

CHAPTER 16



Successful SF operations depend upon the support of the civilian population. Without popular support, a UW or FID mission will fail. SF teams must therefore help their supported indigenous forces to mobilize the civilian population to support their mission. They must also consider the impact of all their activities on the civilian population. This chapter discusses how civil-military operations support SF operations. (See FM 41-10 for a more detailed discussion of CA support of SO.)

Command Support Operations

Elements of a CA battalion (FID/UW) normally support each committed SF unit assigned a UW or FID mission. These CA elements conduct the following activities in support of SF commanders:

- Train and advise members of the supported SF unit in CMO and the political, economic, social, and cultural factors that influence SF operations.
- Identify and acquire foreign resources to assist the SF unit in accomplishing its mission.
- Coordinate with other agencies to minimize civilian interference with SF operations.
- Assist the SF commander in meeting legal and moral obligations to the local population, families of supported indigenous forces, and persons displaced by SF operations.
- Supplement the intelligence effort by collecting information during CMO.
- Act as staff focal point for cultural considerations that affect SF operations.
- Coordinate and integrate CA activities with PSYOP activities.
- Provide technical advice and assistance on civil assistance, military civic action, and humanitarian assistance programs.

Role of CA in UW

The supporting CA element trains, advises, and assists deploying SF teams in CMO. The element also advises the teams on the political, economic, social, and cultural factors they must understand before deploying into the JSOA. CA planning and training for UW must consider the following factors:

- The theater CINC's politico-military mission (for example, restore the government-in-exile) and its effect on the resistance organization during and after hostilities.
- The strengths, weaknesses vulnerabilities, and likely intentions of the hostile political organization.
- Likely hostile countermeasures to isolate the resistance organization physically or psychologically from the population.
- Resistance activities that the hostile power can exploit to neutralize US support or mobilize world opinion against the resistance.
- Organization and potential development of the resistance organization.
- The political, social, economic, and security needs of the various segments of the population.

Once the SF team deploys into the JSOA, the CA element at the operational base provides CA advice and assistance as required. It may also assist in the administration of refugee camps that serve as recruiting and/or training bases for the resistance organization.

Selected CA members or teams may accompany deploying SF teams when the mission requires their immediate presence in the JSOA. Normally, however, CA teams do not infiltrate into the JSOA until the resistance organization develops and

establishes relatively secure base areas under resistance control. Deployed CA teams advise and assist the area command and the SF team by—

- Expanding the influence of the resistance organization into areas not under its control.
- Developing the area command structure, resistance political organization, and effective administration of resistance-controlled territory.
- Developing the auxiliary to support and sustain sufficient combat forces.
- Providing CA input to operational planning of the area command.
- Assisting in the transition and consolidation of power in the JSOA after the end of hostilities (for example, transition of the shadow government into an actual government or its merger with a government-in-exile).
- Demobilizing the resistance force.

Deployed CA teams assist the supported SF team by assuming responsibility for advising and assisting the auxiliary. Specific functions include development of—

- Means and procedures to finance, pay, and account for locally procured resources.
- Production facilities and supply distribution systems.
- PRC measures within resistance-controlled territory.

Deployed CA teams also provide operational advice and assistance to the area command and the SF team. Specific areas of concern include advising on—

- The impact of resistance tactical operations and likely hostile countermeasures (for example, reprisals, forced relocations, confiscation of resources) on the civilian population.
- Appropriate standards of conduct and behavior for resistance forces.

Role of CA in FID

The primary objective of CA in FID is to help HN forces mobilize the people and other resources in

support of the HN government. CA support may range from staff advice and assistance to the commitment of CA units. Activities may include—

- Coordinating SF operations with appropriate HN, US Mission, and international agencies.

- Minimizing civilian interference with SF operations.
- Providing civil assistance to HN government agencies.
- Serving as the SF unit's focal point for community relations.
- Advising and assisting SF units conducting military civic action or humanitarian assistance programs.
- Advising and assisting SF units in planning and implementing a civil defense program.
- Supplementing the SF intelligence collection effort.
- Supporting displaced person operations, to include advising or assisting the HN government in the establishment and operation of camps.
- Advising and assisting HN government agencies in the implementation of PRC programs.

Civil assistance programs improve the capabilities of HN civil authorities to deal with the political, economic, and social aspects of IDAD. Civil assistance may be temporary or it may involve activities of a more permanent nature.

SF units participate in military civic action projects that enhance HN economic and social development and gain the active support of the population. Such participation should always emphasize the HN role.

Role of CA in DA and CT

The primary role of CA in these activities is to provide CA input during pre-mission planning and preparation. If the situation indicates that there

will be a civilian presence in the objective area that could interfere with the SF operation, a CA element may accompany the SF team. This CA element establishes and operates collecting points for displaced civilians, rescued hostages, or non-combatant evacuees.