PRESS RELEASE

PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH AT THE BUKIT PANJANG

FUN FAIR ON SATURDAY, 30TH OCTOBER, 1964.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, had declared that Indonesia's objective is to break Malaysia, not by sheer physical military strength, but by breaking the people's morale and causing economic dislocation. In this way, Indonesia hopes to pull the country down, preferably from within.

Mr. Lee said this when he opened a fun fair organised by the Bukit Panjang goodwill committee this evening to raise money to set up a welfare fund to help the needy in the constituency.

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Mr. Lee said that by sending 60 soldiers, Indonesia cannot hope to conquer Malaysia. It took the Japanese 20,000 to 30,000 soldiers to conquer Malaya. But the Indonesians hope to dislocate Malaysia's economy, force her to spend money on guns, chase bandits and guerrillas, leading to no economic development plan being fulfilled. In a few years, there with be economic distress, unemployment, and then they will make trouble.

Mr. Lee stressed that the most important job now is to get on with the business of making a living and economic progress. He said when Jurong succeeds in two or three years' time, giving jobs to the children coming out from school and with the revenue to pay for a better life, then the people can really be proud and say: "We went through fire and survived." Mr. Lee said he is confident that the same qualities of ruggedness, resilience and stamina which had seen the people through fire and survived in 1961, 1962 and 1963 will see Malaysia and Singapore in Malaysia prosper and flourish.

Mr. Lee also again spoke of the need to ensure that the people's morale does not flag in the face of Indonesian pressure. A people who are demoralised, who view the future with fear, is a divided nation. They cannot succeed. Mr. Lee said a people who know who are their friends and enemies and have confidence in themselves and their Government, and that is prepared to stand firm for their rights to live in peace, and with the stamina to press on regardless of temporary difficulties, that is a people that will succeed.

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He said all the internal problems of Malaysia at the moment are the result of outside pressure. All the little problems of unemployment, a little bit of dislocation of trade, even all the community differences, basically come from external pressure from Indonesia. Mr. Lee stressed that no country worth its

name can ever succeed without a period of trial. If Malaysia cannot survive pressures such as the present one, then it will never become a nation. But, he said, with a great deal of patience forbearance and resolution, Malaysia can and will succeed.

31st October, 1964.

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