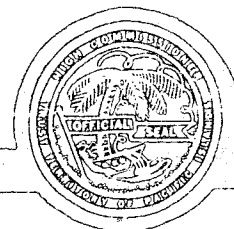


# PRESS RELEASE



## TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Office of the High Commissioner

Saipan, Mariana Islands

96950

RELEASE: 21-67

Marianas

### URBAN PLANNING CONSULTANT ISSUES REPORT

Truk

Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Jan. 23 . . . Carleton Smith, Chief of Land Planning<sup>o</sup>, Department of Land Management, Government of Guam, whose services were made available to the Trust Territory for two weeks as a consultant, has submitted his report to the High Commissioner. The report, which was made possible by the cooperation of the Government of Guam, is a study of the organizational possibilities for a planning program in the Trust Territory.

Ponape

Marshalls

Mr. Smith, who visited Yap and Palau in November to evaluate urban conditions as they relate to urban land use planning, was a feature speaker at the annual District Administrators' Conference which was held in December. He had previously made a study of communities on Saipan and in the northern islands of the Marianas.

Yap

Palau

In his report, Mr. Smith defines planning, or more specifically a "master plan" as a starting point in planned, coordinated, integrated program development. Within the master plan is contained the initial attempt to identify the goals and objectives of the community, to establish a systematized collection of pertinent data, and to develop

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necessary plans and programs depending upon the needs of the community and the availability of data. The report examines each of these items and explains its application.

Mr. Smith cites distance and cultural differences between the scattered island communities in Micronesia as a unique situation presenting many challenges to the planner. These differences must be analyzed and reconciled so that development in each environment will lead to a general common goal. Mr. Smith says: "In many ways, the Trust Territory is one of the last frontiers. It is raw, it is underdeveloped. But its beauty, its wonderful people, and its potential, make it stand out in my mind as an unanswered challenge to development. The more acquainted I became with this challenge, the surer I become that the start of the answer lies in a well coordinated and realistic planning program."

Mr. Smith's report will be one of the items considered by the recently established Special Joint Planning Advisory Committee which has members from the executive and legislative branches of the Trust Territory Government. The Committee, chaired by Deputy High Commissioner Martin P. Mangan, will hold its first meeting the third week in February.

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