

January 17, 1930.

John N. Garner,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Garner:-

I wish to express my personal appreciation of your work in connection with the Laredo situation.

I heard yesterday that President Hoover plans to visit Texas this spring and has tentatively accepted a date for the South Texas Chamber of Commerce at Port Arthur.

It strikes me that something might be framed under which the president would select Laredo or Brownsville as a spot at which to shake hands with the President of Mexico over the International Bridge line. My thought is largely based upon recent unpleasantness and the fact that the long continuation has not improved general relations between citizens of the two countries. From my standpoint, Laredo would be the best place, because it can be reached in three hours from San Antonio by auto and San Antonio would provide the natural place for anything the president might want to say to the South regarding political economic issues. Something might be framed at San Antonio where you, because of your national prominence, could fittingly act as Texas greeter to the president, introducing Governor Moody and escorting the two of them to Laredo for the hand shaking party.

This may be very wild, but it looks like a good bet if possible, and if my Port Arthur report of Hoover's proposed Texas trip is a fact instead of a rumor.

Sincerely,

H'M

PRESERVATION COPY

Offices of Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Jan. 20, 1930

Mr. Charles E. Marsh,
Austin, Texas

My dear Mr. Marsh:

Your letter of the 17th received. I called up the White House and was informed that President Hoover expects to visit Texas some time this spring or summer, but the exact dates or the places he will stop have not been decided.

Relative to meeting Mexican officials at Laredo or Brownsville, the suggestion is an excellent one, especially in view of the recent Laredo trouble. This arrangement, however, would necessitate careful consideration on the part of the State Department. As you say, it is worth trying for, and I will extend all possible aid.

Should President Hoover decide to make his trip to Texas in the spring or early summer it would be impossible for me to participate in any program Texas may formulate. My duties as minority leader will require my continuous presence in Washington until the session adjourns, and I would not be surprised if we remained here until late summer.

Do not hesitate to command me if I can be of any service in working out any program you may decide upon.

Very sincerely,

John N. Garner