Compartmented Planning Effort

15 August 2002
Background

How we got here...

- POTUS / SECDEF directed effort; limited to a very small group
- Guidance:
  - Develop credible options to solve Iraq problem -- not the same as Afghanistan or Operation Desert Storm
  - Integrate / consider all elements of national power
- Thinking "outside the box", but "inside a compartment"
  - Slices
  - Lines of Operation
- Military options developed...
  - "Generated Start" --- surprise, speed, shock & awe
  - "Running Start" -- respond to an Iraqi action initially... continue into war
  - Blue - White - Red -- revised "family of contingency plans"
“Generated Start” Concept

- Execute a military option on our timeline - avoid tipping our hand
- Introduce SOF first - to set conditions; then attack on multiple lines of operation simultaneously
- Leverage “shock and awe” with Information Operations (IO) actions, themes and messages
- Structure deployment to build and maintain momentum
  - Coordinated flow of combat forces and enablers
  - Starting force sets conditions for decisive operations
- Enable a coordinated scheme of OGA preparation throughout initial deployment
- Deploy Northern Iraq Liaison Element (NILE) teams now to:
  - Build relationships
  - Gain intelligence and assist in targeting
  - Facilitate rapid introduction of SOF
Key Planning Assumptions -- Generated Start

- This operation will be the national main effort
- Opposition groups will work with us
- Co-opted Iraqi units will occupy garrisons and not fight either US forces or other Iraqi units
- Regional states will not challenge US military operations with conventional forces
- DoS will promote creation of a broad-based, credible provisional government -- prior to D-day
- Continued freedom of navigation for shipping and naval forces through the Suez Canal / Straits of Hormuz / Northern Arabian Gulf
- Operations in Afghanistan transition to phase III (minimal air support over Afghanistan)
- BCT(-) in Kuwait replaced by a full-up brigade
- US forces in Turkey (ONW and all other units) TACON at N-Day; SOF in Turkey OPCON to CINCCENT at N-day
- Iraqi regime has WMD capability
“Generated Start” Concept

Operational Timeline

PHASE I

Clandestine Insertion / Training

PHASE II

Strategic and Operational Information Operations

PHASE III

PHASE IV

Start Prep

Start Deployment

A-Day

G-Day

Follow-on ground forces deploy...

A = Air Operations Begin

G = Ground Operations Begin

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Family of Contingency Plans...
We respond to conditions set by Iraqi Regime
Military Options -- Contingency Responses...

**Small**
- In Place Forces
- Existing Bases, Carrier battle group
- Response within 4 hours
- 1-2 day duration

**Medium**
- Forces from the continental US (CONUS)
- Air Wing or a second Carrier battle group
- Additional Beddown
- Response within 96 hours
- 5-7 day duration

**Large**
- CONUS Forces plus an Aerial Expeditionary Force and a third Carrier battle group
- Increased Beddown
- Response within 11 days
- 14 day duration +...

**Effects: Small**
- Degrade enablers
- Degrade selected capabilities
- Initial targets linked to trigger
- ~300 Aim Points
- ~90 Aircraft Sorties
- Southern and Northern Watch
- One Carrier Battle Group
- Tactical Land Attack Missile (TLAM) Shooters

**Effects: Medium**
- Defeat enablers
- Destroy/degrade selected capabilities
- Begin to shape battlefield
- ~1800 Aim Points
- ~1000 Aircraft Sorties

**Effects: Large**
- Defeat enablers
- Destroy/degrade multiple capabilities
- Country-wide effect, all target sets
- Continue to shape the battlefield
- ~3000 Aim Points
- ~2100 Aircraft Sorties

Add: Global Power / Intel Surveillance and Recon Aircraft / Tactical LAM in Mediterranean

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"Running Start" Concept...
We enter the warfight sequentially...
Air Power (Blue, White, Red) first, followed by Ground Forces
"Running Start" Concept

- Execute a military option (Blue, White, Red) initially
- Introduce lines of operations sequentially
- Maximize effectiveness of operational fires with early introduction of SOF forces -- operational fires throughout deployment
- Focus Information Operation actions, themes and messages
- Tailor Phase II objectives based on effects of operational fires
  - Initiate ground operations (conventional and SOF) against intermediate objectives
  - Anticipate ground pause to generate more sustainment and combat power
- Flow follow-on forces to achieve Phase III and IV objectives
- Scale clandestine preparation to time available...
  - Deploy liaison teams (NILE) now to build relationships
  - Conduct "in-country" training and arming of Opposition Groups, as soon as possible after A-day
“Running Start” Concept

Operational Timeline

PHASE I
~45 DAYS
Clandestine Insertion / Training

PHASE II
~ 60-90 DAYS
1-2 Brigades
Division (+) + Marine Bde
Division + Marine Bde
Generated Start Force

PHASE III
~ 90 DAYS

PHASE IV
UNKNOWN

Strategic and Operational Information Operations

A-Day 
Start Deployment

G-Day
Follow-on ground forces deploy...

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Minimize risk and maximize opportunities...
Refining the plan
Hybrid Option

When ordered by the President, USCENTCOM conducts military operations to overthrow the Iraqi regime...

- Execute a modification of the “Running Start”...
  - Accelerate ambiguous actions to generate capability
  - Initiate strikes in accordance with “Red” military option
  - Sequentially introduce lines of operations...Commence ground operations after initial air strikes

- Use available time to...
  - Finalize agreements for basing- staging- overflight
  - Posture the force and improve capabilities through ambiguous movement and preparation
  - Increase pressure on Iraqi regime through diplomatic engagement, military action, and information operations

- Continue to refine options to increase initial force strength...
  - Increase size and scope of Operations Northern and Southern Watch
  - Increase capability in the AOR under guise of exercise participation
  - Confirm participation / integration of coalition partner forces
Hybrid Plan

Operational Timeline

PHASE I
~ 5 DAYS
Clandestine Insertion / Training

PHASE II
~ 11 DAYS
Airbridge
Mobilization
Deploy forces

PHASE III
~ 16 DAYS
Strategic and Operational Information Operations

PHASE IV
~ 125 DAYS
UNKOWN

N-Day
A-Day
Air attacks
A+16=
G-Day

SOF in West TBM suppression
SOF in North support Kurds
Artillery / Aviation Raids / SOF Direct action
Establish security zone - ground recon

A+75
Continued force flow

POTUS Decision
A- Air Operations Begin
C - Forces flow Begin
G - Ground Operations Begin