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THE SPANISH WAR DISABLED IN EXILE  
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The Labour weekly of London, "TRIBUNE", in its issue of February 3, 1967, published the following note about the Spanish War Disabled:

"SPAIN'S FORGOTTEN MEN"

More than 1.500 men disabled in the Spanish Civil War are still living in exile. About 300 of them are incapable of working. Most of these disabled men are in France, in poor hospitals and workhouses. They have no official protection and only receive the modest help of a few private organisations and several humanitarian individuals.

The German Government has recently granted a pension to all disabled men of the "Blue Division" of General Franco, which fought in the service of Hitler; but no democratic government has considered it its duty to help the Republican disabled, who sacrificed their health and happiness for the liberty of Spain and humanity. The Spanish Republican Government in exile has no money for this purpose.

Most of the Spanish Republican disabled and invalid men and women (who now suffer the extra burden of old age) are members of the "League of Exiled and Disabled of the Spanish War", which has its headquarters in Bordeaux. This League, to the fullest extent of its powers, admits and protects all exiled disabled men of the Spanish War, whatever their ideologies. That is why it has the official approval of the Spanish Republican Government in exile. Anyone wishing to get more details may apply to the Secretary, Mr. Enrique Guillamon, 36 Rue Molière, Pessac (Gironde), France.

The Anglo-Spanish group, "Friends of the Spanish War Disabled in Exile", formed in London on June 3, 1965, send to the League in Bordeaux, at the end of every quarter, small amounts of money collected from their associates and collaborators. The unfortunate Spanish disabled have received till now too little help to cover even their most elementary necessities.

Contributions can be sent to Mr. Digno Fernández, Secretary-Treasurer of the Anglo-Spanish group "Friends of the Spanish War Disabled in Exile", 5 Bathurst Street, London, W.2."

To this note of "Tribune" we want to add that contributions for helping the Spanish disabled can also be sent to M. Alexandre Traperro, Treasurer of the "League of Exiled and Disabled of the Spanish War", 64 Rue Bori, Bordeaux, France.

For the group "Friends of the Spanish War Disabled in Exile",  
The President: José Antonio Balbontín, 120, Arthur Court,  
Queensway, London, W.2.

The Secretary: Digno Fernández Mori, 5 Bathurst Street,  
London, W.2.

London, February, 1967.

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5 de enero de 1968.

Querido Irujo:

He estado estos días visitando amigos enfermos de la gripe y he acabado por pescar ese cochino virus. Voy a llamar al médico y me voy a meter en la cama. No podré asistir, por tanto, a la reunión de mañana en la Casa Vasca, aunque es claro que estaré en espíritu con ustedes.

Le envío un cheque de £5-10-0 como pago de mi suscripción a OPE por un año, y dos hojas de nuestro grupo de "Amigos de los Mutilados Españoles". La hoja de octubre ha sido publicada por "Le Syndicalist". ¿Podría usted publicarla en OPE, o mejor aún escribir usted mismo una nota sobre este asunto, tan deplorablemente olvidado por la mayor parte de los "jefes" de la emigración?

Le remito también un ejemplar de mi libre "¿Dónde está la verdad?", recientemente publicado en Barcelona.

Espero verle antes de que vuelva usted a Francia.

Feliz Año Nuevo. Un fuerte abrazo de su buen amigo,

*J. A. Balbontin*