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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman Anders

FROM: Lee V. Gossick
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: CIVIL READINESS EXERCISE 1976 (REX 76)

The Federal Preparedness Agency, General Services Administration, has urged the participation of NRC (along with other Federal agencies) in an annual Civil Readiness Exercise (REX 76) scheduled for March 9-13, 1976. REX 76 is to be conducted jointly with a Joint Chiefs of Staff exercise entitled "POLE VAULT 76."

The joint exercises will simulate a nuclear attack upon the United States and will provide an opportunity for involved agencies to exercise policies, plans, systems and emergency procedures designed for use in the redirection, recovery and reconstitution of the nation. The exercise is the first coordinated civil-military exercise designed to address problems in an immediate post-attack period.

We are preparing a staff paper laying out options for the Commission to consider regarding the appropriate NRC role in the National Level Emergency Preparedness Program. In the meantime, two staff members, one from the Office of International & State Programs and the other from Inspection & Enforcement, have attended the initial FPA/GSA briefing for REX 76. Their joint recommendation is that because of our limited resources, we should not participate directly in the exercise but that we "observe" it for training purposes.

It is my recommendation that we tell FPA that pending the establishment of NRC's role in the National Level Emergency Preparedness Program, we prefer to participate only as "observers" in REX 76 and tell them we may possibly wish to request a more active participation depending upon the development and status of our National Level Emergency Preparedness Program during the next few months.

(Signed) Lee V. Gossick

Lee V. Gossick
Executive Director
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Rewritten in office of A/EDO 11/10/75

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