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Que Ondee Sola- October 1977

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QUE ONDEE SOLA

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

OCTOBER 21, 1977

ANDRES IS FREE

On October 6, 1977, Andres Figueroa Cordero was freed after President Carter signed for his release after 23 years of imprisonment. President

Carter's reason for releasing Andres was to protect his image in his campaign for human rights. He was being pressured nationally as well as internationally by groups who saw the contradiction in Carter's campaign to bring human rights to the outer world when he doesn't even enforce it here, in the U.S.

Within the last ten years Andres has been suffering from cancer which the government first denied he ever had. Before he was released, a cancer specialist was called in by Independentistas to examine Andres's condition. The doctor was not allowed to see Andres or his medical records without a court order.

(Continued on page 2)



Andres Figueroa Cordero

INSIDE:

Political Commentary	p. 2
Letelier Inquiry	p. 3
Max Torres	p. 3
Resistance continues	p. 5
Historical column	p. 6
Bakke decision	p. 7
Iranian students	p. 8

ANDRES

(Continued from page 1)

During the examination, the doctor found that Andres had pneumonia and a tumor in his left lung, also, a tumor in his bronchial tube. He also found that according to the medical records Andres had not received proper medical care. The doctors also concluded that Andres only has a few weeks, maybe days, to live.

Right after his release Andres came straight to Chicago before going to San Juan the next morning. He was greeted by supporters at the airport and was brought to a community church where the people held a reunion. There he spoke to the people of his never dying commitment to the liberation movement of Puerto-Rico. When asked what he wanted most after that, he answered, "Puerto Rican food."

Andres Figueroa Cordero was born in Aguada, Puerto Rico in 1924. At the age of 13 he joined the Pro-Independence Youth Congress (Congreso Juvenil Pro-Independencia). In 1944, he joined the Nationalist Party. On March 1st, 1954, Andres took part in the shooting of the House of Representatives along with three other patriots, Irving Flores, Rafael Cancel Miranda and Lolita Lebron. The reason for attacking the House was to "bring the attention of the American people that Puerto Rico is not free," despite the label of "Free Associated State" and Law 600. The U.S. media tried to discredit the Nationalists by referring to them as fanatics and terrorists, not as patriots of a colonized country.

Before them, there was a similar outcry during the Jayuya revolt in Puerto Rico. On November 1st, 1950, two nationalists, Oscar Collazo and Gricelio Torresola attacked the Blair House in Washington, where President Truman was staying. Torresola was killed in the attempt and Oscar Collazo was sentenced to death which Truman later commuted to life imprisonment.

All five of the nationalists had the power of freeing themselves. All they had to do is ask for a pardon of the government and not involve themselves in the liberation struggle of Puerto Rico. Puerto Rico's liberation is what the Five have dedicated their lives to. They do not recognize U.S. government jurisdiction over Puerto Rico and consider themselves prisoners of war; therefore, asking for pardon is out of the question.

What is happening to Andres is very similar to the case of "El Maestro" who was also imprisoned and was released with a fatal health condition. He soon died after his release.

When Andres arrived in San Juan he stated that he was freed by the American people and not the government. He also stated that the only way Puerto Rico can get her independence is with a bullet.

Political Commentary

The release of Andres Figueroa Cordero is a massive victory for the Puerto Rican people, the independence movement, and for oppressed people everywhere. But it is also much more than that. His release teaches us an important lesson about what advances revolutionary work, what is necessary for it to be successful. The lesson of Andres Figueroa Cordero is **never to compromise revolutionary principles**, for to do so would be to betray the revolution itself.

During all his years in prison, despite his critical illness and incessant pressure from the U.S. GOVERNMENT TO ASK FOR CLEMENCY, Andres never compromised. He never asked for "forgiveness", he never asked for clemency. What was done by the Nationalist Prisoners was the highest act of revolutionary dedication. Those who best love their country, are those who will fight for it.

The actions of the 5 were right then, they are still right today. They understood that Puerto Rico was at war with the U.S., from the first day that U.S. military troops set foot on the island. There are those today who have learned from that example, and who carry on that courageous work. War is still being waged against the U.S. imperialists, though now in different hands, in another generation.

We know that the heroic Nationalist Prisoners are not political prisoners, no martyrs, but prisoners of war. They do not deserve our sympathy, the cause they served deserves our allegiance. Our task is not to glorify them, but to take their places.

¡Viva Puerto Rico Libre y Socialista! ¡Viva Andres Figueroa Cordero y Todos los Presos Nacionales de la Guerra de Liberación!

Looking for Volunteer Work

CHALLENGE, a program of rehabilitation for ex-offenders, are seeking students to do volunteer work with the program. Participation in this program would benefit the student theoretically as well as experientially. **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: CAROLE BAILEY, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR AT 322-4725.**

LETELIER INQUIRY POINTS TO JUNTA

NEW YORK (Internews/NNS) — The Justice Department may be close to maning the murderers of Orlando Letelier and Ronni Karpen Moffitt, who were killed in Washington, D.C., last September by a shaped plastic bomb placed under Letelier's car. According to federal sources cited by Jack Anderson in a recent column, Manuel Contreras Supulveda — then head of the DINA, Chile's secret police, — ordered the assassination, which was carried out by a team of anti-Castro terrorists. Anderson also says that "some Justice Department sources speculate that Chilean president Augusto Pinochet himself personally suggested the assassination." As a result of their investigations, U.S. prosecutors are now — in Anderson's words — "Trying to figure out how to get testimony from Chileans with diplomatic immunity and how to extradite potential defendants from Chile."

Saul Landau, who has helped direct the investigation of the murders from the Institute for Policy Studies (ISP), where Letelier and Moffitt worked, told Internews that Anderson's information paralleled that gathered by I.S.P.

Orlando Letelier, who had been ambassador to the United States from the government of Salvador Allende (and later Minister of Defense in his last cabinet), was a key leader of Chilean exiles in their struggle to organize opposition to the junta in the United States and elsewhere. The junta was reportedly threatened by Letelier's leadership abilities, and infuriated by his success in limiting the flow of international loans and investments to Chile.

According to Anderson and other sources close to the investigation, the decision to kill Letelier was made at the highest levels of the Chilean government, and then, in the spring of 1976, DINA agents met with leaders of Brigade 2506 (the CIA-trained Bay of Pigs Veterans Unit) in Miami to make the preliminary arrangements. The meeting was reportedly set up by a DINA agent posing as a Chilean diplomat in Miami. Brigade 2506 in turn subcontracted the "hit" to a highly trained explosives team. The details for the killing were worked out at a secrets June 1976 meeting of the CORU, an umbrella organization of Cuba exile groups, near Bonao in the Dominican Republic. Brigade 2506 submitted the details to a Chilean case officer assigned by the DINA to oversee the operation, and he gave the green light in late August. Surveillance of Letelier's daily routines then

(Continued on page 8)

MAXIMO TORRES DOES IT AGAIN!!

Now that we have been in school for almost two months, how have the new students of Proyecto Pa'lante fared in terms of scholastic achievement and in their sense of a peoplehood? ... As an observer myself, I can only say that the new students seem very aware of the problems which face us as students here on campus. The only thing would be for those of us who have been here the longest to give direction to our new brothers and sisters.

Proyecto Pa'lante with its present coordinator Maximino Torres is only interested in getting students in for September, and then totally forgets about them. Many complaints by students have been brought to our attention as to the cold way Mr. Torres has avoided issues with the very same students who make up the bulk of Proyecto Pa'lante. These issues consist of financial aid problems which are the same year after year. Other problems deal with the classes some students have been forced to take. IN MANY OF THE CLASSES, THE INSTRUCTORS HAVE BECOME INDIFFERENT TO OUR PEOPLE'S NEEDS, THEREFORE CAUSING SERIOUS ACADEMIC PROBLEMS THIS EARLY IN THE YEAR. The result culminates in the slow process of elimination among our people here on campus.

If not for Jaime Delgado and Santos Rivera, Proyecto Pa'lante would be in sad shape. These two brothers work overtime to insure that our people get something out of coming to school. Also, they correct the mistakes of Maximino Torres. Some of these mistakes are also made by a certain work-study person, (who will remain nameless at this time) who was handpicked by Max himself to deter the work that has to be done. Proyecto Pa'lante is not only for freshman. It is the duty of all Latinos to be aware of the problems and help fight the administrators who control this program which in turn governs our future!

Further developments on Proyecto Pa'lante will be printed in the next issue.



RESISTANCE CONTINUES:

An interview from Prison with the Rosado Bros.

"We are brothers twice over. We first became brothers by blood, born in the same family. The second time, the most important time, we became brothers in our ideas, in our common work in serving our people" — Fidel Castro, speaking about his brother Raul.

This quote seems a very good way to open an interview with the Rosado brothers, Julio, Luis, and Andres. Three brothers, three companeros, jailed this August for their refusal to cooperate with the U.S. govt's attack on the Puerto Rican independence movement. Their specific "crime," refusal to answer a Federal Grand jury. Their real crime? It is one we should all hope to commit, the "crime" of serving their people. The Rosado brothers believe that a free Puerto Rico must exist, and actively work with their people to see that "Viva Puerto Rico Libre" is a reality. They have also worked side by side with the people in their communities, in struggling for decent lives, decent futures. By their refusal to cooperate, these men have joined their other brothers and sisters in New York, Chicago, Puerto Rico, the Southwest, all across this country; standing up for principles, and fighting for national liberation and self-determination.

This interview comes to *Que Ondee Sola* from New York City, where the Rosado brothers are presently jailed.

Q. Do you feel that your refusal to testify has advanced the work the movement has undertaken, even though you are now in jail, along with many others?

A. There is no question but that our refusal to testify before the grand jury is an important contribution to the revolutionary principles of the Puerto Rican independence movement. What we have done in *not* testifying is set an example for others. It does not, in and by itself, advance the movement. What advances the movement is its own ability to transform our imprisonment into a campaign *against* repression and *for* national liberation. It is this transformation that is to mobilize the independence forces and link-up with the fight of the working class for economic and political power.

Q. What areas of unity do you see are between the Puerto Rican independence movement and the Chicano/Mexicano struggle for self-determination?

A. The Chicano/Mexicano people and the Puerto Rican people in the U.S. are *one people* with very few differences in reality. This is very important to understand. Historically, we have almost the same culture and history of repression. Politically, we have a great deal in common in urban areas. Where differences most exist are in rural areas. Nevertheless, if we come together in practice, that unity will greatly be advanced.

Q. How has harrassment come down in New York City?

A. Harrassment in N.Y.C. has been no different than anywhere else. The FBI interrogate, intimidate, and lie. They continue ther break-ins, wiretaps, and all the rest of the methods they used before. Nothing has changed.

Q. More specifically, how have your families suffered?

A. The harrassment of our families has been very broad. Economically, we ourselves have been hit very hard, since the ones now in prison provided the main family income. Socially, the FBI has tried to isolate us and ruin the reputation of ourselves and our families, but has failed. Politically, they have sought to deprive us of support, but are failing in that, also.

Q. How do you see grand juries as tools of repression?

A. Grand juries for political repression are relatively new. They are an addition to all other proven methods of repression. The movement must clearly understand this in fighting for an end to repression and our release. To do this effectively, we must mobilize large numbers of people, while maintaining the principles of unity we have laid down in organizing the National Committee Against Grand Jury Repression. Out of this broad mobilization and education will come still more people to make up the Committees at the local level and expand our work.

Q. Do you have a final message or statement for us?

A. We reaffirm our support for the total effort of Puerto Rican national liberation and unity of the left in the U.S. We would like to see a greater amount of coordination in the liberation effort, and finally, more maturity in the U.S. left.

HELP BROINQUENA CAMPUS

There is going to be a disco and banquet at 1305 N. Hamlin on October 22th. The time: 6:30. It is a fund raiser so they are asking \$3.50 admission. Come on down and party!

U. P. R. S. presents Halloween Party



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MEETS ON
TUESDAYS AT
1:00 in P 1**

EL GRITO DE JAYUYA:

The Glorious Transfiguration

On the early morning of October 30, 1950, the shot that was to be heard round the island was fired in Penuelas, Puerto Rico. The news of this incident spread throughout the island. The Nationalists, under the capable political leadership of Albizu Campos, and under the military command of Lopez de Victoria, rose in arms against the attempt of the U.S. government, and its insular colonial cohorts, to annihilate them. This armed confrontation had deep roots.

On December 15, 1947, Don Pedro Albizu Campos had returned to his beloved homeland after ten years imprisonment and self-imposed exile. It was estimated that well over 50,000 of his countrymen jubilantly welcomed him. Upon disembarkment, he was asked by the custom's officer if he had any seeds in his possession. Albizu answered, "I have brought the same seed which I left with." What did Albizu mean by this?

In his address to the militant crowd, gathered at Sixto Escobar stadium, he gave the answer. He announced that the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico would continue to follow the same policy of non-collaboration on any level of the colonial regime, be it local or federal, which had characterized it in the 1930's. This meant that the Nationalists were not about to compromise their original principle that Puerto Rico was a militarily intervened nation. And, therefore, Puerto Rico was a nation at war with the invaders. This war had been initiated by the U.S. Armed Forces when they invaded the island on July 25, 1898, and attempted to undo every vestige of Puerto Rican nationhood. Thus the Nationalists were bent upon renewing their struggle against imperialism, which, of course, would lead to eventual armed confrontation; for as Albizu had stated, "the mighty will not listen to the small, unless their ears are open with a gun." He had, also, stated "our independence will not be discussed, and if it is, it will be at gunpoint."

Albizu's hypnotizing and well-reasoned oratory fell on receptive ears. Young men refused to enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces, and others refused to be drafted; the students at the University of Puerto Rico declared a general strike and took to the streets; and in the election of 1948—the first time the Puerto Ricans were permitted to elect their own colonial governor—42 percent of the electorate abstained from voting.

A revolutionary spirit was haunting the island. The Cadets of the Republic defiantly marched down amid the streets of the island's towns. Nationalism had to be stopped. Realizing the inability of the colonial government to deal with the Nationalist menace, President Truman decided to take matters into his own hands. He dispatched his Secretary of War, Louis Johnson, to Puerto Rico to carry forth a genocidal campaign aimed at incarcerating or annihilating the Nationalists. The effectiveness of Law 53 (ley de la mordaza — muzzle law), also known as the little Smith Act, passed by the colonial legislature, was not to be tested. People were jailed for flying the Puerto Rican flag above their houses, or for singing the National Anthem. Law 53, forbade anyone from openly advocating independence; anyone so doing was subject to prosecution and imprisonment. This law gave the colonial regime almost unlimited powers to deal with the Nationalists. By mid-October, Nationalists in large numbers, were being frisked, illegally detained, and even imprisoned. The Nationalists sensed that another Ponce Massacre—which had left 21 dead and 200 wounded—was in the makings; but this time they were not going to stand-by and be slaughtered, they were determined to fight back.

At 5:00 a.m. October 30th, a group of Nationalists, who were stopped by the colonial police on the main road to Penuelas, opened fire as they were being attacked. The Penuelas incident set off a violent reaction. From Fajardo on the east to Mayaguez on the west, thousands of Puerto Ricans took to the streets. In Arecibo, the District Police Station was attacked, captured, and ammunition taken. In Fajardo, Naranjito, Toa Alta, Utuado, Mayaguez, San Juan, Penuelas, Jayuya, and as far away as Washington D.C., armed actions were registered.

The revolt had a major impact on four cities on the island. In the central town of Jayuya, the Nationalist commandoes, under the courageous and capable leadership of Blanca Canales, Elio Torresola, and Carlos Irizarry, received the overwhelming support of the population, and proclaimed the Second Republic of Puerto Rico. The people of Jayuya were so steadfast in their resistance, that it took the threat of the National Guard to dynamite the area surrounding the town, for the revolutionaries to finally surrender. In Utuado, the Nationalists' homes and businesses were bombed with aircraft by the National Guard under the aegis of the U.S. Air Force. In Mayaguez, the patriots had taken to the mountains where they held out the longest; for two weeks. And, in San Juan commandos attacked the Capitol Building. As the insurgents entered the colonial government's headquarters they

(Continued on page 7)

EL GRITO DE JAYUYA:

(Continued from page 6)

were gunned down. The courageous leader, Raimundo Diaz Pachecho, walked up the stairs as bullets filtered through his body; with each shot he took one step forward.

In the meantime, in New York City, the Nationalist Junta decided to contribute its part to the struggle. Griselio Torresola and Oscar Collazo were sent to attack the most powerful of the three branches of the U.S. government, the presidency. On November 1st, Griselio and Oscar attempting to enter the Blair House, the temporary residence of Truman, where he was sleeping, were met by armed guards. The aftermath of the attack left Griselio dead, Oscar wounded, one guard dead and several injured.

The military defeat of the patriots who participated in the Grito de Jayuya—as this, the most significant and widespread, revolt is known—left 3,000 independentistas in prison, dozens dead, and the initiation of a reign of terror which was to dominate the island for the next six years. The significance of the Grito de Jayuya lies not in disastrous military results, which has to be attributed to the following factors: it was waged totally from a defensive posture; the participants were poorly trained; the means of communicating from one part to another almost non-existent; and there was a lack of a coordinated island-wide military strategy. Its importance lies in the legacy that it left.

On the one hand, the Grito de Jayuya exposed the colonialist nature of Puerto Rican society, and the imperialist cruelties of U.S. domination. In light of this reality it is not accidental that the U.S. government hastened to grant the island political reforms that culminated in the creation of the so-called commonwealth of Puerto Rico in 1952—a lease on the life of islands colonial status.

On the other hand, it proved to the imperialist that after more than a half-century of cultural aggression, economic exploitation, and political oppression the Puerto Rican nationality survived. The island's national dignity had been preserved. As a result, the Grito de Jayuya has come to represent a springboard for the new struggle for Puerto Rico's independence; a struggle which has taken the sword of Don Pedro, and nurtured itself with the thoughts of Marx and Lenin.

The legacy of Jayuya explains why in the midst of defeat, Don Pedro Albizu Campos exclaimed, "La Patria esta pasando por su gloriosa transfiguración." (The homeland is undergoing its glorious transfiguration.)

BAKKE DECISION THREATENS COLLEGE ED. FOR THIRD WORLD STUDENTS

Allan Bakke's suit against the University of California Medical School was heard by the Supreme Court Wednesday Oct. 12. He claims that the school has discriminated against him, because 16 of the 100 freshman openings had been reserved for minority or "disadvantaged" students. The argument is whether students should be accepted on their "merits", or should they take into account factors, like three hundred years of oppression, and inferior schools. The merits that are being talked about are the culturally, racially biased tests that have been used to keep Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Native Americans and Chicanos out of colleges and universities.

The real argument is whether we are going to return to the separate but equal system of apartheid that we struggled against during the days of the Civil Rights movement. Last year the California Supreme Court ruled in favor of Bakke stating that it was unconstitutional for a university to apply "race conscious" admissions criteria, when the purpose is to increase the numbers of minority students in the medical profession. The effects of this decision extends to every corner of the U.S., and especially to programs like PROYECTO PA'LANTE. If the Supreme Court rules in favor of Bakke, PROYECTO PA'LANTE would be among the first to go. Third world students would be forced to attend inner city community colleges and the major universities and colleges would be left for white middle and upper class students.

There are two lessons to be learned from the struggle against the Bakke case. One, that there is a growing reactionary movement in this country that is being built around issues like the Bakke case. (i.e. Busing, the Panama Canal, gun control, and the E.R.A., etc.). With the U.S. in a state of decline, and weakened by national liberation struggles all over the world, it is going to have to take drastic action to maintain what it now has. Historically, (NAZI GERMANY & OTHERS), this has been done by splitting the working class and building a broad movement that would support direct military control, (LAW & ORDER), instead of continuing with the false front of democracy. The struggle over the Bakke case has been instrumental in building up a reactionary student movement.

Secondly the anti-imperialist student movement for democratic rights is without nationwide leadership. There are many local organizations, like Union for the Puerto Rican Students, that are leading local struggles but they are ineffectual

LETELIER *(Continued from page 3)*

began, the deadly bomb was planted, and on September 21, Letelier and Ronni Karpen Moffitt were murdered as they drove to work.

At least six members of Brigade 2506 have been called before the Federal Grand Jury investigating the assassination, including its president, Roberto Carballo, who denies any involvement in the murder. In April, Jose Dionisio Suarez, a member of the Cuban Nationalist Movement — and a participant in the Bonao meeting — was jailed for refusing to testify before the Grand Jury. And in June, Guillermo Novo, a prime suspect, went underground and is now a fugitive. Orlando Bosch, who was chosen by CORU as "bag man" for the operation (he controlled the purse), is currently imprisoned in Venezuela for charges associated with last year's bombing of a Cuban Airlines plane in which 73 people died. Bosch has said that the airline bombing and the Letelier assassination were planned at the same time in Bonao.

ANDRES FIGUEROA CORDERO



"Hasta
La
Victoria
Siempre."
Che

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BAKKE *(Continued from page 7)*

against issues like the Bakke case because they are isolated. We must initiate communications with other student organizations across the country and build the local organizations ever stronger. These are the only actions that stand between us, and the further racist attacks that we face. This is the only road for survival and the first step for liberation, whether the Bakke case is defeated or not, it will not mark the end, only the beginning.

Iranian Students Protest

The Iranian Student Association (I.S.A.) held a picket on Friday, October 7 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The demonstration took place in front of the W.I.T.I. T.V. facility where Iranian Ambassador Zahedi was being interviewed. Ambassador Zahedi, the Iranian students said, is one a campaign to improve the Shah's image.

The Shah's government, a well known human rights violator, has been criticized by international community for the treatment of political prisoners. Also, in recent months the Shah has received bad publicity in the U.S. through newspaper editorials and television news program.

The Shah, worried over future U.S. arms sales, sent the ambassador on a public relations campaign to win U.S. public support. Since the U.S. is the principal arms supplier, it is important for the Shah to portray a favorable image to the American people.

The I.S.A. is set out to expose the Shah whenever and wherever possible. The militant picket went on for two hours through the cold and rain exposing the true nature of the Shah's government and its imperialist backer. They were chanting, "U.S. gives the arms; Shah kills the people; the people take up arms." The Iranian students charge the Shah with the murders of political dissidents and torture of many others.

Although the Iranian students are faced with deportation and constant surveillance of S.A.V.A.K., the Iranian secret police, the students wage a militant struggle to denounce the shah's repressive regime.

The governments outright repression of the people has driven the students to the point where they will openly confront any representative or agency of the government. Their determination was reflected at the end of the demonstration when students hurled themselves toward the motorcade, damaged the vehicles, and confronted the Milwaukee Police Department.

This was part of the struggle of the Iranian students toward national struggle.