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THE SECRETARY OF STATE February 25, 1982
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From : Alexander M. Haig, Jr. 

1. Heads of State Meeting in Costa Rica. President Carazo of Costa Rica will host a mini-summit meeting in San Jose on Saturday, February 27. Expected to attend are Royo of Panama, Ortega of Nicaragua, and Duarte of El Salvador. Honduras will probably be represented by its Foreign Minister. Contrary to press reports connecting the meeting with your speech, the formal purpose is to ratify support for the University for Peace; a pet project of Carazo's which would serve an international student body. Given Carazo's erraticism, we have been somewhat concerned that Ortega and/or Royo might attempt to take advantage of the occasion by seeking a group statement hostile to the fledgling Central American Democratic Community. We are acting to head off such a development with the Salvadorans and Hondurans. (S)

2. Expansion of UN Peacekeeping Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL). The UN Security Council today adopted a resolution expanding UNIFIL from 6,000 to 7,000 troops. We had objected to an earlier draft which contained language objectionable to Israel. In the Council's meeting this afternoon Jeane Kirkpatrick insisted on deletion of one element which the Israelis found particularly objectionable and the Soviets backed down in exchange for a cosmetic change in another section. The text as adopted in no way changes the status quo in South Lebanon, except for expanding the size of UNIFIL, and does not call for Israel's withdrawal or deployment of UNIFIL to the border as the Soviets had originally insisted. Adoption of the new resolution should provide useful impetus to Phil Habib's current efforts. (C)

3. Brezhnev's Letter on the Arms Race. In a February 24 reply to an open letter from an Australian peace group, also sent to you, Brezhnev restates standard Soviet positions on the full range of arms control issues, and accuses us of blocking progress across the board. The letter is part of the Soviets' escalating peace offensive aimed at fueling public opposition to U.S. defense programs and diverting attention from Poland. The four points of interest in Brezhnev's presentation are: (1) A statement that the USSR is prepared to agree to "considerable reductions" in nuclear weapons; (2) the absence of any discussion of the substance of the INF negotiations, perhaps in response to our recent demarches about their breaches of the confidentiality of the talks; (3) a call for ratification of the 1974 Threshold Test Ban Treaty which may reflect Soviet interest in reviving this Treaty; and (5) a proposal for measures limiting military activities in the Pacific--basically a throw-away "initiative" for propaganda effect. (C)

RDS 2/3 2/25/02 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

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BY RW NARA DATE 9/2/11

MEMORANDUM

The President has seen _____

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

RW
3/15/83 CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT

February 26, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: WILLIAM P. CLARK *WPC*

WPC

SUBJECT: Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's Evening Report for Thursday, February 25, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver