

## DOMINGO RODRIGUEZ

How long have you lived in Cano Negro? I was born and raised here and I have already grown old in Cano Negro. I am 44 years old. When I was young there were 10 families in Cano Negro. Most of the increase in people moving to Cano Negro has been since the consult.

What are the new things that have happened in Cano Negro since the consult?

1. Community Center
2. Water
3. General Store
4. Commercial Garden
5. Health Outpost
6. Preschool
7. Permanent school teacher in the community
8. Latrines
9. Electricity (some before the consult)
10. The second well in the community garden. This is a reserve for our good one.
11. Truck
12. Tractor
13. Literacy classes
14. Sewing Industry

What is the most important thing that has happened since the consult?  
The Water

How have there been changes in people's eating habits since the consult?  
The children used to be undernourished. With the help and attention of the preschool their health has improved and there has been much less illness among the children. Hardly any deaths among the children now. Formerly at least one or two children died each year.

What has been the change in the life of the families as a result of the preschool? The change has been formidable. The mothers can go and work in the cacao without worrying what is happening to their children. They know that they are getting good care in the preschool. More mothers can work the fields now.

What improvements have there been in housing since the consult? Two houses have added family rooms. Practically all houses have acquired furniture and utensils in the last two years. It seems that the furniture stores have been bought out. 20 new refrigerators and 21 new gas stoves.

What meetings have been held? Cacao Syndicate, Administrative Committee, Stake meetings, Secretariat, and Guild meetings.

The administrative committee was formed when the National Agrarian Institute gave the land to be parceled out to members of the community in 1975/76. The Administrative Committee was formed out of the Cacao Syndicate which was formed in 1962 to push for land acquisition. All members of the community are members of the Syndicate. The Administrative Committee consists of five and was formed in 1975/76.

The cacao cultivated land (not the fallow land) was parcelled out with about

130,000 trees. The number of trees was parcelled out on the basis of the number of persons who could work the trees on an equal basis and on the size of the family. (The trees belong to each member of the family. Both men and women have equal amount of trees.)

The Syndicate does not meet regularly. We have not met in the past several months. When we meet we discuss what the community needs, what agencies to go to for assistance, etc. We do not work cooperatively, but individually.

What is the average production of cacao? 5,000 trees will produce around 32 saks at 50 kg each per season (one year). Last year was a bad year. It looks like this one will be better. The going price is 620 Bs. per 50 kg bag dried. 665 for 50 kg. of fermented cacao. We usually do not sell the fermented because it takes an additional 8 days to ferment and it loses weight in the process.

What do you want to have happen in the next two years? Complete the chapel, new preschool building, permanent health outpost, housing units occupied and a paved road.

*Before 240 Bs per 50 kg. ?*

RAMON ANTONIO HINOJOSA: male 55 years old has lived in Cano Negro 5 years

Moved to Cano Negro from Euc Miranda, Javits. Has three sons and one daughter.

What has happened in Cano Negro since the consult in January 1977?

1. Water system
2. Extension of the electricity up the hill (to his house)
3. The new rural housing
4. Regular school
5. More children attending the school
6. Vitamins received from the Health Outpost. Suggested that a doctor needed to visit the Health Outpost once per week on Saturdays.
7. The New housing built behind the Community Center
8. More life in the village
9. Meetings in the Community Center
10. Men either go to be early or stay up and drink a lot

In his family 4 people go to the Cacao fields. Himself and his three sons. He has 2,144 trees. Right now they are picking the Cacao. He usually brings back 1½ baskets each day from the field for drying. It takes 4/5 days to dry the cacao in dry weather, 16 in wet. In 1970 the price was 900 Bs. per bag (USD375 for 50 kg.). By 1976 the price had gone down to 240 Bs. per bag (USD100). The current price is 620 Bs. per bag. (USD250). ~~USD~~

He has 100 chickens and uses them for meat and eggs for his family. He has 200 banana trees and other vegetables.

In the new store he had a bad credit experience. He still buys there, only cash. lunch meat and bread.

In the next two years he would like to see the streets paved, water put in every house and the lights hooked up to his new house. After he moves into his new house he will purchase a television, 4 beds and other furniture.

Juan and Carmen Arteaga. He is 42 and has lived in Cano Negro for 16 months. He is a contractor and learned his trade at INCE (some Institute) where he took two courses. One in building and contracting and the other to be a trainer for others. He has 4 children, 1 girl and 3 boys. He moved to Cano Negro from Guaremas because he wanted to build himself a bigger house for his family. He likes it in Cano Negro, but his wife is not as happy since she was born and raised in Caracas.

What changes has he seen in the village in the last 16 months since he moved there? 14 new families have moved in and build 14 new houses. This is in addition to the government sponsored housing program. There are more cars driving in and out of the village and more visitors coming to the village. The new chapel is being built. They now have use of an emergency vehicle.

Why do people move to Cano Negro? They come looking for a peaceful life and see the possibility of progress being made in the village.

Do your children go to school. Two go to Tapipa and three in Cano Negro. They go to tapipa on foot and have a hot lunch program there.

Juan is president of the Cano Negro balas team (a game). He attends the community meetings.

How does he take care of his family's needs? He is a contractor and builds low cost housing. He does not want his sons to go into the building trade with him, but to go into a career. He shops at the new general store in Cano Negro and has not purchased any new furniture for his home.

In the next two years he would like to see the streets paved and a rural doctor visit the village on a regular basis.

Isabel Martinez. Age 50. has lived in Cano Negro for 9 years. She moved there because a new house was available. She has seven in her family. 4 sons.

What new things have happened in Cano Negro since the consult?

1. New government housing
2. Community Center
3. Sidewalks
4. Community general store
5. Health Outpost
6. Sewing Industry
7. Preschool
8. Commercial garden
9. Truck for transport

The community went five years without water. Getting the water is the most important accomplishment since the consult. This includes getting the new well dug.

In 1973 there were 10 families in Cano Negro. Now there are 66 families of which 53 own cacao. Five families have pigs and almost all families keep chickens.

What do you purchase from the general store? rice, pasta, flour, lunch meat, cheese, tomatoes, onions, tuna and milk.

What do you do to care for your families needs? I have cacao trees. He has 3,290 cacao trees and has planted 2,000 new ones that are not yet producing. A family will have on the average of 6,000 trees (for two to three adults). In the top of the harvest season she will get 5 bags per week for sale. The harvest season is 6 months; pruning 4 mos and easy time for 2 months.

In the next two years she wants to see a new industry to employ people and a bakery.

JOSE QUINTANA: Age 23. He was born in Tapipa. In 1971 he moved to Cano Negro. He spent two years in the military service where he drove tanks and learned mechanics.

What changes have you seen in Cano Negro since the Consult?

1. Preschool
2. Cano Negro is known worldwide
3. Padre Rafael
4. Steve and Lynn Brazen
5. The new houses
6. Health Outpost
7. Community Center
8. Industries

How do you make your living? Cacao. 52 families have cacao. The harvest season is 6/9 months. A family will have from 2,000 to 8,000 trees. 8,000 trees will produce 20 bags in a season and 2,000, 5 bags. (Range in cacao income 12,400 Bs to 3,100 Bs. or USD ~~5,200~~ <sup>2,100</sup> to ~~1,300~~ <sup>700</sup>.)

What changes have you seen in peoples eating habits since the consult? Baby food, more meat and milk for the children.

What would you like to see in the next two years? The chapel completed, increase population, commercial garden crops producing. 10 new people in the Agricultural Guild.

How many families have purchased new items?

Televisions	15
Refrigerators	30
Gas Stoves	30

BEATRIZ ITRIAGO

She has one sow and 12 piglets, They were just born two days before. She raises the pigs for sale.

She has lived in Cano Negro for five years. She previously lived in El Penon. She came here because a flood wiped out her home and killed one of her children.

What new things have happened in Cano Negro since the consult?

1. Community Center
2. The Chapel
3. Everything now looks different. Better. There is a better atmosphere in Cano Negro. "ambiente"
4. The water well.
5. Health Outpost
6. Staff housing units

What that has happened is the community most pleased about?

1. Water well first
2. Community Center, second.

Have you visited the Health Outpost? Yes, many times. I went there for my daughter who was very sick. She later died of pneumonia.

Do you have any children in the preschool? One son who is five years old. He likes it very much because he has learned to write, draws and has fun with the other children.

Did you attend the literacy classes? Yes, I attended because I was interested in it. I learned to spell my name and many other things. I would like to see them start up aggin.

Did you attend the community form held in your stake? Yes. I remember the part about the history of Cano Negro. We called them Sector Foros.

Did you attend the "week of the woman"? No, I don't remember it.

What about the new housing. I am waiting for my house to be finished so that I can move in. In the next two years I plan to buy a gas stove, dining room set, and if possible, a television set.

About the General Store: I buy meat when it is there, rice, sugar, milk which we did not have in Cano Negro before the consult.

How do you provide for your family? My husband works in construction outside of Cano Negro and comes home every weekend. Presently he is working in Tachigna.

Cacao. Beatriz has 2,000 trees which her mother takes care of. Her mother does not have any trees.

How is life easier in Cano Negro since the consult? The transportation makes it easier to get to Tapipa. The general store. Now I can buy things here in Cano Negro and do not have to go to Tapipa.

Cano Negro: Beatriz Itriago

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26 April 1979

What do you think about a mini bus for Cano Negro? That would be very good.

What do you hope to see in the next two years? Paved road and the chapel completed.

**AGRICULTURE: Commercial Garden**

The papaya crop failed. The production was too low to make a profit. The soil testing was done and we were told that papaya would be a good crop. After the failure, we were told that the soil probably was not good for papaya. So we now do a nursery plot to test out the new crops before we put them out in the commercial garden. it is 6 meters by 10 meters. The tomatoes are doing well and we plan to put them into commercial production. The green peppers are being eaten by the rabbits. So we will not put them into production. The watermelons are new and appear to be doing well.

**FACILITIES: Newly constructed.**

Women Staff Housing	64 square meters
Men Staff Housing	69 square meters
Staff Showers	13 square meters
Pump House	8 square meters
Tool Storage Shed	13 square meters
Machinery Storage Shed	56 square meters
Community Center	179 square meters
Clinic, Community Kitchen, Showers, Toilets, Meeting Rooms, and Office	
General Store	40 square meters
Five Temporary Buildings	48 square meters each
Chapel	126 square meters
Plaza	5 concrete benches 2.2 meters each long circular walkway

**WATER: Community Supply**

First well was dug by the Army in early 1977. It was not sufficient flow to provide a community water supply. The second well was put in in July 1977 as a cooperative venture between the ICA and INOS. It has very good flow. It is 60 meters deep. Estimated cost was 100,000 Bs. <sup>24,000</sup>(USD~~42,000~~). Three new water tanks were installed and one old one <sup>17,000</sup> cleaned and used. The pump was installed at a cost of 70,000 Bs (USD~~29,000~~). The well line is 15 cm. diameter. In October 1978 a sealed concrete water tank was installed at ground level. in December 1978 a 50,000 liter high tower tank was installed and connected to existing water lines in the village. Cost 200,000 Bs. (USD~~83,000~~). The water system is operating and water is available to every house in the village. In April 1979 two adjacent communities were hooked up to the Cano Negro water system. Pelar, 150 population and Tapipa, 5,000. Water trucks come from other villages to fill up from as far away as 30 km. As many as ten come in one day to fill up for their villages. There is not charge for this service.

**IRRIGATION**

Sprayers and portable pipes have been secured as a cost of 15,000 Bs. <sup>3,600</sup>(USD~~6,250~~). There is a tractor powered pump for the irrigation which draws water from the swamp for the commercial garden.

## JUAN RONDON

A teacher in the Cano Negro primary school since March 1977. The school started with one classroom and 26 students. He now teaches the third and fourth grade. The other teacher teaches the first and second grades. She lives in Caucafua. She comes by bus to Tapipa every day and then walks to Cano Negro. The total students now in both classrooms is 57. The average attendance is almost the total enrollment.

What is the reason for the increase in enrollment of students? The community has grown and we have added one grade. At first there was only three grades in the school.

Do you have any graduates of the preschool now in the elementary school?  
Yes.

How are they different from those who have not gone to the preschool?  
They have no fear of the teacher.

How many children of elementary school age who are not going to school?  
About 7.

How many of those who complete the fourth grade here in Cano Negro go on to school in Tapipa? Last year there were 17 who graduates from the fourth grade, and 15 are going to school in Tapipa.

How many grades in school would most parents like their children to complete?  
Depends on the area and the economic considerations. For example: the costs for transportation and food.

Why did you become a school teacher? It is very hard to answer. At first I did not like teaching school, but every day now I am liking it more. As I learn more teaching methods, I like it more. Today I see that it is essential to work with children.

Why did you not go into business or the military? It is a matter of vocation. It is an individual need that I find that I need to give myself and not staying withdrawn or closed.

What is new in Cano Negro in the past two years?

1. I would say that it is all new. Many things new that includes everything in Cano Negro. When I and my family came to Cano Negro there was practically nothing except the place.
2. Water
3. General Store. Although it does not provide all that people need to purchase, it helps a lot.
4. Sidewalks
5. School is now functioning better.
6. Preschool
7. New housing under construction.

What would you like to see happen in the next two years? Paved road and streets. Plaza completed. Larger Health Outpost with a doctor who visits at least once a week.

The General Store has gross receipts of 3,000 to 3,500 per week. USD714 to 833.

There have been 18 new toilets installed and 23 septic tanks.

Education: Literacy classes ran for 12 adults for 2 hours per week for 12 weeks. Drive education four people were trained and one has received his license. HDTS 20 attended from Cano Negro.

Forums: six villagers have orchestrated and 10 more have been trained. In the Sector Foros there were 80/100 persons.

Sidewalks: 1 m. x 754 m. total done 754 square meters.

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*3,000      700*

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