

~~SECRET~~DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

April 7, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Lawrence S. Eagleburger, Acting Secretary

1. Egyptian-Israeli Border Dispute: Sam Lewis has presented to Begin our proposal to assist the parties in establishing a mechanism prior to April 26 to determine their international border in the Taba Beach area. Begin, who does not accept our view that negotiations have run their course, was non-committal. He clearly does not wish to make any decision until Defense Minister Sharon goes to Egypt for further talks. It will be April 14 at the earliest before Sharon completes his trip. Begin continues to insist that Sharon's reported threats not to withdraw unless Egypt accepts Israel's position on the border issue was not an official Israeli position, stressing the Cabinet has not decided what to do if negotiations are not productive.

2. El Salvador Coalition Building Process: The three principal Salvadoran political parties have so far been unable to agree on who will head the new provisional government. The only consensus reached is that the constituent assembly should convene April 20 and the new provisional executive be installed May 1. To break this impasse, the names of several figures not closely associated with any of the political parties are now being tossed about. Meanwhile, Defense Minister Garcia, to the consternation of his military rival, Junta Vice President Gutierrez, has taken the position that the new political leadership should be all-civilian. Ambassador Hinton continues to be actively, but discreetly, involved in the discussions, which may go on for some time.

3. Law of the Sea Negotiations: The LOS Conference President announced Tuesday all amendments must be submitted by April 13. We have temporarily blunted a French-British initiative to submit amendments which would not have met our needs and would have seriously complicated negotiations with the G-77 by telling them that such a course could terminate prospects for US participation in the Convention. It is clear, however, that our Allies may publicly split with us next week if they do not feel that promising negotiations are likely. Meanwhile, negotiations will begin Thursday afternoon on preparatory investment protection, after which there will be a pause for the G-77 to consider how to proceed. The G-77 have not agreed to negotiate with the US on any other issue, and indeed, have been unable to agree on which issues can be negotiated.

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BY RW NARA DATE 9/2/06

RDS 4/7/02 (EAGLEBURGER, Lawrence S.)