

# Ke Kaha Ki'i

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## HE MAY HAVE SOLVED HAWAII'S HOUSING CRISIS!

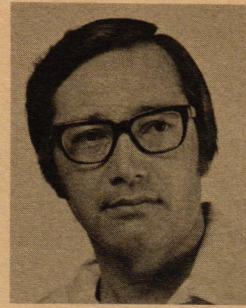
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By Don Dumlao

# REPORT ON REGIONAL CONFERENCE

## RICHLAND, WASHINGTON — October 1971

It was the intent of the Central Washington Chapter AIA to focus the Architect's "20-20" vision on Regional planning — this without question was masterly done. Using the Columbia River Region as a base, a series of speakers and panelists examined the various aspects of Regional Planning. Marvin Hatami, AIA, chairman of the AIA Regional Development Committee and principal in a Denver firm engaged in the practice of architecture, urban design and planning, spoke on the goals of a Regional Development Committee.

"Anthology of Regional Development" was discussed by Paul Spreiregen, AIA, who is certainly no stranger to us here in Hawaii. Now a practicing Architect and Planner in Washington D.C., Paul is the author of many books on Urban Planning and New Towns and was formerly the director of Urban Programs for the AIA. His talk was accompanied by a slide presentation which very effectively complemented his oral presentation. In fact, three of his slides very aptly made point of the entire conference; i.e., the Architect must concern himself with the regional scale and the effect his individual efforts have upon it. The first slide showed an aerial view of a winding stream through a natural wooded, rolling terrain; the second, the same view with a few widely dispersed dwellings and rural road showing the effect of perhaps tolerable interruption of the land and its natural environment; the third slide then

showed the land abused by overuse and the intolerable ignoring of the natural environment, indeed almost completely eliminating it.

If the first two speakers were not enough to convince you that Architects must get involved at the regional scale, then the third was calculated to insure it. Don Williams, AIA, Assistant Director, Urban Studies Center at the University of Louisville and Vice President in charge of Research and Planning, DEGA, Inc., Louisville, spoke on "Regional Development — The Architect and the Future". With brilliant eloquence and tact, Don tried to awaken those present to his honest concern about the profession and the fact that the American environment presently is not being designed and built by Architects, but they could be if they learned to understand and accept change. We must learn to accept that the "immediate future is based on 20th century knowledge, not on experiences of the past. The systematic acquisition of knowledge (ecological surveys, environmental and social impact studies, etc.) has replaced experience as the foundation for productive capacity and performance. Those who refuse to understand symbolic logic, information systems, computer science, and so on are guaranteeing that they will not be the future decision makers." I just hope that enough of us with architectural "20-20 vision" got the message. I felt it was very important and timely to us in

Hawaii so I obtained a copy of his entire speech and will see that it is on file at the AIA Office.

At this point, I must give credit to Jerry Mosman, AIA President, Central Washington Chapter; Art Carson, AIA Conference General Chairman and the rest of the conference planners; because after they had loaded you up with all the heavy thinking on regional planning concerns and got you talking to yourself, they loaded you on buses, drove through the desert until you were convinced water was not part of this region's environment (nor man for that matter), then finally placed you cozily on a gaily decorated barge on a deserted bank of the Snake River for a very impressive but leisurely and relaxing two-hour voyage back to the Conference Hotel. Besides experiencing the beauty of the river, the landscape complete with a memorable sunset, and impact of the river dropping 150' in one of its locks, it's walls rising to present an enormous man-made canyon; the trip provided an opportunity to talk informally with the conference speakers and discuss with old and new friends the morning session. If that weren't enough, they top off good liquor and pupus with, would you believe, all the Teriyaki Steak and Char Siu Pork Chops you could eat, cooked by a "KANAKA" from St. Louis who now resides in the area.

At the business session, the next

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