

20530

September 19, 1966

Honorable John Young  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Young:

This is written in response to your inquiry concerning the procedures for securing a Presidential pardon in the case of Mr. Rafael Ochoa Ayala.

It appears, from the information presented to you by Mr. Adams, that Mr. Ayala is a Mexican alien and is excludable from the United States by virtue of a conviction for violation of the narcotics laws. This means that Mr. Ayala is not eligible to make an application for pardon and even if a pardon were granted, it would have no effect on his status.

It has been the policy of the Department for many years not to entertain pardon applications from non-resident aliens. I also must inform you that a pardon of a marihuana or narcotic offense will not avert deportation of an alien nor remove the grounds for his exclusion.

In view of this situation, I can only suggest that you point out to Dr. Garcia the difficulties that face Mr. Ayala.

Sincerely,

Reed Cozart  
Pardon Attorney