

and there by VISTA workers, these communities are not involved with CAP. Some members of such communities have not even heard of its existence.¹²

b. Recommendations

(1) *Suggested Action*.—Either CAP staffs should be relieved of some of their paperwork so that they will have more time to consider and implement publicity for the program throughout their reservations, or a special and additional group within CAP staff should be authorized on each reservation whose sole function would be to communicate with all members of the reservation no matter how isolated. Some components should be designed to specially attract and involve these isolated communities and individuals.

(2) *Suggested Research*.—The values and needs of the more isolated, least acculturated Indians on designated reservations might be made objects of special study so that involvement of these Indians in CAP components might be encouraged and made more likely, in complementation to attempts to ensure their knowledge of the existence of such components. A survey of the numbers of such isolated Indians on reservations having CAPs might be made to indicate where this particular problem may be most pressing.

13. Coordination of Government Activities

a. Problems

As indicated in the descriptions of a number of problems above, coordination between such Federal agencies as OEO, EDA, BIA, PHS, and PHA not to mention state and local agencies—school boards, law enforcement agencies and the like—would be of inestimable value in launching programs which could strike at the roots of Indian poverty. Economic development, housing and other construction, provision of CAP component space, and many other aspects of the War on Poverty would be facilitated, were such cooperation the rule rather than the exception.

There is, additionally, another point to be gained by such cooperation. A number of instances have been reported of surveys being conducted under OEO auspices to gather information already collected by local BIA agencies. Considerable expense and time would have been saved had there been any mechanism in existence to acquaint either or both of these agencies with the other's activities.¹³

b. Recommendations

(1) *Suggested Action*.—An office should be set up in each reservation or at the appropriate branch of the consortium (as augmented), the specific duty of which would be to determine the functions and capacities of each agency concerned with Indian affairs on each of the reservations in question, and to coordinate their activities. The administering body established for this purpose should not be one of the Government agencies involved, and, therefore, it is suggested that it be formed and directed under the auspices of the proposed enlarged consortium.

(2) *Suggested Research*.—Studies of jointly administered Governmental projects leading to greater economic health in Indian communities might be undertaken, so that instances of successful combinations of effort would be recorded for future use.

Should all of the recommendations suggested in the foregoing section be undertaken and prove insightful, CAP programs might then be working as well as could be expected in terms of their present goals; and some innovative beginnings might then be under way toward tackling basic economic problems. These problems are intricate, however, and are difficult to disentangle from labor and employment.

C. TOWARD ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF RESERVATIONS

One of the most important problems facing Community Action Programs on Indian reservations is their almost total dependence on continued external funding. The programs as currently conceived and operated depend on OEO not only for funds to initiate them, and to nurture their early development—which is the case with almost all community development projects anywhere

¹² See III, pp. 40, 68, 77-78, 82, 122-123, 139, 148, 153, 156, 176-179, 192, 209-210, 255-256, 261, 280-281, 320-321, 323, 332-333, 349.

¹³ See III, pp. 50, 54-59, 72-73, 73-74, 132, 136-137, 213, 245-246, 282, 326.