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NLRR M453/2 # 155828

BY CV

NARA DATE 2/3/16

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

81 DEC 8 P 8: 19

WASHINGTON

December 8, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR USE THE PRESIDENT
SITUATION ROOM

FROM: William P. Clark, Acting WPC

1. Sakharov Hunger Strike. Earlier today, Dr. Sakharov's daughter-in-law talked with Anatoliy Aleksandrov, President of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, who told her that Dr. Sakharov was in "very serious" condition. This conversation was apparently the source of a rumor in the United States that Dr. Sakharov was in "critical" condition and near death -- a report that, happily, has turned out to be false. However, the appearance of this rumor has also highlighted the fact that we have no firsthand information about the Sakharovs' present situation. As a precautionary measure, we are examining carefully what the U.S. response should be if Dr. Sakharov or his wife dies, and we will be reporting our conclusions to you soon. (S)

2. Foreign Policy Initiatives. This morning Al met with the House Republican Conference, chaired by Jack Kemp, to provide a "pep talk" and solicit Republican support for your foreign policy initiatives. Emphasis, of course, was placed on the foreign assistance authorization and appropriation measures, both of which are scheduled for Floor action within the week. (C)

3. Airline Hijackings. The three hijacked Venezuelan airliners arrived in Havana at 1100 EST. The hijackers were taken into custody by Cuban authorities and the hostages freed. The Cubans told the aircraft crews that they were free to leave at their convenience. The hijackers appear to be Venezuelan nationals. While the motivation for the hijacking remains unclear, we understand that the hijackers distributed pro-FSLN, anti-Duarte propaganda. We have asked the Cubans to prosecute or extradite the hijackers and have cabled the other Bonn declarants recommending that they might usefully make a similar approach to Havana.

The hijacked Libyan Arab Airlines plane arrived in Beirut at 1415 EST, although the Lebanese authorities had initially refused permission for the aircraft to land. The hijackers, of unknown nationality, are demanding that Qadaffi release a Shiite leader who disappeared in Libya in 1978. (S)

4. UN Secretary General Race. Tanzanian Foreign Minister Salim today announced his withdrawal from balloting in the Secretary General race "in the present circumstances." The Security Council subsequently met in informal consultations and decided on a deadline of 6:00 p.m. Wednesday for submission of additional candidates. The Council will meet again Friday in informal consultations to hold a straw ballot on the names proposed. (C)

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RDS-2/3 12/8/01 (CLARK, WILLIAM P.)

MEMORANDUM

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

The President has seen ~~_____~~

SECRET ATTACHMENT

December 9, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JAMES W. NANCE

SUBJECT: Acting Secretary Clark's Evening Report

Attached is Bill Clark's Evening Report for December 8, 1981.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
James Baker
Michael Deaver

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Sec. 3.4(b), E.O. 12958, as amended
White House Guidelines, Sept. 11, 2008
BY NARA RW, DATE 3/15/13