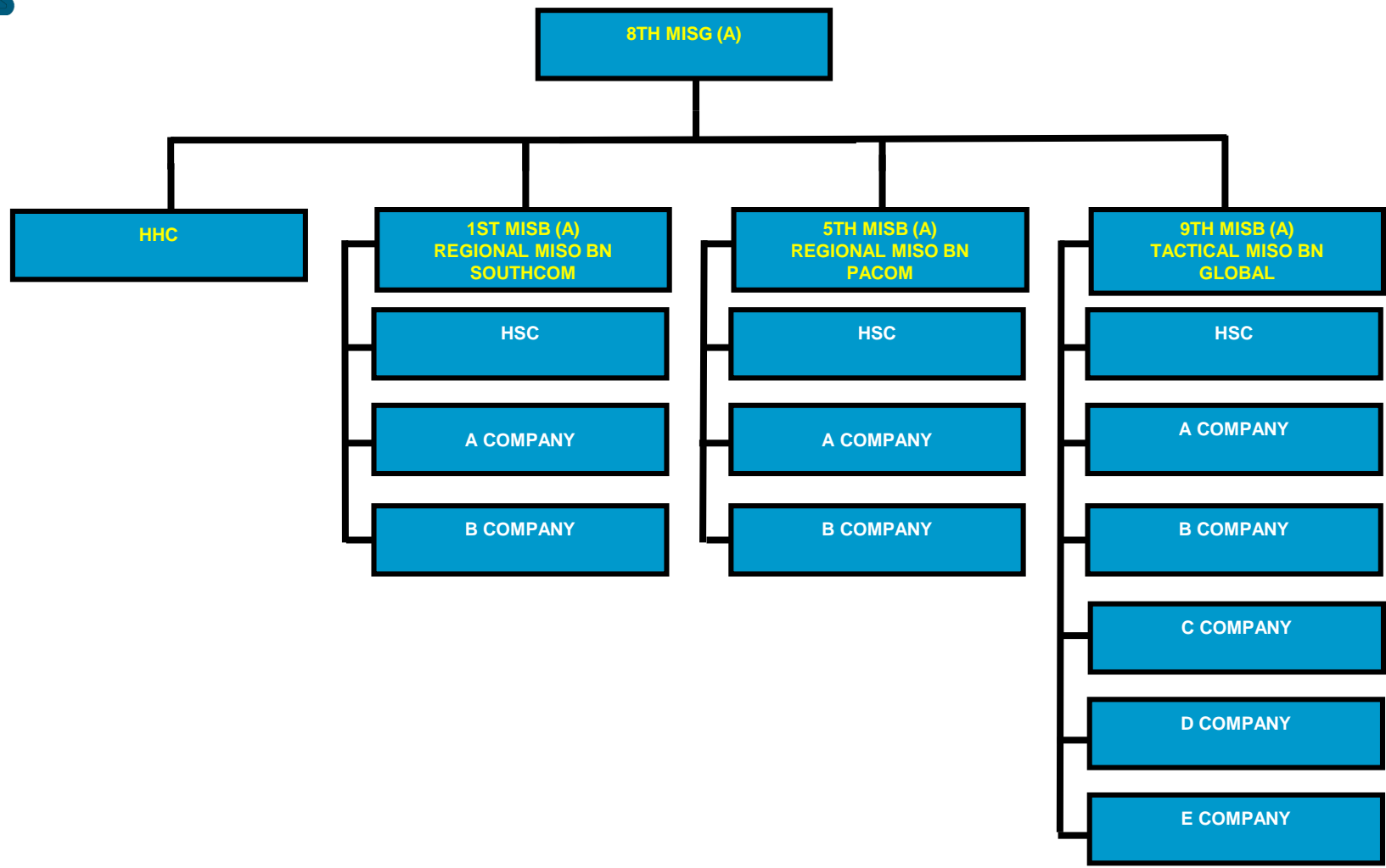




# 8TH MILITARY INFORMATION SUPPORT GROUP (AIRBORNE)





# 8th MISG (A)

The 8th Military Information Support Group (Airborne), formerly psychological operations, is one of the two MISO Groups in the active Army force structure. Its mission is to deploy anywhere in the world on short notice, and plan, develop and conduct military information support operations in support of the unified commanders, coalition forces, or other government agencies, as directed by the President and the Secretary of Defense.

Psychological warfare was established as a sub-section of the War Department during World War I. Over 50 million leaflets were delivered in modified artillery shells and leaflet bombs dropped from airplanes on enemy units on the Western Front. So effective was the Allied PSYWAR, German Generals Paul von Hin-den-berg and Erich Lu-den-doff stated that the Allied PSYWAR effort had played a large part in devastating their troops' morale.

Psychological warfare expanded during World War II with the creation of the Psychological Warfare Branch, Allied Force Headquarters; the Psychological Warfare Division, Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force; and PSYWAR Sections at the Army, Group and Field Army levels. These commands consolidated the efforts of the American Office of Strategic Services, Office of War Information, British Political Warfare Office and Ministry of Information. These commands further directed the formation of tactical PSYWAR units such as mobile broadcasting companies and broadcasting stations operating detachments. These World War II PSYWAR efforts dwarfed anything attempted before in history.

In September of 1950, Brig. Gen. Robert A. McClure was named Chief, Psychological Warfare Division. Recognizing the need for the Army to retain her PSYWAR units and capabilities, he and his staff established the PSYWAR Center at Fort Bragg in 1952. That center still stands today as the United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School. Known today as military information support operations, or MISO, the fundamental mission of the psychological operations branch has remained the same since World War I: to "convey selected information and indicators to foreign audiences to influence their emotions, motives, objective reasoning, and ultimately the behavior of foreign governments, organizations, groups and individuals." However, the methodologies and modalities for accomplishing the MISO mission continue to evolve with the increasing demand for MISO capabilities across the full spectrum of conflict.

On Oct. 1, 2006, PSYOP became an official branch within the United States Army, and in 2011 the Department of the Army established the Military Information Support Command and the 8th Military Information Support Group (Airborne). In September of 2014, the 8th MISG (A) became a subordinate unit of the 1st Special Forces Command (Airborne).

The 8th MISG (A) continues to provide PSYOP in support of named and classified operations to include Operations Sword of Honor, Enduring Freedom, Inherent Resolve, and Freedom Sentinel with more than 115 Soldiers deployed to more than 15 countries in the U.S. South Command, Africa Command, Pacific Command and Central Command areas of responsibility. These deployed Soldiers provide PSYOP expertise to Special Operations Forces, combatant commanders, U.S. Embassies and other government agencies throughout the world. The Soldiers are employing their expertise at the national, strategic and operational levels in support of the National Commands' communication strategy.



*1st Military Information Support Battalion (Airborne), United States Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM). Organized Nov. 8, 1950, in the Regular Army at Fort Riley, Kan., as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Radio Broadcasting and Leaflet Group. Reorganized and redesignated Sept. 1, 1951, as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Radio Broadcasting and Leaflet Group, 8239th Army Unit. Consolidated Feb. 21, 1955, with Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, (constituted Nov. 30, 1954, in the Regular Army) and consolidated unit designated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Radio Broadcasting and Leaflet Battalion; concurrently reorganized at Fort Bragg, N.C. Reorganized and redesignated June 24, 1960, as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Psychological Warfare Battalion. Reorganized and redesignated Dec. 20, 1965, as the 1st Psychological Operations Battalion. Reorganized and redesignated March 16, 1990, as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Psychological Operations Battalion. Reorganized and redesignated Nov. 16, 1995, as Headquarters, Headquarters and Support Company, 1st Psychological Operations Battalion.*



*5th Military Information Support Battalion (Airborne), United States Pacific Command (USPACOM). Constituted March 3, 1951, in the Regular Army as the 5th Loudspeaker and Leaflet Company, Army, activated March 19, 1951, at Fort Riley, Kan. Reorganized and redesignated June 3, 1953, as the 5th Loudspeaker and Leaflet Company. Reorganized and redesignated June 24, 1961, as the 5th Psychological Warfare Company. Reorganized and redesignated June 25, 1965, as the 5th Psychological Operations Battalion. Inactivated June 20, 1975, in Germany. Redesignated December 30, 1975, as the 5th Psychological Operations Group; concurrently withdrawn from the Regular Army, allotted to the Army Reserve, and activated at Upper Marlboro, Md. Reorganized and redesignated Nov. 18, 2003, as Headquarters, Headquarters and Service Company, 5th Psychological Operations Battalion, withdrawn from the Army Reserve, and allotted to the Regular Army (organic elements concurrently constituted) Battalion activated October 16, 2004, at Fort Bragg, N.C.*



*9th Military Information Support Battalion (Airborne) is the tactical Military Information Support Operations (MISO) element for the 4th Military Information Support Group and supports ground commanders in the planning and production of MISO programs. Constituted April 14, 1952, in the Regular Army as the 9th Loudspeaker and Leaflet Company, Army. Activated April 26, 1952, at Fort Riley, Kan. Reorganized and redesignated May 27, 1953, as the 9th Loudspeaker and Leaflet Company. Inactivated Sept. 25, 1953, at Fort Bragg, N.C. Redesignated March 22, 1963, as the 9th Psychological Warfare Company. Activated April 1, 1963, in the Panama Canal Zone. Reorganized and redesignated April 1, 1967, as the 9th Psychological Operations Battalion. Inactivated Dec. 31, 1974, in the Panama Canal Zone. Activated April 15, 1985, at Fort Bragg, N.C. Reorganized and redesignated March 16, 1990, as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 9th Psychological Operations Battalion. Reorganized and redesignated Nov. 16, 1995, as Headquarters, Headquarters Service Company, 9th Psychological Operations Battalion (organic elements concurrently constituted and activated with personnel from provisional units).*