

June 10, 1963

Hon. Lawrence F. O'Brien
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

Yesterday I sent you not a "book" but a whole "library" of clippings about this PASSO situation. Frankly, I was very disappointed that Dr. Bonilla of Corpus Christi was not elected, as I am mighty afraid that Mr. Pena has the taint of the Teamsters and while the rank and file of the Teamsters may be O. K., I think Jimmy Hoffa is the most dangerous man in America. He is out trying to control labor and it looks like he is getting a pretty good start. Had I been a member of the organization and with a vote at the meeting, I would of course stood by Dr. Hector Garcia. I consider him an outstanding leader and a real patriot. He did outstanding work and I worked with him in the Padre Island matter and know whereof I speak.

However, if you will note, Cameron County went for Dr. Bonilla and against Mr. Pena. They selected Mr. Filemon Vela as attorney for the organization. They are friendly to Sen. Yarborough and I admire Sen. Yarborough for having the guts to go to the meeting. I thought once of trying to go to the meeting, but it would have looked very much that I was sticking my nose in something that was not in my line.

Hon. Jack Skaggs, County Chairman and myself did attend the meeting in Cameron County and let it be known in no uncertain terms what we thought of Jimmy Hoffa. The Cameron County organization did not want and does not want to affiliate with the teamsters. I have worked for harmony between labor and capital and between the races; and it is not only my right, but it is my duty to butt in. And certainly the Latins have no excuse in Cameron County.

Hon. Lawrence F. O'Brien

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I enclose another copy of my letter to Mr. Pena. I have put it on the mimeograph for easy reading more than for large distribution. Please read carefully reports in the Corpus Christi Caller as published this morning. We are fortunate in that we have the Hart Papers both at San Antonio and at Corpus Christi; and tragically unfortunate that we have the Hoiles Papers in this end of the valley, in what we call the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas.

I shall continue to try to keep you posted. We have lost Texas three times in national elections and it is unthinkable for us to lose it next year, but we had better watch our step. For your convenience I enclose you another copy of the PASSO Article in Sunday's Corpus Christi Caller.

With every good wish, I am

Very truly yours,

OCD/cga

Oscar C. Dancy, County Judge

P. S. Since dictating the above, the Brownsville Herald has come out for today and I enclose you clipping of the story which I hope is correct. Having Mr. Vela as Attorney for the organization is very much in our favor. I don't think there is any danger of their taking over Cameron County. Cameron County is the home of our District Judge, Hon. Reynaldo Garza, the first Latin appointed to such an important office and he is doing a great job. My son-in-law, the Hon. T. E. Kennerly of Houston was appointed by Mr. Eisenhower but it did not go over. But after Mr. Kennedy was elected the Latins were led to believe that they had a promise for a District Judge and it would have been tragically unfortunate in Latin America if a Republican or an Anglo was appointed at that time. Papers in the President's office and in the office of Mr. Yarborough show that I backed Mr. Garza. It also happens that I backed Henry Gonzalez for Governor some years ago but did not back him for the Senate. I was such a friend and admirer of the late Maury Mavrick that I just could not vote against his son for anything he wanted, in the Democratic party of course.

O.C.D.