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THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

March 26, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

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

1. Savimbi: We phoned Savimbi today to discuss the postponement of his visit. He fully agreed with our position. To prevent misunderstanding of the delay, I have encouraged the Saudis to support Savimbi; friendly African and Arab states will also be told that postponement does not diminish UNITA's importance to the U.S. An emissary will be sent to Rabat to review these recent developments directly with Savimbi and to hear his views on our strategy. (S)

2. French Fuel Supply for South Africa's Koeberg Reactors. We have decided to accept the French offer to substitute for the United States temporarily as a supplier of low-enriched uranium for the French constructed Koeberg reactors. French substitution would only be for the initial load and first reload for each reactor. The French have offered their fuel supply under essentially the same conditions negotiated with the Government of South Africa in June 1978. (Pretoria never agreed to the terms.) These include adherence to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and acceptance of international safeguards. We also confirmed to the French the assurance made previously to the South Africans, that in the event of possible UN sanctions forbidding nuclear trade with South Africa, our objective would be to avoid any action that might undermine this supply arrangement.

The French Ambassador will be called in Friday to be informed of the decision. A State/DOE team will travel to Paris early next week to meet with both the South Africans and the French to discuss the arrangement.

Policy considerations and the terms of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Act (U.S. legislation) make it impossible for us to supply this fuel under present circumstances without a Presidential waiver. But in light of earlier evidence of a South African nuclear explosives program, the use of a Presidential waiver would raise great political difficulties. (S)

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NLR/0453/27 155511  
BY CW NARA DATE 7/3/04

RDS 2/3 3/26/01 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

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MEMORANDUM

The President has seen \_\_\_\_\_

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 27, 1981

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN

SUBJECT: Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Herewith Secretary Haig's Evening Report of March 26, 1981.

cc: The Vice President  
Ed Meese  
James Baker

SECRET ATTACHMENT

RW  
3/11/83

Historical File