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RAUL ESPINOSA

FOR THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL HISPANIC ASSEMBLY

JULY 8, 1974

WELCOME TO WASHINGTON.



FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS YOU WILL BE PART OF AN IMPORTANT
EVENT IN THE REPUBLICAN EFFORT TO INVOLVE AN EVER-GROWING NUMBER OF
CITIZENS FROM SPANISH SPEAKING BACKGROUNDS IN THE POLITICAL LIFE OF
THE PARTY, AND IN THE ACTIVE, POLITICAL LIFE OF THE COUNTRY.

MOST IMPORTANT, THIS CONFERENCE WAS THE IDEA OF SPANISH-SURNAMED AMERICANS; MEN WITH INITIATIVE; MEN IN THE TRADITION THAT MAKES, AND KEEPS THIS COUNTRY STRONG.



AS MEN AND WOMEN OF INITIATIVE, AS PROUD SELF-RELIANT PEOPLE, AS PEOPLE WHO CARE ABOUT THEIR FAMILIES AND THE SORT OF TOMORROW WE MAKE FOR OUR CHILDREN, YOU KNOW THE REPUBLICAN PARTY EMBODIES YOUR PRINCIPLES AND YOUR ASPIRATIONS FOR AMERICA.

I WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT PREVIOUS COMMITMENTS MADE IT
IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO ACCEPT YOUR INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
CONFERENCE, BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT YOU HAVE MY ENTHUSIASTIC,
BEST WISHES. AND I LOOK FORWARD TO ANOTHER INVITATION FROM ONE OF
THE ASSEMBLY'S FUTURE CONFERENCES OF WHICH I EXPECT THERE WILL BE
MANY.

THANK YOU.





Republican National Committee.

*Advisory Committee to the
Spanish-speaking Community*
Rep. Manuel Lujan, Jr., Chairman

June 26, 1974

Members:

Manuel Almaguer
Ben Fernandez
Rudy Galiana
Olivia Gurza
Gilda Bojorquez Gjurich
Arturo Hevia
Armando La Casa
Jesse H. Malacara
Rita Di Martino
M.F. Montez
Bill Orosco
George Rios
Dr. Pacual Sanchez

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Gwen Anderson

FROM:

Lynn Bouchey

LFB

Attached per our conversation of yesterday are suggested remarks for the Vice President, if he can prepare a 2-3 minute filmed message for the Organizational Conference of the newly created Republican National Hispanic Assembly.

Pete Roussel of Chairman Bush's staff says the filming could be done here at the RNC board room and would take very little time.

I really need this film and anything you can do will be deeply appreciated.





OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

June 13, 1974

MEMORANDUM TO SCHEDULING

FROM: Gwen Anderson

ga

SUBJECT: Republican National Hispanic Assembly Meeting
July 12-13 in Washington, D. C.

It was brought to my attention that a letter had been sent out from Benjamin Fernandes, Chairman of this meeting (see attachments). In his letter to all State Chairmen, he states, "we are expecting both Vice President Ford and President Nixon to address us" urging full participation from each state due to the 'star' attractions.

No letter of invitation can be located in our office. This group is an auxiliary unit of the RNC Spanish Speaking Advisory Committee. Overall Chairman of the RNC Spanish Speaking Advisory Committee is Congressman Manuel Lujan, Jr., of New Mexico.

I called Congressman Lujan on 6/10 and told him we definitely had the Vice President scheduled elsewhere for the same time that this meeting was being held. He was aware of that fact and was also aware of the attached letter signed by Fernandes. I asked Lujan if he could be of assistance in taking care of this matter right away as we did not want this group to be disappointed because of misinformation. He agreed and said he would take immediate action.

I just received another telephone call from the man in charge of the mechanics of the meeting whose name is Bouchey, who said Fernandes had just called him to build the meeting around Vice President Ford. I explained the action that I had taken. He then suggested alternative dates, such as moving the meeting to the week of July 21. I informed him that week was fully committed. This is the first organizational meeting. If the Vice President wishes to address the group, they will be meeting again in the not-too-distant future.

Attachments (3)

cc: Mr. Hartmann
Mr. Seidman
Mr. Burress
Mr. Rustand



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON, D.C.

gzd

Contacted Congressman via phone on June 10.
I told Cong. Lujan we definitely had the
Vice President scheduled elsewhere and had
for some time. He was aware of that and also
of the attached letter signed by Fernandez.
Congressman Lujan said he would take care
of the matter right away. I explained we did
not want anyone disappointed because of
misinformation. He agreed.



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, D.C.

ga

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 4, 1974

*Gwen - I checked w/ Schedul
+ they have no record. Also,
Fred says Pres. is not
committed. See*

MEMO FOR: GWEN ANDERSON

FROM: FRED SLIGHT

I was not aware that the
Vice President was definitely
committed to this affair.

Can you clarify? Many thanks.



REPUBLICAN NATIONAL HISPANIC ASSEMBLY
Washington, D. C.

CHAIRMAN

Benjamin Fernandez

May 22, 1974

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Manuel Almaguer, Esq.
Fred Berens
Frank Casillas
Martin Castillo, Esq.
Joseph Colon
Tirso Del Junco, M.D.
Benjamin Fernandez
Frank Fouce
Alex Gonzalez
Manuel Gonzalez
Oscar Gutierrez, Sr., O.D.
Edward Lucero, C.P.A.
Jesse Malacara
Carmen Maymi
M. F. Montez
Fernando Oaxaca
Delfin Pupo
Henry Ramirez

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

J. Raul Espinosa

GENERAL COUNSEL

Martin G. Castillo, Esq.

MEASURER

Frank Casillas


To All State Chairmen:

On July 12 - 13, the RNHA will hold its first organizational meeting in Washington, D. C.

It is essential that you immediately organize your state so that it will have representation at the most important Hispano meeting in the history of our country.

Please submit the names and addresses to our Washington office of the Representatives whom you wish to recommend. The National Executive Committee must approve all Representatives. All names must be submitted by June 7 so that formal invitations can be sent to them. Please inform all Representatives of the \$50 registration fee, which will include two luncheons. We are expecting both Vice President Ford and President Nixon to address us; so please arrange for participation from a full group from your state.

Kindest personal regards,


Benjamin Fernandez
Chairman

BF/cjp

cc: National Executive Committee



5/15/74

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GOP-SPANISH SPEAKING

HOUSTON (AP) -- THE MAN WHO DIRECTED FUND RAISING FOR PRESIDENT NIXON AMONG SPANISH-SPEAKING GROUPS PROFITED FROM A GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WHICH HE DIRECTED, THE HOUSTON POST SAID TODAY.

THE NEWSPAPER SAID IN A COPYRIGHTED STORY THAT BENJAMIN FERNANDEZ, WHO HEADED THE NATIONAL HISPANIC FINANCE COMMITTEE DURING THE 1972 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN, HAD USED HIS POSITION TO OBTAIN MONEY FOR A FIRM HE OWNED.

FERNANDEZ ORGANIZED THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION IN 1970 AND BECAME ITS CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT.

THE ORGANIZATION, WHICH RECEIVED A \$605,350 GRANT FROM THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, WAS A NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT CORPORATION THAT COUNSELED MINORITY APPLICANTS FOR CHARTERS FOR BANKS AND BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS.

THE POST SAID FERNANDEZ TESTIFIED LAST NOVEMBER IN A CLOSED SESSION OF THE SENATE WATERGATE COMMITTEE THAT WHILE SERVING AS HEAD OF NEDA, HIS COMPANY, RESEARCH, INC., RECEIVED 10 FEES OF \$10,000 EACH FROM BANK APPLICANTS WHO HAD RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FROM NEDA.

FERNANDEZ TESTIFIED THAT WHILE HEAD OF NEDA HE DID NOT HOLD A POSITION IN RESEARCH, INC., WHICH OPERATED AT A LOSS, THE NEWSPAPER SAID. HE SAID HE SOLD THE FIRM AFTER BEING WITH NEDA SIX MONTHS.

THE POST SAID AN EXHIBIT IN THE COMMITTEE FILES CONTAINS A MEMO FROM NEDA EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT ALFRED R. VILLALOBOS WHICH SAID:

"THE ALLEGATION THAT MR. FERNANDEZ USED HIS POSITION AT NEDA FOR HIS PERSONAL FINANCIAL BETTERMENT IS TRUE AND WHILE ILLEGALITY WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PROVE, THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT CERTAIN OF HIS ACTIONS WERE IMPROPER."

DURING THE 1972 CAMPAIGN, THE NATIONAL HISPANIC FINANCE COMMITTEE, REPORTING DIRECTLY TO THE PRESIDENT'S CHIEF FUND RAISER, MAURICE STANS, RAISED ABOUT \$330,000 FOR THE CAMPAIGN, THE POST SAID. WATERGATE COMMITTEE FILES SHOW.

THE POST QUOTED AN UNNAMED SOURCE AS SAYING SPECIAL PROSECUTOR LEON JAWORSKI'S STAFF IS ALSO INVESTIGATING FERNANDEZ FOR POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF A FEDERAL LAW PROHIBITING THE SOLICITATION OF POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM FEDERAL CONTRACTORS.

05-13-74 19:08EDT



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R

HOUSTON-ADD GOP-SPANISH SPEAKING

IN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE WATERGATE COMMITTEE LAST NOVEMBER, JOHN J. PRIESTES, A MIAMI BUILDER, ACCUSED FERNANDEZ OF SEEKING A \$100,000 CONTRIBUTION IN RETURN FOR WHICH STANS WAS SUPPOSE TO BLOCK PRIESTES' SUSPENSION FROM A FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION SUBSIDY PROGRAM. FERNANDEZ DENIED THAT.

PRIESTES TESTIFIED THAT STANS ACCEPTED A \$25,000 CHECK, BUT RETURNED THE MONEY WHEN HE COULD NOT GET THE SUSPENSION LIFTED. PRIESTES IS UNDER A ONE-YEAR JAIL SENTENCE AFTER PLEADING GUILTY TO TWO FELONY COUNTS INVOLVING HOMES FINANCED BY THE FHA, THE NEWSPAPER SAID.

THE U.S. CRIMINAL CODE MAKES IT A CRIME TO ASK A FEDERAL CONTRACTOR TO MAKE A POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION.

05-15-74 19:10EDT

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THE MIAMI HERALD

Sun., May 19, 1974

Bank, S&L Firm--Realization of Exiles' Dreams

By GEORGE KENNEDY

Herald Staff Writer

Ever since Cuban exiles began arriving in Miami in substantial numbers in the early 1960s, some have cherished the dream of

of Union Federal Savings & Loan, at Flagler Street and Biscayne Boulevard.

The Cuban-American organizers of both institutions say their achievement is attributable to persistence, good timing and the

BENJAMIN Fernandez, consulting economist, major fundraiser for President Nixon and subject of a current federal investigation arising from his campaign activities.

In early 1972, while serving as chairman

tinental National Bank.

The U.S. comptroller of the currency had turned down his group's charter application, Dascal said.