

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS INTERNATIONAL

PROGRAMS

APR 1 6 1980

MANO - Action

Mr. James R. Shea Director of International Programs United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Room 6714 - MNBB Bethesda, Maryland

Dear Mr. Shea:

I refer to Mr. Peterson's letter dated December 28, 1979, requesting Executive Branch views as to whether issuance of an export license in accordance with the application hereinafter described would be inimical to the common defense and security of the United States and whether the proposed export meets the applicable criteria in the Atomic Energy Act as amended by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978:

NRC No. XCOM0346 -- Application by Reuter Stokes, Inc. for authorization to export to Venezuela 2 ionization chambers for use as neutron detectors in the RV-1 Research Reactor located at Caracas.

It is the judgment of the Executive Branch that the export contemplated will not be inimical to the common defense and security of the United States, and that this export is consistent with the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978.

As an NPT party, Venezuela has committed itself to maintaining IAEA safeguards on all of its peaceful nuclear activities and has pledged not to produce or otherwise acquire any nuclear explosive device. It is therefore the judgment of the Executive Branch that Criteria (1) and (2) for exports of reactor components under Section 109 of the Atomic Energy Act, as amended are met. The remaining criterion, agreement not to retransfer any U.S.-supplied component without prior U.S. consent, has been satisfied by the receipt of an assurance letter, from the Embassy of Venezuela, a copy of which is enclosed.

On the basis of the foregoing, the Executive Branch recommends that the license be issued.

Sincerely,

Deputy Assistant Secretary

Enclosure:

Assurance letter

No. 658/J3

Dear Mr. Nosenzo:

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated January 22, 1980 concerning the authorization to export to Venezuela 2 ionization chambers to be used as neutron detectors in the RV-1 Research Reactor in Caracas (Application No. XCOMO346).

I have been authorized by my Government to confirm that no such equipment or material will be retransferred without the prior approval of the United States.

Thank you for your prompt attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Marcial Pérez Chiriboga

Ambassador

Mr. Louis V. Nosenzo
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Oceans and International
Environmental and Scientific Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D.C.