PRESS RELEASE



TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

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{ the High CommissionerSaipan, Mariana Islands96950FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASEAUGUST 26, 1965TRUST TERRITORY HEADQUARTERSRELEASE: 116-65

PML OPERATIONS TERMINATED IN TRUST TERRITORY

SAIPAN, M.I. (August 26)...Pacific Micronesian Line operations in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands will terminate August 30, according to an announcement by High Commissioner M. W. Goding. The PML Guam office will remain open until November 30 to close out normal business activities. The PML Saipan office will close out by September 30.

A new contractor, United Tanker Corporation of New York, will assume shipping operations as of September 1, under a two-year contract which provides for the operation of the Trust Territory's three major vessels, <u>Pacific Islander</u>, <u>Gunner's Knot</u>, and <u>Palau</u> <u>Islander</u>.

Services will be provided by United Tanker through a subsidiary company incorporated in the Trust Territory as the Micronesian Line, according to J. Carter Hammel, Chairman of the Board of the United Tanker Corporation. Headquarters are scheduled to be in Saipan, Marianas. Captain William G. Kerr, formerly with Pacific Micronesian Line, will be resident manager. The new company plans to utilize as many Micronesian employees as possible, both ashore and afloat. It will also utilize present seagoing personnel who decide to remain with the firm.

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The United Tanker representatives may be reached through the Trust Territory Transportation Office until their new office is established.

Field trip vessels in the Trust Territory will be operated by private Micronesian interests.

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