May 21, 1982

SPECIAL ORDER)
NO. 226 :
Series of 1982)

SUBJECT: Creation of an Inter-Agency Study

Committee on PICOP's Wood

Resource Base

The expansion of the pulp and paper mill of Paper Industries Corporation of the Philippines (PICOP) is one of the 11 major industrial projects of the Government. With the damage suffered by the PICOP tree plantations from the recent typhoon "AKANG", there would be substantial shortages in wood supply and, consequently, the expansion program might have to be deferred.

It is possible, however, that the said expansion could still be implemented provided additional wood supply could be obtained. For this purpose, an inter-agency study committee is hereby created to be composed of the following:

- Prof. Domingo V. Jacalne Chairman Chairman, Dept. of Silviculture and Forest Influences, UPLB College of Forestry
- 2) For. Benedicto T. Reprado Member Asst. Division Chief, Timber Management Dev., BFD
- 3) For. Marcelino Dalmacio Member
 Chief, Planning & Management Services Division,
 Forest Research Institute

The STUDY COMMITTEE is to find ways and means by which the Company could rationally use the forest lands and intensively tap the wood resource potentials within its forest concessions. The Committee shall determine such areas of the logged-over forests which could be converted to tree plantations and/or subjected to intensive timber stand improvement practices and, in general, recommend a silvicultural and harvesting system or combinations of systems that shall satisfy the wood requirements of the wood processing plants and the PICOP wood industry complex called for the next five-year forest management period (1983-1987), including the requirements of the proposed expansion program of the pulp and paper mill. The Committee shall correlate the wood supply requirements with the long term interests of rational forest conservation and safeguarding of the ecosystem.

The Committee shall be guided, among others, by a provision of Sec. 22 of P.D. 1559, quoted as follows:

"Provided, That subject to the approval of the Department Head, upon recommendation of the Director, any silvicultural and harvesting system that may be found suitable as a result of research may be adopted."

Recommendations of the Committee shall be submitted to the Minister on or before June 15, 1982.

The Chairman of the Committee is authorized to organize meetings, field trips and conferences in connection with its task. PICOP shall make available to the Committee such data and information as it may require.

The Members of the Committee are authorized to collect expenses, including honoraria for the duration of their assignment, subject to usual accounting rules and regulations.

Funds needed for these activities are chargeable against the appropriations of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

This Order takes effect immediately.

TEODORO Q. PEÑA

Minister