

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

March 1, 1961

Hector P. Garcia, M. D.  
3024 Morgan  
Corpus Christi, Texas

Dear Hector:

I want to thank you for your thoughtful and generous words concerning the Corpus Christi Army Overhaul and Repair Depot Announcement.

Needless to say, I am immensely pleased over the success of our efforts, and receiving your nice message has made me doubly so. The favorable decision of the Secretary of Defense is particularly gratifying in that we truly had a meritorious cause and the Secretary recognized it as such.

We had strong competition from the Air Force in its efforts to sell the Defense Department on Brookley Field, Mobile, Alabama. In spite of the Army's position that Corpus Christi was the best facility for its purpose, there were strong elements in the Defense Department in favor of going along with the Air Force on Brookley Field. I am glad we were able to convince the Defense Department that the Army position was the correct one.

Our chief problem was in the fact that we had to reverse the adverse decision of the previous Secretary of Defense who had disapproved Corpus Christi O & R on the principle that once an establishment has been closed it should never be reopened. All rules must have exceptions, however, and I am very glad we were able to establish one in the case of our O & R facilities.

Hector P. Garcia, M. D.

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March 1, 1961

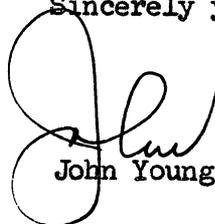
The work of a U. S. Representative is rewarding in many respects, but the greatest compensation any public official can receive is an expression of "well done" from his friends and constituents. Your wonderful message means a great deal to me, and I want to convey to you simply and sincerely my thanks.

With regard to the Civil Service situation, I will look into it immediately and you can be sure that I will do everything I can to help.

It was certainly a pleasure to see you the other day, but I regret it wasn't possible to spend more time with you.

With warm personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Young". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name "John Young".

John Young

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D. C.**

March 6, 1961

Dr. Hector P. Garcia, Chairman  
American G. I. Forum of the U. S.  
3024 Morgan Street  
Corpus Christi, Texas

Dear Dr. Hector:

I want to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of today. The bill which I introduced on Padre Island is the best bill which I feel we can reasonably expect to pass the House of Representatives.

I feel that there is a good chance that once the bill has carried the House, the dimensions will be expanded in conference.

I have tried for three years to effectuate a compromise between those who want 88 miles and those who want less than 88 miles. So far, we have gotten nowhere. It seems to me the best action we can take in securing a National Seashore area for Padre Island is for the House to go ahead with the best bill we can pass here and improve the situation in conference.

If there is any difference in the quality of beach as represented by the 88 miles and the quality of beach as represented by the 65 miles, I am not aware of it. But at any rate, as I say, there is a good chance that the dimensions will be expanded in conference. We have waited for three years for the 88 miles bill to move, and it has not done so.

It is my fear that unless we take some action soon, we will end up with no seashore at all. I have taken the position that I am not for any particular size park, other than I want one that is adequate for the present and future needs of the public. In this respect, I have said that I do not want a park smaller than 50 miles nor one larger than 88 miles long. I feel that the 65 miles, which I have mentioned in my bill, is a reasonably good starting point.

Dr. Hector P. Garcia

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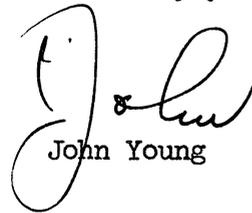
March 6, 1961

With regard to the Civil Service Board governing jobs at the Corpus Christi Army Overhaul and Repair Depot, I am working on the matter, and I hope that I will have something of a definite nature to report soon.

Thanks again for your kind words relative to my efforts in reopening the O & R.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Young". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name "John Young".

John Young