

155357  
~~SECRET~~

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

March 6, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From : Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

1. Letter to you from Brezhnev. Soviet Charge Bessmertnykh came in late this afternoon to deliver a letter from Brezhnev to you. Bessmertnykh did not provide us with an English translation, but our initial reading indicates that it repeats Brezhnev's foreign policy proposals at the 26th Party Congress, adding a few more details and highlighting the need for dialogue and a summit. We will send you a full translation and analysis tomorrow. Bessmertnykh had little to add, except to note that the letter placed more emphasis on the positive aspects of U.S.-Soviet relations than did Brezhnev's Congress speech, which shows (he claimed) the Soviet's desire for good relations. He supposed that similar messages would be delivered in other capitals. The letter requires careful analysis and consultation with our allies before we decide on our course of action. (C)

2. PIA Hijacking Incident. Larry Eagleburger called in Soviet Charge Bessmertnykh today to emphasize our concern that the Soviets and the Afghans were using the Kabul hijacking incident to try to gain Pakistani recognition of the Afghanistan Government, and to press the Soviets again to use their good offices to get a quick, safe resolution of the incident. Bessmertnykh said he would report the demarche to Moscow immediately. He denied the incident is a recognition ploy and suggested that we were more interested in an issue for public consumption than in a settlement--a point we firmly rebuffed. (C)

3. East-West Relations. Also today Walter Stoessel chaired a small group including Dick Allen, Fred Ikle, and JCS and CIA representatives to begin an examination of our goals in East/West relations. The group agreed to continue its efforts and to have recommendations for you by early April. (C)

4. Saudi F-15's. Today's announcement of the decision on the Saudi F-15 enhancement package and our press backgrounder went very well as did earlier calls to Percy, Pell, Bloomfield and Zablocki. Nevertheless, we can anticipate strong reaction from pro-Israeli interests. We also formally informed the Saudis, and while they remain unhappy about the bomb racks, the reaction was positive. They are clearly pleased by the strategic implications of your decision.

RDS 2/3 3/6/01 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED

NLRP 10453/Z #155357

BY CA NARA DATEZ/3/16

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

100  
10  
The President has seen \_\_\_\_\_

SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 9, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN

SUBJECT: Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Herewith Secretary Haig's Evening Report of March 6, 1981.

Attachment

cc: The Vice President  
Ed Meese  
James Baker

SECRET ATTACHMENT

RW  
3/11/81