

USAID/QUITO
c/o American Embassy
Quito, Ecuador

Jan. 24, 1962

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

Dear Hector:

It has been sometime since I heard from you, but I know that you are probably as busy as ever. I have been quite busy getting adjusted to a new job and a new home and of course new friends and co-workers. There is obviously a tremendous amount of work to be done and I hope to make a contribution toward the development of the economy of Ecuador. I am quite happy with my work and the family is also getting along well.

Enclosed are a couple of pictures and a newspaper report of the Garcia-Moreno school in Quito. I visited the school the other day at the invitation of the janitor of our office and left the place with a sick feeling in my stomach. I can assure you that the place is not like it is because the parents are not sacrificing. They are doing everything they can to get their children an education even if it means sending them to such a terribly inadequate school. The parents of this school cannot afford to send them to tuition or parochial schools. The children of the school are well behaved and certainly bright, but they just do not have even the necessary chalk to use on the blackboards. They need paper, books, maps, seats, and play equipment. This is only one of many schools like it, but since the janitor of our office has his children there, I have decided to try to help them even if only a little.

I have already sent Felix some pictures of the school and explained the situation. I have asked him to take it up with the local Forums first, then the State and if possible the national. We could make this the "operation amigo" that the Kansas Forums talked about. I wonder if you could also present it to the local Forum first and then to the Texas Forum, and then the national. Let me have your opinions on this right away. Thanks again for the very nice brief case and the fine reception in Corpus Christi. Give my regards to everyone.

Sincerely yours,
Vicente T. Ximenes
Vicente T. Ximenes

P.S. I am in entire agreement with Avila on the high positions.
cc: Manual Avila - Joseph Alvarado