
Court Kills Saipan Plea

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the applicability of NEPA, the obligation of the United States to protect the Micronesians from loss of their land. We should point out the land leased by Continental will continue to remain public land and that the execution of the Continental lease was for the best interest of Micronesians in that it promotes economic development of Micronesia," Salii said.

But co-counsel for the plaintiffs, in a statement they issued on Saipan, said they considered the verdict "just one hurdle on our way to victory."

King's opinion, said the co-counsels, "is very encouraging in the way it sharpens issues and makes many findings in support of our position."

The statement, signed by Ed King and Samuel Withers, said, "We have too much confidence in the American system of government to believe for a moment that Micronesians ultimately will be left without power to assert the rights being denied them by American officials here."

Among the plaintiffs were Congressman Herman Q. Guerrero, John Rosario and Lino Olopai.

Work on the hotel, meanwhile, is continuing. Piles for the complex have been driven, dorms for workers constructed, a warehouse built, and general building materials stockpiled.