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THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

March 24, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From : Alexander M. Haig, Jr. *A*

1. Meeting with Mexican Foreign Secretary Castaneda. In our meeting today, we touched briefly on North/South Summit issues and on preparations for your forthcoming meeting with Lopez Portillo. Castaneda was informed of our position on the role of Cuba and USSR in El Salvador and that we supported a political solution by the Salvadorans. He also supported a political solution but suggested a different approach: negotiations between Duarte and the Left. I made clear that we would have no part in promoting or conducting such negotiations; we supported free elections instead. We parted with a promise to keep in close touch. (S)

2. Testimony Before the Subcommittee on International Operations of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. In comment on my testimony concerning the State Department, Chairman Fascell seemed particularly keen to impress upon me that the Foreign Service was a very able corps that should be used to the maximum extent in making policy. Congressman Roth echoed this concern. The Chairman also stated that he hoped the Department would emphasize its consular services and maintain the "dissent channel" through which lower-ranking officers could reach the top with dissenting views. (U)

3. Hill Briefings on Sinai Security. Nick Veliotes and Mike Sterner informally briefed the Zablocki and Hamilton Subcommittees of the House Foreign Affairs Committee this afternoon on our decision to supply U.S. troops for the multi-national peace-keeping force in the Sinai. Almost all seemed to accept U.S. participation in view of our commitment to the Parties. Several Representatives were clearly concerned about speculation that the role of our contingent might be broader than keeping peace in Sinai. We will be briefing the House Armed Services and Defense Appropriations Subcommittees in the next day or two. We have also offered further briefings for the Senate. (U)

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

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BY CJ NARA DATE 7/3/16

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~SECRET ATTACHMENT~~

March 25, 1981

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RZ

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN

SUBJECT: Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Herewith Secretary Haig's Evening Report of March 24, 1981.

cc: The Vice President  
Ed Meese  
James Baker

~~SECRET ATTACHMENT~~

RW  
3/11/81

Historical File