

File

July 13, 1956

Dr. George I. Sanchez
The University of Texas
Austin, Texas

Dear Doc:

Having just advised Jim Boren in Austin that I am withdrawing from the Yarborough campaign, I want to give you some details as undoubtedly he'll be crying on your shoulder about it. I was motivated by the following:

1. The fact that feet were dragged at the time it was considered that I remain in Austin to work in the campaign throughout the summer. You know the details on that. It cost me personally the opportunity to take an assistant district attorneyship and thereby have some security and my family with me in the initial months while I gained some experience.
2. The failure of the Judge to keep his commitment on the co-managerships he promised in counties with substantial raza population.
3. My recommendations concerning the situation in Webb County where I advised he seek the support of the Reform Party & thereby assure himself of a minimum amount of vote which may range anywhere from 2,000 to 3,000. To date as far as I know nothing has been done to enlist the support of this group and the machine has already lined up with Yarborough. Daniel. I have reason to believe this recommendation was counteracted by Garland Smith of Weslaco who was not sympathetic to the Judge addressing too many raza rallies in this whole area.
4. Developments in the Valley since my arrival:
 - a. I contacted Smith a day after I arrived and immediately got the reaction from him that persons who had been active in the poll tax drive should not be too active in the Yarborough campaign.
 - b. That it was not too adviseable to have too many & big rallies and public meetings during the Judge's tour through the area on July 18.

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- c. That County Judge Richardson was ready to come out for the Judge but wanted an opportunity to meet with him, including some other local friends of Richardson, when the Judge came into the Valley. This same Richardson is the one who several years ago had the county courthouse full of wetbacks and who fired a number of local people when someone tipped off the Border Patrol about the number of wetbacks working around the courthouse or on county jobs, work crews, etc.
- d. At a conference held in Mission on Monday, July 9, it was agreed--Garland Smith being present--that the Latin co-manager was to be Adolfo de la Garza, a staunch man who is on the opposite political fence from the Ramon Guerra's, etc.--we advised Jim Boren early Tuesday morning of our decision and requested Adolfo be advised by wire of his appointment. As of today, July 13, he had not received such confirmation; although Boren did call him by phone Tuesday. However, it was important to us that the matter be confirmed in writing and that his appointment be publicly announced. To date nothing has been done. I called Boren this morning and he assures me the letter was dictated but cautioned that sometimes it may take two or three days before a letter leaves the headquarters after being dictated. Mind you he had prior warning that everything was not well and any intelligent person would have realized this was no time to drag feet.
- e. Judge Yarborough will be in the Valley in three days, arriving the night of the 17th, and to date there has been no public announcement of Adolfo's selection. We have received no word of who is to be in charge of arrangements for a brief visit in McAllen; nor have we been furnished details--other than the bare schedule--as to arrangements in some of the other Valley towns he is to visit.
- f. Talking with Smith this morning prior to my conversation with Boren, he again persisted on the idea of giving the Judge an opportunity to meet privately with Richardson and his bunch. I suggested we let both him and Adolfo sit in on it, and that we would not insist on anyone other than Adolfo. He was not too receptive. The game here is that the former shivercrats smell victory for Yarborough in the air and want an opportunity to get commitments out of ~~me~~ him--which might not necessarily be to our advantage.
- g. Prior to the selection of Adolfo, the ways had already been greased for Eduardo Vela to take the position. But this was forestalled when we had to resort to high pressure tactics on the Judge himself at the Galveston convention and get a commitment out of him that no one

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would be selected that was not satisfactory to the persons who had been loyal to the Judge in this county in 1954 and 1952--and in both instances Eduardo Vela supported Shivers.

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There are other reasons, but this is sufficient detail. I advised Boren that apparently my advise was being counteracted by others, that under the circumstances I was not being very effective nor could I be in the future, that I couldn't even ~~be~~ afford to be seen around public meetings for fear of upsetting the apple-cart, that I have enough worries trying to make a living, that we are having a repeat of what occurred in 1954, that I did not propose to have to fight my friends and have to force my way constantly even to the small detail of seeing a wire is sent at the proper time, that I was fed up and did not want to discuss the matter further with him or even with Judge Yarborough himself.

To save myself some typing, I'm making one copy of this letter to Hector. I trust both of you will keep it extremely confidential for displeased as I am I do not want to injure the Judge. All I want is some peace of mind, quit worrying about politics for the rest of the summer, settle down to practice law and bring my family down as soon as possible. Doctor you think highly of Boren, but my conclusion is that he, as others, ~~no~~ *no* esta jugando el dedo en la boca.

Tell Luisa I'm not mad at her. I'll see my family over the weekend for Becky's birthday tomorrow.

Sincerely

Ed