

Command Chapter LX
The Richard J. Meadows Memorial
Chapter
Special Forces Association

P.O. Box 6515
MacDill AFB, FL 33608-0515



Constitution
As Amended 1 January 1999

**Command Chapter LX
Richard J. Meadows Memorial Chapter
Special Forces Association
P.O. Box 6515
MacDill AFB, Florida 33608-0515**

**CONSTITUTION
PREAMBLE**

This Constitution is written solely in support of the National Constitution, Special Forces Association, dated 1 April 1993, and subsequent amendments. Nothing contained herein is to be construed or interpreted as being in contravention with the National Constitution, Special Forces Association. Should any controversy arise, resulting in an inability to be resolved by a majority vote of the chapter membership, the specific point of contention of the Chapter Constitution will be declared null and void, and the National Constitution shall prevail. Points of contention considered to be beyond local resolution shall be referred to the National Board, Special Forces Association for adjudication.

This Chapter Constitution was originally published on 1 December 1993, effective 1 January 1994; and was later amended, effective 1 January 1996. This second amendment is effective 1 January 1999.

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**Command Chapter LX
The Richard J. Meadows Memorial Chapter
Special Forces Association**

CONSTITUTION

1 January 1994

(As amended 1 January 1996)

ARTICLE I

Name and Charter Membership

The Command Chapter LX, SFA was activated on 1 January 1994. The name was changed effective 20 November 1995, on the 25th Anniversary of the Son Tay Raid. In memory of the distinguished assault team leader of that raid, the chapter was renamed the Command Chapter LX, The Richard J. Meadows Memorial Chapter.

Section II. Charter Membership. The Command Chapter LX was activated on 1 January 1994 in accordance with National SFA Constitution dated 4 July 1983, modified 1 April 1993, with the following charter membership:

Anschuetz, Bud	Irzyk, Andrew L.	Moran, James E. (D)
Arnold, John E.	Jackson, Andrew	Nguyen, Lucy *
Avena, Robert A.	Justice, Chester R.	Nishimura, Rodney*
Bargren, Clayton A.	Katzenback, C.B.C	Ornburn, Frank M.*
Barker, Geoffrey T.	Kessler, David E.	Pierce, Mike
Berger, Raymond K	Kilgore, Joe E.	Pere, Richard J. Sr.*
Bradish, Warren (D)	Kizer, John O.	Plant, John M.
Brown, Kent H.	Knickerbocker, W.E	Ramos, Albert Jr.
Childress, Alan R	Koessick, Michael	Ryan, Robert
Childs, Sylvia	Kosloff, Daniel F.	Schaffnit, Vilas W.
Cox, Donald H.	Kozak, Gerard M.	Sipanzi, Vahan
Cox, John R.	Landers, Paul W.	Smerz, Richard W.
Dietrich, Joseph K.	Lauten, Tatlock	Sweat, Michael H.
Downing, Gen W. A.	Lawrence, Paul	Swisher, Richard E.
Dunlap, Lee C.	Lewis, Thomas F. Iii	Szeliga, Andrew D.
Fedkow, Walter	Loesekann, Michael	Tangey, Bg Wm. P.
Ford, Wesley W.	Longhany, Gary A.	Tarbox, Thomas N.*
Fuller, Jeffrey D.	Lovett, W.T.	Taylor, Thomas J.*
Harris, Andrew J.*	Lum, Tom	Taylor, William L.
Hendrickson	Lutz, Mg Joseph C. (D)	Thomas, Reese D.
Herndon, P.M. (Mitch)	Marble, Robert	Walsh, Michael J.*
Hilton, Corson L. Iii (D)	Maroney, Timothy	Webb, Edward D.*
Hughes, William F.	Mcmillan, Earl D.	Westfall, Edward H.
Hunter, Hugh	Meloy, James R.	Wiegner, John N.
Avery, James C.	Metzler, Larry E.	Woodard, Gary
	Moody, John W. * (D)	Yates, George E.*
	*Associate Member	(D) Deceased Member

ARTICLE II Authority

Command Chapter LX was constituted on 14 September 1993 in accordance with Article IX (Chapters), of the National Constitution, and activated on 1 January 1994.

ARTICLE III Purpose

The purposes for the formation of the Special Forces Association are:

- A. To unite fraternally all persons who are now or have been assigned to the United States Army Special Forces.
- B. To perpetuate the traditions of Special Forces.
- C. To fittingly commemorate the memory of Special Forces troops who have given, or shall give, their lives in defense of the free world.
- D. To educate the members and citizens of the United States in the proper development of Special Forces and to keep them abreast of new developments in the Special Forces arena, as is consistent with applicable security regulations.
- E. To assist in keeping Special Forces units adequate and powerful for the defense of the United States and the Free World by supporting the enhancement of Special Forces' relationship with the rest of the Army and other Services.
- F. To encourage camaraderie and mutual support between every member of the Association.
- G. To forward and promote the general welfare and prosperity and status of the members by all lawful means.
- H. To be a source of inspiration and Esprit de Corps for all Special Forces.

ARTICLE IV Membership

Section I. Types of Membership.

There are four types of individual membership: Member, Associate Member, Honorary Member, and Chapter LX Honorary Member.

Section II. Qualification for types of Membership.

A. General. No one will be barred from membership because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or political affiliation, except when that affiliation advocates and expresses the overthrow of the U. S. Government by overt or covert means. The National Membership Committee may refuse application from anyone believed to be inimical to the Association's purpose.

B. Member. Membership may be granted to any member or former member of the U.S. Special Forces, to include the U.S. Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve, who has been legally awarded a Special Forces prefix, suffix, or MOS; and, if discharged, has received an Honorable Discharge. Service with the 1st SSF, OSS, and UNPICK-8240 of Korea also is recognized. There are no time requirements for general membership.

1. Member with Decader Status. Decader membership recognition may be granted to a member meeting the requirements as outlined in paragraph B of this Section, and who has at least ten (10) years cumulative service in Special Forces assignments or a combination of Special Forces service and Association membership. Service and membership need not be consecutive. Members may apply for Decader status upon reaching the ten (10) year service or combination criteria. For example, a member with four years in Special Forces assignments (including PCS in conjunction with SF duty), and six years as a member of the Association, has a total of ten years countable toward Decader status.

2. Life Member. The National Membership Committee may grant Life Membership to a member in good standing upon written application to the Association and submission of the appropriate fees.

C. Associate Member. Associate Membership may be granted to a person not meeting the membership requirements of paragraph B of this Section, but who has contributed significantly to the mission accomplishment of Special Forces or its lineage. Applications for Associate membership are subject to the approval of the Chapter Membership Committee and the National Membership Committee. Members of Ranger units of WWII and the Ranger Companies of Korea are recognized for Associate membership. Widows of former SFA members and the immediate family of Special Forces personnel killed in action (KIA) are eligible for Associate membership.

D. Honorary Member. The National Membership Committee, upon majority approval of a quorum present of the entire Association Board of Officers, may confer Honorary membership upon a person who has contributed significantly to Special Forces, or who clearly would lend prestige to the membership. Honorary membership is normally in effect for life, however exceptions are the Commander, Special Forces Command, who receives an Honorary Membership as Honorary President, SFA; and the Commander in Chief, US. Special Operations Command, who holds the position of Honorary President, Command Chapter LX, The Richard J. Meadows Memorial Chapter. Honorary status is not

granted to persons qualified to be regular or associate members, with the above two exceptions.

E. Chapter LX Honorary Member. The chapter, upon majority approval of a quorum present of the chapter board of elected officers, may confer Chapter LX Honorary membership upon a person who has contributed significantly to the Command Chapter LX, The Richard J. Meadows Memorial Chapter, or who clearly would lend prestige to the membership. Honorary membership is normally in effect for life, but may be cancelled by a majority approval of a quorum present of the chapter's elected Board of Officers. The Chapter Honorary LX Member may attend any meetings or social gatherings of the chapter and will receive the chapter newsletter, *The Tip of the Spear*. Honorary Chapter membership does not confer any of the rights and privileges inherent in full Special Forces Association membership.

Section III. Rights and Privileges of Types of Membership.

A. Universal Rights. Individual members, regardless of type, may, at the membership rate, attend any meetings, convention, or social gathering sponsored by the Association or its chapters. They may contribute ideas and suggestions which may further the purpose of the Association. They may wear their lapel pin, Green Beret with the Association Flash and Gold Badge of Courage, and other emblems or devices approved by the Association. They may carry the Association membership card and receive publications. They may display flags, signs, banners, and other items that have been sanctioned by the Association.

B. Voting Rights. Voting members are members in good standing, except Honorary Members. They may vote on any matter submitted to the membership by any media, or during Association meetings at which the attendant member's vote is requested.

C. Office Holding Rights. A member must meet those prerequisites as outlined in Article IV (Membership), paragraph B (Qualifications for types of Membership) to be elected as a chapter officer. All members, including Associate and Honorary members, may serve on any chapter committee or any appointed ad-hoc body. Chapter members in good standing may deal with any deviations from this paragraph on an individual basis by a majority vote on the issue

Section IV. Obligations of Membership. By acceptance of the Association and chapter Certificates of Membership, each member agrees to abide by the governing documents, work toward achievement of its purpose, and act in accordance with its precepts. A member who fails to do so may have his/her membership suspended or revoked.

Section V. Admission to Membership.

A. Membership (General). An individual applies for membership using an official Membership Application Form. The application is submitted through Chapter LX to the Association, thus enabling the chapter to secure full credit. The Chapter Treasurer submits the application and appropriate dues to National Headquarters for approval. National Headquarters will place the applicant on the chapter's rolls. The Treasurer provides a copy of the application to the Editor of the chapter newsletter. Documentary proof of qualification for membership is required and must be validated by a witness who is a current member in good standing. The witness attests to the validity of the applicant by signing and dating the Membership Application Form. The Association Membership Committee retains the right to reject the application of a person whose activities are considered not to be in the best interest of the Association.

B. Life Membership. A member in good standing may request Life Membership by submitting a written request accompanied by \$300.00 dues, subject to approval by the National Membership Committee.

C. Honorary Membership. Chapters or members may propose candidates for Honorary Membership through written recommendation to the National Membership Committee, citing specific examples of why the candidate may contribute or add prestige to the Association and Special Forces. Following deliberation and approval, the Association will confer Honorary Membership status upon the individual.

D. Chapter LX Honorary Membership. Chapter LX members may propose candidates for Chapter LX honorary membership through written recommendation to the chapter board of elected officers, citing specific examples of why the candidate may contribute or add prestige to the chapter. Following deliberation and approval by the board of elected officers, Chapter LX will confer Chapter LX Honorary Membership status upon the individual.

Section VI. Appeals Panel. An applicant who is refused membership to the Special Forces Association may appeal in writing to an Appeals Panel consisting of the National Association Officers or a quorum thereof. The decision of the chapter elected Board of Officers is final in the case of chapter honorary membership applications.

Section VII. Termination of Membership.

A. Membership in the Association is terminated through resignation, expulsion, or non-payment of dues. For information on non-payment of dues see Article IV (Membership), Section IX (Dues and Fees). Expulsion of chapter members will be the duty of the elected chapter officers. Expulsion of members-at-large will be

the responsibility of the National Headquarters, under the jurisdiction of a five-member panel appointed by the National President.

B. Resignation of membership must be submitted in writing, through the Chapter President to the Association President. Upon receipt, the Chapter President will present the resignation to the chapter officers at the next scheduled meeting. Upon approval of the resignation, one copy will be affixed to and permanently attached to the next chapter minutes, and forwarded to National Headquarters.

C. Falsification or misrepresentation in an application; violation of Article IV (Membership), Section IV (Obligations of Membership); or any arbitrary actions, deeds, or behavior by a member, which brings discredit, humiliation, or embarrassment upon the Association or the chapter, shall be grounds for expulsion. If an officer or member's conduct warrants a chapter vote to support appropriate action, the President or Vice President for Operations will appoint a special committee to hear and review the case. The member must be served a statement personally or by registered mail of the charges against him, specifying the time and place of a special committee hearing, to be received at least ten days prior to the hearing. The accused will be allowed to confront his accusers. His non-appearance following receipt of due notice may result in a motion being passed in his absence to appoint a replacement (if the accused holds office), and/or to change his status from Command Chapter LX 'member' to 'member at large', if so warranted. The special committee recommendation must be sustained or modified by a quorum vote of the chapter officers. The results of the special committee's recommendations and the approved motion of the chapter will be forwarded to the National President, Special Forces Association. Appeals are made only through the National Administrator to the National President, Special Forces Association, P.O. Box 41436, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28309-1436. An expelled member forfeits all dues and fees paid prior to expulsion.

D. Member(s) undergoing investigation under activities in para C (above) will be suspended from all Association activities. Once suspended for investigation under activities in para C (above), resignations will not be accepted in lieu of expulsion.

E. A suspended or expelled member may request a hearing before the National Appeals Panel. Any reports from investigations, or other written reports, documents, tapes, and any other information or witnesses must be provided and made available in their entirety to the Appeals Panel. The judgement of the Appeals Panel is final.

Section VIII. Any member whose current dues are not paid before the expiration of the grace period provided by this Constitution is a lapsed member. A lapsed member is no longer a member in good standing and forfeits all membership rights and privileges until such time as he/she is reinstated, as provided in Article IV (Membership), Section III (Universal Rights).

Section IX. Dues and Fees.

A. Member Dues. Annual dues (currently \$25.00), as set by the Association officers and published in the Membership Application, are payable on 31 December for the ensuing calendar year. Members, who fail to pay their dues within the grace period of thirty days following 31 December, are automatically declared 'lapsed members'. New members and annual dues paying members whom submit their dues or application fees after 1 October, are credited with dues paid through the following calendar year. All monies for new members must be submitted with membership applications, and are returned if the application is not accepted. Honorary members are not required to pay dues.

B. Application Fee. An application fee (currently \$5.00) is payable upon application, together with the \$25.00 membership fee. The Association may suspend this fee for membership drives or approved functions. Honorary members are not required to pay application fees.

C. Life Membership Fee. A member in good standing can obtain a Life Membership by paying a fee (currently \$300.00), and the Association Membership Committee approves his/her application. The fee is returned if the application is not accepted. A qualified applicant may obtain Life Membership by payment of regular installments to the Chapter Treasurer, to be completed during one calendar year.

D. Reinstatement Fee. A member who fails to pay his/her annual renewal dues within the 30 day grace period, and who subsequently wishes to be readmitted into the Association, must pay a reinstatement fee (currently \$5.00), in addition to annual dues of \$25.00. For limited periods or in individual cases, the reinstatement fee may be waived as the National Association officers may direct. For example, members deployed in support of contingency missions during the renewal period may have their reinstatement fees waived.

**ARTICLE V
Powers and Constraints**

Section I. Powers. The Powers of the chapter reside in its members. These powers are exercised on behalf of the membership by the elected governing body, the Chapter Board of Officers, of which a quorum will not be less than three-quarters, of which one must be the President or a Vice President. Expenditures up to an amount of \$200.00 may be approved by a quorum of the elected governing body. Expenditures in excess of \$200.00 must be approved by a general membership vote.

Section II. Constraints. The chapter is a non-profit, non-sectarian, and non-partisan organization. It cannot endorse or disparage a commercial enterprise, a political platform, or candidate for political office (other than candidates for SFA office).

Section III. Use of Name. The Association and chapter names, insignia, title of the Association publication (the Drop), chapter Web Site, or chapter newsletter (Tip of the Spear), and other distinguishing items, singly or in combination, may be used only by persons authorized by the Association, and for Association purposes. The membership list shall not be made available for commercial reasons.

ARTICLE VI Officers and Chapter Representatives

Section I. Chapter Officers. Elected chapter officers will govern for a two-year term, commencing on 1 January of even-numbered years. Elections will be announced prior to, and held bi-annually during the month of November of odd-numbered years. Election will be based upon a majority of votes cast during the electoral period. The installation of officers will occur during the winter Annual Richard J. Meadows Banquet. Chapter officers serve without compensation, but the chapter president, with the approval of the majority of the elected chapter officers, may authorize expenses for the conduct of chapter business. The voting officers are the five elected members: President, Vice President for Operations, Vice President for Support, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section II. Appointed Officers. The President will appoint members in good standing, who have agreed to serve, to the positions of Sergeant-at-Arms, National Representative, Chaplain, Veterans' Affairs Representative, Active Duty Issues Representative, Web Site Administrator, Newsletter Editor, and Coordinator of the Education Assistance Program.

Section III. Chapter Business. A chapter member in good standing will be appointed as the Chapter National Representative. He will maintain close coordination with National Headquarters to present chapter views, and to remain abreast of Association policy and activities. This will not prevent chapter officers from contacting National Headquarters as required.

Section IV. Duties of Chapter Officers.

A. President. The President exercises general supervision over chapter affairs; calls meetings, presides over chapter meetings; and is an ex-officio member of all chapter committees. He will:

1. Preside as host at all chapter functions, and makes presentations on behalf of the chapter.
2. Represent the chapter at all chapter-participating functions, and at activities to enhance the chapter and membership.
3. Introduce events sponsored by the chapter.
4. Appoint and fill vacancies of all ad-hoc or special committees.
5. Provide an Annual Report of chapter and fiscal activities to SFA National Headquarters by 15 February of each year.

B. Vice President for Operations. The Vice President for Operations assumes the duties as the Chapter President in the absence of the President. He will assume duties as the President in the event the elected President vacates his office prior to scheduled termination of his tenure. He will conduct appropriate close coordination with the Vice President for Support in all matters pertaining to chapter operations. He will perform all duties as the President may assign. He will:

1. Receive all committee reports, and advise the President as required.
2. Serve as Director of Plans and Programs, specifically identifying Plans and Programs that will provide for an orderly chapter expansion.
3. Chair the Chapter Constitution Committee.
4. Chair the Chapter Membership Committee.

C. Vice President for Support. The Vice President for Support is the Chief Logistical Officer, with the responsibility for coordinating supporting requirements for the chapter. He will:

1. Receive reports from all committees, and advise the President, as necessary.
2. Coordinate all social functions of the chapter.
3. Report, in coordination with the Vice President for Operations, all activities necessary for coordination in support of chapter activities.
4. Audit the activities of the Chapter Treasurer during January of each year, and submit the written results to the officers, and an oral report to the membership at the next scheduled meeting.

D. Secretary. The Secretary is the chief administrative officer of the chapter, with responsibilities for maintaining all records and files. He will:

1. Keep the minutes of all chapter meetings, and provide copies of such to each of the elected officers and a copy to National Headquarters within five working days of each meeting.
2. Prepare, as required, official correspondence, sign official documents and maintain records for availability to the chapter President or elected representatives, and perform other duties as assigned by the President.
3. Serve as reviewer for all Chapter membership applications, providing copies to the Treasurer (with appropriate dues), and to the Newsletter Editor.

4. Maintain the chapter historical file, and in December of each year prepare an annual summary of the preceding twelve months' events for forwarding to National Headquarters.

E. Treasurer. The Treasurer is the fiscal officer of the chapter, and is responsible for supervising all fiscal operations. He will:

1. Direct all fiscal activities relevant to the use of chapter funds.
2. Accept all chapter monies, maintaining accurate accounts.
3. Maintain books and records to be available for inspection by the President, Vice President for Support, or auditor as directed.
4. Maintain and prepare an annual accountability of all chapter finances for the Annual Report (due to SFA National HQs by 15 February of each year. Ensure that the chapter financial records are available for audit Vice President for Support.
5. Authorize disbursements in accordance with chapter vote or executive committee (for amounts up to and including \$200.00).
6. Function as the principal signatory of chapter checks, ensuring that all chapter checks are co-signed by designated elected officers.
7. Maintain and prepare a monthly Treasurer's Report to be provided to the chapter officers and newsletter editor.

F. Sergeant-at-Arms. The Sergeant-at-Arms is responsible for maintaining order at chapter meetings. He will:

1. Post and retrieve the colors as required at chapter functions.
2. Ensure only authorized personnel attend meetings, and request to see membership cards of any attendees he does not recognize.

G. National Representative. The National Representative maintains close coordination and liaison with SFA National Headquarters. He will:

1. Advise the chapter officers of member status changes.
2. Advise the Chapter President of all changes to National policy, doctrine, and general activities that may affect chapter operations.

H. Chaplain. The Chapter Chaplain will serve as the spiritual guidance officer for chapter functions. He will:

1. Offer the Invocation at chapter functions.
2. Direct the visitation of the chapter to sick and deceased members.
3. Console the members and families of members in distress.

I. Veterans' Affairs Representative. The Veterans' Affairs Representative will keep abreast of issues of interest to veterans. He will:

1. Publish information and articles of interest to veterans in the chapter newsletter.
2. Maintain liaison with other veterans' organizations in the area.
3. Participate in the Hillsborough County Veterans Council.

J. Active Duty Issues Representative. The Active Duty Issues Representative will keep the chapter membership abreast of issues concerning the Active and Reserve Special Forces units that will be of interest to the chapter membership.

K. Newsletter Editor. The Newsletter Editor will publish the *Tip of the Spear* in accordance with a schedule approved by the chapter Officers.

L. Web Site Administrator. The Web Site Administrator shall maintain the chapter web site and keep it updated.

M. Coordinator, Education Assistance Program. The coordinator will manage The Richard J. Meadows Memorial Scholarship Program and all other chapter education assistance initiatives. He will:

1. Maintain policies and procedures that govern the activities of the Command Chapter LX Education Assistance Program.
2. Chair the Richard J. Meadows Memorial Scholarship Committee.
3. Coordinate fundraising activities in support of chapter education assistance programs.

Section V. Terms of Office. The chapter officers are elected to serve a two (2) year term commencing on 1 January of even-numbered years. The Presidential and Vice Presidential officers may not serve more than two consecutive terms in their respective offices. Appointed officers serve at the pleasure of the President.

Section VI. Vacancies. Any elected chapter officer vacancy that occurs during a term of office will be filled by a presidential appointment from the regular membership, with the approval of the majority of the remaining Chapter officers. The vacancy of the office of President will be filled by the current Vice President for Operations; the resulting vacancy for the Vice President for Operations will be filled as previously stated. The vacancy of an appointed officer will be filled by presidential appointment.

ARTICLE VII Committees

Section I. Establishment of Committees. The President and chapter officers establish committees to take charge of specific work areas. Committees will consist of a minimum of three members but will not exceed five members. Committees shall serve until project completion, even if the project extends

beyond the terms of the elected officers with one exception. Those individuals whose membership on a committee is due to their elected chapter officer status shall leave that committee when they leave elected office. Such individuals may be re-appointed to the committee by the incoming Chapter President.

Section II. Types of Committees.

A. Finance Committee. The Finance Committee is headed by the Chapter Treasurer, and will include elected chapter officers and members with committee responsibilities. The Finance Committee will provide, through the Treasurer, an annual budget, listing anticipated expenses necessary to conduct chapter operations and business for the coming calendar year. The budget will be presented for approval at a scheduled meeting during the first quarter of each year.

B. Membership Committee. See Article VI (Officer and Chapter Responsibilities), Section III (Duties of Chapter Officers), paragraph B (4) (Vice President for Operations).

C. Constitution Committee. See Article VI (Officer and Chapter Responsibilities), Section III (Duties of Chapter Officers), paragraph B (3) (Vice President for Operations).

D. Nominating Committee. See Article VIII (Election), Section I (General Elections), para B (Nominating Committee).

E. Tellers Committee. See Article VIII (Election), Section I (General Elections) para G (Count of Vote and Announcement of Results).

F. Richard J. Meadows Memorial Scholarship Committee. See Article VI (Officers and Chapter Representatives), Section IV (Duties of Chapter Officers), para M (Richard J. Meadows Memorial Scholarship Committee). The Coordinator, Command Chapter LX Education Assistance Program will chair the RJMMS Committee. He will:

1. Nominate three or more candidates for appointment to serve as committee members. (The chapter will appoint one or more committee members.)
2. Coordinate all matters pertaining to the Richard J. Meadows Memorial Scholarship Fund with the chapter treasurer.
3. Announce the commencement of annual scholarship program activities to the general membership at the February general membership meeting and not later than March 1st of each year announce the commencement of the annual scholarship program awards process to the general membership by flyer in the chapter newsletter or special mailing.
4. Solicit, receive and process all applications for scholarships. Distribute copies of all applications to RJMMS Committee members. Forward all

recommendations for award to the chapter president and honorary chairman of the scholarship committee for approval NLT June 30th of each year. Notify scholarship awardees of selection.

5. Announce the names of scholarship awardees at the July general membership meeting and in the July issue of the chapter newsletter.

6. Coordinate the Annual Richard J. Meadows Memorial Scholarship Banquet with the Vice President for Support, Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor of the chapter newsletter.

G. Special Committees. Special Committees may be formed by the President to perform particular tasks. Once that requirement is satisfied or the specific tasks are performed, the committee will be discontinued.

ARTICLE VIII Elections

Section I. General Election.

A. Time of Election. Chapter officers are elected every two years in November of odd-numbered years. The Nominating Committee will announce, through the newsletter or special mailing to the membership, a preliminary slate of candidates no later than September of the election year. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at a scheduled general membership meeting. Final nominations must reach the Nominating Committee prior to 1 October. The final slate and ballots are mailed to all members in October. Votes must be returned and counted prior to the scheduled November meeting.

B. Nominating Committee. In June or July of the election year the President will appoint a Nominating Committee, which will be provided with a current roster by the Chapter Secretary of all members eligible to run for office.

1. **Composition.** The Nominating Committee will consist of three or five members at the discretion of the President. Either two of three or three of five members of the Nominating Committee will be elected by the membership at a regularly scheduled meeting. The President will appoint the Nominating Committee chairman and one member to a five-member Nominating Committee.

2. **Duties.** The Nominating Committee is responsible for the selection of qualified candidates for the five, elected chapter offices.

C. Selection and Evaluation of Candidates. The Nominating Committee will solicit names of candidates qualified for the five elected offices. This may be accomplished by announcements at the scheduled meetings, through the chapter newsletter, by mail, telephone, or a combination thereof. The Nominating Committee may contact chapter members for recommendations.

Qualified candidates are required to indicate their willingness and availability to hold office.

D. Preparation and Distribution of Preliminary Slate. The Nominating Committee will receive all nominations for chapter office to evaluate eligibility, confirm that their current membership is in good standing with Chapter LX, and ensure that each candidate has agreed to serve, if elected, in the chapter office for which nominated. The preliminary slate will be announced to the voting members in September of the election year.

E. Nominations from the Floor. Nominations may be accepted from the floor at a scheduled general membership meeting in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order (Revised), but not after the scheduled September general membership meeting.

F. Preparation of the Final Slate and Ballot. The Nominating Committee prepares the final slate of candidates for elective office and the ballot. The ballot will be distributed by mail, or included in the monthly chapter newsletter to all voting members. For unopposed candidates, the ballot will offer a "Yes" or "No" choice. Each ballot will require the members to annotate their membership numbers and to sign the ballot prior to submission. Voting instructions will specify the ballot return date and the mailing address to the Tellers Committee. Ballots will be mailed to an address designated by the Chairman of the Tellers Committee that is not readily accessible to any of the elected officers or candidates for chapter office. All ballots must be received prior to the November general membership meeting.

G. Count of Vote and Announcement of Results. The Chairman of the Tellers Committee will be appointed by the President. The Chairman, who will be neither an office holder nor a candidate for elective office, will appoint additional members to his committee as required to have at least three members. Candidates are elected by a plurality of votes cast. A tie-vote is resolved by a majority vote of the current elected chapter officers, with the President abstaining, except in the event of a tie-vote by the chapter officers. If an unopposed candidate receives fewer affirmative than negative votes, that office is declared vacant, and will be filled in accordance with Article VI (Officers and Chapter Representatives), Section V (Vacancies) by the incoming President. The non-elected candidate will not be appointed to the office. The Tellers Committee will:

1. Validate all ballots by ensuring that each ballot is annotated with the individual's membership number and signed.
2. Count and record the ballots.
3. Protect the identity of voters and their ballots.
4. Announce the election results at the November general membership meeting.

5. Maintain, in confidentiality, the ballots until the new slate of officers has been installed.

H. Installation of Officers. The installation of elected Chapter officers will be conducted during the scheduled winter Richard J. Meadows Annual Banquet, with their respective terms of office commencing on 1 January.

Section II. Voting on Ballots other than Elections. Voting on matters other than the election of officers may be a part of the general electoral ballot, except when the majority of elected chapter officers call for a special ballot.

Section III. Special Ballot. When a special ballot is conducted on some matter of concern to the general membership, a special committee, appointed by the President, will prepare and distribute the ballot and voting instructions separate from, or included in the newsletter. A Tellers Committee will be appointed by the President in accordance with Article VIII (Elections), Section I (General Elections), paragraph G (Count of Vote and Announcement of Results).

ARTICLE IX Recognition for Service

Section 1. President Emeritus. The lifetime title of President Emeritus may be awarded to an outgoing Chapter President for fulfillment of his term of office above and beyond the published tasks and duties. This recognition is not automatic and must be approved by a majority membership vote at a scheduled meeting. Revocation of the title President Emeritus may be accomplished under the same parameters as delineated under Article VI (Officers and Chapter Representatives), Section VI (Removal). Acceptance of President Emeritus status constitutes an obligation to serve as a member of the Chapter Advisory Council, and to assist the Chapter President in matters pertaining to policy and doctrine, as required.

Section II. Member and Associate Members of the Year. Each year the chapter's Board of Elected Officers will designate the chapter's Member of the Year and Associate Member of the Year. The President will appoint a Nominations Committee in accordance with Article VII (Committees), Section I (Establishment of Committees) to identify candidates for Member of the Year and Associate Member of the Year. The Committee will be provided a list of those members who meet the criterion of having recruited at least one new member during the year under consideration. The Nominations Committee will select at least two candidates who have met the mandatory criteria listed below for each position. At a closed Board of elected Officers meeting, the Nominations Committee will present their selected candidates to the Board. A quorum present of the chapter's Board of elected Officers will vote upon and select the chapter's Member of the Year and Associate Member of the Year. Any officer who is a

candidate for the honor will not participate in the election, though his presence contributes to a quorum. The Member and Associate Members of the Year will be eligible and judged under their activities in support of the chapter for the current calendar year, based upon the following mandatory criteria:

1. Actions accomplished pertaining to traditions of Special Forces.
2. Providing assistance to the chapter and the Association.
3. Recruiting new membership.
4. Striving to set the example for others.

Documentation validating their selection as Member and Associate Members of the Year will be forwarded to the SFA Administrator, Special Forces Association, P.O. Box 41436, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28309-1436. The documentation forwarded by each chapter to National Headquarters identifying Members and Associate Members of the Year will be used to determine in competition, the National Special Forces Association Member and Associate Member of the Year.

Article X Publications

Section I. The Drop. The official publication of the Association is *The Drop*, This newsletter is published at least quarterly, and distributed to all members on a worldwide basis. All members are encouraged to write to the editor of *'The Drop'* to provide information and pictures of interest to the membership. The President is responsible to provide the official chapter input to *The Drop*; he may delegate this responsibility.

Section II. The Tip of the Spear. All chapters of the Association are authorized and encouraged to publish a newsletter to establish and maintain communications within respective chapters. Command Chapter LX, The Richard J. Meadows Memorial Chapter newsletter is the *'Tip of the Spear'*, named to identify Special Operations Forces as leading the way. The shoulder sleeve insignia of the U.S. Special Operations Command, adopted from the insignia of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), signifies the *'Tip of the Spear'*. The chapter encourages the membership to notify the editor of the chapter newsletter *'Tip of the Spear'* of information regarding members in distress, of accomplishments such as: promotions, awards, achievements and assignments pertaining to the good of the order, or items of general interest to the membership.

Section III. The Tip of the Spear Web Site. Command Chapter LX, The Richard J. Meadows Memorial Chapter shall maintain a web site on the World Wide Web. The chapter encourages the membership to notify the Web Site Administrator of information regarding activities of the chapter and other items

pertaining to the good of the order, or items of general interest to the membership and the public at large.

ARTICLE XI Adoption

This Constitution was approved and adopted following a more than two-thirds membership vote during the electoral ballot of October-November 1993, published 1 January 1994, and later amended effective 1 January 1996 and 1 January 1999.

ARTICLE XII Amendment

Amendments to this Constitution must be approved by a minimum of two-thirds of the responding membership voted on through ballots mailed to all members in good standing. The Constitution Committee will act as the Tellers Committee for such elections.

Command Chapter LX, The Richard J. Meadows Memorial Chapter was constituted on 14 September 1993, and activated on 1 January 1994 at MacDill AFB, Florida. The chapter was re-designated on 20 November 1995 as the Command Chapter LX, The Richard J. Meadows Memorial Chapter.

Command Chapter LX Logo



"Quiet Professionals"

The Green Beret symbolizes U. S. Army Special Forces. The Flash and Distinctive Unit Insignia (DUI) represent the close ties to the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM). The fighting knife symbolizes the stealth of special operations. "Quiet Professionals' is the USSOCOM motto.