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August 1, 1964

OFFICE PHONE

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Hon. Edwin M. Byles Special Assistant to Assistant Secretary of the Navy Room 2049, Main Navy Building Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Byles:

I have just received copy of letter from R. P. Sanchez to you under date of July 30, 1964. I get the impression from Bob's letter that if it is his belief that the GI Forum is committed to the foundation that you have in mind. He indicates that he and his committee are ready to do the preliminary work in efforts to "install the foundation."

I believe that Bob is being a little too optimistic for I, for one, would like to have much more information about this project before I am ready to give my approval to it. Accordingly, I would like to have some kind of prospectus with reference to this project as soon as possible.

I also believe that Bob is exercising rather poor judjment when he advises you that you are not obligated to keep Dr. Hector P. Garcia informed. As the Founder of the GI Forum Dr. Garcia carries a lot of weight in the organization. I do know that he is not favorable to the idea, but I do not mind telling you that I also am very skeptical. I am a firm believer that the GI Forum should be as independent as possible. However, I am willing to explore the idea and to consider its merits, and I am sure that Dr. Garcia would be willing to consider it. However, neither Dr. Garcia nor I are the type to be swept off our feet by the gloss and glitter of something. Rather, we want something of substance that we can get our teeth on and chew to determine the real value and merit.

Sincerely yours,

Ed Idar, Jr.

EIJ/ag