

49 West 96th Street
New York 25, New York

*Dear Alan
For your info
G.L.K.*

March 3, 1952

Dr. Alan Valentine
Committee for a Free Asia
2 Pine Street
San Francisco, California

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Dear Alan:

As prearranged with Brown, I am forwarding
plan of my activities with NAMFREL.

Yours sincerely,

G.L.K. Gabriel L. Kaplan

glk/md

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cc: A. D. Sullivan

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Program of Proposed Activities with NAMFREL

I

Shortly before leaving the Philippines last December, I submitted to NAMFREL's Board of Directors a proposed nine-point activities program, a copy of which is hereto annexed. The Board endorsed the entire program but decided that lack of finances permitted NAMFREL to devote itself to only a part of these activities. I understand that NAMFREL has furnished CFA with a copy of this curtailed program.

I have recommended that CFA allot \$60,000 to defray the first year cost of the NAMFREL program. I believe that with this help NAMFREL will be willing to broaden the scope of its activities and to put into immediate action the entire program originally proposed. The CFA grant will not and is not intended to defray the cost of NAMFREL's operations. NAMFREL has about 35 provincial chapters. The basic operating expenses for each of these will approximate \$250 a month. This means an over-all expense of over \$100,000 yearly. And this is exclusive of the cost of servicing such central (Manila office) activities as the proposed NAMFREL news sheet and the legislative reporting service.

One of the most important, and perhaps the most difficult, of my tasks therefore will be to get NAMFREL to raise from indigenous sources throughout the Philippine Republic the money counterpart necessary to carry on the nation-wide organizational

effort contemplated by this program. While it would be idle for me to promise success in this direction, I intend to spur NAMFREL at least to match the amount of financial aid which it receives from CFA. I consider this to be of paramount importance. Whatever activities are embarked on must be exclusively Filipino-led, and, so far as possible, Filipino-financed. Our efforts will be well received and warmly appreciated only if confined to the realm of suggestion and advice and if it be recognized that our financial aid is proffered not for the purpose of buying NAMFREL's cooperation but for the purpose of permitting NAMFREL to embark upon a broad and self-determined course to preserve democracy in the Philippines.

II

My mission will be to help fashion NAMFREL into a civic organization with aims and purposes similar to the N. Y. City Citizens Union, the N. Y. State Civic Legislative League, the N. Y. State Association against Election Frauds, the League of Women Voters, the Philadelphia Committee of Seventy.

Under the auspices of NAMFREL and its affiliated organizations I intend to continue the activities which I carried on during October-December, 1951. Specifically, I plan to undertake the following:

- (a) To conduct surveys into the condition of public administration in the fields of the franchise, land resettlement, agricultural tenancy, education,

public health, taxation, civil service, law enforcement and local self-government. Whenever such survey findings indicate the need for corrective legislative, administrative or communal action, I will attempt to have NAMFREL take the necessary steps to initiate and accomplish such action.

With respect to these particular activities I have requested the aid of a research assistant. Particularly suited for this task would be Mr. James J. Dalton, 2615 Guilford Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Mr. Dalton is a Fulbright scholar, a political science major, and as of last December had spent almost two years in the Philippines closely observing the work of the standing committees of the Philippine legislature and the Philippine Commission on Elections.

(b) To help NAMFREL procure from Philippine or American sources (e.g., U.S.I.S., E.C.A.) the necessary materiel, manpower and finances to carry out its program.

(c) To help NAMFREL procure for its program the support and cooperation of Philippine governmental leaders, executive, legislative and administrative.

(d) To sponsor the NAMFREL program in appearances before and addresses to teacher, student, business and civic convocations, conventions and audiences throughout the Republic. Pursuant to CFA directive this

activity will avoid any appearance of intervention in local political controversies and will be designed to stimulate broader civic participation in local and national affairs and increased education as to the perquisites of democratic action.

III

I see no present reason why the entire nine-point NAMFREL program cannot be launched in the first year of this project. Priority would be given to Points 1, 2, 3 and 5.

In connection with Point 5, representatives of the Carrie Chapman Catt Fund and of the N. Y. State League of Women Voters have recently informed me that they are anxious immediately to undertake a campaign to gather and forward through CFA to the Philippines books and periodicals for use in public schools and in barrio reading rooms. These same representatives have indicated their interest in organizing an interchange of correspondence between Philippine and American school children.

Some short-range objectives of this project may be accomplished within the next two years. These include legislative revision of the election laws and redesign of the land settlement program. Other objectives (e.g., redesign of tax collection structure, civil service reform, eradication of private provincial armies) may be accomplished within the next five

years. Still other objectives (e.g., constitutional revision in order to permit increased provincial and municipal home rule) may not be reached in less than ten years.

IV

The project will entail extensive interprovincial travel. During October-December, 1951, I travelled to and through thirteen provinces in the central and southern Philippines. About one-third of my time was taken up in travel. Since an integral part of the proposed project is to stimulate the activities of all of NAMFREL's provincial chapters it is quite probable that during the first year I will be in the field between one-fourth and one-third of the time.

V

It is proposed that for the first year of this program CFA allocate the sum of \$100,000, to be expended as follows:

1) To implement NAMFREL Program	\$60,000
Cost of NAMFREL Newsletter	\$10,000
Legislative Reporting Service	5,000
Public Education and Information Programs	10,000
Administrative expenses of headquarters and of provincial chapters	<u>35,000</u>
	<u>\$60,000</u>

2) To finance Kaplan's Public Administration Surveys and Duties as NAMFREL's liason

\$40,000

Research Assistant	\$ 6,000
Stenographic and clerical services	5,000
Office Rent, services and supplies	8,000
Representation allowance (living standards adjustment)	6,000
Travel expenses	6,000
Entertainment, Gifts, Donations and Subsidies	<u>9,000</u>
	<u>\$40,000</u>

In addition to the foregoing operation costs, it will be necessary for CFA to defray the capital expenses of between \$7,500 and \$10,000 for establishing Manila CFA headquarters and home for CFA representative and his family.

NAMFREL NINE-POINT PROGRAM

1. Publication of a NAMFREL mimeograph news sheet, the contents of which would be furnished by NAMFREL chapters throughout the nation. Such an organ would permit NAMFREL to serve as a national sounding board for locally conceived community programs. It would also serve to inform and guide local chapters in matters of national interest.

2. Establishment of a legislative reporting service which will analyze current legislative proposals and furnish the basis for NAMFREL news releases or newsletter comment with respect to such legislation and to the legislative records of the members of the Congress and of the Senate.

3. Sponsorship of post-legislative session public rallies at which the members of the Congress and the Senate could report to their local constituency and be questioned about their legislative records and views.

4. Encouragement of non-partisan evaluation of political candidates and, collaterally, the stimulation of public participation in political activities.

5. Coordination of the United States Information Service with NAMFREL chapters throughout the nation, with the resultant output of reading and visual aids material designed for optimum local receptivity. This suggestion could be coupled with the establishment of barrio reading rooms.

6. Sponsorship of local NAMFREL town and country fairs, patterned after U. S. state fairs, with pertinent side-show exhibitions and lectures in the field of agriculture, animal husbandry and domestic arts.

7. Sponsorship of 4-H clubs in agricultural communities, of community welfare organizations in urban communities and, in the latter instance, promotion of civic drives for parks, playgrounds, swimming pools and cultural and recreational centers.

8. Recruitment of volunteer school teachers as instructors in adult education programs launched by area NAMFREL chapters.

*9. Decentralization of NAMFREL into at least three geographical spheres with headquarters as indicated: (a) The Ilocano area with headquarters at Vigan, (b) Central and South Luzon and the Bicol area, with headquarters at Manila, (c) the Visayan and Mindanao area, with headquarters at Cebu. Such an organizational plan would foster the mutual acquaintanceship of the NAMFREL

chapter leaders, allow them to plan for and execute area programs and would harness the spirit of neighborly unity into the drive to create a sound government and happy communities. Central direction from Manila, under a National Coordinator would be an integral feature of this suggestion, as would a provision that at least one NAMFREL member from each of the above-described areas be elected to membership on NAMFREL's national board.

- * It is understood that decentralization into eight, rather than three, geographical areas, as proposed above, is being accomplished.