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THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

April 27, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Alexander M. Haig, Jr. *AMH*

1. Law of the Sea Conference. All formal amendments to the Treaty text have been defeated, or not pressed to a vote--among the latter, those co-sponsored by the US and its allies on deep seabed issues. The amendment concerning prior notification and authorization for the passage of warships through the territorial sea was withdrawn by the co-sponsors. The main work of the conference for the next three days will be the negotiation of outstanding seabed issues. The US delegation intends to continue to press acceptance of all US amendments. The final determination of which texts, if any, go into the final Convention when it is adopted on Friday will be made by President Koh. He will include those texts which he believes enhance the prospects for consensus and will not rely on US acquiescence to determine his choice. We are developing a strategy for dealing with our allies in the event that the final text is unacceptable. ~~(C)~~
2. Meeting with Tunisian Prime Minister Mzali. During our meeting today, the Prime Minister brought a warm message of friendship from President Bourguiba. Mzali is satisfied with our \$85 million FY 1982 FMS program and our request for \$140 million in FY 1983, half on concessional terms. But he also wants continuing US help in the economic field which he feels is the real basis for the security of Tunisia. I told him we would try to be helpful with their new program to send college students to the United States. The Prime Minister was also encouraged to invite private American investment in the Tunisian economy. I seconded Cap Weinberger's promise to urge the Saudis to help with funding for Tunisia's military equipment. ~~(C)~~
3. UN General Assembly Special Session on Palestine. Today, after several days of negotiations, the Arab group tabled a harsh, anti-Israeli draft resolution. The vote takes place Wednesday. In response to our demarches, a call for a review of Israel's UN membership and language explicitly condemning the US for our recent vetoes in the Security Council were deleted. But the text is still critical of the US. It also states that Israel "is not a peace-loving nation"--the same language that appeared in a similar General Assembly resolution on the Golan Heights in February. This could be used as a basis for questioning Israel's membership in the UN. Though we continue to mobilize negative votes and abstentions, we expect that the resolution will pass. ~~(C)~~

RDS 2/3 4/27/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

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