

First Visit

1 OUTLINE OF FIRST EXPLORATORY VISIT

This visit was made by Tony Gibbs on 18 to 21 September 1995. The summary of activities is given below:

1.1 Meeting at the Ministry of Health

This took place on Monday 18 September.

Tony Gibbs met with Mrs Euselyn Lewis, Permanent Secretary, to present his credentials and to outline the pattern of his assignment.

Arrangements were made for briefing meetings with Dr Kenneth Belle at the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and Mr BT Lewis the Director of Public Works (DPW).

1.2 Meeting with Dr Kenneth Belle

Tony Gibbs was accompanied by Mr Wesley James (architect and meteorologist attached to the Meteorological Service at VC Bird International Airport).

This took place at the EOC (tel: 462 4206/7/4743; fax: 462 4742) on Monday 18 September.

Dr Kenneth Belle provided Tony Gibbs with a full list of the Government healthcare facilities in Antigua & Barbuda. Thirty of these were in Antigua. Mr Gibbs' mission did not extend to Barbuda.

A meeting was arranged for later that day with Dr Carlos Mulraine, Chief Medical Officer (CMO tel: 462 2675) and Mr Lewis.

1.3 Meeting at the Cortsland Hotel

This took place on Monday 18 September.

Present were:

- Mr B T Lewis
- Dr Kenneth Belle
- Dr Carlos Mulraine
- Mr Wesley James
- Mr Tony Gibbs

Arrangements were made for the field visits to the various Government healthcare facilities in Antigua. In particular, the Public Works Department (PWD) would provide transport and an engineer from Tuesday 19 September. The field visits would, however, start on Monday using other arrangements.

1.4 Other Meetings

Informal discussions were held with:

- John DeNully, Chairman, EOC
- Hon Hilroy Humphrey, Minister of Home Affairs & Health

1.5 Field Visits

Mr Gibbs was accompanied by:

- Mr Cedric Henry (Engineer at PWD) on Tuesday and Wednesday
- Mr Wesley James on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

1.6 Debriefing Meeting

This was held at the St John's Health Centre on Thursday 21 September. The purpose of this meeting was to provide an interim reporting opportunity for the consultant and to seek further guidance from Government personnel on their requirements and priorities.

Present were:

- Dr Carlos Mulraine
- Dr Kenneth Bell
- Acting Superintendent Ivy-Jean Benjamin
- Acting Superintendent (Public Health) Bonnilyn Kelsick
- Principal Assistant Secretary (Medical Division, Ministry of Health) Myrna Nordé
- Chief Health Inspector Lionel Michael
- Mr Wesley James
- Mr Tony Gibbs

Note: Messrs Lewis and Henry from the PWD were invited but could not attend.