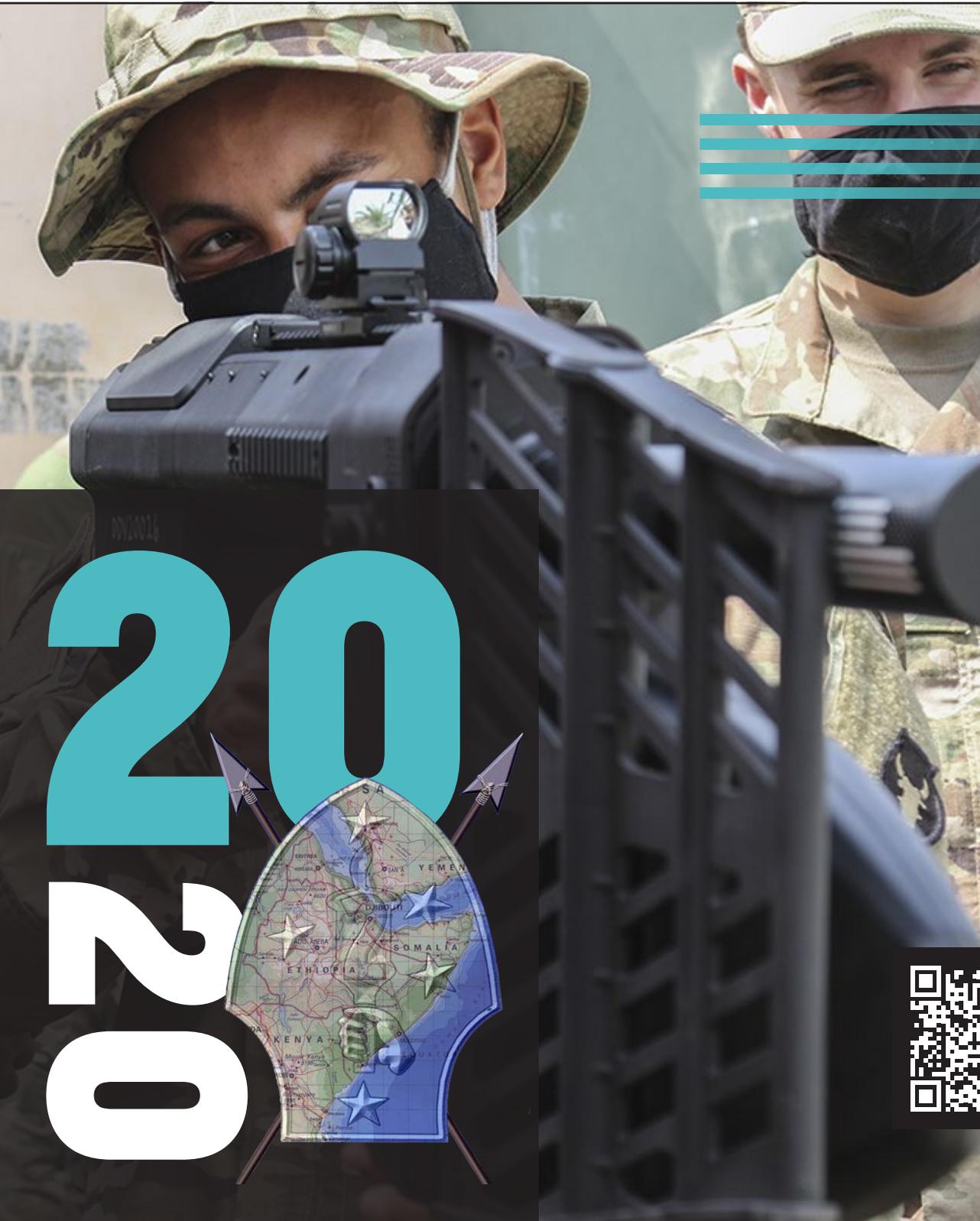


C Y I R

COMMAND YEAR IN REVIEW



20

20



Vision



YEAR IN REVIEW is a professional military magazine published annually by Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa to provide a chronicle of its accomplishments for the calendar year. The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily represent the policies or points of view of either this command or any other U.S. government agency. Select information is written by CJTF-HOA Public Affairs Office staff with credit for other content as needed. The Secretary of Defense has determined that publication of this magazine is necessary for conducting public business as required of the Department of Defense by law.

Vision

Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) is a dynamic operational headquarters, effectively supporting partner nations' efforts in countering violent extremist organizations in East Africa. CJTF-HOA leverages the flexibility of its location to provide strategic access and works with partner nations, coalition forces, and interagency/intergovernmental organizations to support a whole-of-government approach. CJTF-HOA's operations help to prevent violent extremist organizations from threatening America, ensuring the protection of the homeland, American citizens, and American interests.

Year In Review 2020

**COMBINED JOINT TASK FORCE
HORN OF AFRICA PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**
Director: Master Sgt. Mike Andriacco, USAF
Deputy Director: Staff Sgt. Dustin Jordan, ARNG
Chief Petty Officer Elisandro T. Diaz, USN
Production Chief: Tech Sgt. Dana J. Cable, USAF
Photojournalist: Staff Sgt. Brandon L. Julson, ARNG
Broadcast Journalist: Senior Airman Kristan Savage, USAF
Graphic Designer: Staff Sgt. Brandon L. Julson, ARNG

Contact Us

africom.lemonnier.hoa-pao.mbx.public-affairs@mail.mil

Visit Us

www.hoa.africom.mil
<https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/CJTFHOA>
www.facebook.com/cjtfhornofafrica
www.twitter.com/cjtfhoa
www.instagram.com/cjtfhoa
www.flickr.com/photos/144399112@N05



www.hoa.africom.mil

Content



U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Lapthe C. Flora, commanding general, Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) attends the Solemn Opening Session of the National Assembly, in Djibouti, Africa. The U.S. military and the country of Djibouti have been close strategic partners since 2002.

Exclusive

COVID RESPONSE:

Here at Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa we are proud of our ability to continue operations during the COVID-19 pandemic that slowed down much of the world. Through hard work and the efforts of all of our service members we have continued to serve the people of the United States and Africa.

4	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
6	LETTER FROM THE COMMANDING GENERAL
8	MISSION & LINES OF EFFORT
16	OPERATIONS
21	CHANGE OF COMMAND
24	COVID RESPONSE
26	TRAINING
28	PARTNERSHIPS
30	OCTAVE QUARTZ
31	CONTINGENCY LOCATIONS
32	THE WAY FORWARD
34	PHOTO GALLERY



Executive Summary

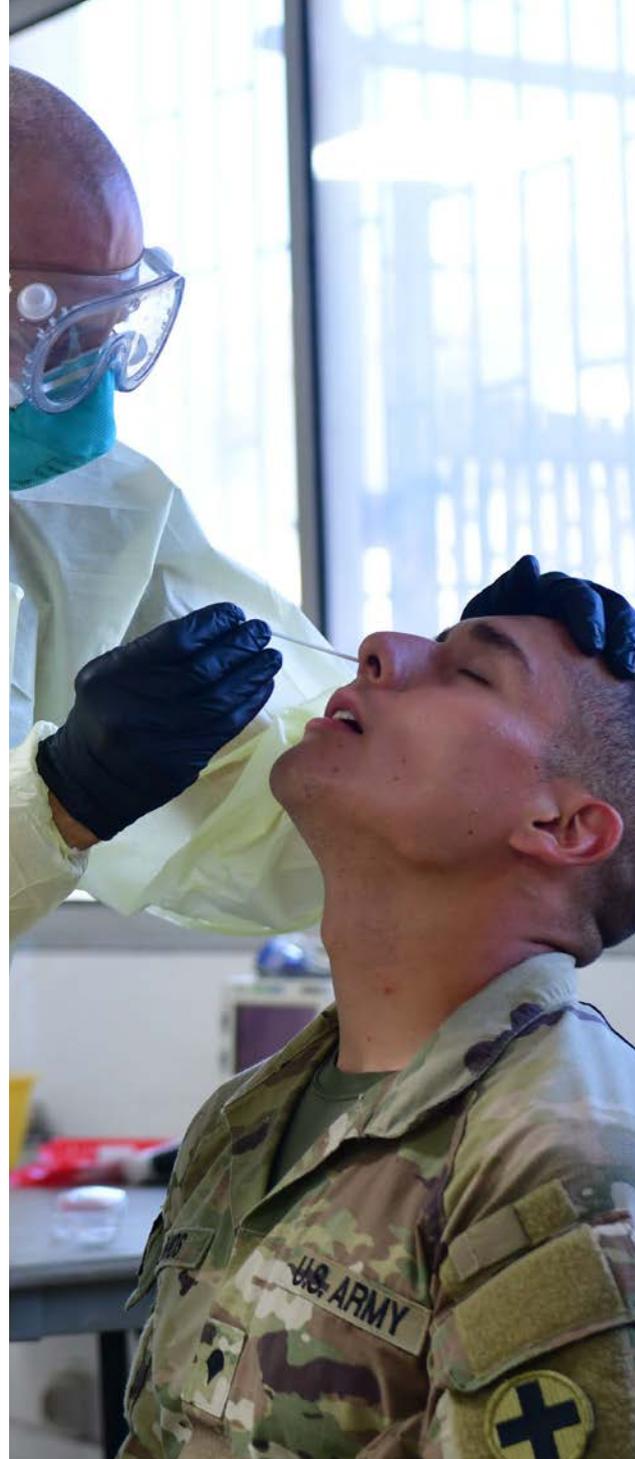
The Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) 2020 Year in Review is a record of CJTF-HOA's activities and accomplishments during 2020. CJTF-HOA's mission statement defines the direction for CJTF-HOA and describes the command's purpose and value to the East Africa region.

In support of the mission, the CJTF-HOA 2020 lines of effort (LOEs) aligned command activities and efforts and ensured resources were focused on moving the command in the desired direction.

These LOEs focused on strengthening regional military relationships, enhancing the capabilities of partner nations, conducting theater security cooperation activities, enabling access and freedom of movement within East Africa, and executing crisis response when needed.

This review outlines the command's successes and achievements in five primary categories: Operations, Training, Crisis Response, Key Leader Engagements, Force Protection and Partnerships.

YEAR IN REVIEW 2020



CJTF-HOA Soldiers are taking COVID-19 tests as one of the measures to ensure the task force is healthy to train while on deployment in East Africa & to limit the spread of the virus.

www.hoa.africom.mil



U.S. Army Sgt. Ebony O'Brien, 443rd Civil Affairs Battalion Functional Specialty Team (FXSP) animal care specialist, holds a baby goat while Dr. Elmi Ali Ahmed, Ministry of Agriculture veterinarian in Damerjog prepares to administer medicine during a veterinary exchange in the rural village of Ali Oune, Djibouti, August 30, 2020.



Letter

A PROFESSIONAL MILITARY MAGAZINE PUBLISHED ANNUALLY BY COMBINED JOINT TASK FORCE-HORN OF AFRICA TO PROVIDE A CHRONICLE OF ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR.

LETTER FROM THE COMMANDING GENERAL



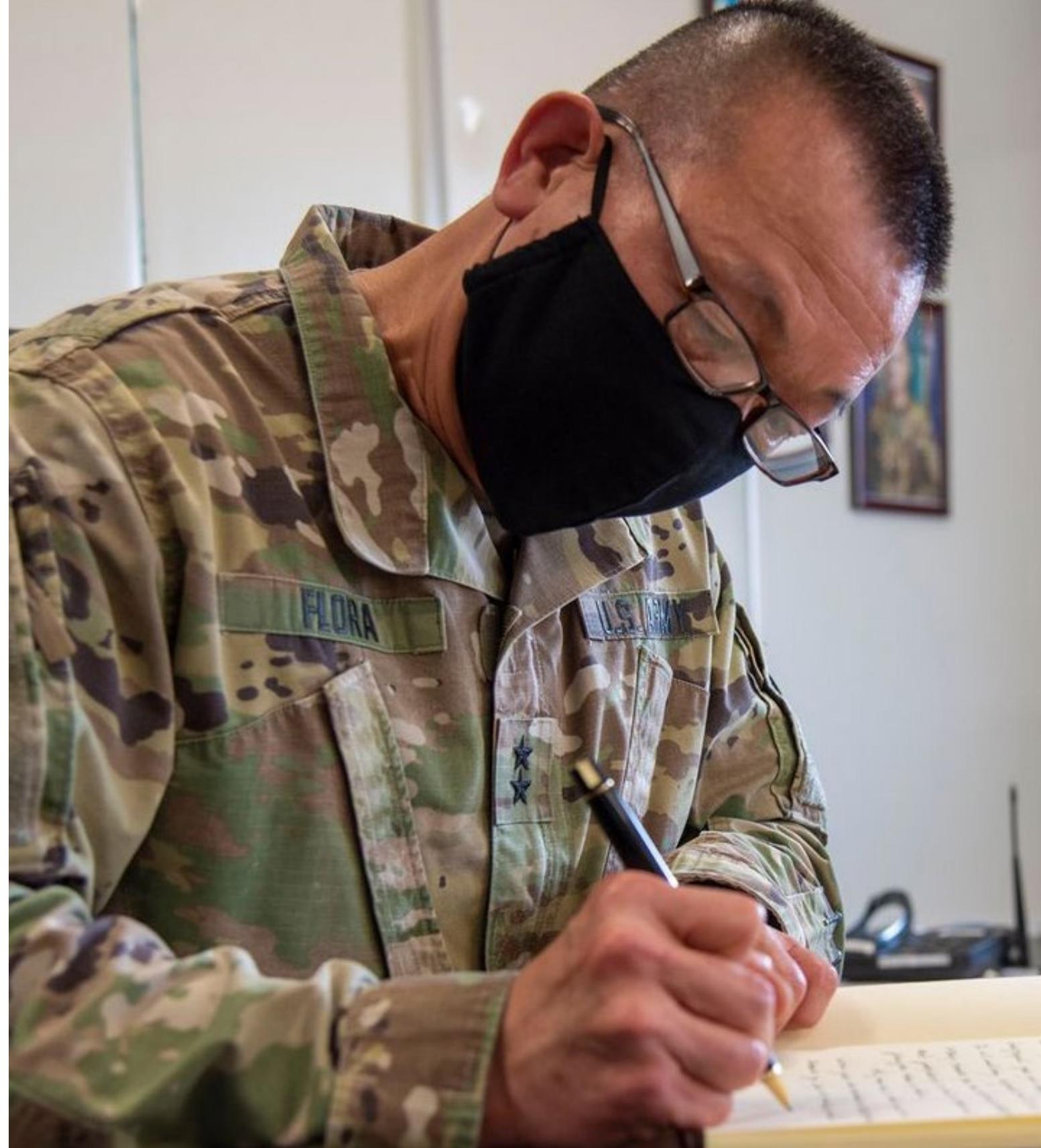
As we prepare to enter 2021, we close out a year of significant global challenges and changes. The world is not the same one we entered 2020 with, and Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) is no exception. The year started with regional tensions in nearby Southwest Asia, then the first global pandemic in more than 100 years, the restructuring and shifting focus in CJTF-HOA, and finally, the repositioning of U.S. forces in Somalia.

Through it all, the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, and civilians assigned to CJTF-HOA handled each new challenge with flexibility, professionalism, and motivation that rivals any I have seen in my career so far. I could not be more proud of the work this team has accomplished.

This year in review captures only a small part of the incredible accomplishments of the CJTF-HOA team. Whether core staff, tenant units, or those serving at the outstations throughout East Africa, our forces leveraged their best and brightest, often with limited resources, to support our four lines of effort while also maintaining the readiness of the East Africa Response Force, helping reinforce America as the partner of choice in the region, and fostering peace and stability.

As we move into the next year, it is my sincerest hope that the challenges we face will pale in comparison to this year, but even if they don't, I'm confident that this dedicated team will handle it spectacularly, as you always do!

- Lapthe C. Flora
Maj. General
United States Army
Commanding General



“
IT HAS BEEN ONE OF MY GREATEST PLEASURES AND HONORS TO LEAD YOU.
”

M

Mission | CJTF-HOA Operational Approach

CJTF-HOA responds to crises, maintains strategic partnership with Djibouti, supports operations in East Africa, and serves as the Senior Command of Djibouti Base Cluster to enhance stability and prosperity in East Africa.

CJTF-HOA is responsible for protecting American interests and strengthening, in partnership with coalition partners, the defense capabilities of African nations.

CJTF-HOA measures its mission success, efforts, and activities using 4 LOEs which ensure the command is moving in the desired direction:

1. Crisis Response
2. Protect U.S. Forces
3. Support Operations In East Africa
4. Strategic Partnership Djibouti

More than 4,500 personnel are assigned and supported by CJTF-HOA headquarters and contingency locations throughout the Horn of Africa. The team is uniquely diverse and is represented by personnel from different service branches and partner nations making CJTF-HOA truly a joint forces command.

We are proud to be on the same team building a safe and secure Africa with our coalition partners from Djibouti, Burundi, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, South Korea and Spain.

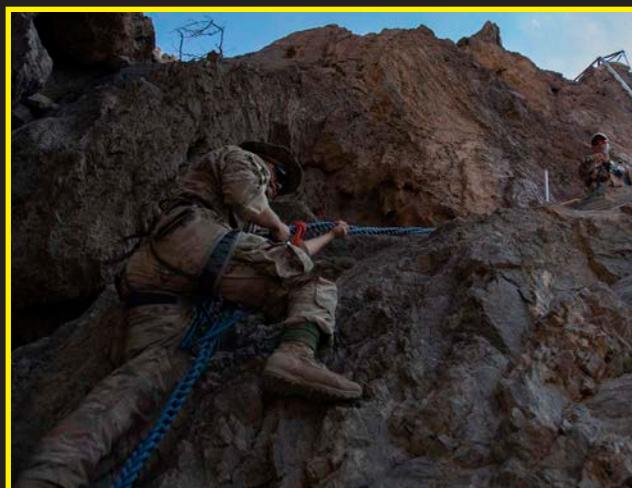
CJTF-HOA is staffed by service members from the U.S. Army, with the greatest number of personnel, followed, in descending number, by civilians and

contractors, Marine Corps, Air Force, Navy, coalition partners and Coast Guard.

U.S. military forces are composed of 63.4% National Guard, 25.3% Active Duty, and 10.1% Reserve Component (RC), with the Coalition making up 1.2%.

These joint forces oversee the Combined Joint Operations Area (CJOA) which includes 12 countries within 2.4 million square miles, with 6,189 miles of coastline, and a combined population of 176 million people of diverse backgrounds and ethnicities.

CJTF-HOA is headquartered at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti.



A French service member guides a U.S. Army soldier through the mountain obstacle of the French Desert Commando Course, at Arta region, Djibouti. If participants can complete the course without failing any individual events, they receive the French Desert Commando Badge.

CJTF-HOA OPERATIONAL APPROACH



1

Crisis Response

- Instability
- Humanitarian

2

Protect U.S. Forces

- Protect the Djibouti Base Cluster & U.S. forces in East Africa
- Conduct Personnel Recovery Ops
- Conduct Casualty Evacuations

3

Support Operations in East Africa

- Conduct logistics operations
- Conduct engineering operations

4

Strategic Partnership Djibouti

- Access, basing & overflight to enable operations
- Conduct strategic engagements



OBJECTIVE

- Stability Enhanced
- Force Protected
- Operations in East Africa Enabled
- Strategic Partnership Assured
- CJTF-HOA Transformed

C

CRISIS RESPONSE



PROTECT U.S. FORCES

P



www.hoa.afri.com.mil

S

SUPPORT OPERATIONS IN EAST AFRICA



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP DJIBOUTI

S

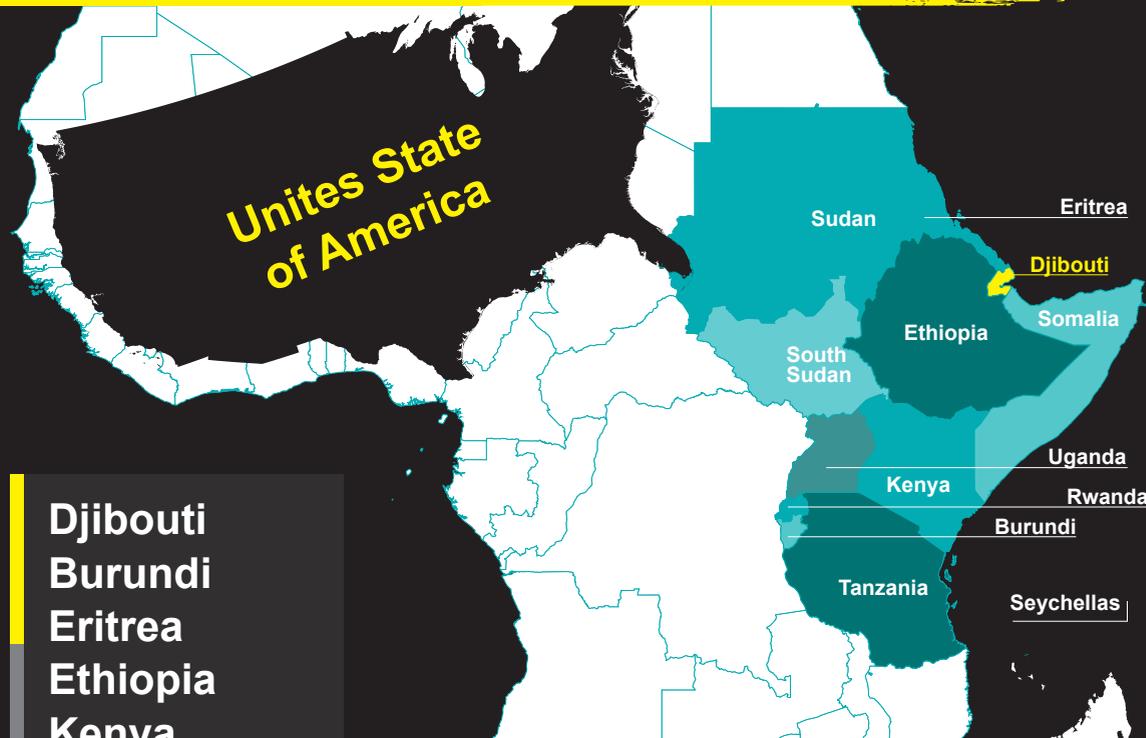


www.hoa.africom.mil

COMBINED JOINT OPERATIONS AREA

12 Countries, 176 million people

2.4 million square miles & 6,189 miles of coastline



- Djibouti
- Burundi
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Rwanda
- Seychelles
- Somalia
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- Tanzania
- Uganda

Africa's land mass covers 20.4 % of the earth's total land area.

The US can fit into Africa no less than 3x.

Africa can fit U.S., China, India, Japan, Mexico, and many European nations, combined.

www.hoa.aftricom.mil

CJTf-HOA UNIT & STAFF COMPOSITION

70.6%
ARMY

12.3%
MARINES

12.3%
AIR FORCE

2.8%
NAVY

1.5%
COALITION

SERVICE COMPONENT



U.S. Army Soldiers receive their flu shots while in-processing at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti. Nearly 200 Soldiers from the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB), of Sioux Falls, South Dakota Army National Guard became the new headquarters staff after arriving at CJTF-HOA.

ARNG

63.4%

Active

25.3%

Reserve

10.1%

Coalition

1.2%



HOA coordinated Base Operation Support function for Navy Africa & oversaw 77 services through the LOGCAP contract at 3 CL.



Managed \$1 million in construction projects across five contingency locations in Somalia.

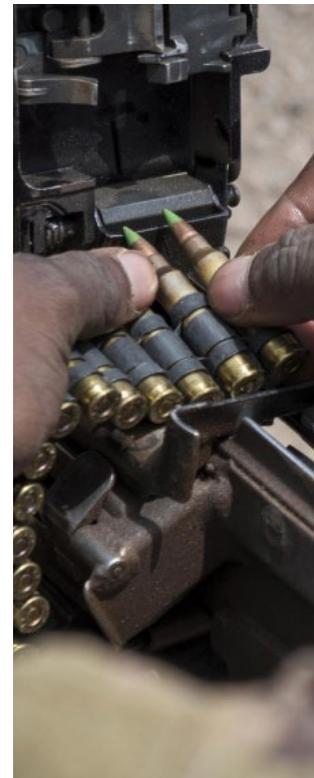


HOA received from LOGCAP contractor and transferred to Navy over \$15 million of equipment, material, and property from the five CLs.



Support Operations in East Africa

CJTF-HOA



www.hoa.afri.com.mil

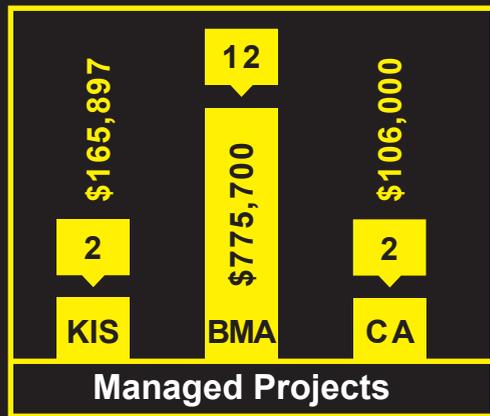
Why it matters

One of the biggest threats to U.S. interests on the continent is the activity of al-Qaeda-affiliated al-Shabaab. Supporting operations in East Africa helps prevent al-Shabaab from increasing its foothold, and helps foster peace and stability in the East African region.

Training partner nation forces allows them to take charge of security, while strengthening the partnership between the U.S. and its allies. This fosters African nations' pride in

ownership of their own security and abilities, leading to "African led" operations with U.S. support and advisement.

Supporting operations in EA is also critical to maintaining U.S. access to allow quick response and humanitarian assistance forces to operate in the region, supporting New Normal operations and allowing the U.S. to be a strong partner.



Managed \$106,000 in humanitarian civic assistance projects, providing two school libraries throughout Djibouti.

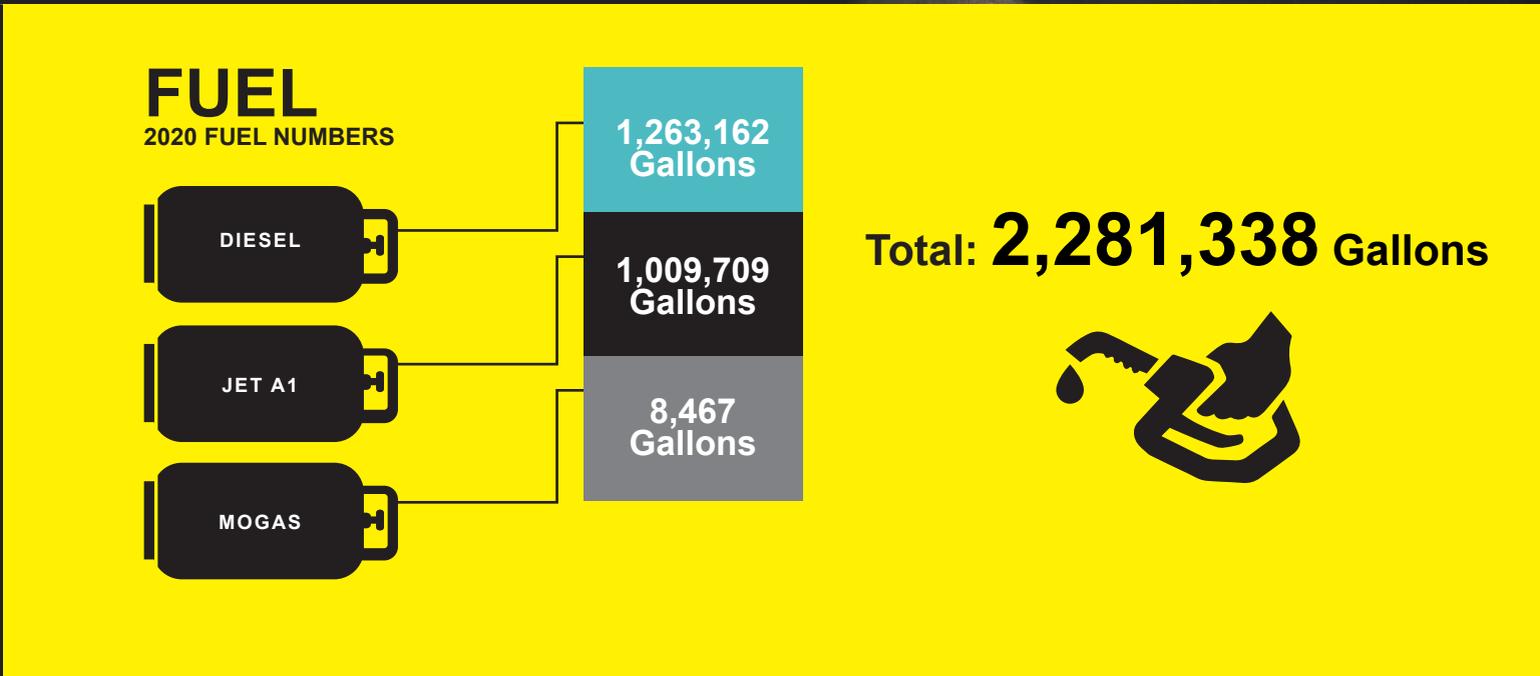
Built 16 construction projects and facilities supporting U.S. and coalition forces counter-terrorism operations and enhanced CJOA's protection of U.S. interests through intelligence, surveillance & reconnaissance (ISR).



Coordinated air movement of more than 5,200 passengers and 4,000 tons of cargo in coordination with three joint command elements.



LOGCAP completed two construction projects that equal \$1.9 million (DFAC and Waste Water Treatment). Saved \$145,000 from the initial \$750,000 flood mitigation project at MOG to reduce camp flooding.





Ordered and closed over 620 line items of supplies totaling over \$1.5 million.



Completed over 60 Credit card orders totaling over \$176,000.




Ordered & processed over 104 of class 1 orders, totaling over \$106,000.



Change of Command

CJTF-HOA



U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Michael D. Turello, the outgoing Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) commanding general, transferred responsibility to U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Lapthe C. Flora during a change of command ceremony at Camp Lemonnier (CLDJ), Djibouti, June 8, 2020. U.S. Army Gen. Stephen J. Townsend, commander of U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM), presided over the ceremony.

- Michael D. Turello
Maj. General
United States Army
Commanding General



Townsend praised Turello's leadership during something as unprecedented as the global COVID-19 pandemic. He noted how it had affected everything from major operations to military traditions, like change of command ceremonies, and that CJTF-HOA and Djibouti served as benchmarks for others.



Townsend also recognized how uniquely suited Flora was to have been selected as HOA's newest commanding general.

"In his last assignment, he was the deputy commanding general of U.S. Army Africa," Townsend said. "So General Flora is not arriving, trying to figure out what we do in AFRICOM. He already knows. He knows the command. He knows this continent. Lapthe, welcome to the AFRICOM team. I can promise you one thing, you will not be bored."

Townsend talks about the challenges and mission ahead for Flora.

"General Flora, there is no doubt that you will face challenges that you and I cannot imagine as we stand here today. Your task now is to adapt quickly and fill the unique roles required of you to establish your own reputation for excellence and carry on the important mission assigned. Come what may, I am confident that I leave HOA in good hands."

Flora talks about how excited he is to take over command at CJTF-HOA.

"To my new HOA family, I can't tell you how excited I am to be here," Flora said.



www.hoa.africom.mil



Task Force Bayonet (TFB), comprised of over 900 Soldiers from the Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois Army National Guard, deployed to the Horn of Africa in support of the Combined Joint Task Force –Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) during Operation Freedom’s Sentinel from July 2020 to April 2021. TFB was assigned three diverse primary missions across the CJTF-HOA area of responsibility. The primary mission was to provide force protection through Security Forces to the CJTF-HOA area of responsibility. The second mission focused on supporting the Africa Command (AFRICOM) Theater Security Cooperation Strategy. The third mission for the task force was ensuring the success of the East Africa Response Force (EARF).

In July 2020, upon assumption of its mission of force protection from Task Force Guardian, Task Force Bayonet immediately experienced an evolution in its primary mission by increasing its force protection footprint throughout Somalia. TFB C2 personnel provided command and control and managed base operations at BMA for over 600 personnel and 30 separate entities to include US Army, US Air Force, US Marine Corps, US Navy, and NGAs. Additionally, the task force took full ownership of all security operations of Chabelley Airfield in Djibouti as well as Manda Bay, Kenya in support of US Air Force Africa operations at both locations.

As the task force wraps up its mission, Lt. Col. Chip Rankin, the task force commander, reflected on the rich history of the main task force element, Minnesota’s 2nd Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment and how it has impacted the overall mission here in the Horn of Africa. The regiment traces its lineage back to the Civil War and the First Minnesota Volunteers who fought in the battle at Gettysburg. The pride and discipline instilled in the Soldiers of the First Minnesota Volunteers on in the Soldiers of Task Force Bayonet. “The storied legacy of the First Minnesota Infantry Regiment as witnessed at Gettysburg back in 1863; lives on today through Task Force Bayonet over an 11-month deployment serving multiple commands in a variety of security missions across multiple countries on the continent with discipline, dedication, and pride,” Rankin said. “To the Last Man!”

CHANGE OF COMMAND



www.hoa.afri.com.mil



Covid RESPONSE

Throughout the SARS-CoV 2 pandemic, CJTF-HOA, Camp Lemonnier, and all tenant and subordinate units changed the way they conducted operations to minimize the virus's impact. The introduction and enforcement of the "3 Ds," Distance, Disinfecting, and Deliberate Decision Making, coupled with masks and reduced capacity at facilities in Camp, have left it largely untouched by the pandemic. However, the command's efforts lent themselves to more than just continuing operations.

CJTF-HOA and Civil Affairs teamed up to support the Djiboutian community outside the gates to help the local population control the spread and treat those infected, highlighting the U.S. as the partner of choice in the region across all aspects of partnership. A substantial portion of the civilian workers in Camp are local residents, and helping protect them adds to the layers of defense the U.S. military leverages against this new threat to our way of life.

To date, more than \$300,000 worth of COVID mitigation supplies such as masks, gloves, sanitizer and sanitizer dispensers, and a polymerase chain reaction machine have been donated to Djiboutian hospitals and the Ministry of Health by different U.S. organizations.

Why it matters

International Partnership: The COVID pandemic is a global issue. No one country or people are protected from the economic and physical effects of the virus and how it has forced society to adapt. Working together is the only option when facing an enemy that does not recognize borders, race, or government authority.

Force Protection: The National Defense Strategy and its

implementation require a trained and ready force to support aims of the U.S. and the whole of government approach to operations in East Africa. A healthy force is a ready force, and fighting COVID is a national security issue. Aggressive contact tracing and 4% Camp population random COVID testing every week has helped minimize any potential COVID outbreak and kept the Camp operational.



U.S. Air Force Capt. Angel Nwankwo, left, 449th Air Expeditionary Group aeromedical evacuation liaison nurse officer, takes the temperature of U.S. Navy Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Mercedes Stout during a demonstration at the Michaud Expeditionary Medical Facility (EMF) at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti.



www.hoa.africom.mil



CJTF-HOA is committed to supporting its partners even in the degraded COVID-19 environment.

- 1 U.S. Army Maj. Monica Aruwah, talks about the importance of inspecting water buffalos for deterioration during a 40-hour U.S. Army Field Sanitation Training certification course at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti. Thirty-five service members from various commands across CLDJ participated in the course, and learned about a range of topics including food service and water supply sanitation, pest control, and heat injuries
- 2 CJTF-HOA Staff Judge Advocate office stepped in to provide critical training to the Armed Forces of Djibouti (FAD) Bataillon d'intervention rapide (BIR), on behalf of the Defense Institute for International Legal Studies (DIILS).
- 3 U.S. Army Maj. Ronovan Ottenbacher, deputy joint force surgeon, teaches a Battlefield Acupuncture class to Task Force Bayonet Soldiers at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti. The single-use needles are placed in zones on a patient's ear in a simple, repeatable pattern using a plastic applicator. Battlefield Acupuncture was developed in the early 2000s as a method to give rapid pain relief to troops in combat environments.
- 4 CJTF-HOA Soldiers trained a team of service members to disinfect high-usage areas around camp. The teams have begun disinfecting high traffic locations and objects like water filling stations, benches and doors at common use facilities frequently touched by multiple individuals to prevent illness.
- 5 U.S. Army Capt. Emily Van Klompenburg and U.S. Army Spc. McKayla Bouska successfully completed the French Desert Commando Course (FDCC), receiving the French Desert Commando Badge. FDCC provides U.S. service members the chance to train with their French counterparts during events, such as, obstacle courses, ruck marches through the mountains and combative training.
- 6 A U.S. Army soldier with Task Force Guardian monitors Soldiers as they participate in an Excellence in Competition (EIC) rifle match at a range in Djibouti. The Army EIC program allows soldiers to shoot pistol, rifle, or both, and those that place in the top 10 percent of qualified participants earn points toward an EIC badge in the respective disciplines. Soldiers, upon earning their first points, are authorized to wear the bronze EIC badge; at 20 points, the silver EIC badge, and once 30 points are reached, are awarded the Army's Distinguished Rifleman or Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge.

WHY IT MATTERS

Training, for both U.S. forces and CJTF-HOA's international partners, affects every aspect of day-to-day operations, including:

Health of the Force: Training all Camp Lemonnier personnel in COVID-19 mitigation tactics and sanitation helped contain the spread of the global pandemic among the CJTF-HOA team, resulting in some of the lowest infection rates of any DOD unit, and minimal mission impact.

Maintaining Interoperability: Training with multinational partners and exchanging skills/equipment familiarity ensures a flexible and lethal force across allied partnerships at the tactical level.

Building Trust: Legal and medical training with East African cohorts helps standardize and stabilize the rules of war in the AFRICOM AOR. This builds trust with the people in their own militaries that forces will fight for them with dignity and recognize the value of human rights. It will help "win with honor" and strengthen EA countries' support of the U.S. presence.

All training supports each of CJTF-HOA's four lines of effort. Whether it's developing and growing EA military leaders to support operations and access, or U.S. forces continuing to practice for rapid response, training remains the linchpin that holds CJTF-HOA together for today's mission, and prepare it for tomorrow's.



1



4



2



5



3



6

www.hoa.africom.mil

1 1st Lt. Rolando Fernandez, assigned to CJTF-HOA, defends a Djiboutian Army RIB soldier during a soccer match near Djibouti City. Soccer matches strengthen relationships between CJTF-HOA service members and RIB soldiers.

2 Civil Affairs East Africa Southern European Task Force Africa, in support of CJTF-HOA, delivered personal protective equipment to the Office of the Mayor in Djibouti City, Djibouti. The delivery included bleach, soap, sanitizer, and sanitizer dispensers, public health messaging materials, along with disinfectant sprayers to help mitigate the spread of infectious diseases.

3 Foreign liaison officers assigned to CJTF-HOA attend an informational briefing by the Civil Affairs Battalion commander. The FLOs deploy with a mission of working alongside the Americans to secure peace and stability within the region and the Horn of Africa.

4 U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Lapthe Flora, commanding general, CJTF-HOA, joined leaders from the French and Djiboutian militaries to commemorate World War 1 Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 2020. Each year, Forces Françaises stationnées à Djibouti hold a military parade to commemorate the day. This year, U.S. soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment represented the United States.

5 British Army Col. Hugh Baker, Director CJ5 Plans & Policy, CJTF-HOA, lays a wreath during a Remembrance Day ceremony at the New European Cemetery, at Djibouti City, Djibouti.

6 Civil Affairs East Africa Team, in support of CJTF-HOA, provided PPE for the National Office of Water and Sanitation (Office National De l'Eau et de L'Assainissement - ONEAD) in Djibouti City. The PPE provided consists of masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, and alcohol solution for disinfecting.

7 U.S. Army Maj. (Dr.) Mark Cunningham, 443rd Civil Affairs Battalion Functional Specialty Team (FXSP) preventive medicine veterinarian, in support of CJTF-HOA, holds a goat steady while Dr. Elmi Ali Ahmed, Ministry of Agriculture veterinarian in Damerjog, administers medicine during a veterinary exchange in the rural village of Ali Oune, Djibouti. In partnership with the Djiboutian Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries, the 443rd CA BN was able to assist the veterinarian for Damerjog, Djibouti, in providing livestock care for the people in the remote desert village.



1

8 Soldiers with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment from Minnesota, participated in a joint medical evacuation exercise with French Forces based in Djibouti, Africa, in an effort to streamline medical evacuation processes between the two partner nations.



2



3



4



5



7



6



8

Why it matters

International Cooperation: Maritime security affects the world, with 12% of all global shipping on water passing through the nearby Gulf of Aden. That is a significant portion of the global economy, and it is in everyone's best interests to work together to protect it, and the vessels traveling through.

Djibouti is strategically placed at the intersection of the Gulf and Red Sea. Additionally, the majority of trade goods in East Africa find their way

through Djibouti and on to Somalia, Ethiopia, and Kenya. Working together to keep trade routes open and conflict-free is essential to regional stability and prosperity.

Advancement: Investment in the East Africa region in the form of military training, humanitarian assistance, counter poaching operations, education, language studies, and agriculture all serve to support the advancement of society and culture in East Africa, while protecting its resources for future

www.hoa.africom.mil

generations. As the partner of choice in the region, the U.S. has contributed significantly to African-led efforts to improve quality of life, reduce disease and infant deaths due to medical and malnourishment issues, and strengthen its national defense infrastructure.

Global Impact: As technology advances and humanity becomes even more connected, partnerships are more valuable than ever. Fighting the pandemic, protecting endangered wildlife, reducing pollution and sickness,

and global security are not just U.S. problems; they are worldwide areas of concern. Progress in these areas does not happen in a vacuum. It happens through strategic partnerships, sharing technology, and teaching best practices.

CJTF-HOA has facilitated all of these initiatives with our African partners, and look forward to many more years of collaboration for a better Africa and a better world.



Octave QUARTZ

On December 5, 2020, the U.S. Government announced its plans to remove forces from Somalia and reposition them in other contingency locations throughout East Africa. Less than six weeks later, more than 1000 aircraft civilian employees, over 800 military, DOD civilian employees, and contractors were shifted in the region. Several bases in Somalia were closed or turned over to the Somali government.

The repositioning of forces in East Africa was not a withdrawal, nor did it change CJTF-HOA's partner-centric strategy in East Africa, but rather reinforces U.S. forces' ability to respond to a variety of threats to regional stability while still continuing to mentor and train East African partners.

The U.S. approach to Somalia includes diplomacy, development, and defense. Military engagement is only one part of our whole-of-government approach.

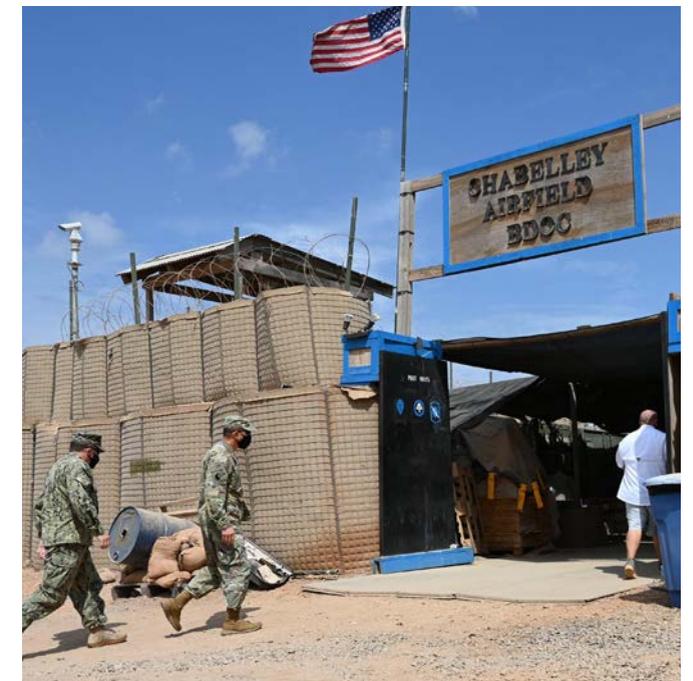
Why it matters

Regional Stability: al-Shabaab remains a threat to East Africa, U.S. interests, and the U.S. homeland. We will continue to engage with our partners to disrupt al-Shabaab and increase security throughout the region.

Partnership: The U.S. remains committed to our work in East Africa and Somalia, to include building and maintaining regional security, continuing to pressure Al Qaeda's franchise al-Shabaab, and advancing mutual interests with our African partners. We will maintain our

partnerships with the Danab through episodic engagement, intelligence sharing, and periodic advise and assist missions. While force positioning might change, our mission and relationship with our Somali partners has not.

Commitment: Our presence in Somalia has decreased significantly, but U.S. forces will remain in the region. Our tasks and commitment to partners remains unchanged. We have demonstrated an ability to respond rapidly in any region when a need arises – that remains unchanged.



www.hoa.afri.com.mil



The Way FORWARD

In 2020 and beyond CJTF-HOA will continue to work in alignment with the U.S. Administration's strategy in Africa to advance trade & commercial ties with key African partners to increase American partnership programs, from cross-border health and security threats, to supporting our African partners' progress toward stability, citizen-responsive governance and self-reliance.

As the COVID-19 vaccine is distributed to U.S. forces on the continent and operations slowly return to normal, CJTF-HOA will exercise its new, flexible force posture to reinforce our commitment to shared goals with East African nations.

In the meantime, we remain vigilant and prepared to respond to crises and protect U.S. citizens and activities in East Africa.

We are dedicated to assisting our partner nations, working by, with and through military-to-military activities and security cooperation and assistance programs.

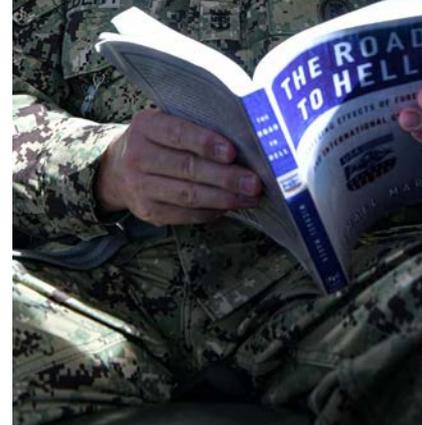
THE WAY FORWARD



www.hoa.africom.mil



“
DURING MY TIME AS COMMANDER, I HAVE SEEN THE FACE AND SHAPE OF CJTF-HOA CHANGE. THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMAND HAVE RESPONDED TO EACH CHANGE WITH FLEXIBILITY AND PROFESSIONALISM. I AM CONVINCED THEY WILL HANDLE THE NEXT STEPS SUPERBLY, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING IT HAPPEN.
 ”



www.hoa.afri.com.mil





Recommendation for COVID-19

**STAY AT HOME
WHEN SICK**



**AVOID CONTACT WITH
PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK**



**WASH HANDS OFTEN WITH
SOAP & WATER- 20 SECONDS OR LONGER**



**WEAR A FACE COVERING
WHEN GOING OUT**



**CLEAN & DISINFECT
"HIGH-TOUCH"
SURFACES OFTEN**



COMBINED JOINT TASK FORCE

HORN OF AFRICA PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Director: Master Sgt. Mike Andriacco, USAF

Deputy Director: Staff Sgt. Dustin Jordan, ARNG

Chief Petty Officer Elisandro T. Diaz, USN

Production Chief: Tech Sgt. Dana J. Cable, USAF

Photojournalist: Staff Sgt. Brandon L. Julson, ARNG

Broadcast Journalist: Senior Airman Kristan Savage, USAF

Graphic Designer: Staff Sgt. Brandon L. Julson, ARNG

CONTACT US

africom.lemonnier.hoa-pao.mbx.public-affairs@mail.mil

VISIT US

www.hoa.africom.mil

<https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/CJTFHOA>

www.facebook.com/cjtfhornofafrica

www.twitter.com/cjtfhoa

www.instagram.com/cjtfhoa

www.flickr.com/photos/144399112@N05



Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti
COMBINED JOINT TASK FORCE -- HORN OF AFRICA

