



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

25 January 1967

Honorable Ralph Yarborough

United States Senate

Dear Senator Yarborough:

General Penney has asked me to reply to your inquiry in behalf of Dr. Hector P. Garcia, who communicated with you concerning the hardships being experienced by the family of Private Merced Rodriquez, US 54 718 993.

Doctor Garcia's desire to help in this matter is quite understandable. The Army too recognizes that military service may impose hardships on soldiers and members of their families. Provision is therefore made for release from military service when a serviceman's immediate family undergoes extreme hardship which can be alleviated by no other means than the presence of the serviceman.

However, to obtain consideration for a hardship discharge, the soldier himself must apply by letter to his immediate commander, supporting his request with documentary evidence indicating the difficulties pertinent to his specific situation.

The documents received from your office in this matter have been forwarded to Private Rodriquez through command channels, together with a request that he be counseled and advised of the procedures required to apply for a hardship discharge. Should Private Rodriquez submit his application with supporting evidence, please be assured it will receive careful and sympathetic consideration before a final determination is made.

Your interest in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. A. Wilson".

J. A. WILSON
Major, GS
Office, Chief of
Legislative Liaison