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Department of the Interior
Memorandum

The object of this Memorandum is to acquaint you with the "inner" workings of the Department of the Interior, calling to your attention facts which will convince you of the urgent need of a complete reorganization, by which the disloyal and anti-administration elements should be removed and in their places competent and Loyal men be placed.

The way things have been going on in this very important branch of the Govt. are such that the Administration will go to a sure and desastrous failure, unless the remedy is urgently applied

In these statements, it will be proved to your complete satisfaction that the "anti-American" politicians have as nearly a perfect and absolute control of this Department as could possibly be desired, and that it is impossible for any "loyal" supporter of the Administration, to try his honest best to stop the tide of graft, corruption and hatred now rampant.

Before entering into details, the following facts will be set down, showing the general trend of the "machinery":

- A- That a "combination or ring" exists among several chief of divisions in the Dept. of the Interior, directed and advised by "outside Unionist anti-American and anti-administration politicians", to block, hinder and retard the fulfillment of the Administration program in everything pertaining to the Public Works, and that if any loyal employee tries to push ahead the work or promote what is lawful, this employee is boycotted, and ultimately crushed and ousted from the Department.
- B- That there exists a "contractors trust" and combination by which the Govt. is robbed of thousands of dollars, labor laws openly violated, all to the detriment of Public Treasury and which goes to fill the pockets of certain employees and grafting politicians. That the campaign funds for the continuous attacks to the present Administration are being reimbursed back from the Govt. Treasury.
- C- That these same employees are taking advantage of their positions to further their own interests and political ambitions, making use of Govt. time, and means to the detriment of the prestige of the Administration.
- D- That criticism to the present Administration, disloyalty, and hatred to the American Government and institutions is encouraged and stimulated. A complete and perfect spionage system is kept by which all movements and actions of those in favor of the Administration is reported to the "outside" political anti-American leaders.
- E- That a complete system exists by which any thing, work or reports, coming from a Republican or Socialist city municipality or corporation is difficulted and delayed. Plans from city improvements from Rep. or Socialist towns, franchises etc. are red taped, and reported to the Unionist political boss.

Employees are promoted and appointed not on account of their ability, but disloyalty and readiness to serve as "spy" are at a premium, that no movement or appointment is made before the consent of the Unionist boss is obtained.

- F-That employees are kept alive in the hope that "Barcelo" and the "old times" will soon be back, that then they will be rewarded for all they "help" now.
- G-That plans, estimates and projects are faked and misrepresented so that only those in the "ring" might know the truth.
- H-That the Barrio Obrero have been used as a political source of reward, where politicians and their relatives and helpers have been given control, and ownership of houses and land. (This matter only requires a thorough investigation)
- I- And last but not least that the "ring" is ready to go to any extreme or action to accomplish their aim of crushing the Administration, not hesitating to pad payrolls, fake estimates or reports, appoint dishonest employees or double-cross and frame up any body who will dare to stand in their way.

In order that you might get an idea on how the statements made above are carried out, a few instances will be cited, which will make it clear to you.

Blocking system: (The blocking ring only acts when an order originates at a "loyal" office, this not only retards the Dept. work but is used to place blame on the "loyal" employee) When an order or requisition for tools or materials is sent, same is placed to sleep at "pending" and left there till the originator himself comes and makes same to be signed, then it is sent out when either the Assist. Comm. or Commissioner are in the island or on other outside business. The blame is then placed on the fact that the Asst~Commissioner or Commissioner are never at the office. In the matter of machinery or engines, "there is always" something wrong with them, and the missing part must either be manufactured or ordered from the States. When a contract is let to some contractor who is not a member of the "ring" (this happens only when work is for a loyal division) the contract is red tapped and delayed, sent to the Comm. without the required signatures, so that it must come back or else it cannot be registered or sent to the Auditor.

Contractors Combinations: A look over the list of contractors doing work for the Dept, will show that most are Unionist political leaders members of the Junta Central. Among their ways are: they expect to be reimbursed for political contributions. the eight hour law is violated, they are loaned govt. equipment or rented at a very low rental, their own men are appointed inspectors, they are allowed changes to the detriment of the quality of the work, they are permitted to use inferior material from original specifications, and when they fail the work is completed by the office using convict labor and they are given the difference in cost, a single contractor sometimes presents bids under several names, all dummies, men in the same Govt. are partners of contractors.

Personal use of Govt property: The Govt cars are used for joy rides,

and private business and all the time the chauffers are paid their per diem allowance, plans and projects prepared by the govt. are sold under "assumed names, employees are forced to work for them in their private business under fear of being fired, laborers are used in their own business and all the time kept in the Govt pay-roll.

Disloyalty and hatred to America: Disloyalty and hatred to America are openly encouraged, all efforts are made to discredit the Adm. specially with the tax-payers, so as to make "kickers" and "knockers" Orders are deliberately misconstrued and wrongly translated. Citizens are encouraged to ask for things unlawful, so that when they are refused, blame is placed with the administration. A complete spying system is kept, telegrams are delayed, and copied. Unlawful appointments: Men with criminal records have been appointed, paid by day so as to beat the law and requirements. Employees are allowed to come to San Juan to attend Unionist Political Juntas and made appear as on "official business" and paid salary and per diems, loyal employees are made false charges and framed to appoint spys. Paymasters and time keepers keep a continuous graft, and force political propaganda and campaigns.

It would be possible to write pages and pages about the corruption and incompetency of this Dept, where the Supt of Public Works, who in accordance with the law should be a "experienced Civil Engineer" was appointed without fulfilling this requisite, and for "special purposes" where contractors boss the inspectors and bribe them, but above will suffice to show you the "inner" workings of the ring.

The remedy should be energetically applied, so as to clear this situation and make it possible for loyal and efficient employees to cooperate with the actual Administration.

The following changes and suggestions are submitted...:

- (1) Appointment of a Supt of Public Works who should be a Graduate Civil Engineer, loyal, and who knows the "inside" of the combine as any other not knowing their ways will be enmeshed-in--enmeshed in their ring.
- (2) Removal of Eng of Maintenance, Eng of Municipal Works, and Eng of Investigations.
- (3) A complete investigation of all contracts, specially the Barrio Obrero and schools, and a continuous rotation of inspectors.

It is sincerely hoped that if above means are taken, the Administration will be saved, and a real loyal and competent Department established which will push and carry to success the Government's Plan as stated in his Inaugural Address Program, to the satisfaction of the people and glory and prestige of the American Flag.