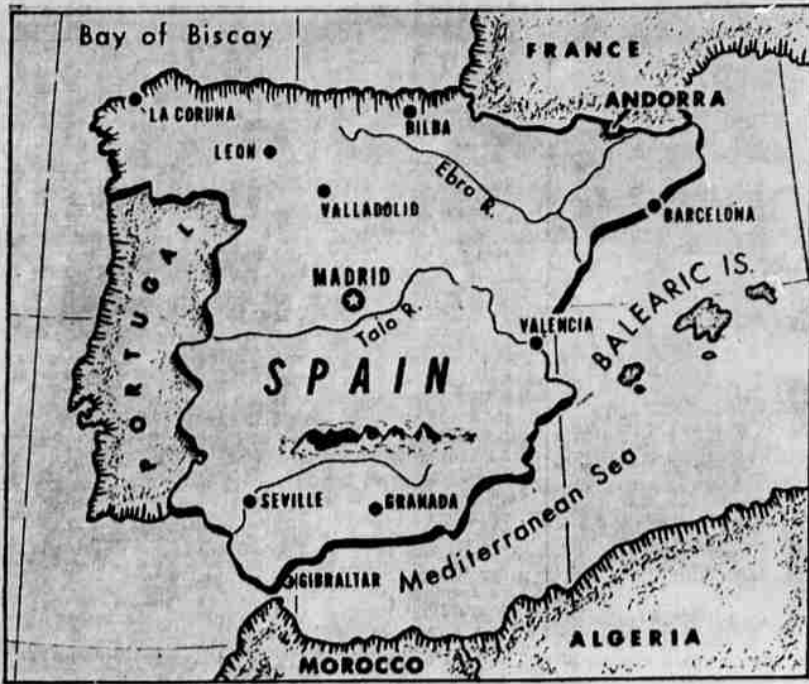


Spain Remains Land of Mystery, Paradox

By H. A. DEBELIUS
 United Press International
 Madrid — (UPI) — Stretched across the western end of the blue Mediterranean like a tanned bull's hide is Spain, a country with some of the tallest buildings and one of the lowest standards of living in Europe. It has more reliance on agriculture than nearly any other European country.

Although 8.6 million tourists—more than one tourist for every three Spaniards—visited the country last year, Spain remains for much of the Western world a land of mystery and paradox.

Sharing the Iberian peninsula with its small sister nation of Portugal, Spain historically is set apart from other European nations by the formidable Pyrenees mountains which form about one-third of the country's northern frontier with France. The only other land border Spain has is the one it shares with Portugal. The Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea form the remaining boundaries.



RELIES ON AGRICULTURE — This UPI but places more reliance on agriculture than newspaper shows Spain, a country which has nearly any other European country. (UPI)

Included in Territory

In addition to the mainland, Spanish territory includes the balmy Balearic Islands of the Mediterranean, one of Europe's most popular tourist areas, and the Canary Islands off the northwest coast of Africa (once known as the "fortunate islands" because of their mild climate), the Spanish portion of the Sahara Desert, and other smaller possessions in north and west central Africa.

With its area of 194,368 square miles, Spain is slightly larger than the state of California, and in many ways its geography is similar. Both California and Spain have predominantly mild climates. Large mountainous and arid or semi-arid areas, long seacoasts, reasonably good fishing banks and a scattering of fertile valleys peculiarly suited to fruit growing, vegetable farming and wine-producing.

Spain's population total of 30,430,698, spread out over an area only slightly smaller than that of France (which has roughly 50 per cent more population), leaves the Spanish countryside with many widely beautiful open spaces.

erage productivity of the land, most of Spain's rural population is extremely poor. Their per capita annual income is below the already low national average of about \$300. Yet 80 per cent of Spain's population lives outside its cities.

One reason for the low percentage of arable land in Spain is the mountainous nature of the terrain. The average altitude is second in Europe only to that of Switzerland.

Although Spain's industry is growing rapidly, largely as a result of government economic planning and foreign aid and investments, many manufactured goods are still in short supply, forcing the government to control imports tightly in order to conserve needed foreign exchange currency.

The modern Spain is exemplified by the Torre de Madrid, a 34-story skyscraper in the heart of Madrid. It is the tallest reinforced concrete structure on the continent. The still uncompleted Aviles power dam on the Portuguese border will be Europe's biggest single electric power producer.

In contrast, however, to the beautiful modern buildings in the cities and the coastal regions, which are the only parts of Spain most tourists see, are the simple adobe houses in small villages in which most Spaniards dwell.

There are at least five distinct languages spoken in Spain, plus many more dialects. Nevertheless everyone understands the official language, Castilian Spanish, which is taught in all the schools.

The country, which was

welded into a single nation in 1924 by Ferdinand and Isabella, is still pleased with regional separatist elements, particularly in Catalonia (the region surrounding Barcelona) and the Basque country, in the Pyrenees area.

Despite notable social and economic gains, particularly in the past five years, Spain still faces a serious threat to its future political and economic stability.

Politically, Spain is an autocratic state under the strong personal rule of Generalissimo Francisco Franco, now 70 years old, who defied the latter Second Spanish Republic 24 years ago in a military revolt, and who has remained very much in control ever since.

Request for Zone Change Is Approved by Medford Planners

A request for a change of zone which will permit construction of a service station at the corner of McAndrews and Biddle rds. was approved by a 5 to 2 vote at the Thursday night meeting of the Medford planning commission.

The request was submitted by Ray Dahl, 787 Ellendale dr., who told the group that two gasoline companies were interested in the 70 by 250-foot parcel of property. Dahl holds an option on the land.

Opposition to the request was voiced by Commissioner Wayne Struble, who said he was concerned about the difficulty of restricting commercial zoning to the intersection area if the zone change were granted. He pointed out that there was a school within 3 or 4 blocks and that there were a number of single family residences nearby on Biddle rd.

Request is Approved

—Approve a variance request to permit Texaco Oil company to erect a 55-foot high display sign on property located at the southeast corner of Crater Lake highway and Biddle rd.

—Approve a variance request to permit Richfield Oil company to erect a display sign approximately 21 feet high on property located on the south side of Crater Lake highway near Bear creek.

—Approve a request for a change of zone from industrial to limited commercial for a triangle of property lying between the old Biddle rd. and the realigned Biddle rd. near the Interstate 5 interchange.

Request is Approved

—Approve a request for a change of zone from single-family to multiple-family for property located at 1036 and 1048 Crater Lake ave.

—Approve a request for a change of zone from single-family to multiple-family for property located at 1925 Crestbrook rd.

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Opposed to One Side

"We have opposed rezoning to commercial on the west side of Biddle rd.," he said, "so we should be against it on the east side, too."

It was pointed out, however, that in a Biddle Road policy statement drawn up last year, the McAndrews and Biddle rd. intersection had been recommended for commercial zoning, and that such zoning be limited to "that property lying within about 200 feet of the intersecting right-of-way lines."

Struble was joined by Commission Chairman Elwood Hedberg in voting against the request, which will now go before the city council at its July 18 meeting for final action.

Permission Is Granted

—Grant a request for permission to operate a stenographic service as a home occupation at 1511 Johnson st., with the stipulation that the applicant not hire employees.

—Grant approval of a request to operate a subdivision office as a home occupation at 1925 Crestbrook rd.

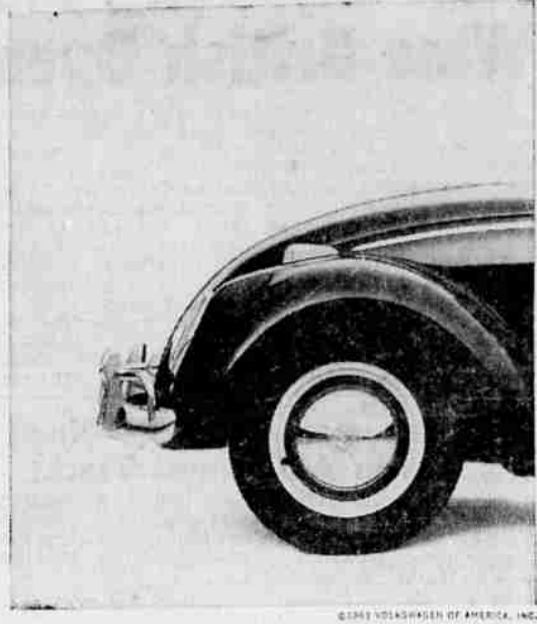
—Grant final approval of Blossom Hill Terrace, Unit No. 3.

Final Approval Granted

—Grant final approval of Siskiyou Village Unit No. 2, subject to a stipulation suggested by the planning staff.

—Set Aug. 8 as the date for public hearings on requests for a change of zone from single-family to multiple-family for property located at the southwest corner of Crater Lake ave. and McAndrews rd., and a change of zone from single-family and multiple-family to limited commercial for various properties located on both sides of Barnett rd. between Bear creek and Ellendale dr.

All seven commission members were present at the three-hour meeting, which was presided over by Hedberg. The next regular meeting of the group is Aug. 8.



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STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. POLLAN

Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars.

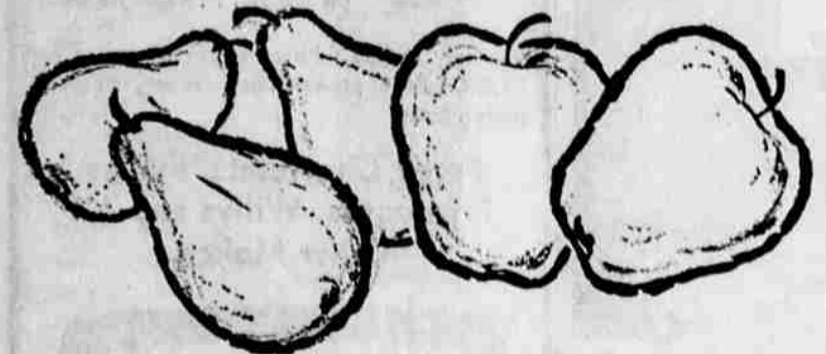
To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

ARIES MAR. 21 - APR. 20 7-12-24-34 45-57-78	Taurus APR. 21 - MAY 21 3-20-41-42-71 74-77-83-89	GEMINI MAY 22 - JUNE 21 9-15-23-35 47-54-67	CANCER JUNE 22 - JULY 21 3-8-9-53 64-66	LION JULY 22 - AUG. 23 17-18-27-28 29-73-82-87	VIRGO AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23 2-32-44-45 65-72-81-86	LIBRA SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23 4-6-19-36 48-68-80-90	SCORPIO OCT. 24 - NOV. 23 10-22-33-52 64-73-85-88	SAGITTARIUS NOV. 24 - DEC. 23 11-13-25-37 46-58-69	CAPRICORN DEC. 24 - JAN. 23 1-14-29-40 50-62-76	AQUARIUS JAN. 24 - FEB. 19 14-26-38-49 59-60-70	PISCES FEB. 20 - MAR. 21 20-21-31-43 51-61-79-84
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