



8th Psychological Operations Group (A)



8th POG(A)



**1st POB(A)
SOUTHCOM**

**Regional
Company**

**Regional
Company**

**Tactical
Company**



**5th POB(A)
PACOM**

**Regional
Company**

**Regional
Company**

**Tactical
Company**



**9th POB(A)
GLOBAL**

**Tactical
Company**

**Tactical
Company**



8th Psychological Operations Group (A)

History



The 8th Psychological Operations Group (Airborne) is one of the two PSYOP 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, an ultimately the behavior of foreign governments, organizations, groups and individuals." However, the methodologies of 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 POG (A) became a subordinate unit of the 1st Special Forces Command (Airborne).

The 8th POG (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 Psychological Operations Battalion (A) History



1st Psychological Operations 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 re-designated 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 re-designated June 24, 1960, as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Psychological Warfare Battalion. Reorganized and re-designated Dec. 20, 1965, as the 1st Psychological Operations Battalion. Reorganized and re-designated March 16, 1990, as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Psychological Operations Battalion. Reorganized and re-designated Nov. 16, 1995, as Headquarters, Headquarters and Support Company, 1st Psychological Operations Battalion.



5th Psychological Operations Battalion (A) History



5th Psychological Operations 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 re-designated June 3, 1953, as the 5th Loudspeaker and Leaflet Company. Reorganized and re-designated June 24, 1961, as the 5th Psychological Warfare Company. Reorganized and re-designated June 25, 1965, as the 5th Psychological Operations Battalion. Inactivated June 20, 1975, in Germany. Re-designated December 30, 1975, as the 5th Psychological Operations Group; concurrently with drawn from the Regular Army, allotted to the Army Reserve, and activated at Upper Marlboro, Md. Reorganized and re-designated Nov. 18, 2003, as Headquarters, Headquarters and Service Company, 5th Psychological Operations Battalion, with drawn 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 Psychological Operations Battalion (A) History



9th Psychological Operations Battalion (Airborne), United States Pacific Command (USPACOM). Constituted March 3, 1951, in the Regular Army as the 9th Loudspeaker and Leaflet Company, Army, activated March 19, 1951, at Fort Riley, Kan. Reorganized and re-designated June 3, 1953, as the 9th Loudspeaker and Leaflet Company. Reorganized and re-designated June 24, 1961, as the 9th Psychological Warfare Company. Reorganized and re-designated June 25, 1965, as the 9th Psychological Operations Battalion. Inactivated June 20, 1975, in Germany. Re-designated December 30, 1975, as the 9th Psychological Operations Group; concurrently with drawn from the Regular Army, allotted to the Army Reserve, and activated at Upper Marlboro, Md. Reorganized and re-designated Nov. 18, 2003, as Headquarters, Headquarters and Service Company, 9th Psychological Operations Battalion, with drawn from the Army Reserve, and allotted to the Regular Army (organic elements concurrently constituted) Battalion activated October 16, 2004, at Fort Bragg, N.C.