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TELEGRAM NUMBER 314 OF 29 JANUARY 1981

INFO MODUK MOSCOW PARIS BONN UKDEL NATO ISLAMABAD KABUL JEDDA NEW
DELHI TOKYO OTHER NATO POSTS DUBLIN UKREP BRUSSELS UKMIS NEW YORK
WARSAW STOCKHOLM TEHRAN AND HAVANA

HAIG PRESS CONFERENCE: 28 JANUARY

1. AT HIS FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY, HAIG SPOKE AT LENGTH ON
A NUMBER OF FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES. DETAILS ARE REPORTED IN MY EIGHT
IFT'S (NOT TO ALL) ON THE FOLLOWING: ARMS CONTROL, POLAND, THE
ALLIANCE, AFGHANISTAN, KOREA, IRAN, EL SALVADOR AND CUBA

2. TODAY'S PRESS HIGHLIGHTS HAIG'S REMARKS ON IRAN (MY TELNO 320)
AND ON TERRORISM. HE INDICATED THAT CONCERN ABOUT TERRORISM WOULD
TAKE THE PLACE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY,
ON THE GROUNDS THAT TERRORISM WAS THE ULTIMATE ABUSE OF HUMAN
RIGHTS.

3. THIS HE COUPLED WITH A VERY TOUGH LINE ON THE SOVIET UNION.
WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THE NEED TO KEEP LINES OPEN TO THE RUSSIANS, HE
EXPLICITLY ACCUSED THEM OF TRAINING, FUNDING AND EQUIPPING INTER-
NATIONAL TERRORISM. HE SPOKE OF THE SOVIET UNION BEING INVOLVED IN
CONSCIOUS POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES TO FOSTER, SUPPORT AND EXPAND
THIS MENACEM IN ADDITION HAIG TALKED OF AN UNPRECEDENTED RISK-
TAKING MODE ON THE PART OF THE SOVIET UNION, BOTH IN LATIN AMERICA
AND AFRICA. THE SOVIET EXPLOITATION OF THE CUBAN PROXY WOULD BE
THE SUBJECT OF UTMOST CONCERN TO THE NEW ADMINISTRATION, AND HIGH
AMONG THE PRIORITIES ON ITS NATIONAL SECURITY/FOREIGN POLICY AGENDA.

4. PRESS REPORTS HAVE COVERED HAIG'S STYLE AS WELL AS HIS SUBSTANCE,
DESCRIBING HIS PERFORMANCE AS TOUGH, ASSERTIVE AND SUPREMELY SELF-
CONFIDENT, LACED WITH OCCASIONAL BITTER IRONY. THE WASHINGTON POST
CONTRASTS HIS ROUGH AND READY PEARL-HANDLED MANNER WITH THAT OF HIS
TWO PREDECESSORS, AND PREDICTS THAT HAIG WILL BE A MEDIA STAR AS
WELL AS A POLICY POWERHOUSE, EVIDENTLY CONCERNED TO ESTABLISH
QUICKLY AND CLEARLY THAT IT WILL BE FOR HIM TO ENUNCIATE AS WELL
AS FORMULATE U.S. FOREIGN POLICY.

HENDERSON

Fco WHITEHALL
NAD

THIS TELEGRAM
WAS NOT
ADVANCED

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