Palau independence day

Pacific nation welcomes investment

ing of this nation.

Johnson Toribiona PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU

On behalf of the government and the people of the Republic of Palau, I extend our most cordial greetings to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, and to wish them continued best of health.

I also extend to Prime Minister Naoto Kan and members of his Cabinet, the government and the people of Japan our greetings and warm regards on this very special day of the Republic of Palau.

Oct. 1 marks the 16th anniversary of our independence as a sovereign nation.

It is time for celebration, reflection and rededication. We celebrate the achievements of and to pay tribute to them and

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tance by Japan International the past 15 years amid the Cooperation Agency (JICA) many challenges we have faced volunteers and exchange trainin our march to nationhood and ing programs. These contributo rededicate ourselves to the tions help improve the administration and governance of our aspirations of our forefathers, whose ideals, visions and persenation and accelerate growth of verance for a sovereign nation led to the realization of this day,

Congratulations sive, there is enough room for more investment and expanto the People of the Republic of Palau sion of this and other sectors of our economy, and in this regard on the 16th Anniversary of I welcome Japanese corporations and individual business-Their Independence Day men contemplating overseas

those whose contributions had expansion of their business enbeen instrumental in the buildterprises to consider Palau. I appreciate all the Japanese vis-

In this regard, I offer special itors who grace our islands for recognition and gratitude to the vacation. They are truly goodgovernment and the people of will ambassadors promoting Japan for the generous support friendship and good will beand assistance extended to Patween our people, and I wellau over the years. Palau has come more Japanese visitors, received various forms of assisespecially readers of The Jatance from Japan, including pan Times contemplating overcapital infrastructure improveseas vacations to consider Paments and humanitarian assislau.

I welcome investment in the agriculture, aquaculture and fishery or other business ventures, as well as the establishment of retirement homes or "silver-hair" cities for Japanese seniors. Palau offers many investment opportunities and I encourage, invite and welcome you to avail yourselves of this opportunity to help make Palau a close and lasting development partner of Japan.

Finally, I congratulate Prime Minister Kan for his confirmation as prime minister of Japan, and I sincerely hope H.E. Kan will find time during his term to visit our island nation as our most special guest. May God bless Japan and the Republic of Palau.



Heavenly beach: Palau is becoming a popular destination with resorts providing a relaxing tropical vacation. EMBASSY OF PALAU

National development plan continues apace

Minoru Francisco Xavier Ueki AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU

Akihito and Empress Michiko. I also convey greetings to H.E. Naoto Kan, the prime minister of Ja-

Congratulations

to the People of the Republic of Palau

We sincerely appreciate your good relationship

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pan, and members of his Cabinet, and the people and the gov-

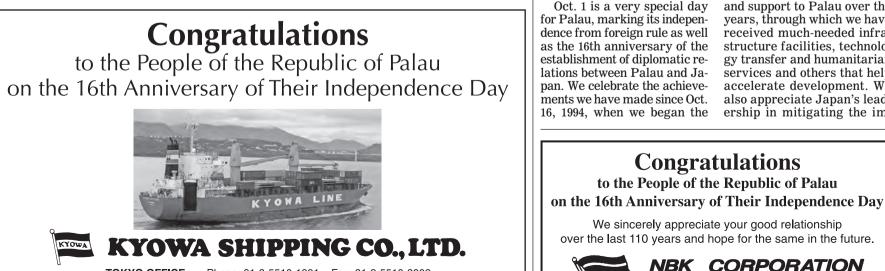
Oct. 1 is a very special day for Palau, marking its independence from foreign rule as well as the 16th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Palau and Japan. We celebrate the achievements we have made since Oct. 16, 1994, when we began the march to nationhood, and to use this day to reflect and re-assess our development progress visa-vis development goals and timelines in our national development master plan, and to celebrate such milestones with our developing partners.

In this connection, I reiterate our appreciation to Japan for her enduring partnership and support to Palau over the vears, through which we have received much-needed infrastructure facilities, technology transfer and humanitarian services and others that help accelerate development. We also appreciate Japan's leadership in mitigating the impact of climate change on small island states with the implementation of the Pacific Environment Community initiative.

Palau is a thriving democracy under the dynamic lead ership of President Johnson Toribiong, the eighth president of the Republic of Palau Upon taking office in January 2009, President Toribiong has focused on expanding Palau's private sector, which current ly is driven primarily by tour ism with extensive Japanese investment. We thank those Japanese investors, and President Toribiong is inviting even more Japanese companies and businessmen to invest. In this connection the Embassy of the Republic of Palau is ready to help those interested to explore the investment opportunities and potentials that Palau offers.

In closing, I want to reiter ate President Toribiong's invitation to any Japanese who is considering a vacation to visit Palau.

May God bless the beautiful nation of Japan and its people, and the Republic of Palau and its people.



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the private sector, which is critical to becoming a selfsufficient nation. In this connection I invite Japanese to develop our private sector even further by investing in Palau. While Japanese investment in the tourism industry is exten-

On the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Palau, I extend, on behalf of the government and the people of Palau, our most cordial greetings to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor ernment of Japan.