
The 528th Sustainment Brigade and its subordinate battalions trace their lineage to WWII, but have taken various forms since that conflict. This section presents the organizational structure of select ARSOF Support units over the past 75 years.

- 1942** First Special Service Force (FSSF)
- 1944** 512th Airborne Signal Company
- 1987** 1st SOCOM
 - 528th Support Battalion
 - 112th Signal Battalion
- 1990** U.S. Special Forces Command
- 1993** U.S. Army Special Operations Command
- 2002** Special Operations Support Command
- 2020** 528th Sustainment Brigade
 - Special Troops Battalion
 - 112th Signal Battalion
 - 389th Military Intelligence Battalion
 - 528th Support Operations



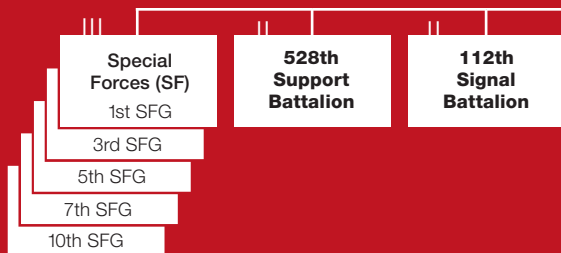
1st SOCOM 1987

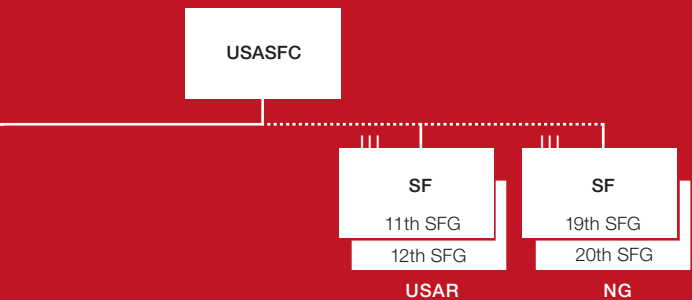
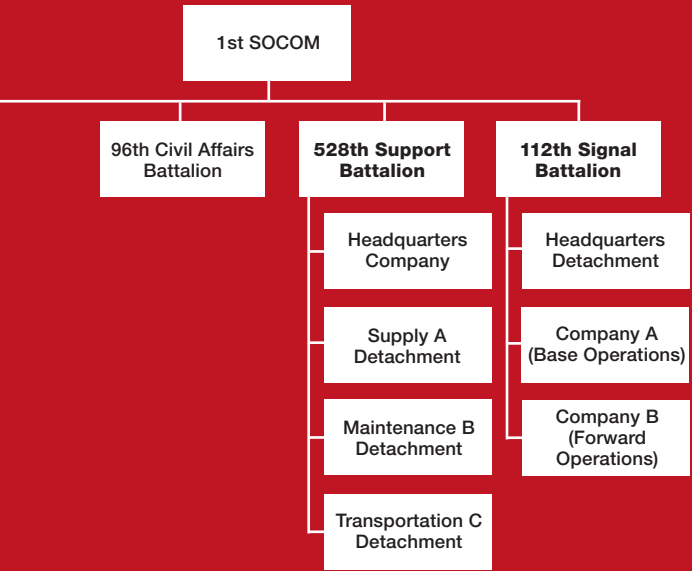
- 528th Support Battalion
- 112th Signal Battalion



U.S. Special Forces Command

1990

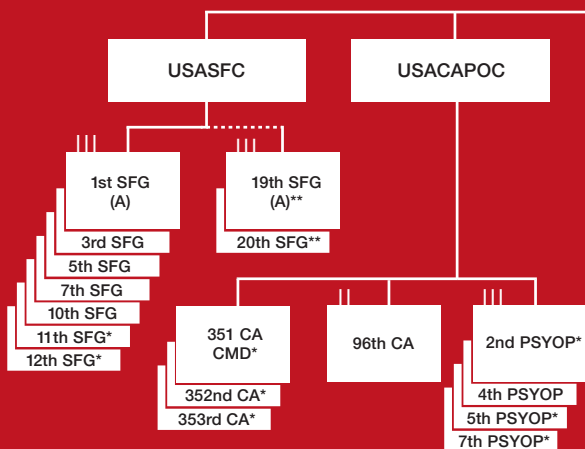




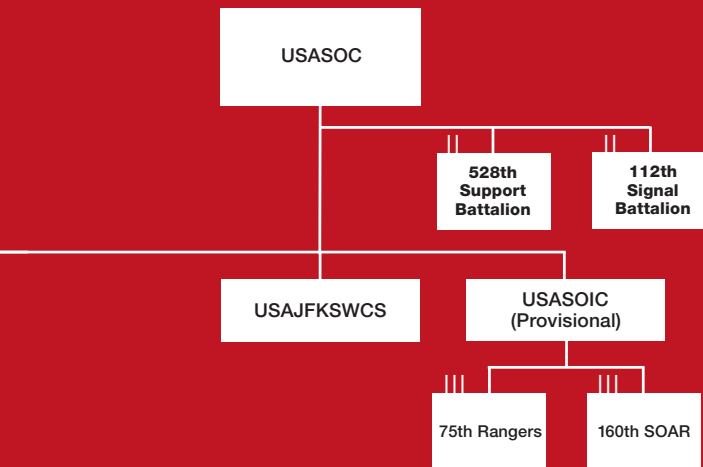
— Command ····· Training Oversight & Coordination

U.S. Army Special Operations Command

1993



— Command - - - - - Coordination * USAR Unit ** USANG Unit



USASFC

U.S. Army Special Forces Command

USACAPOC

U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command

USAJFKSWCS

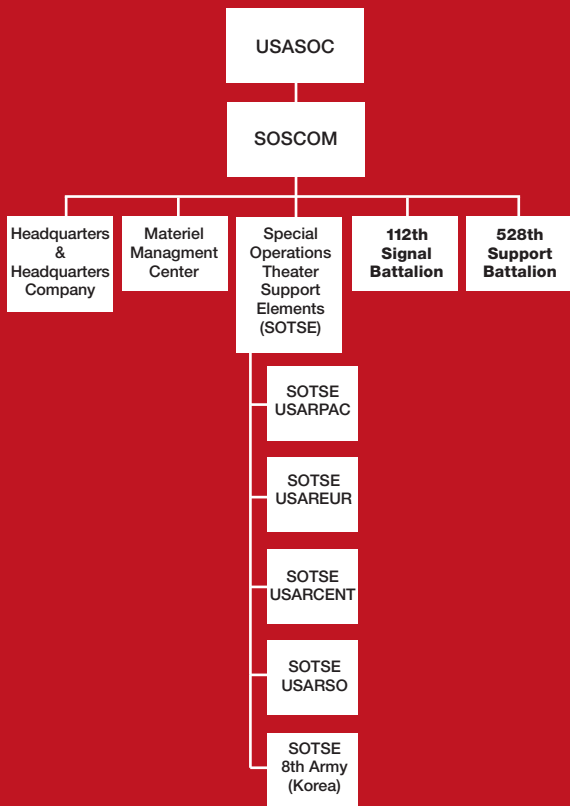
U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center & School

USASOIC

U.S. Army Special Operation Integration Command (Prov)

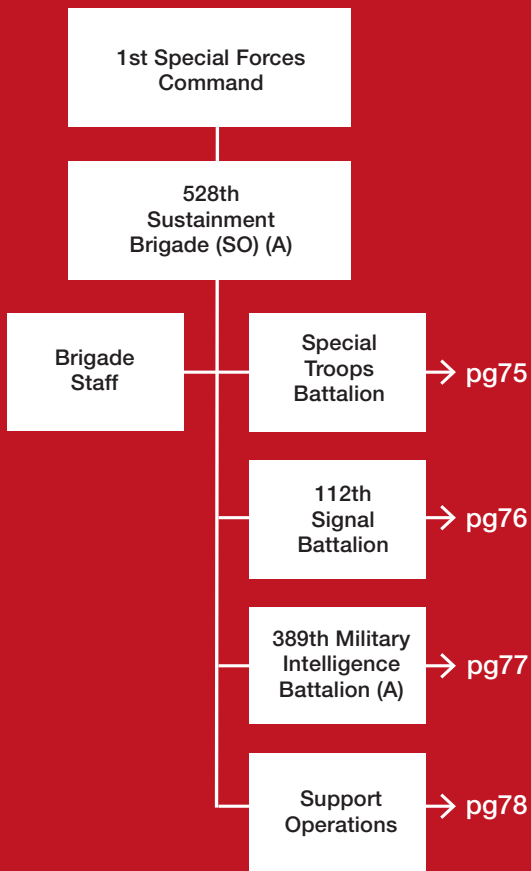
Special Operations Support Command

2002



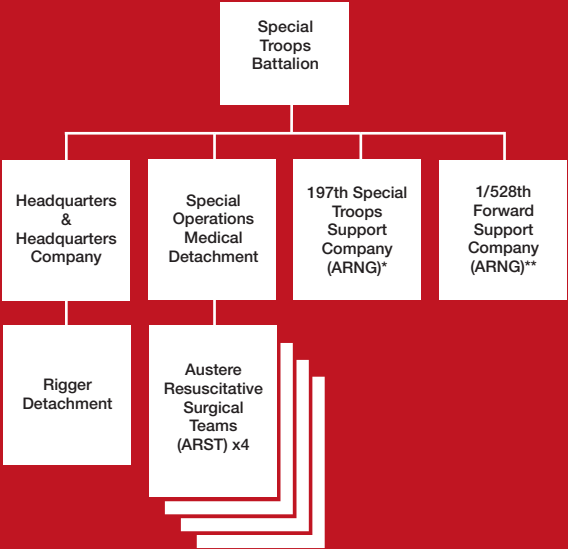
528th Sustainment Brigade

2020



528th Sustainment Brigade Special Troops Battalion

2020



197th STSC

A Texas Army National Guard (ARNG) unit, located in San Antonio

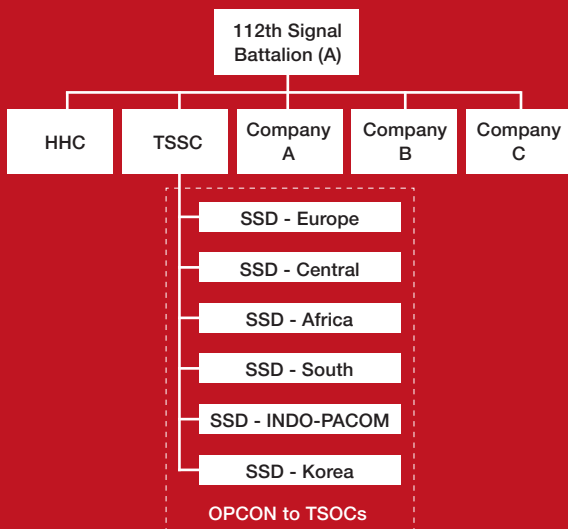
1/528th FSC

A new West Virginia ARNG unit, projected to reach initial operational capability in Fiscal Year 2022

528th Sustainment Brigade

112th Signal Battalion

2020



SSD
Signal Support Detachment

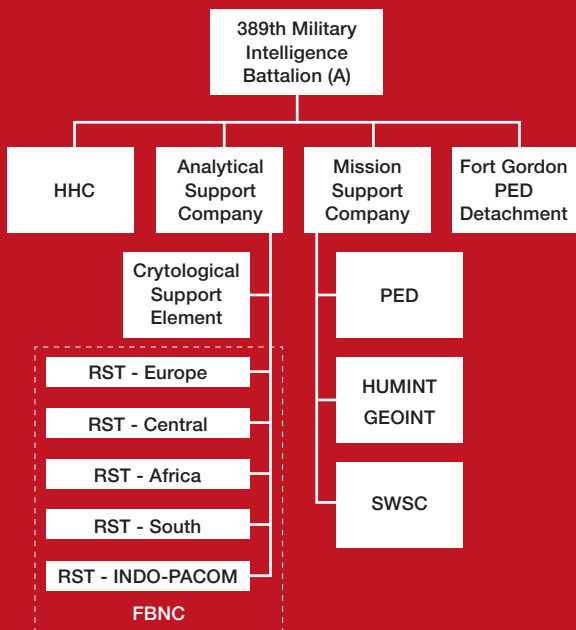
HHC
Headquarters and Headquarters Company

TSSC
Theater Signal Support Company

528th Sustainment Brigade

389th Military Intelligence Battalion

2020



RST

Regional Support Team

PED

Processing, Exploitation, and Dissemination

HUMINT

Human Intelligence

GEOINT

Geospatial Intelligence

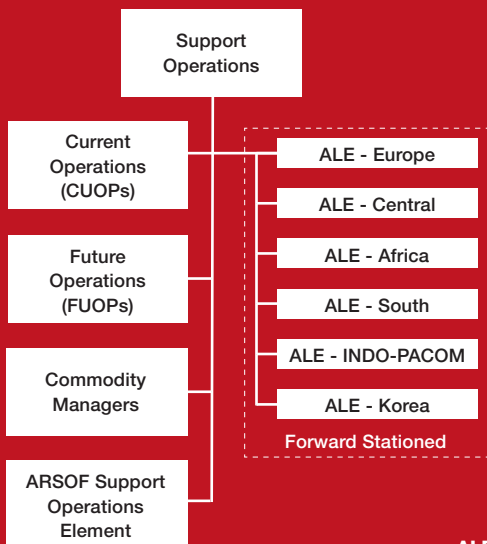
SWSC

Special Warfare Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) Course

528th Sustainment Brigade

Support Operations

2020



ALE
ARSOF Liaison Elements

Acronyms

ALE	Army Special Operations Forces (ARSOF) Liaison Element
ARNG	Army National Guard
ARSOTF	ARSOF task force
ARST	austere resuscitative surgical team
ASA	Army Security Agency
ASC	Analytical Support Company (Military Intelligence)
ASCC	Army Service component command
ASPO	ARSOF support operations
BSC	battalion support company
BTB	brigade troops battalion
CASEVAC	casualty evacuation
CEWI	combat electronic warfare intelligence
CF	conventional force
CISO	Counterinsurgency Support Office
COLS	concept of logistics support
CJSOTF	combined joint special operations task force
COMSEC	communications security
DA	Department of the Army
DAMPL	Department of the Army Master Priority List
DCSLOG	Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics
DLA	Defense Logistics Agency
DoD	Department of Defense
DSN	Defense Switched Network
DUI	distinctive unit insignia
ERC	equipment readiness code
FARE	forward area refueling equipment
FARP	forward arming and refueling point
FAST	forward area support team

FDU	force design update
FRST	forward resuscitative surgical team
FSC	forward support company
FSSF	First Special Service Force
FSSP	fuel system supply point
GCC	geographic combatant command
GEOINT	geospatial intelligence
GSB	group support battalion
GSC	group support company
GWOT	Global War on Terror
HHC	headquarters and headquarters company
HQDA	Headquarters, Department of the Army
HUMINT	human intelligence
IA	interagency
IC	intelligence community
ICOP	intelligence common operating picture
ILS	integrated logistics support
IMINT	imagery intelligence
ISB	intermediate staging base
JMUC	Joint Meritorious Unit Citation
JSOTF	joint special operations task force
JTF	joint task force
LCOP	logistical common operating picture
LOG	logistics
LSE	logistics support element
LTF	logistics task force
MEDEVAC	medical evacuation
MEDLOG	medical logistics
METL	mission essential task list

MFP	major force program
MI	Military Intelligence
MID	military intelligence detachment
MIS	Military Intelligence Service (WWII)
MMC	Materiel Management Center
MOS	military occupational specialty
MSC	Mission Support Company (Military Intelligence)
MST	maintenance support team
MUC	Meritorious Unit Citation
OCO	Overseas Contingency Operations
OEF	Operation ENDURING FREEDOM
OFS	Operation FREEDOM'S SENTINEL
OIF	Operation IRAQI FREEDOM
OIR	Operation INHERENT RESOLVE
OND	Operation NEW DAWN
OOC	Operation OBSERVANT COMPASS
OSS	Office of Strategic Services
PBO	property book officer
PED	processing, exploitation, and dissemination
POL	petroleum, oils, and lubricants
PUC	Presidential Unit Citation
QM	quartermaster
QMB	quartermaster battalion
RDT&E	research, development, test, and evaluation
RM	resource management
ROWPU	reverse osmosis water purification unit
RST	regional support team
SAF	Special Action Force; Security Assistance Force
SDN	Special Operations Forces (SOF) Deployable Node
SFG	Special Forces Group
SIGDET	signal detachment
SIGINT	signals intelligence
SOCA	Special Operations Communications Assemblage

SOCB	Special Operations Communications Battalion
SOCM	special operations combat medic
SOF	special operations forces
SOJTF	special operations joint task force
SOMEDD	Special Operations Medical Detachment
SOR	statement of requirement
SORT	special operations resuscitation team
SOSB	Special Operations Support Battalion
SOSCOM	Special Operations Support Command
SOTSE	special operations theater support element
SPO	support operations
SPTCEN	support center
SSI	shoulder sleeve insignia
STB	special troops battalion
STC	special troops company
STU	secure telephone unit
TASOSC	Theater Army Special Operations Support Command
TDA	table of distribution and allowances
TF	task force
T/O&E	table of organization and equipment
TSC	theater sustainment command
TSOC	Theater Special Operations Command
USAFRICOM	United States Africa Command
USAR	United States Army Reserve
USASFC	United States Army Special Forces Command
USASOC	United States Army Special Operations Command
USCENTCOM	United States Central Command
USEUCOM	United States European Command
USINDOPACOM	United States India-Pacific Command
USSOCOM	United States Special Operations Command
USSOUTHCOM	United States Southern Command
VUA	Valorous Unit Award



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