

Lister's Return To Spain Sparks Factional Battles

The return to Spain from exile this week of General Enrique Lister, head of the pro-Soviet Spanish Communist Workers' Party (PCOE), is the most significant public challenge to "Eurocommunism" yet to come from within the communist movement.

SPAIN

Upon arrival in Madrid, Lister announced his intent to politically destroy the treacherous Santiago Carrillo, head of the Spanish Communist Party (PCE) and titular head of the Continent's Eurocommunists, and to rally the PCE base around himself. He called for a national congress of the PCOE. Branding Carrillo a "political gangster" and a "threat to democracy," Lister announced that he will shortly publish his memoirs, revealing Carrillo's personal direction of the assassination of Communist militants following World War II.

It is not yet known how deeply Lister's memoirs will go into Carrillo's forty-year career as an agent of British and American intelligence services. It was in his capacity as an Anglo-American agent that Carrillo was one of the primary organizers of the Eurocommunist phenomenon — a synthetic blend of social-democratic anti-Sovietism and Brookings Institution-style "national socialism."

Lister's "Finland Station" has Carrillo sweating. In a press conference in Yugoslavia Nov. 8, he denounced Lister as a "foreign agent." (He has publicly ignored the General since Lister left the party in 1968.) Carrillo admitted in a recent interview with the Yugoslav daily *Vjesnik* that his party is itself factionally split, since "some of the older cadre" oppose his Eurocommunist line.

At stake in this battle is no more than Carrillo's political neck. If Lister's move is successful, and particularly if he gives his campaign strong programmatic

content, it will provide crucial leverage to prodevelopment forces throughout Europe, and particularly to the opponents of Eurocommunism within the large French and Italian Communist parties. In the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, a successful drive by Lister will strengthen the factional position of those "hard-liners" favoring scientific and economic cooperation with the West.

The Spanish press has indeed reported that the Soviet embassy in Madrid is known to be "not unhappy" about Lister's return. The unfortunate V.G. Afanasyev, the pro-Eurocommunist editor of *Pravda* who went to Madrid last month to plead with Carrillo to attend Moscow's celebration of the 60th anniversary of the October Revolution, now finds himself out on a limb. When Carrillo was abruptly forbidden to speak at the anniversary celebrations, Afanasyev hastened to issue a statement that Carrillo had submitted his message "too late" to be translated. Afanasyev neglected to note that the speech had been submitted in Russian!

Eurocommunism simultaneously came under attack elsewhere in Eastern Europe. The Czechoslovak Communist Party daily *Rude Pravo* censored out the most "pluralist" Eurocommunist statements from the anniversary speeches of the Italian Communist Party's Enrico Berlinguer and Romania's Nicolae Ceausescu.

In Poland, British conduit Mieczyslaw Rakowski, a journalist who advises party chief Edward Gierek on economic and social policy, has come under fire in the Warsaw paper *Zycie Warszawy* for "revisionism" and advocating economic decentralization.

In Portugal, the Socialist Party has split over the issue of Socialist Premier Mario Soares' compliance with the demands of the International Monetary Fund. Former Agriculture Minister Cardoso, a left SP member fired to make way for dismantling Portugal's agrarian reform, has led a faction out of the party. Cardoso, who has been close to Alvaro Cunhal's Portuguese Communist Party, has indicated that his group is open to collaboration with Cunhal. Soares, on the other hand, although a member of the social democracy, is a collaborator of Carrillo's.