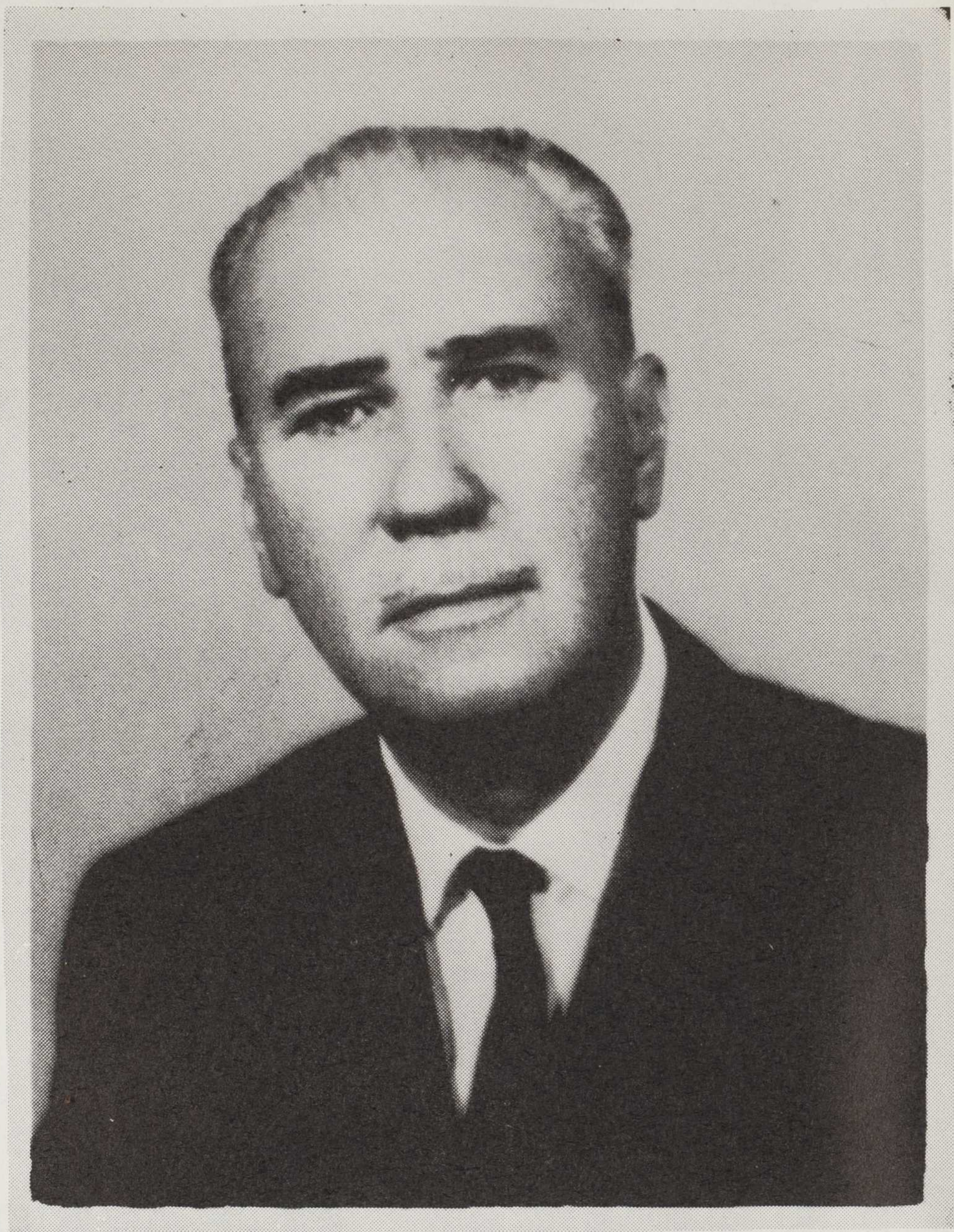




Juan Antonio Corretjer

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Juan Antonio Corretjer is one of the Old Guard of Puerto Rico's anti-Yankee revolution, and at the same time a prophet and fighter for the country's revolutionary future.

The national secretary of the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party at the time of imperialism's Ponce Massacre, he went to a U.S. prison along with Albizu Campos, that party's president, in 1937 and served

six years of a ten-year term. The remaining time he was under parole in New York City and barred from visiting his native land.

In 1934 he had borne arms in the Cuban revolution against dictator Machado. (A revolutionary ``junta'' took power from Machado, but a traitor-member of the junta, strong in the army, was able to defeat the other members later, and with the backing of the U.S., set up his own dictatorship. His name was Batista.)

Today, Senor Corretjer leads the Socialist League of Puerto Rico, a Marxist-Leninist organization which solidarizes with Fidel Castro and predicts that the Puerto Rican struggle for independence will to a large degree follow the Cuban example.

His party is based on the working class, and his ideas for Puerto Rican liberation are rooted in Marxism. While he sees the road to Puerto Rican independence going at the same time to socialism, he has nothing in common with those pseudo-Marxists who say there can be no independence for Puerto Rico until the U.S. is socialist. (And then, they say, no independence will be necessary!)

He is a vigorous man in his middle fifties respected by all shades of radical and nationalist opinion in Puerto Rico and much loved by his friends and followers. He resides with his wife, Consuelo, in Guaynabo (very near to San Juan). He edits ``Pabellon'' (the organ of the Socialist League), the newsletter, ``Quincena'' and other literary material.