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NARA DATE TOLL

WASHINGTON

June 10, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

From

Walter J. Steessel, Jr., Acting Secretary of State

1. Situation in Poland. The June 9-10 special plenum of the Polish Communist Party, which was forced by Soviet pressure, is still in session. The current leadership of the Party is apparently intact and determined to go forward with its reforms, despite harsh hardliner attacks. The Plenum reportedly rejected a Politburo offer for votes of confidence on each individual member. If the Plenum now ends leaving Party boss Kania in place, the ball will be back in Moscow's court. The next step in the Soviet pressure campaign on the Poles may be a Warsaw Pact Summit. Some Pact members are evidently wavering on the question of holding a Summit, and we are following this closely in Eastern European capitals.

- 2. Meeting with Dobrynin. In a statement which Dobrynin gave to me at a meeting he requested this morning, the Soviets strongly criticized the Israeli raid on the Iraqi nuclear facility, implied that the U.S. was behind the action, and asserted that we could not avoid sharing responsibility for it. I strongly rejected the allegations, and used the occasion to reiterate our position on non-intervention in Poland. Dobrynin sought to downplay the significance of the recent warning letter from the Soviets to the Poles (the meeting took place before we received news of the Plenum in Warsaw).
- 3. Secretary's Meeting with Chilean Foreign Minister: Late yesterday, the Secretary had a friendly meeting with Chilean Foreign Minister Rojas. The Chileans want to speed the process of normalizing relations, but are also concerned that we appear to be more interested in Argentina and that this will "tilt" our view of the border dispute settlement between Chile and Argentina. Secretary Haig assured Rojas that we will move as quickly as possible to restore normal relations, emphasized there was no bias in our policy toward Argentina, and said we would also work to preserve peace should the Papal mediation fail.
- 4. Procedural Preparations for TNF Negotiations: Our people met today with Dobrynin's deputy, Bessmertnykh, to begin discussing the procedural questions (timing, venue, etc.) regarding talks on TNF. Our plan is for Foreign Minister Gromyko and the Secretary to announce agreement to begin TNF negotiations when they meet this fall at the UN General Assembly. Bessmertnykh was agreeable to this approach, but said the procedural issues should be settled quickly so that we could move on to substance. For our part, we can resist Soviet attempts to inject haste into the process and still be in a good position to show Schmidt and other NATO Allies that we are moving systematically toward TNF arms control as well as TNF deployments.

SECRET

RDS 2/3 6/10/01 (STOESSEL, Walter J., Jr.)

MEMORANDUM

SECRET

The President has seen

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

June 11, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

RICHARD V. ALLEN

SUBJECT:

Acting Secretary Stoessel's Evening Report

Attached is Acting Secretary Stoessel's Evening Report for June 10, 1981

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

SECRET ATTACHMENT

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3/12/13