MAILGRAM SERVICE CENTER _ MIDDLETOWN, VA. 22645 _

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Mestern union Male Ram

DR HECTOR GARCIA 1315 BRIGHT CORPUS CHRISTI TX 78405

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I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR ME DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME FOR OUR COUNTRY.

TO MEET THE LEGAL DEADLINES FOR FILING PETITIONS OF CANDIDACY IN A NUMBER OF THE EARLY PRIMARIES, IT IS NECESSARY THAT I PROCEED WITH THE FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF MY CANDIDACY ON DECEMBER 4. MY ANNOUNCE-MENT WILL OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO TAKE IN ACCOUNT THE FACT THAT VERY LIKELY THE AMERICAN HOSTAGES WILL STILL BE HELD CAPTIVE IN IRAN. FOR THAT REASON, I WILL NOT BE MAKING CAMPAIGN TRIPS AROUND THE COUNTRY.

I AM EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED THAT I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BE WITH MY FRIENDS AT THE LUNCHEON IN AUSTIN ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8. HOWEVER, SECRETARY DUNCAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND AMBASSADOR STRAUSS WILL BE JOINING YOU THAT AFTERNOON.

IT IS MOST IMPORTANT AT THIS TIME THAT ALL OF US JOIN TOGETHER IN OUR EFFORTS TO SHOW OUR UNITY AND STRENGTH, AND YOU CAN BE ASSURED THAT MY SOLE PRIORITY IS TO CONTINUE TO DEFEND THE SECURITY, HONOR AND FREEDOM OF AMERICANS EVERYWHERE.

I AM VERY MUCH AWARE OF THE EFFORTS AND MANY LONG HOURS THAT HAVE BEEN DEVOTED TO THIS DINNER. HOWEVER, I MUST ASK EACH OF YOU AT

TO REPLY BY MAILGRAM, SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR WESTERN UNION'S TOLL - FREE PHONE NUMBERS

THIS TIME TO REDOUBLE YOUR EFFORTS TO INSURE THAT THE DINNER IS AN EVEN GREATER SUCCESS THAN IF I WERE ABLE TO ATTEND. I AM CONFIDENT THAT IT WILL BE.

AT NO OTHER TIME SINCE I HAVE BEEN PRESIDENT HAVE I NEEDED YOUR _ HELP MORE.

I TRULY APPRECIATE AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO VISITING WITH YOU AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.

JIMMY CARTER 0750 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

(R1/78)