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FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1

24th August, 1950.

Dear Senor Arujo,

In Mr. Ernest Davies's absence abroad I have opened your letter to him of 18th August in which you give the text of a telegram you sent to the Prime Minister.

I will put your letter before him on his return.

Yours truly,

*M. Toal*

Private Secretary.

Senor Arujo.



1709  
25th August 1950.

Dear M. Manuel de Irujo,

I am writing to acknowledge your letter of August 22nd which I am forwarding to Mr Clement Davies who is down in his Constituency during the Parliamentary Recess.

Yours faithfully,

*J. A. C. B. H. D.*

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Private Secretary

M. Manuel de Irujo,  
Groupe Parlementaire Basque,  
11 Avenue Marceau,  
Paris, 16.

*Committee*  
NATIONAL COUNCIL LABOUR PARTY

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L o n d o n .

GROUPE PARLEMENTAIRE BASQUE APPREIE VOTRE SOLIDARITE EN DEMANDANT GOUVERNEMENT  
ANGLAIS MAINTIEN ONU RESOLUTION DECEMBRE 1946 CONTRE FRANCO SALUTATIONS.

I R U J O (president)

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Le 23 Aout 1950

Confirmation of Cable sent VIA COMMERCIAL

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Ordinaire

ATLEE PRIME MINISTER  
LONDON

FRENCH PRESS AFFIRMS INCLINATION OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT  
TO ABROGATE RESOLUTIONS PASSED UNO DECEMBER 1946 AGAINST  
FRANCO STOP BASQUE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP BEGS YOUR EXCELLENCY  
TO CONSIDER CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH A REPEAL FIRST WOULD  
MAINTAIN FRANCO'S TOTALITARIAN REGIME SECOND WOULD  
BRING COMPLETE DESPAIR TO DEMOCRATS THIRD WOULD GIVE  
COMMUNISTS BEST POSSIBLE PROPAGANDA

RESPECTFULLY

Irujo

President

11 Avenue Marceau PARIS 16

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18th August, 1950

My dear friend,

I am sending the following telegram to the Prime Minister, Mr. Atlee:-

"FRENCH PRESS AFFIRMS INCLINATION OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO ABROGATE RESOLUTIONS PASSED UNO DECEMBER 1946 AGAINST FRANCO STOP BASQUE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP BEGS YOUR EXCELLENCY CONSIDER CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH REPEAL FIRST WOULD MAINTAIN FRANCO'S TOTALITARIAN REGIME SECOND WOULD BRING COMPLETE DESPAIR TO DEMOCRATS THIRD WOULD GIVE COMMUNISTS BEST POSSIBLE PROPAGANDA.

RESPECTFULLY"

May I earnestly request you to take note of its contents and, if you consider our position to be correct, to kindly give your support to our petition in the way you see fit.

Please accept my kindest regards and remember me to your wife. I trust you are both in the very best of health.

Yours very sincerely,

Mr. Ernest DAVIES

Quiero enviar al Premier Atlee un telegrama, puesto en ingles, que exprese las ideas siguientes:

"La prensa francesa afirma la disposición del Gobierno Británico de votar la revocación de las Resoluciones acordadas en Diciembre de 1946 por la ONU contra Franco. El Grupo Parlamentario Vasco ruega a V.E. considere las consecuencias de esa revocación: Primera, mantener el régimen totalitario franquista. Segunda, Llevar la desesperación a los demócratas. Tercera, Entregar a los comunistas la mejor propaganda. Saludale respetuosamente: Presidente Irujo

Si pusiera el telegrama en español, tendría el texto siguiente:

"Prensa francesa afirma disposición Gobierno Británico votar revocación Resoluciones acordadas ONU Diciembre 1946 contra Franco stop Grupo Parlamentario Vasco ruega V.E. considere consecuencias revocacion Primera Mantener régimen totalitario franquista Segunda Llevar desesperacion demócratas Tercera Entregar comunistas propaganda inmejorable. Saludale respetuosamente"

Quisiera que me pusieran en ingles el texto.

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Con una carta a M. Ernest Davies, que diga:

Mi querido amigo: Dirijo al Presidente Atlee el telegrama siguiente: (Se copia el anterior).

Ruego a Vd. se haga cargo de su contenido, y si considera Vd. que nuestra posición es correcta, que apoye nuestra petición en la medida que de Vd. dependa.

Póngame a los pies de su Sra y reciba mi cordial saludo

Manuel de Irujo

*Manuel de Irujo*

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Sir,

I am taking the liberty of addressing this letter to you, and trust that it will not trouble you too much. I know the kindness which you have always shown towards us, and the generous attention you have given to our problems at all times. I know, above all, that I am writing to an English Liberal.

I have recently sent the following telegram to the Prime Minister, Mr. Atlee:-

"FRENCH PRESS AFFIRMS INCLINATION OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO ABROGATE RESOLUTIONS PASSED UNO DECEMBER 1946 AGAINST FRANCO STOP BASQUE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP BEGS YOUR EXCELLENCY TO CONSIDER CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH A REPEAL FIRST WOULD MAINTAIN FRANCO'S TOTALITARIAN REGIME SECOND WOULD BRING COMPLETE DESPAIR TO DEMOCRATS THIRD WOULD GIVE COMMUNISTS BEST POSSIBLE PROPAGANDA"

I think that the text transcribed does not call for any comment. I am sure that it is clear to you. I am of the opinion that if the British Government could make known its opposed position to any abrogation of the Resolution adopted by UNO in December 1946 against the totalitarian regime of General Franco, such a manifestation would produce an excellent effect on all English speaking European countries, as well as on the Spanish-American democratically governed countries, which, unfortunately, are not numerous.

It may appear strange to have to make such an appeal to the Labour Government which was established in consequence of elections which carried as one of their slogans "Vote for Churchill is vote for Franco". However, one is very often compelled to act against one's better judgment for the sake of bitter reality. The proposition is one ~~for~~ international morality and for efficiency in democratic action. For this, and because it goes beyond the limits of that which may be considered as British internal policy, I dare to suggest that a friendly indication might be given to Mr. Atlee to consider the consequences of the British attitude to which I refer in the text of the telegram.

If you are of the opinion that the request I am making is inopportune, please excuse me for having wasted your valuable time with this letter. In any case, I should like to take this opportunity of expressing to you our great sympathy for the position maintained by the English Liberal Party, so close to ours in problems which are common to us both and which are fundamental for democracy and world peace.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Manuel de Irujo