

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

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ACTION SLIP
(Attachment Classification)

S/S CONTROL NUMBER

8132602

ACTION ASSIGNED TO:

PM IRA

DATE: 11/9

ACTION REQUESTED

STATE TO NSC MEMO
 STATE TO

with Draft reply for signature
by _____
 with Comment or Recommendation

DIRECT REPLY

provide info copy under cover
of State-NSC transmittal form
 provide comeback copy
for _____

REPLY FOR SIGNATURE
BY _____

RECOMMENDATION FOR _____
with Memorandum for the President

APPROPRIATE HANDLING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: NOV 16 2018

CLEAR WITH:

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81 NOV -9 FEB 1958

FROM: Linda Layle (NAME)

S/S-S: 11/9 A B C D
21522 28338 28348 28062

ATTACH THIS ACTION SLIP TO ANY SUBMISSION TO S/S

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RIF

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

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November 9, 1981

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: NOV 16 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: Alexander M. Haig *AMH*
SUBJECT: Middle East Nuclear Weapons Free Zone

Gene Rostow has sent you a long memorandum detailing his concerns about the Middle East Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (MENWFZ) which is currently being considered in the UNGA in the form of an updated Egyptian resolution.

Contrary to the impression left by Gene's memorandum we are not in trouble on that resolution either with the Israelis or the Egyptians. We have agreed with the Egyptians on an acceptable first draft of this year's resolution. (There has been one every year for several years, but Israel only joined the consensus last year.) It is now being shown by the Egyptians to the Israelis for their comment.

We have negotiated throughout with Israel's interests in mind. We successfully resisted an effort by the Egyptians to include language "declaring" a MENWFZ into existence, since such zones cannot be brought about by fiat. Instead, we have agreed to the idea that a special representative of the Secretary General be appointed to contact all concerned parties in the Middle East and "ascertain their attitudes on procedures necessary for the establishment" of a MENWFZ. This allows latitude for Israel to insist on a negotiating process (which we would support) but allows the Egyptians to seek wider support from other Arab states for the resolution as a whole.

The thrust of Gene's memorandum would be to sharpen the references to "peace" by the addition of a new paragraph. Gene states in his memorandum that this might be a way to persuade the Arabs to "obey" and accept Resolutions 242 and 338 in return for Israel ultimately signing the NPT and accepting IAEA safeguards. While this might appear on its face to be innocent and even altruistic, it would in fact suggest a linkage between the achievement of a MENWFZ and Middle East peace itself, amounting to a virtual "condition." Such a link has never existed, and I do not believe it is a good idea to try to make one now.

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We have more than adequate references to peace and international security in the resolution as it is, which stops short of linking the peace process and the Camp David Accords. In our opinion, this is not something that Israel would want. We have enough burdens and conditions on the peace process as it is, what with the Venice Declaration, Carrington's insistence that Camp David is dead, and a possible Saudi effort to amend 242 by introduction of the Fahd Eight Point Plan in a new Security Council resolution.

Concerning Gene's portrayal of current Israeli attitudes, I agree there is something in what he says. We are all very much aware of the problems here. As you know, we have been taking steps--particularly in the past few days--to begin allaying Israeli concerns and suspicions. Obviously this is a longer term problem which we will continue to factor into our judgments as we proceed along the difficult path of bringing peace and stability to the Middle East.

For these reasons, I do not believe that we should link the MENFPZ project to the ongoing peace process.

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Date: NOV 16 2018

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Cleared: NEA:NAveliotos *62 GJK*
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IO:EAbrams *62 G32*

Page determined to be Unclassified
Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5
Date: NOV 16 2018

Office of the Secretary of Defense
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