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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

17 JUL 1981

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Honorable Alexander M. Haig, Jr.  
Secretary of State  
Department of State  
Washington, DC 20520

Office of the Secretary of Defense *50.3.052*  
Chief, RDD, ESD, WIIS  
Date: *25 FEB 2019* Authority: EO 13526  
Declassify: X Deny in Full: \_\_\_\_\_  
Declassify in Part: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
MDR: 19-M-0052

Dear Al,

(6) We have been wrestling for several weeks with the problem of how to respond to President Siad's request for assistance. I feel very strongly that we should do something positive in the very near future both to show Siad that we value our military relationship, and to demonstrate US resolve to both friends and foes in the region.

(7) I have carefully examined the options developed by our staffs and have approved a "package" which I believe is meaningful, stays within the security assistance funding parameters, and which I believe will not raise concerns on either the Hill or in Nairobi. The assistance we wish to implement right away includes: the dispatch of a Mobile Training Team (MTT) to assist the Somalis in the repair and maintenance of their existing radar and anti-aircraft gun systems; scheduling regular port calls by surface combatants (a destroyer visit is scheduled for July 18-20); and inclusion of Somalia as one of the host nations for our fall RDF exercise in South West Asia ("BRIGHT STAR-82").

(8) I have also instructed DSAA to explore the possibility of making a small number of "Redeye" missiles available to Somalia, or, alternatively to seek Egyptian cooperation in transferring a limited number of SA-7s. We will discuss this with the Egyptians during their August visit. We are aware of the sensitivities surrounding the transfer of such a system and I solicit your views.

(9) I know that your staff has recommended that we expedite the transfer of the VULCAN system Somalia has ordered. The only way we could do that is to take the system from Army active units. This would be a tangible show of support for Siad, however, as the VULCAN is a low altitude, short-range system, it would not provide any real deterrence to air raids by MIG-21 or MIG-23 aircraft, and would give Somali air defense units only a marginally increased capability. Therefore, and given the fact that the Army is already below their authorization level, I cannot support the diversion of VULCAN from Army units.

(U) Anticipating that you will have no problem with the "package" above, I have directed that my staff begin to work immediately with your staff to implement these initiatives. I would, of course, appreciate your comments and further suggestions at your earliest opportunity.

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Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: FFR 25 2019  
*Dep SecDef*

Sincerely,

Frank C. Carlucci

19-M-0052

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