 Español Opposition choose team to meet Premier

Debates Start in Spain on the Future of the Monarchy

Representatives of Christian Democrats, Liberals, Socialists and Communists were meeting today to draw up a team to negotiate with the Government over political problems.

This came after a meeting on Monday between Señor Suarez, the Prime Minister, and Christian Democrats who appear to be acting as unofficial intermediaries between the Government and the Opposition.

The main stumbling block in forming the negotiating team is the problem of the Communist Party, which remains illegal, although widely tolerated.

Señor Suarez is reliably reported to have told the Christian Democrats that he wants to talk with the Opposition as soon as possible, but that he will not accept a representative of the Communist Party. He would not object, however, if the Communists were indirectly represented.

Political sources said today that Professor Juan Reina Gil-Robles and Señor José María Gil-Robles for the Christian Democrats, and Professor Enrique Tarín González for the Socialists, would probably form part of the team.

If the Communist Party insisted on being directly represented, this could cause the Government to withdraw its offer and could split the Opposition. The Government is also anxious to talk with the Catholic Opposition. At a secret meeting of Catholic opposition figures last night Señor Anton Carassino, a Christian Democrat, conveyed the Prime Minister's message that a Communist could not be in the team.

Señor Suarez is due to visit Catalonia later this month to complete the negotiations on political reform later this month.

Inclusion of a Communist threatens talks in Spain

English Correspondent

The inclusion of a member of the Communist Party in the opposition negotiations on a coalition government is threatening talks here today that he governed might accept the offer to meet the legislators of the Christian Democrats.

English sources say it is unlikely that the Government will accept a Communist representative in the coalition. The decision may well depend on how the Communist Party chooses its representative.

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It is clear that the Christian Democrats, Social Democrats, Socialists, and Liberal Democrats, forming part of the team, will not continue to talk with the Communist Party.

Christian Democrats and Social Democrats, although they both accept the necessity of allowing the Communist Party to take part, are becoming increasingly anxious over next year's general elections. Unlike the Socialists and the Communists, they are not well organized and have no popular following.

It is still early to state that if the Communist Party were to become part of the team, and the rest of the main parties would agree, this would make the formation of a new coalition government impossible.

Señor Suarez is due to visit Catalonia later this month to complete the negotiations on political reform later this month.
Spanish campaign tactics change

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Dec 5

The Spanish Socialist Workers Party was posed for its congress on Sunday, its first since the civil war. Foreign delegates include Mr. Michael Foot, the Deputy Leader of the Labour Party. Here Willy Brandt, the West German Socialist leader, and M. Francois Mitterrand, the French Socialist leader.

The congress, with 778 delegates, is one of the most important opposition events of the last 40 years. Permission to hold it came only after a struggle with the Government.

Spanish Socialist plan for joint party action

From Our Own Correspondent

The Spanish Socialist Workers Party, holding its first congress inside the country since the civil war, is to appeal to European governments and left-wing parties to press for joint party action for Spain's democratic constitution.

Willy Brandt, the West German socialist leader, offered at the Madrid exhibition Centre, where the leaders' manifesto was published in the leading newspapers as the result of an international meeting that took place in Spain in 1932, says that Spain is the last country in Europe to be included in the democratic community of nations.

Brandt visit enhances Bonn's prestige in Spain

From Richard Wieg
Madrid, Dec 7

The Spanish Socialist Workers Party, holding its first congress inside the country since the civil war, is to appeal to European governments and left-wing parties to press for joint party action for Spain's democratic constitution.

Although Herr Brandt was uncomfortable with Bonn's prestige in Spain, he said that he was playing the mediator's role between the Socialist Party and the Government. The reception was attended by leading representatives of the Madrid and Catalan socialist parties, the Socialists, the Christian Democrats, the Centro Democratico, the Socialists, and the Labour Party. Here Willy Brandt, the West German socialist leader, and M. Francois Mitterrand, the French Socialist leader, were received by King Juan Carlos at the Zarzuela Palace last night.
From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Dec 8

The Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE) ended its congress in Madrid today by demanding that the Spanish Government should concede full political liberties in the forthcoming negotiations with the democratic opposition.

But the party also left open the possibility of taking part in the general election next year even if guarantees to ensure fair consultation were not obtained.

"The participation of the PSOE in any type of elections will be decided by the party's national committee accompanied by an intensive campaign to inform party supporters", the approved motion declared. If the party did decide to take part in the election, it would do so under its own colours. This made it clear that the party would run against the Communists if they were allowed to take part.

The congress urged the public to abstain from voting in the reform Bill referendum next month, and the national committee accompanied the party's statement with a call for a "national strike".

But in contrast to the tactics of the other left-wing parties, the long-term goal of the party congress is a "socialist society".

The congress reaffirmed the PSOE as a "class party".

The congress did vote by a large majority to abandon the concept of the "dictatorship of the proletariat" but in a theoretical passage it confirmed Marxian goals and rejected the idea of accepting a reform of capitalism.

It also affirmed that what it called "the degree of pressure" to be exercised in achieving a socialist society "would depend upon the resistance put up by the bourgeoisie in face of democratic rights of the people.

The party statement did not exclude the use of force if needed to obtain respect for the workers' rights obtained by the workers.

An international policy the congress confirmed the PSOE has been taking ever since it emerged from secrecy that the United States' military bases in Spain should be wound up. It said that the bases "mark the foreign relations without having ever been subjected to the approval of the people.

The governments of the European Community were urged to insist in getting Spain's entry into the EEC so long as democratic freedoms were not achieved. But afterwards the Spanish Socialists would work with other European parties to make the EEC more representative of popular interests, and support a directly elected European Parliament.

From Harry Deballis
Madrid, Dec 10

The fugitive leader of the outlawed Spanish Communist Party said at a secret press conference here today that his party will present a list of candidates next month for the coming Spanish parliamentary elections.

Santiago Carrillo, secretary-general of the party, said he had been living in the capital since February 7, in spite of the fact that the Government refused to give him a passport to allow him to return from exile legally. He had left and entered Spain several times during the past 10 months on party business.

The press conference, which was attended by about 25 journalists, most of whom were Spanish, took place in a Madrid flat. The police did not interfere, either because they did not know about it until after it was over or because they were under orders to avoid becoming involved in an embarrassing incident with Santiago Carrillo so close to past Wednesday's referendum.

In another part of the city, however, the police were noted about 1,000 people from a university assembly hall where they had gathered to attend a round table discussion on the referendum, called by the illegal leftist organisation known as Democratic Coordinators.

Santiago Carrillo said: "If the Communist Party and other leftist political groups are committed to the role of "party parliamentary opposition" working class, the working class themselves left on the sideline from the moment community will set accordingly. This is a threat; it is a danger.

"In the first half of January we will publish the names of the candidates presented by the Communist Party for the Congress as well as for the Senate in each of the provinces. As we will have designated 35,000 think that is the most important of the party's election judges.

"We firmly reject the idea of being allowed to look all only briefly and shamantly through the eyes of some list of candidates."

With regard to next week referendum, Sefior Carrillo said his party advised votes to abstain, "along with the majority of the democratic opposition".

Abstention in this case does not mean indifference in a way of participation. Now that people are being asked to vote with shouts in our ears and the only way to speak: to say that we disagree.

"Why do we abstain? Because the reform is to represent democracy and no vote is perfect, that is to say, the only way to speak: to say that we disagree."
Spanish kidnappers demand prisoners’ release

From Harry Debelius

Madrid, Dec. 14

One of the most influential political figures in Spain was kidnapped at his Madrid office yesterday after he had been accused of giving arms to political terrorists. The victim is the current President of the Council of State, Senor Antonio Maria de Oriol y Urquijo, aged 63, a member of the Council of the Realm, a member of Parliament and of the National Council of General Franco, and a towering figure in Spain, considered to be the most prominent man of state.

The kidnappers entered the Oriol Foundation office yesterday morning and told Senor Oriol's secretary that they had been sent by his political enemies. They forced Senor Oriol out of his office and got away in a car.

Kidnapping related to Spanish reform vote

From Harry Debelius

Madrid, Dec. 14

With the deadline for settling kidnapper demands thought to be tomorrow, time appeared to be running out. Senor Oriol said in Madrid three days ago, with the extreme leftist First of October, Anti-Fascist Group (Grapo) demanding prisoners in exchange for their hostage, and an aircraft to fly them to Algeria.

The Spanish kidnappers are demanding the release of 14 convicted terrorists in exchange for their hostage, and an aircraft to fly them to Algeria. The kidnappers have threatened to embrace the referendum on constitutional reform, a government statement, which was published in all newspapers today and read out repeatedly on radio and television.

Regardless of who carried out the kidnapping, it is expected to increase the number of negative votes in the referendum. One of the arguments used by right-wing opponents of the proposed democratic reforms is that an authoritarian government is needed because the Spanish are incapable of settling their problems peacefully by majority vote.

The kidnappers whose release was demanded in the note attributed to Grapo included members of the organization, the exiled Spanish Communist Party, and the Basque ETA movement.

Attempt fails to buy off Spanish kidnappers

From Harry Debelius

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Kidnapping fails to deflect Spanish Prime Minister

From Harry DeBenedittis
Madrid, Dec 16

"Two men in masks under a screen on the Prado have been shot to death outside a polling station. They were among five men who entered the building at about 6:30 a.m. The men had already killed a police officer and a woman in Madrid and a man in Barcelona."

"According to police sources, the men were members of the radical left wing of the Popular Front, which has been active since the end of the Civil War.

"The government said it would not be intimidated by the killings and would continue with its policies."
Spanish offer to kidnappers

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Dec 19

The Spanish Government is prepared to make an offer to the kidnappers of Señor Antonio María de Oriol, president of the Council of State. The kidnappers' deadline was due to run out at midnight.

The Government, it reliably reported, will not meet the kidnappers' demands to release 15 imprisoned political activists. However, it is ready to fly the kidnappers and other political detainees to Algeria.

The extreme left-wing organ-ization, the First of October Anti-fascist Resistance Group (Grapo), demanded on Monday that the 15 be set free in return for the release of Señor Oriol, kidnapped six days ago. The Government has told the kidnappers that it will not do so, as it is believed the kidnappers are holding the victim for political prisoners.

Several newspapers today after the expiry of the deadline set by the kidnappers for the release of Señor Oriol. Several hundred members of the extreme left-wing organization ETA have been in prison since it was founded in the summer of 1968. The kidnappers have been demanding a total amnesty in order to achieve national harmony.

A total amnesty is the condition set by the kidnappers for the release of Señor Oriol. Several hundred members of the extreme left-wing organization ETA have been in prison since it was founded in the summer of 1968. The kidnappers have been demanding a total amnesty in order to achieve national harmony.

Amnesty pledge raises hope for Señor Oriol

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Dec 19

The kidnappers, who seized Señor Oriol, president of the Council of State, and his family, hung in the balance today after the expiry of the deadline set by the kidnappers for the release of Señor Oriol. Several hundred members of the extreme left-wing organization ETA have been in prison since it was founded in the summer of 1968. The kidnappers have been demanding a total amnesty in order to achieve national harmony.

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Spain defies demand by kidnap gang

From William Chiwindo
Madrid, Saturday morning

The fate of Señor Antonio María de Oriol y Urquiola, Spain's President of the Council of State and member of the country's most influential family, hung in the balance today after the deadline set by his kidnappers expired.

Five hours before the deadline, government spokesman, Señor Rodolfo Martin Villa, said in a press conference that the Government would not give in to the kidnappers' demands, and that if Señor Oriol were released, he would be "prosecuted through justice and the courts of the land.

The kidnappers had earlier brought forward their deadline by an hour in a note sent to the Madrid evening newspaper Informaciones, and demanded a total amnesty for its political prisoners and those convicted of crimes of terrorism. The previous deadline set by the kidnappers was midnight, and the condition was the release of 15 specified prisoners.

Señor Martin Villa emphasized that the Government would not give in to the kidnappers.

WEST EUROPE
Spanish right-wing leader saved from angry Francoists after advocating reform in referendum

From Harry Schelbald
Madrid, Dec 20

The police today rescued Señor Francisco Miranda, President of the Spanish Parliament, from the right-wing mob which had tried to kill him and jostled him.

Señor Miranda, who is also President of the powerful Committee of the Realm, Spain's highest advisory body, was threatened by the right-wing mob which had tried to kill him and jostled him.

Señor Miranda's house was surrounded by the right-wing mob which had tried to kill him and jostled him.

Several hundred people converged on Señor Miranda's house, who is also President of the powerful Committee of the Realm, Spain's highest advisory body, to demand his release.

The police were apparently caught by surprise by the tense situation. Several hundred people converged on Señor Miranda's house, who is also President of the powerful Committee of the Realm, Spain's highest advisory body, to demand his release.

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New political kidnapping suspected in Spain

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Dec 21

The Madrid-born manager of a factory in the Basque colony has disappeared in what appears to be a political kidnapping. Luis Lopez Andrade vanished on his way from the San Sebastian airport to the factory, which makes car parts, a few miles away in Bermeo.

Disconfirmed reports say his car was found with its doors locked on the outskirts of San Sebastian, and that bits of broken glass believed to be from his spectacles were found on the ground near his home.

Señor Antonio Maria de Ortil, president of the Council of State, is still in the hands of a group which demands the release of imprisoned political prisoners. The Madrid newspaper, El País, today published a new note from his captors, an organization known as Grupo 1 (First of October Anti-Fascist Group).

The latest Grupo note included a promise from the kidnapers that they would release Señor Ortil if their conditions were met. This was left in a bar, along with a handwritten letter from Señor Ortil to his wife.

In his letter, Señor Ortil said: "I continue to be well and to enjoy as much freedom as my family: "Beware of swindlers and informers. Make no mistake about the matter. The motivation is not an economic one."

Spanish Communist leader arrested in Madrid

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Dec 22

Police arrested Señor Santiago Carrillo, the fugitive leader of the Spanish Communist Party, as he was strolling along a street in the northern part of Madrid this evening.

At least seven other members of the party's executive committee were also detained, according to official reports. They were held while awaiting a judge in Carrillo's flat.

Señor Carrillo, who was arrested for alleged offences committed in the civil war, returned to Spain legally earlier this year from his exile in Paris.

A few days before the referendum last Wednesday, Señor Carrillo publicly appeared at a Madrid news conference and announced that the Spanish Communist Party will present candidates in the promised parliamentary elections even though it remains outlawed.

Late tonight, police broke up a 2,000-strong demonstration outside the civil governor's building, firing rubber bullets to disperse the crowd damaging Señor Carrillo's car.

Riot police break up Madrid protests

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Dec 23

Police fires were placed on full alert for a Christmas of expected political protest as the Spanish Communist leader was taken early today to the civil governor's Carabanchel prison.

Señor Santiago Carrillo, secretary-general of the Spanish Communist Party, who was detained in a Madrid flat last night, was taken to be tried in court.

A statement by a security officer of the Republic Government during the Civil War, turned down an offer to go back immediately to Spain where he has spent the past 18 years.

Legal sources in Madrid said today that being a Spaniard on Spanish soil, even though illegally, he could not be put forcibly on board an aircraft to be flown out of the country.

It is likely that the trial will begin in a few weeks.

The party was not aim- ing at military discipline or at a test case for the relaxation of political association and political organization is not an economic one."
Setback for hopes of Carrillo release

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Dec 25

The Spanish Government announced today that political courts will be abolished. After a Cabinet meeting, a Government spokesman said that the Court of Military Offenses would be done away with and land cases transferred to ordinary courts.

It added that cases involving terrorism would also be transferred to ordinary courts, which meant that all suspected terrorists will not live long after court martial.

The granting of freedom to Senator Carrillo, even with the change of "illegal association" to "criminal association" continues on page 4, col 1.

Spain does away with its political courts

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Dec 30

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Compromise on Spanish Communists

Continued from page 4, col 2.

The Public Order Court, which deals with political officers, ordered the Communist leader's release and set bail at 300,000 pesetas (over $1,500) after considering a plea against his arrest presented by his lawyers.

The court also freed seven other Communist leaders, the bail ranging in amounts from 130,000 to 200,000 pesetas each. All of them were arrested at about the same time as Carrillo and all of them have been charged with membership in an illegal association.

It is known that the military authorities were consulted before his release and it is indicated that they had no intention of retaining him.

The eventual dismissal of the political courts, which deals with political offenses, occurred from the jurisdiction of military courts, which were abolished just before the Cabinet meeting which valued the arrest.

Senior Carrillo was ordered to depart Spain today by a five-man Committee of the Communist Party, which is about to investigate the circumstances of his exile in France, after the Spanish Government informed his request for a passport to leave the country was denied last summer by King Juan Carlos.

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