

DR. HECTOR P GARCIA
MEMO DATED NOV. 10, 1977

According to our sources of information, the Navy Band Sonora del Mar will be transferred to San Diego, California as a special unit attached to the Naval Training Center Band.

Rehearsal spaces, in San Diego, will supposedly consist of an abandoned theater, located between two enlisted men's clubs, which is now being used by the Navy rock band "Spirit" when it is not traveling extensively throughout the western United States.

The Sonora's travels, in support of recruiting, will supposedly be funded from sources other than the budget allowed the Naval Training Band i.e. funds originating from the Washington, D.C. Recruiting Command.

The questions we would like to ask are if the Sonora del Mar could be allowed to rehearse aboard the Corpus Christi Naval Station in the enlisted men's club or the theater, as the band in San Diego does, or some other small working space, which would drastically cut the cost of housing and providing utilities for the band; and if the Sonora's travels, in support of recruiting and retention, will be paid by Washington originated funds, why is it necessary to transfer the band to an area where there are bands in San Diego, San Francisco, and Seattle Washington, when they could possibly perform under the same conditions here in Texas and the Southwestern United States and why couldn't provisions be made to extend the Sonora del Mar and an officer in charge for a trial period, here in Corpus Christi, for the remainder of this fiscal year in order to see whether or not this size of Navy Band unit could perform more economically than the thirty man Navy Band Corpus Christi performed during the past fiscal year.

It is my feeling that we should continue to keep the Band here in Corpus Christi, more so since the 30TH ANNUAL AMERICAN G I FORUM CONVENTION WILL BE HELD HERE ON AUG 9-13- 1978

PLEASE DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO KEEP OUR SONORA DEL MAR BAND HERE

FRACIAS

Hector P Garcia
DR. HECTOR P GARCIA.