Memorandum

Date: May 17, 1990
To: Director, OCR
From: Assistant Director, RCED/NRM - Bob Robinson

Subject: Review of Mt. Graham Observatory (140635)

On May 15, 1990, Vince Griffith and I met with John Raidt of Senator McCain's staff to discuss our tentative finding on the subject review. We provided the same briefing that we had provided earlier to Senator DeConcini's staff. (See my OCR memo dated May 10, 1990.)

At the conclusion of the briefing we reached the following agreements with Mr. Raidt.

-- Following completion of our field work (including our discussions with University of Arizona officials) we will brief the staff again in about 2 weeks. The two Senators will likely be attending this briefing.

-- We will not discuss our tentative findings with the House Subcommittee staff's planning hearings on this project for the time being. However, we stressed that at some point we would have to discuss our observations with the staffs to help them in their hearings preparation. The Senators do not object to GAO testimony at the hearings.

-- In preparing our report on the subject we will attempt to restrict our observations as closely as possible to the precise questions included in the request letter. Specifically, we will not specifically address Senator McCain's admitted threat to have a Forest Service manager fired if he did not cooperate on the project.