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THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

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October 8, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From: Alexander M. Haig, Jr. *A*  
Casper W. Weinberger *W*

Subject: Next Steps with Egypt and Sudan

*X*

In the wake of President Sadat's assassination, there is significant danger of miscalculation by Gadhafi and other Soviet proxies in the region. At President Sadat's funeral, we will provide reassurances of our strong support to the Egyptian leadership, and will offer further detailed discussions on security as soon as possible, preferably within a week.

However, we also need to be prepared for fuller discussions in Cairo if these are possible. For this we will need answers for the Egyptians on the questions which Mubarak posed to you on Sadat's behalf last week. Subject to your concurrence, we plan to tell Mubarak the following:

- Deterrence. We will continue and perhaps expand the military exercise planned to begin in Egypt, Somalia, and Sudan next month (Bright Star 82). We are also moving forward to schedule additional exercises which we have already discussed with the Egyptians or planned with others in the area. We are prepared to deploy two AWACS aircraft to Egypt for approximately two weeks to accomplish familiarization training with the Egyptian Air Force. Our force posturing will indicate that we will not tolerate Libyan intervention in Egypt or Libyan aggression against Sudan. In this connection, we are making it clear to other Arabs that we intend to stand by Egypt.

- Assistance for Sudan. In recognition of the Libyan threat, we will accelerate deliveries of military equipment in our current assistance program to Sudan. If necessary, we will support the deployment of Egyptian troops to Sudan. We expect that Sudanese assistance will require a temporary shifting of security assistance funds from other countries as well as diversion of military equipment from US stocks. (Al Haig is examining additional assistance to Sudan and Egypt, including the need for an FY 1982 supplemental appropriation request.)

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- Contingency Planning. In response to Mubarak's request, we will express our readiness for a detailed military examination of various contingencies. Contingencies in Sudan should receive urgent attention but, as you will remember, the Egyptians believe that the appropriate response to an attack against Sudan is military action against Libya. While avoiding any inference of lack of support or concern, we will discourage an Egyptian military attack on Libya at this time, in part because the Egyptians could not support and sustain such an operation with their own resources. Military planners will accompany the delegation to Cairo to begin contingency discussions.

Recommendation

That you approve these actions.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

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