

Co. B, 1st Bn, VSAECB
FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA
DECEMBER 27, 1965

MR. THOMAS J. ROSENBERG
JOHN HAY WHITNEY FOUNDATION
630 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 20, NEW YORK

DEAR SIR:

I AM A 1965 GRADUATE OF TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY AND HAVE A B.S. DEGREE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING. I HAVE BEEN ON ACTIVE DUTY WITH THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEER SINCE APRIL 1, 1965, AND AM NOW SERVING AS A COMPANY COMMANDER AT FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA AND ALSO AS A JUNIOR MILITARY AIDE TO THE PRESIDENT AT THE WHITE HOUSE. MY TERM OF ACTIVE DUTY WILL BE COMPLETED ON APRIL 1, 1967.

I HAVE GREAT DESIRE TO CONTINUE MY EDUCATION BY ATTENDING LAW SCHOOL. I WANT VERY MUCH TO PREPARE MYSELF FOR PUBLIC SERVICE. I FEEL THAT THERE IS MUCH THAT I COULD DO TO SERVE THE LATIN-AMERICAN PEOPLE IN MY HOME STATE OF TEXAS. I, MYSELF, AM A FIRST GENERATION MEXICAN-AMERICAN. AS I APPROACH MANHOOD, I FEEL THAT IT IS MY DUTY TO MAKE SOME ENDEAVOR TO IMPROVE THE EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC STANDARDS OF MY PEOPLE. IN THIS GREAT STATE OF OURS THERE IS STILL MUCH DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE MEXICAN-AMERICAN. I WOULD LIKE TO DO MY PART IN THE GREAT EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE PLIGHT OF THE MEXICAN-AMERICAN IN TEXAS.

I FEEL THAT THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE I COULD GAIN THROUGH LAW SCHOOL WOULD HELP PREPARE ME TO DO MY PART IN THIS GREAT WORK. AFTER DISCUSSING MY HOPES AND PLANS WITH DR. HECTOR GARCIA OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS, HE URGED ME TO WRITE YOU ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING A FELLOWSHIP FROM YOUR FOUNDATION.

I WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD SEND ME INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM, AND WHAT IS REQUIRE TO APPLY FOR A FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

ABELARDO VALDEZ

AB/EH