



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20370

IN REPLY REFER TO

Pers-17-slgd-21b

06 October 19776

Dear Mr. Ximenes:

This is in reply to the letter you recently addressed to the Secretary of the Navy concerning the future of the Navy Band Corpus Christi. Your letter was referred to the Chief of Naval Personnel for response.

As a result of the mandated 10% reduction of military bands by Congress, a detailed cost/benefit analysis was conducted of all Navy bands. In this analysis, it was quite clear that we could no longer support the Corpus Christi Band. Its measure of effectiveness, along with others, fell well below the cutoff level.

To offset the obvious disadvantages of not having a band in the South Texas area, Commanders of the Navy Band New Orleans and Navy Band Memphis are being encouraged to contribute maximum services in support of our Texas and New Mexico recruiting effort as well as for significant military honors and ceremonies. Additionally, current plans include keeping the spinter-group "SENORA DEL MAR" (a very popular Spanish-American oriented group from Navy Band Corpus Christi) intact and transferring them to the Navy Band San Diego where they will make periodic recruiting tours through South Texas and New Mexico. This appears to be the best economic compromise to ensure an equitable distribution of bands.

Thank you for writing; we share your concern in this matter.

By direction of the Chief of Naval Personnel:

Sincerely yours,


G. F. DOOLEY
SPECIAL ASSISTANT

Mr. Vincent T. Ximenes
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