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Folder Title: Secretary Haig's Evening Report (03/02/1982-03/24/1982)

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Last Updated: 4/16/2024

### WITHDRAWAL SHEET

#### Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: AGENCY FILE

Withdrawer

3/15/2013

RBW

File Folder

SECRETARY HAIG'S EVENING REPORT (03/02/1982-

**FOIA** 

03/24/1982)

M453

**Box Number** 

**SHIFRINSON** 

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ID Doc Type	Docu	ument Description	1	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
155886 MEMO	ALEX	ANDER HAIG TO	RR	1	3/1/1982	B1
	R	9/2/2016	M453/3			
155887 MEMO	ALEX	ANDER HAIG TO	RR	1	3/2/1982	B1
	PAR	11/28/2017	M453/3			
155889 MEMO	ALEX 15588		RR [COPY OF DOC.	1	3/3/1982	B1
	R	9/2/2016	M453/3			
155888 MEMO	ALEX	ANDER HAIG TO	RR	1	3/3/1982	B1
	R	9/2/2016	M453/3			
155890 MEMO	ALEX	ANDER HAIG TO	RR	1	3/4/1982	B1
	R	9/2/2016	M453/3			
155891 MEMO	ALEX	ANDER HAIG TO	RR	1	3/5/1982	B1
	R	9/2/2016	M453/3			
155892 MEMO	ALEX	ANDER HAIG TO	RR	1	3/8/1982	B1
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155893 MEMO	ALEX	KANDER HAIG TO	RR	1	3/9/1982	B1
	PAR	11/28/2017	M453/3			t
155894 MEMO	ALEX	KANDER HAIG TO	RR	1	3/10/1982	B1
	R	9/2/2016	M453/3			

#### Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA] B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

### WITHDRAWAL SHEET

#### **Ronald Reagan Library**

Collection Name EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: AGENCY FILE

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SECRETARY HAIG'S EVENING REPORT (03/02/1982-

**FOIA** 

03/24/1982)

M453

**Box Number** 

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**SHIFRINSON** 

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ID Doc Type	Doo	ument Description	1	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
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155897 MEMO	WALTER STOESSEL TO RR			1	3/15/1982	B1
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Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

**MEMORANDUM** 

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

Tuesday, March 2, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for Monday, March 1, 1982.

CC: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker

Mike Deaver

SECRET ATTACHMENT

2/16/13

V

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

March 1, 1982

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE

2 A 9: 35 THE PRESIDENT

From

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.



- 1. Call by Egyptian Ambassador Ghorbal. Ghorbal followed closely Mubarak's oral message (which I sent to you today) describing the Egyptian leader's position on the controversy over his proposed visit to Israel. Ghorbal's tone was low key. The Egyptians are unhappy with the Israeli position, but they are determined to "cool it" in the hope that on-going events, such as the continued Autonomy Talks and Foreign Minister Ali's visit to Israel in two weeks will ease the strain. Ghorbal sought our help in persuading the Israelis to follow a similar line. I responded that we had already tried to urge such a course on Israel, both in Jerusalem and through Ambassador Arens. We fecognized that both sides have problems. I told Ghorbal I would speak to you about this, but in the meantime the Egyptian effort to downplay the issue was responsible and statesmanlike. (S)
- Ambassador Habib's Talk in Lebanon. Phil Habib met in Beirut over the weekend with President Sarkis, Prime Minister Wazzan and Foreign Minister Boutros. He is now in Israel. Beirut, Phil found strong Lebanese government support for the ceasefire and the Security Council's expansion of UNIFIL. But he reports that little progress has been made on the basic political situation. Saudi and other Arab efforts to improve the political and security prospects have not produced results. The Syrians, despite the Assad regime's troubles at home, are as intransigent as ever. According to Phil, the mass of Christian and Muslim Lebanese are prepared for political reconciliation, but he says there has been no real progress toward finding an acceptable presidential candidate. This may still come, but de facto partition, stemming from control over pieces of Lebanon by armed militias, continues to frustrate the Government's authority and obstruct movement toward political compromise. (S)
- 3. Meeting with Senators and Congressmen. During my luncheon today with Senator Tower, Senator Stennis, Congressman Price and Congressman Dickinson, I emphasized our position that the current momentum toward defense cuts could undermine our foreign policy. Senator Tower summed up the position of this group of supporters of a strong defense when he said that cuts will be more difficult for many members to support when the defense budget is examined with specificity rather than in general terms. We also discussed a wide range of foreign policy subjects with emphasis on regions to which these members have recently travelled. (C)

RDS 2/3 3/01/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)



DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M453/3#155826

BY LW MARA DATE 9/2/16



SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 3, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for Tuesday, March 2, 1982.

cc: The Vice President

Ed Meese Jim Baker Mike Deaver



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Sec.3.4(b), E.O. 12888, as amended
White House Guidelines, Sept. 11, 2008
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THE SECRETARY OF STATE WASHINGTON

March 2, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

From

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.



- 1. Ambassador Habib's Discussions in Israel. Begin described Monday's meeting with Phil Habib as "difficult but good." Begin reconfirmed Israel's intention to abide by the cease-fire, and was relieved when Phil said that attacks against Israeli targets from Lebanon through Syria or Jordan should be considered as cease-fire violations. The most contentious moment came when Phil noted Israel's need to provide the world with evidence of Israel's "basic patience and peaceful nature." The Prime Minister bridled, interpreting the comment as putting Israel "on probation." Phil sought vigorously to avoid such misunderstanding, saying that we simply hoped that Israel's false public image of bellicosity could be dispelled. He urged Begin not to initiate an exchange of letters on this issue but fears he may not have dissuaded him. (S)
- 2. <u>Views of British, French and German Ambassadors</u>. The Stoessel-Eagleburger lunch with the British, French and German Ambassadors today was devoted largely to Jim Buckley's forthcoming mission to Europe. Walt and Larry emphasized that Jim would focus his consultations on restrictions on government and government-guaranteed credits to the Soviet Union. They stressed that the whole subject of trade with the East had to be viewed in the light of the West's security objectives. The Ambassadors were pleased that Jim would be coming to consult rather than to lay down a plan. They made clear, however, that he will face searching questions in Europe about the objectives of our East-West economic policy. (SECRET/SENSITIVE)
- U.S. Interest Rates European Reaction. The renewed upward movement of U.S. interest rates in recent months has intensified European concerns over the impact of U.S. monetary and fiscal policy on European economies. French President Mitterrand and German Chancellor Schmidt, at their February 24-25 meeting, reportedly discussed measures to insulate Europe from the impact of higher U.S. West Germany, interest rates. France and Italy have agreed to set up a "group of experts" to prepare proposals on the interest rate problem for consideration by the European Community. The Europeans will make U.S. economic policy the top item of their agenda for the Versailles Economic Summit, whether or not they have a specific proposal to offer by that time. (S)
- Appearance Before House Foreign Affairs Committee. three-hour session before the full House Foreign Affairs Committee today, I briefed the membership on East-West relations and future security assistance goals. Questioning was spirited over a wide variety of subjects. There was intense questioning on Central America. (U)

RDS 2/3 3/02/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS:

SUBJECT; SECRETARY HAIG'S EVENING REPORT FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1982



UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE(S)

## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 4, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for Wednesday, March 3, 1982.

cc: The Vice President

Ed Meese Jim Baker Mike Deaver

SECRET

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

March 3, 1982

155889

MEMORANDUM FOR: 82 MANTHE PRESIDENT

From

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

- l. Habib's Discussions in Damascus. Phil Habib met last night with Foreign Minister Khaddam and this morning with President Assad, who received him with no others present. Assad acknowledged your message that the U.S. wished to maintain a dialogue with Syria, but did not accept Phil's statement denying U.S. involvement in the Hama uprising. Phil described for both Assad and Khaddam the specifics of the Lebanon cease-fire, noting that the PLO infiltration from Jordan was a violation. Khaddam did not accept this interpretation; Assad, on the other hand, did not question it. Assad did confirm the importance of maintaining the cease-fire. Phil emphasized the dangers involved in the continued flow of weapons into southern Lebanon. He believes that the Syrians will convey directly to the PLO the importance of avoiding any provocative actions that could lead to hostilities. Phil is now in Amman. (SECRET/SENSITIVE)
- 2. Consultations on Libyan Policy. We held consultations with the leaders of the Senate (Baker, Percy and Stevens present) and the House (O'Neill, Michel, Foley, Zablocki and Broomfield) on the next steps proposed for Libya. Senator Baker said that we simply should not do business with Libya; he believed that your tenacity and firmness have already had a sobering impact on Qadhafi. Baker also advised that the announcement should be done very quietly and without fanfare, a position strongly supported by Percy and Stevens. The House reaction, however, was more mixed. Broomfield supported the proposed steps. O'Neill expressed surprise at the extent of Qadhafi's activities. However, Zablocki and Michel expressed strong general reservations about unilateral economic measures and Zablocki was also concerned that we might be building up Qadhafi. We are contacting the Chairmen and ranking members of Foreign Affairs, Commerce, Intelligence and Banking Committees to describe our proposed steps and to offer more detailed briefings if desired. (C)
- 3. Senior Interagency Group Meets on NATO Summit. Larry Eagleburger chaired the first meeting of the Senior Interagency Group (SIG) on NATO Summit preparations today. Eagleburger asked for frank views on fundamental questions regarding the Summit so that interagency differences could be aired early in the planning. Among the questions to be answered were the choice of basic objectives for the Summit itself, the relationship between the NATO summit and the economic summit at Versailles, the proper forum for treatment of economic questions bearing on the East-West military balance, how to increase the pace of conventional defense improvements, and the concept of a "Wise Men's" group to study the role of NATO into the 1990's. (S)

RDS 2/3 3/03/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

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BY LW MARA DATE 9/2/16

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THE SECRETARY OF STATE

March 3, 1982

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR: 2 MATHE PRESIDENT

From

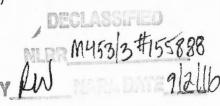
Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

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RDS 2/3 3/03/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)



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#### THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

March 4, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for Wednesday, March 3, 1982.

cc: The Vice President Ed Meese Jim Baker

Mike Deaver

## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

W SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 5, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for Thursday, March 4, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

SENSITI

#### THE SECRETARY OF STATE WASHINGTON

March 4, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR:

From

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

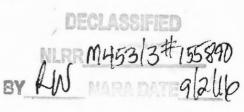


- Habib's Talks in Jordan. Phil Habib met today with King Hussein, who was very pleased by your kind words about him and Jordan. Phil explained our view of the cease-fire and solicited Jordanian help in forestalling a dangerous blow-up. Hussein believes Syria has decided to send PLO elements into Israel through Jordanian territory to provoke a conflict between Israel and Jordan. The King is determined to stop such infiltration; he would be grateful if we would provide specific equipment to help him do so. (We offered such help to the King February 4, in the aftermath of the last attempt.) Phil discussed the importance of re-engaging the Saudis and Kuwaitis in efforts to improve the Lebanese internal situation. The Foreign Minister (with the King nodding assent) suggested mobilizing Saudi and Gulf pressure on Syria, the ultimate purpose being a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon. (SECRET/SENSITIVE)
- 2. FRANCE Preparing for the Mitterrand Visit. My meeting with the new French Ambassador today gave me the opportunity to discuss the topics you would probably raise with Mitterrand next week. I said that some aspects of French foreign policy pleased us but others did not--especially French actions on Central America. You would also want to discuss cooperation in confronting international terrorism, especially in light of the assassination of Colonel Ray. Other issues would be the Middle East, including the situation in Lebanon, the Western response to the Polish situation, and the importance of Alliance unity. Vernier-Palliez asked for our reaction to Lopez Portillo's speech. While not negative, I said that we had some questions about it which we would take up with the Mexican Foreign Minister. (SECRET/SENSITIVE)
- 3. Reactions to Measures on Libya. Initial consultations on Libya with allies and friendly states have met with considerable understanding. The British were pleased that we have avoided actions which could cause potential conflict over the issue of "extraterritoriality"; they were conscious of our request not to undermine U.S. sanctions. A senior French official said that France "would not envision" taking similar steps but indicated that French-Libyan relations would "develop very slowly." The Italians, while generally agreeing with our appraisal of the Libyan threat, believe that dialogue with Qadhafi should be maintained. State and Commerce officials also met today with industry representatives, who agreed with our purposes but were skeptical about the likely effects on Qadhafi. Many anticipated that allied competitors would move in quickly to take up the slack. (S)

RDS 2/3 3/04/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)



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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS:

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#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 6, 1882MAP 5 P10: 49

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for March 5, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

SECRET ATTACHMENT

RW 3/15/13

THE SECRETARY OF STATE WASHINGTON

March 5, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

82 MAR 5 PIO: 33

From

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

- El Salvador Vice President's Visit. I met today with ROOM Salvadoran Vice President General Gutierrez and assured him of our full and unequivocal support for his government and its efforts against the guerrillas. Gutierrez told me that while he had problems with training and tactics, his military forces were wearing down the guerrillas. The guerrillas, he thought, would make a substantial effort to paralyze the election process. I told him we would continue our efforts to reduce the flow of guerrilla supplies from outside El Salvador. I also urged him to take advantage of the Venezuelans' offer to pay for a private public relations firm to bolster Salvador's image abroad and in the United States. The Vice President recognized the public relations battle he faces. Gutierrez assured me that the Duarte government had strong support and, though it might not win a majority in the election, the coalition which emerged would be forced by circumstances to pursue the same policy as the Junta is now. I assured Gutierrez we were comfortable with the present leadership in El Salvador. (S)
- Habib: Half-Way Point. Phil Habib, who arrived in Riyadh this afternoon, is half way through his trip. Lebanese, Israelis, Syrians and Jordanians have confirmed to him their intention to abide by the cease-fire. Phil believes the Syrians will reinforce with the PLO the need to avoid any action that could be construed by Israel as a provocation. Lebanese and the Jordanians are anxious for Phil to succeed in re-engaging the Saudis in promoting Lebanese reconciliation. The Israelis agree that progress must be made toward solving Lebanon's internal difficulties, but remain skeptical that Saudi Arabia can help. Phil will meet Saturday with the Saudi leadership to explore this subject, as well as to seek their assistance in impressing on the PLO and the Syrians the need to preserve the cease-fire. He returns next week to Israel and Lebanon, and now plans to be back in Washington around March 13. (SECRET/SENSITIVE)



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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS:

FOR DELIVERY WITH A.M. MATERIALS

- HAIG'S EVENING REPORT -

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## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

NW SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 9, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

R

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for Monday, March 8, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

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MIKE DESVET Jim Baker Hy Weses with The Wice President

Attached is Al Haig's Svening Report for Monday, March 8, 1983.

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Aspero

rioOW:

WILLIAM D. CLARK

MEMORANDOM FOR THE PRESIDENT

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#### THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

March 8, 1982

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

- Discussions with German Foreign Minister Genscher. Genscher and I held another lengthy meeting today which focused on ways of improving policy coordination between the United States and Europe. Genscher agreed that the main goal of the NATO Summit should be a greater sense of political identity within the Alliance, and in this connection, suggested that NATO Foreign Ministers meet once or twice each year for an informal weekend for a concentrated discussion of broader issues facing the Alliance. He also urged strongly that you make a major speech on East-West relations before the NATO Ministerial in May. Genscher agreed on the need for careful preparation of the Versailles Summit and for concerted action on one or two important issues. Concerning questions of trade with the East, Genscher argued that German trade with the Soviet Union was falling, that it amounted to less than one-third of trade with countries such as Austria or Switzerland and that the FRG was not dependent on dealings with the East. He agreed, however, that there should be common action on questions such as credits and promised to listen carefully to proposals presented next week by Under Secretary Buckley. I believe you can expect a similar approach during your meeting with Genscher Tuesday, and suggest that you respond by stressing again the importance of agreement among the Allies on concrete steps vis-a-vis the Soviet Union in weeks to come. (C)
- Madrid CSCE Conference. Confronted with an unexpectedly tough Allied demand to end further drafting work, the Soviets today acceded to a "gentlemen's agreement" to recess the Madrid meeting on Friday, March 12, until the fall. The agreement followed a weekend of marathon sessions precipitated by a showdown -- initiated and led by our European allies -- to force a recess. Assuming the Soviets do not back out of the agreement, we will have achieved all of our major objectives for the Madrid meeting -- a thorough condemnation of repression in Poland, a united Western front against business-as-usual at Madrid, and a recess until the fall. (C)
- 3. Habib: Meeting with Saudi Crown Prince Fahd. Phil Habib reports that he had a good meeting on Saturday with Fahd, who responded positively to his urgings: (a) that he use all his influence with the Palestinians and Syrians to forestall developments which could jeopardize the cease-fire; and (b) that Saudi Arabia resume its strong role in Lebanon and work inter alia for a gradual Syrian withdrawal. Fahd promised that he personally would do everything possible with the Palestinians, Syrians, and Lebanese, and noted that he would see Arafat the next day. As for the Lebanese situation itself, he said that he was "more than ever" committed for the long run, that he would soon invite Prime Minister Wazzan and other Lebanese political leaders to Saudi Arabia. (S)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 10, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

M

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for Tuesday, March 9, 1982.

cc: The Vice President Ed Meese

Jim Baker Mike Deaver \*82 MAR 10 A9:31

• SEGRET

SENSITIVE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

March 9, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

From

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

l. Briefings on Central America. We are moving ahead with an intensive program to brief the press, influential "elder statesmen" and the Congress on Central America. This afternoon Bobby Inman of CIA and John Hughes of Defense gave a documented briefing (including photographs) to the press on the Nicaraguan arms buildup and the Misquito Indians. Tomorrow Bill Casey and I will brief "elder statesmen", including sixteen members of your Intelligence Advisory Board. We are considering another press briefing this Friday

Bill Casey and Bobby Inman will brief the Senate leadership on Friday and the leadership of the House next Tuesday. On Saturday I plan to do a wrap-up briefing myself with the press. (C)

- 2. Habib: March 8 Conversation with Prime Minister Begin. Begin appeared to accept the summary of Phil Habib's talks thus far including Phil's conclusion that there seems to be agreement among the principal parties that the cessation of hostilities must be maintained. Begin raised criticisms about the extent of the PLO's acceptance of the ceasefire, American attitudes toward the PLO arms buildup, and the continuing presence of the Syrian missiles in Lebanon. While his attitude remained basically constructive, Begin was backed up by Sharon, who was in a bullying and unhelpful mood. Begin also urged the formation of a joint U.S.-Israel commission to prepare contingency plans in the event of Syrian aggression against Lebanese Christians. Phil said he thought informal exchanges on this issue were preferable. Begin agreed that substance was more important than form, but will expect a further response from us. Phil is now in Lebanon again, and will return here Saturday. (SECRET/SENSITIVE)
- 3. Brezhnev Endorses Mexico's Proposals on El Salvador. In a Kremlin speech today, Brezhnev praised Mexico's proposals for a negotiated solution to the Salvadoran civil war. The remarks are a rejoinder to your Caribbean Basin Initiative, and may have been intended to exacerbate differences between us and the Mexicans and West Europeans over Central America. (C)
- 4. New Irish Prime Minister. Charles Haughey was today elected Prime Minister by the Irish Parliament, regaining the office he held from December 1979 to June 1981. His government will depend, however, on the unreliable support of independent parliamentarians and the Official Irish Republican Army's political wing. Haughey's immediate task will be to address the economic problems which brought down Garret FitzGerald's Government in January. (C)

RDS 2/3 3/09/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

SENSITIVE

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
NURR M453/3#155893
BY FW NARA DATE 11/28/17

SECRET

The President has seen

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 11, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's evening report for Wednesday March 10, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

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MEMORANDIA

THE WHITE HOUSE

March 11, 1982

STARRET ATTACHMENT

MENORALDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

WILDIAM P. CHARK

PROME

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

: TORLEUS

Attoched is Al Haig's evening report for Wednesday March 10, 1982.

o: The Vice President Ed Meeso Jim Baker Mike Deaver

\*82 MIR 11 All :29

SECRET 155894

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

March 10, 1982

82 MAR ! All : 23

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

Alexander M. Haig, Jr

pr

- 1. Meeting with Somali President. In his meeting with me this afternoon, President Siad Barre, who you will see Thursday morning, expressed his concern about Soviet and Libyan influence in the Horn of Africa and their threat to his regime. He requested additional economic assistance to help meet this threat. Following up on a request from the Kenyan Foreign Minister earlier in the day, I suggested to President Barre that he undertake specific steps to improve his relationship with Kenya. (S)
- 2. Testimony Before the Foreign Operating Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee. I found that by and large, the Republicans on the committee were generally skeptical about our course on Central America and with respect to Polish sanctions. Senator Leahy, on the other hand, struck a defensive note, indicating to me that our intelligence briefings are beginning to have an effect. My overall impression from three hearings over the past week is that we have a very difficult year ahead of us on Foreign Assistance. (C)
- 3. Congressional Delegation Reports on Poland. A seven-man congressional delegation (four Democrats and three Republicans), headed by David Obey (D-Wisconsin) returned from Poland yesterday and presented its preliminary report at a press conference this afternoon. The delegation unanimously endorsed your policy both on sanctions and on the subject of default. The Congressmen urged us to consider more humanitarian aid possibly including corn for poultry feed and tractor parts to be channeled through CARE. (LOU)
- 4. Protest to Syria. Walt Stoessel called in the Syrian Ambassador to register a strong US protest over recent claims by President Assad that the US was instigating domestic violence in Syria. Assad's intemperate remarks followed Phil Habib's assurances to him -- on your behalf -- that the US was not involved in internal events in Syria. Walt warned that such rhetoric would not contribute to better relations. We are following up the protest here with a parallel demarche in Damascus. (S)

SECRET

RDS 2/3 3/10/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

DECLASSIFIED

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BY LW MARADATE 2/2/16

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## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

W SECRET ATTACHM

March 12, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's evening report for Thursday March 11, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

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William C. VALUELW

oc: The Vice President 5088W 50 Joac B. U

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## THE SECRETARY OF STATE



WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

From

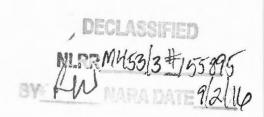
Alexander M. Haig, Jr.



- Lunch for President Siad. After your meeting with the Somali President, I provided some figures to Siad showing that our FY 83 economic and military assistance for Somalia will be substantially greater than the amounts we are providing in FY 82. I pointed out that Somalia is already our second largest aid recipient in sub-Saharan Africa. Siad expressed satisfaction with the warm atmosphere of his Washington visit. He said he will be able to report to his people that as a result of his meetings here Somalia has achieved a meaningful political understanding with the U.S. (C)
- Nuclear Freeze Proposal. As you know, the idea of a freeze on the development, production and deployment of nuclear weapons-highlighted by the Kennedy/Hatfield resolution -- is gaining support throughout the country. Such a freeze would force an abandonment of your strategic modernization program and frustrate our efforts to correct the current strategic imbalance. It would also deprive us of needed leverage for the significant reductions in nuclear weapons we seek in both the current INF negotiations and future START negotiations. I raised these concerns yesterday before the Senate saying that while your Administration shares the desire to curb nuclear arms competition, the freeze proposal constitutes not only bad defense, but bad arms We have established an interagency group to prepare a coordinated Administration strategy on this initiative for your approval. (S)
- Habib: Discussions in Beirut. On his second stop in Beirut, Phil talked again with President Sarkis, the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister, whom he briefed fully on his talks in Israel, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Jordan. Sarkis was particularly interested in Phil's confirmation that an attack on Israelis elsewhere in the world could not be construed as a violation of the cease-fire on Lebanon's southern border. The Lebanese leadership remains concerned over the lack of progress toward Lebanese reconciliation, particularly in the period leading up to the election. The Prime Minister noted a recent surge of popular support for the central government. Sarkis hinted to Phil that he wants U.S. help to extend Lebanese control throughout southern Lebanon and to execute his plan for a phased Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon. But he had no specific ideas on what more the U.S. might do. (S)

RDS 2/3 3/11/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)





#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 13, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's evening report for Friday March 12, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

WASHINGTON

SENSITIVE

March 12, 1982

RECEIVED THE SECRETARY OF STATE

82 MAR 13 A 9: 34 MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.



- 1. My Meeting With Cheysson. Cheysson and I continued the very useful exchange after lunch. He laid particular stress again on the desire of the French to cooperate more closely with the Germans, including in the military area--a development which we will want to watch carefully. I confirmed Mitterrand's assurances to you that there will be "no more surprises" and no new sales of arms to Nicaragua. French were obliged to carry out their existing contract with the Nicaraguans, they will check with us before any future shipments under that contract. Cheysson also informed me that the French have decided to comply with our request that they not sell the Soviets some sophisticated telephone equipment which could have significant technological utility for the Soviets. (SECRET/SENSITIVE)
- East-West Economic Mission. Today Jim Buckley concluded his meetings with Allied Ambassadors to discuss the East-West economic mission he will lead to Europe this Saturday. Briefing the Ambassadors of France, Germany, the UK, Italy, Belgium, Canada, Japan, as well as the EC Delegation Chief over the past few days, Jim: (a) stressed that the interagency mission will focus primarily on restricting and raising the costs of official export credits to the Soviet Union; (b) noted our historic opportunity to take steps together which, while emphasizing continued concern over Poland, would significantly strengthen Western security; (c) reviewed your decision to defer further action on the sanctions announced in December pending a report on the results of the mission, and your interest in keeping a focus on Poland; and (d) explained that the mission will also discuss limits on imports from the Soviet Union and Allied cooperation to limit dependence on Soviet enerqy. (S)
- 3. Madrid CSCE Conference. Fulfilling the "gentlemen's agreement" reached on Monday, the Madrid conference recessed today until November 9, with an appeal to complete an agreement in the fall on the basis of the neutral's draft concluding document. Austrian Foreign Minister Pahr, who attended today's session, reportedly criticized East-West confrontation at Madrid and the refusal by the U.S. and NATO states to negotiate during the session. Anticipating such charges, especially from the East, we are undertaking an active campaign to ensure public understanding that repression in Poland is to blame for making negotiations impossible. (C)

RDS 2/3 3/12/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

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FROM/LOCATION/

WILLIAM P. CLARK/THE SITUATION ROOM/THE WHITE HOUSE

TO/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. DAVID FISCHER FOR THE PRESIDENT/CAMP DAVID

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INFORMATION ADDEES/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS:

SECRET

CLASSIFICATION RW3/15/13

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE(6) **MEMORANDUM** 



WASHINGTON

SECRET/SENSITIVE ATTACHMENT

March 16, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Acting Secretary Stoessel's Evening Report

Attached is acting Secretary Stoessel's Evening Report for March 15, 1982.

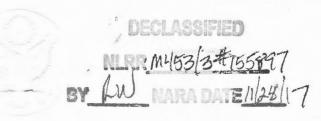
cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
James Baker
Michael Deaver

SECRET/SENSITIVE ATTACHMENT

Sec.3.4(b), E.O. 12958, as amended White House Guidelines, Sept. 11, 2006
BY NARA, RW DATE 3/15/13

## SEGRET

SENSITIVE



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

March 15, 1982 HITE HOUSE

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

From:

Walter J. Stoessel, Jr. Acting Secretary of State

- Meeting with Austrian Foreign Minister Pahr. Foreign Minister Pahr's brief private visit to Washington provided an opportunity to state our unhappiness over aspects of Libyan leader Qaddafi's visit to Austria earlier this week. I met with Pahr today and told him (a) we deplored the critical remarks which Qaddafi made about the US, and (b) there was a need for the Austrian government to correct the record. Pahr emphasized in response that the Austrians did correct the record by getting Qaddafi to moderate his language toward the end of his visit after Austrian Chancellor Kreisky used his toast at the official dinner to disassociate Austria from Libyan criticism of the US. Pahr said that Austria clearly has many differences with Libya, but believes it is worth maintaining a dialogue with Qaddafi. I outlined the hard reasons for our measures against Libya, and noted our concern over reports that Austria might sell arms to Qaddafi. Pahr said that any sales of "defensive" weapons would not be approved unless Libya improved its relations with neighboring states.
- Preempting Brezhnev's Possible Arms Control Initiative/Nuclear Freeze. Soviet leader Brezhnev may take the opportunity of his scheduled speech to the Soviet Trade Union Congress on Tuesday to make a "dramatic" new initiative on intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces, seeking to portray the US as the cause of an impasse in the Geneva talks. He may offer some variant of the old moratorium proposal or an offer to the British and French to set the SS-20 level in Europe at the total number of French and British strategic nuclear systems. To counter this possible Soviet effort, we sent contingency guidance to the NATO Allies to ensure a coordinated response, and we backgrounded the Washington press on the Soviet deployments and status of the Geneva talks. On the nuclear freeze resolution introduced last week by Senators Kennedy and Hatfield, we (a) have begun informal meetings with Congressional members and staff; (b) drafted an alternate resolution for possible introduction in Congress; and (c) are preparing for wide distribution a discussion paper defining Administration policy.
- 3. Classified Briefing on El Salvador Insurgency. At State's request, Bobby Inman today presented a highly classified briefing for the bipartisan leadership in the House, presenting evidence that the insurgency in El Salvador is being controlled from Nicaragua. We believe the group, which included Speaker O'Neill, Majority Leader Wright, Minority Leader Michel, and a previous critic, Congressman Barnes, found the evidence persuasive and credible.

SECRET

The President has seen

## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

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### SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 17, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

or

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's evening report for Tuesday March 16, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

### '82 MAR 17 A8:50

6

THE SECRETARY OF STATE WASHINGTON



March 16, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

82 MAR 1

From

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.



- Lunch With Speaker O'Neill. In a wide-ranging discussion at lunch, Tip O'Neill made a number of positive observations about the importance of a bipartisan approach to foreign policy, where the executive branch is in control. He expressed considerable frustration over the lack of discipline in both branches of government on foreign policy, especially among members of the House elected since 1974. (C)
- EC Restrictions on Imports from the USSR. On March 15, the European Community announced cuts in imports from the Soviet Union totalling \$120 million per year (just above 1% of EC imports from the This is considerably less than the \$400 million originally announced by the EC Commission. Nonetheless, these new quantitative restrictions advance the Community's objective of sending a unified political signal to the Soviets (Greece is an exception). (C)
- 3. Ambassador Okawara Calls on Under Secretary Stoessel. call on Walt Stoessel, the Japanese Ambassador said he hoped that next week's visit by Foreign Minister Sakurauchi would be treated in the broader terms of U.S.-Japan cooperation rather than simply as another round of discussion on bilateral trade and defense issues. Just back from Tokyo, Okawara said Japanese leaders were concerned that treatment of bilateral trade issues is increasingly influenced by emotionalism. (C)
- Law of the Sea Conference. The Group of 77 (G77) Nations replied cordially to our amendments package today specifying their opposition to U.S. amendments on a number of issues. They were silent on some important matters, however, including our proposed amendment to obtain blocking power on important council decisions. While the G77 took the position that the U.S. amendments could not be the basis for negotiation, they did not close the door on further discussions of the underlying issues we have raised. Their statement implied that if the U.S. proposals were supported by a group of states they might be viewed even more seriously. In fact, a group of ten western countries have undertaken to provide compromise proposals using your January 29 statement of objectives as the basis for their work. The USSR and China generally condemned the U.S. amendments as being non-negotiable, although in a milder tone than usual. (S)



RDS 2/3 3/16/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

RR M453/3 #155898

**MEMORANDUM** 

## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

AW -SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 19, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

6

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Acting Secretary Stoessel's Evening Report

Attached is Walter Stoessel's evening report for Thursday March 18, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

82 MR 19 A9:50

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF STATE** WASHINGTON

March 18, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

From:

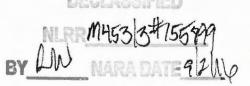
Walter J. Stoessel, Jr.

Acting Secretary of State

- Visit of Bavarian Minister-President Franz-Josef Strauss. Strauss also met separately today with me and Eagleburger. His principal theme was similar to what he said to you -- that the West must develop a new strategy toward the Soviet Union, relying on greater assertiveness. He believes the Soviets take aggressive steps only in areas where the West shows weakness, e.g. Angola in 1974 (although Strauss does believe that the Soviet position in Africa is now vulnerable and should be exploited). Strauss expressed concern over US-West German relations, although he is stressing to the US media that the leftists in Germany are a small minority. Finally, Strauss believes that Schmidt's Socialist Party is in rapid decline and he indicated his clear belief that a new (CDU/CSU) government cannot be far in the future.
- Middle East: Working Session of Autonomy Negotiations Delayed. Still smarting from Mubarek's refusal to go to Jerusalem, the Israelis now insist that at least a portion of next week's working level session be held in that city. The Egyptians have refused and the session is postponed until the issue is resolved. We tried to finesse the issue by inviting both parties here, but the Israelis would not agree. We doubt that either side wants the talks to founder on this issue and will wait to see if Israel's Cabinet meeting on Sunday produces a compromise. If not, we will have to weigh in again.
- 3. Anti-Terrorism Training Program. We have begun formal consultations with the Congress on the Administration's proposed anti-terrorism training program for foreign law enforcement officials. The reaction has been positive and we are optimistic that the Congress will authorize and fund the program in order to begin the training this coming October.

RDS-1 3/18/02 (STOESSEL, Walter J., Jr.)

SENSITIVE



**MEMORANDUM** 



## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 18, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

By

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Acting Secretary Stoessel's Evening Report

Attached is acting Secretary Stoessel's Evening Report for March 17, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
James Baker
Michael Deaver

SECRET ATTACHMENT



DECLASSIFIED
Sec.3.4(b), E.O. 12588, co amended
White House Gudelines, Sept. 11, 2006
BY NARA RW DATE 3/15/13

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NLRR M453/3#155900

BY LW MARA DATE 9/2/16

# DEPARTMENT OF STATE PIL: 10

March 17, 1982 TE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

Walter J. Stoessel, Jr., Acting

- 1. Brezhnev's Speech. The preemptive and quick reactive measures which we took to defuse the Brezhnev "freeze" proposal have had the desired effect. Both US and European media gave full and generally supportive play to our perspective on the Brezhnev proposals. Key European governments also took supportive stands. Brezhnev's latest freeze initiative, like his earlier one, will continue to receive a certain amount of play here and in Europe, but will not threaten the firm alliance consensus behind our current negotiating approach. At my luncheon meeting today with the Nordic Ambassadors, they said their governments felt that the Brezhnev speech had backfired on the Soviets, being seen in their countries as the phony ploy it really is.
- 2. India. In a meeting today with Larry Eagleburger, Indian Ambassador Narayanan emphasized Mrs. Gandhi's interest in a more constructive dialogue with the US. He noted that now may be the time for closer consultations between our two countries. Recent statements by Indian officials have come out in favor of better communications with the US, and have not repeated their critical rhetoric about our arms to Pakistan. You have agreed to invite Mrs. Gandhi to visit Washington in July. This should help considerably to lessen Indian concerns and enable us to get our relations with India back on a more positive course.
- 3. Human Rights and AID Programs. Congressman Bonkers held a one-hour hearing today on the use of the AID program to increase adherence to internationally recognized standards of human rights. Bonkers was joined only by Congressman LeBoutellier. The single contentious issue in the hearing was the use of \$200,000 of the AID Human Rights fund for election observers in El Salvador. Bonkers characterized the effort as an extraordinary project about which his subcommittee should have been consulted in advance. (Bonkers' complaints focused on propriety, rather than the legality of the use of the Human Rights fund.) After extensive discussion, Bonkers indicated he did not plan to fight the issue, but suggested he might ask for a GAO report.



### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

EECRET ATTACHMENT

MARCH 20, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Acting Secretary Stoessel's Evening Report

Attached is Walter Stoessel's Evening Report for March 19, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

SENSITIVE

82 MIP 19 PII: 10

DEPARTMENT OF STATE WASHINGTON

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

March 19, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

From:

Walter J. Stoessel, Jr. Acting Secretary of State

- 1. Buckley Mission. Eagleburger called in the French Charge today to stress the need for prompt and concrete action on restraint of credits to the Soviet Union in response to Jim Buckley's present mission to Europe. The Charge responded that the US message was clear, and mentioned the French preference for the Summit preparatory group to look at the issue. Eagleburger agreed that the subject would surely be discussed at the Summit, but stressed the need for a broader group, including the European Community Ten, to be involved. Our Embassy in Bonn has been instructed to make these same points to the Germans. In addition, Al sent letters on credit restrictions to his counterparts in Bonn, Paris, London and Rome, in order to affect consideration of this issue at the meeting of European Community Foreign Ministers on March 22-23.
- 2. Meeting with New Zealand Foreign Minister. The New Zealand Foreign Minister, Warren Cooper, met with me this morning. He emphasized that he is a true supporter and ally of the US, openly welcomed visits by our nuclear powered ships to New Zealand, and indicated that the US could count on his government's support on most issues.
- 3. Briefing for Religious Leaders. I hosted a briefing this morning on your Caribbean Basin plan for some forty American religious leaders from around the country. Bill Brock, Peter McPherson and Tom Enders joined me in briefing the group. Our presentation was well received, and several representatives of large denominations expressed their support for the program. The group had some tough questions on Central America, but the general tone of the meeting was very positive.

RDS-1 3/19/02 (STOESSEL, Walter J., Jr.)

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SEGRET

SENSITIVE

The President has seen\_

### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

AW SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 23, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

IC

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's evening report for Monday March 22, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

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SECRET

March 22, 1982

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR:

R: THE PRESIDENT

From

Alexander M. Haig,



- Law of the Sea Conference: Status Report. The G-77 has rejected American amendments reflecting your objectives as a basis for negotiations. Compromise proposals drawn up by a group of 11 non G-77 countries show some movement toward the U.S. position but they omit many key issues and are not a basis for either an agenda or negotiation. Meanwhile, a key leader of the G-77 has said that action is underway to formalize the treaty text in about ten days in the belief that even if the U.S. and its allies stay out, a convention will exist to stifle deep seabed mining investment and to force the West to negotiate with the G-77 in the future. World group apparently prefers this strategy to the sacrifices of principle that would be required to accommodate us. The G-77 also hopes that we will allow our allies to negotiate reasonable amendments so that a future U.S. administration could accede. It is not clear whether these points were made for tactical purposes or whether they reflect the G-77's substantive position. We are trying to persuade the G-77 to agree to a negotiating agenda which would include all of your objectives but even with an acceptable agenda it will be extremely difficult to achieve our The allies are still the key to our success at the conference. They are supporting our efforts but the strength and duration of their support is uncertain. In any event, negotiations are likely to occur only in an atmosphere of eleventh hour brinksmanship and we may have to move quickly in response to G-77 moves. (S)
- 2. Nicaragua's Call for Security Council Meeting. Jeane Kirkpatrick continued consultations today with other Security Council members on Nicaragua's request for a meeting. She made every effort to gain support for blocking Nicaragua's effort but even the British felt the Nicaraguans had a procedural right to air their views. Even though we cannot block such a meeting, the debate offers an opportunity to expose Nicaragua's behavior. Honduras, for instance, is asking to raise its own concerns at the meeting; we are encouraging other friends in the region to join us in putting Nicaragua on the defensive. If a Council resolution seems inevitable, we will have one of our friends table a procedural resolution referring the dispute to the OAS, where it properly belongs. (C)
- 3. West Bank Violence. Current demonstrations on the West Bank are the worst since November 1980 and Jordan has formally requested a Security Council meeting to discuss the situation. We have expressed public concern over the violence, urging restraint on all parties. This development will require very careful handling if we are to avoid serious injury to the peace process. (C)

RDS 2/3 3/22/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

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MLRR M453/3 # 155902

BY LW MARA DATE 9/2/16

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## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

W SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 24, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

D

Attached is Al Haig's evening report for Tuesday March 23, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

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'82 MAR 24 A9:40



### THE SECRETARY OF STATE WASHINGTON

no MAP 24 A9: 22

March 23, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.



- Meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister. In useful and broad-ranging talks today with the Japanese Foreign Minister, I emphasized the importance of continuing sanctions against the USSR and also solicited Japanese help in conveying to the Chinese that we have made great efforts toward agreement in the context of our political imperatives. The Foreign Minister seemed supportive on most counts but clearly indicated that Japan does not want to exceed the Western European governments on sanctions. In response to my urgings for early action to open access to Japanese markets and to accelerate Japan's defense efforts, he could not provide a clear indication of where we go next on trade. He assured me, however, that Japan would make a genuine effort to respond to our concerns. (S)
- Begin Retains Power. Prime Minister Begin nearly lost a no-confidence vote in the Knesset today. He will apparently remain in office and, paradoxically, may even be strengthened by the event. Begin's challengers from Labor, the left and the far right wing have now been impressed by his readiness to go to the brink; with the public opinion polls showing a growing Likud lead, many of them could lose their seats in a new election. Even if Begin lost a subsequent no-confidence motion, he would remain the head of a caretaker government, giving him extraordinary powers under Israeli law, until a new government is formed or new elections held. (C)
- West Bank Violence. Israel's tough response has had some effect in dampening demonstrations, but the situation remains extremely tense. We expressed our concern again today. Ambassador Lewis will be discussing the matter with Begin, urging him to avoid lethal means of quelling demonstrations. The Security Council could convene formally on the West Bank issue as early as tomorrow afternoon. (S)
- Nicaragua in Security Council. Nicaragua has requested that the Security Council not convene until Thursday, apparently because Nicaraguan Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega wants to address the Non-Aligned Movement in New York tomorrow. Honduran Foreign Minister Paz has stolen a march on Nicaragua by appealing to the OAS for a peaceful resolution of the border tensions between the two countries. We are now preparing to respond firmly to Nicaragua in the Security Council in coordination with friendly states in the region who will urge that the matter be remanded to the OAS. (C) DECLASSIFIED