

Thank you for helping us celebrate the dedication of Fairchild Semiconductor's new Shiprock facility—
a partnership in progress.
September 6, 1969
Shiprock, New Mexico

The talents of the Navajo people extend beyond imagination. A Navajo woman weaves a perfectly patterned rug without ever seeing the whole design until the rug is completed. Weaving, like all Navajo arts, is done with unique imagination and craftsmanship, and it has been done that way for centuries.



Building electronic devices, transistors and integrated circuits, also requires this same personal commitment to perfection. And so, it was very natural that when Fairchild Semiconductor needed to expand its operations, its managers looked at an area of highly skilled people living in and around Shiprock, New Mexico, a city of 8000 located in the northeast corner of the vast Navajo lands.

That was in 1965. Since then, Fairchild's Shiprock manufacturing and training operation has served as the keystone of a planned industrial development complex conceived by the Navajo Tribal Council as part of its effort to shift the economic base of the tribe from one purely agricultural to a more diversified mix of business and industry. From 50 initial employees, Fairchild's Shiprock facility has grown to almost 1200 men and women, making Fairchild the nation's largest non-government employer of American Indians. All but 24 of the 1200 are Navajo; in fact, of 33 production supervisors, 30 are Navajo.





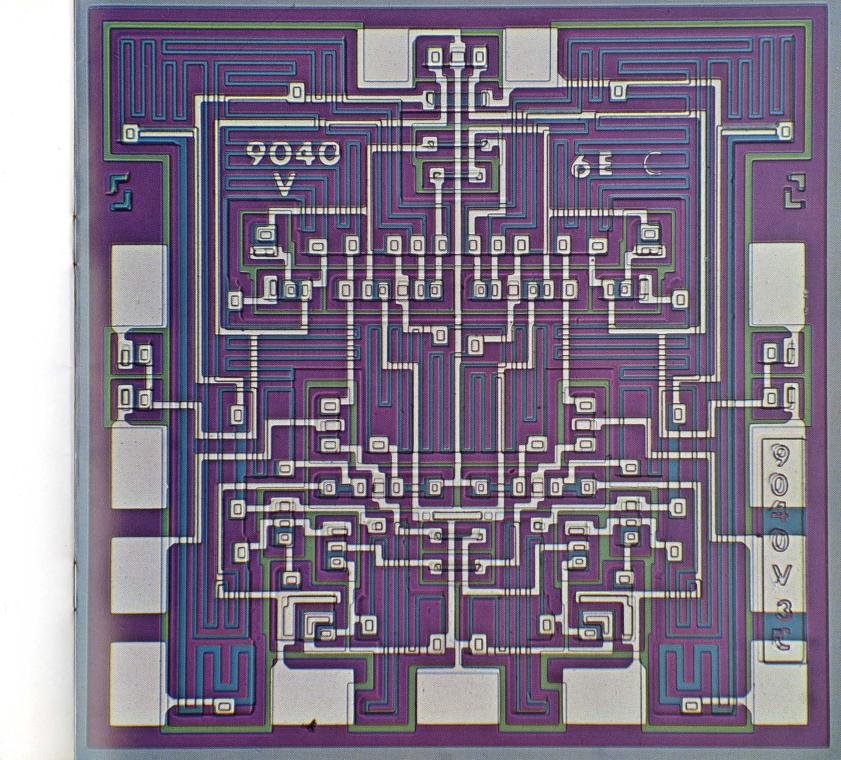
The blending of innate Navajo skill and Semiconductor's precision assembly techniques has made the Shiprock plant one of Fairchild's best facilities—not just in terms of production but in quality as well.

Quality becomes a necessity in the semiconductor business. Fairchild's transistors and integrated circuits, some of which before packaging are no larger than the head of a pin, must perform to perfection in complex computers, electronic appliances, radios and televisions, and on the way to the moon as part of Apollo's communications, guidance, and gyro systems or in instrumentation units located in various stages of the Saturn rocket.

Back on earth, the success of the Shiprock facility can easily be measured in terms of growth and expansion. However, the real value of this progress lies in the creation of meaningful jobs for those who have not had jobs, jobs which will keep them in the land they love and among the people they know. And, that is success in very real terms.



A Fairchild 9040 integrated circuit geometry shown enlarged on the opposite page is in reality this tiny chip. It is packaged in this 13-lead flat pack, just one of many different electronic devices made by the men and women who work at Fairchild Semiconductor's Shiprock facility. The 9040 is used in communications satellites like COMSAT.



The dedication of this new Shiprock plant is proof of the successful partnership that exists between the Navajo people, the United States Government, and private industry, today represented by Fairchild Semiconductor. In the next several years we expect to see expansion of this nearly all Navajo operated plant, concurrent with further development of the Shiprock community and increased opportunities for all Navajos. There is no doubt in my mind that the human and physical resources of the Navajo people will be a vital and key part of the American economy. We are glad we came to Shiprock to play some part in this industrial growth.

Dr. C. Lester Hogan President and Chief Executive Officer, Fairchild Camera and Instrument Corporation



We are very proud of our association with Fairchild. Together we have turned a hopeful idea into a successful and prosperous business reality. The past four years can best be described as the industrialization of a sleeping giant. The future lies in using the lands of the Navajo people for businesses such as this, places where Navajo labor and skill can be used for the benefit of all people.

The most important ingredient of any manufacturing operation is people, and I happen to think we have very special people here at Shiprock. The Navajo men and women working here have made my job as Plant Manager one of the most pleasant experiences of my whole life. Their adaptabilities and proven skills have shown they can do any job well, and their industriousness and desire to learn is unmatched. I hope that in the very near future every job in this plant, including mine, will be held by Navajos. The credit for our success here belongs to them.

Raymond Nakai Chairman, Navajo Tribal Council



Paul Driscoll Shiprock Plant Manager



