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THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 30, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Alexander M. Haig, Jr. *AH*

1. Genscher Call: German Foreign Minister Genscher called this morning to suggest that the Poles be made aware of the need to keep the political process in motion if they want continued economic aid from the West. Genscher also suggested that the US stress to the Polish Deputy Prime Minister when he visits next week that the need to avoid violence was crucial.

Genscher plans to visit Moscow this Thursday and he promised to press the Soviets on Poland. Genscher will send an emissary here to report on the results of his visit.

Genscher also told me that Brezhnev had asked Chancellor Schmidt to have a working meeting with him in June. The Foreign Minister added that Schmidt will agree, in principle, but with the condition that the meeting could only take place after the Ottawa Economic Summit. (S)

2. Poland: The Polish unions have called off Tuesday's general strike. The outcome of Sunday's Central Committee meeting also gives cause for some optimism that internal strife can be avoided in Poland. The military situation remains ominous, however, and it is clear that the Soviets have increased preparations for possible intervention. But we have no indication yet of a Soviet decision to intervene. Meanwhile, the Polish economic and financial situation continues to deteriorate. (S)

3. Political Directors Meeting: Highlights: Meeting with French, German and British political directors in Bonn, Larry Eagleburger found interest in our near-term strategy for restraining the Soviets and in using the May Ministerials to project Alliance solidarity. His interlocutors stressed the need to keep alive the possibility for improved relations with the Soviets, lest they conclude there is nothing to lose by further aggression (i.e., in Poland). They felt that our willingness to move forward on TNF and CDE provided sufficient short-term signals on arms control.

On Southern Africa, the three were amenable to our approach to Namibia, and were relieved to hear that Chester Crocker plans a contact group meeting as he returns from Africa.

On Poland, all three urged caution if Jarulzelski imposes Martial Law, to give the Government, Party, Church and Solidarity maneuvering room to keep the lid on and the Soviets out. All agreed on the need for economic aid to keep the political game alive as long as possible. Larry pushed hard to prevent signs of Alliance differences on Polish contingency measures. (S)

RDS 2/3 3/30/01 (Haig, Alexander M., Jr.)

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BY CW NARA DATE 7/3/16

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 31, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN

SUBJECT: Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Herewith Secretary Haig's Evening Report of March 30, 1981.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
James Baker

SECRET ATTACHMENT

RW
3/11/83