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THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 22, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From : Alexander M. Haig, *A*

1. Law of the Sea Conference: Status Report. The G-77 has rejected American amendments reflecting your objectives as a basis for negotiations. Compromise proposals drawn up by a group of 11 non G-77 countries show some movement toward the U.S. position but they omit many key issues and are not a basis for either an agenda or negotiation. Meanwhile, a key leader of the G-77 has said that action is underway to formalize the treaty text in about ten days in the belief that even if the U.S. and its allies stay out, a convention will exist to stifle deep seabed mining investment and to force the West to negotiate with the G-77 in the future. The Third World group apparently prefers this strategy to the sacrifices of principle that would be required to accommodate us. The G-77 also hopes that we will allow our allies to negotiate reasonable amendments so that a future U.S. administration could accede. It is not clear whether these points were made for tactical purposes or whether they reflect the G-77's substantive position. We are trying to persuade the G-77 to agree to a negotiating agenda which would include all of your objectives but even with an acceptable agenda it will be extremely difficult to achieve our goals. The allies are still the key to our success at the conference. They are supporting our efforts but the strength and duration of their support is uncertain. In any event, negotiations are likely to occur only in an atmosphere of eleventh hour brinkmanship and we may have to move quickly in response to G-77 moves. (S)

2. Nicaragua's Call for Security Council Meeting. Jeane Kirkpatrick continued consultations today with other Security Council members on Nicaragua's request for a meeting. She made every effort to gain support for blocking Nicaragua's effort but even the British felt the Nicaraguans had a procedural right to air their views. Even though we cannot block such a meeting, the debate offers an opportunity to expose Nicaragua's behavior. Honduras, for instance, is asking to raise its own concerns at the meeting; we are encouraging other friends in the region to join us in putting Nicaragua on the defensive. If a Council resolution seems inevitable, we will have one of our friends table a procedural resolution referring the dispute to the OAS, where it properly belongs. (C)

3. West Bank Violence. Current demonstrations on the West Bank are the worst since November 1980 and Jordan has formally requested a Security Council meeting to discuss the situation. We have expressed public concern over the violence, urging restraint on all parties. This development will require very careful handling if we are to avoid serious injury to the peace process. (C)

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

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NLRR M453/3 # 155902
BY RW NARA DATE 9/2/16

MEMORANDUM

The President has seen _____

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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AW
3/15/82

SECRET ATTACHMENT

March 23, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: WILLIAM P. CLARK

PC

SUBJECT: Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Al Haig's evening report for Monday March 22, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

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