



OUR FIGHT

NUMBER 53.

JULY: 26th.

1937.

ORGAN OF THE FRONT OF THE XV BRIGADE.

SPAIN DEFENDS ITS LIBERTY IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The following article appeared in the newspaper "Informaciones":

"The League of Nations is considering, at the petition of Spain, the question of foreign intervention in the civil war provoked by the military uprising of July. Our new minister of Foreign Affairs, Giral, asked that this subject be included in the Agenda. His petition was granted consideration.

"The British Minister of Foreign Affairs, Eden, and the French, Delbos, will be present at the session.

"It will be remembered that at other sessions of the League the previous protests of Spain, made by Alvarez del Vayo with such dignity and energy, were received rather coldly, though no Power, save Italy, opposed them. However, the discussions were carried on with little interest and our petitions defending our rights were, to all practical purposes, ignored since everything was reduced to theoretical formulae which in no way gave us real satisfaction.

"Will the same thing happen this time? The world situation is changed, Eden and Delbos are again in Geneva personally, and it is said that Italy will resign from the League.

"On May 12th. all the foreign consulates in Geneva flew flags to the Coronation. All that is to say save one, Italy. Why? Because orders were received from Rome that coincided with other anti-British demonstrations.

"It is said that the Duce will demand League recognition of the annexation of Abyssinia. If the League refuses to recognise the legality of the conquest and the dissolution of Haile Selassie's Empire as a free and independent State, Italy will definitely abandon the League and, as Germany, refuse to participate in any agreements that do not affect them personally.

"In reality Italy has been to all practical purposes outside the League for a year. Against all agreements and resolutions of that body, she invaded Abyssinia and conquered it. She tried to impose on the world the tactic of "fait accompli". Up to now she has not succeeded; a few days ago Haile Selassie was invited as Sovereign of Abyssinia to the coronation ceremonies of a new British Monarch.

"Nevertheless, Geneva continues to be a great and resonant tribunal. Once more our voice must vibrate in this chamber with a denunciation to the world, that, in the Twentieth Century, it has been possible, without previous declaration of war, for two countries to invade the territory of another, which has always been friendly and peaceful. Such a horrible crime has no precedent in the history of the world and it will again be denounced before the Governments and their people. Alvarez del Vayo in the past reflected the suffering of Spain. Serenely and with complete knowledge, he drew the attention of the democratic world to the iniquity with which it was aimed to change the fate of a Nation. Today the ex-Minister will return to Geneva again, he will go armed with still further arguments carrying the proofs of the Italian and German invasion gathered from the defeat of the Italians at Guadalajara and documents taken from German prisoners taken at Euzkadi."

GENEVA, 24th. At 5 p.m. today the 97th. meeting of the Council of the League of Nations opened. In this private session the agenda for the General Council meeting was drawn up. On the instance of the representatives of Iraq and Iran it was agreed to leave until the next meeting the question of the Iraqi Government resources under Art. 11 of the Covenant. The chief item for discussion will be the Spanish question.

GENEVA, 24th. Following the objection of the Spanish delegate, the League of Nations has refused to discuss the British Proposal for an armistice in the Spanish Civil war in order to withdraw all the "volunteers". Backed by France, England proposes to concentrate its efforts to reach an agreement to withdraw all foreign volunteers.

At a closed session of the Council it was decided to discuss publicly the problem of foreign intervention in Spain on Thursday next.

Tomorrow's session will be given over to the question of the Iraqi Government's resources.

VALENCIA, 24th. Secretary of State Comrade Zugazagoitia who has just arrived from Bilbao where he has been studying the situation in the Basque Country, made the following statement:

"I am absolutely convinced that Mola will encounter the same difficulties in Bilbao that Franco did in Madrid. Mola, learning from Franco's experience, has adopted other tactics and is now attempting to strengthen the positions from which he commands the sea. Thus, he hopes to take Bilbao by sea and by land. In order to accomplish this strategy, the fascists have concentrated a great amount of war material rather than men, in this way the fascists hope to break the morale of the Republican troops. As an example of this strategy we can cite cases when the enemy planes have bombed our positions for as long as 12 hours at a time.

"Instances of Basque heroism have been referred to continuously but allow me to elaborate. In spite of the highly specialised war machinery in the hands of the enemy the great spirit of sacrifice displayed by the Basques, has shown it self by their ability to defeat the fascists in many important battles. In Sollube the fascists almost suffered another Guadalajara, they were saved only by the vast army of aeroplanes at their command. At the present time our greatest need on the Basque Front is more aeroplanes, but you may be sure that they will soon be supplied. Air industries are working day and night in order to fulfill this need.

General opinion of all the military chiefs in the sectors I visited is that the moment our

air forces on the Basque Front are brought up to full strength, the rebel offensive will be crushed.

"I can assure the Spanish people that the whole of the Basque population is behind the struggle and determined to end it victoriously."

AIR COMMUNIQUE: 25th.

On Monday our aircraft bombarded Palma de Mallorca, the Mediterranean air and naval base of the rebels. Eleven aeroplanes divided into two squadrons flew round the boats which were anchored there and in the vicinity of the port and bombarded them, they also bombarded a boat of the same construction as the "Canari".

They also bombarded several official buildings. A number of planes flew out from the aerodrome at Palma, but refused combat. BILBAO. One of our glorious pilots accepted battle with five enemy planes. After bringing down one enemy plane, he himself was brought down. The pilot managed to escape his machine by parachute, but was wounded by the force of the landing.

CENTRE: Today our aviation effectively bombed the railway station of Jeddah.

LONDON, 25th. at 11.30 p.m. by radio. The Bus-strike is still on, the T.G.W.U. have reaffirmed their previous decision to advise the Tram and Trolley bus workers not to strike.

NEW YORK, 24th. We have just received alarming news from the United States. The great philanthropist and friend of the American working class, John D. Rockefeller has died leaving a fortune of \$ 2,500,000,000. It will be remembered that one of the most serious disputes of recent times centred round the question of which of the two, Basil Zaharof or John D. Rockefeller was the richest man in the world.

LONDON, 24th. It is expected that Baldwin will present his resignation to the King on Friday and recommend Neville Chamberlain to succeed him.

ADVERTISEMENT.

MADRID, 24th. A girl and her mother were arrested by the Madrid Police today for putting sleeping powder in beer served to soldiers in a house of ill-repute. Afterwards soldiers were lured into a room and robbed of all their money. For further particulars apply: Calle Bretón de los Herreros, 35.