

Spain, United States Both Won Benefits In Military Base Agreements Of 1953

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

When the United States and Spain negotiated their 1953 agreement on U. S. naval and air bases in Spain, both sides won important benefits.

The United States won a valuable forward base against Communist aggression and Spain a much needed economic shot in the arm plus a start toward re-entry into the family of nations.

Now, amid considerable secrecy but with some of the facts known, they are approaching a renegotiation of the agreement which expires in September.

Both sides seek certain gains.

A somewhat similar agreement with Portugal on the strategic U. S. base in the Azores already has expired, with negotiations at present reported deadlocked but by no means abandoned.

Important to U. S.

Both the Spanish and the Portuguese agreements bear heavily on U. S. strategic planning, especially since President Charles de Gaulle's snub of the Atlantic Alliance, the gain in Communist voting strength in Italy and U. S. hopes for a mixed-nation naval force based on the nuclear-tipped polaris missile.

All of these conditions would seem to be cards in Generalissimo Francisco Franco's hands.

There are indications the Spanish asking price is not cheap.

The 1953 agreement gave the United States the use of three air bases by the Strategic Air Command, the big Naval base at Rota and other installations including naval depots, radar sites and a pipeline system.

There is evidence now that the United States would like to make the Rota base available to NATO submarines carrying nuclear ballistic missiles.

In return, Franco wants either Spanish membership in NATO or, at the least, closer political ties with the United States.

Spanish membership in NATO has in the past been adamantly opposed by the low countries, Denmark and Norway and, to a lesser degree, by Britain.

Spain Seeks More Aid

Spain also wants an increase in economic aid which since 1953 has totaled more than a billion dollars, plus modern military equipment including rockets and missiles.

On its part, the United States would prefer that the agreement continue much as it is and to wait as long as possible to determine how Europe's strategic and political alignments finally are to work out.

It further has warned Spain Eurasia is the name used when speaking of Asia and Europe as a single continent.

that, because of the unfavorable outflow of U. S. gold, free military aid to Spain will have to stop.

That, instead, she will expect

Spain to spend some \$250 million of her own money on new equipment.

The deadlock in the negotia-

tions with Portugal is on an issue less complex but equally difficult.

The 29-year-old agreement with Portugal expired last Dec. 31 but

use of the base which is a strategic link with Europe and Africa, has continued.

Boiled down to simplicities, the

Portuguese are insisting that the United States abandon its support in the United Nations of the African nations demanding inde-

pendence for Angola and Mo-

zambique, Portugal's two big ter-

ritories in Africa. Both the Portuguese and the Spanish negotiations go far beyond the mere question of bases.

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Henry Franklin Kernes, drunk, \$25 or five or 10 days.
Walter Owen Harver, drunk, \$25 forfeit.
William Henry Kirk, drunk, \$25 or five or 10 days.
Melvin Billy, drunk, \$25 forfeit.
Robert Floyd Dennis, drunk, \$25 or five or 10 days.
Robert L. Howard, drunk, \$25 or five or 10 days.
Herry Dolan, drunk, \$25 or five or 10 days.
Shelia Anne Hill, drunk, \$25 forfeit.
Irwin Weiser Jr., drunk, \$25 or five or 10 days.
Perry Joseph Landry, vagrancy, \$100 and 30 days.
Glenn Wilber Waldref, drunk, \$25 or five or 10 days.

Eurasia is the name used when speaking of Asia and Europe as a single continent.



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