

DIARIO DE LA MARINA

DIRECTOR

Havana, August 22, 1941.

Mr. M. Robert Rogers, Editor  
CLICK Magazine  
400 North Broad Street  
PHILADELPHIA, Penn.

Gentleman:

In an article entitled "How Axis Fifth Column in Cuba Strikes at United States", published in the September issue of the "Click" magazine, appears my name and that of my publication in a way that is evidently false.

It is true that I was a decided partisan of the movement that, under the leadership of General Franco, prevented, at the end, the Sovietization of Spain. I consider with great pride in my journalistic career my campaigns towards that end. At that time I necessarily maintained relations with as many persons and groups of Spaniards and Cubans as served in my own field. But, neither then, nor afterwards, that is, never, did I belong to Falange Española nor to any other party, and much less did I carry on any other activities that did not pertain to my profession as a journalist.

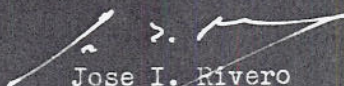
I have the right to proclaim that whatever may be said to the contrary is entirely false until otherwise proved. The above mentioned article does not offer the slightest proof to show such conditions as are imputed to me therein my being a member of Falange Española.

As far as my publication is concerned it seems foolish that I be obliged to recall now, what is well known to all those that have a knowledge of the Latin American Press (and there are very many in the United States that have such knowledge), that "Diario de la Marina" is, and has been for the past forty years, a constant and sincere defender of Cuban-American cooperation and that since the beginning of the present war its position has not been other than that of Americanism without deviation or faltering. However, "Diario de la Marina" is the biggest and most influential publication in Cuba and this circumstance makes it, human nature being what it is, excite among those less fortunate in our profession a steadfast implacability that, naturally, we are not the most interested to have disappear.

Most assuredly the "investigator" from "Click" fell into the net of our competitors who entertain the belief that they can combat their defeat with calumny and from them he obtained the story whose clarification I have the right to request.

I beg that you publish this letter in your magazine in the assurance that you will be serving at the same time both the Truth and the better understanding of Cuban-American relations, and remain,

Very sincerely yours,

  
Jose I. Rivero  
Editor

DIARIO DE LA MARINA  
SUB-DIRECTOR

Havana, August 22, 1941.

Mr. M. Robert Rogers, Editor  
CLICK Magazine  
400 North Broad Street  
Philadelphia, Penn.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed you will find a letter, which I beg you to be kind enough to publish, relating to the article in the last issue of "Click" in which my name is mentioned in a manner evidently erroneous.

I am sending you this private letter in order to be able to explain to you the more frankly my own feelings.

My newspaper activities--which are the only activities of my life-- are oriented in a direction diametrically contrary to that indicated by "Click's" investigator.

I am, and have been, a decided partisan of the liberty of my country against every attempt at European expansion.

I am, and have been, the most sincere and constant propagandist, and in every way one of the most heard, of the continental cause of the United States, and of collaboration between that country and Cuba.

In the present war, my position favorable to the United States and to Great Britain is more than well known to everybody in Cuba, except to the group of communists determined to ignore it and to make it appear otherwise.

Under these conditions, the article published by your magazine without considering it capable of hiding the truth as to my past, present and future work, does confuse that truth in the opinion of "Click's" readers. The damage done to me is very evident. It is to remedy this that I send you the enclosed letter. I lament having to take this step, but I hope that your own chivalry will recognize the imperative motive of my determination. In any case, I want to proceed in this manner rather than choose any other road as a testimony of that spirit of companionship that animates me.

If the situation were reversed, and if I were to receive from you a request for the rectification of any error which might have slipped into our pages against you, or against any other American colleague, be sure that I would give satisfaction at once.

In the hope that this incident will be cancelled with the publication of the enclosed letter, and thanking you in anticipation for this courtesy, I take advantage of the occasion to offer myself at your service.

Very sincerely



Raúl Maestri

Managing Editor.