

Sovereign Challenge event with BG (Ret) Hector Pagan, Former SOCSOUTH CG

On Thursday, May 21, 2020, the Sovereign Challenge team and the Security Cooperation section conducted a conversation with BG (Ret) Pagan on the “TSOC commander perspective” and how the Sovereign Challenge program can benefit and support the TSOCs’ mission.

BG Pagan highlighted the importance of relationships by expressing “that is the name of the game”. Furthermore, he stressed how SOF needs to go back to what makes SOF unique and enabling their core mission conducting operations by, with, and through our allies and partners. BG Pagan stated how the program would of assisted him if he was aware of its full capabilities when he was the SOCSOUTH Commander. He continued how TSOC commanders answer both to the GCC and SOCOM CGs all the while balancing both. He also explained how TSOCs commanders are tasked to do more with less, and as a result, commanders are more reserve with their OPCON resources. BG Pagan spoke about the understanding of regional politics and how such can make or break a mission or deal. He suggested that we open the aperture more to include not only up and coming SOF officers but also conventional forces and civilian as well. BG Pagan asked to be added to the Sovereign Challenge distro list and would be inclined to assist with future endeavors within the Sovereign Challenge program.