00:00:00:00 - 00:00:17:07

First name, Don aild last name. FDR G uso n I. Sir, would you tell me your current rank and your job, Command Sergeant Major? Current job is the Senior Analyst Advisor to the CG of Security Force Assistance Command.

00:00:17:07 - 00:00:39:00

What is the most impressive thing about security force assistance brigades? The most impressive thing about security force assistance brigades is, I think, their reach and their strategic influence. In the grand scheme of things and, you know, just supporting the Army and the DOD in general.

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What challenges are unique to an SE fab versus the conventional army?

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The challenges we have that are unique to the fabs are a lot of times our teams, you know, our mantra is one team, one capital, one country. So we have a lot of advisors out in very remote parts of the world where there may not be other DOD assets or partner or sister sister service support available.

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So it makes the planning and prioritizing of this difficult is probably not the right word. Challenging is probably a better word

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that said that. So like we've had a lot of people say that, but it's it's kind of come in a little. Fantastic. Yeah, very direct. Can you tell me a little bit about how fabs operate during competition, crisis and conflict?

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So as fabs operate, operating in competition are usually aligned with HCC or HCC or GCC Combatant Command's priorities in their theater campaign plans. So basically the teams go out the fab, whether it's a task force battalion, you know, maneuver advisor team and they go to the places where the commanding general of that area wants them to go and basically do whatever they want them to do, as long as it's within the, you know, the the authorities that they have and they're very aware of all that.

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So in the you know, in the in the crisis phase is where it gets a little different. They you know, obviously, they take their commands from the ground commanders in those areas and in the conflict phase is where it gets very interesting because that conflict is probably not always well defined on what their duties are and concerns. So that's one of the things we've been working on at the at the headquarters, The command headquarters is what that looks like.

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And it could be a very ambiguous environment. And we just try to get after as many of what we think may happen to get them prepared for when you know, it does happen, If it happens.

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So this is a question that I know that it's interesting what Hill has to say on this was really interesting. If the US were at war, what capabilities would to bring to the table

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within the scope and spectrum of where they're at and the package they're in on that team, they would bring whatever our partner or wherever the combatant commander needs them to bring IEEE Communications Area, you know, access area denial.

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It may be something more kinetic, it may be something less kinetic. So that's what I think we bring in that aspect.

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Phil Great.

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Okay. What are what are the characteristics of a good ASVAB advisor?

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I think the most important to me, just my personal opinion is your, you know, you can always say courage, candor, competence. But, but I think the most important aspect is, is just a good person, a good advisor is someone that is trustworthy, that can they can share trust both ways.

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Can you tell me a little bit I know you're moving from the six month to the eight month rotation. Can you tell me a little bit about like how that eight month and then eight month and eight month

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works? So with the eight month removed from the six, six, 6 to 8, eight, eight, eight. So we're based on the foundational phase where we go through our basic tasks, which to me is twofold.

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You learn your basic tasks that every soldier advisor needs to know, but it also gives you an extra two months while they're going through those tasks to build that team. It also gives you more time to build that team and to do those tasks and also go to the combat Advisor training course and any medical courses we may need you to go to.

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So what it also does with the eight month with the collective phase is it gives you more time to plan and execute that collective exercise as if you will, validation, mission readiness, exercise that will also help build the team over that time. And it also gives you a little bit extra time to go back and do anything that someone that may have came in a little bit late can go back and knock out some of that training or collective avenues of approach that we need to do.

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Can we do this question again? Yeah. This time, instead of you give us a great reason going from 6 to 8, which can be a very clear piece that we use. But for the film to make it more evergreen, let's approach it as if, you know, today it's eight month and that's how it's going to be. So, you know, what I really loved about your answer was how you describe the three that work.

00:05:30:17 - 00:05:43:23

The first two. Because I think you call them by their their phases or whatever it's called. And I don't think I've heard somebody say those names. So can we do this question again? Tell me about the eight. What is that? What

00:05:43:23 - 00:06:16:20

the. Okay with regards to the eight eight model? We have the first phase, which is the collect the study. With regards to the eight day model, we have our first phase, which doesn't change the length is the only thing that changes was the foundational training phase where we welcome in the advisors to the units, to the brigades, and they go through the warrior task in battle drills, communication training, medical training, advisor training, and all the things that they're going to need to do as a foundation to where we're aligned across all six fabs.

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Then we'll move to the collective phase where all that training is put together in a collective manner, whether it's a CTC rotation, the operation combined victory. Any other training that you know, a late comer may have needed to have, they can go back and do that basically just gives us the flexibility to get everything we need to get done in that phase.

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And as we move to the employment phase, which is also an eight month phase, what it does down range or in the respective countries they're at, is it gives them more time with our partners. So there's more time to build trust, there's more time to train up what our partners need

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to do. This one wasn't a script, but I'm sure you know this.

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Can you just tell me a little bit about the brand? I want to know. They're so cool and I want to know, like, why? Why the.

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So the brown beret has its origins in when they stood up the fabs. There was a lot of talk on what the beret should look like and kind of to show the difference and what an advisor is.

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So the brown beret, the brown represents the dirt, the earth, boots on the ground, boots on the ground in the countries throughout the world that we're partners with. So sort of the salt of the earth type thing where we're partnering with our partners at the ground level on the at the human level dimension of establishing trust and walking them through whatever, you know, the training progression that they need.

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if you were recruiting somebody to come join you here, what would you tell them?

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I would explain our mission and what's expected of them and make sure they understood everything that we would want them to do if they come here.

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What I don't want is someone with a specific M.O. as to comes here. The things they're just going to do that I'm always these teams are small. We're going to wear multiple hats on the teams. You might be an intel advisor, you might be a medic, but you also might be running a live fire range, things that they wouldn't normally do in the other conventional forces out in the army.

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So I would want a, you know, a multi-talented NCO or officer to come here and understand that understand that challenge and are willing to accept that challenge.

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I love that. Great answer, Excellency. What would you track in a time? What what would you say are the biggest external challenges that have had space?

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The biggest external challenges that I think the fabs face are that we're always in the spotlight, where a good analogy I'd like to to to use is, you know, a soldier in a in a force comm unit does something that probably they're not supposed to.

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And you know, it's it's not a good thing but there's processes and procedures that we go through the Uniform Code of Military Justice to to make sure that's right. I think one of the problems that we face is that it's exemplified with us or excuse me, amplified with us in where we're where that unfortunate occurrence might take place.

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So I tell my advisors, look, you're you're you're not only representing First Battalion, first ASVAB, you're representing our entire country When when when something goes wrong, you know, that probably shouldn't happen, which goes back to our lengthening the foundational phase and lengthening the collective phase to where we can go through there and build those teams and weed out folks that just aren't cut out for this.

00:09:48:22 - 00:10:08:14

Perfect. Have you deployed before with as well? I have not deployed as far as deploying with an s fabs in our job. You know, General Hill and I being the force providers this is my first time in an S fab organization. It's not his first. He has a lot more experience in it. Other than our battlefield circulation throughout the different COCOM throughout the world.

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I have not deployed on an advisory mission

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or this is the one I to which is not out of the park here. Why does the US Army need s

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fans? The US Army needs S That's because we build readiness for the brigade combat teams. When you can send a 12 person s fab team into a country as opposed to a battalion, a brigade, or a battalion task force on a RAF mission, well, you get about a nine, ten, 11 to 1 ratio of that brigade, that BCT being able to stay where it's at transferred train for its mission should at least go occur and not have to break up and go do this other mission.

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So that that's the I think that's the most important thing that aspect that we bring to the army and readiness as a whole. So you said RAF mission regionally allied forces,

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right? Yeah, we got about 5 minutes. What are the advantages to being regionally aligned?

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I think the advantages to be regionally aligned are the the relationship is enduring with the the the brigade or the battalion.

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It's aligned with whatever COCOM or SCC they're a part of. It's not a one and done. And even when you do switch out teams there's reach back to the brigade and there's healthy conversations of people that know each other and they know what they're going into and what to look out for and how to enable that relationship.

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Perfect.

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You have, sir, have you become have you been deployed before besides this?

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Yes. My first deployment was in 93 to Somalia, then 99 to Kuwait, 0506 to Iraq and 0809 to Afghanistan.

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which is, what is something that we should know about as fabs that we haven't talked about yet here at this point.

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I think one of the things that they are that the population throughout the Army in general should know about the fabs is we're not we're when we get an adviser in for two, three, four years and it alludes back to my point on them having multiple hands, if you will, doing multiple jobs, getting medical training. They wouldn't normally get getting communications training.

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They wouldn't normally get what you're going to get back is a is an individual, an NCO, an officer that deals well within a tolerance for ambiguity can be trusted on a small team in a country across the ocean. And when you get that back to you know if they go back to another force comm unit, I don't know that that could be replicated.

00:12:58:01 - 00:13:02:12

Other than in an s fab. As far as conventional forces go.

00:13:02:12 - 00:13:10:01

Campaign today to win tomorrow. One more time. Campaign today to win tomorrow. It's good

00:13:10:01 - 00:13:16:23

ready, victorious together one more time. Victorious together like that.