

CONFIDENTIAL REPORT FOR
SENATOR LYNDON B. JOHNSON. BY DR. HECTOR P. GARCIA JUNE 10, 1960

DEAR SENATOR JOHNSON:

THIS REPORT WHICH I AM SUBMITTING TO YOU IS THE RESULT OF A TRIP THAT I UNDERTOOK ON MAY 31, JUNE 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, AND 6TH. IT INCLUDES WEST TEXAS, NEW MEXICO AND SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL COLORADO.

THE PURPOSE OF MY TRIP WAS TO SEE WHAT I COULD DO AS AN INDIVIDUAL, AND AS A FRIEND TO HELP YOUR CANDIDACY AS OUR NEXT PRESIDENT. THE REPORT IS FACTUAL AND WITHOUT ANY DISTORTION OR COLORING. I WANT YOU TO WIN AND I PLEDGE MYSELF TO WORK FOR YOU COMPLETELY TOWARDS THAT GOAL.

SOME OF THE REPORT MAY NOT BE TO OUR LIKING BUT I BELIEVE THAT IN ORDER FOR YOU TO FIND A SOLUTION YOU MUST KNOW THAT THERE IS A PROBLEM. I BELIEVE THAT WE CAN WIN BUT WE MUST MAKE SOME CHANGES AND RECOGNIZE THE DIFFICULTIES AHEAD. PERHAPS NO ONE ELSE WOULD GIVE YOU THIS REPORT SINCE MOST PEOPLE EITHER WANT SOMETHING FOR THEMSELVES OR ELSE DO NOT WANT TO BOTHER YOU WITH FACTS WHICH MAY NOT BE ENCOURAGING. AS YOUR DEVOTED FRIEND I SPEAK HONESTLY FOR OUR BENEFIT.

MOST OF MY INTERVIEWS, CONVERSATIONS, CONTACTS, ETC. WERE WITH LATIN AMERICAN PEOPLE AND MOST OF THEM WERE MY FRIENDS. SOME I KNOW WELL OTHERS ONLY SLIGHTLY. SOME WERE STRANGERS. THERE WERE ABOUT 10% ANGLOS. MOST OF THE LATIN AMERICANS WERE CATHOLIC ALTHOUGH I DID NOT ASK THEIR RELIGION.

THE PRIMARY FACT IS "THAT A GREAT MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT YOU WILL EMERGE VICTORIOUS FROM THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION IN LOS ANGELES." THEY DO NOT KNOW EXACTLY HOW IT WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED BUT THEY BELIEVE THAT YOU AND SPEAKER RAYBURN WILL DO IT."

THIS SAME MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE WHO ARE DEMOCRATS HOWEVER FAVOR, KENNEDY UP TO THAT POINT, (CONVENTION POINT). AFTER THE CONVENTION ABOUT THE SAME MAJORITY WOULD VOTE FOR YOU AND ALMOST A COMPLETE MAJORITY WOULD VOTE FOR YOU (98%) ON A JOHNSON-KENNEDY TICKET." THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT KENNEDY IS THE MOST POPULAR DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE INSPITE OF HIS RELIGIOUS HANDICAP.

I TOOK A LOAD OF MATERIAL ABOUT YOU THAT I PICKED UP FROM HQTS. HERE AND FROM MUSTIN. THE MATERIAL, STICKERS, PINS, ETC. DID VERY MUCH GOOD. MANY PEOPLE WERE SURPRISED THAT YOU WERE BEING BACKED BY MINORITY LEADERS LIKE MYSELF UNTIL I EXPLAINED THE FACT THAT YOU WERE THE GREATEST FRIEND THE THE LATIN AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE IN THE U.S. TODAY. THAT WAS THE GREATEST SELLING POINT TO THEM. I LEFT MATERIAL, ENVELOPES, ETC. WHEREEVER I WENT.

MOST PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE THE BETTER QUALIFIED, TRAINED, DISCIPLINED, EXPERIENCED THAN KENNEDY AND OTHERS. WHY THEY PREFERRED KENNEDY ON A POPULAR VOTE WAS HARD FOR ME TO DETERMINE EXCEPT THAT THEY THOUGHT THAT HE WAS THE "MORE LIBERAL", THEY STILL CONNECTED YOU WITH THE "DEEP SOUTH OR AT LEAST SOUTHERN PREJUDICES."

THE REST OF THE REPORT WILL BE DIVIDED INTO STATES AND CITIES THAT I VISITED DURING THIS TOUR. PLEASE NOTICE SPECIALLY THE NEW MEXICO REPORT WHICH IS VERY INTERESTING.

TEXAS: WEST TEXAS.

SAN ANGELO, LUBBOCK, MULESHOE, LITTLEFIELD, SLATON, LAMEZA, BIG SPRING. IN WEST TEXAS YOU ARE WELL KNOWN AMONGST OUR PEOPLE AND IN THIS AREA YOU ARE AHEAD OF KENNEDY EVEN IN POPULAR VOTE. THERE WOULD BE NO TROUBLE IN HAVING OUR PEOPLE (94%) VOTING FOR YOU IN ANY KIND OF A TICKET AND POSSIBLY 98% VOTING FOR YOU AS THE PRES. CANDIDATE. THE SAME APPLIES TO THE ANGLO AMERICANS THAT I TALKED TO. MY SELLING POINT THROUGHOUT THE TRIP WAS.

1. THE FELIX LONGORIA THREE RIVERS CASE.
2. YOUR TEACHING THE L.A. CHILDREN IN COTULLA, PEARSALL, ETC.
3. YOUR PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP TO ME, THE G.I. FORUM, OUR PEOPLE.
4. POSSIBILITY OF "GETTING OUR FIRST LATIN AMERICAN FEDERAL JUDGE."
5. FACT THAT THE TEXAS DELEGATION TO THE NATL. CONVENTION WOULD HAVE SEVERAL LATIN AMERICANS WHILE THE EASTERN STATES AND NORHERN STATES WOULD NOT.
6. THAT IN THE FUTURE WE SHOULD HAVE AMERICAN AMBASSADORS AND AMERICAN CONSULS OF LATIN AMERICAN ORIGIN TO S. AMERICA, MEXICO, ETC.
7. THE FACT THAT YOU WERE BEST LIKED IN MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN PLUS YOUR FRIENDSHIP FOR THE MEXICAN PRESIDENT. LOPEZ MATEOS
8. THAT YOU WERE THE ONLY CANDIDATE REP. OR DEMO. TO WHOM WE COULD TALK TO PERSONALLY SINCE ALL THE RESTS WERE STRANGERS TO OUR PEOPLE AND TO ME.

NEW MEXICO:

1. EASTERN NEW MEXICO (KNOWN AS LITTLE TEXAS) YOU HAVE YOUR GREATEST STRENGTH ON THIS AREA MOSTLY AMONGST THE ANGLO AMERICANS ALTHOUGH I WOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY HELPING YOU WITH OUR LATIN AMERICANS. INCIDENTALLY (LITTLE TEXAS) IS A TERM OF OPPROBRIUM AND DISLIKE BY THE OLD "NEW MEXICO" FAMILIES.
2. AREA AROUND BERNALILLO COUNTY "ALBUQUERQUE" IS THE MOST DIFFICULT AND IS VERY MUCH AGAINST YOU. AFTER VERY MUCH WORK I DID SOME GOOD AND FINALLY FOUND THE REASONS OF YOUR BEING DISLIKED THERE:
 - A. THIS AREA WENT VERY HEAVILY FOR CANDIDATE BURSEY FOR GOV. AGAINST BURROUGHS I BELIEVE BURSEY WON THE COUNTY. SINCE BURROUGHS BACKS YOU THEY WERE AGAINST YOU.
 - B. SOME OF THEM PRIOR TO MY COMING SAID THAT THEY WOULD VOTE REPUBLICAN

I CONVINCED THEM THIS WAS BAD AND WRONG SPECIALLY IF YOU WERE THE CANDIDATE.

- c. SEVERAL MONTHS OR YEARS AGO YOU GAVE A "SPEECH THERE" IN NEW MEXICO OR RUNNING IT OR WERE THE BIG CHIEFS. THIS AGAIN WAS NOT POPULAR WITH THE LATIN AMERICANS OR "OLD NEW MEXICANS" THERE. SINCE THE MEX. AMERICAN WAR, TEX. REVOLUTION AND CIVIL WAR THESE SAME OLD FAMILIES HAVE A HISTORICAL DISUKING TO ANYTHING "TEXANS". IT IS PREJUDICE IN REVERSE BUT ITS THERE. I BELIEVE THAT THIS APPROACH "IN THE FUTURE MUST BE AVOIDED."
- d. EVEN IN BERNALILLO I COULD GET OUR PEOPLE TO WORK FOR YOU. INCIDENTLY KENNEDY HAD A HEADQUARTERS DOWN TOWN RIGHT ACROSS THE FRANCISCAN HOTEL CARDS, BANNER, PLACARDS, ETC. I NEVER FOUND YOUR HEADQUARTERS. DURING THE COUNTY DEM. CONVENTION KENNEDY'S BROTHER TOM WAS THERE AND THEIR GROUP PASSED OUT CARDS, ETC. EVIDENTLTY KENNEDY PEOPLE HAD DONE VERY MUCH WORK AMONGST THE MASSES OF PEOPLE AND THE WORKING MEN. ALL OF YOUR WORK WAS DONE ON A HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL NONE ON A LOCAL GRASS ROOT LEVEL. THIS APPLIES TO ALL OF NEW MEXICO.

THE COUNTY CONVENTION COULD HAVE BEEN TAKEN COMPLETELY BY THE KENNEDY FORCES, WHY THEY DIDN'T I DON'T KNOW.

- 3. A. SANTA FE THE SITUATION HERE WAS ALMOST AS BAD. IT WAS A GOOD THING THAT SENATORS CHAVEZ, ANDERSON, MONTOYA, ETC. WERE FOR YOU. ALTHOUGH UP TO THE CONVENTION TIME MOST OF THEM WERE AFRAID TO PUBLICLY AND OPENLY SUPPORT YOU. IN FACT THEY DID SUPPORT YOU BUT NOT PUBLICLY OR OPENLY.
- 4. A. AREA IN SOUTH WESTERN NEW MEXICO, SILVER CITY, DEMING, LAS VOYAS, ETC. OUR PEOPLE HERE WERE OF "OPEN MIND THEY WOULD GO FOR YOU. T ARE NOT SO SOLD ON KENNEDY. HERE I DID NOT FIND MUCH GRASS ROOT WORK FOR YOU, BUT KENNEDY FORCES WERE WEAK ALSO.
- 5. A. IN GENRAL AND NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO. THE KENNEDY FORCES WERE WELL AHEAD AND OF COURSE SOME OF THESE STRENGHT MAY BE ATTRIBUTED THAT IT IS "CATHOLIC COUNTY."

MISTAKES IN NEW MEXICO:

THERE IS NO QUESTION YOU DEPEDED VERY MUCH ON THE INFLUENCES OF THE GOVERNOR BURROUGHS, SEN. CHAVEZ, ANDERSON, CONGRESSMAN MONTOYA, ETC. EITHER THEY DID NOT WORK EARLY ENOUGH FOR YOU OR ELSE THEY DID NOT COME TO THE COMMON MAN. THEY DEFINITELY HAD NO CONTROL OR INFLUENCE WITH THE VOTERS. THIS WAS A MISTAKE AND I SUGGEST THAT "YOU" OR YOUR TRUSTED FRIENDS. START WORKING ON A GRASS ROOT LEVEL WITH THE COMMON MAN. "THIS WAS NOT DONE". THE PEOPLE MENTIONED ABOVE DID NOT AND COULD NOT DELIVER FOR YOU AND THEY CAN NOT IN THE FUTURE. "ORGANIZATION" WAS LACKING. PERHAPS TOO OVER CONFIDENCE. THIS GRASS ROOT LEVEL" SHOULD BE STARTED NOW.

COLORADO: PUEBLO, DENVER, COLORADO SPRINGS.

KENNEDY IS NOT SO STRONG WITH OUR PEOPLE AS IN NEW MEXICO BUT HE IS AHEAD OF YOU. MOST DEMOCRATIC LEADERS ARE SO WORRIED ABOUT THEIR RACES THAT THEY DID NOT WORK FOR YOU. AGAIN THERE WAS NOT MUCH LOCAL LEVEL WORK. HOWEVER I

FUEL HERE ALSO THAT OUR PEOPLE AND THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE COL. SPRINGS, SOUTH, AND SOUTHEAST WOULD GO FOR YOU. I WOULD RECOMMEND LOCAL AND GRASS ROOT APPEAL BY YOU OR YOUR FRIENDS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CONCLUSIONS:

1. EVERYONE AGREES YOU ARE THE BETTER QUALIFIED, ABLED, EXPERIENCED, ETC.
2. THEY BELIEVE YOU WILL WIN THE DEM. NATL. CONVENTION.
3. THEY FEAR THAT YOU WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY THE NORTH AND EASTERN VOTERS AND THAT YOU WILL BE HARD TO SELL TO THEM SINCE THEY CONSIDER YOU "TOO SOUTHERN."
4. THE L.A. PEOPLE WILL SUPPORT YOU BECAUSE THEY TRUST YOU AND LIKE YOU THEY WOULD ALL WELCOME A "JOHNSON-KENNEDY" TICKET.
5. THEY BELIEVE YOU ARE FOR THE LATIN AMERICANS BUT BELIEVE YOU ARE AGAINST NEGROS (MOSTLY ANTI CIVIL RIGHTS.)
6. THEY LIKE YOUR PERSONALITY AND SERIOUSNESS IN CONTRAST TO LIKING KENNEDY FOR HIS POPULARITY. "THE RELIGIOUS QUESTION WAS NEVER BROUGHT OUT OPENLY.

RECOMMENDATIONS THESE ARE PERSONAL OR MY OPINIONS.

1. AVOID A SPLINTER CONVENTION." I BELIEVE THAT THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BY NAMING SOME OF THE LABOR OR LIBERAL DIEHARDS TO THE DELEGATION TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION. I BELIEVE THAT THEY WOULD BE LOYAL TO YOU UNTIL THEY WERE RELEASED. I BELIEVE THAT IT ISN'T SO MUCH A FEELING OF "BEING AGAINST YOU" AS "BEING LEFT OUT BY YOU." PERSONALLY I BELIEVE THAT IF YOU APPROACH ANY MAN OR WOMEN TO WORK FOR YOU "NOT ONE SINGLE INDIVIDUAL LABOR OR LIBERAL" WOULD SAY "NO" TO YOU.
2. YOUR DELEGATIONS MUST HAVE SOME "COLORED PEOPLE" THEY MUST HAVE MORE THAN ONE LATIN AMERICAN. I WOULD BE GLAD TO GO AS A DELEGATE IF YOU LEAVE THESE PEOPLE OUT IT WOULD BE DISASTROUS. REMEMBER THAT CALIFORNIA HAS MANY LATIN AMERICANS AND COLORED PEOPLE. REMEMBER THAT "LOS ANGELES" HAS MORE MEXICAN PEOPLE THAN ANY OTHER CITY IN THE WORLD EXCEPT "MEXICO CITY". REMEMBER ALSO THAT THERE WILL BE PUERTO RICANS, HAWAIIANS, ETC. WHO ARE ALSO AT LEAST CLASSIFIED PARTIALLY AS LATIN AMERICANS. I KNOW MANY PEOPLE AND LEADERS IN LOS ANGELES.
3. YOU HAVE WONDERFUL APPEAL, PERSONALITY, ABILITY AND LOOKS, BUT YOU ARE NOT SELLING IT DOWN TO THE LEVEL OF THE LITTLE PEOPLE. NEITHER IS THE LITTLE MAN GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP YOU.
4. DON'T DEPEND TOO MUCH ON GOVERNORS, SENATORS, CONGRESSMEN ETC. REMEMBER "NEW MEXICO" THEY ARE ALL RIGHT BUT ORGANIZE GRASS LEVEL WORKING MEN GROUP FOR JOHNSON. ALSO.
5. ARRANGE THAT WHILE IN LOS ANGELES THAT SOME MINORITY GROUP GIVE YOU A RECOGNITION, LUNCHEON, BANQUET, ETC. I COULD HELP THERE.

6. DEFINITELY SWITCH TO THE LYNDON B. JOHNSON PERSONAL APPROACH, ABILITY, EXPERIENCE, AND EFFICIENCY. PERSONALITY THE "TEXAN" APPROACH IS NOT THE BEST NOW.

I AM READY TO SERVE YOU IN ANY WAY WHATSOEVER. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THIS IS A PERSONAL REPORT SENT TO YOU BY YOUR TRUE, DEVOTED FRIEND WHO IS FOR YOU ALL OF THE WAY. IT IS 100% CORRECT AND HONEST. I KNOW THAT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND IT, AND IF NOT PLEASE CALL ME. DEFINITELY, WE SHOULD MAKE SOME "RADIO TAPES" IN SPANISH FOR YOU TO BE PLAYED THROUGHOUT THE NATION AND SPECIALLY IN CALIFORNIA NOW. I COULD DO IT FOR YOU. GET YOUR "BIOGRAPHY ETC, WRITTEN IN SPANISH AND SEND IT TO THE DAILIES, AND WEEKLIES AND CONVENTION MAGAZINES, ETC.

I WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK AND I FOR ONE FEEL CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL BE OUR NEXT PRESIDENT. I AM FOR YOU BECAUSE NOT ONLY ARE YOU MY FRIEND BUT YOU ARE THE GREATEST ABLES, TRUEST AND BEST CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENT OF MY COUNTRY.

YOUR FRIEND AS EVER,

HECTOR P. GARCIA, M.D.