

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Executive Registry
82-5387

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CABINET AFFAIRS STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 6-25-82 NUMBER: 077342CA DUE BY: _____

SUBJECT: Background information on Secretary Haig's resignation.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clark	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darman (<i>For WH Staffing</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Harper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jenkins	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Counsellor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCCT/Gunn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCEA/Porter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCFA/Boggs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCHR/Carleson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CEQ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCLP/Uhlmann	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OSTP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCNRE/Boggs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

REMARKS: Background information is attached.

State Dept. review completed

NSC review completed.

RETURN TO:

Craig L. Fuller
Assistant to the President
for Cabinet Affairs
456-2823

Becky Norton Dunlop
Director, Office of
Cabinet Affairs
456-2800

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June 25, 1982

STATEMENT BY A SENIOR WHITE HOUSE OFFICIAL:

President Reagan accepted Secretary Haig's decision with greatest regret because, as he said earlier today, he believes the Secretary has served the country extremely well and selflessly.

As a personal note, we want to emphasize we also greet the Secretary's decision with greatest regret. We all regarded Al Haig as a partner and as an excellent Secretary of State.

At this time the President wishes to stress continuity of United States foreign policy, and I can promise you that he will do that.

Toward that end, George Shultz will meet with the President tomorrow at Camp David, and we plan to move forward promptly with his nomination.

George Shultz, in the President's view, is the finest man in the country to now assume the post of Secretary of State.

He has a distinguished career in government service stretching back nearly 30 years. Three times he served as a member of the Cabinet -- as Secretary of Labor, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and then as Secretary of the Treasury. In that latter post, he was deeply involved in the formation of international economic policy and became closely acquainted with many leaders in both Europe and Japan.

President Reagan, of course, regards George Shultz as a personal friend and he has relied upon his wisdom and advice for a good number of years. Mr. Shultz, as you know, currently serves as chairman of the President's board of outside economic advisers and he recently visited Europe at the President's request in order to talk with their leaders prior to the President's trip there.

I might also emphasize that because George Shultz is a close friend of many in the Administration, because he is a team player, because he commands widespread respect overseas, we have every confidence that the execution of American foreign policy will continue on a sound and steady basis.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 25, 1982

Dear Al:

It is with the most profound regret that I accept your letter of resignation. Almost forty years ago you committed yourself to the service of your country. Since that time your career has been marked by a succession of assignments demanding the highest level of personal sacrifice, courage and leadership. As a soldier and statesman facing challenges of enormous complexity and danger, you have established a standard of excellence and achievement seldom equalled in our history. On each occasion you have reflected a quality of wisdom which has been critical to the resolution of the most anguishing problems we have faced during the past generation -- the conclusion of the Vietnam war, the transfer of executive authority at a time of national trauma and most recently, advancing the cause of peace among nations.

The nation is deeply in your debt. As you leave I want you to know of my deep personal appreciation, and in behalf of the American people I express my gratitude and respect. You have been kind enough to offer your continued counsel and you may be confident that I will call upon you in the years ahead. Nancy joins me in extending our warmest personal wishes to you and Pat.

Sincerely,

The Honorable
Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
The Secretary of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

WASHINGTON

June 25, 1982

Dear Mr. President:

Your accession to office on January 20, 1981 brought an opportunity for a new and forward looking foreign policy resting on the cornerstones of strength and compassion. I believe that we shared a view of America's role in the world as the leader of free men and an inspiration for all. We agreed that consistency, clarity and steadiness of purpose were essential to success. It was in this spirit that I undertook to serve you as Secretary of State.

In recent months, it has become clear to me that the foreign policy on which we embarked together was shifting from that careful course which we had laid out. Under these circumstances, I feel it necessary to request that you accept my resignation. I shall always treasure the confidence which you reposed in me. It has been a great honor to serve in your Administration, and I wish you every success in the future.

Sincerely,


Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

The President,
The White House.