



To the people of Puerto Rico:

The *Comandos Revolucionarios del Pueblo* (the People's Revolutionary Commandos) fulfill our responsibility of denouncing before the Puerto Rican people and before the world the painful situation being experienced by *compañeros* Nydia Esther Cuevas and Pablo Marcano, political prisoners of yankee imperialism.

On July 3rd this bold couple, unbreakable symbol of the purest Puerto Rican dignity, occupied the offices of the Chilean consulate in San Juan. This action had as its only objective to indicate the consciousness of the Puerto Ricans about the opprobrious July 4th yankee celebrations and about the already too-long imprisonment of the Nationalist heroes. There was no violence during their action. All the people, including the Chilean Consul himself, have recognized the great humanism that guides these two *compañeros*.

Now, humiliated internationally, the yankees and their colonial lackeys seek to destroy Nydia and Pablo. They know that this heroic couple symbolizes the most precious aspects of Puerto Rican nationality, and more than that, the spark that could cause our people to light the powderkeg that is Puerto Rico, sunk in crisis today. The yankees want to imprison Nydia and Pablo in order to intimidate Puerto Ricans, and especially the youth who openly demonstrate their contempt for imperialist oppression. They want to imprison Nydia and Pablo, and what they represent.

To achieve this objective, imperialism has chosen as its instrument Judge Juan R. Torruella. In 1933 *El Maestro* Don Pedro Albizu Campos warned: "It is not convenient for any empire to exercise tyranny openly; and it always hides behind the despotism of the natives of the intervened nation." Torruella is an example of this practice.

Since their imprisonment, Nydia and Pablo have personally suffered the excesses of the imperialists. In the first place, an astronomical bail was fixed—ten times that which is set for a murderer or a child rapist. After the bail was lowered, property was put up for their freedom. Nevertheless, the secretary of the court estimated the value of these properties at far below their real value, in this way impeding the freedom of these brave comrades.

Torruella has simply put on the finishing touches. He has tried all the methods available to be partial in the case against Nydia and Pablo. First, he refused to accept the resignation of lawyers Rechani and Segal, when they alleged ideological differences with their clients. This denial was made in spite of the allegations of Nydia and Pablo that their lawyers were trying to convince them to declare themselves guilty, restricting in this way the right of the comrades to have lawyers truly identifying with their defense. At the same time,

members of the jury were disqualified for the mere fact of sympathizing with the independence of our Fatherland.

Moreover, Torruella has attempted to "muzzle," through judicial orders, the lawyers, treating them as if they were on trial themselves, in a desperate attempt to hush up the truth.

Proving beyond doubt his arbitrary partiality, he has rejected the statements of a doctor about the precarious health of *compañera* Nydia Esther Cuevas and has made the decision to go full speed ahead with the trial.

The intentions of imperialism, demonstrated by its go-between Torruella, are clear: resolve the case as quickly as possible, and obtain a long sentence for a couple whose only crime has been to be dignified in a country led by immoral and insensitive rulers.

It is before this same pro-imperialist judge that the colonial government in power is now bringing its supposed case "against" the presence of the yankee navy in the Puerto Rican territory of Vieques. What justice can the people of Vieques expect from this farce, staged by the government of the colony before this lapdog of imperialism?

We denounce the trial against Nydia and Pablo as a political trial, against fighters for our independence, just as we denounce the case "against" the yankee navy as an imperialist trick to divert these brave people from the truly valuable methods of struggle: the struggle of the people in the streets and the armed struggle against our oppressors.

It particularly pains us to see these two *compañeros* alone, politically alone, without a political defense that comes from the street to defend them in the imperialist courts, and that brings from the courts to the streets and to the people a case of such magnitude and importance as this case is.

And even more, it pains us to see them alone in a moment in which we still feel the freshly-spilled blood of heroes Arnaldo Darío Rosado and Carlos Soto Arriví.

We call on our people to defend all of our persecuted *políticos* from Nydia and Pablo to the enormous group of patriots arrested since July 24: all of them *independentistas*—affiliated with organizations or not—who fight for the freedom and independence of our people.

For Nydia and Pablo; for the eight *compañeros*, victims of the police conspiracy in which González Malavé took part; for all the persecuted *políticos*—our most affectionate love. Courage, *compañeros*! Freedom and justice will soon triumph!

For the yankee FBI and their paid assassins in the colonial police, we will not make attempts against the lives of Torruella or any other judicial varmint. For him, for all like him who kiss the boots of the yankee invader—your time will come before the true justice: the people's justice. The people, organized, exercising revolutionary violence will be your judge.

Only people's war will save the people.

DE PIE Y EN GUERRA
COMANDOS REVOLUCIONARIOS DEL PUEBLO (CRP)