**Basque flag booby trap kills Civil Guard**

From Our Correspondent  
Madrid, May 6

Political violence flared again in the Basque country today after a rebel hit when a Civil Guard died after a bomb linked to a separatist flag exploded.

Corporal Antonio Pronto Soulace drove up a country road this morn-

ing beside Don Sebastian towards the flag, which was hit-
ning near the perimeter of a fac-

tory.

The bomb went off as his vehicle entered the area near a field leading to the factory. Booby trap Basque flags are a favorite device of the separatist organization ETA. The Civil Guard was the second to die from such a device in the past month.

A total of six people have died in the recessed Basque country since the beginning of April as the result of the growing and bitter conflict between the Hizbain government and ETA activists. Police immedi-

ately mounted a search of the area and the front line was strengthened.

As reported, many ETA militants live just along the border with France. The already strict controls on the border have been increased.

**Revolt by Cortes over orderns reforms**

From Our Correspondent  
Madrid, May 7

The Spanish Cabinet met today to approve constitutional reforms in the face of a revolt by the Cortes (Parliament) over its refusal to go ahead with an effort to bring about constitutional reforms.

The Cortes has been called by the King and the Cortes have been given the opportunity to discuss the proposed reforms. The Cortes have been given the opportunity to express their views on the proposed reforms and to vote on whether or not to approve them. If the Cortes approve the reforms, they will be put to a referendum. If the Cortes do not approve the reforms, they will be returned to the Cabinet for further consideration.

The Government has declared that it is committed to bringing about constitutional reforms and that it will not accept any changes to the proposed reforms that would undermine the progress that has been made.

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Guarded welcome for Spanish minister’s national pact proposal

From Our Correspondent

**WEST EUROPE**

Madrid, May 11

Opposition leaders today expressed guarded enthusiasm for the ‘national pact’ as proposed by Senor José María de Arévalo, the Foreign Minister. He invited the left, right and centre to get together to form a ‘national pact’ to bring democratic reforms.

Senor Arévalo, regarded as a moderate member of the Cabinet, said that a national pact was “the only way out of the authoritarian regime in which the majority would remain in power and the representatives of the political forces, as much as the left as the right, the centre and the centre would accept”.

Professor Enrique Tierno Galván, leader of the Popular Socialist Party, called the idea “null and void” and said that it coincided with some existing with something he had proposed earlier this year. He suggested a government of national coalition in which all political forces would take part.

He said that Senor Arévalo was not clear on some points and indeed was going to touch in public with the right about them. Did this mean that the opposition would be invited to take part in the government and if so, what would be the mid-term period? He opened up to forming a coalition government and if understanding for the future.

He said that in a moment of transition, other options have to be taken into account. He would like to moderate the opposition of the right in the centrist trend, on Spain with the aim of achieving agreements for real political change. The rules of the government have to allow access to power to those who are not part of the coalition and to prevent those who have it from the opposition to be given exclusive power.

He said that in his speech, he described the Foreign Minister’s remarks are to some extent a hint of a new government which is in the process of forming. He invited the left, right and centre to form a national coalition government and if so, would be invited to take part in the government.

Senor Arévalo, the President of the Cortes, has accused the Spanish government of being involved in a “flagrant distortion of legality” which undermines the position of the court. They have denied permission to others who probably would have been less dangerous. An arbitrary attitude is evident.”

While the Supreme Court handed down sentences demanding those who indulged in illegal organizations, the government was recognizing their legality. This was a “flagrant distortion of legality” which undermined the position of the court.

The MPs criticized the government for allowing the banned trade union organization (UGT) to hold its first congress since the Civil War last month, and of allowing illegal political organizations to meet free and clear.

The letter said: “The laws on assembly and political associations have not been modified. As a result of this representation of illegal organizations have been imprisoned. Now not only...”

They said: “The most important thing is that the political system of competition is not extended. The conflict in the country has been reduced by some members of the Government.”

This was a reference to Minister of the Interior, Senor de Arévalo and Senor Fraga Iribarne, the Prime Minister, who have made repeated statements about democratic reforms and about timetables for such reforms as well as their contents have been at variance with those of Arévalo, the Prime Minister.

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**Oil tanker & explodes in Spanish harbour**

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, May 12

The explosion of a tanker on the north-western coast of Spain today threatened an ecological disaster.

The Spanish-owned Urquiola (39,723 tons), carrying 25 million gallons of crude oil from the Persian Gulf, broke in two after seven explosions at the mouth of Corunna harbour. By late this afternoon the ship was still burning fiercely, pouring its blinding cargo onto the waters of the harbour.

The authorities had little hope of finding alive the last four people to board the vessel — the captain and a harbour pilot. The crew were taken off the ship after it had been left to drift while the coastguard searched the sea for survivors.

Experts fear that the oil spill, which is growing, will not only seriously damage beaches along the region off Galicia, but may also cause immediate harm to Spain's richest bed of oysters, mussels and other shellfish, which are eaten across all Europe.

The tanker called at Corunna for the first time in 20 years, and was due to call at the port for the last time on June 20.

**Spanish ministers accused of bending the law**

From William Chidley

Madrid, May 11

Right-wingers members of the Cortes have accused the Spanish government of being involved in the civil war and transgressing the laws which were established in Spain.

Only a day ago, Senor de Arévalo, the Foreign Minister, had invited the moderate opposition to join a “national pact” for democratic reforms. But the National Movement, which is excluded from the pact, has accused the government of being involved in the civil war and of allowing illegal political organizations to meet free and clear.

Senor Arévalo, the Foreign Minister, has accused the government of being involved in the civil war and of allowing illegal political organizations to meet free and clear. The government is being accused of not only allowing the formation of illegal organizations, but also of authorizing them to meet.

They said: “The most important thing is that the political system of competition is not extended. The conflict in the country has reduced by some members of the government.”

This was a reference to the Ministry of the Interior, Senor de Arévalo and Senor Fraga Iribarne, the Prime Minister, who have made repeated statements about democratic reforms and about timetables for such reforms as well as their contents have been at variance with those of Arévalo, the Prime Minister.

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Madrid expels prince after deaths at Carlist rally

From Our Correspondent, Madrid, May 14

The Spanish Government has expelled Prince Sixto Bourbon of Parma, after the fatal shooting incident at the Carlist rally on Montejo, northern Spain, last Sunday.

Prince Sixto, who is the brother of Prince Carlos Hugo, Carlist Pretender to the throne, was arrested under habeas corpus laws last night by armed policemen and put on an aircraft bound for Rome.

His forced departure came only a few hours after Señor Manuel Fraga, the Interior Minister, returned from a trip to Venezuela and promised an investigation into the Montejo affair.

Unknown gunmen, who are thought to be among the extreme right-wing supporters of Prince Sixto, killed two persons at the rally in a clash with carlistas who support the socialist aims of Prince Carlos Hugo.

In a statement published today, the Ministry of the Interior informed the press that the expulsion order, but failed to say whether the police had questioned Prince Sixto about the events before ordering him to leave. Since he was present at the scene of the shootings, he would presumably have information of some interest to police in any serious investigation.

The Interior Ministry also announced today that at least one person has been placed under arrest in connexion with the investigation. He is Señor José Antonio Miranda, a Carlist in whose home in Madrid Prince Sixto was staying. Señor Miranda is a retired infantry captain.

Salvage men unable to stop oil slick

From Our Correspondent

Oil on the wrecked oil tanker Urquola today stopped much salvage efforts pumping the remaining 80,000 tons of crude oil into its holds and tanker. There was another explosion this morning after it was thought the tanker fire had been extinguished.

The experts arrived today and by late afternoon were still unable to carry out the salvage operation. The authorities at La Coruña have called on the Government to declare the coastline a disaster area and have asked for more than £8 million in compensation from the tanker's Spanish owners.

What the experts had been buoying to do was to lessen the effect of the "black tide" of oil invading beaches along the Cantabrian coast by transferring the oil on the Urquola to the other tankers. The Urquola exploded at the harbour entrance on Wednesday, along with the rest of the Urquola, the body was recovered, from the sea today. The crew of 37 crewmen took off after it ran aground.

Resulting to this attractive stretch of coast have been blackened and possibly irreparable harm done to Spain's picturesque body of waters, manmade and other shellfish.

Military aircraft have brought in detergents and other materials to combat the silt. From the tanker's Spanish owners, the "black tide" has caused the "black tide" to be at least as big as that caused when the Torrey Canyon ran aground in the English Channel in 1967. There are fears that the disaster could ruin the tourist industry in the region and in the epidemic of some experts the oil slick may eventually be carried to the Caribbean by ocean currents.

The head of the Spanish trade union for hotels said that the disaster could be the "death blow for the tourist industry in Galicia which is already in trouble." Many people were expected to visit Galicia this year, particularly the shrine of St James at Santiago de Compostela.
Spanish police accused by councillors of beating boys during interrogation

From Harry Debeller

Madrid, May 16

The Madrid police court in the post-Franco era grew yesterday into a court of summary trials, as it heard the allegations that at least four youths and youths were beaten and otherwise maltreated by Civil Guards near San Sebastian.

A letter of complaint written by several members of the town council of Renteria for the attention of the Governor of Guipuzcoa claimed that the four were beaten during interrogations on March 3 and 4.

It identified the four as Francisco Javier Ruiz, aged 13, a student; Manuel Benza Blana, aged 15, a factory worker; and two brothers, Fernando and Jesu Mauel Zubelzueta, aged 18 and 17, respectively, both students.

The letters said that when members of the town council asked inquiries about rumors of torture, the Civil Guard in Renteria denied that any youths had been taken there.

That denial proved to be false.

Citing statements made to medical authorities by the youths the four youths and by the medical authorities, the letter said that they were brought to the local handball court when they were ordered to stand beside to see what had happened and were immediately taken custody, searched and hit by police in front of passers-by.

When the mother of Francisco Javier asked at the barracks for his release, "they struck him as he came out into the hallway, cutting his head, his nose and his cheek," she was told of the story. When she was about to see her son, the mother protested, "But they're telling her that, if she didn't tell them, he was a traitor," said the letter.

Manuel and Fernando were placed in a room with another youth, "who did not know. According to the then councillor's report, "they were forced to kneel down facing the wall and they were hit and kicked from behind."

"They put a pistol against Fernando's head, striking the weapon hard against his skin, pulling the trigger twice without dehumanizing the chamber. Arousing in a dangerous person, at several times, it was verbally said that if he did not tell the truth, "he was threatened, "he was threatened to tell others that his wife was under surveillance."

"Jesu Manuel was put in another room with three other detainees. There were 10 police officers in the room, and as the prisoners entered they received slaps, kicks and punches. They were made to stand up and were beaten with the extremities of the prisoners."

"One of them was made to stand up and was beaten by the others who were ordered to stand up facing the wall with their hands. They then were placed face to face and ordered to sharply face. The police officers threatened them with the butt of the rifle," the letter said.

"The four were also asked, "Who are the sons of bitches, the Enletes or us (the police)?" They were obliged to give the answer the policemen wanted."

"They also cut another of Josu Manuel's hair, in front of, at the back and on the side. The cut punches were still visible when they left."

"Before police took down his identification information, he saw one of the Civil Guards hold the youth who had been beaten most as another punished him until he was doubled over."

"Another youth said he had been forced to kneel facing a wall, and the youth was hung against the wall repeatedly."

It identified the four as Francisco Javier Ruiz, aged 13, a student; Manuel Benza Blana, aged 15, a factory worker; and two brothers, Fernando and Jesus Manuel Zubelzueta, aged 18 and 17, respectively, both students.

Meanwhile, hardline supporters of the regime had been banned by the Government. Support of General Franco disbelievers had been banned by the Government.

Our Correspondent

FRANCE

Demonstration ban will anger Spanish King's son

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, May 17

The Spanish Government today banned supporters of the late General Franco from holding a demonstration to commemorate the anniversary of his death, but said that they could hold a service in the Valley of the Fallen outside Madrid.

The ban, which will prevent the Right from coming to Spain, was announced yesterday when Civil Guards broke up a joint meeting of community associations, beating several of these arrested.

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The order banning the right-wing demonstration came from Senior Manuel Fraga Urbinia, the Interior Minister. In a letter to Senor Jose Maria de Borbon, a General Franco supporter, the Ministry said that the planned search through the streets of Madrid on Thursday could upset public order.

Senior de Borbon, a former Minister of Labour under the last dictatorship, has said that he would demonstrate his loyalty and allegiance to the late General Franco.

Our Correspondent

Heir's title planned for Spanish King's son

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, May 18

Prince Juan Carlos and Queen Sophia arrived today at the shrine of town of Covadonga, Asturias, where the Prince is to assume the title of Prince of Asturias.

The Prince, whose third journey to a Spanish region since the end of the war, has been planned.

Heir's title planned for Spanish King's son

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, May 18

The Prince of Asturias, who is eight, Prince of Asturias, is about to be made the heir of the throne.

Our Correspondent

Franco, Franco' chant at commemorative Mass

From William Scharf

El Escorial, May 20

To shouts of "Franco, Franco", several thousand people of the late dictator's supporters gathered today in the basilica of the Valley of the Fallen outside Madrid for a Mass to commemorate the sixth anniversary of his death.

The chant was loudest when Carmen Polo de Franco arrived at the El Escorial, May 20

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**Speculation in Spain**

*Over meeting between King and his father*

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, May 31

King Juan Carlos, father, Don Juan, Count of Barcelona, arrived here today for a meeting with him about family and political matters. Don Juan and his wife, Doña Mariana de Borbón, are visiting Spain and met at Burgos airport by King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofía. Then there were immediately by helicopter to the King’s Zarzuela Palace outside Madrid. King Juan and his wife flew from their home in Puebla to an aircraft equipped for civil aviation and with the insignia of Spanish civil aviation authority.

The second between father and son this year, but not officially revealed. There has been considerable speculation that Don Juan and the King will discuss among other things the problems of the Spanish royal family and Spanish royalists with the Spanish civil aviation authority.

The King has never “discussed” with his father, who has always been considered the second in line to the throne. General Franco died, as has been said. His son’s appointment as the new leader of the Spanish royal family, has never been officially announced. The Spanish royal family has, however, been well received in Spain since General Franco died. The King, a former officer in the Spanish royal family, has never been married, but he is now in Spain, as has been said.

Don Juan has met in London last week, but he has not met his father. The King has met in London with the Prime Minister, who has promised to meet him again next month. The King has had several meetings with his own Cabinet ministers.

**Spanish railway employees demobilized after dispute**

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, May 31

The Spanish Government announced today that the railway workers demobilization, which had been requested by the railway workers, had been granted. The workers, who had been on strike for several days, were given the option of returning to work or being demobilized.

The railway workers are now being paid their full wages and allowed to return to work. The railway workers had been on strike for several days, demanding better wages and working conditions.

**Parties may be given poll rights in Spain**

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, May 31

All political parties, other than the Communists, are expected to be allowed to compete in the general elections next spring, according to an unconfirmed report by an opposition leader.

In Catalonia regional political parties, the Generalitat, and the Podemos party, have decided to form a united front for the elections. They include the Catalan People’s Party, one of whose founders is Eduard Salas, the leader of the Catalan People’s Party.

The authorities have joined the Catalan People’s Party and the Podemos party in a united front. The authorities have joined the Catalan People’s Party and the Podemos party in a united front. The authorities have joined the Catalan People’s Party and the Podemos party in a united front.

The first of the Government’s proposals—those of the left parties, the Socialists, the Communists, and the Greens—will be discussed before the Cortes on Tuesday. The proposal is expected to be debated in the Cortes on Tuesday.
Madrid reforms meet stiff party opposition

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, May 27

Reformists members of the Spanish Government appeared today to be gaining the upper
hand in the battle with the right about the development of democracy. The reform of the rule of assembly and democratization was approved earlier this week, and the Govern-
ment’s next reform legitimizing political parties is set to go before the Cortes next month.

The Bill lifting the ban which now applies to all political organisations except the
official National Movement may even go so far as allowing all parties, except communist ones, to operate freely.

The semi-official agency Cifra reported today that the Cortes would meet on
June 8 to debate the right of political associations and a few days afterwards would discuss modifying the penal code.

The two reforms are linked intimately. Both debates, like the one on Saturday when the reform of the right of assem-
bly was approved, will be under the Government’s urgency procedure, allowing MPs only 24 hours of discuss-
ion.

The Government is expected to ask the Cortes to repeal or modify those articles in the penal code making organiza-
tions other than the Movement illegal. The article declaring illegal “those associations which propose violent subver-
sion, destruction of the established order or implementing a totalitarian regime” almost certainly remain in
operation as a ban against communists, however.

The new Madrid regime wants a democratic Spain without communists

A professor begs to differ

From William Chislett

Professor Ramón Tamames, Spain’s most distinguished anti-Franco scholar, is among those who believe that the Government’s decision to exclude communists from the political arena is futile and could prove disastrous.

“The Government is trying to show some changes to Europe but the reality is that they are trying to do something which is impossible: to divide and exclude some political parties without the consent of all parties,” Professor Tamames
says.

“The decision to exclude the communists is a real obstacle; they are trying to impose a regime which they cannot govern and we are losing time. Things will be much more difficult because of this. Nothing is going to happen if the Communist Party is legalized.”

Professor Tamames, whose name is synonymous with Spain’s young democracy, was among the few who had the courage to write to the Cortes yesterday by Soria Manuel Fraga Uría, thereby creating a leading letter to the Cortes and to turn Spain into a truly multi-party democracy.”

Democratic Coordination—the alliance of Socialist Com-
mand and Christian Democrats—which was expected to dominate the reforms, could only denounce the reforms as inadequate.

A spokesman for the Popular Socialist Party, which is in the alliance, said that the reforms were satisfactory, while keeping them basic actions such as
that was “ambiguous and would encourage them.” If these were real democratic reforms, then

amnesty as claimed by the Government.

Franco’s successors were mounting mass demonstrations and imprisoning judges which would leave little scope for the future regime in power, he said.

“Every decision that has been taken by the Cortes must be reorgan-
ized by them without any justification from the opposition. This is why Democratic Coordination (the new opposition grouping) is against the reform, because we consider that any kind of new political constitution for Spain must be the work of all the political forces from the left, right and centre,” Profesor Tamames was a member of the old Communist
syndicate with the Socialists, but later fell out with them. Democratic Coordina-
tion, which formed after the defeat of the coup d’état, met at the Carlton Club in London last week to discuss the situation in Spain.

He was in the same gallery at Gasteiz as four other members of the Democratic Co-
ordination, including his brother Marcelino Camacho, leader of the Workers’ Movement, the powerful underground trade union movement. Camacho and the other three are still in prison and are not allowed to meet, but their lawyer is trying to get them out of an illegal poli-
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progress earlier this month that the Cortes would meet on June 8 to debate the right of political associations and a few days afterwards would discuss modifying the penal code.

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Spanish civil war parade may be the last

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, May 28

King Juan Carlos is expected to take the salute on Monday at what could be the last annual military parade celebrating General Franco’s civil war victory.

This year’s parade is judged by the number of advances expected it is being given less publicity than in previous years. The Government took the salute on Monday and then later by Serra Manuel Fraga Uría, thereby creating a leading letter to the Cortes and to turn Spain into a truly multi-party democracy.”

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operation as a ban against communists, however.
King reviews parade to mark Franco victory.

From Our Correspondent, Madrid, May 31.

King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia (now from Madrid today) on a six-day trip to the Dominican Republic and the United States. This is the royal couple's first trip abroad since General Franco died and also the first visit to the Americas by a Spanish monarch for almost 500 years.

The three-member Government Council took power from the King as chief of state as soon as he left. The council, under the presidency of Señor Torrijos Fernández-Miranda, who is also the president of the Spanish Parliament, assumed power temporarily in November after General Franco's death.

The royal couple's trip to the Dominican Republic is part of a move to establish closer links with its former colonies.

The couple will arrive in Washington on Wednesday. The King will address Congress and have talks with President Ford.

The trip is being given extensive coverage by the Spanish press. The faithful abroad Franco went in his 36 years as head of state was to see Hitler at Hendaye and Salazar in Porto.

Jane.

Spanish royal couple begin visit to the Americas.

From Our Correspondent.

JUNE 1.

King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia flew from Madrid today to begin a move to establish closer links with the former colonies.

The campaign by the Spanish press to publish details about alleged torture and maltreatment in Spain suffered a setback today when the authorities warned a magazine not to publish such an article.

The magazine, Comunidad para el Dialogo, intended to publish a three-page cover story called "Torture in Spain" was warned by the Ministry of Information that if the article was published the magazine would be closed and the editor called to testify before a military court.

The editorial staff therefore withdrew the article as the magazine was going to press.

Ford data.

The report said that 74 people had made denunciations to the police so far, and the Civil Guard about torture and maltreatment and one case had yet come before the courts.

One case involved that of an unemployed student, Señor Jair Santolla Guimaraes, who was in hospital in a kidney machine at the same time as General Franco last November. He had suffered internal bleeding and massive shock with injuries to his mouth and face, according to lawyers at the time.

Police picked up the student in Madrid on October 30 and said he was distributing communist propaganda. They claimed that he resisted arrest and they admitted later that he had undergone unlawful procedures while in custody. Señor Santolla alleged that the police had beaten him while under the pretense of an anti-terrorist decrete for 10 days, two of which were spent in a prison hospital on the orders of a paramilitary officer.

He was fined £1,667 without trial and was later transferred to the La Paz hospital.

Lawyers instructed by the student's wife brought an action against the police before the courts.

The magazine lists the names of people who have denounced the police and the Civil Guard and refers to other cases of alleged torture. The Spanish press, above all the liberal weekly news magazines, have recently been publishing critical articles about police action which would have been forbidden under General Franco.

The authorities have relaxed the previous press censorship and allowed for greater freedom of expression on certain subjects but criticism is still taboo. The Interior Minister, Señor Montilla, said recently that the Ministry of Information acted to suppress "only very rare cases of nondiscrimination from the Civil Code."

The editor of Castilla, an other weekly magazine, which published an article about alleged torture in the interior, was also called to testify before a military court.

The edil, Señor Ricardo Treviño, appeared today before magistrates in connection with another article published in the magazine last month. With this his portrait photograph of a middle-aged woman with severely bruised hand received.

The Civil Guard issued a statement today criticizing the magazine for publishing what it called a "slanders report" and said that it had sent a report to the military authorities.

The campaign by the Spanish press to publish details about alleged torture and maltreatment in Spain suffered a setback today when the authorities warned a magazine not to publish such an article.