AIRGRAM

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INFO: AMBASSADOR MEXICO
FROM: CONSUL VERA CRUZ
SUBJECT: BALLOT COUNTING - VERA CRUZ STYLE

1. The Consulate has obtained from a member of the Commission Federal Electoral for Vera Cruz 11th District (Port of Vera Cruz) the actual results of the voting for the 1st District in the July 5th election. As the enclosures denote, the published "official" results and the actual vote totals do not in any way correspond to how the voters actually cast their ballots. The consulate's source stated that the published results were assigned by the PRI National Committee to the State PRI Committee which, in turn, assigned the final vote totals for each of the 14 electoral districts in the State of Vera Cruz.

2. The discrepancies in the vote totals can be illustrated by the results obtained from the 70 precincts in the Port of Vera Cruz. The vote totals for Vera Cruz were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARTY</th>
<th>Published</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRI</td>
<td>88,593 (94%)</td>
<td>40,090 (66%)</td>
<td>+ 48,503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN</td>
<td>2,846 (3%)</td>
<td>8,412 (14%)</td>
<td>- 5,566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPS</td>
<td>1,643</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>+ 1,148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARM</td>
<td>1,221</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>+ 731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNUL</td>
<td>1,221</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>+ 731</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. The actual results in the Presidential balloting reveal that a majority of the 108,931 registered voters in Vera Cruz 11th District either abstained from voting or spoiled their ballots. The total number voting or having their votes cancelled was 72 per cent of the eligible electorate. This percentage reduced the PRI's vote total to a mere 36 per cent of the electorate in the City of Vera Cruz.

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AUG 7 - 1970
4. Similar results were obtained in the races for Senator and Federal Deputy. The latter post was won by the PRI’s Roberto AVILA Gonzalez, who is known to baseball fans as the former Cleveland Indians All-Star second baseman during the 1950's.

5. The weather was not a factor in causing the voters to stay away from the polls. Perhaps more significant was the refusal of some prospective voters to participate in an election which was already rigged in favor of the PRI's candidates. This appears to be the case for the failure of many in the newly, eligible 18-20 years old group to take interest in the election campaign and exercise their privilege to vote. According to a local newspaper, 65 per cent of the 18-20 years old group failed to register.

6. The high percentage of annulled votes may have been a result, as several residents commented, of their having written “force” on the bottom of their ballots. This action was a protest against the PRI and its complete control of the Mexican system of government. Since the total of the annulled votes cast was higher than the vote for the PAN in the City of Veracruz, it appears that the Veracruz/URD did not accept the PAN as an alternate governing party.

7. Review of the vote totals by precincts shows that in several precincts the vote total exceeded the number of registered voters. While officials claim this is the result of a number of people shifting their residences since registration, this appears highly doubtful. It is more likely a case of “ballot-stuffing” by over-eager PRI precinct chairmen or election observers.

8. The announced vote totals for the State of Veracruz are also highly suspect. One wonders what the true results were in certain districts as Veracruz' Sixth (Jalapa), Ninth (Orizaba), and Tenth (Cordoba) where the PRI openly conceded the PAN 13.5, 21, and 15.3 per cent respectively of the published results. Statewide, the PRI claimed 1,048,451 votes for Luis ECHIVERRIA Alvarez and granted the PAN's Efrain GONZALEZ Morfin only 83,747 votes. The Veracruz total of 1,151,840 votes cast was surpassed only by the total vote of Federal District.

9. COMMENT:
There is no doubt that the PRI won the election in Veracruz' 11th District. However, the PRI's winning margin was less than that claimed in the public media. One questions how long the PRI will be able to maintain this hypocrisy and continue to deceive the public since many of those abstaining and offering criticism of the present system are in the young, educated class. The failure of the PAN to attract these people was emphasized by the high abstention rate and the high percentage of spoiled ballots. These same abstainers are willing to criticize the present system but none are willing to suggest an alternative system for conducting government or holding elections.

HENRY
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Veracruz A-17

Enclosures: Read att

1. Actual Election Results Veracruz' 11th District for President
2. "Official" Election Results for President—Veracruz 11th District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Party A</th>
<th>Party B</th>
<th>Party C</th>
<th>Party D</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>653</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>920</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>32</td>
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<td>674</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1,400</td>
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<td>430</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>404</td>
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</table>
Department of State

Telegram

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 4501 101941Z

ACTION: ARA-14

INFO: OCT-01 PM-06 NSEC-10 SS-14 RSC-01 NSA-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-06 P-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01 /074

R 101938Z AUG 71
FM AMBASSADOR MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8447
INFO ALL CONSULATES IN MEXICO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 4501

SUBJ: BAJA CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS

REF: MEXICO 4351 POL 18-1 MEX

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. ALTHOUGH PRINTING ONLY PARTIAL ELECTION DATA,
MEXICO CITY PRESS AUGUST 9 REPORTED OFFICIAL RETURNS
(SUPPOSEDLY RELEASED AUGUST 8) GAVE PRI CANDIDATES
VICTORY IN ALL RACES AND IN ALL ELECTORAL DISTRICTS,
CLOSEST CONTEST SAID TO BE IN MEXICALI'S FIRST DISTRICT
WHERE PRI GOVERNORIAL CANDIDATE MILTON CASTELLANOS
CREDITED WITH 62 VOTE MARGIN (OUT OF 70,000 VOTES)
OVER PAN'S SALVADOR ROSAS MAGALLON.

2. AT PRESS CONFERENCE IN TIJUANA AUGUST 7, ROSAS
MAGALLON CALLED FOR NULLIFICATION OF THE ELECTIONS,
CLAIMING CONSPIRACY BY ELECTION OFFICIALS TO PREVENT
A PAN VICTORY.

BEGIN LOU

3. COMMENT: ROSAS MAGALLON'S CALL FOR NULLIFICATION
OF ELECTIONS IS IRONIC REMINDER OF 1968 WHEN GOP
USED THAT TACTIC TO PREVENT APPARENT PUR VICTORIES.
IN GENERAL PAN REACTION CONTINUES VERY RESTRAINED- EXEMPT.

KUBISCH

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TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 INR-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 P-03 PRS-01

USIA-12 RSR-01 /039 W

R: 140006Z AUG 71

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8515

CONFIDENTIAL MEXICO 4612

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION MEXICO FROM MEXICALI AUG 13 REPEATED

DEPARTMENT FOR ACTION

QUOTE MEXICALI 24

SUBJECT: BAJA CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS

CONSUL FELDMAN INFORMED BY HIGHLY RELIABLE MEXICAN ELECTION

OFFICIAL THAT PRI LOST STATE DEPUTY POSITINS DISTRICTS 1, 2 AND

3 BY VERY NARROW MARGIN RANGING FROM TWELVE TO FIFTY VOTES.

DECISION MADE BY AUTHORITIES NOT TO CONCEDE THE ELECTIONS.

IN THOSE DISTRICTS TO PAN BECAUSE OF SLIGHT MARGINS.

STEYRSIN:

UNGTE KUBISCH

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