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Translation of memorandum by Walter Popan (Madrid) dated 15 February 1952.

Editor LIBERTATEA

The case of M. P. Enescu. (Dissensions among Iron Guardists in Spain).

Mihail Fotino Enescu, residing now in Madrid, calle Genova 23/V, was expelled from the political group of Horia Sima in April, 1951, for reasons of "serious lack of discipline. He had belonged to that group since 1941-1942, and, when the refugee government of the Legion was set up in Vienna, in September, 1944, had been appointed Consul General by that government (to Berlin), remaining in that post until May 8, 1945, when the Third Reich collapsed. Enescu then tried to flee to Italy and succeeded in reaching Northern Italy, where he stayed until 1946. Whereupon he went to Paris for a brief stay, and from there to Spain. Throughout that time, he was under the orders of the Legion command - in Spain, under those of Vasile Iasinschi.

Enescu's expulsion from the Legion - hence his present dissidence - must be viewed from the point of the connections between Prince Nicholas and Horia Sima, for its full significance to become apparent.

It will be recalled that Prince Nicholas was received with great solemnity, in 1949, in Germany, by Prince Fr. v. Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, who agreed to his marriage to a commoner, granting Prince Nicholas' morganatic wife a title of nobility, and recognizing Nicholas himself as the "successor to the throne" pending the birth of male offspring to King Mihai. The festive occasion was then attended by some 200 members of the Sima group, the group subsequently acknowledging Nicholas as a sort of supreme patron, with reciprocal promises of political support being pledged by both parties (including support in military matters).

As the result of this mutually satisfactory arrangement, and at the request of Sima, Prince Nicholas made an official visit to Rome in April, 1950, where he was received by the Pope, by Cardinal Tisserant, and by the Superior-General of the Jesuit Order. The primary purpose of this visit was to prepare the way for a subsequent visit to Spain. In May, 1950, likewise at the request of Sima, Nicholas went to Spain to see Franco. From Franco, the following points were to be requested:

- 1) Approval in principle for the training on Spanish territory, with official cover, of groups of Rumanians, for sabotage and general anti-communist actions;
- 2) Continued recognition of Nicolae Dimitrescu as Rumanian Minister in Spain;
- 3) Approval in principle for the entry into Spain of a very large group of Rumanians and West-Germans, in view of setting up a Rumanian exile military formation.

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The first step was to be the acceptance into the Spanish armed forces of a group of some 40 former career officers, to serve as cadres for the rest.

4) The large group to come later should start out as agricultural laborers on state projects.

Franco gave his approval to the following: a) the continued recognition for Dimitrescu; b) enrollment of the forty officers, with a written guarantee from Prince Nicholas covering them. As for the large group, material guarantees were asked as a preliminary, on the grounds that a poor country like Spain could not admit so massive an influx of refugees otherwise.

Nicholas saw Franco in the presence of former Foreign Minister Mihail Sturza, and was accompanied to Franco's residence by Dimitrescu as well. However, as the result of the visit, and at the advice of his private secretary, Matasaru, Nicholas decided to consider the entire matter as his own personal responsibility; he no longer carries out the wishes of Sima as before; and, in effect, an entirely new situation has arisen. Up till that time (March, 1951) Enescu had been Sima's delegate for maintaining contact between the latter's group in Spain and the Prince. Being an excessively ambitious man, Enescu gained a close personal standing with Nicholas and, not without the approval of Nicholas, began to ignore Sima's orders.

In the meantime, for private reasons, Sturza disappeared from the political-diplomatic scene; hence the Sima group, without diplomatic connections of its own, faced the Nicholas-Enescu combination in Spain. In the spring and summer of 1951, when the first officer group was to have been recruited for the Spanish army, Nicholas, on the advice of Enescu, carried matters out on his own, delegating Staff Colonel Mavrichi to be in charge of military questions, and taking on Enescu as his political adviser. Sima, left out, issued a number of orders to Enescu (unable and unwilling to enter into any conflict with Nicholas himself), and ultimately expelled Enescu from his group.

Enescu now lives in an apartment with Mavrichi and Stamatu; in Paris he has Yulia on his side. Supported by Nicholas, he also has the support of the Catholic "Christian Works of the East", under the Jesuit Fr. Santiago Morillo, who is also in charge of broadcasts beyond the Iron Curtain, hence for Rumania.

So far, eleven former army officers have come to Spain, with the personal guarantee of Nicholas, recruited by Colonel Mavrichi. Sima, since the fall of 1951, has begun a new political-military action of his own in Spain, in an attempt to regain control of the situation.