



**UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND**  
**OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER**  
7701 TAMPA POINT BOULEVARD  
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 33621-5323

Welcome to Headquarters, U.S. Special Operations Command (HQ USSOCOM) and the beautiful Tampa Bay area. Barbara and I would like to extend our most heartfelt welcome as you join our team of truly dedicated professionals.

Our mission guides us every day to provide strategic options for our national leaders and the Geographic Combatant Commanders we support through a global network that fully integrates our military, interagency, and international partners. Our nation expects that Special Operation Forces will have the people, capabilities, and access to accomplish our most pressing problems now and in the future. The American people view us as the tip of the spear. Your duties will contribute to helping meet expectations and accomplishing our mission.

For those of you with family members, know that the HQ USSOCOM team believes that supporting families is a crucial part of our success, and we consider taking care of our families one of our highest priorities.

Due to the nature of HQ USSOCOM's mission, there will be deployments and periods of separation. We understand the stress this puts on our people and their families, and being new to the Command and the Tampa Bay area compounds the stress. As you start to face these challenges, we encourage you to seek out our Force and Family Readiness Program (FFRP) resources at [socomfrg@socom.mil](mailto:socomfrg@socom.mil). Your FFRP strives to link formal and informal networks to provide support and assistance. I encourage you to take advantage of all the programs designed to provide information, support, and outreach.

HQ USSOCOM is honored to have you on the team. I hope this assignment will be full of rewarding experiences for you and your family. Our people make this organization special, and we are proud to have you on our team. Thank you for your service and dedication to USSOCOM and our nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond A. Thomas III", is positioned above the typed name.

Raymond A. Thomas III  
General, U. S. Army  
Commander