Richard Tucker Scully - Bio

Tucker Scully was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, grew up in Virginia Beach, Virginia and attended the University of Virginia, graduating in 1962. He joined the United States Department of State in 1965 and, after service at U.S. Embassies in Lebanon and Greece, returned to Washington in 1972 to begin an involvement in oceans and polar matters that spanned more than three decades.

Scully was involved in organizing and leading U.S. delegations in negotiations on oceans, Arctic and Antarctic issues and in coordinating U.S. policy on these issues. Named to the Senior Executive Service in 1991, he became Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and Fisheries in 1999.

During the 1980's and 1990's, Scully served as chief U.S. negotiator on polar issues. He headed U.S. delegations to the annual meetings under the Antarctic Treaty, led the U.S. negotiating effort on the 1991 Environmental Protocol to the Antarctic Treaty, and was U.S. Commissioner to the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. He also led several official inspection teams to Antarctica, circumnavigating the continent.

On Arctic issues, Scully played a key role in negotiation of the U.S.-Soviet maritime boundary treaty, the creation of the Arctic Council and the conclusion of the U.S.-Russia polar bear treaty.

After retirement, Scully continued part-time work with the Department of State, first to finalize negotiation of a treaty on tuna fisheries in the western and central Pacific and later as Chair of the Thirty-Second Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM XXXII) in 2009, the fiftieth anniversary of the Treaty. He also lectured on numerous polar cruises.

A frequent visitor to Alaska, particularly the Brooks Range, Scully divides his time between Washington, D.C. and Ocracoke Island, North Carolina. He consults on oceans and polar issues and is an aspiring watercolor artist.