

who could speak their language and work amongst them.

After the decision to revolt was taken, I wrote to General Urbina, whom I had seen in Panama when I was going to Curaçao, thru the intermediary of the Panama local of the P.R.V. to the leaders of which he had manifested several times his sympathy for our Party. In my conversations with him in Panama, he manifested being an enemy of the "war lords" who have been ruling Venezuela for so many years, some of them outside of the country, controlling the political activities of a good majority of the emigration until the foundation of the P.R.V. and the publication of our paper "Libertad". Urbina also manifested very strong anti-imperialist convictions based upon a nationalistic sentiment rather than upon social and economic ideology. He accepted our invitation to come to Curacao, without knowing our prospects.

The Local had rented a small house located in a strategic position where all the secret meetings were held. At the arrival of General Rafael Simon Urbina, Colonel Antonio Nava, treasurer of the Panama Local of the PRV, and of ANOTHER Venezuelan, they went to live at the little house, with myself and three more workers who lived with us.

We had so money to buy guns, so we bought machetes, 2 hatchets. We had a pistol and two revolvers. The assault of the principle fort in Willemstad was to be effected by a small number of our best comrades. At the same time a very good comrade was to distribute a Manifesto in a camp where live most of the Venezuelan workers, as soon as he should hear the shots in the fortress.

Thirty-nine men, armed with 37 machetes, one pistol and 2 hatchets left the small house, "My Wish" (Mi deseo) in two trucks and forced the entry, at full speed, of the fort, In a second the trucks were empty, and a minute and a half after we were the masters of the fortress. At the first shots the impression of the population was that the military police were "killing Venezuelans", a common happening every Saturday night in Curaçao. As soon as the truth was known, the enthusiasm was indescribable, and a multitude of workers began to arrive at the fort in order to receive arms. We took all the rifles and ammunition in sight. Unhappily, of all the cases of ammunition, only one was serviceable and good for warlike purposes, because the other cases were filled with wooden bullets, used to frighten the workers in emergencies like strips, etc. We took many good pistols. The Military Governor, and the Captain of the military policy were made prisoners. The Governor himself made arrangements with the steamship companies to procure the means of transportation to us. He arranged with the agents of the Red D. Line for the chartering of the ship 'Maracaibo', which was the best available