

Fascists Plot Mexican Revolt, Paper Charges

T-17 7/5/40

Italian Legation
Stirring Up Unrest,
El Popular Says

By EDWARD P. MORGAN

MEXICO CITY, July 4 (U.P.). Italian Fascists, linked with the Italian legation here, were accused today by the newspaper El Popular of plotting to create nation-wide disorders during next Sunday's presidential election.

The organ of the Mexican Workers Confederation—CTM—made its charges in a four-page extra which asserted the legation was intervening in Mexican politics, contrary both to law and diplomatic privileges.

Investigation Started

The newspaper was understood to have turned over its documentary "proof" to the government. The department of interior was said to have already begun an investigation.

El Popular's charges were supplemented with a display of photostatic copies of letters, notes, photographs and communications from the legation and Fascist headquarters here.

The charges are of such a grave nature that if they should be substantiated observers felt they might lead to a serious diplomatic incident between Italy and Mexico.

El Popular, which became strongly pro-German following signature of the Nazi-Communist pact in 1939, recently shifted to an anti-Nazi and anti-Fascist stand after Italy entered the war.

Accused of Conspiring

The newspaper's "expose" also linked followers of Gen. Juan Andreu Almazan, independent candidate for President, and members of the Spanish Falangist (Fascist) organization with the alleged plot.

Inclusion of Almazanistas in the charges was in line with the policy of the newspaper, which frequently has accused them of conspiring to revolt with the aid of "foreign reactionaries."

El Popular is supporting the candidacy of Gen. Manuel Avila Camacho, nominee of the Mexican revolutionary (government) party. Other candidates whose names will be on the presidential ballot are Gen. Rafael Sanchez Tapia, also an independent, and Ramon de la Paz, a Mexican druggist, who entered the race at the last minute.