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THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

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January 24, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From : Alexander M. Haig, Jr. 

1. Messages to Gromyko and Allies on Poland: To follow up our demarche to the Soviets yesterday, I sent a letter to Gromyko stating that I would work for development of US-Soviet relations on the basis of restraint and reciprocity. However, my message focussed on the irresponsible Soviet treatment of the hostage situation and our concern over the Polish situation.

Gromyko is on vacation, but in receiving the letter Acting Foreign Minister Korniyenko expressed his "personal" view to our Charge that it was unfortunate that the initial communication from the new Administration dealt with such issues.

I also sent messages to key allied Foreign Ministers and NATO Secretary General Luns today, stressing the importance of continuing consultations and contingency planning on the Polish situation and informing them of my communication to Gromyko. (S)

2. Panama's Relationship with Cuba: In light of continuing evidence that Panama is moving closer to Cuba, I sent a stiff message to General Torrijos and President Royo. The message underlined our serious concern over the apparent direction of Panama's relationship with Cuba. It noted our alarm with the size of, and Panamanian support for, the Cuban commercial presence in Panama, as well as by the cooperative efforts between Panama and Cuba that help to destabilize events in the region, particularly in El Salvador. While pointing out that we expect to work cooperatively with Panama under the terms of the Canal Treaties, the message alerted them that our concerns will have a bearing on future USG policy decisions. (S)

RDS 2/3 1/24/01 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

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DATE: SEP 11, 2008
BY: [unclear]
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3. Lunch With French Ambassador de Laboulaye: I attended a lunch at the French Embassy in honor of retired Ambassador Francois de Rose, an old friend and strong supporter of close French-American ties, who served for many years as French Ambassador to NATO. De Laboulaye spoke very eloquently about the importance of American leadership, of his hopes for a restoration of coherence and consistency in US foreign policy, and of his desire to cooperate in every possible way with the new Administration. David Rockefeller, Donald Rumsfeld, and the Ambassadors of the UK and Italy attended. (U)

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

January 26, 1981

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN
SUBJECT: Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Herewith Secretary Haig's Evening Reports of January 24 and 25, 1981.

SECRET ATTACHMENT

RW
3/8/13