



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JUL 27 1979

Mr. Kunar Abner
Minister of Public Works
Marshall Islands Nitijela
Post Office Box 24
Majuro, Marshall Islands 96960

Dear Mr. Abner:

This is in reference to your letter of July 19, 1979, requesting that the people of Ailuk and Mejit be included in the medical survey which is being considered for the people of Likiep Atoll.

I well appreciate your concern for the people of Ailuk and Mejit. My Office has been in correspondence with the President of the Marshall Islands on the proposed medical survey of Likiep Atoll since the Department of the Interior is serving as the focal point for all the Federal agencies involved in this matter. Similarly, we believe that there should be one central official point of contact in the Marshall Islands Government. Orderly planning and execution of any future survey make this essential. We have conceived this official point of contact in the Marshalls to be the immediate office of the President.

Accordingly, on behalf of the Federal agencies concerned, I am calling your request to the attention of President Kabua and have asked for his official comments.

Sincerely yours,

RUTH G. VAN CLEVE

Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleve
Director
Office of Territorial Affairs

cc: Dr. Bruce Wachholz, DOE

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