

War-Wearied Loyalists Crumble Before Fury of Franco's Drive to Take Barcelona



A four to one superiority in artillery over the Loyalist defenders of the Catalonian front was a prime factor in the Rebel capture of Barcelona. As pictured above, battery after battery of big guns blasted a path for Generalissimo Franco's armies.



Shuffling along in lockstep formation, these Loyalist prisoners are herded behind the Spanish Rebel lines in Catalonia. Thousands of them were captured in the sweeping offensive climaxed by the seizure of Barcelona.

British Cabinet Is Reshuffled; Refugees Pour Into France

Rebel Moors Push Negrin Forces Farther Back Toward Frontier.

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the coast, the Rebels had advanced more than 25 miles from Barcelona, passing the line which the Loyalists had selected for their first stand north of the city. They were 32 miles from Geron, which had been selected as a temporary Loyalist capital, and only about 50 miles from the French frontier.

While the Rebels were driving along the coast, another force was pushing steadily eastward toward the inner Barcelona-Granollers-Pulcidera highway. An official announcement said they dominated Granollers and were continuing their advance, 25 miles north of Barcelona.

Granollers Reported Captured

It was reported without confirmation at Hendaye on the French border that the Rebels had captured Granollers, but that the Loyalist troops, who retreated in disorder to the rear, were heading southward again.

Gen. Juan Yague, veteran commander of the Moroccan corps, said today:

"Our advance through Catalonia to the French frontier is now a military parade. The enemy appears to be completely disorganized."

Loyalists Reorganized, Negrin Declares

GERONA, Spain, Jan. 28 (U.P.)—

Premier Juan Negrin said in a speech to the nation last night that the Loyalist Army had been reorganized and reinforced by new men from Central Spain, and was now prepared to fight "to the death."

Mussolini Hints at Direct Negotiations

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BARCELONA, Jan. 28.—Rebel troops, driving an apparently disorganized Loyalist Army into a trap at the French border along the Mediterranean, occupied Caldetas today and pushed on to Arenys de Mar, on the coast 25 miles north of Barcelona.

The Rebels, meeting little actual resistance, were advancing steadily up the two main Catalonian north-to-south highways with tanks, armored cars and bombing planes.

Their progress was so swift that they gave the Loyalists no chance to reform their lines and make a stand.

The Moors and legionnaires of the Moroccan Corps, the most seasoned fighters of the Rebel Army, were selected for the task of mopping up all Catalonia and leaving the Loyalists isolated and virtually surrounded in the small area which they hold in south central Spain.

In the northward advance along

PLANE INQUIRY TO BE CONTINUED

Admiral Gets Key Post as New Warning to Hitler Is Awaited.

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idea that the long silent British lion was beginning to roar to a definite purpose.

Whatever Mr. Chamberlain says or leaves unsaid tonight, he is to make two long statements on foreign affairs in the House of Commons Tuesday, when it meets for the first time since the Christmas recess. One will be on the talk he had recently with Premier Mussolini at Rome; the other, a defense of his foreign policy in a full dress speech. In this he will be able to answer any statements affecting Britain that Herr Hitler may make to the Reichstag.

Welles Justifies Criticism of Nazis

NEW YORK, Jan. 28 (U.P.)—The New York State Bar Association, which last night heard Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles declare this country's right to condemn any nation engaged in "cruel and inhuman treatment of human beings," received today from its citizenship committee a report advocating "strict neutrality" for this Government.

The report recommends a foreign policy based on "hands-off other people's business."

Mr. Welles said there appeared to be some misunderstanding regarding the Government's attitude toward certain European governments.

"It seems to me that with regard to this issue, not only are the facts apparent, but that the traditional policy of the United States is well established," he said.

Right to Protest

"The people of the United States and their Government have always maintained, and in practice have made it clear, that they assert the right to protest and to condemn the cruel and inhuman treatment of human beings, wherever such brutality occurs."

"There has likewise made it clear that they possess and will avail themselves of the right to protest or if need be, challenge, the foreign policy of any other nation which threatens the peace or security of the United States, or which results in the violation of the treaty rights of the United States or of its nationals."

"These traditional tenets of our national policy, however, have never involved the right on the part of this Government to condemn or to assail the form of government under which other peoples may live."

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