

May 5, 1968

Mr. Vicente T. Ximenes
Equal Employment Opportunities Commission
1800 G st. N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20506

Dear Mr. Ximenes

I wish to inform you of the fact that we have organized a G I Forum chapter in the City of Pensacola, Fla. I further wish to extend an invitation to you to attend one of our future meetings.

At the present time we are in our infancy as an organization, we only have 10 members and have held only one meeting.

Our next meeting is set for Saturday May 11, 1968 at The Heritage Room of the Baptist Hospital. We plan to hold our meetings every second saturday of the month, as the room is available to us through the courtesy of the Baptist Hospital.

At the present time there is one thing that concerns me more than a visit to our chapter, but we would be glad to have you at any time it is to your convenience.

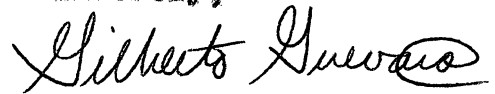
I wish to call your attention to the MARKS MISSISSIPPI NEWS coverage. I don't know anything about Marks, Mississippi, but I do know that there are many Mexican-Americans close to this area of Mississippi living in pretty near the same conditions, and I would like to call your attention to this fact, at a time when so much attention is being focused on Mississippi.

About 2 years ago I was in Duncan, Mississippi just south of Clarksdale, as I had an uncle living in the area, and I was surprised at the large number of Mexican-Americans that inhabit this area. While I was here for about 3 days I had the opportunity to travel through several of the small towns in this area, and encountered Mexicans in all of these places. I believe that I will be fair in stating that 80% of the Mexicans who inhabit this area live in sub-standard conditions; unless conditions have improved in the last couple of years.

cont.

What I have in mind of course is the possibility of organizing a G I Forum in this area. It has occurred to me that your efforts in this matter can accomplish much more than I can. It wouldn't surprise me if Negro organizers may be talking to some of the leading or more influential Mexicans of this area. I don't believe that there are any G I Forum chapters in Mississippi at this time and this would certainly be a credit to the organization and certainly to you. I agree that it is not an easy task, but someone else might do something about it, and we may someday be kicking ourselves for not having taken the initiative when the opportunity did exist.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gilberto Guevara". The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Gilberto Guevara

p.s Gilberto Guevara
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cc.HPG