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Folder Title:

Medal of Freedom Copy 1/15/98 Obledo

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2

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6

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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE | DATE | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|--|------|-------------|
| 001. bio | Biographical sketch of Mario G. Obledo [partial] (3 pages) | n.d. | P6/b(6) |

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Speechwriting
Weiss, Lowell
OA/Box Number: 17200

FOLDER TITLE:

Medal of Freedom Copy 1/15/98 Obledo

2006-0470-F

wr207

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

25TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1996 McClatchy Newspapers, Inc.
Sacramento Bee

April 13, 1996, METRO FINAL

SECTION: METRO; Pg. B1

LENGTH: 987 words

HEADLINE: OBLEDO IS STILL FIGHTING AT 64

BODY:

* Then: From the 1960s to the 1980s, Mario Obledo was one of the most visible Latino politicians in America. One of 14 children of a Mexican American couple in San Antonio, Texas, Obledo helped found the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, which desegregated swimming pools, telephone companies and housing in the Southwest.

His successful battle against at-large districts in San Antonio led to the election of Henry Cisneros, now secretary of housing in the Clinton Administration.

After serving as secretary of California's Health and Welfare Agency from 1975 to 1982, Obledo ran for governor. From 1983 to 1985, he served as president of the 150,000-member League of United Latin American Citizens. From 1986 to 1992, he was chairman of the National Rainbow Coalition, spearheading Jesse Jackson's 1988 presidential run.

* Now: Obledo, who turned 64 Wednesday, still operates on a large stage. For the past year, he has led the California Coalition of Hispanic Organizations, which has taken on Proposition 187 and the beating of Mexicans by two Riverside County sheriff's deputies.

"We've registered 5,000 voters in Sacramento over the last six months," he said. "I think that's the answer to our problems."

Since October, Obledo has met with President Clinton at the White House and with Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo in Mexico City.

Obledo said he assured Clinton he would carry California in November, and told Zedillo he was battling the anti-immigrant sentiments wafting through California.

Stop youth smoking drive seen as success

* Then: In September state health officials announced a stepped-up campaign to stop youth smoking. It has been financed with funds from Proposition 99 funds, passed in 1988 when voters approved a 25-cent tax on each pack of cigarettes to pay for prevention programs.

The \$ 14 million campaign, touted as the toughest in the nation, features education, sales enforcement and advertising. STAKE (Stop Tobacco Access to Kids Enforcement), requires retailers to post signs at counters warning that tobacco sales to youths under 18 are illegal. Department of Health Services investigators, assisted by teen decoys, spot-check retailers. People are

Sacramento Bee, April 13, 1996

urged to report unlawful sales using a toll-free hotline: 1-800-5-ASK-4-ID.

Civil penalties range from \$ 300 for a first violation to \$ 6,000 for five or more within five years.

* Now: Between Dec. 26 and April 4, investigators made 601 compliance checks statewide. Of the 205 illegal sales found, 16 were in Sacramento County.

The hotline drew 12,194 calls between October and March. The majority involved suspected illegal sales, but people also called to learn more about about the program.

So far, the state has fined 125 retailers, and it is still working on the remainder of the cited cases. Seventy-one retailers, including 10 in Sacramento County, have paid a total of \$ 12,500 in fines. Most of the fines, deposited in the state's general fund, were under \$ 250.

"We feel the program has been successful, and we're pleased at the cooperation we have been receiving from the merchants," said Ken August, spokesman for the state DHS.

"There is an increasing level of awareness about the dangers of tobacco for young people, and we're seeing compliance with the law."

* What do you want to know?

Have a question about what happened on a particular story or event? Call us on BeeLine to leave a message with your query. The number is 552-5252, category 4602.

GRAPHIC: Mario Obledo in 1982

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: April 14, 1996

MARIO G. OBLEDO

MARIO G. OBLEDO has been active in civil/social affairs for over 30 years. His leadership is recognized throughout the country. He co-founded the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) and the National Hispanic Bar Association. He secured the tax-exempt status for the Southwest Voter Registration and Education Project. As Secretary of the Health and Welfare Agency in California (1975-1982), he was instrumental in bringing thousands of Hispanics into state government work. As National President of the League of United Latin-American Citizens (LULAC) (1983-1985), he extended the influence of the organization into the international arena. As the Chairman of the National Rainbow Coalition (1988-1993), he sought to unify the various ethnic, racial and religious groups into a progressive political force in order to change the character and condition of America.

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Sacramento, CA 95812
(916) 441-5000

Washington, D.C.
1314 19th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 835-1555

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

[001]

MARIO G. OBLEDO
Attorney - Consultant
Post Office Box 1026
Sacramento, California 95805
(916) 441-5000
Social Security No. PS(b)(6)

FORMER:

- * Secretary, Health and Welfare - State of California
- * Member of Faculty - Harvard School of Law
- * President and General Counsel - Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)
- * Assistant Attorney General - State of Texas
- * Chairman - National Rainbow Coalition, Inc.
- * National President - LULAC, the largest Hispanic membership organization in America

PRESENT:

- * President - California Coalition of Hispanic Organizations (CCHO)

I. Present Activities:

Consultant in labor law, personnel management, federal and state equal opportunity compliance laws and regulations, civil rights matters, community and public affairs, government relations, health planning-organization, environmental health issues, state and federal legislative and administrative advocacy, western hemisphere trade.



II. Personal:

- * Born in [REDACTED] P6(b)(6)
- * Korean War Veteran - U.S. Navy

[001]

III. Education:

- * Attended public schools in San Antonio, Texas
- * B.S. Degree in Pharmacy, University of Texas, Austin
- * J.D., St. Mary's University, San Antonio, Texas
- * Completed various institutes in pharmacy and law

IV. Special Qualifications:

A. Management and Administration

- * Supervised the largest agency in California State Government - 11 Departments, 45,000 employees, 500 programs, \$14 Billion annual budget (larger than the individual budget of 46 states and most countries of the world).
- * Consultant in personnel management
- * Knowledge in drafting, processing, and implementation of legislation and regulations

B. Community Activities

- * Member - League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC); American GI Forum; Mexican-American Political Association (MAPA); California Coalition of Hispanic Organizations

C. Bilingual

- * Speak, read, and write Spanish

D. Writing Skills

- * Author of several published articles

E. Public Recognition

- * Subject of hundreds of news articles and numerous radio and television commentaries, including live appearances

F. Professional and Community Recognition

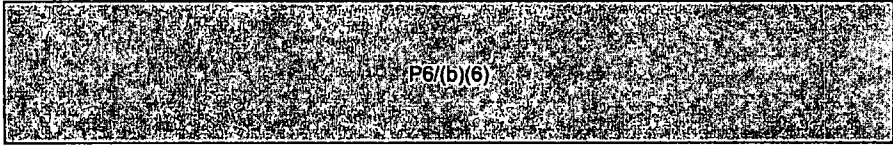
- * Distinguished Urban Service Award - Urban Coalition
- * 1982 Hubert Humphrey Award, American Pharmaceutical Association
- * Recipient of over 1,000 honors

V: Conclusion:

- * Details and references furnished upon request.

###

Name/
Address



Business
Title:

Attorney at Law
Consultant

1101 14th Street, N.W.
Suite 610
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 835-1555

Membership:

- Immediate Past Chairman, Board of Directors, National Rainbow Coalition, Inc.
- Chairman, California Coalition of Hispanic Organizations
- Immediate Past National President - LULAC
- Member - Board of Directors, LULAC Foundation
- Honorary Member - Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday Commission
- Member - Legal and Pharmacy Professional Organizations
- Former Secretary, Health and Welfare Agency, State of California
- Co-founder - MALDEF, Hispanic Bar Association

Awards:

- 1) Distinguished Urban Service Award - National Urban League
- 2) American Pharmaceutical Association Hubert Humphrey Award
- 3) National Hispanic University - Don Quixote Award
- 4) Distinguished Service Award - Mexican American Opportunity Foundation
- 5) Outstanding National President - California State LULAC. Numerous other LULAC awards.
- 6) Received hundreds of awards, plaques, resolutions, certificates, etc., while Secretary of Health and Welfare for California for seven years (1975-82).

1970

SWIMMING POOL DISCRIMINATION

MARLEN, TX → 200 MI →

- FILED LAWSUIT.

COMPU
FILE

TRIED TO GO SWIMMING

WHEN WE DISCRIMINATED WHITE

~~AT~~ of SWIMMING POOL COMMITTEE
WAS STATE DISTRICT JUDGE

M
E
X AMER LEGAL DEFENSE
FUND.

PRESIDENT AT THAT TIME.

OBLEDO

WHEN I WAS YOUNG SAW POLICE ENFORCE
UNEQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

NO SPANISH-SPEAKING TEACHERS

LACK OF COMMUNICATION

DIDN'T KNOW ENGLISH → HELPED BY
A COUPLE
OF TEACHERS

18 WENT TO KOREA

U. TEXAS AT AUSTIN

STARTED
CAREER

L U L A Z
P U A M I
A T E T
U T F I
C O N E R
D R W

WON'T PROVE TO BE BORN IN US
TAKE IT FOR GRANTED / CARRIED TO

PLUS OF GREAT COMBINATION OF
HISPANIC =

Mario G. Obledo

~~A veteran of the Korean War~~ Mario Obledo returned home to face another kind of struggle: the struggle of Hispanic Americans to achieve their rightful place as full members of our society. As national president of the League of United Latin American Citizens, a guiding force in the Southwest Voter Registration and Education Project, co-founder of the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and the National Hispanic Bar Association, and as chairman of the Rainbow Coalition, he has marshaled his abundant talents to benefit those who historically have been denied access to political, economic, and educational opportunities. Uniting the voices of diverse ethnic, racial, and religious groups, Mario Obledo has created a powerful chorus for justice and equality.

118 words

THE WHITE HOUSE

To: 9.8.97
Phil Caplan -

'97 SEP 8 PM 5:34
Phil - here's

Mario's resume -
This doesn't give
enough detail to
show his leadership.
Over the years. He organized
both Mexican American
Political ASSN and MALDEF.
But look at the last
two pages. I've also done
some checking and I
conclude that he would
strongly supported.

Thanks
Maria

pation by Hispanics. Martínez also served as a consultant to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights from 1969 to 1973. In the 1990s, Martínez returned to MALDEF, this time as a member of its board of directors. In 1978 and 1992, Martínez received the medal of excellence from the Columbia Law School as a major figure in civil rights.

Miguel Angel Méndez-Longoria (1942-)

Professor

Méndez-Longoria attended Texas Southmost College and received his law degree from George Washington University Law School in 1968. He was admitted to the Texas bar that same year. He served as a law clerk for the U.S. Court of Claims in Washington, D.C., from 1968 to 1969. He then was legal assistant to U.S. Senator Alan Cranston (D-California) from 1969 to 1971. He was a staff attorney for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) in San Francisco from 1971 to 1972 and was deputy director of California Rural Legal Assistance in San Francisco from 1972 to 1974. From 1975 to 1976, he served as deputy public defender for Monterey County, California. Since 1976, Méndez-Longoria has taught law at the University of Santa Clara Law School, University of California at Berkeley Law School (Boalt Hall), Vermont Law School, University of San Diego Law School, and Stanford University Law School, where he has been a professor since 1984.

Mario G. Obledo (1932-)

Cofounder, Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) and Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF); Past President, League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)

Born in San Antonio, Texas, Obledo attended the University of Texas, where he was awarded a degree in pharmacy. After serving in the Korean war, he returned to Texas and received his law degree from St. Mary's University Law School in 1961. Obledo has been active in Hispanic affairs for over 30 years. In LULAC he has held local, district, state, and national offices, including the presidency. He was also active in the Southwest Voter Registration Project. Obledo has been active in government and is a former Secretary of the California Health and Welfare Agency, where he was instrumental in bringing thousands of Hispanics into state government. Obledo was also assistant attorney general for the state of Texas and has lectured at Harvard Law School. Currently, Obledo is chairman of the National Rainbow Coalition. He has offices in Austin,



Mario G. Obledo.

Texas, Sacramento, California, and Washington, D.C., where he remains active in national politics.

Michael A. Olivas (1951-)

Professor

Olivas attended Pontifical College in Columbus, Ohio, where he was awarded a B.A. degree in 1972 and an M.A. degree in 1974. He then went on to Ohio State University to receive his Ph.D. degree in 1977. Olivas received his law degree from Georgetown University Law School in 1981. He served as director of resources for the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Education Resource Center in Washington, D.C., from 1979 to 1982. In 1982, he began teaching law at the University of Houston Law School. He is director of the Institute for Higher Education Law and Governance there and was named associate dean in 1990.

Andrea S. Ordin (1940-)

Former U.S. Attorney, District of California

Ordin was born in 1940 and attended the University of California, where she received her B.A. degree in 1962 and her law degree in 1965. She served as

1-25-98

Mario G. Obledo

A veteran of the Korean Conflict, Mario Obledo returned home to face another kind of struggle: the struggle of Hispanic Americans to achieve their rightful place as full members of our society. As national president of the League of United Latin American Citizens, a guiding force in the Southwest Voter Registration and Education Project, co-founder of the National Hispanic Bar Association, and as Chairman of the Rainbow Coalition, he has worked to benefit those who historically have been denied access to political, economic, and educational opportunities. Uniting the voices of diverse ethnic, racial, and religious groups, Mario Obledo has created a powerful chorus for justice and equality.

OBLEDO, MARIO GUERRA

Attorney, pharmacist, consultant. **PERSONAL:** Born 1932, San Antonio, TX. **EDUCATION:** Univ of Texas, BS, Pharmacy; St Mary's Univ, JD; Completed various institutes in pharmacy and law. **CAREER:** State of California, secretary, Health & Welfare; Harvard School of Law, faculty; MALDEF, pres & general counsel; State of Texas, assistant attorney general. **ORGANIZATIONS:** National Rainbow Coalition, chmn; LULAC, past national president; Nicaragua Network, chmn, Natl Advisory Bd; California Coalition of Hispanic Organizations, chmn; Legal & Pharmaceutical Professional Organizations, mem. **HONORS/AWARDS:** Distinguished Urban Service Award, National Urban League; American Pharmaceutical Association Hubert Humphrey Award; Natl Hispanic Univ, Don Quixote Award; Distinguished Service Award, Mexican Amer Opportunity Found; Outstanding National President, California State LULAC; Received hundreds of awards, plaques, resolutions, certificates, etc, while secretary of health & welfare, California, 1975-82. **SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS:** Supervised the largest agency in California State Govt; Experienced in organization of training and/or educational confs; Expertise in preparation of budgets; Consultant in personnel mgmt; Knowledge in drafting, processing, an implementation of legislation and regulations. **MILITARY SERVICE:** US Navy, Korean War Veteran. **BUSINESS ADDRESS:** 928 Second St, #300, Sacramento, CA 95814.

100-1-45