



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

April 17, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR John O. Marsh, Jr.

SUBJECT: Meeting with Ambassador Neumann

On March 28, the Vice President met with Robert G. Neumann, the United States Ambassador to Morocco. The meeting was requested through Attorney General Saxbe. Inasmuch as it was thought that the subject matter of the discussion would involve a report on international narcotics activity, I attended the meeting on behalf of the office.

The meeting did not deal with narcotics matters and was instead a general meeting at which Neumann extended an invitation from the King of Morocco for the Vice President to visit that country within the next 12 months. The Vice President indicated an interest in accepting the invitation.

Neumann briefed the Vice President about the state of U.S.-Moroccan relations. He observed that the King wished to be regarded as a friend of the United States and had urged termination of the oil boycott in Arab councils. Neumann also discussed the economic situation in Morocco, indicating that the economy is prospering, but with some inflation. Political stability continues to be a problem due to Army unrest (the last attempted coup was led by a pro-American Army officer).

The Vice President asked the Ambassador to assess Israeli Arab relations and particularly unity among the Arab nations. The Ambassador stated that the only thing that the Arab nations have in common is their dislike of Israel. However, he left the impression that, among the Arab nations, Morocco is as friendly as any towards the United States and is more reasonable than most with respect to its middle eastern relations.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Ambassador requested an autographed picture of the Vice President. I have arranged for this.


WILLIAM E. CASSELMAN II
Legal Counsel to the Vice President