November 14, 1986

Hector P. Garcia, M.D. Chairperson, American G.I. Forum 1315 Bright Street Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

South Orange, New Jersey 07079

Dear Dr. Garcia:

As Chancellor of Seton Hall University, it is my privilege to invite you to receive one of our highest honors, the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa. It will be conferred at our commencement ceremonies on May 18, 1987, at the Brendan Byrne Arena (Meadowlands) in East Rutherford, New Jersey. It gives me particular pleasure to honor a Catholic humanitarian who reflects well Christ's beatitudes.

For more than 130 years, Seton Hall, the Nation's oldest and largest diocesan-affiliated Catholic university, has been providing a value-oriented liberal arts education to America's youth in a tradition of excellence that has prepared them to be contributing members of our society.

I was gratified when the Board of Regents approved your nomination for the honorary degree because of your outstanding service as a physician, humanitarian, American citizen, and founder of America's G.I. Forum. I hope you will allow us to recognize your contributions at our commencement. It is customary to deliver a short address following the conferral.

As you can readily understand, commencements take much preplanning, so a response prior to January 9, 1987, would be greatly appreciated. I look forward to receiving your afirmative response and welcoming you on Commencement Day.

With every best wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

Monsigner John J. Petille

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