[illegible]

LT. COL. [illegible]

[illegible]

LT. COL. [illegible]

[illegible]

LT. COL. [illegible]

[illegible]

in comparison to that [illegible] people [illegible] have conquered Soviet Union. [illegible] the common [illegible] people have [illegible] and above the Soviet Union, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in men, material, and man-power.

[illegible] men, material, and man-power. Of course, if England had been conquered I doubt whether the [illegible] could [illegible] the Soviet people [illegible] no matter how much [illegible] [illegible] It would not have been [illegible] [illegible] with a conquered Soviet Union it would have meant a [illegible] on the part of England. It would have meant the ascendancy of the pro-appeasement element in England. It would have meant a [illegible] It would have meant all Western Europe, including England, under Nazi control, with a Nazi bridge-head established within striking distance of the United States. And it would have meant not only an independent [illegible] it would have meant a Nazi dominated [illegible] Japan. [illegible] lesson of Pearl Harbor [illegible] would have happened, because Japan [illegible] not in concert with Germany. [illegible] in my position, [illegible] I have been an interventionist [illegible] members in Congress, who insisted that there should be no embargo imposed on Spain. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] involved in it, and rendered a patriotic service to my country in insisting upon going into the war [illegible] invasion of the Soviet Union until Pearl Harbor.

[illegible]

MR. MARCANTONIO: [illegible]

[illegible] with respect to our participation in the war [illegible] Germany and Russia were at war [illegible] the reasons for our [illegible] you have outlined. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Mr. [illegible]: [illegible] New England [illegible] for [illegible] [illegible] supporters and the [illegible], and the [illegible] [illegible]. They [illegible] responsible for the building up of history, and that they were [illegible] paying the price for having [illegible] everywhere; [illegible] were very much in sympathy with the working class of both [illegible] and England who had been [illegible] by [illegible] and subsequently were attacked by the very [illegible] that [illegible] and built.

Lt. COL. [illegible]: If it was [illegible] to [illegible] England [illegible], and [illegible] for the common people [illegible] attacked [illegible], why [illegible] you oppose [illegible] should not be [illegible]?

[illegible]

[illegible] of [illegible].

LT. COL. [illegible]: [illegible]

[illegible] in [illegible].

MR. MARCANTONIO: You [illegible] to [illegible] have [illegible] England. [illegible] England [illegible] the United States.

LT. COL. [illegible]: As I understand your theory, you had a choice between two evils. [illegible] out of the war, and seeing England defeated, which you conclude would have been an evil.

MR. MARCANTONIO: Which was a possibility which did not happen.

LT. COL. [illegible]: It was more than a possibility. You conceded that it was almost inevitable.

MR. MARCANTONIO: After all, what would [illegible] have been? [illegible] that was also disclosed to me. [illegible] England to the extent that England was not knocked out of the war.

LT. COL. [illegible]: This is my point exactly.

MR. MARCANTONIO: No, just a moment, please. England was not knocked out of the war. Do you know that our lend-lease did not become law until sometime in March of 1941? [illegible] military standpoint, was rather [illegible]. Am I correct?

[illegible]

MR. [illegible]: [illegible]

MR. NARDANTONIO: [illegible]

MR. [illegible]: [illegible]

MR. NARDANTONIO: [illegible] position.

MR. [illegible]: [illegible] point of view.

MR. NARDANTONIO: [illegible]

[illegible] it. I was for all [illegible] I went around making many speeches for them, and participating in all kinds of activities in their behalf. I denounced Mussolini's invasion of Ethiopia. Hence, my position has always been anti-Fascist. I am anti-Fascist. I think that [illegible] a Fascist I would not be here testifying for him. If I thought he was a Fascist I would most definitely testify against him, because I think the destruction of Fascism abroad is very important and likewise important is the problem of destroying our own domestic Fascists, not only those of Italian extraction but also those whose ancestors came over to this country on the Mayflower or some of the other ships.

LT. COL. [illegible]: Thank you very much, Mr. Marcantonio.

MR. MARCANTONIO: I want to apologize about this morning. I was making a speech in Philadelphia. I wanted to come in by plane, but I couldn't get a plane, and I did not want to ask for a priority.

BY LT. COL. [illegible]:

Q. Did you have trouble getting in here?

A. Oh, it takes time these days.

(Discussion off the record.)

BY [illegible]:

Q. Do you know of any Fascists whom you believe to be dangerous at the present time?

A. Yes, I do. [illegible] know if they have [illegible] this [illegible] or if they have [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Q [illegible] A [illegible]

Q Do you think [illegible] A [illegible]

Q Do you think [illegible] A [illegible] artificially and unnecessary. [illegible] Thank you very much for your [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]
100-[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Re: NATIONALIST PARTY OF PUERTO RICO;
VITO MARCANTONIO;
JUAN ANTONIO CORRETJER;
INTERNAL SECURITY - Puerto Rico

Dear Sir:

[illegible] banquet was held on February 11, 1943, at the [illegible] Hall [illegible] New York City, to commemorate the birth of an official propaganda organ, "Pueblos Hispanos" for the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico in New York City. This affair was attended by approximately 150 Spaniards, Negroes, and [illegible] sympathetic to the Nationalist Party.

[illegible] a survey of the file in the New York Field Division, the [illegible] Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico was to secure independence for the Island. In order to do this, this Party is trying to prevent the operation of the Selective Service Act, is distributing propaganda for the freedom of the Island, and is trying to influence South and Central America to assist them in their fight for independence. In this respect it is recalled that the Party sent a minister to the Rio Conference to present plans for a free Puerto Rico. This Party in Puerto Rico has even gone so far as to declare that they are at war with the United States, and that they will accept aid from any nation in order to secure their independence.

[illegible] the branch of this Party in New York is actively engaged in propaganda became apparent at this banquet, which was covered by Special Agent John S. Russell, New York Field Division. It will be recalled that JUAN ANTONIO CORRETJER, who heads the Nationalist Party in New York City and who is also director of "Pueblos Hispanos", was recently released from the penitentiary in Atlanta. CORRETJER was sentenced in 1936 along with PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS and other leaders of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico, for conspiring to overthrow the United States Government by violence. It will also be recalled that Congressman VITO MARCANTONIO is friendly with the subject and assisted him in obtaining his present employment. Information has also come to this office that CORRETJER is presently engaged in translating EARL BROWDER's latest book into the Spanish language for Spanish distribution. The name of this book is "Victory and After". BROWDER has agreed to pay CORRETJER $100.00 for this translation. CORRETJER has admitted that he is a good friend of EARL BROWDER.

[illegible] the people's [illegible] [illegible] the paper [illegible]

It is a great privilege to welcome the birth of a new paper. [illegible] also to celebrate the first anniversary of our paper, The People's Voice. These papers are a natural [illegible] of a free press. The Spanish and Negroes are blood brothers. (Applause) The Spanish people are their allies, [illegible] have common aims and problems. The Spanish people have [illegible] the great [illegible] [illegible], and they have put up a valiant fight. The Negroes for the first time in history fought on their soil in the war of Spain. They got their first taste of manhood in the Spanish trenches. [illegible] blood of the Negro people [illegible] in the field of other people. (Applause) I hope to [illegible] a similar position to [illegible] (the [illegible]) in that I serve as a general manager of my paper, as the [illegible] of our paper, the "Pueblos Hispanos". I hope to be able to help the "Pueblos Hispanos" to grow. (Turning to [illegible]) [illegible] We must [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] and this war are important. Our people cannot allow themselves to be broken down by [illegible] discrimination. We must [illegible] upon the [illegible] needs, and [illegible] in these needs. We must unify these problems. Another problem that confronts us is the care of children when the mothers are drawn into the war industries. We must make provisions for child care. Your paper will rally the people for this cause. We are eager and anxious to help. We congratulate you and welcome you.

Following this speech was a musical interlude, in which [illegible] and [illegible] sang again the principals. The first song was "[illegible]" ([illegible]-phonetic). It was explained that this was a German song sung by the Anti-Fascist Germans in Spain during the Civil War. The next song was entitled "[illegible]", a Spanish folk song.

The next speaker was Mrs. [illegible], [illegible] introduced her, stating that she was a woman leader in Lower Harlem, and that two members of her family are still in jail because of their fight for independence in Puerto Rico. This woman spoke in Spanish. [illegible] speaking [illegible], she spoke well and with emphasis. Her words were met with frequent and loud applause. She stated that members of her family were languishing in jail because of their desire to see Puerto Rico free. [illegible] independence of Puerto

NY 100-[illegible]
[illegible]

RE: [illegible] PARTY OF AMERICA
[illegible], 194[illegible]

[illegible] the banquet [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible].

Following her was PEDRO [illegible] ( ), who read a poem in Spanish [illegible] composed, called "Stalingrado". This poem dealt with the heroic fight of the Russians at Stalingrad and their love for their country. This poem met with wild cheering and applause.

Following this, [illegible] of the Spanish daily [illegible] spoke. He said, "I am a Spanish Republican and I have helped many [illegible] across to this country and kept them from rotting in the concentration camps of France and North Africa. We will do everything to aid you to carry on. Only if through the medium of this paper can we unite the Spanish people to win the war from the Axis. [illegible] the sentiments of the Spanish-speaking people. [illegible] that we can devote time to the fight. This paper must take into account all the Spanish-speaking people in New York. [illegible] to win the war [illegible] must do everything to make it possible. For the people of Puerto Rico and Spain to be free, we must fight the [illegible] that can make all of this possible. This is your paper. [illegible] support [illegible] the things [illegible] fighting for [illegible] the material means to keep going, and I appeal to you to help. [illegible] are ready to carry on."

[illegible] February is a great month. In this month were born Washington and Lincoln. In that month the Spanish Popular Front was formed, [illegible] People's Voice was born and now the "Pueblos Hispanos". They will start with the first donation [illegible] donations only from organizations in any large denominations.

The first donation was from the Council of Puerto Rican Democracy, $100.00. Second, [illegible], $5.00. People's Voice, $10.00. Workers Alliance, $5.00. [illegible] Rodriguez, $1.00. [illegible], $5.00. [illegible] Committee, $10.00. Mrs. [illegible], $10.00. [illegible] Club, $20.00. [illegible] Committee of Teachers Union, $5.00. [illegible] Club of Brooklyn, $5.00. At least $50.00 more in bills and [illegible] was collected. This latter amount could not be determined [illegible] [illegible] banquet for the support of the paper was [illegible] $400.00.

At the conclusion of the donations, LEONARD LAKE introduced the next speaker, ANTONIO DE LA VILLA, whom he explained was a diplomat of the [illegible] who is presently exile. This diplomat, LAKE explained, had once served his country as ambassador to Puerto Rico. [illegible] VILLA spoke in Spanish, saying: "I am confident PUERTO RICO will get its independence. (Applause) Puerto Rico must have its independence immediately. (Applause) Your paper is in good hands under the direction of GUTIERREZ." He then paid tribute to the poem, "Stalingrado", which had previously been read. He ended his speech by saying, "I am for the liberty of Puerto Rico." (Applause)

Following this was a song called "The Puerto Rico Independence Song."

The next speaker was [illegible] COLLINS of Local Union No. 7 of the Hotel employees, who spoke as follows: "This has been a very inspirational evening. I want to pay tribute to this great anti-fascist organ. The papers such as the 'Times' and the 'World Telegram' and other large papers in this city are attempting to throw suspicion on the fight of the people. The 'People's Voice' and the 'Pueblos Hispanos' are small but speak things the masses of people believe. They speak of freedom of creed and speech. Their program is that of humanity. They will deal a blow to imperialism. (Applause) I am from a small island south of Puerto Rico, belonging to England, where the idle rich play. The masses of the people must slave. What the imperialistic elements take away all. (Great applause) People of the West Indies, we must do everything to do away with the elements of fascism in this country. We must fight against people who try to corrupt the people who are engaged in this great war. This paper is significant in that it will point out how the War and State Departments are fooling around and not helping the Russians. (Applause) Other papers are trying to split the peoples. A front in Middle Europe must be opened immediately. (Applause) The United States must learn a lesson from the Soviet Union. Why are we retreating in Tunisia? The natives, the Negro people, would be only too glad to help drive out Fascism in Africa, but they are not allowed to be armed. What about the Atlantic Charter? The independence of Puerto Rico would have the tendency of rallying the nations around the Atlantic Charter. We have no patience with the people who say 'wait'. It is necessary for us to free these people at once.

"[illegible] TRUJILLO and other leaders must be driven off—HITLER, MUSSOLINI, HIROHITO must be driven off. (Great applause) FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT issued Order 8802 making it wrong to discriminate against Negroes. The South became panicky—they were afraid that the colored people would begin to understand democracy. We in Harlem have need for such a paper that has been launched by

DIAZ [illegible]. [illegible] we were discriminated against because we were Negroes. (At this point he became very emotional.) There is only one Spanish paper [illegible] the best interests of the Spanish people at heart. Another paper (LA PRENSA) is not published for the best interests of the Spanish people [illegible] this paper found it profitable perhaps to side with FRANCO. We tested the power of that paper. It never takes a winning side. This proved that that daily newspaper does not have the support of the people. 'Pueblos Hispanos' has the support of the people. (Applause) 'Pueblos Hispanos' will become a real effective weapon in the hands of the people. The President and MARCANTONIO are for us. There is a bill pending in Congress now to make it incriminating to discriminate against the Negroes. The [illegible] are united—brown, black, yellow, white—all together. We must learn this unity as they have done in Russia. We will go forward with you, with leaders like CORRETJER and MARCANTONIO to establish freedom in the world. (Great applause—the meeting had to be called to order.)

[illegible] CORRETJER next introduced the guest speaker, New York Congressman VITO MARCANTONIO. MARCANTONIO began—

> The launching of this paper is equivalent to the arrival of a large assortment of planes on the battle front. It will mean the destruction of fascism in New York. I want to congratulate you, its staff and editor. I want to say a word about this editor, who has given six of the best years of his life in his struggle for an ideal. One year was spent in jail in Puerto Rico. Five years in the hell-hole of Atlanta, Georgia. This is a tribute not only to the man but to the courage of the people of Puerto Rico. (Applause) I flew to Puerto Rico in 1936. All its buildings were festooned with bunting. PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS and his colleagues had been found guilty of the crime of wanting to be free. I made a speech from the balcony of the City Hall in San Juan. I told them that the struggle of the people of Puerto Rico was a struggle of the people of the world. I told them that the progressive element would join hands with them and free them. The NATIONAL MARITIME UNION is giving its all to aid the people in this struggle for freedom. Labor is joining hands with all the people for freedom. The International Labor Defense Union, of which I am president, is throwing all its weight in an effort to free the great CAMPOS. I make a plea for justice and a plea for freedom. (Applause) [illegible] revolutionary

progress that we have seen in the United States, is that Yankee imperialism. The last hope, a democratic Congress and will stand by and give Puerto Rico her freedom. There is presently in Congress a pamphlet that was handed around to each Congressman the other day. Do you know what this pamphlet is? a reprint from the Chicago TRIBUNE. (Laughter) It belittles Puerto Rico. So does the SCRIPPS HOWARD paper, the WORLD TELEGRAM—all are besmirching Puerto Rico. They are bent on a colonial policy. Why? They are corrupted. Do you realize that four corporations who have their offices here in New York own 70 per cent of the arable land in Puerto Rico? When Puerto Rico tries to set up a local industry these corporations dump goods, thus ruining that attempt. What happens when you try to get a pineapple in Puerto Rico while pineapples are rotting in the fields? You must buy it in a can labeled "Hawaiian Pineapple". How much do you suppose a handkerchief made in Puerto Rico costs at Macy's? A dollar. A woman in Puerto Rico worked a whole week for 50 cents many weeks making handkerchiefs. We have made her poor—we have squeezed the blood right out of her. What is the answer to this problem? Grant the people of Puerto Rico their independence, give them self-determination. (Great applause, whistling and yelling) We can't let Puerto Rico have freedom of the seas and yet they speak of poverty in Puerto Rico. In Puerto Rico there are 300,000 people unemployed and the average salary in Puerto Rico is $200.00 a year. We charge TUGWELL and the administration for this suffering. Puerto Rico has a representative in Congress that is supposed to represent her. He is a fine fellow, a handshaker. You know him—PINERO. There is something mighty strange about him. There is an alliance between him and imperialism. There is a move at present in Congress to amend the Puerto Rican laws to do away with Puerto Rican legislature. Why? We are just going back to the principle of the Boston Tea Party. We are trying to legislate for Puerto Rico. This is taxation without representation. You know, very few Congressmen know anything about Puerto Rico. They don't even find her on the map. (Laughter) Sir, they may tell you that Puerto Rican rum is good. (Laughter) When I was in Puerto Rico, I tried to buy a machete for my little boy, and I searched around from one store to another and finally found one. Guess what the label said—"Made in New York".

(Pounding his fists upon the table) Everything we buy in Puerto Rico is from the United States. Members of Congress and the famous Puerto Rican Sugar Institute. This is a lobby. They get out a beautiful book each year and spend $50,000.00 in lobbying. This book states that the per capita salary of Puerto Rico is $500.00. This is very erroneous information. Papers like the New York TRIBUNE and others are all ganging up against Puerto Rico. Why? Because the Puerto Rican legislature is trying to give the land back to the people. They say that is socialism. (Laughter) They say that is putting government in business. (More laughter) Why are they afraid? They are afraid it will take the profit away from the four corporations in New York. They are afraid of something else— the people's war. (Applause) They are afraid of a free people. They want to convert the war for a world of four freedoms into an imperialistic war, but they can't stop that. They can't stop the victories of the Great Red Armies in Russia. The victory of [illegible] and a victory of all free men all over the world. They can't stop us. (Applause) Other things are taking place. They can't stop it. We have in the United States great labor unions, and there are more members in those unions than ever before. These are great things that are taking place. But the very voices of many men in Congress are trying to stop them. Right here in the United States, 13,000,000 Negro voices are crying for democracy. Men are struggling to defeat imperialism forever, but they are keeping the great Don CAMPOS in jail and Puerto Rico in shackles. Since blood is let loose for that freedom, then we shall have freedom. (Great applause, whistling and stamping) Viva la Republica de Puerto Rico.

The meeting ended at 6:05 P.M.

Enclosed for the information of the Bureau is one copy of the "Pueblos Hispanos" and a business reply card which was obtained at the meeting. Any further information that comes to the attention of the New York Field Office will be immediately transmitted to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY
SAC

Enclosures - 2
SPECIAL DELIVERY
cc - San Juan
cc - Kansas City