

THE LETTER NO ONE WANTED TO PUBLISH OR READ TO  
THE PEOPLE

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ANDERSON, WEST VIRGINIA

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DEAR SISTER LOLITA:

Thank you for your letter of March 15, 1973, which stimulated my spirits and of the other militants boared in these dungeons of Rockefeller. I pointed out to them that if you, with 20 years of encarceration, are able besides keeping the Nationalist ideals alive which Don Pedro Albizu Campos left to us, fight for the rights of the prisoners, we in the Clinton prison should at least, resist with vigor the oppression of these sadist guards. In view of the long sentences of no less than 8 years which the majority of the prisoners are serving, the level of resistance should be higher than what it is.

The reality is that even though the enemy starts war against us in Puerto Rico, in the Barrios of the United States and here in prison, the majority of us remain paralyzed, without spirit to struggle, and frightened. We surrender to the opresor without defying him, we cooperate with him and receive the unjust beatings passively. The minority that fights the oppression, dose't receive any support by the passive majority. because of it, it's made easier for the enemy to identify the militants and jail them in the dungeons as the ( leaders). They are submitted to abuses, tortures and beatings to break their spirit. Those who keep their convictions firm are transferred to Rockefeller's crazy house, called Center for Corrective Treatment and Evaluation in Adirondack ACTEC located in Dannemora, N.Y. where they're submitted to cerebral experiments to be lobotomized.

You are right Lolita in saying that "This is one of their tactics of the U.S. to destroy the opponents that confront them." They have been selected to be transferred to the crazy house ACTEC. The same is happening to other comrades jailed in these dungeons. Others have been transferred by force to ACTEC; they had to throw teargas inside their cells to get them out. When my turn comes, they will have to do the same thing because I will resist until the end.

It is true as you say, that I am a Socialist, but I am also an inheritor and a follower of the philosophy and revolutionary action of Betances and Pedro Albizu Campos, the fathers of our land. This is why I think that even though the National Liberation Struggle is escalating, it lacks the dynamism of armed struggle. Since the 'Grito de Lares' (Cry of Lares) has been the heroic activity of the Porto Rican revolutionary. Isn't this the revolutionary example left us by Don Pedro, Hiram Rosado, Elias Beuchamp and the other patriots? Isn't this the tradition of revolutionary courage that was objectivized by Oscar Collazo, Griselle Torresola, Rafael Cancel Miranda, Andres Figueroa Cordero, Irving Flores and yourself in the heroic actions of 1950 and 1954?

Why then are those heroic actions not emulated by the thousands of our militants and revolutionary comrades? They are all comforted by the revolutionary rhetoric, thinking that only with words will independence be won. When armed struggle is mentioned, their eyes get clouded with fear and they give you a thousand excuses against revolutionary violence to neutralize the oppressive violence of the enemy. The favorite excuse is; that the Puerto Rican people are not ready for armed struggle; that until everybody awakes politically, nothing can be done.

Tell me Lblita; Was everybody awakened when you and the other patriots confronted the U.S. in 1954? Was everybody awakened when the patriots of our land took up arms in 1868, 1936, 1950, 1954 for the liberation of Puerto Rico? Aren't they acts of illuminated symbols of our independence struggle that woke up the people? Jose Marti told us that the best way to say is to do.

Sure, there are various forms of militancy, that we all can't grab guns to fight for our independence and that the functions inside independentist activities are infinitely diverse. For example, the revolution needs organizers, writers, reporters, distributors of our newspapers and literature, paste up posters, propagandists, fund contributors, pickets, actors, speakers, etc. But, also, the armed guerrilla the nucleus of our liberation army is needed.

The politics and the patriotic rhetoric are necessary, but if they are not substantiated through armed action, they lack power and bravery. This is what Pedro Albizu Campos told us with his famous saying; "In order for the strong ones to hear the weak ones, you'll have to open their ears with bullets."

To sum up, even though the independentist political struggle is escalating, and the files of militants develop and multiply each day, the armed action, however, stays behind. This cripples the independence movement due to the fact that the military arm is too short in comparison with the political arm. That is why Lblita, many of us that are inside and outside of these cages have decided to help in this area with revolutionary acts as you and the other patriots realized in conformity to the philosophy of revolutionary action of Albizu Campos that he left us in 1950:

"There are arms in the police precinct. All of those arms are ours. They have been bought with the money collected by the insular government, as also are the arms of the National Guards all of those arms are ours. And a country filled with courage and dignity cannot be subjugated by imperialism. The one that is not ready to risk his life, must hide. There is nothing for those who seek safety or salvation, or money. If liberation is wanted, we'll have to fight to get it."

This, in capsule form, is my philosophy and my opinion on what we'll have to do to carry out the revolution to its destiny. Let me know what you think about this.

Your Brother in the Struggle,  
Martin Ramirez Sostre