

A. LTC LARNED, ODCSOPS, INFORMED SWC THAT THE DCSOPS HAS BEEN BRIEFED ON THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED REVISION TO THE FAO PROGRAM:

(1) FAOS ARE TO BE ASSESSED EARLY — DURING THE 5TH-6TH YEARS OF SERVICE.

(2) THE NUMBER OF FAO POSITIONS ARE TO BE REDUCED.

(3) MORE STRINGENT CRITERIA WILL BE USED TO SELECT AND MANAGE FAOS.

(4) ALL FAOS WILL ATTEND "HIGH QUALITY GRADUATE PROGRAMS."

(5) FAO TRAINING WILL BE RESEQUENCED: LANGUAGE SCHOOL (DLI), GRADUATE SCHOOL, IN-COUNTRY TRAINING.

(6) IF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL PROGRAM IS APPROVED, THE 6 MONTH FAO COURSE WILL BE DISCONTINUED.

(7) A 3-4 WEEK TDY FAO ENTRY-LEVEL COURSE WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO PROVIDE:

(A) INTRODUCTION TO FAO PROGRAM

(B) OVERVIEW OF ATTACHE, SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND POL-MIL

ANALYSTS DUTIES

(C) COUNTRY TEAM ORGANIZATION,

(D) CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION

(E) PERSONAL ANTI-TERRORIST TECHNIQUES.

(8) IMPLEMENTATION IS TO OCCUR IN SUMMER/FALL 1986 TIMEFRAME.

(9) LTC LARNED IS TO BRIEF ACSI, TRADOC AND VCSA PRIOR TO BRIEF OF CSA AS 6 JUN 85.

B. THE PROPOSED FAO ENHANCEMENT PLAN IS CONSISTENT WITH CSA'S GUIDANCE PROVIDED DURING SWC'S JAN 85 BRIEFING ON THE FAO PROGRAM AND REFLECTS A NUMBER OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT SWC HAD MADE TO ODCSOPS PROPONENT PRIOR TO THE BRIEFING OF THE FAO STUDY.

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(1) THE DEMISE OF THE FAO COURSE IS OF CONCERN TO ME. ASIDE FROM POSSIBLE REDUNDANCY WITH A QUALITY GRADUATE PROGRAM, IT IS AN EXCEPTIONALLY FINE COURSE THAT WILL CONTINUE TO BE OF VALUE IN THE TRAINING OF SELECTED PSYOP, CIVIL AFFAIRS, AND SOME SPECIAL FORCES OFFICERS WHO PREVIOUSLY — BEFORE OPMS II — WERE INCLUDED UNDER THE 48 UMBRELLA BECAUSE OF THE SIMILARITY OF REQUIRED BACKGROUND/SKILLS.

(2) THE PROPOSED 3 - 4 WEEK TDY ENTRY-LEVEL COURSE MAY BE APPROPRIATE AS PART OF THE ENHANCED PROGRAM, BUT IF IT IS TO BE IMPLEMENTED, IT SHOULD BE DEVELOPED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE TRADOC SYSTEMS APPROACH TO TRAINING.

(3) MY IMPRESSION AT THIS JUNCTURE IS ODCSOPS HAS DEVELOPED A PROGRAM THAT IS BASED ON CSA'S GUIDANCE, BUT WHICH CONSIDERS ONLY A BROAD APPROACH WITH NUMBERS AND DOLLARS. IF THE PROGRAM IS TO BE DEVELOPED CORRECTLY TO MEET THE OBJECTIVES CSA DESIRES, ODCSOPS MUST WORK MORE CLOSELY WITH TRADOC AND LET TRADOC BECOME INVOLVED.

3. PSYOPS MASTER PLAN.

A. GENERAL STILWELL HAS COMPLETED THE PSYOPS MASTER PLAN AND HAS BRIEFED IT IN THE TANK. THE ESSENCE OF THE PLAN AS IT IMPACTS ON TRADOC AND SWC IS:

(1) PSYOPS WILL BE REMOVED FROM SOF.

(2) A NATIONAL PSYOPS CENTER (NPC) WILL BE ESTABLISHED AND WILL PROBABLY BE LOCATED AT FT BELVOIR.

(3) THE NPC WILL BE COMMANDED BY A GENERAL OFFICER/FLAG OFFICER.

(4) ALL SERVICE PSYOPS RESOURCES WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THE NEW NPC.

(5) 4TH POG WILL BE MOVED FROM FT BRAGG TO THE NPC.

(6) TIMEFRAME FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN IS PRIOR TO END OF

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B. LTC TIMMES, ODCSOPS, HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO PREPARE AN ARMY PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATION OF PSYOPS RESOURCES AND THE MOVE OF 4TH POG. SWC HAS NOT RECEIVED FORMAL NOTIFICATION OF THE PLAN NOR REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION; ALL INFORMATION TO DATE IS BASED ON INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH ODCSOPS AND COORDINATION WITH 1ST SOCOM.

C. WITHOUT BENEFIT OF KNOWLEDGE OF THE PSYOPS MASTER PLAN, I AM UNABLE TO COMMENT ON THE ADVANTAGES THAT MAY ACCRUE FROM THIS CONSOLIDATION OF PSYOPS; HOWEVER, I SUSPECT FROM A NATIONAL STANDPOINT IT
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WILL PROVIDE THE NECESSARY ATTENTION AND CENTRALIZED DIRECTION TO DEVELOP A PSYOPS CAPABILITY FOR THE CONDUCT OF OPERATIONS ACROSS THE FULL SPECTRUM OF JOINT-STRATEGIC PEACETIME AND WARTIME ACTIVITIES. MY CONCERNS AT THIS TIME ARE:

(1) THAT THE DECISION TO CONSOLIDATE PSYOPS HAS BEEN MADE WITHOUT CONSULTATION OR COORDINATION WITH THE MACOMS.

(2) THAT PSYOPS MAY BE STOVEPIPED WITH EMPHASIS PLACED ON STRATEGIC PSYOPS AND WITHOUT ADEQUATE PROVISION FOR TACTICAL PSYOPS.

(3) THAT SWC'S ROLE AS PROPONENT FOR ARMY AND JOINT PSYOPS WILL BE CONSIDERABLY REDUCED OR ELIMINATED. INDICATIONS AT THIS POINT ARE THAT SWC TRAINING, DOCTRINE AND COMBAT DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE NPC.

(4) THAT TRANSFER OF THE 4TH POG WILL DEGRADE PSYOPS SUPPORT TO XVIII ABN CORPS, SOCOM, JSOC, ET AL, FOR CONDUCT OF CONTINGENCY OR

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OTHER LIC OPERATIONS. AT THE VERY LEAST IT WILL COMPLICATE COORDINATION AND PLANNING OF OPERATIONS. 4TH POG IS THE ONLY EXISTING RESPONSIVE PSYOP CAPABILITY IN THE FORCE -- ALL OTHER ARMY PSYOP ORGANIZATIONS ARE IN THE RC AND REQUIRE "CALL-UP". THE ORGANIC BATTALIONS OF 4TH POG ARE REGIONALLY ORIENTED TO PROVIDE REQUISITE AREA EXPERTISE FOR PLANNING AND SUPPORT OF OPERATIONS. AND I BELIEVE SHOULD REMAIN AN INTEGRAL PART OF 1ST SOCOM.

5. THE VIEW FROM SWC IS THAT, FOR WHATEVER GOOD PURPOSES, THE SWC ROLE IS RAPIDLY BEING WHITTLED AWAY TO A SPECIAL FORCES SCHOOL AND CENTER. SHOULD THIS OCCUR, I SUGGEST WE CONSIDER BOTH SERE AND COUNTER-TERRORISM AS APPROPRIATE CANDIDATES FOR EMPHASIS AT THE CENTER FOR ARMY AND JOINT DOCTRINE AND TRAINING. SERE IS PROGRESSING WELL, BUT BOTH AREAS NEED GREATER ATTENTION IN TODAY'S LIC ENVIRONMENT.

WARM REGARDS.

SSO: DELIVER DURING DUTY HOURS.

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