



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JUL 27 1979

Honorable Amata Kabua
President
Marshall Islands Government
Majuro, Marshall Islands 96960

Dear President Kabua:

I am enclosing for your information a copy of a letter I recently received from the Minister of Public Works, Kunar Abner, with respect to a request that the people of Mejit and Ailuk Atoll be included in the proposed medical survey of Likiep Atoll. A copy of my reply to Minister Abner also is enclosed.

You will recall that I wrote to Mr. Anton DeBrum, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, on June 15, 1979, when he was in Washington on the proposed Likiep survey. This was followed up by my letter of July 5, 1979, to you requesting additional information which is needed for planning purposes.

I well appreciate the concern of Minister Abner for his constituents on Ailuk and Mejit. The Department of the Interior and the Department of Energy believe, that in the best interests of all concerned, there should be one official point of contact in your government as well as here with respect to the proposed Likiep survey. Orderly planning and execution of any future survey make this essential. This contact in the Marshalls Government we have conceived as being your immediate office. With respect to the Federal agencies involved, our Department will serve as the official point of contact.

I would appreciate it if you would let me know if this coincides with your thinking.

Sincerely yours,

RUTH G. VAN CLEVE

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

Enclosures

cc: Dr. Bruce Wachholz, DOE

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