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P 090315Z MAY 75
FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN MARIANAS ISLANDS
TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC

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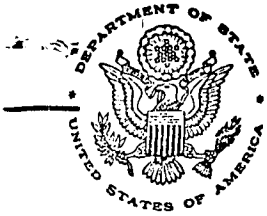
HLRE IS PROGRESS REPORT AFTER THREE WEEKS ON SAIPAN. MOST IMPORTANT RESULT IS COMPLETION MAY EIGHT OF THREE-DAY CRASH REGISTRATION PROGRAM. WE HAVE REGISTERED 3730 VOTERS ON SAIPAN, 413 ON ROTA, 249 ON TINIAN. ADDITIONAL REGISTERING CONTINUES UNTIL TERMINATION DATE MAY 16 ESPECIALLY WITH STUDENTS AND OTHERS ON GUAM, AMONG SENIORS AT SAIPAN HIGH SCHOOLS, IN HOSPITALS AND HOUSE TO HOUSE REGISTRATION FOR INCAPACITATED AS WELL AS ALL ADDRESSABLE ABSENTEES. PRESENT OVER-ALL TOTAL OF 4392 WILL UNDOUBTEDLY EXPAND BY SEVERAL HUNDRED BUT ALREADY IT COMPARES WITH 2714 REGISTERED ON SAIPAN FOR 1974 MUNICIPAL ELECTION, 5762 IN 1972 DISTRICT LEGISLATURE ELECTION AND 6211 IN 1974 CONGRESS ELECTION. CONGRESSIONAL FIGURE AS YOU KNOW WAS BELIEVED INFLATED BY PERHAPS 500 DOUBTFUL REGISTRATIONS. POTENTIAL TOTAL ELIGIBLE VOTERS ARE ESTIMATED AT ABOUT SIX THOUSAND. THEREFORE WE HAVE ALREADY REGISTERED 76 PERCENT OF LAST

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DISTRICT VOTING LIST IN THREE-DAY DRIVE AND WE EXPECT AT LEAST TO EQUAL AND PROBABLY EXCEED ANY PREVIOUS LEGITIMATE LIST BY MAY 16 TOTALLING SOME 92 PERCENT OF ALL ELIGIBLES. LEAVE YOU TO COMPARE THAT WITH ANY MAINLAND TOTAL. WE DO NOT HAVE EVIDENCE THAT OUR REGISTRATION INCLUDES MANY QUESTIONABLE CASES. TOTALS ARE NOT ESPECIALLY LARGE IN THE VOTING DISTRICTS WHERE CAROLINIANS ARE MOST NUMEROUS. WE ARE MAKING FULL VOTING LISTS PUBLIC AND REGISTRATION BOARD IS SCRUTINIZING THEM. THEREFORE BOTH SIDES CAN EXAMINE LISTS AND PRESENT PROTESTS TO REGISTRATION BOARD. WE WILL HANDLE THEM EXPEDITIOUSLY IN TERMS STIPULATED IN SECRETARIAL

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ORDER, EXCELLENT REGISTRATION TOTALS ARE RESULT NOT ONLY OF PUBLIC INTEREST BUT SPLENDID COOPERATION FROM DISTRICT AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS ESPECIALLY REGISTRATION CLERKS THEMSELVES WHO WORKED VERY LONG HOURS DURING THREE-DAY CRASH PROGRAM. ALSO WE HAD RADIO AND TV BLITZ FOR SEVERAL DAYS. REGISTRATION BOARD ALSO SUPERVISED VIGOROUSLY THROUGHOUT ENTIRE MEANWHILE OTHER PHASES OF PLEBISCITE WORK HAVE GONE FORWARD. ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF ELEVEN MEMBERS WITH INDIVIDUALS SELECTED BY EACH SPECIFIED ORGANIZATION HAS HAD THREE USEFUL MEETINGS. I HAVE DISCUSSED ALL DETAILS WITH THEM. HAVE ENLARGED ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP BY NOMINEE OF SAIPAN WOMEN'S

Mary
Isn't it
mostly Popular
Pamphlet

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ASSOCIATION. ALSO FELT VALUE OF INCLUDING ANOTHER STRONG OPPONENT OF COVENANT AND INVITED CONGRESSMAN JOSE MAFNAS TO SERVE, HE TOLD ME OF HIS INTENTION TO LEAVE POLITICS AND COURTEOUSLY DECLINED. WORK PROCEEDS INTENSIVELY IN PRINTING TRILINGUAL TEXTS OF COVENANT WHICH EXPECT DISTRIBUTE TO EVERY FAMILY IN NORTH MARIANAS BEGINNING MAY FIFTEEN, EXPECT ALSO TO PUBLISH TRILINGUALLY TEXT OF PROCLAMATION AND SECRETARIAL ORDER, FOLLOWED BY SO-CALLED PRIMER OF SHORTENED DESCRIPTION OF COVENANT PROVISIONS. ADDITIONALLY PLAN TO PUBLISH TRILINGUAL EDITION OF TECHNICAL AGREEMENT. FINALLY WE HOPE TO PREPARE SIMPLE HIGHLY POPULARIZED PAMPHLET PROBABLY IN QUESTION AND ANSWER FORM WITH DRAWINGS DEALING WITH QUESTIONS MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED BY ORDINARY PEOPLE, THIS DOCUMENT COULD ALSO BE BASIS OF MUCH INTENSIVE POLITICAL EDUCATION ON RADIO AND TELEVISION DURING LAST MONTH OF CAMPAIGN. I'M HAVING PERFECTLY WONDERFUL TIME AND AM PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL FOR SKILLFUL, TIRELESS, CHEERFUL WORK OF NEIMAN CRALEY.
ERWIN D. CANHAM

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