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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

STATEMENT BY SENATOR PAUL TSONGAS ON NOMINATION OF GENERAL ALEXANDER HAIG
AS SECRETARY OF STATE

President-elect Reagan's nomination of General Alexander Haig as his Secretary of State raises a number of serious questions related to the General's appropriateness for this highly sensitive, critically important cabinet position.

As a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I will view Haig's nomination with an open mind.

However, it is absolutely mandatory that a full investigation by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee take place.

Questions concerning Haig's appropriateness as a retired military officer for such a sensitive diplomatic position as Secretary of State, his role as White House chief of staff in the latter days of the Nixon administration, and his knowledge of and sensitivity to Third World issues must be probed.

President-elect Reagan does not appear to have clearly articulated views in the area of foreign policy. For this reason, it is of the utmost importance that the Secretary of State possess high professional qualifications and extensive policy experience.

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