

Spanish voters say 'Yes' to NATO, but what does that 'Yes' mean?

by Mark Burdman

The results of Spain's March 12 national referendum on continued membership in NATO could turn into a setback for those who want to "neutralize" Europe on behalf of the Soviet Empire. But only if Spain's pro-NATO voters mobilize to keep the Trilateral Commission from using Madrid as a launching point for breaking up the Western alliance; and, if the Reagan White House distances itself from the "Trilateral Agenda" for Europe.

On March 12, more than 50% of those Spaniards who voted, voted "Yes," to the referendum which calls for Spain to maintain *conditional* participation in NATO. Approximately 40% of the voters voted "No," even to conditional participation. Seven percent voted to abstain. The rest of the votes were considered "null and void," for one disqualifying reason or another.

Since the "abstention" option was that put forward by the most strongly pro-NATO voice, the Alianza Popular coalition headed by Manuel Fraga, it would be fair to say that almost 60% of those who voted rejected the "No" campaign of Moscow, the Spanish Communist Party, and the European "peace movement," for Spanish withdrawal from the alliance.

The turnout in favor of NATO is all the more significant, as the Soviet KGB's assets were fully mobilized against it. In Madrid, Spain's capital, this correspondent saw, in the last weekend before the referendum, anti-NATO stickers and posters dominating the walls and the streets, circulated both by the political left and the pro-Nazi CEDADE organization. Rallies of over 100,000 people were held in Madrid and other cities in the days leading up to the March 12 tally, with speakers from the European "peace" movement, including West German Green Party leaders Petra Kelly and Gerd Bastian, and Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament chief Monsignor Bruce Kent.

The Soviets were also mobilized in their usual brutal fashion: Moscow's chief U.S.A. expert, Georgii Arbatov, warned Spain that if it stayed in NATO, it would be a target of Soviet missile attack. In a Spanish-language Radio Moscow broadcast, on the night of March 10, another Soviet commentator said, on the referendum, "The question now for Spain, is: To be, or not to be."

Exactly what the vote means about Spain's future in NATO is still open to question. Two entirely different kinds of "Yes"

votes were cast. For the loyalists of Prime Minister Felipe González inside and outside of his Socialist Party, "Yes" is, in practice, tantamount to "No" on the ground. The conditions of the "Yes" vote include: 1) "progressive reduction" of the American presence in Spain; 2) no nuclear missiles on Spanish soil; 3) no integration of Spain into NATO's military command.

This might be called the "Trilateral Yes," after the Trilateral Commission, the U.S.-European-Japanese bankers' clique set up by David Commission, the U.S.-European-Japanese bankers' clique set up by David Rockefeller. According to this viewpoint, Spain's role is to help NATO redefine itself, into a more "European" organization, with the U.S. role sharply cut. Some Trilateral-linked think tanks in Europe and North America even go so far as to see Spain as "filling the gap" left by a reduced American role in Europe as a whole. One idea would have Spanish troops play a certain role in Germany, with the United States progressively phasing itself out, "Europeanizing" NATO.

The reality behind the verbiage is that this would hand Europe over to Moscow's sphere of influence in phases.

Many "Yes" voters, however, were not González loyalists, and voted "Yes" as a way of not voting "No," acting on the "lesser of two evils" basis. Their "Yes," was an affirmative to NATO, not an affirmative to Felipe González and the Trilateral Commission. Now, the battle over Spain's participation in NATO, shifts into other arenas, including Spain's legislative chambers, where the full details of how Spain will work with NATO, will be resolved. Meanwhile, the "witches' brew" of emotionalism whipped up by the referendum-process itself, may create conditions for destabilization of the Spanish situation.

The Trilateral agenda

On May 17-19, the Trilateral Commission will be holding its annual international summit in Madrid. The main item on the Trilaterals' schedule, is the phase-out of NATO as a workable institution. According to information currently available, the Trilateralists, in Madrid, will have the following items on the agenda:

- "The Next Phase of East-West Relations," based on a panel headed by William Hyland, former underling of Henry Kissinger at the U.S. National Security Council, and present

editor of *Foreign Affairs*, the magazine of the New York Council on Foreign Relations (CFR); and Karl Kaiser, head of the West German branch of the CFR, based in Bonn.

- According to the Italian weekly *Panorama*, a decision will be taken to hold the Trilateral Commission's next plenary at a site never before used by the Trilaterals, with Moscow the chief candidate.

- There will also be a discussion on the future of "international organizations," the strengthening of the supranational power of David Rockefeller's "banker socialism," via increasing power for the International Monetary Fund, the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT), and other institutions. This is, in part, an outgrowth of a "Managing International Order" project of the Commission, headed by Count Etienne Davignon, banker at the Societé Générale de Belgique and a director of Kissinger Associates; his "Davignon Plan" of the European Community bureaucracy in Brussels has wrecked the European steel industry.

- There will reportedly be discussions on further Trilateral Commission efforts to reduce the U.S. defense budget.

It is on this latter point, that we find the ironies of Spain's national NATO referendum: The decision to preserve or ruin NATO is being made in the United States.

On March 3, nine days before the NATO referendum, the *Times* of London ran a feature from Washington, D.C., on how NATO, in the view of Americans, was no longer a "sacred cow," especially in light of the increasing pressures to cut the U.S. budget. The *Times* identified, among others, three individuals leading the strategic campaign against NATO: Henry Kissinger, Carter-era National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, and former Treasury Secretary William Simon. Kissinger, deployed out of David Rockefeller's piggybank, is a Trilateral Commission executive committee member. Brzezinski is the recognized founding ideologue of the Trilateral Commission. Simon is a recently appointed director of Kissinger Associates.

The justification for phasing out U.S. involvement in NATO is the Gramm-Rudman budget-cutting bill, the first phases of which went into effect on March 3, the same day as the appearance of the *Times* article. The lawyer for Gramm-Rudman, in U.S. federal courts, is Lloyd Cutler, the former Carter White House counsel, and a Trilateral Commission member for over 10 years.

As the *Times* documents, although omits to state explicitly, the anti-NATO strategic campaign is wall-to-wall Trilateral Commission. On March 7, *EIR* briefed an audience of 40 journalists, students, diplomats, military officials, and others in Madrid, on "The Trilateral Commission, the Greatest Threat to the Western Alliance," stressing that, however Spaniards voted on March 12, the policies of the Trilateral Commission for "decoupling" the United States and Western Europe would destroy NATO.

On March 9, the daily *El Alcazar*, which is widely read among Spanish military and intelligence officials, published

a front-page article quoting this correspondent: "The Trilateral Commission will come to Madrid to destabilize national sovereignty." The article cited *EIR*'s evidence of full Trilateral-Soviet cooperation on certain issues, especially against President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative.

Spanish-American friendship, or Ostpolitik?

This last point, as reported in *El Alcazar*, underscores the dilemma facing President Reagan, in reacting to the Spanish and other European developments. Insofar as he supports the budget-cutting measures of the Trilateralists that are becoming the excuse for decoupling the United States from NATO, he is supporting those who are out to destroy his own SDI program.

Many in Spain, for example, would love to have the United States extend an offer for Spanish participation in the SDI, which, so far, has not been forthcoming. This, coupled with other overtures to better Spanish-American economic and strategic relations, could revitalize the most advanced sectors of Spanish industry, in electronics, nuclear energy, construction, and so on. Now that the referendum has occurred, will the United States extend such an offer? If not, those who want to use the referendum to promote an anti-American NATO, will be reinforced.

Similarly, the U.S. ambassador in Madrid, Thomas Enders, is the embodiment of State Department-Trilateral Commission policies. Enders showed his character when, as U.S. ambassador to Cambodia in the early 1970s, he destroyed the Lon Nol government and expedited the takeover of Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge. Today, Enders is associated with those banking and financial forces in Madrid linked to the laundering of drug-trafficking monies, and his stay in office in the American Embassy can only weaken Spain's ties to the Western alliance.

At this moment, Spain is not in truth a sovereign nation. Its industrial and economic infrastructure are being systematically weakened by the Trilateral bankers' cartel, represented by such institutions as the Banco Hispano-Americano, Banco March, and other institutions whose heads are on the Trilateral Commission. IMF austerity pressure on the country is enormous. Drug addiction is growing among the youth, and best estimates are that 100,000 Spaniards are already infected with AIDS.

Short of statesmanship by the United States and other Western nations winning for Spain an effective role in the Western alliance, other considerations of pragmatism and opportunism will prevail. Felipe González is reportedly committed to a trip to Moscow for a state visit, probably in May. Around this time, the Spanish industrialists' confederation is planning to send a large delegation of business chiefs to the U.S.S.R. In some quarters in Madrid, there is talk of a "convergence" between the East and the West, modeled on the kinds of proposals put forward by Zbigniew Brzezinski over past decades.