

"It is hard to do anything about the problems here because they are only a few people who are interested, and very few understand about the Poverty Program. That is why we try to tell them to come to the meetings so they can get all this information. I only understand part of it and that is why I keep going to any meeting that they have here. The Councilmen don't attend all the meetings and the people who can really help us don't belong to any club and don't attend the meetings."

The CAP Committee members' statements have been confirmed by others who attend meetings.

"I can't tell you much about the meetings. We were there, but I can't remember what they were talking about. I can't remember which meeting it was because it has been a long time ago. I do remember the one that was held about two or three weeks ago with the CAP Administration and the Tribal Chairman. They asked the people if there was anything they wanted to ask for, but the people did not say anything. One reason, I think, is that they talked in English so long and most of the older people who were there went to sleep, and by the time they finally started talking in Indian, nobody was listening. I tried to get my kids to go around and wake them up, but they were afraid to I guess. Also, some of the people left the meeting by the time they talked in Papago. There was another meeting later, but I did not go. One thing, they never let us know about the first meeting until 6:00 p.m. Somebody came around and told us about it. I suppose some of the other people already were gone or had other plans for the evening."

One of the early difficulties facing the CAP Committee as noted was to make a clear distinction between the BIA's Ten Year Plan and CAP proposals.

Acting on a directive from Secretary Udall's office in Washington, the BIA began in 1964 to draw up a Ten Year Economic Development Plan. After consulting with members of the Tribal Council, including its Chairman, the BIA Program Officer picked a committee of ten Papagos, whose duties were left rather vague. Ostensibly they were to keep the BIA apprised of the needs and wants of Papago and to act as go-betweens for the BIA and the Tribe. When a preliminary draft of the Ten Year Plan had been completed, it was presented to the Tribal Council. Before the Councilmen would commit themselves, they wanted to know how long it would be before actualization of the Plan. To this question the BIA had to answer that it was yet without funds, and could not say whether such a plan would ever be implemented.

At the next meeting of the Tribal Council the OEO programs were explained. Because of similarities between the two and the close timing of their presentations, a number of Councilmen confused the BIA and OEO proposals. The same thing happened in other communities on the reservation where both BIA and the CAP Committee had gone to test opinion concerning projected plans. Inasmuch as BIA had acquired a reputation of not coming through on promises, CAP was at first disadvantaged by being associated with the BIA. This confusion has been generally cleared up, and CAP is widely accepted. Whenever the BIA brings proposals before the Tribal Council there are many critical questions.

In short, untangling of CAP components, BIA projects, and other OEO projects (NYC and Head Start) has never been satisfactorily accomplished. Said one interviewee:

"They came last summer and started a Head Start here. It lasted one summer, then went away. We haven't had anything else. I don't know where the Head Start came from. I don't think it was BIA. We were never asked anything about it, it just came. They didn't ask us if we wanted it, they just came with it."

The lack of clear understanding of CAP has in some cases caused antagonism. Regions which are neglected time after time, and are nevertheless called upon to support new programs, have begun to be purposeful in their irritation. Santa Rosa reactions are an example. The leaders there feel that they've been willing to listen in the past and that the lack of communication is not their fault. Now they are beginning to seek new ways of getting the attention they feel their districts deserve.

In other situations, people who know little about the programs are indifferent. Most people do not conceive of broad development plans or long-range goals. In nearly every case, people react directly to those specific programs with which they've had experience.

"We don't know very much about it in the villages. My brother sends his children to the Pre-School but he doesn't know if they are learning very