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**Folder Title:** Memorandum to Meese: War, 9/26/1980

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TO : ED MEESE  
FROM: TONY DOLAN

September 26, 1980

CARTER WOULD "SEND TROOPS"; CONSIDER  
USE OF "ATOMIC WEAPONS" AND EVEN "PREMPTIVE STRIKE."

"If I felt that the security of our own nation or the security of a nation with whom we had a binding alliance was threatened, under those circumstances, I think we would have to consider using atomic weapons." Atlanta Constitution, July 27, 1976

"Last week, Carter said in an interview with Hearst Newspapers that he would authorize a 'pre-emptive' ~~strike~~ nuclear strike only if he were convinced the security or existence of the United States were threatened."

Associated Press July 26, 1976

"If there was a war between countries and I felt that our national security ~~was~~ interest were directly endangered, I would certainly consider sending troops."

New York Times, July 7, 1976

"An attempt by any outside force to gain control of the Persian Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the United States..... " "....it will be repelled by use of any means necessary, including military force."

State of the Union address,

January 24, 1980

"We're beyond the time for gestures. We want our people set free." ".... the only next step available that I can see is military action."

New York Times, April 18, 1980