

Catholic
Mission

P.O. BOX 160

PONAPE, CAROLINE ISLANDS

TRUST TERRITORY, PACIFIC 96941

D.H.C.C. *[Signature]* *flid up*

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October 9, 1973

Mr. Edward A. Johnson
High Commissioner
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
Saipan, M.I.

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Recently Bishop Neylon, Vicar Apostolic of the Caroline and Marshall Islands established a new committee in Micronesia to be known as the BISHOP'S COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT. I have been appointed the first Executive-Secretary of this Committee. Other members of the Committee are Rev. Thomas Flavin, S.J. of Palau High School, Fr. Richard Becker, S.J. of PATS, Sister Dorothy Nook, MMB, teacher at the Mission Elementary School in Kolonia, Ponape, Mr. Camillo Noket of the Truk Social Action Center and Mr. Narciso Kostka, Education Supervisor for the Ponape CMA.

The purpose of the Committee is to promote reflection by the people of Micronesia on the Socio-Economic problems that confront them today and to assist the people of Micronesia to resolve these problems. As Executive Secretary, my function will be to:

1. act as a center of information on socio-economic questions and as a center of information on sources of technical and financial assistance for development projects.
2. promote discussions and reflections on the socio-economic problems of Micronesia;
3. to edit a newsletter which will disseminate information on socio-economic questions to all those concerned with these matters, both in the Church of Micronesia and in the larger Society;
4. to act as a liaison between the Church with its resources and all others working for human development in these islands.

My purpose in writing to you today is to ask your help in setting up lines of communication with the various departments of your staff that deal with Human Development, so that I might begin to act as a liaison between the work of the Church and the work of the government in the islands. I do feel that there are many 'blind spots' -- much good work being done by each group that is not known to the

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other group. I feel that if we work a little bit harder on communication we will be able to do a lot more for the people of Micronesia.

What I think would be most helpful is for this office to be included on the circulation lists for all reports and publications that deal with Human Development in Micronesia. There are many excellent things that I am sure many working in Micronesia never see or hear about -- just because of the very difficult communication problem here in the islands. Perhaps, if this office received these reports, we could help a little bit in this communication problem.

Our newsletter would, in turn, be sent to interested department heads in the government both at the Headquarters and District level so that we might all better know what is going on throughout Micronesia.

If you could communicate our interest to the different departments of your Government, I would be most grateful and I would hope that through this mutual effort we would begin to work even closer than we have in the past for the complete Human Development of the people of Micronesia.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



(Rev.) Joseph A. Cavanaugh, S.J.
Executive Secretary
Bishop's Committee for Human Development
Box 160
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