

OFFICE FOR MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

May 22, 1975

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Memorandum

To: Alf Bergesen, Status Liaison Officer, Saipan

From: Director, Office for Micronesian Status Negotiations

Subject: Marking Techniques for Plebiscite

Ref: 91 HICOMTERPACIS (Canham) Message of 12 May 1975

1. I have checked with League of Women Voters, Council of State Governments and Democratic and Republican National Headquarters to determine how fraudulent multiple voting is detected and prevented. Several methods are used but none involve marking the voter with invisible or indelible ink. However, it has been suggested that the following procedure could be used:

- a. Design a distinctive rubber stamp (one that could not be counterfeited).
- b. Produce only the number of stamps required to provide a stamp for each polling place, serializing each stamp with a number designating that particular polling place.
- c. Use indelible ink.

2. The League of Women Voters recommended an alternate procedure not involving marking which is used in small population communities. It merely involves "beefing up" the monitors or poll watcher teams to insure that voters can be identified. This does not prevent multiple voting if undetected fraudulent multiple registration has occurred but does preclude the possibility of substitute voters casting a ballot.

R.Y. Scott
Captain, USN

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