

25 October 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, CIA Operations Center

SUBJECT : OIA Focal Point for CONTEXT

REFERENCE : Your Memo of 17 October 1978, Subject: Remote/Secure Conferencing Facilities for Community Consultation-CONTEXT

1. I have designated [redacted] Chief, Technical Staff, OIA, as this office's professional focal point for demonstrations of the capabilities of CONTEXT. STATINTL STATINTL

2. [redacted] may be contacted on extension [redacted] [redacted] HIS mailing address is Room 3N111, [redacted]

/s/
Noel E. Firth
Director
Imagery Analysis

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17 October

MEMORANDUM FOR: All NIOs and NFAC Office Heads

SUBJECT : Remote/Secure Conferencing Facilities for
Community Consultation--CONTEXT

*Note
Deadline
25 Oct.*

1. This memorandum is designed to acquaint you with reference facilities which can help you to conduct considerable amounts of classified business with State, DIA or NSA particularly on time-sensitive issues or papers without leaving the building. These facilities are located within the 6F19 suite of the CIA Operations Center and consist of a complex of communications equipment known as CONTEXT (Conferencing and Text Editing). Included are a voice-activated conference telephone set, a "Silent 700" teleprinter with keyboard and a visual display unit for viewing and manipulating text, all secure. This set of equipment is integrated by a so-called "floppy disk" computer working off a large



2. Essentially this facility gives NIOs and analysts an opportunity to hold conferences remotely on classified topics, minimizing the travel time usually involved. Using just the voice-activated conference telephone portion of CONTEXT and abetted by advance distribution of a draft via LDX, urgent portions of a paper or an estimate can be discussed securely with your community colleagues while you remain in this building with access to your data base. The NIO/LA in particular has used the system several times and has found it quite useful. We would like other addressees as well to test what it has to offer as an aid to your community deliberations remembering that the network is limited to the State Operations Center, the NSOC at NSA, and the NMIQ at DIA, besides ourselves. There is also a link at the F Street location of the D/DCI/RM.

3. Aside from the "ad hoc" use being encouraged herein, it is intended to use CONTEXT as an analytical conferencing facility during crises and pre-crisis times. This net, entitled NOIAN (National Operations and Intelligence Analysts Network), is the analytical counterpart to the secure voice-only net, NOIWON (National Operations and Intelligence Watch Officer Network) which has functioned very successfully for about 4 years now. This latter capability enables all the watch centers of the community, plus the White House Situation Room (some 10 locations in all) to be in immediate contact via a switch in the White House on urgent current occurrences.

4. Demonstrations of the range of CONTEXT capabilities will be conducted periodically during the next few months and we want to insure

that those in your office most likely to be helped by CONTEXT, all or only part of it, be present at one of them. To that end we would appreciate a written designation by you of your professional focal point in this regard. I would like your reply by COB 25 October 1978.

STATINTL



Vincent J. Heyman
Director
CIA Operations Center