

DEMOCRATIC

NATIONAL COMMITTEE 1625 Massachusetts Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 797-5900

John C. White
Chairman

Mr. Jose A. Ortiz-Dalio
Nazario & Ortiz-Dalio
Suite 410
1522 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

December 6, 1979

Dear Mr. Ortiz-Dalio,

I am in receipt of your letter of November 30, 1979 and will forward a copy of that letter to Mr. Franklin Lopez. Obviously much of this letter deals with questions having to do with you and Mr. Lopez and I hope that you will be able to settle your differences. However, I will try to respond wherever possible in order to clarify points in your letter.

There are some contradictions between the new law and the Delegate Selection Plan. We have asked the State Party of Puerto Rico to make the Plan compatible with the new law by adjusting the dates set forth accordingly.

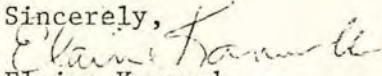
While the points raised in Section C are certainly valid ones I would like to point out that measures to prevent cross-over voting in many of the states are much less rigid than what you are suggesting.

In Section D the distribution of delegates between at-large and C.D. levels is in accordance with Rule 7C of the National Rules.

The wording of the language regarding party leader/elected official delegates includes the words "among others" so that other leaders who may not be specified may be elected to these positions as long as they meet the other criteria for election as a delegate.

Persons interested in at-large and add-on positions must also file statements of candidacy and the Plan will be amended to so provide.

I will be forwarding a copy of your letter and this response to Mr. Lopez and I hope to see a corrected Plan very shortly.

Sincerely,

Elaine Kamarck
Executive Director
Compliance Review Commission

cc: Franklin Lopez

February 15 would be a more acceptable date since it would provide ample time to comply with Article 18 of the Primary Law and at the same time complying with the provisions of Article 19 and Article 12.

Article 18 states that the affiliated party has two (2) days to submit to the presidential candidates a list of those persons interested in becoming their delegates. It further states that the candidate then has ten (10) days from the date he receives the list to resubmit said list to the party if any changes are made.

On the other hand, Article 19 provides that the caucuses must be held at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the primary.

Additionally, Rule 11 E of the Plan and of the 1980 Delegate Selection Rules for the National Convention (from hereon the National Rules) mandates that:

" The Compliance Review Committee shall insure that State Delegate Selection Plans provide fair and adequate time for persons to file for delegate or alternate positions, and for presidential candidates or their authorized representatives to review the list of persons who have filed, and to remove from that list persons not confirmed as bona fide supporters of the presidential candidate."

It is impossible for the NDP in Puerto Rico to hold the caucuses on the 27 of January if they are to abide by the Presidential Primary Law of the island and the National Rules. We are enclosing a timetable which is in agreement with the Primary Law of Puerto Rico and with the National Rules. The dates therein described could very well be followed. The scheduled caucuses cannot be held on January 27.

C. Eligibility

"Any eligible voter who at least 14 days before any primary or election pledges allegiance to the 1976 platform of the National Democratic Party, can participate and vote in the primary and delegate selection process."

It is our feeling that the above allegiance pledge is a

aged, the handicapped and the blind must subsist with a federal benefits of less than \$20 a month. We are being asked to forget about such people at the same time that the Administration ^{is} ~~will be~~ funneling billions of dollars in inflated profits to the big oil companies.

I say no. I say that our country can afford to help those in need and must continue its programs of social justice. Yet the Carter administration has already refused to give budgetary approval ^{for} ~~of~~ extending the Supplemental Security Income ^{program} ~~A~~ to Puerto Rico, which would have been a God-send to 180,000 of the most disadvantaged Puerto Ricans. It would have raised the benefits to the elderly ^{and disabled} ~~from~~ the present level below \$20 a month to \$177, ~~and of the disabled from \$14.31 to the same \$177 level.~~

If the Carter Administration put such a low price on social programs for Puerto Rico before the present international tension, what will it do when it begins to add tens of billions of dollars to the defense bill? It is already clear that the social programs will suffer. Will they be cut back even further? Will the Food Stamp program be cut, among the casualties? None of us can feel reassured by ^{the} ~~our~~ growing ^{signs} ~~awareness~~ of where the Administration places its priorities.

The Carter priorities are the priorities of the most conservative Republicans, ^{but} ~~and~~ I am a Democrat and proud of it. As a Democrat, I believe we must care about people first.

There is no evidence, moreover, that this administration is -even at this late date - - prepared to do anything serious

about the cancer of inflation which is gnawing away at the budget of every family. Nor that it is prepared to come seriously to grips with the dangerous energy crisis which makes all of us hostage to possible shut-off of oil from the Persian Gulf.

These are vital questions, yet for lack of a serious, consistent policy and program by this Administration, our inflation is getting worse and our energy problem is becoming increasingly dangerous. These basic problems are key to ~~both~~ our domestic, economic and social strength, ^{and} ~~but~~ also to our military and political strength as a nation. Unless we put our energy house in order, our strength and credibility will continue to fall; unless we tackle inflation seriously, our economic strength and our social fiber will continue to erode. Yet the Carter Administration has failed disastrously to cope with these problems, and it has not even addressed itself seriously and forcefully to them.

I have made clear

~~Exxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~/what I propose:

1) We must adopt gasoline rationing without delay - - not rationing by price, as the Administration has decreed, but rationing in a way that demands ~~and~~ equal sacrifice from all of us, so that the millionaire in Texas will not have more right to gasoline than the worker or the bank clerk in Puerto Rico.

2) We must put a six-month freeze on inflation, by imposing mandatory controls across the board - - not only on prices and wages, but also on profits, dividends, interest rates and rent.

3) We must also, ^{energetically} ~~with speed~~, tackle the long-run causes of inflation, by fostering more competition, more investment, and more productivity in our industry.

I am committed to an America where the many who are handicapped, and those who are unemployed, the minority who are not white and the majority who are women will not suffer from economic and social injustice. I am committed to a program where equal pay and opportunity for all men and women will become a reality rather than a fading dream.

I am committed to an America where the state of a person's health is not determined by his wealth. I want to be the President who brings national health insurance to safeguard every family.

I am committed to an America strong enough to deter war - - and wise enough to do the work of peace. I want to be a President who will not rush into a poorly-considered militarism and a new jingoism which can ^{frighten} ~~isolate us from~~ our present and potential friends, ^{and isolate us from them,} I want to improve our military while leaving ample room for peaceful diplomacy, and to make the world a little safer for both diversity and democracy.

I am committed to a world where people of different cultural and historical backgrounds - - like the Puerto Ricans and their fellow-citizens in the United States - - can live and prosper together, joining their forces and their hearts in the never-ending search and struggle for justice, for democracy and for peace.