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Interview with
Juan Cornejo
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Place of Interview: Crystal City, Texas

Interviewer: Robert Cuellar

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Oral History Collection

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Mr. Cuellar: February 21, 1969, this is Robert Cuellar from North Texas State University speaking with Mr. Juan Cornejo, former city mayor of Crystal City, Texas. Mr. Cornejo, would you give me a background about yourself?

Mr. Cornejo: I was born here in Crystal City in 1930, and I've been living here ever since. Most of that time I was in the county, but sometimes I was in the state of California, and at the time in 1963, I was a representative of the Teamster's Union, Local 657, in Crystal City.

Mr. Cuellar: Okay. How about your education? How far did you get in school?

Mr. Cornejo: I went only to the eighth grade.

Mr. Cuellar: Up to the eighth grade?

Mr. Cornejo: Yes.

Mr. Cuellar: Was that here in Crystal City?

Mr. Cornejo: Six years in Crystal City and two years in the Army.

Mr. Cuellar: Okay. How did you manage to get the employment with the Teamster's Union?

Mr. Cornejo: I helped organize the CALPAC . . . the California Teamster's

Union.

Cuellar: The CALPAC is what? The California . . .

Cornejo: California Packing Corporation.

Cuellar: Were you employed by the Teamster's Union, what, in early 1962 when you . . .

Cornejo: I've been working for them since 1957 on and off.

Cuellar: How did you start the preparations for the 1962 election or '63 election, correction, here in Crystal City?

Cornejo: We started first with having rallies and a poll tax drive, and we tried to get the people interested in work coming up.

Cuellar: Why did you want to get them interested?

Cornejo: We thought it was a time for change here in Crystal City. We had had that mayor for about thirty-eight years in office, and we wanted to find someone to try and get him out of there.

Cuellar: That mayor was who?

Cornejo: Bruce Holsenback.

Cuellar: Holsenback.

Cornejo: Right.

Cuellar: Who was helping you with the campaign to . . .

Cornejo: Well, on the campaign we did it all ourselves, most of our local people here. Of course, we had a lot of help, here some dignitaries out of Dallas someplace there.

Cuellar: Can you tell us more or less everything that you remember from the beginning of the election of 1963? In other words, starting from the time when you organized--when you decided to

call in some help, like you say, outside help, and then go into the election itself and the other four candidates and how you organized the group . . .

Cornejo: The group was already organized here, and there was a group of Teamsters here which has been organized for quite some time. There was no work done in trying to organize a group in itself. Of course, after that we started having rallies, and it spread out to the whole city, not only our Teamster workers but the city as a whole.

And we started out organizing. Then I went to . . . had a great deal to do with Crystal City--giving us the moral support that we needed. Of course, I had a job there. At that time we could move around freely. And then with Pena--Commissioner Pena--we started getting together. We started talking about things that happened in Crystal City, our problems, what could be done, and, of course, in things like this the moral support is the number one thing, and that we got from them--a lot of it.

Cuellar: How about Martin Garcia? Does that name ring a bell?

Cornejo: Martin Garcia was here at the very last moments of our organization actually. It was already done.

Cuellar: But that was before the election.

Cornejo: It was before the election. As a matter of fact, he helped us type the application to print it all.

Cuellar: What role did Carlos Moore play?

Cornejo: Carlos Moore played a main role here. He found information

about what was going on in City Hall, what they were about to do against us and what to expect from them.

Cuellar: In other words, he was working for you.

Cornejo: Right. Well, he looked up there mainly on the election laws and all that that we lacked, at this time knowledge in it.

Cuellar: Who selected the five of you to run?

Cornejo: No one selected anyone. Mainly we didn't know each other at all. I knew only one or two of them briefly, but we were not friends at all. All five of us were persons of different walks of life. We had no familiarities whatsoever with one another. No one selected. We started getting the people interested in the group itself that was forming here, got these people interested in it, but no one selected them at all--I mean, no one in particular selected them.

Cuellar: Okay. Did the five candidates run as a group, as a slate, or individually?

Cornejo: No one ran as an individual . . . as a slate in here. We were running individually, but the opposition chose to give us the name of our five together. As a matter of fact, there was thirteen persons running for that time. One group there already was the incumbents. There was a third group composed of three persons. And for some reason they chose those five to be with us. It so happened that after a while since we had been identified with those five, we started working for the five.

Cuellar: How about the reaction of the people? How'd the people react to this sort of campaign?

Cornejo: Well, the people have a lot of trust and faith in the Teamsters. And as a matter of fact the PASO was coming up real fast. And since they had their faith and trust in PASO, who was helping us, they got interested here also. So they started attending our rallies, and the whole thing got started. Of course, we had State Representative Cabell; we had State Representative Jake Johnson; and we had another one that I can't think of. But we had a lot of people from San Antonio helping us out and giving us the moral support that we needed.

Cuellar: Were these people from PASO?

Cornejo: I do not know whether they belonged to PASO or not. They were probably affiliated with PASO. It's very possible they were.

Cuellar: Let's go back a little bit, Mr. Cornejo. There was not a PASO group organized here in 1962, right?

Cornejo: We were given the name of PASO, but there was not a PASO group organized here. The only organization present here was the Teamster's Union, Local 657, here in Crystal City.

Cuellar: Was there a PASO organized after the election?

Cornejo: We tried to get a group together. We did organize a PASO group here in Crystal City.

Cuellar: Who from PASO came in to help you with the election, then?

Cornejo: As a matter of fact, no one from PASO came here to help us with the election, and no one helped us actually with the election itself. Carlos Moore did most of the work himself by telling us the rules and the regulations of what was supposed to be done, like filing and all of that. But, of course, helping us, there was no help.

Cuellar: Well, who paid Martin Garcia?

Cornejo: Martin Garcia at that time, I believe, was being employed by the Teamster's Union. I don't know in what capacity, or what his wages were, or what his position was. But he was employed by the Teamster's Union. He was here for about a week or so, and after that we didn't have any use for him or anyone as far as that anyway.

Cuellar: Okay. Let's go into the campaign now. You organized and finally started running. Once you started campaigning, where did you get all the campaign material?

Cornejo: There was no campaign material for us here. We had several posters, as a matter of fact, of the candidates involved, and Schaeffer put that up, the Teamsters put that up. But we had hand cards. There was all that material involved, as a matter of fact.

Cuellar: How many posters do you think that the Teamsters put up for you?

Cornejo: I really don't remember. There must've been about 100 posters?

Cornejo: Yes, I believe it was about that number.

Cuellar: In other words, the accusation of a lot of people saying that you had a lot of outside help, you feel, is not right?

Cornejo: There was no help whatsoever. I mean, as far as most of the work, all of it was done by local people, except for Carlos Moore, who came here telling us the bylaws and helping us out. But what kind of help they're referring to I question that.

Cuellar: Okay. How about the rallies? Did you have a lot of successful rallies?

Cornejo: That's the most successful thing there is--rally--because that's the only way you can get people there, and it helps the morale. It really helps out, the encouragement, and that is what is good about rallies. In the election of state representatives, they have a lot of encouragement from the Teamsters, and they really respect organized labor. They know that we've got to have organized labor in these communities in order to make a better living. So when they came out for the cause the strength goes up, and encouragement is there.

Cuellar: Would you go on and explain how you organized the rallies or who organized the rallies or who let the people know so that they would be there?

Cornejo: We got a loud speaker. We'd go on streets down here and tell them that we're going to have a rally in a certain place

at a proper time. That's where we'd have our rally. That's the way we got our people out there. We told them by a PA system.

Cuellar: During this time when you were campaigning, how about the opposition? What did they do to counteract your campaign?

Cornejo: They had their campaigns indoors. They don't have them like we do. Most of their campaign is done by telephone, and so you don't expect them to go out in the open at all. They don't. So there are very few things I really can tell you about. I might recall later on what went on, but right now, it's been so long that I just can't.

Cuellar: Was there a lot of discrimination in Crystal City before the election?

Cornejo: Well, we feel that there was some, of course. Of course, people have always complained, but there are always needless protestations on one thing or another. As you can see for yourself I don't have any notes or anything in it. We use blanks, and I just brought them out yesterday. I didn't know you were coming though, and you consider this is a Mexican rendition and that the American rendition . . .

Cuellar: They have . . .

Cornejo: They have two separate records for all utilities, and people felt that the Mexican-American was not even getting represented correctly. We felt that since they had an American rendition there they must have . . .

Cuellar: Let me explain. These are two sets of figures for Crystal City, rendition of property for taxation. They are two booklets, official. One of them has the title of "American Renditions in Town for the Year 1939"; the other one reads "Mexican Renditions for the Year 1939."

Cornejo: Right.

Cuellar: Therefore, going along with the discrimination then, this is what gave the election a lot of impetus.

Cornejo: That is one of the things that really got the election going. Of course, they have always claimed that their water bills are higher than the others, gas bills, and taxation is not at least to their liking.

Cuellar: Yes.

Cornejo: It's very possible that this happens at all times, I don't know. But after that, well, the people became very interested in the city government.

Cuellar: How about your poll tax drive? How did you handle that?

Cornejo: He handled it door-to-door. We went out to their house and told them to register for their poll tax.

Cuellar: Were the people helping you with it mostly Teamsters?

Cornejo: Right. Most of the work that was done here at that time was done by the Teamsters.

Cuellar: How did the management of the CALPAC react to the Teamsters members helping in the . . .

Cornejo: They didn't like it one bit. In fact, they fired several

people because they had some tie-ins with them. People got so stirred up that they were willing to help in any way they could. Each individual was trying to do his part and do something to help in this election. Some of us had signs and others by the Mexican-Americans, who were running and CALPAC didn't like that one bit so he fired some of the workers. My sister and brother were among them. And then so Henry Gonzales was also here and he helped us. He was also representative of the Teamsters I believe, and he helped us get those people back to work.

Cuellar: In other words the Teamsters offered security to those who . . .

Cornejo: To the working people, right.

Cuellar: How about the other ones? They had no security whatsoever?

Cornejo: The rest of them had no security whatsoever.

Cuellar: Did they participate anyway?

Cornejo: Not that I know. Not to my knowledge. The only ones that I can think of is the ones that I know of are Teamster members.

Cuellar: Okay. Now, you had a rally right before the election. Is this correct?

Cornejo: We had them very often, as often as we could do them. But the last rally, by golly, we had about 6,000 people there.

Cuellar: Was that close to the election?

Cornejo: Right. It was the night before the election.

Cuellar: Night before the election. What was the reaction of, in general, of the entire townspeople?

Cornejo: Well, most of them were stirred up, scared or something. Of course, the Mexican-American that participated with us-- and I'm talking about all the working people--were very happy about the results. The opposition did not take it that way. They brought in Captain Allee, who was here before the election. And after that they really got against us, after we won the election. Before I don't recall having any trouble with them, but we did have a lot of trouble afterwards.

Cuellar: Why do you think you had trouble with Captain Allee after the election?

Cornejo: Well, he tried to intimidate me and tried to . . . me, as a matter of fact. We took it to court, but we lost it. But it was really rough at that time. Why he did it I don't know.

Cuellar: Well, before we go into that let's get you elected. The election occurred the day after the big rally in the city. Are you familiar with how the vote went?

Cornejo: I'm familiar with it but not right now. I kept it in records.

Cuellar: They're kept in records. But who came out first? Do you remember?

Cornejo: Malden Allen.

Cuellar: Malden Allen.

Cornejo: Malden Allen.

Cuellar: How do they select the mayor out of the five?

Cornejo: The five councilmen elected draw for it. They do not draw for it but they vote for the mayor and mayor pro tempore.

Cuellar: What position do the other ones take?

Cornejo: Which other ones?

Cuellar: The other members of the city council. In other words they . . .

Cornejo: Councilmen. They are councilmen.

Cuellar: They're just regular councilmen.

Cornejo: That's right. You've got a mayor and a mayor pro tempore. The rest of them are councilmen.

Cuellar: Now about the election. To your knowledge there was no participation from the outside.

Cornejo: Well, I questioned the participation. They never tell us what kind of participation they're asking for CALPAC is loaded with them. We had about 400 Teamsters at that time. And, of course, all these people that were here had something to do with Teamster's Union there and while they were here. I was a Teamster representative myself. While they were here, they were trying to help. When they . . .

Cuellar: Did Schaeffer come over here?

Cornejo: Schaeffer was here regularly. He had some interest in the candidates for the membership.

Cuellar: Did he help the campaign with money?

Cornejo: Not personally, no.

Cuellar: I don't mean personally to you but to the campaign?

Cornejo: Well, they were was helping us with the materials, posters, and gosh, I've forgot the rest of it. We had posters, and what else? We had the hand cards and whatever that possibly could help us, I guess.

Cuellar: How about PASO, the Political Association of Spanish-speaking Organizations? Did they send people any here to help?

Cornejo: Well, Jake Johnson was here. Cabell was here, and I can't think of any other persons. They must have been PASO's. I believe they were PASO's. But from the organization itself, no.

Cuellar: How about Fuentes?

Cornejo: Fuentes? Was he here? As a matter of fact, Fuentes was here. That's right, Fuentes was here at that time.

Cuellar: Okay. Once you were elected, how did you find your job as a mayor of the city? Was it easy to do or did they give you trouble in any way? Just go ahead and explain how you accomplished your job once you got in as mayor.

Cornejo: Well, we accomplished our job, I believe. We didn't have any problems whatsoever. I don't feel that we had any. Of course, I couldn't trust some of the employees that were there, but I didn't have any problems because most of them resigned. They all resigned, as a matter of fact. I wished to hire new personnel. Well, we hired them, and they worked together

to help the city. We didn't have any problems whatsoever as far as managing that city. I'm very happy to say that we came out on top.

Cuellar: Who are some of the people that you hired?

Cornejo: Well, one of the managers was George Asuna out of San Antonio. He was the city manager and one of the most active persons here. As attorney we had old Gothman . . . Arthur Gothman out of San Antonio. The architect was Emmet Toggle of San Antonio. We had people that we could trust, and we didn't have anything to worry about for long because they were capable in their jobs. Then we had a chief of police, strictly a local person. That was Ray Perres. He resigned afterwards. And we had another one Montoya of Eagle Pass . . . Reynaldo Montoya who was a very effective officer, an ex-police officer and very effective. So we didn't have any problems. And like I said, we didn't have no problems whatsoever.

Cuellar: Okay. Once you got in--and this is probably a difficult question, Mr. Cornejo--but do you feel, or as somebody accused you of it, do you feel that once you got in you discriminated against the Anglo-Americans?

Cornejo: No, because the Anglos that were with us resigned. They didn't want no part of us. So we put out the notices for anybody who was interested in those jobs. There was no such thing. As a matter of fact, for police chief we had

no applicants other than two or three Mexican-Americans, but no Anglos. The attorney is an Anglo; the architect was an Anglo. We didn't discriminate against anybody. The clerk was an Anglo. She kept the job. She was there. No, we didn't discriminate against anybody.

Cuellar: This was Mrs. . . .

Cornejo: . . . Bill Bradford.

Cuellar: What kind of role did she play?

Cornejo: She was the clerk.

Cuellar: The city clerk.

Cornejo: The city clerk.

Cuellar: Did you get along okay with her?

Cornejo: Right. I didn't have no problem with her whatsoever.

She was doing a good job trying to help the city.

Cuellar: Did you have any trouble with your own councilmen later on?

Cornejo: Later on we did. We had some problems afterwards. I don't know what caused them anyway, but we did have problems.

Cuellar: What caused problems, do you feel? What kind of problems did you have?

Cornejo: Well, you've got to remember that the council was not selected by anyone in particular. We had interest in the city, but we had others like Malden Allen. He belonged to the opposition. He favored the opposition. He was always giving us a lot of trouble, and then finally we told him we wanted some

change in it. Of course, as soon as he didn't like it we went against each other. That's when our problems got started. But as far as the compliments, personal difficulties, we didn't have any as such.

Cuellar: Okay. We can, I guess, progress to the role of Captain Allee. You had trouble with Captain Allee, right?

Cornejo: Right.

Cuellar: Do you mind going ahead and starting from when you think it began and going on to when . . .

Cornejo: Well, his role in here is unknown to me, but he came here from the very beginning and told me he was going to be here to have law and order. We all appreciated that. We want law and order. But after any election is when more people are very happy and more up and down. That's where the start of the trouble was. He told me to get our people to quiet down. I don't consider anyone my people as far as that's concerned, as far as that goes. And after a while when we had our meetings I was supposed to accept the resignation of James Steel, who was the city manager here.

Cuellar: James who?

Cornejo: James Steel was the city manager, and he made the mistake of sending a letter of resignation. We accepted. Of course, probably it was just a bluff. In my opinion that's what they had planned. Having a city without a manager, they would have to get managers at that time. We had a meeting

and that's the first time I saw Captain Allee stand up.

They took me outside and beat the hell out of me.

Cuellar: Who did? Captain Allee?

Cornejo: Captain Allee and the sheriff, Lloyd Fridden, who was also sheriff for all the county. And that's when we met about twice.

Cuellar: Where did they take you?

Cornejo: Right in the next office.

Cuellar: To the office?

Cornejo: No, I was in my own office. They took us to another office there in the city hall. And so there was all kind of trouble going on.

Cuellar: Did they actually touch you?

Cornejo: Well, definitely. Oh, yes, they sure did, but they deny it, of course. And that's where we went to court and held open the case.

Cuellar: What did Captain Allee, in detail, do to you?

Cornejo: Grabbed me by the collar and shook me and told me he was going to kill me if I kept it up. So in my opinion they were trying to do it to intimidate me and force me to resign. Of course, I did not resign. I went out with my three years.

Cuellar: Well, after that incident did you have any more encounters with him?

Cornejo: Yes. After that we only had one.

Cuellar: One more after that.

Cornejo: Yes, briefly, not physical or anything like that because I went out to Chris Dixie in Houston, who was my attorney at that time. And as soon as the word came out that Chris Dixie was representing me, I had no problem after that.

Cuellar: No?

Cornejo: No. I can't say that I had any problem with him at all. I was lucky that he never interfered with me in any way whatsoever.

Cuellar: Were you at any time so scared of Allee that you would call for help from Fuentes?

Cornejo: Well, I called on Schaeffer out there and Fuentes. And Fuentes came in the airplane and took me out of here. I was scared. I was worried that he was going to carry out the threat. Fuentes came out and picked me up, and Schaeffer met me in San Antonio and led me directly out to Chris Dixie.

Cuellar: Do you feel that Captain Allee is the type of person that would carry out a threat like that to kill someone?

Cornejo: Well, personally I don't know Captain Allee. That was the first time I saw him. I believe he's a native, but I never had any conflict with him before. What he claimed he would. He never carried out his threat so I don't know. The question is there.

Cuellar: How about the other Rangers? Were they more or less the same way as Captain Allee?

Cornejo: I cannot say. I cannot tell you what kind of persons they

were. They never interfered with me.

Cuellar: Not at all.

Cornejo: None whatsoever.

Cuellar: Do you feel that Crystal City, as a city now, came out ahead because of your election? I believe you mentioned that a while ago. In what ways did you go about it?

Cornejo: Well, to what is the question referring? The city itself or improvements?

Cuellar: What improvements . . . yes, what improvements . . .

Cornejo: We've had several improvements, but I cannot say it came out ahead because I was there, but the plans were already there. We only worked for them, and we feel that they should go ahead, and we could have topped them, of course, if we wanted. We felt that we needed improvements, and I believe in improvement.

Cuellar: What kind of improvements went through while you were in?

Cornejo: Well, we had all that southwest part paved and other . . .

Cuellar: Is that mainly Mexican-American?

Cornejo: Mexican-American, right. It's improved. Of course, Anglos used to live there before. Now they moved out of there. There are very beautiful neighborhoods now. We had that big city hall there which came entirely from our time in the office.

Cuellar: In other words you did have a new city hall built.

Cornejo: We've got a beautiful city hall now.

Cuellar: It's a brand new one.

Cornejo: It's brand new.

Cuellar: How about the city manager--Asuna, is that his name?

Cornejo: George Asuna.

Cuellar: Was he effective in his job here?

Cornejo: He was very effective in his job. Of course . . .

Cuellar: Why did he quit?

Cornejo: I don't know. He was asked to resign, I guess. I don't know.

Cuellar: He resigned after your time. Is that correct?

Cornejo: Yes. He resigned or was told to resign, anyway. But he was effective as an administrative man but in my opinion was not effective in directing the working people. No one can be effective in everything. As for directing the working people, I don't believe that he was effective at all.

Cuellar: How about the Mexican-American relations here in this town? Are they any better now, say, after the 1963 election, than before? Or do you feel that there's still a difference between the two ethnic groups?

Cornejo: There is a great difference. I'm not saying that we're not active. We started getting active in any election. Well, when I went out, I could've beat them, and I can beat them any time. The only thing is that beat me was 500 absentee votes and mainly votes from elderly people who were not even registered. They did not have the poll tax. And . . .

Cuellar: Was that in 1965?

Cornejo: '65 when I lost out with 500 votes ahead of me. They were from absentees. There was a doctor here that was signing a certificate that these people were his patients, and then there's a group of people being paid by somebody, I don't know who. Somebody goes out for these elderly people and votes them their way by doing the voting for them. All of this is illegal to start out with because no ballot's supposed to be sent out unless that person is a patient and unable to appear at the polling place. All these persons were not even sick. I visited them, and I have some affidavits here. I went to Texas, to Austin, and I presented the facts to . . . I forgot the name of it. I know the name. They told me they couldn't do nothing about it. They realized they were doing something wrong, but they couldn't do nothing about it.

Cuellar: Is this some government agency?

Cornejo: Right. I went to Austin to the . . . I can't tell you the name of it right now. We were there. I was in San Antonio in civil rights and all that. Of course, I'm very hopeful that now that all the other people are supposed to sign their registration. This will not deal with pickets.

Cuellar: In other words, in 1965 you feel you were defeated because there were irregularities?

Cornejo: There were irregularities here. There was no one to help

us. None of these attorneys would help me out of that. It is hard to get help, and it costs money. We didn't have it.

Cuellar: Why didn't the Teamsters and PASO come and help you again?

Cornejo: I was not working for them at that time. I was no longer working for the Teamsters and PASO. I don't know.

Cuellar: Did you resign from the Teamsters?

Cornejo: I was out of the Teamsters at that time. We had some trouble between the office and myself. I wouldn't go along with it so I was told I was given so many days to take it away or else I'd be out. But it had nothing to do with the office at all or politically.

Cuellar: Do you have anything else to add that you believe is important as far as the relations of the Mexican-American and the Anglo-American in this city?

Cornejo: Well, I cannot put the blame on the Anglo-Americans. They're very good people. Of course, it's a small group of people that is trying to do the controlling, and how they're doing it, I don't know. I trust all the Anglos around here. They're like any citizen. They're interested in the betterment of the city regardless who's there. And they're interested in seeing that every citizen and individual has the same rights to participate in the election they choose. But there is a small group of people that are trying to perpetrate hate. And we cannot blame everyone, of course.

Cuellar: It is not a group of people in the, what, in the Mexican-American or the . . .

Cornejo: No, the Anglo-Americans.

Cuellar: The Anglo-American people?

Cornejo: It's a very small group of people. That is why, I think, it's hard for me to speak entirely against them because I know they're not at fault. It's a very small group of persons and now there are no more. Of course, I'm not going to say anything. They got key positions and all that.

Cuellar: You are planning on running again in the 1969 election. Is this true?

Cornejo: I'm running April 1 once more, and I'm very hopeful since we will know who votes and who doesn't. At that time all the other people that used to live outside, they won't have to vote or we don't know because there's no address. They're not listed and all that. We don't know where they live. There's no address present.

Cuellar: How many other candidates are registered so far?

Cornejo: No one. I'm the first one. At this time I'm the only one. Before it's over there'll be two slates involved.

Cuellar: In other words the people will start . . .

Cornejo: I will have a slate. I will have a full slate before the week is over. Next week, that is.

Cuellar: Have you contacted PASO or the Teamsters?

Cornejo: No, I have not contacted any one at all.

Cuellar: Are you going to?

Cornejo: No, I'm not. I'm going to try to see how we can do locally.

I welcome any moral support they give us, you know, helping us out by giving the people spirit and encouraging them.

That we need badly. We welcome just about any help anyone can give us and what we can give out to someone else, too.

Cuellar: Did you prepare in any way to register the people here?

Cornejo: Well, I worked very little on that. I must tell you. We don't have to register people no more. The people are already encouraged toward that, registering themselves. We had about 3,200 or a little over that. Last year we had 3,600 for the presidential elections and all the county elections which probably accounts for the difference. Since this is a city election, there has never been any interest whatsoever. Probably before there used to be about 800-900 votes. I mean poll taxes. Now we've got over 3,000 registrations which is very good.

Cuellar: Out of that 3,000 or so, how many do you feel are Mexican-American voters?

Cornejo: Over 2,000.

Cuellar: Over 2,000 registered voters.

Cornejo: That's right.

Cuellar: Very fine. Do you feel there's any part of this conversation that should be withheld from the public?

Cornejo: No. I don't feel that it should be withheld from the public.

It's the truth. That's what you want, and that's what we want the people to know.

Cuellar: Okay. We thank you very much, Mr. Cornejo.

Cornejo: You're welcome.