# **Special Operations Command**

# **FACT SHEET**



#### What

Special Operations Command (SOCOMD) is a small, high-tempo and diverse multi-disciplinary team drawn predominantly from Army, supported by Navy and Air Force specialists, Australian Public Service personnel and contractors, who continue over 80 years of Australian special operations that began in World War II.

Special Forces Group is the brigade-level headquarters that leads Special Operations Command's Special Forces, specialist support, and training and education units:

### Special forces units:

- o 1st Commando Regiment (1 Cdo Regt), Sydney and Melbourne
- o 2nd Commando Regiment (2 Cdo Regt), Sydney
- o Special Air Service Regiment (SASR), Perth

# Specialist supporting units:

- Special Operations Engineer Regiment (SOER), Sydney
- o Special Operations Logistic Squadron (SOLS), Sydney
- o 6th Aviation Regiment (6 Avn Regt), Sydney

**SOTF:** Special Operations Command units do not generally deploy as a whole unit into operations or major training activities. Instead, personnel from several units are brought together into a 'unit of action' called the Special Operations Task Force (SOTF).

**JSOTF:** Special operations are almost always supported by other Navy, Army and Air Force elements from across the Australian Defence Force. When this happens the SOTF is considered 'joint', making it a Joint Special Operations Task Force (JSOTF).

**CJSOTF:** When the JSOTF is 'combined' with other foreign special operations forces the unit is then called a Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force (CJSOTF). On Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 2021, United States Special Operations Command (US SOCOM) force elements will join Australian Special Operations Command force elements as part of a CJSOTF to continue to build interoperability, develop relationships and share skills.

### Why

SOCOMD's mission is to prepare and employ special operations forces in the defence of Australia and its national interests.

## When

The Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force (CJSOTF) will provide special operations effects throughout Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 2021 in support of 'Blue Force'.