FLORESVILLE AMERICAN
GI FORUM
Floresville, Texas
January 19, 1965

Hector P. Garcia, MD Founder, American GI Forum 3024 Morgan Ave. Corpus Christi, Texas

Dear Dr. Garcia:

We take this opportunity to inform you that a young man, Mr. Abelardo L. Valdez, a native of Floresville, will visit you in the near future. We have asked him to call you for an appointment to suit you.

Mr. Valdez, a young man 22 years of age graduated from Texas A & M University getting his degree in Civil Engineering. He has been employed by Corps of Engineers, Galveston, Texas and will probably be assigned to the Corpus Christi area. Hence our suggestion that he visit you and exchange ideas.

His mother, family, our community, as well as the members of the Forum and Auxilliary are very proud of his accomplishments. The GI Forum and Auxilliary played a minor part, having awarded him a scholarship of \$400.00. In turn, Dr. Garcia we are grateful to you for your untiring efforts in leading the way for our Forum and forever reminding us of the importance education has in our lives.

We have known Mr. Valdez for a few years and we believe he has high ideals as well as a bright future ahead of him. It was in his second year at A & M that his father died leaving him as head of the family consisting of his mother, two brothers and a small sister.

A family of modest means and his goal set in completing his education, his vacation and other time available to him he worked hard. This we personally admire in this young man.

He will be entering the Army Corps of Engineers on April 8, 1965 and will be assigned initially to the Engineers Branch School at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, about 20 miles from Washington, D.C. It is from this group that a part of the President's Military Aides are selected and we highly recommend this young man to be a part of this group. Your influence with the President of the U.S. may bring about this result. We will also ask Mr. Sam Fore, Jr., of Floresville and a close friend of the President to do likewise. Our opinion is that it will enhance the image of the U.S. before our South American friends. Do you have any further recommendation on this?

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A letter of introduction for Mr. Valdez from you to our Forum members in Washington, D.C. will be very much appreciated on our part.

May the year 1965 bring Health and Happiness to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Jesse Malacara. Chairman

Address: P.O. Box 773 Floresville, Texas

Roy Sanchez, Secretary