



160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne)

FACT SHEET

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

FORT BRAGG, NC 28310 / (910) 432-6005

Online at <http://news.soc.mil> and

on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/usasoc.mil>

Overview

The 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment's mission is to organize, equip, train, resource and employ Army special operations aviation forces worldwide in support of contingency missions and ground force commanders. Known as Night Stalkers, these Soldiers are recognized for their proficiency in nighttime operations. They are highly trained and ready to accomplish the very toughest missions in all environments, anywhere in the world, day or night, with unparalleled precision.



Night Stalkers have been actively engaged in the Overseas Contingency Operations since October 2001. Today, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) continues a sustained and active forward presence in the U.S. Central Command area of operations at multiple locations in support of overseas contingency operations. Our crews also provide support to U.S. Southern and Pacific commands.

Regimental Headquarters Fort Campbell, Kentucky

1st Battalion, 160th SOAR (A)

Fort Campbell, Kentucky

MH-6 and AH-6 Little Bird

light assault and attack helicopters

MH-60 Black Hawk

medium assault and attack helicopters

2nd Battalion, 160th SOAR (A)

Fort Campbell, Kentucky

MH-47 Chinook heavy assault helicopters

MH-60 Black Hawk medium assault helicopters

3rd Battalion, 160th SOAR (A)

Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia

MH-47 Chinook heavy assault helicopters

MH-60 Black Hawk medium assault helicopters

4th Battalion, 160th SOAR (A)

Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington

MH-47 Chinook heavy assault helicopters

MH-60 Black Hawk medium assault helicopters

Special Operations Aviation Training Battalion

Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Fleet consists of all aircraft utilized in regiment

Organization

The 160th SOAR (A) is comprised of a regiment headquarters and five battalions. The regiment headquarters is collocated with the 1st and 2nd battalions and the Special Operations Aviation Training Battalion at Fort Campbell, Ky.; 3rd Battalion is located at Hunter Army Airfield, Ga.; and 4th Battalion is located at Joint-Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. This strategic organizational structure postures the regiment to support special operations forces mission and training requirements well into the future.

Each war-fighting battalion also has a strategic composition of light, medium and heavy helicopters, all highly modified and designed to meet the unit's unique mission requirements. Currently, 1st Battalion has one AH-6 Little Bird helicopter company, one MH-6 Little Bird helicopter company and two companies of MH-60 Black Hawk helicopters; 2nd Battalion has two MH-47 Chinook

helicopter companies; and 3rd and 4th Battalions each have two MH-47 Chinook helicopter companies and one MH-60 Black Hawk helicopter company. Each battalion also has a Headquarters and Headquarters Company and a maintenance company.

Assessment, Selection and Training

The 160th SOAR actively seeks and assesses the best-qualified aviators, crew members and support personnel in the Army. Members of this elite unit are three-time volunteers: for the Army, for airborne training and for the regiment. Upon selection, commissioned, warrant officers and enlisted Soldiers complete respective Basic Mission Qualification courses, known as Green Platoon, which are facilitated by the Special Operations Aviation Training Battalion.

The professionalism and capabilities of Army special operations aviation are developed through a “train as you fight” mentality. Rigorous training continues upon assignment to the line units.

The regiment is exceptionally resourced for extensive and realistic training conducted regularly in a variety of environments. This extensive, realistic training is the foundation of unit combat readiness.



History

Originally created as Task Force 160, the unit was formed almost exclusively from Soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky. In October 1981, the unit was officially designated the 160th Aviation Battalion. The regiment then became an airborne unit in October 1986 and was re-designated the 160th Special Operations Aviation Group (Airborne). The modern day 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) was officially activated in June 1990. In July 2007, the regiment activated a fourth battalion to meet growing special operations forces requirements.



Soldiers of the 160th pioneered the Army’s nighttime flying techniques. The unit became known as the “Night Stalkers” because of its capability to strike undetected during the hours of darkness and its unprecedented combat successes. Today, Night Stalkers continue to develop and employ new technology and tactics, techniques and procedures for the battlefield. Time and again, in every major combat operation since Grenada, Soldiers of this unit demonstrate that they live by their motto, “Night Stalkers Don’t Quit.”