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7/4

AMERICAN G. I. FORUM OF THE U. S.

Veterans Family Organization

621 GABALDON, N.W.

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M.

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Hector P. Garcia
Chairman of National Board
3024 Morgan Ave.
Corpus Christi, Texas

Dear Hector:

First, please tell Violita I received the two checks for \$15.25 and \$21.00.

Secondly, the day before I received your letter to Dionicio Morales, I had some correspondence from Raul Morin in which he told me that a group of 12 persons had voted to organize the GI Forum in Los Angeles. At the same time he wrote and told me that Dionicio Morales was opposing the formation of the GI Forum on grounds that there were already other organizations who were doing the same thing. Ed Roybal also opposed the GI Forum. However, today, I talked to Charles Davis, Senator Chavez's assistant here in Albuquerque and he offered to telephone or write to Roybal on Monday in my presence. Charles Davis is also a relative of Roybal, so I think I can take care of Roybal.

Today I also received a letter from Dionicio in which he again voices opposition to the GI Forum, but only on grounds that they must be careful. He also is afraid the GI Forum will dip in to the membership of the CMAA, and he doesn't want that to happen either. He expressly states this in his letter. I am going to write to him and tell him that we still want his cooperation and that we want him to be a leader in the formation of the GI Forum. I do not think he'll work with Raul because his main interest is with the CMAA, however we do not want any opposition right now. Your letter to Dionicio was as it came out well timed. I'll pursue the matter of the meeting suggested by you and now being asked by Dionicio.

Perhaps right now the main thing to consider is that we have some people actively working in trying to form a GI Forum. I suggest you write to Manuel Avila and tell him the organization has taken its first step and to get in there and pitch by getting these other people he contacted to cooperate. I certainly hope you do not think I have been hasty in the decision to go ahead with Morin and Luna, but we've got to take a chance and start sometime. Furthermore, regardless of when we start it, we'll always have opposition.

Chente