

10/6524

6/5/75

JUN 5 1975



Department of State

TELEGRAM

UVT

UNCLASSIFIED 7459

duplicate

~~ACTION COPY~~

PAGE 01 050110Z

66
ACTION INT-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-10 L-03 /029 W

053026

P 041430Z JUN 75 (ZEL)
FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN MARIANAS ISLANDS
TO RUEHC /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA
.ICS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
WHITE HOUSE
INFO CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI MARIANAS ISLANDS
RUEHDT /US MISSION TO UN NEW YORK NY

UNCLAS.
FROM STATUS LNO 145
PASS TO DEPT INTERIOR FOR OMSN (ACTION) AND DOTA (INFO)
COMTWELVE FOR AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS
STATE FOR EA, IO/UNP, L/UNA
DEFENSE FOR OSD/ISA
WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC
USUN FOR AMBASSADOR WHITE
PASS JUSTICE FOR MARCUSE (OLC)
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV TO

PAGE 02 RUHGSAA2201 UNCLAS.
SUBJECT: MARIANAS PLEBISCITE--EIGHTH WEEKLY REPORT
REF: (A) STATUS LNO 136
(B) STATUS LNO 137

- SUMMARY: PLEBISCITE COMMISSIONER'S EFFORTS CONCENTRATED ON POLITICAL EDUCATION PHASE OF PROGRAM. LOCAL POLITICAL ACTIVITY AT COMPARATIVELY LOW LEVEL AS MPSC LEADERS IN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK WHILE OPPONENTS WERE SOMEWHAT LESS VOCAL. END SUMMARY.
- ABSENTEE VOTER REGISTRATION COMPLETE WITH TOTAL OF 5,471 ON ROLLS. COURT CHALLENGES TO DECISIONS OF VOTER REGISTRATION BOARD POSSIBLE THROUGH JUNE 4. AS OF MID DAY JUNE 4, MPSC MEMBERS HAD CHALLENGED 24 PERSONS PRESENTLY ON ROLLS. AT LEAST 74 REGISTRANTS

UNCLASSIFIED

03-034926



Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 050110Z

CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION HAS WRITTEN TO GUAM ACLU, OBJECTING TO PLEBISCITE. MARIANAS VARIETY (SAIPAN) ON MAY 30 HAD ITEM ON DECISION NOT TO CHANGE THE WORDING OF THE BALLOT. VARIETY ALSO PICKED UP ARTICLE FROM JUNE ISSUE OF "THE PROGRESSIVE," WRITTEN BY JUDITH MILLER, WHICH EMPHASIZES MILITARY BASIS OF U.S. INTEREST IN MARIANAS AND SPEAKS OF "CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR BASE AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS WAREHOUSE" ON TINIAN. ADDITIONAL ARTICLES INCLUDE CUM RELEASE ON COURT APPEAL OF VOTER REGISTRATION BOARD DECISION, AND ARTICLE BASED ON INTERVIEW WITH SENATOR TENORIO PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR

UNTC. OTHERWISE, THE MEDIA SCENE WAS QUIET. THE RASAS' "FREE PRESS" AGAIN FAILED TO APPEAR; THERE WAS NO NEW EDITION OF THE "COVENANT NEWSLETTER" OR THE PRO-COVENANT CHAMORRO-LANGUAGE PAPER, AND THERE WERE NO POLITICAL ADS IN THIS WEEK'S MARIANAS VARIETY. PART OF THIS DEARTH OF ACTIVITY CAN BE EXPLAINED BY THE ABSENCE OF KEY MEMBERS OF THE MPSC, IN NEW YORK FOR THE UNTC MEETING; AS TO THE COVENANT'S OPPONENTS, IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THEY HAVE EXHAUSTED THEIR FUNDS.

PAGE 05 RUHGSAA2201 UNCLAS.

THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT LOCAL COMMENT ON UNTC SPEECHES AND, TO DATE, LITTLE EVIDENCE OF INTEREST IN WHAT WAS SAID THERE.

5. NIGHTLY VILLAGE MEETINGS OF COVENANT SUPPORTERS CONTINUED IN ABSENCE OF MPSC LEADERSHIP, JUST RETURNED FROM WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK. PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS REPORTEDLY REDUCED, PERHAPS BECAUSE ISSUES ARE RECEIVING FULL AIRING ON RADIO AND TV. OPPOSITION MEETINGS CONTINUE BUT LESS FREQUENTLY; THEY ARE SPARSELY ATTENDED, AS HAS BEEN CASE FOR TWO WEEKS. OPPOSITION DID NOT ATTEND UNTC, DESPITE EXPRESSED INTENT OF OSCAR RASA FOR PERMISSION FOR HIMSELF AND SEVEN OTHERS TO APPEAR AT SESSION.

6. MLSC LAWYERS, WHO PREVIOUSLY INDICATED POSSIBILITY OF COURT CHALLENGE OF SECRETARIAL ORDER IN EVENT OF FAILURE TO CHANGE BALLOT, DEPARTED YUNE 3 TO PARTICIPATE IN OFF-ISLAND CONFERENCE AND WILL BE GONE ONE WEEK. WHILE POSSIBLE THAT CASE WILL BE BROUGHT AT LAST MINUTE, THIS NOW APPEARS UNLIKELY. BERGESEN.

EOT

UNCLASSIFIED

034927