

FOTD AD

Moscow Links U.S. Silence Over Spain to Bases

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MOSCOW, Oct. 8—The Government newspaper Izvestia charged today that Washington cynically withheld criticism of Spain's executions of terrorists last week to obtain an agreement on American military bases there.

Over the protests of many European nations, the Madrid Government executed five terrorists who were convicted of killing policemen and civil guards. The incident provoked violent demonstrations throughout Europe, and six countries—Britain, West Germany, East Germany, Norway, Denmark and the Netherlands, withdrew their ambassadors from Madrid. The United States did not join the protests.

"While the whole world protests against the new malicious crime of the Madrid re-

gime," Izvestia wrote today, "they in the United States cynically weigh which position in this issue is profitable for them and which is not."

Contending that Spain had been reluctant to permit the retention of American military bases in the country, the paper wrote, "Over the past weeks, they became more accommodating. The special American position toward the executions in Spain was duly rewarded."

Criticism Muted and Veiled

Moscow has long criticized American bases in Spain and elsewhere abroad, but it has taken issue with Washington's foreign policy recently in only muted tones. The Soviet press, for example, has been generally aiming its criticisms at vaguely defined "imperialist circles" without naming the United States.

No such euphemism appeared today, however. "International public opinion condemns the new American-Spanish agree-

ment," Izvestia declared. "At the moment when the circle of political isolation around the regime is tightening it has got tangible support from across the ocean."

The Soviet Union also has capital punishment, and it is not only against those convicted of murder but also in certain other crimes such as corruption. In mid-September, for instance, the death sentence was ordered for a factory official in Kazakhstan who had been convicted of embezzling state property.

The Soviet press has not reported that the Spanish executions were carried out against men convicted of murdering policemen and members of the civil guard. The terrorists, part of a group of 11, included three members of a leftist guerrilla group known as the Revolutionary Anti-Fascist Patriotic Front, and two who belonged to a Basque nationalist movement.