

Mexican Group Follows Fascist Line

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MEXICO, D. F.—A program parallel to that of Falange Española which seeks the "spiritual reconquest of Latin America" was advocated by the Mexican party Acción Nacional in a series of conferences just concluded. Speakers at the conferences recommended unity on the theme of "one race, one language, one culture, one religion," which is the slogan used by the Spanish Falange for the reconquest of its lost colonies in this hemisphere.

No mention of the Spanish Fascist group, patterned on the Nazi model; was made at the meetings and the final speaker, Efraim Gonzalez Luna, indirectly denied any connection with the Falange in his statement that "Acción Nacional must not be confused with other local political systems of a transitory nature." Nevertheless the theme of his and other addresses appeared to be rooted in the Falange doctrine.

Speaking on the subject of "The Bases of a Realistic Policy (for Mexico)" he declared that "We embrace Hispanidad (the cult of being Spanish) as a reality which crosses all frontiers. It is our political and moral duty to return to the original Spanish values on which Mexico is founded." These he defined at length as the Spanish religion, race, culture and language.

The speaker attacked in turn the "cult of false Indianism and the absurd negation of Spanish influence here." In condemning "Indianism" he struck at the roots of the 30-year policy of the Mexican Revolution for the emancipation of the Indian as the major problem of the Mexican Nation. This attack is in full accord with the 400-year-policy of one sector of the Spanish colonials here which supported the exploitation and subjugation of the peon. Other Spanish sectors of more liberal ideals worked during the same period to free the Indians and to improve their living standards.

Article 3 of the Mexican Constitution which prohibits Church schools and provides for socialistic education was attacked by this and other speakers as "an abomination," "fraudulent" and "a true national disaster."

Miguel Estrada Iturbide, the

second speaker, declared that the present lay educational system "must be destroyed to its base" and condemned co-education as "immoral for men and women." Repeal of Article 3 is a policy for which Acción Nacional has worked for the past two years.

The international policy of the party with reference to the war was defined by Manuel R. Samperio who stated that "This is not a struggle to defend democracy but one between material and spiritual forces." This viewpoint also reflects the Spanish Falange's policy as illustrated in Franco's sending a "token" force to fight against Communism.

"Acción Nacional does not believe in a Democracy of Workers nor in Hemisphere Democracy," Señor Estrada also declared, but "in a system of government in which human dignity is respected and the State serves the majority." Another speaker advocated "a profound transformation of the economic, social and political institutions—a complete renovation of men, of system, of orientation." The ideal of "renovation," even the use of the word, is typical of the Falange Party, Spanish refugees here point out.

The Portuguese dictator, Oliveira Salazar, was highly praised by Señor Rafael Preciado Hernandez, who opened the series of conferences, and recommended for Mexico "a dynamic balance preferable to a fictitious division of powers." The same speaker attacked the Government's Mexican Revolutionary Party (PRM).

"The PRM," he said, "denies the democratic spirit and its practical consequences are disastrous." He concluded with a condemnation of continental solidarity and Mexico's pledge to support any nation in this hemisphere if it is attacked.

Speaking cynically of the present Government's policy, he said: "At home we (the Government) are enemies of democracy but we are ready to shed the last drop of blood of our soldiers and our agrarian reserves to support democracy abroad."

Analyzing these statements of policy made publicly at the Acción Nacional meetings it becomes apparent that the party is in sympathy with doctrines of Falange in its (1) opposition to continental solidarity; (2) support of the anti-democratic cause on clerical grounds; (3) opposition to Mexico's liberal government, and (4) demands for restoration of the power of the Church through opening Church schools.

Active membership in this party is estimated at 30,000 men who include many of the conservative business and professional leaders

of the country, a group similar to that which supported Franco in his overthrow of the Spanish Republic. The active members have, however, organized cells throughout the Republic among sympathizers who are estimated at an additional 170,000 men and women, making a total following of 200,000.

That the full significance of the political program of the party is realized by its followers is doubted by many observers here. Since Acción Nacional presents itself as a fundamentally Nationalist Party it is generally accepted as such, but the similarity of its doctrines with those of the Spanish Falange, coupled with the Falange's avowed crusade for restoring Spanish power throughout Latin America, lead serious students of Mexican affairs to interpret Acción Nacional as either a coincidental or conscious affiliate of the Spanish Fascists.

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P. 6

Freedom Committee Asks Halt To Wheeler Postcard Drive

By a Staff Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

NEW YORK, July 25—The Fight For Freedom Committee today characterized the sending of postcards to Army men by Senator Burton K. Wheeler (D) of Montana, as the culmination of a series of "instigations to mutiny" by the Senator and his isolationist advocates. The Committee urged Congress to see to it that the postcard campaign was the last of such acts.

Herbert Agar, Editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, and a member of the Fight For Freedom Executive Committee, recalled that at a Chicago rally several weeks ago Senator Wheeler included a direct invitation to mutiny by saying, "The President may have the power—if the Army and Navy obey—to send convoys."

In May at Philadelphia, Mr. Agar added, Charles A. Lindbergh asked for a change to "new leadership" at the same time that President Roosevelt proclaimed a national emergency.

"These are not coincidences," he declared. "They are a continuing, dangerous attempt to undermine the Government of the United States and the faith of our people

in the Commander-in-Chief of our Army and Navy. They are the voice of Berlin as uttered in Washington and throughout the country by men who have never spoken one word against Nazi policies or aims.

"In the Thrid Reich such attempts to undermine the Government would result in the concentration camp or shooting. This, however, is the United States where such things don't happen. This is a democracy we are now fighting to preserve. The least we can do is to exert our democratic powers to investgate the sources of these treasonable activities."

Coincidentally, the Rev. Henry W. Hobson, National Chairman of Fight For Freedom, Inc., saw the Japanese movement into French Indo-China as "another warning that Congressional action to declare an unlimited national emergency is an immediate necessity for this country's defense."

Hitler's attempt to start a diversion in the Pacific while German raiders continued their destruction on the Atlantic sealanes was proof that the United States faced an emergency condition in both oceans. Bishop Hobson declared