

17 APR 1962

Executive Registry
62-2269

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

SUBJECT : Implementation of Command Relationships Agreement

1. In the review of CIA plans in support of military plans, it has become evident that a further definition of the time of implementation of the Command Relationships Agreement (CRA) is necessary for effective planning by the CIA's Senior War Planners. It is clear that implementation of the CRA will be effected in active theaters of war where American forces are engaged; but, for realistic planning, a definite point in time, prior to the outbreak of hostilities, relative to the national and military planning alert systems is required.

2. Although, for planning purposes, it is desirable to establish a point in time at which the CRA would be implemented, its implementation should not be automatic. Political and other considerations, at the time, might dictate that it would not be in the national interest to have the CRA in effect, particularly if it appeared that war might be averted. For this reason, the decision to implement the CRA should be made by the Chairman, JCS, and the DCI in light of the circumstances obtaining at the time an appropriate alert condition is declared.

3. I therefore propose that:

a. It be accepted, for planning purposes, that the CRA will be implemented at the Order for Reinforced Alert (ORA) or DEFCON-1.

b. At the time that appropriate authority recommends declaration of either ORA or DEFCON-1, it be determined jointly

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by the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Director of Central Intelligence whether, in fact, CRA should be implemented.

4. I request your comments on or concurrence in the above proposal.

Marshall S. Carter
Lieutenant General, USA
Acting Director

Signature Recommended:

/s/ Richard Helms, DD/P (12 Apr 62)

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WPS/ [redacted] (10 Apr 62)
/s/ [redacted]

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RETYPE: EO/DCI/ [redacted] cm (13 Apr 62)

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee

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12 APR 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: ^{Acting} Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Implementation of Command Relationships Agreement

1. This memorandum recommends action on the part of the Director of Central Intelligence, as stated in paragraph 5 below.
2. The Command Relationships Agreement (CRA) is the document, approved by the DCI and the Chairman, JCS, on 27 August 1957, which provides for command and control relationships between unified or specified commanders and the CIA Force in an active theater of war where U.S. forces are engaged. It specifies that the military commander will exercise authority over the CIA Component Force corresponding to that exercised over the Army, Naval, and Air Force Component Forces assigned to his command, i. e., operational control. It also states that CIA Headquarters, Washington, will exercise technical and administrative control corresponding generally to that exercised by the Departments of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force over their respective component forces assigned to a unified command.
3. Although the CRA does not specify a time for the CIA Force to become a component force of the theater command, by inference, this will take place when an area has been declared an "active theater of war where U.S. forces are engaged." If, however, the CIA should wait until U.S. troops are engaged to change from a peacetime to a wartime organization, this transition could not be effected smoothly. For this reason, the CIA must accomplish a state of readiness which would permit implementation of the CRA prior to the outbreak of hostilities. Defense conditions which require maximum readiness prior to the engagement of troops are ORA for the European theater and DEFCON-1 in other theaters. It is realistic for the CIA elements overseas to assume a maximum readiness posture at the same time as the military commands which they will support.
4. The Joint Chiefs of Staff have instructed all unified and specified commands to give advance notice to the JCS of their intention to declare

DEFCON-2 or DEFCON-1 (ORA lies between the two), and to provide sufficient information upon which to base any related considerations, decisions, and actions. This will provide you an opportunity to determine, in conjunction with the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, whether, in fact, the CRA should be implemented under the conditions existing at the time.

5. It is therefore recommended that you approve the concept of using, for planning purposes, the implementation of CRA at DEFCON-1 or ORA, as appropriate, and sign the attached memorandum to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, requesting his concurrence in this concept.

6. If this concept is approved by you and concurred in by the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, I will have the War Plans Staff include it in the CIA Global War Plan for Clandestine Operations and advise the Senior War Planners and field stations to incorporate it in their plans.

[Redacted Signature Box]

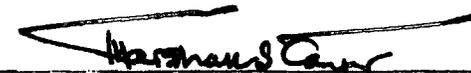
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Richard Helms
Deputy Director (Plans)

1 Attachment:
Memo to the JCS, as stated

cc: DDCI

The recommendation contained in paragraph 5 is approved:


Acting Director of Central Intelligence

Date 12 April 62