

♣ Last week, my sweets, I was proud to be on hand for a ceremony that was held to commemorate the Federal Republic of Germany's granting of its Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit to **Nader Riad**, who heads the famous Bavaria fire extinguisher company here in Egypt.

A mega celebration was held, during which Baron **Paul Von Maltzahn**, the German ambassador in Egypt, granted **Riad** the award on behalf of **Johannes Rau**, president of the Federal Republic of Germany. **Maltzahn's** wife, Baroness **Hannelore**, was also on hand for the event, which was meant to show Germany's appreciation for **Riad's** efforts towards reinforcing economic ties between Egypt and Germany, as well as his accomplishments towards the development of Egyptian society.

Riad is a member of the National Democratic Party, a

counselor at the People's Assembly's Industry and Energy Committee, a board member at Mubarak Public Library, and head of the Industrial Committee of the Arab-German Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

Among those in attendance to congratulate **Riad** were Minister of Public Business Sector **Moukhtar Khattab**, Head of the Administrative Control Authority **Hitler Tantawi**, Head of the People's Assembly's Foreign Relations Committee **Mustafa El-Feki**, Giza Governor **Mahmoud Abul-Leil**, Chairman of the Board of the Mubarak Public Library **Abdel-Raouf El-Ridi**, former Minister of Environment **Nadia Makram Ebeid**, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities **Zahi Hawass**, and renowned businessman **Mounir Ghabour**.