Good Afternoon, Sir!

Today, I will brief you on the USFOR-A Audit Plan of Action.
Sir, this is our 4 Phase Plan of Action to be 1st with the truth: for orientation these phases have been color-coded Grey for Phase I, Green for Phase II, Purple for Phase III and Brown for Phase IV. Stars indicate key Decision Points at the General Officer level while the targets represent key engagement areas where we are getting out ahead.

Starting in Phase I at the Announcement, we validate audit objectives and identify key stakeholders to include members of the CAG, IG, PAO and the Auditees. Instead of waiting until the Outbrief, we start action here with a thorough review of similar or past audits and categorize the audit objectives into systemic issue buckets analogous to engagement areas.

Next in Phase IIa at the Entry Conference, we ensure all stakeholders are present and schedule IPRs throughout the auditor’s field work. Simultaneously, MICP Managers initiate a parallel self-assessment IOT help identify issues early. During this phase, we use our already developed “Win Themes” married with Public Affairs Guidance, and converge them upon the developing specific issues on the ground. This is analogous to building the right combination of ammunition to achieve desired effects on a specified target.

Throughout this process we must arm our PAOs with detailed information regarding our remediation successes to help formulate the Strategic Message. For example, instead of sending a general message that issues are being addressed, they should be communicating specifics like: “we have fixed 80 of the 100 preliminary findings by implementing X corrective action plan and this is our trajectory forward to resolve the remaining issues - so that they don’t happen in the future. To date, this work has increased our overall readiness and resulted in a cost savings of X dollars and a cost avoidance of Y dollars.”

In Phase IIb, we have re-labeled the Outbrief, the Commander’s Outbrief, because MG Richardson has directed that all Commanders receive the auditor outbrief in person - so that they are informed and involved. During this Phase, PAO and key stakeholders determine the appropriate Strategic Messaging COAs and craft the message using the “Win Themes” coupled with specific examples and PAG to bolster it. In parallel, MICP assessments and the auditee create a corrective action plan concentrated on heavy remediation and mitigation strategies to shape the Exit Conference and Phase IIIa activities. MG Richardson then makes a decision on the appropriate STRAT COMM Package and has it in the queue for your approval prior to the Draft Report being released by CENTCOM back to the auditor. In effect, the STRAT COMM Package is now postured for you to execute a week ahead of the Final Report during Phase IIb.

Following the release of the Final Report in Phase IVA, monthly MICP assessments provide feedback and validation of mitigation and remediation efforts, while effects BDA will help measure the success of our messaging fires. These efforts then feed a ready response for eventual auditor Follow-Ups in Phase IVb, as well as, arm our toolkit IOT address future audits that fall into the same systemic issue category.

This plan of action ensures proactive measures are executed well ahead of the auditors decision cycle.

To borrow a hunting analogy from General Richardson...in the past, we may have shot where we saw the duck, but now, with our plan of action -- we will bag our limit of birds before Mr. Sopko wakes up to feed his dogs. Sir, pending your questions, this concludes my brief.