

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 353<sup>rd</sup> Armor Regiment, Assists Units with Security Cooperation and Security-Force Assistance Training

by MAJ Richard W. Duncan

When 162<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade at Fort Polk, LA, deactivated in October 2014, this consolidated the brigade's training capabilities into 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 353<sup>rd</sup> Armor Regiment, to support the Army operating concept. The new operating concept called for the Army to engage regionally to shape security environments and set the theater of operations.

The 3-353<sup>rd</sup>, a battalion within Operations Group at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC), supports these requirements by training Army and joint individual advisers and units on security cooperation (SC) and security-force assistance (SFA) mission requirements.

Leveraging JRTC's capabilities, the 52<sup>nd</sup> Translator and Interpreter Company and the adviser deployment experience of JRTC's observers/controllers/trainers, 3-353<sup>rd</sup> Armor Regiment develops tailored training programs to meet unit training objectives in preparation for SC or SFA mission requirements. The training programs include:

- Classes;
- Threaded scenario practical exercises; and
- Scenario immersion covering core competencies in basic advising, culture, history, use of interpreters, rapport-building, influencing and negotiations, training host-nation security forces, SC and SFA principles, and combat skills.

Engaged regionally, 3-353<sup>rd</sup> Regiment integrates lessons-learned and best practices from theater, coupled with Army and joint doctrine, to enable units to meet mission requirements. For coordinating unit training or for more information on the lessons-learned, best practices, programs of instruction and published articles, visit the unit's Website at [http://www.jrtc-polk.army.mil/Transition\\_team/index.html](http://www.jrtc-polk.army.mil/Transition_team/index.html) or contact the battalion operations officer at (337) 653-3120.

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