December 21, 1981

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

M453/3#155838

- 1. Eagleburger's Talks in Rome. Assistant Secretary Eagleburger saw Prime Minister Spadolini and Foreign Minister Colombo in Rome today, as well as Vatican Foreign Affairs Advisor Silvestrini. Colombo and Spadolini were very firm on Poland and the USSR. Colombo favored putting Moscow on notice that CSCE and INF talks may be suspended if events in Poland continue on course. He and Spadolini were also supportive of some measures aimed at Poland. Spadolini wants you to know of his outrage over General Dozier's kidnapping and his instructions to do all possible to find the culprits. The Vatican's Silvestrini said that the Pope had written Jaruzelski a letter drawing on your letter to him but less specific because the Vatican is not sure of the views of the Polish Church. The Vatican is not well informed on events in Poland and is proceeding cautiously. emissary Poggi, currently in Poland, has instructions to see what can be done to resume the dialogue between the government, the Church and Solidarity. We also briefed Ambassadors from NATO, Spain, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand today on U.S. thinking on Poland. We asked that their governments take actions similar to our own so that Warsaw and Moscow understand clearly that we want a stop to repression in Poland.
- Israel and the Golan. Ambassador Lewis reports that members of the Cabinet and Israeli opinion-makers are uneasy over Begin's outburst against the United States. Begin's move is popular with lower class Sephardics -- his natural constituency -- and zealots among the settlers, but the Israelis do not appear to be rallying to the usual degree around the Prime Minister in this crisis. Our cool and calm attitude has put Begin on the defensive and he may soon look for a way to rally support and to regain the initiative in his relations with us. We must therefore be alert to further Israeli surprises on such issues as South Lebanon, overflights of Saudi Arabia, in moving his office to East Jerusalem, or European participation in the Sinai peacekeeping force.
- 3. High-Level Briefings on Poland for Private Sector Groups. We are briefing key private organizations about our policy toward Poland. Prior to your conversation with Lane Kirkland on December 18, a team of Department officers had given the AFL-CIO top command a detailed review of the situation in Poland. We shall remain in close touch with labor on this issue. As for the Church, I briefed Cardinal Krol, Archbishop Hickey and Bishop Broderick (Catholic Relief Services) today. Krol was interviewed by the press upon leaving the Department and expressed full support for our policies. All three expressed support for continuation of humanitarian food aid and Broderick said that CRS could handle additional amounts, if we wished. (C)

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MEMORANDUM THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON SECRET ATTACHMENT December 22, 1981 MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT JAMES W. NANCE FROM: Secretary Haig's Evening Report SUBJECT: Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for Monday, December 21, 1981. CC: The Vice President Ed Meese Jim Baker Mike Deaver SECRET ATTACHMENT '81 18 22 M1 25