



Department of Energy  
Washington, D.C. 20545

June 12, 1978

Memo to File

MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR ROSENBLATT ON PACIFIC ISSUES

On May 23, 1978, Mr. John Armstrong called and asked that we meet with Ambassador Rosenblatt, the Chief Micronesian status negotiator, to discuss long-term issues in the Pacific that are the result of nuclear testing. On May 31, 1978, Dr. Weyzen and I met with the Ambassador and his staff from 9:30 until 11:30.

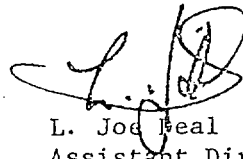
A political decision has been made to dissolve the UN trust agreements by 1981. It is the responsibility of the Micronesian status negotiator to develop appropriate agreements that protect U.S. security and other interests once the UN Trust Agreement is ended. At present there are diverse political interests in Micronesia and it is not clear which of the groups will dominate and whether there will be a free association, a commonwealth status or some other arrangement.

We followed the outline developed for the briefing of Dr. Seamans and discussed the political, technical and humanitarian issues. We noted the problem of Bikini resettlement, fallout on people of Rongelap, Utirik and the forthcoming resettlement of Enewetak. We discussed the restrictions necessary to keep radiation exposure within acceptable Federal radiation standards and the need for these to be practicable and easily followed by the people.

The Ambassador asked about plans for future monitoring of the Pacific area. We cited the forthcoming 13 atoll survey, the followup medical program of the Rongelap and Utirik people, and the plans for monitoring the Bikini and Enewetak people. He asked if a search of records would show whether there were other contaminated areas not now identified in the Pacific that might present further problems in the future. He stressed the need for the U.S. to maintain its credibility by finding and announcing any such problems first. I noted that the 13 atoll survey was designed to do just this. He said that the political negotiations must take into account land restrictions and risk of using such land in the future and asked whether we would be able to provide such information. He also raised a question about the necessity of including the long-term followup medical and monitoring program in the status negotiations.

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We told him the survey was designed to provide data that will permit dose estimates for future populations and that one can make risk estimates if the dose is known. I noted we did not expect a documented result until the middle of CY 1979. We were questioned about the current costs and our best guess about future costs. I noted that the Department was currently spending about \$3M in the Pacific now, and that the best estimate we could make was \$2 to \$5M per year for the foreseeable future. This is for the research program, the monitoring program, and the associated logistics. We did not comment on the suggestion about including the long-term followup program in the status negotiations.



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