G.P.O. Box 2902 San Juan, P.R. 00936 1 November 1988

Osha Davidson
P.O. Box 399
Mechanicsville, Ia. 52306

Dear Mr. Davidson:

Thank you for the article you recently published in "The Nation." The historical background you expose is very accurate and I commend you for that. On the other hand, the role of the Puerto Rican Civil Rights Commission is distorted.

During our last phone conversation you admitted that various people, including some separatists, told you that they recognized there was a personal persecution against me by Enrique "Chino" González, the President of the Commission, whose main purpose was to prove to the U.S. Parole Board that I was writing under an assumed name (Armando André) and that I was a police "informant." Both allegations would have been a violation of my parole conditions, which would have been sent me back to prison. The Civil Rights Commission eventually gave the U.S. Parole Board a complete transcript and a video of my testimony, and after careful consideration, the Board ruled that the Civil Rights Commission was wrong, and rescinded my parole on 27 January 1988.

You also did not mention that three other Puerto Rican reporters were cited before the Commission, and when they refused to appear, they were not forced to testify under court order as I was. This bias against me went to the extreme of not letting me read a prepared statement before the Commission, in violation of my First Ammendment rights.

Although you branded me an "anti-Castro terrorist" (which I do not mind) you fail to note the terrorist links with members of the Commission. I gave you the name of "Chino" Gonzalez' lover, Dinorah Diaz, an executive of Dominicana de Aviacion in San Juan, whom he viciously terrorized after their love affair ended, but you did not question his moral character, or his friendship with the Teamsters accused of murdering 97 people in the Dupont Hotel fire.

Your portrayal of Yamil Suárez Marchand is also distorted. I believe that he was not being investigated by the police for merely being an anti-nuclear activist, but because the group he belongs to, the "Círculos Cristianos para la Abolición de las Armas Nucleares" is presided by convicted terrorist Lolita Lebrón, who spent 25 years in prison for wounding five

Congressmen in the Capitol in 1954. Lebrón has continued to preach violence against the United States, and therefore is under constant surveillance. Suárez Marchand also publicly asked for the release of Machetero leaders Filiberto Ojeda and Juan Segarra Palmer. His cousin, Graciany Miranda Marchand, has been attorney for over 20 years of numerous convicted terrorists, including Roberto Todd Pagán, William Morales and Juan A. Corretjer, and was linked to the terrorist MIRA group headed by Filiberto Ojeda in 1969.

Your article does not mention the relationship between Yamil Suárez Marchand and these extremists. Ironically, prior to testifying before the Commission, Suárez told my attorney in my presence, "I am not going to question Tony at all. This is all Chino's doing." He probably did not want to provoke me into publicly questioning his "relationship" with a married female radio broadcaster, who later dropped him for a politician.

The legal counsels for the Civil Rights Commission, Franklin Rivera and Lilliam Marrero have been members of the Central Committee of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), a marxist-leninist Castro oriented group, that supports terrorist groups and espouses violence against the United States. Marrero is married to Teamster leader Luis Carrión Martínez, who has been denounced by former Machetero Carlos Rodríguez as a member of that group and a participant in the murder of Jewish labor attorney Alan Randall in 1977. I mentioned this to you during our conversation, and you preferred to ignore it.

Attorney Charles Hey Maestre is also pictured in your article as a "victim" of police surveillance. There is no mention that he is the legal representative of Taller Alborada, the Machetero print shop, and that on 30 August 1985, when the FBI was searching the office looking for evidence in the Wells Fargo robbery case, Hey Mestre was the first person to appear on the scene and demanded to enter the premises. His close links to the Macheteros warrant his surveillance.

Your article erroneously claims that David Noriega is on the subversive and separatist list. Check again. He did NOT appear on the list, and there were rumors at the time that he could be a police informant.

Regarding myself, you erroneously state I conducted "twenty-four-hour stakeouts of other members of the Cuban community in Puerto Rico." That would have been physically impossible without getting some sleep. I believe I explained to you that we kept tabs on the activities of members of the Cuban Communist Antonio Maceo Brigade, which has been denounced before the Senate Subcommittee Hearings on Terrorism and Subversion as a front for the Cuban DGI intelligence service. I clearly stated in my testimony before the Commission that the three documents I forwarded to agent Enio

Serrano had been given to me and I was trying to confirm if they were bonafide or if I was being fed misinformation. Your article also does not mention that Enio admitted I only met him briefly five times during five years, hardly anything significant for carrying out an intelligence relationship.

You also erred in claiming that Carmelo Meléndez stated I had "free rein" in the Intelligence Division when Angel Pérez Casillas was chief. Meléndez never said that. I remember telling you that Manny Suárez concocted that to get back at me for publishing that his wife had not paid a student loan in over ten years, and Suárez was also trying to smear Pérez Casillas, who had pending two trials for murder and perjury on the Cerro Maravilla case. Justice was eventually done, and Pérez Casillas was acquitted in both trials, while Suárez wrote articles raving at both juries because their verdicts upset the "high government conspiracy" theme in his book.

I never expected you to write my viewpoint in your article. Yet, I was not surprised by the blatant distortions in your article because after I spoke with you the first time I got the impression you merely wanted to "grind an ax" with the intelligence community similar to the Watergate era. Therefore, my biggest criticism of your article is not what you wrote about me (a lot of worse things have been written), but the fact that you made the Civil Rights Commission look like respectable, unbiased citizens, when I am sure you know that they are not as honest and upstanding as they claim to be. "Chino" González gambled on a vendetta against me, and he lost when he blew his cool and challenged me to a "man-to-man" fistfight in front of the TV cameras. That is what forced a rapid end to the hearings, even though they had scheduled other witnesses from the phone company, and the President of the Policemen's Association. These events were also not mentioned in your article.

The Commission became so discredited during those hearings, that even though they claimed that they would have their final report by March, they later stated it would be ready in August. It has been more than a year since they concluded, and the report has not surfaced. Public opinion believes that the Governor has manipulated the Commission into relasing the report after the November 8 elections because it will reflect that his Party was responsible for the persecution of the Nationalists during the 1950's.

The lack of fairness and objectivity shown in this article, which is probably reflected in your other political writtings, will always keep what you publish limited to these leftist publications of little significance and small circulation.

Sincerely,

Antonio B. de la Cova