American GI Forum # 1

Veterans Family Organization
621 Gabaldon Road, N.W.

Albuquerque, N. M. 87104

February 3, 1981

Office (505) 243-7551

Com. Vicente T. Ximenes
Chairman

Isabelle O. Tellez Chairperson

Catalina Gonzales
Vice-Chairperson

Maj. Emelio Sanchez Treasurer

Erma Martinez

Treasurer

Cindy Martinez
Secretary

Sgt. Javier S. Jasso Secretary

Atty. Jess Sandovai Legal Advisor

Frank Jaramillo
Pledge Officer

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Martin Martinez
Parliamentarian

Barbara Trujillo
Parliamentarian

Rev. Mario Canova Chaplain

Connie Campbell
Chaplain

Youth Forum

Rebecca Proo Chairperson

Lisa Rodriguez
Vice-Chairperson

Johnny Chavez Treasurer

Celia Tellez Secretary Dr. Hector P. Garcia Founder American GI Forum 1315 Bright Street Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

Dear Hector:

It has been sometime since I'verheard from you and I was wondering what had been happening in Corpus Christi and the GI Forum.

I resigned as Commissioner of White House Fellows prior to January 20th and as you might imagine do not expect to be reappointed by President Reagan.

I am sure you will agree that Carter made alot of mistakes on the appointment of individuals to advise him. The person in the Chicano and Hispanic community that we helped directly lost touch with the people who could influence votes in the community. In New Mexico we have a number of appointments of persons to high positions that could not carry two votes in the precincts that they lived Somehow these individuals were able to convince the Carter staff that they had power and influence in the communities in which they live, unfortunately, The people that generally such was not the case. get out to vote for the democratic party were not particularly excited about working and volunteering their time.

The Mid-Year Conference is scheduled for February 27, 28, and March 1 here in Albuquerque. I do hope you will be able to come to the meeting. Louis Tellez has scheduled everything to take place here at the Club and hopefully get some sorely needed business done in two days. I have promised Louis help in order to make the Conference a success.

Hope everything goes well with you and give my regards to Rosita.

Sincerely

Vicente T. Ximenes

Chairman

American GI Forum # 1 Veterans Family Organization 621 Gabaldon Road, N.W. Albuquerque, N. M. 87104

February 20, 1981

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Dr. Hector P. Garcia Founder

Catalina Gonzales Vice-Chairperson

American GI Forum 1315 Bright Street

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Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

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Dear Hector:

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Celia Tellez Secretary I have your letter in regard to the Founder's Day Banquet which will be held on March 28 at 7:00p.m. I am delighted to hear that the main speaker will be Jim Wright, Majority Leader of the House of Representatives. I will see if there is a way to send someone to attend.

The likelihood is that I will not be able to attend because we have a scheduled Board of Directors meeting on the same day in Silver City, New Mexico. It is important that all of us from Albuquerque attend bacause we are trying to straighten out some problems we have with the Santa Fe At the last Board meeting we voted to deny them a charter because of their refusal to abide by the rules and constitution of the American GI Forum, therefore, most of us will want to be present to vote and to make sure that our previous decision to deny the charter is upheld.

The SER Project in Albuquerque is likely to be phased out in the near future, fortunately, we were never tied too nor dependent on the operation as far as the local GI Forum is concerned. We sponsored it and we have good representation on the Board, but we are not married to it. After hearing Reagan's speech last night I can see that a number of programs will be eliminated or sharply cut. Therefore, it is important that the GI Forum change its strategy and work for someone else in the private sector rather than grants from the As far as I am concerned we did better as an Government. organization when we had no grants than what we have today. We had more members in the GI Forum when we had no grants than we have today.

Please give my regards to your staff and family and if everything goes well I will see you in Dallas if not before.

Sin@erely /

Vicente T. Ximenes

Chairman

VTX/rip