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MEMORANDUM

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

B

July 16, 1981

CONFIDENTIAL WITH
CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN *Allen*

SUBJECT: Lord Carrington (Cooper Dinner) *let*

Because UK Foreign Secretary Peter Carrington is expected to be present at John Sherman Cooper's dinner this evening, you might care to draw on the attached information and talking points (TAB A). *let*

As you know from our discussions with him during Mrs. Thatcher's visit earlier in the year, Lord Carrington is an engaging but often opinionated and even brusque interlocutor. He is also prone to news leaks, and for that reason it will be especially important, on the eve of the Ottawa Summit, to avoid giving him any leeway for "interpreting" U.S. positions in advance of your discussions with Mrs. Thatcher and the other Summit participants. *let*

You might find it both useful and appropriate -- particularly if Carrington gets too intensely involved in one policy subject or another -- to express sympathy for British efforts to cope with the eruption of street violence in their country. *(U)*

A memorandum from Secretary Haig regarding this dinner is attached at TAB B.

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Review on July 16, 1987

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TALKING POINTS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S USE WITH UK
FOREIGN SECRETARY LORD PETER CARRINGTON

(Thursday, July 16, 1981)

- Summit. Confine any discussion of this broad topic to your view that the conference must be upbeat and that the industrial democracies need to demonstrate essential unity and self-confidence. (U)
- Middle East. With the UK assuming the Presidency of the EC Council during the last half of 1981, Carrington's role will be important in the context of any ongoing EC Middle East initiative. Impress upon him the importance of not undermining U.S. efforts to move the Camp David process forward. (C)
- Afghanistan. Carrington suffered a rebuff in his lead effort to enlist Soviet support for an EC resolution of the situation in Afghanistan; in principle we back that effort, but are under no illusion about its chances of bearing fruit. Should Carrington bring it up, express sympathy with his work and at the same time reiterate the need to prevent Western and Third World acquiescence in Soviet behavior. (C)
- Namibia. Emboldened by his success in Zimbabwe, Carrington has some proprietary interest in seeing progress on the issues in Southern Africa. While avoiding any detailed discussion, simply reaffirm our interest in maintaining the unity of the Contact Group Five. (C)
- "East of Suez". Should Carrington wax strategic, tell him we continue to hope that the UK can build up its ties in the small Persian Gulf states, Kenya, and Pakistan, and that we would welcome seeing a UK Gulf intervention force. (C)
- Ireland (only if raised). Confirm that Irish Prime Minister FitzGerald sent you a message on the hunger strike situation and that U.S. policy on Northern Ireland remains the same as you expressed it in your March 17 (St. Patrick's Day) statement. (C)

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THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

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July 16, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Alexander M. Haig, Jr. 

SUBJECT: Your dinner this evening with Lord Carrington at the home of Senator and Mrs. John Sherman Cooper

The Foreign Secretary and I meet tomorrow for a review of issues, looking toward the Ottawa Summit. Lord Carrington and the Prime Minister are the European leaders who share most fully the ideals and goals of your administration. They have welcomed your assurances of closer consultation with our Allies. The British assumed the Presidency of the European Community(EC) for six months on July 1. They will be our primary political interlocutor with the Community.

Ottawa Summit

Margaret Thatcher anticipates a relaxed, general discussion when she meets with you at breakfast. She will probably share ideas on East/West issues, especially Poland and Afghanistan. The British are less interested in North/South than other members of the EC, but holding the Presidency gives these issues a higher profile for now.

East/West

The Thatcher government sees the early opening of arms control negotiations as important to the political management of growing neutralism in Western Europe. Tomorrow I brief Carrington on both the modernization of NATO defense capabilities and our approaches to the Soviets which, we expect, will lead to arms control talks in November or December.

We strongly support the British-led EC initiative on Afghanistan. Carrington went to Moscow early this month to sell the Soviets. While he had little success, the initiative remains before the international community.

We recognize the importance of East/West trade to our Allies, but believe such exchanges must be consistent with broad foreign policy objectives. We seek a coordinated Western economic posture toward the Soviets which will deny militarily significant goods and technology.

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Middle East

We hope the EC Middle East initiative will be complementary to our efforts to move forward the Camp David Peace Process. Sadat comes in August and Begin in September to discuss the next steps.

The British have supported our efforts to defuse the crisis in Lebanon. Carrington has urged us to restrain the Israelis.

Southern Africa

The British are actively working for a Namibia settlement. We have concluded a three-month dialogue with the South Africans on this issue, and I will update Lord Carrington tomorrow on what we have gained from them. While many difficulties remain, we are cautiously optimistic about moving forward on this issue. There may be a ministerial-level dinner on Namibia at the conclusion of the Ottawa Summit.

Northern Ireland

The Irish have regretted the leak in Dublin of Irish Prime Minister FitzGerald's letter to you urging you to intervene with Prime Minister Thatcher. In your St. Patrick's Day statement you said that we are neutral in the sectarian conflict in Northern Ireland while strongly condemning all violence. We hope there will be a peaceful outcome to the IRA hunger strike.

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