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THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

January 5, 1982

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From : Alexander M. Haig, Jr. 

1. Exchange of Americans Held by Angola for Soviets Held by UNITA. The exchange of two alleged American mercenaries held by Angola for two Soviets held by Savimbi's UNITA again appears to be on track. The proposed exchange was first floated by the Soviets with Zaire in June 1981. The U.S. has played a role in trying to expedite communication on the issue, but we have avoided intervening directly with the Soviets. UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi has now indicated to us that he is prepared to cooperate in expediting arrangements. The Angolans are being pressed by the Soviets to cooperate in the exchange. An exact date for the exchange has not yet been fixed, but it could occur as early as the end of January, probably on Zairian territory. (S)

2. Italy and the Soviet Gas Pipeline. Italian Prime Minister Spadolini announced publicly at year's end that his coalition government had decided on a "pause for reflection" regarding Italy's role in the Siberian pipeline project. The "pause" apparently refers to Italy's negotiations for the purchase of Soviet natural gas, not to contracts for building the pipeline itself. The decision stems mainly from partisan political maneuvering (the coalition's Socialists want to embarrass Italy's Communist Party by taking a tougher line on Poland). Important political and economic interests still favor the project, however, and Italy will be careful not to get too far ahead of its European partners on sanctions. Even so, Italy's decision to review its role may indicate that the project is not yet an accomplished fact. We are studying ways we might use this opportunity to delay or stop the pipeline project. (C)

RDS 2/3 1/05/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

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DECLASSIFIED

NLRR 11453/3# 155848  
BY RW NARA DATE 9/2/16

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

The President has seen 1/7/82

RW

SECRET ATTACHMENT

January 6, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT: Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for Tuesday,  
January 5, 1982.

CC: The Vice President  
Ed Meese  
Jim Baker  
Mike Deaver

SECRET ATTACHMENT

RW  
3/15/13