

ORIGIN ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

POL 18-1 MEX

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A-17

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TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 INFO : AMEMBASSY MEXICO
 FROM : AMCONSUL VERACRUZ
 SUBJECT : BALLOT COUNTING - VERACRUZ STYLE

RECEIVED
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 AUG 4 8 1970
 ANALYSIS BRANCH
 DATE: July 30, 1970

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 BUREAU OF
 INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
 AUG 7 - 1970

REF :

1. The Consulate has obtained from a member of the Comission Federal Electoral for Veracruz' 11th District (Port of Veracruz) the actual results of the voting for that 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 Veracruz.

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

PRESIDENT	Published	Actual	Difference
PRI	88,593 (94%)	40,090 (66 %)	+ 48,503
PAN	2,846 (3 %)	8,412 (14 %)	- 5,566
PPS	1,643	495	+ 1,148
PARM	1,221	590	+ 731
ANNULLED		10,559 (17 %)	
TOTAL	94,303	60,146	+ 34,157

3. The actual results in the Presidential balloting reveal that a majority of the 108,931 registered voters in Veracruz' 11th District either abstained from voting or spoiled their ballots. The total not 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 Veracruz.

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FORM DS-323

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Drafted by: *DCNorton:dcn* (7/29/70)

Contents and Classification Approved by: *JWHenry*

Clearances:

GROUP 1
 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

1970 AUG 4 PM 12 36

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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 basemen 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 "farce" 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 ^{voters} 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 ECHEVERRIA 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 criticise the present system but none are willing to suggest an alternative system for conducting government or holding elections.

HENRY

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24.00	653	99	7	1	1,000	1,261
55.-	920	-	3	3	32	886
56.-	674	202	4	30	1,400	1,983
57.-	420	101	6	5	484	1,423

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Enclosures: *5 each att*

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

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54.-	653	01					
55.-	920	99				1,008	1,561
56.-	674	-				32	886
57.-	420	202				1,400	1,983
		707				484	1,423

Pol 18-1 Mex



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION: ARA-14

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

DODE-00 INR-06 P-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01 /074 W
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R 101930Z AUG 71
FM AMEMBASSY 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 GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE MILTON CASTELLANOS CREDITED WITH 62 VOTE MARGIN (OUT OF 17,000 VOTES) OVER PAN'S SALVADOR ROSAS MAGALLON.

3. 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.

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

Mexico 4501 8/10/71

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Department of State **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 1039 W
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R 140040Z AUG 71
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8515

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 4612

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION MEXICO FROM MEXICALI AUG 13 REPEATED
DEPARMENT 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.
STEBBINS
UNQTE KUBISCH

Mexico 4612 8/14/71

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