

APR 16 1969

Honorable Joel T. Broyhill
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Broyhill:

I am writing in reply to your request of April 10, 1969 for information to assist you in reply to correspondence from John F. Kozelets.

The "Dr. Garcia" mentioned by Mr. Kozelets is Dr. Hector P. Garcia of Corpus Christi, Texas, who was appointed to the Commission on Civil Rights by President Johnson last year. Commissioner Garcia is not an employee of the Commission and is exempted by the Commission statute from the operation of the Hatch Act.

Commissioner Garcia is a most distinguished American. He is a graduate of the University of Texas School of Medicine. He served four years as a Major in the U. S. Army Medical Corps during World War II and was awarded the Bronze Star with six battle stars. He is founder of the American GI Forum of the U. S., an organization composed of American veterans largely of Mexican descent in 24 States which is one of the oldest and largest national organizations of Mexican Americans.

Dr. Garcia has held many Presidential appointments with honor and distinction. During his service as an Alternate Delegate to the United Nations with rank of Ambassador, Dr. Garcia delivered a memorable speech in Spanish, thereby winning unexpected support from Latin American delegates, much to the embarrassment of the Soviet Union. He has been a well-known and much respected leader of Mexican Americans in South Texas for many years. He has established an outstanding record as the first Commissioner of Mexican descent on the Commission on Civil Rights and his presence on the Commission has conferred upon the agency considerable stature and respect throughout the Southwest.

I do not know where Mr. Kozeletz obtained his information that Dr. Garcia "urged the militants on," but I can assure you that he did no such thing. Dr. Garcia spoke at Del Rio, as founder of the American GI Forum, for justice and equal opportunity for Mexican American citizens. His remarks and his presence were credited by many observers as being instrumental in maintaining the peace and dignity of the Del Rio demonstration, which was a tense and potentially explosive situation.

I will be most willing to discuss this further with you and to provide you with any additional information which you may request. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

((signed)) Howard A. Glickstein

Howard A. Glickstein
Acting Staff Director

cc: SD
Official ✓
Reading
Mr. Fleming

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