



UNUSUAL  
SUSPECTS

# Donovan Group

## 2016

The Donovan Group is USSOCOM J5's dedicated future studies initiative under the direction of the Director, Strategy Plans and Policy. It focuses on developing future-oriented ideas to inform enterprise development of strategy, capabilities, doctrine, concepts, training, and other government agencies and private industry as appropriate. The Group's thinking about SOF and the future should be unconstrained, but make realistic recommendations.

Specifically, the Donovan Group concentrates on those areas that are innovative, challenge conventional wisdom, are currently undeserved, or offer potentially high payoff for SOF.

## Event Outcomes

1. First Futures Group Meeting (4 Nov) - agreed to monthly AO-level meetings to coordinate SOCOM futures-related groups and efforts
2. First Futures Executive Steering Committee (29 Sep) - agreed to quarterly meetings to guide the multiple SOCOM futures-related groups and initiatives
3. Barbaricum Strategy Review (9 Nov) - meeting to refine a year-long study examining radical technologies and their potential impact on SOF operations in the mid-future (5-15 years)
4. Middle East North Africa (MENA) simulation (led by Joint Staff Strategic Multilayer Analysis (SMA)) (24-26 Oct) - wargame exploring the Gray Zone
5. Secure Drop Proposal (multiple meetings) - ongoing initiative to implement an innovative method for concerned individuals to report issues of concern
6. CENTCOM Combined Strategic Analysis Group (CSAG) (monthly meetings) - agreed to meet every 4-6 weeks to discuss and analyze topics of mutual interest
7. Center for Naval Analysis - agreed to continued and ongoing collaboration