

SECTION I INTRODUCTION

General

US Foreign Assistance and National Security

GENERAL

This chapter provides information concerning US efforts to assist friendly foreign countries to establish and maintain their internal defense capability. It discusses various aspects of US involvement in foreign internal defense (FID), including the US security assistance program, roles and activities of military personnel assigned to security assistance duties overseas, and considerations of employing US forces in FID.

In section III, US Government agency responsibilities for foreign assistance are discussed. Appendix A lists many US Government and Department of Defense publications pertinent to US foreign assistance programs.

US FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY

US military and economic support for other nations contributes significantly to US national security and foreign policy objectives. Broad US interests include:

- A political and ideological interest in helping friendly nations contribute to a stable world order conducive to international cooperation.
- A security interest in assuring that strategic areas do not fall under unfriendly control and that free nations remain able to preserve their independence.
- An economic interest in assuring that resources and markets remain accessible to the United States and other friendly nations.
- A humanitarian interest in relieving suffering and improving the quality of life.

Briefly stated, US foreign policy includes a national commitment to encourage and support a peaceful world environment in which the security and continued