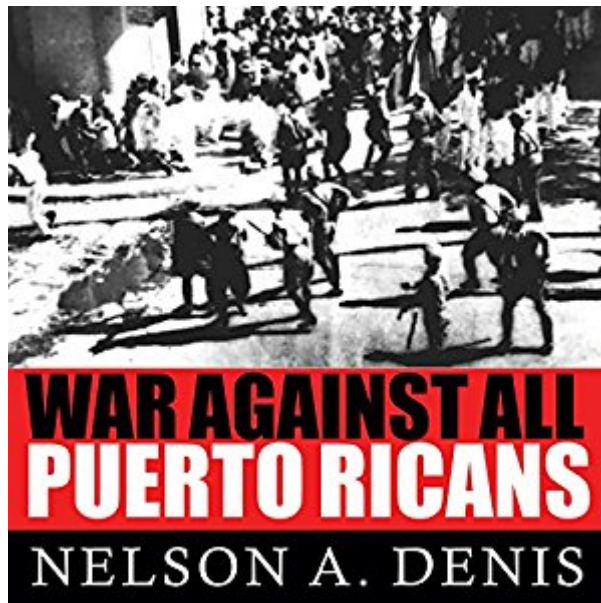




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# War Against All Puerto Ricans: Revolution And Terror In America's Colony



## Synopsis

In 1950, after over 50 years of military occupation and colonial rule, the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico staged an unsuccessful armed insurrection against the United States. Violence swept through the island: Assassins were sent to kill President Harry Truman, gunfights roared in eight towns, police stations and post offices were burned down. In order to suppress this uprising, the US Army deployed thousands of troops and bombarded two towns, marking the first time in history that the US government bombed its own citizens. Nelson A. Denis tells this powerful story through the controversial life of Pedro Albizu Campos, who served as the president of the Nationalist Party. A lawyer, a chemical engineer, and the first Puerto Rican to graduate from Harvard Law School, Albizu Campos was imprisoned for 25 years and died under mysterious circumstances. By tracing his life and death, Denis shows how the journey of Albizu Campos is part of a larger story of Puerto Rico and US colonialism. Through oral histories, personal interviews, eyewitness accounts, congressional testimony, and recently declassified FBI files, *War Against All Puerto Ricans* tells the story of a forgotten revolution and its context in Puerto Rico's history, from the US invasion in 1898 to the modern-day struggle for self-determination. Denis provides an unflinching account of the gunfights, prison riots, political intrigue, FBI and CIA covert activity, and mass hysteria that accompanied this tumultuous period in Puerto Rican history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I was stunned and astounded by Nelson Denis's enthralling book, "War Against All Puerto Ricans: Revolution and Terror in America's Colony." This book documents a "secret history" of Puerto Rico that is not taught in our schools - not in the US, and definitely not in Puerto Rico. Yet these events did happen, and they are presented in this meticulously researched book with nearly 100 pages of footnotes as well as many intriguing photos of that epoch. Remarkably, even some of the footnotes are shocking. The author is a lawyer and the extensive research confirms that. The United States is on trial here. The evidence is clear, convincing, and deeply organized. Hundreds of FBI documents provide the most shameful proof of all. By the end of the book, the entire US government has been placed on the witness stand, cross-examined, and found guilty of stealing an entire island. But the deepest impression from this book is the way Denis told an electrifying story. The attempted assassination of Pres. Harry Truman, the Ponce Massacre, the Revolution of 1950, the Gunfight at Salon Boricua, the prison torture of Albizu Campos... all of these tableaux unfolded like a series of dramatic, high-action movie scenes. I could see these scenes playing, right in front of my eyes. My mind reeling as if I were in a time machine being transported to colonial Puerto Rico. This book would make one hell of a movie. It is based on a history that has never been told. There are 8 million Puerto Ricans and over 55 million Latinos that would eat it up. I could see Benicio Del Toro or Marc Anthony in the leading role of Don Pedro Albizu Campos. Consider this an open letter to any smart and successful movie producer out there: The next great historical and socio-politically relevant moneymaking story has been tailor-made for you. And what an amazing movie it would make!

What a fascinating read. Prepare to be outraged as the author takes you on a journey telling you the hidden secrets of our nation's history that you were denied in most high school history classes. Filled with comprehensive research of firsthand accounts, and pictures I found this book easy to breeze through. Timely, as we are now seeing the changing of the tide in regards to US relations with Cuba. While Puerto Rico isn't featured in the mainstream media as much, its destiny is still an unanswered question. As Puerto Ricans will attempt to answer this question, we as a nation have to understand its past. Many times this book will shock you, but so is the nature of truth. As we learn from our past mistakes, we can look towards our future successes.

War Against All Puerto Ricans is about the history of aggression of the USA against its colony,

Puerto Rico, and its people. The telling of the story, done with great flair and passion, makes it obvious that the author feels the same love for Puerto Rico as all Puerto Ricans feel for the motherland...that he understands the love felt by those of us who carry the independence ideal in our minds and treasure it in our hearts. This book covers all the bases: compelling, well researched, with exquisite and passionate story telling that piques the reader's interest and curiosity and will spur him/her on to want to learn more about the topic. It should be required reading in social studies classes in all schools in Puerto Rico and in all schools attended by people of Puerto Rican descent. *War Against All Puerto Ricans* is unlike any other history book or historical novel I had ever read on the subject... Like a film! As you read Mr. Denis' words, you are practically watching the live action develop before your eyes...transported in time and space and able to live exactly what the freedom fighters -and all Puerto Ricans- lived during that period. So well written you see what each saw, feel what they felt...you see the exploited cane cutters' abused bodies and saddened faces...you hear the outrage in Albizu's voice during his speeches, the shots that killed unarmed innocent women and children being fired during the Ponce Massacre, the bombs dropped in Jayuya...You attend the secret meetings at the Salon Boricua, and dodge bullets during the fight there... You feel the pain of a people..."*War Against All Puerto Ricans*" is the message from Riggs, and one can hear his vile declaration of war: "It will be war against all criminals...anyone who does not allow himself to be arrested is a criminal and a savage." And he massacres the nationalists...!!! Surprisingly, although written in English, this book has been an absolute sensation in Puerto Rico. The reason for the interest in the book on the island, where the majority of people are not very fluent in English, is due to this story coming out at the right time, specially in view of a lack of generational awareness of what the struggle for independence in Puerto Rico has really been about. I bought *War Against All Puerto Ricans* the first time it came out, following a recommendation from my Mother who, as a lifelong active "independentista", instilled in me a love of our history and patriotic love for my island/archipelago nation. The book is awakening many a native Puerto Rican and people of Puerto Rican descent to the real history that was being hidden from them...to a secret history not taught in history classes in schools in Puerto Rico (nor in the States)...as most of the people had been fed a grossly distorted, perverted, tergiversated version of Puerto Rican history. *WAAPR* is coming out in an expanded version in Spanish, and I am reading that too...just can't get enough of it! One person tried to discredit this book but the author himself responded, in a detailed and complete response, which you can view here: <http://dialogoupr.com/opinion-y-debate/the-many-lies-of-luis-ferrao/> - "This book will make a TREMENDOUS MOVIE, and I cannot wait to see it!"

Now that I read this Book, a lot of things that I saw when I was a kid make sense. The lack of information, the inaccurate data available at the time just made me more curious. Who ever controlled the Banks, Controls the Powder, who ever controls the Powder and Banks , powder and Media, Controls a whole nation. And Albizu Tried to Warn us. Feeding people with fear ignorance and lies still is a great weapon against those who seek thuth and Liberty. Now it makes sense every time I had a question in school about that part of history, no one could answer it.It was prohibited to be Puerto Rican.

Wow! Could not put it down. I read about the events when I was in my early twenties. It is really shocking, an OMG book and I added a few MFs as a side note. When you read this you will ask many questions about why is the US in that country and it won't be humanitarian aid We do live in a world of the 1% vs the 99% and that 1% controls everything including how you think unless you wake up from the Matrix.

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