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THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 1, 1981

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From : Alexander M. Haig, *(R)*

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BY LN NARA DATE 5/16

1. Habib Mission: Talks in Lebanon. Ambassador Habib spent the past two days in Beirut and proceeded to Damascus today. While in Beirut he met with Prime Minister Wazzan and Foreign Minister Boutros and other Lebanese leaders. Phil reports that the Lebanese continue to believe that the cease-fire should be maintained. According to the Foreign Minister, Lebanon got full support from the Arabs at the Fez Summit for preserving the cease-fire. Even the PLO, Boutros told Habib, reiterated its wish to abide by it. However, the Lebanese are focusing more intently on the continued presence of the Syrians and Palestinians and the impact this will have on next year's presidential election if no withdrawals occur by then. Until he gets a feel for the overall situation in Lebanon and the other countries he plans to visit, Phil plans to hold off making any recommendations for U.S. actions. (S)

2. Japan: Cabinet Reshuffled. The long-awaited reshuffle of the Suzuki Cabinet was announced yesterday. While such changes are more reflective of competition within ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) than of policy substance, there are some appointments of interest to us. Most notable is the replacement of the flamboyant Sunao Sonoda as Foreign Minister by the reputedly more cautious Yoshio Sakurauchi. The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) goes to Shintaro Abe, one of the outstanding younger leaders of the LDP. The appointment of these ministers, who represent mainstream LDP thinking on the vital importance of close relations with the U.S., should end much of the bickering between the Foreign Ministry and the MITI that has complicated trade issues with the U.S. The new Defense Agency Director General, Soichiro Ito, is relatively unknown. It remains to be seen whether he can exercise stronger leadership than his predecessor Omura. (C)

3. Spain Extracts Commitment from Greece on NATO Scenario. On Tuesday afternoon Spanish Prime Minister Calvo Sotelo apparently secured a commitment from Greek Prime Minister Papandreou that Greece would join the NATO consensus welcoming Spanish membership at the December 2 North Atlantic Council (NAC) meeting in Brussels. Last minute Greek reservations forced postponement of the NAC meeting and welcome to Spain previously scheduled for Tuesday. In a series of forceful demarches we and other Allies told the Greeks that a delay in welcoming the Spanish bid was unacceptable at this late date and would severely embarrass the Spanish government. (S)

4. My Meeting With Philippine Foreign Minister Romulo. General Romulo, one of our staunchest friends, called on me today, conveying President Marcos' assurances that the Philippines would always be with us on national security matters. I used the occasion to give Romulo a read-out on our problem with China and asked him to assist in explaining our position to the Chinese. (C)

RDS 2/3 12/01/01 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

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The President has seen

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

December 2, 1981

PC

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JAMES W. NANCE

SUBJECT: Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for Tuesday,
December 1, 1981.

CC: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

12/2/81

SECRET ATTACHMENT

RU
3/14/83