

AUG 12 1968

Dear Mr. Zwick:

The Secretary of the Interior has reported to me that a special analysis of radiological levels of Bikini Atoll has resulted in the conclusion that the major islands of the atoll are now safe for human habitation. The Defense Department has also concluded that security requirements are such that the return of the former Bikini people to their traditional home can be accommodated.

The return of these people cannot, however, be accomplished overnight. There remains the major task of working with the Bikini leadership in planning the return, of removing any remaining sources of radiological contamination, of clearing the land and of replanting it to crops which will sustain human life and which will provide a source of income. New homes and new community facilities must be built with the active participation of the returning people. These tasks require resources beyond the means of the former Bikini people and of the Trust Territory Government. I, therefore, request you to work with the Secretary of the Interior and the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory in planning a comprehensive resettlement program and to assist them in carrying it out with all possible dispatch.

Sincerely,



**Honorable Charles J. Zwick
Director, Bureau of the Budget
Washington, D. C. 20425**

LBJ:CEJ:mib (8-5-68)

For Geo. Christian
at Austin

all of Tab A to
be released.