



DISCIPLINE IS AN ESSENTIAL WEAPON
FOR VICTORY.

VALENCIA, 19th. Yesterday the "Gaceta", the official organ of the Government published a decree of the Ministry of National Defence on the question of discipline.

"El Sol" writing about this decrees states :-

"The "Gaceta", yesterday, published an important ministerial decree of National Defence which lays down the necessity of maintaining strict discipline in the army at all costs.

"Discipline in our Army is the key to its organisational perfection. Without discipline we cannot have an army, and without an army we cannot have victory, consequently, in our fight, discipline is as important and fundamental as our very arms and the command of them.

"The discipline of our People's Army is not slavery, it is not the atrocious oppression of the fascist armies. Simply, it is mutual understanding, loyalty to those who command, and respect for those who command. Our discipline is based on the consciousness of what we are fighting for, and on the undeniable spirit of victory, of an immediate victory. The soldiers of the Popular Army have to accept the discipline of war, because it is given birth in the hearts of everyone of them, just as the fervour for this struggle, which has to free us from the invaders and our political liberty and independence, is also born within each of

"This decree raises to a higher level the spirit of discipline in our army, and for this reason we, as soldiers and as the people in general, warmly welcome it."

In brief the points of the decree are as follows :-

"The necessity of assuring discipline with the organisation of a Popular Army in the ranks of the defenders of the Republic calls for the institution of penal code of adequate sanctions against indiscipline.

"Any soldier called up and who does not present himself in the ranks, after the specified period of time, will be considered a deserter.

"Any soldier who commands who forms part of an advance post in the face of the enemy, who is in any position under arms, who is placed at a telephone or telegraph, either military or civil, or in any other position of communications in the face of the enemy, and who leaves his post will be punished by a sentence up to 20 years or by death.

"Officials who leave their post and do not return within the specified period of time will be sentenced up to 20 years or by death.

"Doctors who give a false medical certificate or a false certificate of incapacity will be struck off the register from two to six years and fined from one to ten thousand pesetas.

"Those who, during actual warfare or at the moment of entering such a position, immediately turns and flee, will incur the penalty of death, and will be executed to serve as an example to others. (cont. page 2. col.2.)

WAR COMMUNICATION

CENTRE: - 19th. This morning the forces of the 6th. Division proceeded to blow up by means of a mine the so-called Casa Blanca, situated on the Estramadura Road a six-story building in which were believed to be large forces of regulars, fascists, and phalangist troops. The building was reduced to ruins and our troops went to the attack with an admirable spirit. After harrying the fascists with rifle and mortar fire the Republican forces occupied the ruins and also the vicarage adjoining. The heavy losses inflicted on the enemy was considerably heightened by the discovery of large quantities of munitions.

ARAGON FRONT: - 19th. Our operations against HUESCA continue victoriously. We have taken the positions of CHIMILLA de ALERRE and also the sector between HUESCA and JACA. Our forces have also attacked in the sector of TARDIENTE.

NORTH. Biscay: - 19th. The enemy intensified its pressure against BILBAO, and the heroic defenders resisted with an unbelievable courage. The fascist forces have arrived at the left side of NERVION concentrated its fire against the evacuating civil population. The fighting was very fierce.

SOUTH TAJO: - Our troops have carried out with fine spirit a punitive expedition against the enemy, in the Sierra de ARGALLANES taking from them new positions which considerably improved our lines. Heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy.

AIR COMMUNICATION

EAST: - 19th. In the first hour of the afternoon our aviation effectively bombarded the aerodrome of GARRAPINILLOS (Zaragoza) in which were fifteen bombing and pursuit planes. Our planes returned to the base without incident.

In other sectors were flights of reconaissance.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

LONDON: - 19th. The Committee of Non-Intervention has passed a resolution calling on both sides to "humanise the war", and has accordingly sent a note to this effect to both sides.

LONDON: - 19th. The British Government has received a note from Franco in which he asks for the rights of a belligerent. He gives various reasons to show why he should be granted these rights..

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" Any soldier who, in actual duty, strikes an officer, who is executing up to twelve years or death."

Any soldier, while at the front who rebels or commits a seditious act who disobeys or does not execute the orders of his superiors, will be punished with a sentence up to twenty years death.

A previous decree states that when a crime, including crimes which warrant the death penalty, necessitates, because of its moral effect, an immediate judgment it should be judged by a summary commission.

This decree also stated that judgments including the death penalty can be inflicted and executed by the Military or Political command without awaiting order from the Government, if such proceeding is considered necessary.

Foreign News continued

GENEVA: - 19th. The various commissions of the International Labour Office almost reached their conclusions. The Commission of the Textile Industry approved the resolution for the reduction of the hours of labour and has also decided that the minimum age at which children should enter industry should be increased from 14 to 15.

BERLIN: - 19th. The "Nazi" press has instituted a great campaign against Checo-Slovakia, this time on the pretext of the supposed illtreatment of German, Weidel, who was employed in a chemical factory in Checo-Slovakia. He was accused as a spy. The circles in Checo-Slovakia state this campaign is analogous with the one started six months ago and will culminate in a grave situation in Europe.

MOSCOW: - 19th. The President of the Executive Committee of the U.S.S.R. has named as new Ambassador of the Soviet Union in Germany, Constanti Youre who was formerly Ambassador in London.

DANTZIG: - 19th. It is officially stated that the body found in a city square is that of WEICHMAN, the Socialist leader of the Free City, who disappeared some time ago. The opposition elements in Dantzic state that, seeing that the appearance from the city was prevented the time when he was detained by the Nazi authorities, and since there have been no traces of his body he has been assassinated and the body found is his.