



## CURTIS E. LEMAY CENTER FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



### ANNEX 3-22 FOREIGN INTERNAL DEFENSE

## MEDICAL SUPPORT TO FID

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Health issues greatly contribute to irregular warfare struggles for legitimacy and influence, and Air Force medical service professionals routinely operate in [humanitarian and civic assistance](#), [security assistance](#), and [foreign internal defense](#) (FID) programs. Medical support can uniquely help FID operations establish a US presence, build rapport, achieve combined integration of forces, and build a foundation for future regional cooperation. Therefore, medical support options and personnel should be included in FID planning and operations.

Air Force International Health Specialists (IHS) professionals are trained to support the full continuum of Air Force FID activities and assist joint force commanders and the [commander, Air Force forces](#) achieve objectives and end-states through health-related engagements which foster rapport, understanding, interoperability, and a more effective health infrastructure. Similar to regional area specialists, IHS professionals are proficient in regional cultures and often foreign languages.