



May 20th, 1970.

Orthello Wallis,
Department of Interior,
National Park Service,
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Sir:

On 1 April 1970, we will begin the first of 17 missions in a seven month operation called TEKTITE II. This country's only active Man-in-the-Sea Program will enable sixty-two marine-scientists, engineers and doctors to perform their marine research while living beneath the sea continuously. In teams of five or two, they will live and work in one of two habitats at depths of either 50 or 100 feet for periods ranging from two to four weeks. In addition to extensive Marine Research Projects, extensive research Projects in Human Behavior and Human Biology will be performed by surface support crews.

Participants in the Program include the Department of the Interior, as the lead agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, the Government of the Virgin Islands, the Department of the Navy, the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the General Electric Company, as well as several universities.

TEKTITE II is an extension of last year's highly successful TEKTITE I Program, which saw four scientist-aquanauts live and work continuously at a depth of 50 feet for two months; while performing their marine research they set a new world's record for saturation diving, nearly doubling the previous record.

On behalf of the Program, I would like to extend an invitation to you and your invited guests to observe the TEKTITE II underwater operation during its seven months. Site of the Program is Great Lameshur Bay, St. John Island in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

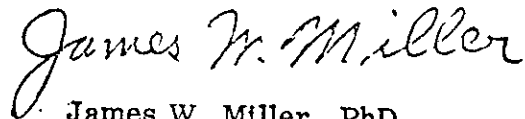


Because of the Program's site, it is very important that you make early arrangements for travel and accommodations, as they are difficult to obtain. Only a limited number of visitors per day can tour the TEKTITE site. Would you provide a preferred date and alternatives for your visit any Monday, Wednesday or Friday during the operational period. Please include the names of your guests, too.

Send the information to Mark N. Silverman, Director of Public Affairs, TEKTITE II, P.O. Box 7722, Marbar Building, Room 3108N; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101.

We will provide you with the detailed information and arrangements for your visit. To assist you in planning your visit, please find: TEKTITE II Mission Chart.

Sincerely yours,



James W. Miller, PhD.
TEKTITE II Program Manager
Department of the Interior

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