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✓ (BURNETT RULED ON 93 VOTERS)

SAIPAN, JUNE 11 (MNS)---TRUST TERRITORY CHIEF JUSTICE HAROLD W. BURNETT RULED TUESDAY THAT THE 74 PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF GUAM WHO REGISTERED TO VOTE ON THE JUNE 17 PLEBISCITE CANNOT VOTE.

BURNETT ALSO RULED THAT ON OTHER 19 PEOPLE FROM OTHER DISTRICTS CANNOT VOTE BECAUSE THEY WERE NOT "DOMICILED" IN THE MARIANAS. ONCE OTHER MARIANAS RESIDENT WAS REMOVED FROM THE LIST BECAUSE HE IS NOT OF LEGAL AGE.

THE 74 PERMANENT RESIDENTS WHO REGISTERED TO VOTE WERE CHALLENGED BY ANTICOVENANT SPOKESMEN JESUS R. LISUA, MANUEL SOMORANG AND ABEL R. OLOPAI, WHO CONTENTED THAT THEY CANNOT VOTE BECAUSE THEY ARE PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF GUAM AND NOT "DOMTCILED" IN THE MARIANAS.

CONCERNING OLOPAI'S APPEAL, BURNETT STATED, "IT HAS

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NOT BEEN POSSIBLE FOR EITHER THE BOARD OR THIS COURT TO FULLY CONSIDER ALL RELEVANT FACTS BEARING ON THE RIGHT OF CHALLENGED VOTER REGISTRANTS. ERROR IS INEVITABLE; SOME WILL NOT VOTE WHO SHOULD NOT, AND OTHER MAY BE UNJUSTLY DEPRIVED OF THEIR FRANCHISE. IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT TIME AND EXPEDIENCY DICTATE THIS RULE."

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REGARDING THE 18 REGISTRANTS WHO ALSO HAVE REGISTERED BUT ARE NOT DOMICILED IN THE MARIANAS, BURNETT DECLARED, "...I FIND IT MOST DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT THE CLAIM OF THOSE WHO HAVE COME TO THE MARIANAS, FROM OTHER DISTRICTS, TO RESIDE WITH FAMILY MEMBERS, WHO ARE HERE BY REASON OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT, THAT THEY RENOUNCED THEIR HOME ISLANDS AND ADOPTED SAIPAN AS THEIR DOMICILE. MY DOUBTS ARE GREATER AS TO THOSE WHO NOW REGISTER, FOR THE FIRST TIME, TO VOTE IN THE MARIANAS."

ACCORDING TO THE SECRETARIAL ORDER, THE JUDGE'S DECISION IS FINAL AND NOT SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY ANY U.S. OR TRUST TERRITORY AUTHORITY.

✓ (FONG RESPONDS TO AUTHORITIES REQUEST)

KOROR, JUNE 11 (MNS)---SENATOR HIRAM L. FONG, HAWAII, HAS

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