

GENERAL STATEMENT

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During these past several years, great progress has been made in aiding and advancing the economic, social, political, health and educational development of the people of the district of Yap. A solid foundation has been laid for the placement of physical infrastructure such as roads, extension of the power lines to the remote villages and providing the necessary foundation for the extension of the water and sewerage system to the local inhabitants for development and modernization as well as to furnish the basic public services to the major population of Yap District. To up-grade the standard of preventive and curative health care in the Yap District, a new hospital is proposed for Yap Proper in FY 1975 and a dispensary in Woleai is in the planning stage in order to meet the needs of as many people as possible.

The dream of obtaining a high school education is a positive reality with the continuation of secondary education in the district. Through a growing system of decentralized decision-making at the local level within a framework of responsible political and administrative institutions, many top level positions in the government as well as the private sectors are being filled by qualified and responsible personnel to manage the affairs of the district. In a very encouraging corrolary development, the people of Yap, traditionally accustomed to a life style in a subsistence-based economy and customary believed in the saying "let tomorrow take care of itself", has become aware of the economic forces in the world, is accepting increasing responsibility for sharing the costs of its development and progress into a money economy. An important initial step toward economic self-sufficiency has been taken by the Congress of Micronesia by enacting the first Territory-wide tax on wages and business receipts. Current and projected local revenue are being appropriated

by the Congress of Micronesia toward the application of the plan. Current and projected needs of the Trust Territory still far exceed expected local resources and a sustained development effort requires an augmentation of United States financial support. The district of Yap is not an exception to those facts being cited above. The costs of operations in the district are being restricted to the minimum levels so that all possible revenues can be applied toward Capital Improvements Program. Nevertheless, we are aware of the fact that we have to operate and maintain new schools, build a new hospital and several dispensaries in the district. We are on our way to extend the utility system and other capital additions as well as to bring public services up to the acceptable minimum levels for the growing population of the Yap District. We recognize the fact that these activities must be conducted in a climate of steadily increasing prices.

There is a great possibility that the political status of the Trust Territory will be changed during the years of this plan. The goals, objectives, desires and needs of the people of Yap District as reflected in this plan, however, must be presumed to be valid expressions of choice under any probable form of changed status. The total governmental effort contemplated herein can thus be evaluated independently at this time by considerations of future political status. It should be noted that this plan, in its entirety, has the full endorsement of the people of Yap District as expressed through the District Administrator of Yap.

Attached are narrative justifications of Capital Improvement Projects programmed during the time frame of this plan.

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