



NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL OCEAN SURVEY Pacific Marine Center
1801 Fairview Ave. East, Seattle, WA 98102

May 17, 1976

R. Adm. John B. Hayes
17th Coast Guard District
P. O. Box 3-5000
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Admiral Hayes:

I wish to offer my greatest appreciation to you for the assistance the CG Cutter BOUTWELL rendered to the NOAA Ship SURVEYOR, in the Bering Sea, when she suffered a reduction gear casualty on April 24, 1976.

The speed with which the BOUTWELL responded, the proficiency of making up the tow, and the skill with which the tow was made attests to the skills and preparedness of the BOUTWELL.

Repairs to the SURVEYOR's reduction gear were made in Kodiak and she has resumed operations on the Outer Continental Shelf Energy Assessment Program. If the SURVEYOR had run to Kodiak on her own, assuming she made it, instead of being towed, further damage to the reduction gear would have resulted and, likely, would have been irreparable. It would have been necessary to not only tow her to Seattle but tie her up for about a year waiting for gears to be forged and cut.

Again, my greatest thanks for assisting the SURVEYOR, thereby facilitating her repair and return to operations.

Sincerely,

H. R. Lippold, Jr.
Rear Admiral, NOAA
Director, Pacific Marine Center

cc: CCGD13

