



OUR FIGHT

NUMBER: 42.

MAY: 13th.

1937.

ORGAN OF THE FRONT OF THE XV BRIGADE.

THOUSANDS OF LETTERS SHOULD BE SENT FROM THE TRENCHES TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES EXPRESSING THE ENERGETIC PROTEST OF OUR FIGHTERS AGAINST THOSE WHO LAUNCH CRIMINAL ATTACKS AT THE BACK OF HEROIC SOLDIERS.

MADRID, 11th. The capital was heavily shelled today. 100 shells falling in city streets amongst the civilian population. Around 10 p.m. some of our planes localised the rebel batteries and silenced them for a while.

General activity of the rebel artillery today corresponded to the blows they received in loyal attack operations. In University City, Toledo and Guadaramas. Employing cannon, rifles, machine guns and mortars the loyal forces harassed the enemy for several hours. We improved our positions in the mountains of Guadaramas.

Air Communiqué

(not available yesterday)

CENTRE. At 4 p.m. today six planes heavily bombarded the railway station and the Castle of San Servando and bridges over the Tago River in the Southern Toledo sector. In the Northern Sector of the same city, another six planes bombarded the arms factory and artillery implacements in the neighbourhood of the Escuela de Tiro and the fork of the road from Toledo to Navalpino and Moejon. Despite the profuse fire of the enemy anti-aircraft artillery the planes returned to their base reporting all well.

ARAGON. We bombarded military objectives in Aragon.

Air Communiqué

11th. 11 p.m. Various groups of bombing planes at different times today carried out attacks against the factory of Sabiñánigo devoted to the production of explosive material. All the bombs fell within the grounds of the factory and deposits, two sheds taking fire.

MANILLA: The People's Front has been formally constituted. It is composed of all the anti-imperialist antifascist and democratic parties. The Communist Party of the Philippine Islands is illegal but its influence has been strong in creating the People's Front sentiment, especially through the thirty Trade Unions and the youth organisations which have also signed the agreement. The principal parties are the National Socialist Party headed by General Aguinaldo; the Republican Party whose chief is the head of the Independent Church in the Philippines; the Agrarian Reform Party; the Socialist Party and the League of Workers.

VALENCIA, 11th. The suppression of the central committee of the fleet and other committees was decreed by the Minister of Air and Navy today. The functions formerly entrusted to these committees will be performed by the political delegate of the fleet and the commissars designated for each unit or group of units.

MADRID. The Executive Committee of the Socialist Party today called for the punishment of the traitors who rose in Catalonia and an end to all equivocal attitudes towards the rising. "The rear guard must not go being a demoralising danger to the battlefield," the note said "And to avoid this an active and severe public policy with respect to public order must be carried out, a policy free from all reticences."

BARCELONA, 11th. The Unified Socialist Party of Catalonia today sent the Minister of the Interior a telegram, "We urge immediate measures to end the shameful situation here where the Barcelona press censor defends the agents provocateurs of the Trotskyist Party, censuring items published by papers in the rest of Spain and encouraging Trotskyist provocation to rise against the legitimate Government."

BARCELONA. During the recent violent scenes here the President of the Madrid section of the Left Republican Party, Regulo Martinez, was wounded. He is now doing well.

PENAL REFORM IN REPUBLICAN SPAIN.

It is well known that the rebels kill their prisoners or at best give them their choice of death or fighting in the fascist lines, where they are treated as suspicious characters. This policy corresponds not only to the fascist character but to the fact that the German and Italian manipulators of Franco are callously indifferent to the decimation of the Spanish population. There is also some reflection in their attitude towards prisoners of their realisation that they are here on a temporary basis; in other words they are fighting a losing battle.

We have before us a decree of the Minister of Justice of the legitimate Spanish Government. No sharper contrast with Burgos policy could be desired. The decree regulates the labour camps created by the Government, on the basis of "humane treatment, discipline, social reparation and reform of the individual". To this end norms of labour and good conduct are set up qualifying the subject to social reincorporation as a useful and toiling person.

Three status are provided: normal internment, backwardness, and conditional liberty. In entering the labour camp (normal internment) the individual will be placed in a normal situation and estined to the labour most appropriate to him after previous medical report as to his health and capacity for work.

Most revealing are the tests by which an individual passes to the state of a "backward" prisoner or to conditional liberty. In many cases it will be based upon a prisoner's willingness or unwillingness to learn to read and write.

Illiterates will attend school a given number of hours each day, and until they learn to read and write they will not be eligible for conditional liberty. A prisoner who after one year of attendance at school has not learnt to read or write (unless he is abnormal) will pass to the condition of "backwardness", along with all prisoners capable of exerting a harmful influence on others. They then will be afforded any beneficial treatment possible but they will not be allowed to carry on correspondence. If after six months of "backward" status the prisoner warrants it by conduct, he will return to the normal situation. If not he will be considered inadaptable and assigned to special brigades with harder work.

Prisoners who are marked for their good conduct will receive "bonos" of 50 centimes each which will go into their private account at their own disposition. For each six "bonos" the prisoner will receive a complementary one. He may win as many as 52 in one year. These "bonos" will be treated as time served when "conditional liberty" or parole is proposed.

Commentary is unnecessary.

LONDON. The "Daily Herald" reports the arrest of Amil Griffiths, smuggler, exporter of embargoed capital and intimate friend of Quipo de Llano. Griffiths, although representative of Burgos in La Lina and a naturalised citizen of Spain, possesses a British passport given by the Gibraltar authorities. He was arrested while still in bed by a captain of the Civil Guards and six plain clothes officers of the so-called special counter espionage brigade and personal guard of Franco. It is believed that serious charges connected with the smuggling out of money will be placed against him. It is believed in Gibraltar that General Quipo himself is involved.

VALENCIA, 11th: War time building strategic railway lines, particularly relating to Madrid communications speeded today by a credit of 20 pesetas to the Ministry of Public Works for this purpose.

Orders from the Ministry of Industry on the other hand extended recent orders, placing mines and metal industries under the control of the Central Government. Amongst the industries reached by today's orders is the lead industry of Linares. **BILBAO, 11th.** 10,000 inhabitants of the Basque region plan to evacuate to England, it was learnt today. **BILBAO, 11th.** Among the Political Commissars on the Basque Front are 70 priests.