

MIC DEDICATED IN PALAU

Aug 5 1976

SAIPAN, AUGUST 6 (MNS) -- THE GRAND OPENING DEDICATION CEREMONY OF MICRONESIAN INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION WAS HELD YESTERDAY (AUGUST 5) AT THE MIC SITE IN PALAU.

ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN WAS SCHEDULED TO ATTEND THE OCCASION, HOWEVER, FLIGHTS TO PALAU DESTROYED WERE CANCELLED FOUR DAYS IN A ROW DUE TO BAD WEATHER.

COLEMAN CABLED HIS INTERESTED SPECTATOR FOR THE OCCASION, AND REQUESTED FORMER T.I. ATTORNEY GENERAL ROBERT SHORCRAFT TO RELIEVE IT.

IN HIS SPEECH, COLEMAN SAID, "THE ADMINISTRATION, TOGETHER WITH THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND WITH FULL SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM WASHINGTON AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ARE MAKING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF MICRONESIA A FIRST PRIORITY.

WE KNOW FROM HISTORY THAT AMERICA'S STRENGTH HAS BEEN ITS ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE. OUR FREEDOMS, EVEN IN MICRONESIA, ARE ROOTED IN SELF-RELIANCE AND OUR ABILITY TO PROVIDE WITH OUR OWN RESOURCES THE SERVICE AND NEEDS OF OUR PEOPLE. THE TIME FOR MICRONESIANS TO BEGIN TO BUILD THEIR ECONOMIC BASE HAS COME. THE BURDEN WILL BE GREAT. THE TASK WILL BE DIFFICULT. BUT IT WILL NOT BE BEYOND ACHIEVEMENT.

THE DEDICATION OF THIS COCONUT PROCESSING PLANT IS A SHINING EXAMPLE OF WHAT HARD WORK, DEDICATION OF PURPOSE, LEADERSHIP AND HOPE IN THE FUTURE OF PALAU AND MICRONESIA CAN DO. THE MICRONESIAN INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION CERTAINLY POSSESSES THESE QUALITIES. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS WARMLY CONGRATULATES MIC AND ALL THOSE WHO HAVE INVESTED FUNDS AND TIME IN THIS NOTEWORTHY EFFORT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

THERE ARE MANY THAT DESERVE RECOGNITION AND COMMENDATION FOR THIS VENTURE BUT I HOPE THEY WILL FORGIVE ME IF I GIVE SPECIAL MENTION OF GUY LUTTRELL AND THE PALAUAN EMPLOYEES WHO HELPED CONSTRUCT THE PLANT. I HAD OCCASION TO PERSONALLY OBSERVE DURING THEIR WORK THEIR PATIENCE AND TENACITY UNDER OFTEN TRYING CIRCUMSTANCES WITH GREAT PRIDE AND SKILL. IT IS AN EXAMPLE THAT OTHER PIONEERING INDUSTRIES IN THE FUTURE WILL FIND HARD TO EQUAL.

MY HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS ALSO TO THE PEOPLE OF PALAU, THE TRADITIONAL AND POLITICAL LEADERS AND THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN MAKING THIS NEW INDUSTRY A REALITY AND A SOURCE OF PRIDE TO ALL. TO MIC YOU HAVE OUR VERY BEST WISHES FOR YOUR UNIVERSAL EFFORT AND FOR YOUR SUCCESS.

(I.T. TO ATTEND PIFDC MEETING IN HAWAII)

SAIPAN, AUGUST 6 (MNS) -- ~~RESOURCES~~ AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR, EUSEBIO RECHUCHER, IS SCHEDULED TO ATTEND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (STANDING COMMITTEE OF PACIFIC TUNA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION) TO BE HELD IN HAWAII AUGUST 24. REPRESENTATIVES FROM GUAM AND AMERICAN SAMOA WILL ALSO ATTEND THE MEETING.

THE TRUST TERRITORY RECENTLY BECAME A MEMBER OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER COLEMAN AND SENATOR MIRAM L. FONG, HAWAII. THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE WAS HELD IN MAY THIS YEAR WITHOUT PARTICIPATION OF THE I.T.

THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE IS "TO BETTER BALANCE THE INPUT OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS AREAS IN THE PIFDC, GIVEN THE PROBLEMS OF GEOGRAPHICAL DISPERSION, AND TO REPRESENT THE PACIFIC ISLANDS' ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTERESTS."

IN CARRYING OUT THIS PURPOSE, THE PIFDC WILL: A) SOLICIT AND COORDINATE FISHERY DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS FROM THE PACIFIC AREAS; B) MONITOR THE ONGOING WORK OF THE PIFDC IN REGARDS TO THE PACIFIC ISLAND AREAS; C) ASSESS THE FINAL RESULTS OF PIFDC ACTIVITIES AS THEY RELATE TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF PACIFIC ISLAND AREAS; D) ASSIST THE PIFDC IN ITS LONG-RANGE PLANNING.

PRESIDENT FORD APPROVED ON JULY 6, 1976 PUBLIC LAW 94-343 WHICH SENATOR FONG INITIATED FOR THE PACIFIC ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION. THE ACT WOULD AUTHORIZE AN APPROPRIATION OF \$3 MILLION FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1979.

(FR. FLAVIN BURIAL CEREMONY HELD)

PALAU, AUGUST 6 (MNS)---A "LOW KEY" BURIAL CEREMONY WAS HELD RECENTLY IN KOROR, PALAU DISTRICT OF WHAT WERE BELIEVED TO BE A FEW SKELETAL REMAINS OF LATE REV. THOMAS F. FLAVIN, J.S., ACCORDING TO A SOURCE IN PALAU. NO FURTHER DETAILS WERE AVAILABLE.

FR. FLAVIN DIED AT AGE 42 ON JANUARY 29 WHEN THE 18-FOOT FIBERGLASS "BOSTON WHALER" GOVERNMENT BOAT OVERTURNED IN THE ROUGH SEAS OF THE EASTERN COAST OF NGARAARD MUNICIPALITY, BABELTHUAP. FLAVIN WAS RETURNING TO THE DISTRICT CENTER OF KOROR AFTER VISITING BETHANIA, A PROTESTANT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS. THE PALAUAN BOAT OPERATOR SURVIVED THE INCIDENT. A WEEK-LONG SEARCH FOR FR. FLAVIN'S BODY ENDED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

FR. FLAVIN WAS A DIRECTOR OF ST. IGNATIUS RESIDENCE, A HOUSE IN GUAM FOR YOUNG MICRONESIAN MEN WHO ARE CONSIDERING THE PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE. HE WAS ALSO ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THE CAMPUS MINISTRY IN GUAM AND A COUNSELOR FOR MICRONESIAN STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM.