

at file

Llano, Hector C
70-8883

OPEN LETTER TO GOV. RUBIN ASKEW

Dear Sir:

When this letter reaches you I will be well into a hunger strike, I have started as my last bid for liberty or martyrdom. I address this "open letter" to you for yours is the power of righting the wrong and because you would not be aware of this problem if I would not write you. Be assured that I have exhausted all other remedies open to me including a thwarted scape attempted by me last April 18, 1976. This letter is in fact a challenge to injustice.

I am a Cuban patriot convicted in two States, California and Florida for my participation in a wave of bombings in 1968. Bombings which I now regret and have publicly critized those who persist in this type of action. A man who has served eight consecutive years of incarceration (five of them in Florida) and who has been denied liberty solely because I refuse to denied my patriotic convictions. In the words of Mr. Karl Wesson, Hearing Examiner, in his last interview March 25, 1976, "If we were to grant you parole you would probably commit the same type of crime again", further stated mind reader Mr. Wesson, "So in order to safe the State's money in giving you a new trial I will recommend that parole not be granted". This statement made before Mr. Floyd, a classification officer at Glades Correctional institution, was the breaking point of all hopes and the incredible chain of events that started on the year of 1971.

On May 5, 1971, I was extradited from San Quentin prison in California where I was serving my second year for my participation on a series of bombings in Los Angeles. After over a hundred and eighty days in the county jail and three different writs for a "Speedy trial" I was taken before Honorable Judge Arthur Huttoe. It was there that without legal representation and in violation of the more basic human and constitutional right I was sentenced to thirty years imprisonment. In less than four hours a jury was selected (by him alone) I was convicted and the sentence handed out. The incredible of this situation can be understood by a study of Hon. Judge Huttoe's performance and judicial conduct of latter years. I went to prison accepting my destiny. In my heart the paradox of the weight of the injustice committed and the names of the men who actually did the crime which I had once condoned.

The years passed and I continually worked for my liberty, believing the words that I were to hear from one and all employees of the prison systems "The length of time you will spend here depends on you, technically you are eligible for parole after the first six months, but it will depend on you to earn it".

I continued to apply myself, believing this statement and similar ones made public by Mr. Cross. I completed while at Glades, several trades (some of them I've forgotten and was never able to use them) completed my first two years of College, organized, designed and directed drug programs that did effectively curing drug addiction among my fellow prisoners on Glades Correctional Institution.

The day finally came when my immediate jailors at Glades, Mr. Cook, Superintendent, a Florida State Senator, Mr. Robert Graham, residing in Miami Lakes and the classification team etc. recommended me for parole, work release or study release. I had earned this recommendation. It was denied, in two different occasions the recommendation was made and both times they were denied, simply because I would not denied my patriotic convictions. Would you believe this? Well, it is the truth.

When I was escaping from Tallahassee's intransigent rather than from Glades the prison I had in my heart the knowledge of having excelled in all rehabilitation programs available to me, in fact, I had exhausted all available programs within the Division of Correction. I had initiated some myself and was completely against any further use of terrorism as a patriotic weapon. Certain that I had become the victim of bigotry and prejudice.

I am a victim of those two evils and an illegal judicial process. A man who now lies in cell #602 of the infamous Dade County "Hole" threatened perhaps with another injustice, the bombing of Emilio Milian.

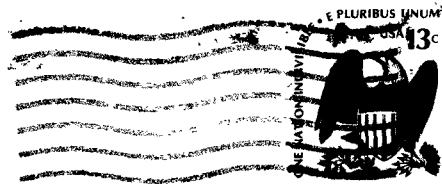
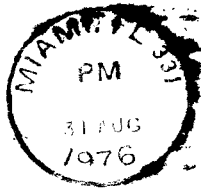
Be aware sir, of my pledge and the irrevocable exercise of patriotic will power proved. I have regreted and critized terrorism, but I cannot deny my patriotic principles and my faith in a Democratic Cuba of tomorrow.

Dade County Jail
August 9, 1976

Hector Cornillot Lano

Editors Note:

Cornillot was transferred to Lake Butler Reception Center, Tuesday August 10, 1976, where his conditions worsen each day.



Judge Ellen Morphosios
~~800 N.W. 28th St.~~
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