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THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 30, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From : Alexander M. Haig, Jr. *AH*

1. Status of Security Council Debate on Nicaragua. The Debate is scheduled to resume this evening with twelve speakers inscribed. No resolution of any kind has yet been tabled, but we understand that a draft is circulating. Ambassador Kirkpatrick relinquishes the presidency of the Council on Thursday, when Zaire takes over for the month of April. We are sending strong messages to several capitals tonight to discourage any substantive action by the Security Council on the ground that the OAS is the appropriate forum for dealing with the Central American situation. (U)

2. European Council Meeting, March 29-30. Foreign Minister Genscher called me to point out the Council acted favorably on the Buckley mission by announcing that the EC-10 would study with us East-West trade and credits. We issued immediately a press statement stating that we would be working with the Europeans on a common approach. The Council communique highlighted the importance of US-European relations and expressed appreciation for your public statement on the 25th anniversary of the European Community. The European leaders also: (a) held the Soviet Union responsible for Poland, (b) indicated interest in the Caribbean Basin Initiative and willingness to increase EC assistance to the area, (c) deplored the situation on the West Bank and expressed concern about Lebanon, and (d) cited Afghanistan Day and the need for a political solution. (C)

3. The Mood in Congress: Troop Withdrawals. Congressman Toby Roth told Larry Eagleburger today that he is organizing hearings in April to counter growing sentiment in Congress to withdraw troops from Europe over the issue of allied burden sharing. Larry urged that these hearings begin with a thorough review of the importance of NATO to US national security. Without such a review, hearings in the House would resemble those in the Senate Armed Services Committee March 26, where Senators engaged in an emotional attack on specific Allied failures to share NATO's defense burden, ignoring essential Allied contributions and the fundamental importance of NATO. There is a real danger that the growing Congressional debate over troop withdrawals could develop to the point where it would seriously undercut our efforts to improve Alliance burdensharing and encourage the Soviets to increase their efforts to split the Alliance. (S)

RDS 2/3 3/30/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

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BY *AW* DATE 9/2/16

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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March 31, 1982

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SECRET ATTACHMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: WILLIAM P. CLARK *wpc*

SUBJECT: Secretary Haig's Evening Report

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

pc

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for March 30, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Michael Deaver

SECRET ATTACHMENT