



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Madrid, April 23, 1947

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MAY 12 1947

No. 382

UN OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
MAY 28 1947
BXP
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Subject: Departure of Señor Fernando
Director of the Faculty of the Spanish
Institute of Political Studies, for a
Visit to Cuba.

The Honorable,
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

OFFICE OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
DISTRIBUTION OFFICE
F/4-47
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Sir:

I have the honor to report that on April 22, 1947, the local press announced the departure from Cádiz on the Spanish steamship "Marqués de Comillas" of Señor Fernando María Castiella, who is planning to visit Cuba and possibly certain of the Central American Republics.

Señor Castiella is traveling on an official Spanish passport and recently requested the Embassy for a visa to visit the United States. Action on his visa application was suspended pending reference of the matter to the Department, but in the meantime, Señor Castiella departed and the visa application was dropped. He is traveling on an official mission, which, according to the Spanish Foreign Office, is of a cultural nature and involves a lecture tour. In view of his intimate connections with the Falange, the Embassy could not have favorably recommended the issuance of a visa to Señor Castiella.

Señor Castiella is a very prominent Falangist and Director and Founder of the Faculty of the Spanish Institute of Political Studies. He is a most important member of the Spanish Cortes, being one of the regime's "brain trusters" in matters of political theory and a leading propagandist of the tenets of the National Movement. He belongs to both the "Consejo Nacional" and the "Junta Política" of Falange.

Until 1943, Señor Castiella was Chief of the "Falange Exterior" and at that time was also Professor of International Law at the University of Madrid. In addition, he has held the post of a "Consejero Asesor" of the Consejo de la Hispanidad. He is co-author with José María ARRILZA, Count of Motrico, now Spanish Ambassador in Argentina, of a volume entitled "Revinicaciones de España", published in 1941, in which the Spanish cla-

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to the territory now held by the British (Gibraltar) and the French (Morocco, Oran, and most of North Africa) were hopefully and strenuously pushed in the bright sunshine of the German victories and the New Order in Europe which were then in the ascendency.

Señor Castiella was highly thought of by the German Embassy here during the war. He also fought briefly in the Blue Division on the Eastern Front. Where his country is concerned, he is a convinced opponent of democracy in the parliamentary, electoral, and political party sense. He is about 40 years old, personally agreeable, and his appearance is somewhat that of a youthful Goering. He was born in Bilbao and is married to the daughter of a rich Santander family.

Respectfully yours,

Philip W. Bonsal

Philip W. Bonsal
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.

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Original and Hectograph to Department.

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