

M/N - Mt. Ga. Reid, V. f.

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# Manley pays tribute to Vic Reid

MR. Michael Manley, President of the Peoples' National Party, in paying tribute to Vic Reid, author and journalist who died on August 25, said: "Vic Reid's death brings to an end the career of a novelist who was the only one of his time whose works became known internationally by writing of Jamaica from Jamaica, instead of doing so from Europe and North America.

"As a young man, his first novel, "New Day", (which he told me he re-wrote six times before he was satisfied), planted the seed which grew into the understanding that men like Gordon and Bogle were patriots and not criminals. His subsequent novels continued to search our history and our roots in Africa, and gave us pride in the glory of our ancestry.

"His biographies will also record that he received many national ho-

nours; but it will not be by these by which he will be remembered, mainly. His memory will be in the contribution he made to the art of writing, with a style which was unique. Indeed, no paragraph written by Vic Reid could have been written by anyone but him.

"He will be remembered, also, for his work with the National Trust Commission where he directed research with enthusiasm into the taproots of our past to find men and women, previously unknown or unsung, who influenced the directions taking in our yester-days.

"His works have become standard text books for black studies in Jamaica, the Caribbean, England and North America.

"That he could have been the modest and unassuming man he was — despite these achievements,

is the measure of his strength as a human being. Indeed, I believe that it was this strength which gave him the passionate commitment to Jamaica all his life, and made him the example of what it is to be proud to be Jamaican.

"My father and mother were proud to count Vic Reid as their friend. Indeed Vic's biography of Norman Manley, "The Horse of the Morning" was done at the personal request of the National Hero.

"Vic Reid was friend, father, brother, confidant and guide to many of our artists and leaders throughout our country.

"To his wife, Monica and their children, I offer my sincere sympathy at their loss, and pray that they will find faith and strength from the extended family of his many friends.

Vic Reid, walk good into time, my friend".