

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
UNTIL RELEASED BY THE SENATE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION,
VETERANS AFFAIRS and RELATED AGENCIES,
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

STATEMENT OF

MAJOR GENERAL STEPHEN A. CLARK
DIRECTOR of FORCE STRUCTURE, REQUIREMENTS, RESOURCES,
and STRATEGIC ASSESSMENTS
UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

BEFORE THE

SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION,
VETERANS AFFAIRS and RELATED AGENCIES,
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

APRIL 15, 2015

OPENING REMARKS

Chairman Kirk, Ranking Member Tester and distinguished Members of the Committee, I am truly honored to appear before you as the Director of Force Structure, Requirements, Resources, and Strategic Assessment of United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM). On behalf of General Votel and the entire Special Operations Forces (SOF) Community, we appreciate the opportunity to present our Military Construction (MILCON) Posture and thank you for your unwavering support. We will constantly strive to earn a high level of trust by maintaining an open and honest dialog and by remaining accountable stewards of U.S. tax dollars. I will describe USSOCOM's posture in the context of our Commander's Five SOF Priorities and provide a summary overview of our military construction program.

USSOCOM synchronizes the planning of world-wide special operations and provides SOF to Geographic Combatant Commands (GCC) to support persistent, networked, and distributed operations to protect and advance our Nation's interests. SOF commanders and staff's plan and lead a full range of lethal and non-lethal special operations missions in complex and ambiguous environments. Also, SOF personnel serve as key members of joint, interagency, and international teams.

FIVE SOF PRIORITIES

In order to strengthen SOF posture and capabilities, General Votel established five priorities for USSOCOM: These five priorities require facilities to meet the operational demands of the SOF warrior and our MILCON program supports these requirements.

- 1) ENSURE SOF READINESS by developing the right people, skills, and capabilities to meet current and future requirements.
- 2) HELP OUR NATION WIN in today's challenging environment and contribute to keeping the nation safe.
- 3) CONTINUE TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS with our partners through sustained security cooperation, expanded communication architectures and liaison activities.
- 4) PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE by investing in SOF that are able to win in an increasingly complex world.
- 5) PRESERVE OUR FORCE AND FAMILIES providing for their short- and long-term well-being. People are our most important asset; military, civilian and families.

USSOCOM's MILCON program is appropriately sequenced and synchronized to support these five priorities.

MILCON PROJECTS

USSOCOM invests in MILCON to effectively support SOF operations, training, maintenance, and storage facility requirements. This concerted effort addresses MILCON requirements attributable to new capabilities and missions, force structure growth, and inherited antiquated infrastructure.

USSOCOM evaluated 278 prioritized MILCON requirements, valued at more than \$5 billion, as part of the annual review of its MILCON program. This includes 60 legacy requirements related to the recapitalization and modernization of facilities that pre-date the standup of USSOCOM. As a result of this evaluation, the Command selected 120 prioritized projects valued at \$2.5 billion for inclusion in its FY 2016 President's Budget Future Years

Defense Program. USSOCOM remains committed to sustaining an appropriate level of MILCON investment in 2016 and beyond to address the critical infrastructure needs of SOF operators worldwide.

In FY 2016, the USSOCOM MILCON request is \$504 million consisting of \$457 million in major construction for 19 projects in seven states, one overseas location, and one unspecified CONUS location, \$32 million for planning and design; and \$15 million for unspecified minor construction. The \$457 million of major construction provides \$315.4 million for operations facilities, \$62.3 million for maintenance facilities, and \$79 million for training facilities required to support the missions, objectives, and priorities of USSOCOM.

CLOSING

We look forward to working with Congress as we prepare our SOF operators for the complex situations they face on a daily basis. Your oversight, support, and partnership will ultimately help us provide better service to our nation. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today and for your continued support of USSOCOM.