



## **95TH CIVIL AFFAIRS BRIGADE (AIRBORNE)**

### **FACT SHEET**

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## **CIVIL AFFAIRS BRIGADE**

*...arguably the most important military component of the struggle against violent extremists is not the fighting we do ourselves, but how well we help prepare our partners to defend and govern themselves.*

*--former Secretary of Defense Gates (July 31, 2009, Washington Post interview)*

### **Mission of the 95th Civil Affairs Brigade (Airborne)**

The 95th Civil Affairs Brigade (Airborne) organizes, equips, trains and deploys forces worldwide to conduct civil affairs operations to reduce and/or mitigate civil vulnerabilities leveraged by state and non-state actors for legitimacy and influence over relevant populations, in any environment, in support of Combatant Commanders and United States Ambassadors.

### **Overview of Civil Affairs in Military Operations**

The 95th Civil Affairs Brigade Soldiers enable military commanders and U.S. ambassadors to improve relationships with various stakeholders in a local area to meet the objectives of the U.S. government. Civil Affairs teams work with U.S. Department of State country teams, government and non-governmental organizations at all levels and with local populations in peaceful, contingency and hostile environments.

The 95th Civil Affairs Brigade units can rapidly deploy to remote areas with small villages, as well as to larger population centers in more than 20 countries around the world.

They help host nations assess the needs of an area, bring together local and non-local resources to ensure long-term stability, and ultimately degrade and defeat violent extremist organizations and their ideologies. They may be involved in disaster prevention, management and recovery and with human and civil infrastructure assistance programs.

The 95th Civil Affairs Brigade Soldiers are Soldiers first, but are adept at working in foreign environments and conversing in one of about 20 foreign languages with local stakeholders. Brigade teams may work for months or years in remote areas of a host nation. Their low profile and command structure allow them to solidify key relationships and processes and to address root causes of instability that adversely affect the strategic interests of the United States.

### **95th Civil Affairs Brigade as a Military Force Multiplier**

Civil Affairs became an Army active component career field for officers and a military occupational specialty for enlisted Soldiers in 2007. Civil Affairs has often been viewed as an adjunct military capability, used to quarantine civilian populations before and during military engagements or to re-establish civil authority and resume normal societal activities after a nation's military capabilities have been defeated.

Today, while modern technologies have vastly improved the reach and destructive power of military forces, the same technologies have also accelerated the globalization of nations and societies. Military power, in new and



redefined forms, can be more readily used de-stabilize U.S. strategic interests in a world challenged by slow and fast-moving disasters of human and natural origins.



Conflicting ideologies and economic inequalities in late-developing nation-states, combined with modern military technologies, have fostered regions of instability throughout the world. “Soft power,” the use of civil affairs in military operations, has become increasingly important to address root causes and destabilizing forces in late-developing nations, threatening the strategic interests of the United States and its allies.

### **The 95th Civil Affairs Brigade’s History and Growth**

Originally constituted in August 1945 as the 95th Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Military Government Group, the first iteration of the 95th Civil Affairs Brigade helped Japan transition from wartime to a peacetime society, before being inactivated in Kurume, Japan in June 1946.

Re-activated in Oct. 1948 as the 95th Military Government Group at Fort Bragg, N.C., it served

during the Korean War before it was again inactivated in Pusan, Korea in Oct. 1951. After its allotment to the Regular Army in 1954, the 95th Civil Affairs Group, based at Camp Gordon, Ga., assisted in setting up a refugee center at Camp Kilmer, N.J., after the 1956 Hungarian Revolt. It also supported the 82nd Airborne Division in the Dominican Republic in 1965.

In July 1971, the 95th Civil Affairs Group returned to Fort Bragg to join the John F. Kennedy Center for Military Assistance (CMA) until its inactivation in June 1974. Re-designated as a brigade in March 2006, the 95th Civil Affairs Brigade was activated on March 16, 2007, incorporating Soldiers from the 96th Civil Affairs Battalion, that at the time was the Army’s only active duty civil affairs battalion.

When al-Qaida terrorists attacked the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, the Army’s only active-duty Civil Affairs force consisted of a single battalion of about 200 Soldiers, serving mostly as a bridging force for follow-on Civil Affairs reserve units, designed to support general purpose Army forces in conventional land wars.

As of March 2012, the 95th Civil Affairs Brigade consists of more than 1,200 Soldiers, including five regionally orientated battalions, the 91st, 92nd, 96th, 97th and 98th. The brigade is in the process of growing from five to six companies for each of its battalions by 2017. The brigade is tasked to support Department of Defense Special Operations Command task forces and the five U.S. geographic combatant commands.



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