

DEEP STRIKE FIRE SUPPORT CROSS FUNCTIONAL TEAM (CFT)
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MEMORANDUM FOR MY SUCCESSOR

SUBJECT: Long Range Precision Fires CFT and Deep Strike Mission Capability – Army (DSMC-A) Documentation

1. **Hooah!** Welcome colleague to the Long Range Precision Fires CFT. My regrets at not being here to greet you in person. As you read this memo, I'm currently enroute to FOB Sykes. However, I created this continuity binder with what little time I had left for you to use as you see fit. For starters, I recommend you complete the following steps - in the exact order I suggest - to minimize your grief:
2. **First**, prep yourself with the big picture. Seek out on your own and thoroughly read the latest NSS, NDS, NMS, and the latest Army Modernization Strategy. You'll then understand why our Army boosted deep strike to the top of the food chain. After that, take your time to complete DAU's requirements training and understand the fine points they're emphasizing. You have a short time to get the draft DSMC-A ICD in shape to be validated & then support an MDD, probably within 90 days of your arrival to meet the Chief's requirement, so you'll be tempted to bypass or pencil-whip this training. Don't.
3. **Second**, know the DSMC-A details. Thoroughly read the draft DSMC-A ICD I dredged up from a few years back. However, as a "diamond in the rough" realize it's actually just a "rock". It's cobbled together, dated, and I can't recall which version of JCIDS it follows – J8's been updating the Manual a lot recently, so who knows. Regardless, I strongly recommend you understand the ICD's supporting documents – especially the DSFS CBA Report and threat assessment. I found parts of the latest versions for you to use on your next cut of the ICD.
4. **Third**, pay attention to the details and the sticky notes I've inserted in the various documents. Use them to kick up your critical thinking and communications skills a notch – you'll need them in this job. We all know what we need in order to address our Warfighter gaps - we simply can't fix them without better munitions. I'm serious – you need to clearly communicate this so that people outside the Army understand what we need. Lastly, keep in mind that these capability requirements documents can last a really long time – along with the ol' adage that "less is actually more".
5. In closing, I've done what I can to set you up for success. Unless you want to join me here in Sykes, I strongly recommend you concentrate on getting past your first big hurdle – the upcoming MDD. While the Chief wants improved deep strike capability yesterday, you need to understand that a lousy document WILL NOT win the day at the MDD. Good luck – you'll need it...

WALTER "WALT" SCHMEDLEY
LTC, USA
Somewhere lost in Iraq...