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THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

June 22, 1982

RECEIVED

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

02 JUN 23 AM: 51

From : Alexander M. Haig, Jr. 

1. Breakfast with Begin. We made headway this morning on a number of specific topics with Begin. In my private session I put to Begin two requests from the Lebanese Government's new Salvation Council: (1) a new ceasefire, and (2) some pullback of Israeli forces from present positions. To my surprise, Begin said he would recommend these to his government. As a result, Israel unilaterally announced a ceasefire for noon today, our time. Begin will take up the question of an Israeli disengagement with his Cabinet Thursday morning. He rightly insists, however, that the other side must now give something as well. Tomorrow, Phil Habib will press the PLO, through the Lebanese, for specific undertakings on laying down their arms and leaving the city. He will then go to Israel with the aim of getting at least some further symbolic Israeli gesture. The hope is that by Thursday the elements for a breakthrough would be in place. Our decision to close our chancery in West Beirut on Thursday and evacuate Americans should give the PLO a signal that the time has come for quick decisions. (We are not evacuating Embassy staff but only moving them to the Ambassador's residence.) On other topics, we cautioned Begin to keep an open mind on possible peacekeeping operations in Lebanon and urged him to be more flexible on the autonomy talks. In particular, I hit Begin hard on settlement activity. Though unyielding, I believe he understood the importance we attach to this issue. (S)

2. Begin runs into tough reception at Senate. Begin's meeting with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee was the stormiest by far he has ever encountered in his many visits to Washington. With more than fifty Senators present, the Prime Minister was subjected to tough and lengthy questioning, including some highly emotional charges about the use of excessive force. When questioned about his desire for a U.S. component in a peacekeeping force, Begin made clear that this was a matter still under consideration and wholly up to the U.S. Though Begin could take comfort from some very supportive private statements, the criticism from many long-time Israeli supporters must have made an impression. (C)

3. EC Actions on Lebanon. The European community nations may be considering diplomatic initiatives on Lebanon that will complicate our own efforts. Their meeting in Brussels on June 28 and 29 may result in a statement based on the Venice Declaration which referred to the inalienable rights of the Palestinians. The EC may also be considering a range of other possible actions against Israel. Furthermore, the French are reported to have instructed certain of their Middle Eastern Embassies not to support either Habib's current efforts or any U.S. effort to expand UNIFIL. Through approaches in EC capitals, we hope to avert any new moves which could complicate Phil Habib's mission. Separately, we will work on the French. I met today with the French Ambassador (at his request) to open a dialogue on how we can cooperate regarding Lebanon. (S)

RDS 2/3 6/22/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

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NLRR FOS 096 # 34354  
BY CL NARA DATE: 1/29/08

MEMORANDUM

The President has seen \_\_\_\_\_

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE(S)

WASHINGTON

*As of 6/22/82*

SECRET ATTACHMENT

June 23, 1982

*DZ*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT: Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for Tuesday, June 22, 1982.

cc: The Vice President  
Ed Meese  
Jim Baker  
Mike Deaver

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