Spanish officers to be tried for sedition
From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Aug 7
All nine Spanish Army officers arrested last month and held incommunicado since then face court martial on charges of sedition, it was learnt in Madrid today.

According to sources close to the officers' lawyers they will be tried under Article 503 of the military code which cites "complicity for the crime of sedition." Sentences for offences under this article would range from six months to six years' imprisonment. A special military judge has been investigating the charges for a week.

The eight captains and a major come from different units in the First Military Region which covers Madrid and a large section of central Spain.

Apart from announcing the arrests, the military have kept silent about the affair. It is said that the officers belong to a loosely-knit and unofficial organization called the Democra-

tic Military Union, which meets to discuss current affairs.

They are alleged to have made contacts with left-wing Portuguese officers and discussed the role of the military in the Revolution there, a sensitive subject in Spain.

Spanish Army dissidents not a threat
From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Aug 8
The activities of disaffected officers in Spain were dismissed as not serious by Lieutenant-General Fernando Vallejo, the chief of staff.

Replying to a question about the possibility of a military coup, he said: "We know about these intentions and, in our opinion, they are merely white noise."

Since the coup in Portugal there have been people dreaming of a coup in Spain.

Asked about the eight captains and a major facing court martial on charges of sedition, General Vallejo said they were "a small group that had stepped out of line."

Water rationed as drought hits northern Spain
From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Aug 7
A drought in northern Spain has made water rationing necessary. The Basque provinces of Guipuzcoa in its hinterland and Guipuzcoa has only 12 days' supply of water. Rationing began yesterday.

Some towns and villages in central Spain are restricted to one hour of water a day. Trust in the north is facing a less serious problem, and people are being asked to cut down voluntarily. Madrid is said to have enough water reserves to last more than a year.

Assassins succeed at second go
From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Aug 9
A factory guard was shot dead on Friday in Haro, near the Basque provinces of Guipuzcoa. Colonel Demeo Marín, aged 51, was shot outside his home when two men got out of a Morris car. One of them fired three times with a pistol and when Colonel Marín fell wounded the other set out a burst of machine-gun fire.

According to a newspaper report, Colonel Marín had been fearing for his life since the beginning of last month when an attempt to kill him was made by alleged members of the Basque terrorist organization ETA. That time several shots were fired at him as he was arriving for work.

So far no organization has claimed responsibility for the death.

Unofficial sources say an ETA squad which may be under the command of Ignacio Apa-


Police discover hideaways used by Basque terrorists
From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Aug 7
Spanish police arrested five Basques yesterday and discovered three "safe houses," said to have been used by members of the Basque terrorist organization ETA to elude capture.

Information from two terrorists captured last week—Señor Pedro Bengoa, alias Wilson, and Señor Juan Paredes Monut, alias Tariqu—led to the seizure of 20 kilograms of explosives and detonators found hidden in abandoned mines.

The main police operation was in San Sebastian, where police raided Basque. One of those arrested was said to be Señor María del Carmen Abur, alias Mantau, who was said to have rented one of the safe houses where Wilson spent several months.

In another hideaway police arrested a married couple living kept in the Bas. Two of the others arrested in San Sebastian were alleged to be collaborators of the ETA terrorists, and police say they found in their possession the plan of a recent mine explosion used by Wilson in the recent mine explosion used by Wilson in the recent hideaway in San Sebastian.

Barcelona, Aug 7: Nine more members of the Basque terrorist group ETA were arrested today in Madrid, Señor José María Huertas, editor of a newspaper considered insulting to the armed forces, has been arrested.

Since then, Señor Huertas has been kept in police custody by left-wing Basques yesterday. A letter in the Barcelona press yesterday, the journalist's wife admitted that her husband had met Wilson but that he had been unaware of his identity. Agence France-Presse.
Las declaraciones de Coloma Gallegos a ARRIBA
ACLRAN EQUIVOCOS ANTE LA OPINIÓN INGLESA

«The Times» se hace eco de la entrevista con el Ministro del Ejército.

LONDRES, 12. (Del corresponsal interino de Pyresa.) — El prestigioso «The Times» se ha hecho eco para sus lectores de las declaraciones publicadas el domingo en ARRIBA. En el escrito teniente general Francisco Coloma Gallegos, Ministro del Ejército.

Las declaraciones del Ministro español han oportunas, por cuento la situación en la Península Ibérica puede provocar cualquier equivocación en el lector británico, tan dado a asimilar lo que sus periodistas le ponen por delante.

La negación del Ministro de que el sentido de unidad del Ejército español está minado y la afirmación de que las tensiones y el miedo que las fuerzas armadas mantienen disciplinados y dedicados a sus misiones, ha puesto en claro, insólito, a veces y otros, qué declaraciones de Coloma Gallegos: «No representa ni la mitad de los reiterados que tenemos. No hay necesidad de que se pronuncien personajes por lo que está ocurriendo.»

«The Times» advierte que el Ministro había evitado en la entrevista que no hay tensión alguna en el país.

Basque is shot dead near Gen Franco's birthplace

From Harry Delahaye, MADRID, Aug 15

The police shot dead a suspected Basque separatist today near General Franco's birthplace, El Ferrol del Cañada, in northwest Spain.

Selina Juan, 28, an alleged member of the Basque separatist movement ETA was shot dead at a pre-dawn gun battle with the police.

Only hours earlier, the police had searched the home, named three Basque suspects. The Spanish official news agency Efe said that the three were armed with a machine gun, three pistols and had plenty of ammunition.

About 20 people have been arrested as a result of police searches and according to ABC, the Sunday daily, planning to strike a public figure. A special watch has been kept on the house of the monarchist dailies, who have been unacquainted with an identity card. Guns and ammunition were also found. A bombshell in Zarango was damaged by a petrol bomb yesterday.

Spanish police claim arrest of gun battle fugitive

From Harry Delahaye MAJORCA, Aug 15

Spanish police today arrested three people accused of involvement in a gun battle last week in which an officer was killed. Wilson was believed responsible for leading the arrest of several alleged activists. Informant sources say that Wilson was wounded in the upper right part of the head by a shot at the time of his capture.

Several of the priests who have been in solitary confinement in Madrid are expected to be released this week. A priest was arrested in Oristone yesterday afternoon. He is believed to be connected with the development of leaks of information at the detention of a priest.

El prominente «The Times» se ha hecho eco para sus lectores de las declaraciones publicadas el domingo en ARRIBA.
Speculation grows over Franco retirement

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Aug 15

The police, in the first raid on territories in Galicia, north-west Spain, have searched the residence of the Bishop of Mondoñedo-Ferrol, Msgr Miguel Arzuaga Ignacio.

The raid of the civil guard was the scene of intense police activity this week after an alleged terrorist was shot dead and two others escaped from a so-called "safe house." According to the press, the new official agency, the police suspected that fugitives might be hiding in the bishop's residence.

The agency said he might be trying to escape, the search warrant was executed in the bishop's residence.

The search was made on Wednesday morning, and no information about the content of the search was disclosed. In an "urgent case," the police could search without permission.

Spanish journalist accused of insulting Army

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Aug 15

A Barcena, a journalist accused of insulting the Army, has been arrested by the police today.

The arrest was made in connection with previous writings in which he had used derogatory language against the Army.

Earlier this month, the police raided the home of the journalist, coincide with a progressive Roman Catholic magazine.

The journalist is expected to be charged with sedition.

Spain to raise hotel rates

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Aug 15

Holidaymakers will have to pay a 10% to 20% more by the end of the year for accommodation in Spain. A commission of the Inter-Ministerial Commission on Prices has recommended an increase of 10% to 15% in three and four-star hotels.

An increase of nearly 17% for pension meals is also proposed. The commission, composed of representatives of the different sectors, has recommended an increase of 15% to 20% for pension meals.
**Man with brain damage faces death sentence**

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Aug. 26

A military court which is to try a man accused of killing a Basque separatist in Burgos next week has ordered that he be sent to prison tomorrow because he refused to sign a statement admitting his guilt.

The court ordered the defendant, a member of the Basque separatist organization ETA, to be taken to prison tonight. He was arrested last month in a police operation and has been held in custody ever since.

**Journalist to face court martial for ‘insult’**

From Harry Debelius

Madrid, Aug. 27

A Spanish journalist was arrested today for allegedly insulting a Basque separatist in a newspaper article.

Señor José Antonio Garzón, 28, was arrested in Madrid today for making what police said was an “insulting” remark in a newspaper article about the separatist organization ETA. Garzón is a member of the Basque political party in Madrid.

**Hunger strike to save Basques**

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Aug. 26

More than a hundred Basque political prisoners on hunger strike in protest against the trial of two Basques accused of murder have gone on a hunger strike.

The trials of two Basques accused of murder are expected to take place in the coming days. The prisoners are demanding that the trials be held in absentia and that the sentences be reduced.

**Arms raid on barracks in Madrid**

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Aug. 27

Four alleged members of the extreme-left-wing Revolutionary Anti-Fascist Front were arrested last night in a police raid on a barracks in Madrid.

The police said they were looking for arms stolen from a military barracks in Madrid last month. The group was said to be planning to attack a military base in Madrid.

**Pro-Government bands are no match for Basque separatist group**

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Aug. 27

Spanish police and army units have failed to stop Basque separatist groups from carrying out a series of attacks in the Basque region.

The groups have been attacking police and army checkpoints, damaging property, and setting fires.

**Spanish right wants reforms**

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Aug. 26

Spanish right-wing politicians are calling for radical changes in the country’s political system, including a new constitution and devolution of power to the regions.

They want to create a more democratic and participatory system of government, with more power for the regions and less for the central government.
Phosphates generate tensions in the Sahara

Spain stands to lose its 2.25 million-tonne phosphate mines if the Spanish Sahara passes to Morocco, fuelling fears ofMarker’s claims to the Spanish Sahara.

The World Court’s decision in the case of Spain v. Morocco on the status of the Western Sahara is expected today.

In the past, the Spanish authorities had been forced to evacuate phosphates from the desert by air, but this is the first time that the Court has ruled on the case.

The estimated amount of high-grade phosphates in the Saguia El Hamra area is 80,000,000 tons, which is 4.5 times that of the United Kingdom.

The Court has been told by a number of witnesses that phosphates are being mined in the desert by Atar and that the miners are working under difficult conditions.

West Europe: Verdict on Basque is expected today

From Our Correspondent, Madrid, Aug 20

The Basque country today could be in for a dramatic day, as the Supreme Court is expected to deliver its verdict on the Basque separatist movement ETA.

The case involves a number of ETA suspects, including the movement’s leader, Josu Ternera, who is facing charges of terrorism.

The Basque country has been rocked by a series of terrorist attacks in recent years, including the bombing of a bus in Bilbao in 1997 and the shooting of a police officer in San Sebastian in 1999.

Marruecos: Cans and meat

From Our Correspondent, Madrid, Aug 20

The Court of Justice of the European Union today is expected to rule on the meat trade between Spain and Morocco.

The Court is expected to rule that Spain has the right to block the import of meat products from Morocco, which has been accused of poor hygiene standards.

The case involves a number of meat companies, including the Spanish company Iberia, which has been accused of importing meat from Morocco.

Spain lifts ban on Basque protesters

From Our Correspondent, Madrid, Aug 20

The Spanish government today lifted the 36-hour ban on Basque protesters, following the Court of Justice’s ruling.

The ban was imposed after the Court ruled that the Spanish government had acted unlawfully in blocking the protesters from accessing the Basque country.

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Madrid jail hunger strikers in 'punishment cells'

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Sept 1

Spain’s Supreme Court today ruled that two prisoners, who have been on hunger strike for 20 days, could be transferred to "punishment cells" in another prison, where they would be held in isolation.

The Court’s decision follows a previous ruling by the European Court of Human Rights, which had ordered Spain to provide better conditions for prisoners on hunger strike.

Britons for trial in Spain

From Our Correspondent, Madrid, Aug 20

As part of the government’s "war on drugs" in Spain, a number of Britons are facing trial for their involvement in the drug trade.

One of the defendants, Mr. Smith, is accused of importing and selling drugs in Madrid, and is facing up to 20 years in prison if convicted.

The case has sparked controversy in Britain, with many Britons highlighting the harsh sentences being imposed.

The British government has recently announced plans to crack down on drug trafficking in Spain, with a series of arrests and seizures in recent months.