

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION  
GENERAL ANDY GOODPASTER  
AUGUST 29, 1974

Goodpaster said Schlesinger called him Monday evening. He is planning to replace Goodpaster with Haig. Goodpaster is concerned about the impact. He will need lead time in NATO and recommends that Haig take over CINCURE at least two months before and then ask Allies about SACEUR. He asked me if I had known anything about this. I said, "No," except that I knew Haig wanted back in the Army." He said he felt there would be a political problem, misgivings in NATO, military would feel that Haig has not been in an Army slot recently, that it is a misuse of the post and a putdown to NATO. He said that Wyland, the Vice Chief of Staff, had told him that Haig wanted back in the Army. Goodpaster feels that Haig should spend a year at a good command assignment first such as Palmer's Readiness Command which is vacant, or USERUR - Davidson's if Davidson replaced Abe, or a Vice Chief if Wyland went up. That way he could get his status back as military man.

I told him that I would not talk to the President, Kissinger, or Schlesinger about this. I had stayed out of these matters when I was back on the transition, and I intended to keep staying out. I said, however, that I might talk to Haig. He said they are thinking of a change in mid-November and in mid-January as SACEUR.

I called him back the next day after receiving the cables to all NATO Capitals on this subject saying that time had passed it by.

