

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

The need for a realistic technical economic survey of the natural and artificial resources of the Trust Territory is very evident now, not only from the point of view of the future political status but also of determining the extent to which you have been able to marshall these resources effectively and efficiently to meet the many needs and expectations.

I am sure that the committee will realize that without attempting to go into such territorial wide economic assessment exercise the setting of economic goals and objectives will be less than a complete appraisal of the present economic and social needs. Here are some of the questions that I personally feel are relevant:

1. Given that we do have a thorough and scientific understanding of the resources available for present and future development, and granted that a set of both medium-term and short range economic goals has been established, what type and mixture of administrative machinery would be required to translate these goals into specific sectorial targets (economic and social sectors)?
2. Would it require administrative reform, as has been the experience in almost every developing country of similar economic situation.
3. Is our present planned machinery sufficiently equipped with administrative and technical competence to provide all the functions required of Government planners in preparation, evaluation and appraisal of investment projects.
4. Is our local resources in terms of scientific and technical experts sufficient to insure that when an economic development plan is established, the wishes and aspirations and the felt needs of Micronesians will be properly and continuously reflected in the plan?

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

Page 2

5. And, is our budgetary machinery supportive of our planning agency (is the planner providing the budget people the right directions in term of mid terms or perspective goals; and is the budget machinery set up in such a way that it is action-oriented, following the established prospective goals and objectives?)
6. What are the various schemes that could be employed to insure that people at all levels of life are considered in the plan? What are their attitudes towards work? How close are the people located in the geographical concentrated areas to their traditions - - - can we really provide the necessary motivation or even persuade to reduce their level of dependence in communal living into a more self-motivating and productive individual?

To give you some examples of the type of studies made with regard to the type of economic development and planning in developing countries, you might wish to contact the following:

1. UNDF Representative, Fiji
2. Economic Commission for Asia and Far East, Bangkok, Thailand
3. William Tonest
U. S. Permanent Representative to ECAFE
U. S. Embassy
Bangkok, Thailand
4. U. N. Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning
Bangkok, Thailand

(These people might give you some lead to other international agencies such as world Bank, ADB, IBRD, etc.)

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

Page 3

I hope you find this of interest and should you wish to discuss any specific point covered here or otherwise, do let me know.

Manny Sablan
Chief, Economic Development Office
Trust Territory Headquarters
Saipan, Mariana Islands

03 - 030020