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C O P Y

December 20, 1966

Dear Stew:

I am writing in response to your letter of December 7 concerning your interest in returning the Bikini people to their home atoll.

We have for some time been aware of the difficult life of the Bikini people at Kili and would like to see them returned to their native atoll.

There was a scientific survey of both Eniwetok and Bikini in 1964 carried out on behalf of the Atomic Energy Commission by University of Washington scientists. Although it was not done with the specific purpose in mind of determining whether or not the atolls were habitable for normal Marshall Island living, the data collected will help us arrive at a conclusion in the matter even though it will in all probability have to be supplemented by some additional information.

I have asked our Divisions of Operational Safety and Biology and Medicine to study the matter and develop the information necessary to come to a decision.

Cordially,

Chairman

The Honorable Stewart L. Udall
Secretary of Interior

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BY ~~H. R. SCHMIDT~~, DATE: 6-16-94
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