

OPL-Hisp-

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

January 10, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR JACK L. COURTEMANCHE

FROM: CATHI VILLALPANDO *Cathi V.*

SUBJECT: SCHEDULE PROPOSAL FOR ARIZONA EVENT

Attached is the Schedule Proposal for the scholarship fundraiser in Phoenix, Arizona on February 13, 1984.

The sponsors of the event are forwarding more detailed information on this scholarship program that has been in existence since 1954 and have raised in recent years over \$750,000.

Thank you.

THE WHITE HOUSE

OFFICE

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

JANUARY 10, 1984

TO: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: FAITH WHITTLESEY

REQUEST: President to address major scholarship fund-raising event for Hispanic students in Arizona.

PURPOSE: To highlight scholarship and educational opportunities for members of the Hispanic community.

BACKGROUND: Titled the "Fiesta de Amigos-Scholarship '84", it is sponsored by local Hispanic organizations and was established in 1954. The keynote speaker at their last annual event was former Congressman John Rhodes.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

PARTICIPANTS: Approximately 500-600.

DATE & TIME: Monday, February 13, 1984 at 12:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Phoenix, Arizona (Phoenix Hilton-Downtown)

REMARKS REQUIRED: Talking points will be provided.

MEDIA COVERAGE: Coordinate with Press Office.

FIRST LADY'S PARTICIPATION: Required _____ Not Required X Advised _____

PROJECT OFFICERS: Cathi Villalpando - OPL
Advance Office

January 12, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES CICCONI

FROM:

CATHI VILLALPANDO *Cathi V.*

SUBJECT:

JANUARY 23RD HISPANIC EVENT
(WASHINGTON HILTON - WASHINGTON, D. C.)

As per our conversations, attached is some material regarding the above-mentioned Hispanic event being co-sponsored by a group of supporters and volunteers who are holding a reception in commemoration of the President's Inauguration and to highlight an Hispanic voter registration effort.

Although several inaugural events are being held, this one features dignitaries who are lending their names to show all Hispanic Americans that they, as elected Republican officers, want to assist the President and the Vice President on our active outreach efforts.

U. S. Senator John Tower has been selected as Chairman. This is a tribute to his being instrumental in Hispanics becoming involved with the Republican Party. He is nationally recognized for his interest and dedicated service to the Hispanic community. Many Hispanics will be attending to show their appreciation since this is his last term in office.

The attached list of honorary host committee is only a partial one for the invitation. The printed program will feature a more complete listing.

? // Because many Hispanics will be in town attending this event, what do you think of some 220 being invited to attend a briefing on the State of the Union message on the same day.

Please call me on this for other suggestions, etc.

jst

Enclosure

might be good to do if no legal problems

ADC

Pl. send copies of this entire packet to both Margaret and Sherrie Cooksey. There are quite a few Admin appointees on the list, and Cathi V. seems to be helping organize. Problems?

*Thanks
JC*

January 10, 1984

Dear Senator:

Enclosed please find information regarding a reception commemorating the Inauguration of President Reagan.

In view of your numerous contributions towards the Hispanic Outreach Program, the Hispanic community, the Party and this Administration, we would be most honored to have you serve as Chairman of this event. We have received confirmation from Ms. Katherine Ortega, United States Treasurer, and Congressman Manuel Lujan, Jr., to serve as Co-Chairman, in addition to the many others serving on the Honorary Committee.

Thank you for your continued support towards the Hispanic community and this Administration.

Sincerely,

Cathi Villalpando

Enclosure

The Honorable John G. Tower
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

“ ONCE MORE IN '84 ”
INAUGURAL COMMITTEE

RECEPTION

WASHINGTON HILTON HOTEL
1919 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

International Ballroom
Concourse Level

Monday, January 23, 1984

R.S.V.P. (202) 543-5120

6:00 p.m.

(Black Tie optional)

" ONCE MORE IN '84 "

INAUGURAL COMMITTEE

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

As the theme of 1984 emerges with special appreciation for the volunteers in America, we are proud to submit an organized effort of volunteers to highlight the important goals for 1984. This effort is reflected in the spirit of "Once More in '84" which is part of an overall endeavor of a non-profit organization that addresses the critical need for voter registration throughout the United States.

Our goals include educating, motivating and mobilizing support units throughout the U.S. to "Get Out the Voter". In achieving these goals, we are emphasizing the positive efforts of all Americans, certainly including those of Hispanic heritage. However, we are proud to mention the support coming from Women's groups, Blacks, those of both Western and Eastern European descent and Asian extraction and Americans everywhere who value good government. We intend to increase American participation in the political process and make it available to those who have never had an opportunity to participate before.

As with many organizations, we recognize the goals of this non-profit organization cannot be realized without the support of both individual and corporate contributions. We operate under the laws of a 501 (c) (4) foundation and all contributions are tax deductible as a charitable contribution, and may qualify as a business expense.

We feel our system of government is superior to any other in the world. Good government, responsible government, government that addresses the needs of all Americans, does not come without support from those who care enough to show America that they believe in this system. Those who make a commitment to defend our freedom and free-enterprise system, know the importance of these goals. "Once More in '84" is committed to pursuing the efforts in progress in America today until November 1984 and beyond. Pride in America truly has its own reward.

We will continue to mobilize support nationally. Should there be an interest to participate nationally, regionally or on a local level, it should be remembered that this is a volunteer effort and everyone is welcome.

" ONCE MORE IN '84 "

INAUGURAL COMMITTEE

"Once More in '84" is an organizational effort addressed to the problem of voter registration throughout the United States, and in particular of the absentee voters in this country and abroad.

The goal is to mobilize the support of "voter registration clubs" with the purpose of education and motivating the groups of voters with particular emphasis on those of Hispanic heritage, Blacks, Asian extraction, as well as both East European and West European descent. It is extremely important to include into the process of political participation those American citizens who never used their franchise before.

"Once More in '84" will become a first phase in an independent volunteer endeavor for permanent registration drive in promotion of our political freedoms and free-enterprise system.

We will launch this program by a festive Inaugural Reception at 6:00 P.M. on January 23, 1984 at the Washington Hilton Hotel, 1919 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. and we will continue our concentrated operational drive until November 1984 and beyond.

This volunteer non-profit organizational effort (operated under the laws of a 501 (c) (4) principle), is not related or connected in any structural or administrative manner to the organized political parties. It invites volunteer participation on all levels and functions in independent club units.

HONORABLE JOHN G. TOWER
United States Senate
Chairman

HONORABLE KATHERINE D. ORTEGA
United States Treasurer
Co-Chairman

HONORABLE MANUEL LUJAN, JR.
Member of Congress
Co-Chairman

HONORARY COMMITTEE
(Partial List)

Mr. Mario Aguero
Member, National Executive Board
Rep. National Hispanic Assembly (N.Y.)

Dr. Edward Aguirre (California)

Mr. Gil Avila
Special Assistant to the Governor
State of California

Honorable Steve Bartlett
Member of Congress (Texas)

Hector Barretto
President, U. S. Hispanic Chamber of
Commerce (Kansas)

Honorable John R. Block
Secretary - U. S. Department of
Agriculture

Mrs. John R. Block

Ms. Ampy Bouchey
Special Assistant to the Director
National Institute of Education

Mr. and Mrs. David Cade
Union Planter's Bank (Tennessee)

Honorable Jose Manuel Casanova
Executive Director - Inter American
Bank (Washington, D. C.)

Mr. Ricardo Capote
President, Capote Enterprise (N.Y.)

Mrs. Ruben Coronado
Member of Executive Committee
Republican National Hispanic Assembly
(Arizona)

Honorable Phillip Crane
Member of Congress (Illinois)

Honorable Alfonse D'Amato
United States Senate (New York)

Honorable Tirso Del Junco
Chairman - Republican National
Hispanic Assembly (California)

Honorable Pete V. Domenici
United States Senate (New Mexico)

Honorable George Deukmejian
Governor (California)

Mrs. Alma Esparza
Director, Office of Equal
Opportunity, U.S. Dept. of
Agriculture (Texas)

Dr. Maria D. Garcia Fonseca
Vice Chairman
North East Republican National
Hispanic Assembly (New York)

Honorable Tony E. Gallegos
Commissioner, Equal Employment
Opportunity Commission (Calif.)

Mr. Armando Garcia
Garcia Ordinance (Texas)

Mike Garcia
Director of Hispanic Affairs (N.J.)

Honorable Jake Garn
United States Senate (Utah)

Dr. Eva Guadarramas
Member, National Executive Board
Republican National Hispanic
Assembly

Honorable Thomas Hartnett
Member of Congress (South Carolina)

Honorable Jesse Helms
United States Senate (North Carolina)

Honorable Heriberto Herrera
Deputy Administrator
Small Business Administration (Texas)

Honorable Duncan Hunter
Member of Congress (California)

Honorable Roger W. Jepsen
United States Senate (Iowa)

Honorable Manuel Justiz
Director, National Institute of
Education (New York)

Honorable Robert W. Kasten, Jr.
United States Senate (Wisconsin)

Honorable Jack Kemp
Member of Congress (New York)

Honorable William Lowery
Member of Congress (California)

Honorable John McCain
Member of Congress (Arizona)

Honorable James A. McClure
United States Senate (Idaho)

Honorable Bill McCollum
Member of Congress (Florida)

Honorable Reynaldo Maduro
Director, Action (New York)

Mrs. Rita Di Martino
U. S. Representative, UNCEP (N.Y.)

Mr. H. "Pulse" Martinez
State Committeeman
Republican Party (Texas)

Honorable J. William Middendorf, II
Ambassador, U.S. Permanent Rep. to
the Organization of American
States (Washington, D.C.)

Honorable Antonio Monroig
Assistant Secretary Housing and
Urban Development (Puerto Rico)

Honorable Mike Morales
Former Republican State Representa-
tive (Arizona)

Mr. Arthur F. Mueller
President, E.F. Hutton Mortgage Corp.
(Arkansas)

Honorable Fernando Oaxaca
Member, Presidential Private
Enterprise Task Force (Calif.)

Honorable Charles Pashayan
Member of Congress (California)

Honorable Stan Parris
Member of Congress (Virginia)

Honorable Samuel R. Pierce, Jr.
Secretary, Housing and Urban
Development (New York)

Mr. Joseph Profit
Communications International, Inc.
(Georgia)

Mr. Ralph Ramirez
State Department of Industrial
Relations (California)

Mr. Joseph A. Reyes
Reyes & Associates (Texas)

A. Bruce Rozet
President, National Development
Services (California)

Honorable Eldon Rudd
Member of Congress (Arizona)

Mrs. Lucy M. Salazar
A. A. Congressman Manuel Lujan, Jr.
(New Mexico)

Carlos Salman
President, Salman Realty (Florida)

Ambassador Philip Sanchez
(California)

Rodolfo Balli Sanchez
National Executive Director
COSSMHO (Washington, D. C.)

Honorable Joe Skeen
Member of Congress (New Mexico)

Honorable Denny Smith
Member of Congress (Oregon)

Honorable Robert F. Smith
Member of Congress (Oregon)

Honorable Steven D. Symms
United States Senate

Mr. Steve Taracido
National Co-Chairman
Republican National Hispanic
Assembly

Louis P. Terrazas
President & Chairman of the Board
Gold Bond Manufacturing (Texas)

Honorable Strom Thurmond
United States Senate (S. Carolina)

Francisco M. Vega
Vice Chairman - Midwest
Republican National Hispanic
Assembly

Honorable Malcolm Wallop
United States Senate (Wyoming)

Honorable Lance H. Wilson
Executive Assistant to Secretary
Samuel R. Pierce, Jr. (N. Y.)

Honorable Pete Wilson
United States Senate (California)

Honorable George Wortley
Member of Congress (New York)

Honorable Barry Goldwater
United States Senate
(Arizona)

Honorable Mack Mattingly
United States Senate
(Georgia)

f OPL-Hip

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 23, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FAITH WHITTLESEY

JAN 2 - 1984

FROM: Cathi Villalpando
SUBJECT: Public Service Spots
Spanish International Network (SIN)

Attached are copies of three proposed scripts for public service spots on Hispanic voter registration, becoming a U.S. citizen and for Hispanic women to do the same.

SIN would like me to cut these tapes on January 9, 1984. I talked to Karna Small while you were on leave and she recommended that we advise both Margaret Tutwiler and Fred Fielding.

SIN is having Katherine Orega cut similar spots.

Attached are copies of the scripts in Spanish and an English translation for your review.

Please advise.

Enclosure

Note:
This was disapproved.

JWE
1/13

PSA CITIZENSHIP - 30 seconds

SUGGESTED FOR THE HON. CATHY VILLALPANDO

-----Open-----

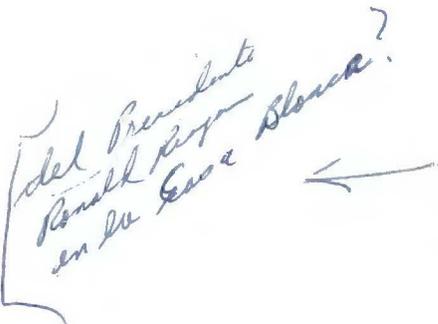
On camera: Todos estamos concientes de la importancia que el voto hispano tendrá en las elecciones de 1984 y subsiguientes...

Yo soy Cathy Villalpando, asistente especial de la Casa Blanca, y hoy quiero exhortar a todas las mujeres hispanas que llenen los requisitos legales para serlo, a que se hagan ciudadanas americanas, se registren y voten.

El voto es el mejor instrumento que tenemos para que nos escuchen, nos respeten y nos ayuden. Mujer hispana, si llenas los requisitos para serlo, hazte ciudadana, regístrate y vota.

Close: Y recuerda, mujer hispana, si se puede, se debe.

*Edel Presidente
Ronald Rego
en la Casa Blanca?*



PSA CITIZENSHIP - 30 seconds

SUGGESTED FOR THE HON. CATHI VILLALPANDO

-----Open-----

On camera: We are aware of the importance that the Hispanic vote will have on the 1984 elections and subsequent. I am Cathi Villalpando, Special Assistant to the President in the White House. Today I would like to exhort all Hispanic women to fulfill your legal requirements, become American citizens, register and vote.

Our vote is the best instrument we have, so that we will be heard, respected and helped.

Hispanic women, if you fulfill requirements, become citizens, register and vote.

Close: And remember, Hispanic women, ^{if possible} ~~if you can~~, you must.

PSA REGISTRATION - 30 seconds

SUGGESTED FOR CATHY VILLALPANDO

-----Open-----

On camera: Todos los hispanos tenemos un compromiso
ineludible con nosotros mismos, con nuestras
familias, con nuestra comunidad: registrarnos
y votar.

Yo soy Cathy Villalpando, asistente especial de
la Casa Blanca, y hoy quiero recordarles a todas
las mujeres méjico-americanas, puertorriqueñas,
Cubanas, centro y sudamericanas, a que se
registren y voten.

Convéncete de que el voto es el mejor instrumento
que tienes para que te escuchen, te respeten y
te ayuden...Convence de ello a tu esposo, a tus
padres, a tus hijos, a tus amigos...

Regístrate, y vota.

Close: Y recuerda, mujer hispana, si se puede, se debe.

PSA REGISTRATION - 30 seconds

SUGGESTED FOR CATHI VILLALPANDO

-----Open-----

On camera: All of us Hispanics have an unavoidable obligation ^{to} with ourselves, our families and our community, so register and vote. I am Cathi Villalpando, Special Assistant to the President in the White House , and today I want to remind all women Mexican-Americans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Central and South Americans, to register and vote. Convince yourself/Be sure that your vote is the best instrument that you have so that you will be heard, respected and helped. Convince your husband, your parents, your children, your friends. Register and vote.

Close: And remember, Hispanic women, ^{if is possible} ~~if you can~~, you must.

PSA - CITIZENSHIP - 10 seconds

-----Open-----

On camera: Mujer hispana, para que te escuchen y te respeten, debes votar.

Para que puedas votar debes ser ciudadana americana...Si llenas los requisitos para serlo, hazte ciudadana, regístrate y vota.

Close: Y recuerda, mujer hispana, si se puede, se debe.

PSA - CITIZENSHIP - 10 seconds

~~Open~~

On camera: Hispanic women, if you want to be heard and respected
you must vote.

To be able to vote you must be an American citizen.
If you fulfill the requirements to do so, become a
citizen, register and vote.

Close: And remember, Hispanic women, ^{if possible} ~~if you can~~, you must.

f OPL: AISP Outreach

December 13, 1983

DEC 21 REC'D

Kathy Villalpando
Assistant to the President
White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Re: HISPANIC CONFERENCE

Dear Ms. Villalpando:

We in the Spanish television industry feel it is important to bring together the key Hispanic groups with expertise in Immigration issues to develop a comprehensive and sensitive national policy. Given the apparent resurrection of the Simpson-Mazzoli bill, our problem becomes even more critical.

To this purpose, we invite you to attend as our guest, a four-day conference underwritten by the Board of Directors of Spanish International Communications Corporation on January 29th through February 1st 1984 at the Wye Plantation, the Aspen Institute's conference center on the western shore of Maryland. A list of people who have been invited is attached.

We ask you to come in a spirit of cooperation that was so well demonstrated in the short lived Simpson-Mazzoli defeat - it is that cooperation that leads us to believe that the Hispanics who joined to defeat an unfair bill can join to produce a positive and constructive alternative.

In our role as catalyst, we will be assembling a Steering Committee comprised of a broad representation of concerned organizations who will develop some loose guidelines and starting points so as to make this conference as constructive as possible. Please mark your calendar with the dates of the Conference, and let us know that you plan to attend.

In the very near future, we will be in contact with further details.

Sincerely,


Daniel D. Villanueva
Vice President
Co-Chairperson


Vilma S. Martinez
Co-Chairperson

ASPEN HISPANIC CONFERENCE
Jan.29, 30, 31 & Feb.1st. 1984

Check-in - Jan.29
Check-out- Feb.1st.

Wye Plantation, Maryland

- Calif. 1. Vilma Martinez Munger, Tolles & Rickershauser
612 So. Flower St.
Los Angeles, Ca. (213) 683-9100
- Tex. 2. Lionel Castillo 3320 So. McGregor Way
Houston, Tex. 77021
- Calif. 3. Mr. Mario Obledo President LULAC
3250 Union Pacific Ave.
Los Angeles, Ca. 90023 (213) 263-6158
- Calif. 4. Mr. Jack Alarid National Chairman
G.I. Forum
11212 Archway Drive
Whittier, Ca. 90604
- Calif. 5. Mr. Joaquin Avila President & General Counsel (415)981-5800
MALDEF (Mexican American Legal Defense &
28 Geary St. Education Fund
San Francisco, Ca. 94108
- Wash. 6. Mr. Raul Izaquirre National Council de la Raza
20 "F" Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
- Calif. 7. Congressman NALEO (213) 688-4870
Edward R. Roybal 300 North Los Angeles St. Suite 7106
Los Angeles, Ca. 90012
- N.Y. 8. The Honorable Hispanic Caucus
Robert Garcia U.S. House of Representatives
223 Canon Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
- Wash. 10. Paul Sedillo Director National Confederations of
(Your eminence) Catholic Bishops
U.S. Conference Secretariate Hispanic Off.
1312 Massachuttes N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
- Flor. 11. The Honorable Mayor of San Antonio
Henry Cisneros 2002 W. Houston
San Antonio, Tex. 78207

cont....

N.M.	12.	Toney Anaya	Governor of New Mexico State Capitol Bldg. Santa Fe, New Mexico
Tex.	13.	Willie Velasquez	S.W. Voter Registration 201 No. Saint Mary's San Antonio, Tex. 78205
	✓ 14.	Dr. Tirso del Junco	Republican Hispanic Assembly 4924 Sunset Blvd. Los Angeles, Ca. 90027
	✓ 15.	Fernando Oaxaca	2812 Anchor Ave. Los Angeles, Ca. 90064
ans.	✓ 16.	Hector Barreto (see A)	U. S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
N.Y.	17.	Guarione Diaz	Cuban National Planning Council 300 S.W. 12th Ave. 3rd. Floor Miami, Florida 33130
III	18.	Mario Aranda	Latino Institute 53 W. Jackson Blvd. Chicago, Ill. 60604
Col.	19	Polly Baca Barragan	Denver Vice Chairperson of the Democratic 1625 Massachusetts Ave. Ntl. Committee Washington 20036 N.W.
Calif.	20	Leo Estrada -	Demographer - UCLA
Wash.	21	Arnold Torres -	LULAC 400 1st. St. N.W., Suite 721 Washington, D.C. 20001
Calif.	22	Dr. Julian Nava	18308 Septo St. Northridge, Ca. 91325
Arz.	23.	Ronnie Lopez	Special Asst. to the Governor, Office of the State Capitol Bldg. Governor
N.M.	24.	Congressman Richardson B) (see	Phx. Arz. 85007
Ariz.	25	State Sen. Gutierrez (see C)	
Col.	26	Mayor Pena (see D)	
Calif.	27	State Senator Art Torres	548 So. Spring St. Suite 500 Los Angeles, Ca. 90013
Tex.	28	Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez	238 W. Kings Highway San Antonio, Tex. 78212
Amb.	29	Abelardo L. Valdez	Finley, Kumble Wagner et al 1120 Connecticut Ave. N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

Wash.	30.	Kathy Villalpando Assistant to the President	White House Washington, D.C. 20500
N.Y.	31	Jack John Olivero (see E)	P.R. Legal Defense & Education Fund
Calif.	32	Bishop Juan Arzube (see F)	
N.M.	33	Arbishop Robert Sanchez (see G)	
Wash.	34	Abe Montoya (see H)	AFL-CIO
Kan.	A)	Mr. Hector Barreto	U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Missouri 829 South West Blvd. Kansas City Mo. 64108
N.M.	B)	Congressman William B. Richardson	Longworth House Office Bldg. Room 1610 Washington, D.C. 20515
Arz.	C)	State Senator Alfredo Gutierrez	Arizona State Senate Bldg. 1700 W. Washington Phoenix, Arz. 85007
Col.	D)	Mayor Federico Peña	City & County Bldg., Room 350 Denver, Col. 80202
N.Y.	E)	Jack John Olivero, Pres.	Puerto Rican Legal Defense & Education Fund 95 Madison Ave., Room 1304 New York, N.Y. 10016
Ca.	F)	Bishop Juan Arzube	Los Angeles Archdiocese 1531 W. 9th St. Los Angeles, Ca. 90015
N.M.	G)	Archbishop Roberto Sanchez	Archdiocese of Santa Fe 202 Morningside Dr. S.E. Albuquerque, N.Mex. 87108
Wash.	H)	Al Montoya	Labor Council for Latin American Advancement 815 16th St. S.W. Suite 707 Washington, D.C. 20006
Ca.	I)	Leo Estrada Demographer UCLA	UCLA School of Architecture & Urban Planning Room 1317 Arch. Bldg. 405 Hilgard Ave. LA 90024

ASPEN INSTITUTE CONFERENCE

TO: Daniel Villanueva

FROM:
(Name)
(Position)
(Organization)
(Address)

Telephone No.

I Shall

be able to attend this conference.

Shall not

(If "yes", please check appropriate boxes below.)

I plan to fly and would like further information.

**I plan to drive and shall need road directions from Washington to the
Wye Plantation.**

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

NOTE TO FILE

Informed Cathi Villalpando that guidance on this type of correspondence was that until Mr. Torres put his views in a manner that was professional, she should not respond to his letter.

Jim Cicconi

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Jan. 3, 1984

For: Jim Cicconi

From: Cathie Y.

#41

Happy New year!

I need to reply - please
advise.



League of
United Latin
American Citizens

Office of National President
MARIO G. OBLEDO

PERSONALLY DELIVERED

37
m. shortly
Eleven Days Before Christmas 1983

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

HISPANICS REQUEST A CHRISTMAS GIFT FROM YOU --
REPUDIATE BY DEEDS THE EDBENEZER MEESE SPIRIT

Dear Mr. President:

Two years ago at Christmas time, we, along with ten other national and local groups concerned about the poor,* petitioned you to release surplus cheese (December 15, 1981), rather than "dump it in the ocean" as proposed by some United States Department of Agriculture officials. (Within ten days you ordered the release of surplus cheese.)

Two years later, "Edbenezer" Meese has repudiated the spirit of your actions and the Christmas spirit by stating that "he has seen no authoritative evidence that there are hungry children in America and that some people who can afford meals go to soup kitchens because the food is free." He also claimed that the efforts of a wide range of Americans who seek to promote the Christmas spirit are "purely political".

"Edbenezer" Meese's statement doubting "authoritative evidence" of hunger is as naive as suggesting that there is no hard evidence of Communism in the Soviet Union.

We, the Hispanic community, hereby accuse "Edbenezer" Meese of "gross hypocrisy". As set forth in further detail in Section 3 of our letter, his advice to you has, in part, made food unaffordable to the poor. See, for example, advice regarding the upholding of the \$2.7 billion dollar dairy subsidy legislation which is responsible for the retail price of cheese being twice the world market price. We also accuse "Edbenezer" Meese of hypocrisy in attacking the concept of free lunches for poor children while receiving an estimated \$18,000 in free lunches at elegant restaurants for himself. In fact, we accuse "Edbenezer" Meese of receiving free lunch benefits over the

* Included Consumers Union, Gray Panthers, Urban League (Sacramento), and American G.I. Forum.

last three years that equal the cost of free lunches for sixty school children for an entire year.**

I. PRESIDENTIAL ACTION -- RETURN TO FREE MARKET PRINCIPLES

On behalf of the Hispanic community and 34 million poor Americans, we call upon you to personally intervene prior to Christmas and repudiate "Edbenezer" Meese's statement by four (4) bold actions, including two that strike at the 29 billion dollar farmers welfare programs that artificially raise the prices of food to the poor.

1) Presidential Order To Release All Surplus Dairy Commodities To The Poor.

There are over \$2 billion in surplus dairy products stored in warehouses throughout this nation. The surplus is so large that it could not physically be carried by the heads of households of all eligible poor families. That is, the surplus equals 135 pounds of cheese and butter per poor family.

Each month an additional 100 million pounds of surplus cheese is accumulated. At present, only one-third (35 million pounds) of this one hundred million pounds per month is distributed to the poor.

The refusal to distribute more of the surplus is attributable to cries of outrage from the retail industry, falsely claiming that surplus cheese has adversely affected the retail sales of cheese.

2) Publicly Announce That You Will Actively Seek The Reduction In Food Costs By Seeking Legislation To Eliminate The Dairy Subsidy And Other "Farmers Welfare" Programs.

According to the Wall Street Journal (6/6/83 and 7/21/83), the \$2.7 billion dairy subsidy per annum has made cheese unaffordable to most of the poor. The dairy subsidy has caused the price of domestic cheese to rise to more than double the world market price. According to the Wall Street Journal, if not for this subsidy, the price of cheese would be \$1.17 less, or under one dollar per pound for certain domestic varieties.

Cheese at one dollar per pound would be affordable to the poor, thereby eliminating the need for dependency on free cheese giveaways snarled in embarrassingly bureaucratic and often deliberately humiliating procedures.

3) Make As Your Key Priority For 1984, The Abolition Of "Farmers Welfare" Programs In Order To Help The Truly Needy.

According to the Office of Management and Budget, over the last three years U.S. taxpayers have created the largest welfare program in America, the

** Estimated 200 free lunches and dinners per year, including taxpayer-subsidized White House lunches and dinners, at an average value of \$30 per meal. The average cost of a free meal per child is \$1.50 per meal. Thus, "Edbenezer" Meese has had the equivalent of 12,000 free lunches. Or, put another way, the value of "Edbenezer" Meese's free lunches would be enough to provide a free lunch for 60 school children for an entire year. 200 free lunches at \$30 per lunch equals \$6,000 x 3 years equals \$18,000.

"farmers welfare program". The estimated direct cost for the last fiscal year was \$29 billion, or more than triple the amount before you took office.

Some farmers, for example, will receive over one million dollars each as a reward for not growing wheat, cotton and/or corn on land that is on the bottom of a major California lake and therefore unusable for any crop. Agri-giant J.G. Boswell Company will receive \$2.5 million not to grow wheat on the bottom of Tulare Lake. This is a sum great enough to provide a gourmet Christmas meal with all the trimmings for 500,000 Americans.

The \$29 billion spent on "farmers welfare" last year was almost three times the \$10 billion spent on food stamps and almost twice as much as the \$16 billion spent on all federal nutrition programs for poor Americans.

4) Abolish Your Hunger Commission.

Appointing a Hunger Commission to determine the existence of hunger in America is a little like appointing a task force to determine if there is communism in the Soviet Union. Virtually every charity, church, and congressional committee has made it clear that hunger is on the rise, not the decline. Unfortunately, your Hunger Commission, composed largely of "Edbeneezer" Meese adherents, intends to whitewash the problem of hunger and absolve you from the responsibility of effectively dealing with hunger.

In the true Christmas spirit, we urge you to take full personal responsibility, as you have on many occasions when the moral issue has been clear.

As you may be aware, the Executive Director of your Hunger Commission, John Raisian, recently stated that "The issue of hunger in America is all anecdotal." (Washington Post, December 11, 1983) The Raisian-Meese position is also the preconceived position of the key members of your Hunger Commission. According to the New York Times, Hunger Commission members:

- Kenneth Clarkson served the President at O.M.B. and put together the Administration's proposal for cutting food programs.
- George Graham, while at O.M.B., put together a paper attacking the federal nutrition program for women, infants and children. He told a Senate Committee in 1982 that "hunger has been sensationalized and that 'the nutritional status of our people, including low income groups, is very good and continually getting better.'" He further stated, "'the greatest threat to their [the poor] health lies in overnutrition'".
- J.P. Bolduc, while Assistant Agriculture Secretary under President Ford, was a strong critic of the Food Stamp Program.
- John Perkins is a vocal critic of public assistance programs.
- Former Massachusetts Governor Edward King is an ultra-conservative opposed to social welfare spending.

II. "Edbeneezer" Meese Is Worthy Of Receiving The 1983 Award For "Gross Hypocisy".

Mr. Meese's recent words denying the existence of hunger may be a cover-up for personal actions that have precipitated hunger in America. For example, Mr. Meese (who has been your longest and most intimate personal advisor since 1967 when you became Governor of California), has never taken any actions to urge you to eliminate the \$29 billion per year "farmers welfare program" or the \$2.7 billion dairy subsidy, both of which violate basic free market principles and both of which are responsible for the unaffordable food prices that cause hunger.

In fact, we believe that "Edbeneezer" Meese is, in part, responsible for urging you not to veto the November 1983 dairy subsidy legislation and to support the tripling of "farmers welfare programs" during your administration.

And, as stated on pages 1-2, we believe Meese has consumed at least \$18,000 of free lunches (and dinners) since you became President.

CONCLUSION

There are many abuses in our welfare programs, as well as violations of free market principles, that "Edbeneezer" Meese has not pointed out to you. The most expensive violations relate to the wealthy, such as agribusiness, which seek free lunches at the expense of the poor, the hungry, and the "truly needy."

In 1981, you took a tiny step towards resolving hunger by ordering the distribution of surplus cheese. For this Christmas, we urge you to take a giant step towards resolving hunger by taking dramatic free market actions. The elimination of the \$2.7 billion dairy subsidy and the restoration of a free market will, for example, provide sufficient federal revenue to restore virtually all cutbacks in all federal nutrition programs.

America awaits your Christmas greeting and upholding of free market principles even when they benefit the poor.

Respectfully,



Arnold Torres
Executive Director
League of United Latin
American Citizens