

American GI Forum # 1

Veterans Family Organization

621 Gabaldon Road, N.W.

Albuquerque, N. M. 87104

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Dr. Hector Garcia
1315 Bright
Corpus Christi, TX 78405

Dear Hector:

I had indicated to you that I would be in Corpus Christi sometime in September. At the time I thought I would do consulting work at Celanese Corporation in Corpus Christi. As it turns out I will be in Houston instead. I will be in Houston the week of the 21 thru the 25th. I will look up Felix Salinas and urge him to help with the G.I. Forum in Texas.

The discussion we had on the Educational Foundation was useful because I filled in for Isabel Tellez and therefore made it possible to make the trip to San Antonio. Isabel is quite excited about it now since you have taken an interest in developing the Foundation. We all agree here that the Foundation can be a very big incentive for the membership and can also draw contributions from individuals and corporations who can then deduct there amounts on their Income Tax.

We are moving ahead in New Mexico and are getting back much of the strength we lost in the past years. I do not believe it was anyone's fault. I believe that many of our members did not understand the relationship between Government anti-poverty programs and the organizations like the G.I. Forum, who made their existence possible. It was a hard lesson to learn, but I suppose experience is still the best teacher.

I am reminded of the Cesar Chavez situation. He never understood that while we were in power we were the one's that opened the doors for him and made it possible for him to survive. When the Nixon Administration came in, those doors were closed and the teamsters were allowed to take over the farmworker unionization. I recall that Cesar even turned down our invitation to the El Paso conference because he did not understand or know where the support was coming from.

Hope things go well with you.

Sincerely;



VICENTE XIMENES

VX:lm

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American G.I. Forum

of New Mexico

Chartered Veteran's Organization

Dr. Hector P. Garcia
3024 Morgan Ave.
Corpus Christi, Texas

Dear Hector:

I will be in San Antonio on the 18 of December.
I will probably remain there for 2 weeks during
the Christmas season.

We are having a Board Meeting at Las Vegas this
weekend. Dance Saturday and business sessions
Sunday at the Plaza Hotel. We expect to be
enthusiastic because Don Martinez won his bid
for election to the House of Representatives.
He is vice chairman of the Las Vegas Forum.

The story in the last Bulletin was welcome news
concerning your appearance before the City
Commission of Corpus Christi. Every ^{Forum Chairman} ~~City~~ in
the Southwest should be doing just what you
did. Every Forum should start going ^{to} these boards
and commissions to protest actions which we
think are not to the benefit of our community.
Participation in elections is fine, but we
have to work 365 days a year on economic matters.
I wish I could have been sitting in that Commission
room when you brought up the matter of city
extensions. We have always been such push-overs
in those matters, but those boys are going to
find that from now on its going to be a tough
row to ~~NEW~~ hoe.

Only last week our own city ~~commission~~ planning
commission tried to push a garbage dump ~~on~~ near
one of our communities known as Martineztown.
I represented the GI Forum and the Catholic PTA
and we made them change their plans.

I'll be seeing you in December, con el favor de
Dios.

Tu Amigo,

Chento