

With Compliments

The Basque Government with all the political forces that comprise it, Christian democrats, Socialists and Liberals, hope that Euzkadi and Spain will form part of the Common Market. The "Consejo Vasco por la Federacion Europea" brings all the different political and syndicate forces together to organise a method by which to achieve this aim. In this matter the Basques are supported by all Spanish political forces of socialist, christian democrat and liberal character associated to the Consejo Federal Espanol por el Movimiento Europeo, which is presided over by Mr Salvador de Madariaga, assisted by Socialist, Christian democrat, Liberal, Galician, Catalan and Basque Vicepresidents, the Monarchic Vicepresidency being vacant since the death of its holder Mr Juan Antonio Ansaldo Bejarana.

At the same time that the Basques and the Federal Council wish Spain to form part of the European Economic Community, they oppose that this Community reinforce General Franco's regime by admitting it. The loss of dignity and human liberty is too high a price to pay for economic advantages, which in any case would only be illusory while the present regime lasts.

Spain is a country occupied by its own army, incarnated in General Franco, whom the generals named Dictator and Caudillo. The sole ambition of the regime is to survive. We have recent proof, which in its apparent insignificance, illustrates this situation, which has remained substantially unchanged since the days of the civil war in which the regime was installed due to a military victory.

In the last week of August and first week of September, the courses of the Summer University should have taken place, as organised by the Royal Society of Friends of Pamplona, which dates from the XVIII century and Eskuolzaleen Biltzarra de Bayone constituted in the last days of the XIX century and first of the XX. The purpose of these courses was to study the subject of the incorporation of Euzkadi (Basque Country) and Spain in the Common Market. Franco's Government gave permission for these courses to take place because it believed they would help in its own demands for admittance into the European Economic Community. Once the University had been organised, the Basque, Spanish, French and Belgium professors who were to take part, had been appointed, the scholarships had been awarded to the students, and cultural and folklorical demonstration had been prepared, then General Franco's Government, acting through the mediation of the "Governador Civil de Pamplona" began to present difficulties. Certain communications had to be subjected to Ministerial censorship; supporters of Franco's regime had to be invited to participate in the University courses; the event would be declared "protegida" and "subvencionada" by the Government, Mr Robert van Schendel, General Secretary of the European Movement would have to be withheld from the conferences, declared as "undesired".

nable" and not allowed to set foot on Spanish soil. The organisers although opposed, accepted the first three conditions, but they could not agree to the fourth. A Europeist course from which the General Secretary of the European Movement is expelled is something inadmissible. General Franco's Government assembled in "El PAZO DE MEITAS" and presided over by the "Caudillo" agreed to prohibit the University courses which it had previously authorised.

In all fairness it must be said, that the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Castiella, opposed this decision, because he realised that it blocked the road that could lead Spain towards Europe. The decision adopted as proposed by Mr Camilio Alonso Vega, Ministro de la Gobernacion, illustrates Spain's preference not to enter Europe rather than let the regime's enemies be the organisers and possible benefactors of this entry. General Franco's Government wishes Spain to enter Europe so as to consolidate the present regime. If it is not going to happen in this way, then he would rather not enter.

This is an example of the fact that everything of official nature which takes place in Spain today has its final and substantial end, the consolidation of Franco's regime.

In the near future, on account of the above mentioned occurrence, a meeting called together by the Federal Council which is presided over by ~~Minister~~ Mr Madariaga, is to be held in Paris. Representatives of the interior, mainly from the Basque country Catalonia and Madrid will take part in this meeting.

## Gibraltar

The Basque Government and the Basque people in general have not made public their position over the Gibraltar dispute.

I am only going to comment on one of the items made public by the press, which attributes to General Franco's Government the proposal to offer a Statute of Autonomy to ~~the~~ Gibraltar.

It is our duty to point out that in our opinion any such offer is of no value whatsoever. General Franco's Government has annulled the Statutes of Autonomy of Catalonia and Euzkadi (Basque country). The offer of a new Statute merits no confidence, as said Government would invalidate it as soon as convenient to itself, as it did with the Statute of Tangiers, which the Spanish Government had solemnly acceded.

The Basques, true to their belief that all colonial situations should be terminated, would find it correct that Gibraltar return to Spain, but not that it should become part of General Franco's régime to consolidate it.

Englishmen in Bilbao.

Throughout the Basque-country, especially in Bilbao at the beginning of the century, there were Englishmen and foreigners among the Spaniards. The English were not called foreigners but English.

English firms proceeded to liquidate their assets, after the first world war and did it advantageously. The private economy of the firms benefited in negotiations, but the British economy and the esteem in which the English had been held in Bilbao suffered a loss, which with the passage of time we can now estimate. It was a loss both to the English and the Basques. The Basques had lived for a century in very close and trusting relations with the English.

Bilbao was for the English a stepping stone for their commercial relations all over Spain. It was no coincidence that on the occasion of the first world war, His Majesty, knighted don Ramon de la Sota, the leading ship-owner of Bilbao.

~~Then as now, the preference is for the Germans, not for the English.~~  
*Then as now, Germans are preferred to Englishmen. This is*  
Not because of the Gibraltar dispute, which in Bilbao and in the Basque country is of little importance, but because the forces adhered to the present regime were and continue to be pro-German.

The complete isolation in which the Duke of Alba found himself when he resigned as Spanish Ambassador in London during the world war demonstrates the reality of this fact.

The present regime will not last much longer. Spain is living in a pre-constituent period.

Knowing how to act at the appropriate moment, could be advantageous to all, and in the case particularly to the English and the Basques.

### Communists.

Spanish communists are divided in three groups: pro-~~communist~~-Russian, pro-Chinese and Nationalists. The most important of the three is the first. We realize that nowadays the danger of communism in Spain is far from imminent. But this does not mean that it does not exist.

The Trade Unions formed by the regime, the only ones that exist, constitute the best basis for communist penetration. The lower organs of the official organisation of Syndicates and workers have been entrusted to the election of workers themselves.

The Alianza Sindical constituted by Socialists, Christians and Anarchist Sindicalists is opposed to any participation in those elections, which are only such in name and which only reach the lower grades of labour organisation. The communists on the other hand, take an active part in these elections and through them occupy posts in the official syndicate organisation of the State.

Franco's Regime wish to "repatriate" all exiles, results in all Spanish Consular Organisations facilitating said repatriations which are paid for by the State Funds.

Use is made of this repatriation, almost exclusively by the communists.

Not only the Alianza Sindical but also the "Union de Fuerzas Democraticas", which under the presidency of Mr Manuel Gimenez brings together Christian Democrats, Liberals, Socialists, Galicians and Basques, is opposed to participating in this game, ordered by the State and executed by accredited Spanish Consuls, principally in the Spanish and Portuguese speaking continent of America.

The continuation of Franco Regime, could permit the communists to infiltrate in the actual State Organs, without it being easy to foresee the intensity of this infiltration nor the possible consequences. All policies with an aim to maintaining the present regime, are favourable to this communist infiltration. Wish it or not, the organs which execute the policies of General Franco's Government and their interior and exterior supporters, are offering the opportunity to communism of constituting that danger which today, we do not believe exists.

The forces which oppose the regime are drawn up without the support of the communists and have objectives which are in opposition to those of communism. Democrats and Communists openly oppose each other over the problems of European integration and Atlantic integration. They are similarly opposed to each other internal policies; the communists participate whenever possible in the constitution and functioning of the regime's administrative and social organs, whereas the Democrats are opposed to this participation, which they repudiate.

The communists prepare their organisation to confront, not the present regime under whose protection they try to infiltrate the life of the State, but the regime which will succeed the present one, unless it be their own. Whatsoever helps to prolongate the life of the present regime, substantially helps communism.

A communist infiltration had started in the lower ranks of the army. It can be regarded as having failed, not because ~~masonic elements~~ of action taken by Franco's regime, but because masonic elements have secretly penetrated into the army. These elements are in touch with persons who constitute the Republican Government in Exile, and who are strongly anti-communist.

Secretly