January 3, 1967

Mr. Robert V. Rodriguez, Editor "The Forumeer" 2797 La Jolla Avenue San Jose, California

Dear Bob:

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I hope that Lawrence Martinez, from Denver, Colo., has sent you the information on the hotel accommocations, activities, etc., for the Mid-Year Conference set for February 25, 1967. Lawrence Martinez is the 1967 National Convention Chairman and also has charge of arrangements for the Mid-Year Conference.

As for the agenda, the first and most important item is the Constitution and By-Laws, and as stated at the National Convention, this MiddYear Conference is a so-called 'Constitutional Convention'. Once this matter is taken care of, we will proceed with the other items according to importance and time.

I will be urging all State Chairmen to be present by Friday afternoon since it is my hope that the biggest part of the work on the Constitution can be done Friday afternoon or evening. This would leave us more time on Saturday to consider such items as filing of tax returns, Queen Contest, Project SER, White House Conference, membership drives, etc. I will keep you posted on anything else that may develop between now and the next issue.

The following are some of my activities for the month of December:

Dec. 2, 1966 - Charter presentation for the Clovis, New Mexico GI Forum. Addressed the group.

page 2

Dec. 8, 9, 10 - Was in Kansas City, Missouri, consulting with Job Corps regarding the possibility of recruitment among the potential Mexican-American recruits by the GI Forum.

Dec. 10 - Evening - Received a Human Rights Award during a banquet at the University of New Mexico, from the United Nations Chapter of Albuquerque, for my work in the civil rights field, legislation, etc., during my time with the Forum and as a member of the New Mexico Civil Rights Advisory Committee to the U. S. Civil Rights Commission. (This is the second award of this kind received in our family, since Isabelle was a recipient of same a few years ago.)

Dec. 11 - 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., - Met in Denver with the Denver GI Forum chapters and the Colorado State GI Forum Executive Board in regard to Project SER. Inspected hotel facilities with 1967 National Convention Chairman, Lawrence Martinez, and the other members representing the Convention Committee.

Dec. 11 - 4:45 p.m. - Arrived at Cheyenne, Wyoming. Was greeted at the airport by approximately sixty GI Forum members, including Commanders of the American Legion and the V. F. W. and the caravan was led to the GI Forum building by a police escort. Was main speaker at the banquet given in my honor which was attended by approximately three hundred persons, including delegations from Scottsbluff, Nebraska and Casper, Wyoming. City and County officials were also among those attending.

The Cheyenn GI Forum, under the leadership of Paul Kelley, is outstanding. They have a wonderful GI Forum group and they certainly gave me the 'Red Carpet' treatment. I believe that the GI Forum of Cheyenne has one of the best building facilities that I have seen. (I hope that they have sent you some pictures.) If any group should have activities to report to the bulletin, Cheyenne should be one of them. Dec. 17 - Attended all day hearing as member of the Civil Rights Committee. Heard cases on discrimination in employment, schools, hospitals, etc., in New Mexico.

Receive my best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Louis P. Tellez National Chairman American GI Forum of the US

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cc: Natl. Ofcrs.