



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*Updated 3 March 2010*

*Please refer questions to MARSOC Public Affairs  
910-440-0705*

## **1. How many people are currently assigned to MARSOC?**

A1. As of 28 February 2010, there were 1,965 Marines, 180 Sailors, and 124 civilians assigned to MARSOC. This is a total of 2271 personnel.

## **2. What is the overall mission of MARSOC?**

A2. U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command (MARSOC), as the U.S. Marine Corps Component of U.S. Special Operations Command, trains, organizes, equips and, when directed by the Commander, USSOCOM, deploys task-organized, scalable and responsive U.S. Marine Corps Special Operations Forces in support of Combatant Commanders and other agencies.

## **3. What types of missions do MARSOC operators conduct?**

A3. MARSOC forces are unique warrior-diplomats that are able to operate across the spectrum of force. They are experts in utilizing the right force at the right time with the right effect. MARSOC forces provide Foreign Internal Defense (FID), special reconnaissance, and direct action capabilities to commanders. In other words, MARSOC Marines often train host-nation military groups, gather information about the enemy, and engage the enemy with lethal force when necessary.

## **4. Is there a minimum PFT score required to submit a package to MARSOC?**

A4. A minimum current PFT score of 225 (regardless of age) is required to attend Assessment and Selection.

## **5. Will an assignment to MARSOC negatively affect my promotion and retention in the Marine Corps?**

A5. No. The training and experience acquired during an assignment to MARSOC will make you highly competitive for promotion and retention.

## **6. What is required to become assigned to MARSOC?**

A6. There are a number of prerequisites required for service at MARSOC. These vary based on the type of billet to which an individual is assigned. All of the prerequisites for the various types of billets can be viewed on the MARSOC website under the "Recruiting" tab on the navigation bar. Simply click on "Step 1" and then on the prerequisite list for the type of billet in which you are interested.

**7. Where will you be stationed if you are assigned to MARSOC?**

A7. Marines assigned to MARSOC will primarily be stationed at Camp Lejeune, NC, or Camp Pendleton, CA. MARSOC is headquartered at Camp Lejeune. The Marine Special Operations Regiment, the MARSOC Intelligence Battalion, and two of the three Marine Special Operations Battalions are also located at Camp Lejeune. 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Special Operations Battalion is located at Camp Pendleton, CA. However, MARSOC personnel may be deployed around the world.

**8. What is the typical length of a duty assignment with MARSOC?**

A8. Critical Skills Operators have a minimum tour requirement of 5 years. Tour length for company grade officers is four years in addition to completing ITC. Field grade officers have a tour length of three years.

**9. Do all MARSOC Marines become receive SCUBA and Airborne training?**

A9. No. However, critical skills operators may qualify for advanced training and certifications in areas such as Airborne, SCUBA, language, and emergency medical care based on future assignments.

**10. What type of Marine will be successful at MARSOC?**

A10. Successful special operations personnel possess an essential combination of maturity, mental agility, physical strength, and motivation. These warriors tend to be slightly older than the military population in general.

**11. Is MARSOC only open to infantry or combat arms specialties (MOSs)?**

A11. No. Service at MARSOC is open to all Military Occupational Specialties.