



Jaime Cortesão's escape through the Pyrenees.

La Retirada 1939

(The Retreat)

On 23 January 1939, with the Francoist forces at the gates of Barcelona, Jaime Cortesão, his wife Carolina, and daughter Judite, as well as Jaime de Morais and his wife, embarked on a dangerous journey: to leave Barcelona and go to France, crossing the Pyrenees Mountains, joining the thousands of people who, due to the imminent defeat of the Republic, were quickly abandoning the Spanish territory.

Photograph: *L'illustration*, no. 5.007, 18 February 1939





O entusiasmo popular em nada repousa. A estátua de Isabel II foi apedrejada e substituída por um busto da República e os retratos dos mártires capitães Calvo e García Hernández. O mesmo condão foi



O cavalo da estátua de Felipe III desvalado de alegria



...o triunfo republicano-socialista...
...a formação formal pelo candidato...
...repartido das escolas e das...
...e nos partidos.

PORQUE SURTIU A REPUBLICA ESPANHOLA?...



As listas moções de Madrid foram, aparentemente, correctamente, as melhores...
eleições da vitória eleitoral republicana. Elas nas ruas, incluindo todo de cartões...
voluntários e de listas dos candidatos do povo espanhol.

The proclamation of the Spanish Republic on 14 April 1931 had generated great enthusiasm among the Portuguese opposition.

Portuguese soldiers and civilians, republicans, anarchists, socialists and communists, in exile, particularly in France and Spain, structured in several groups and organisations, had the support of the second Spanish Republic and fought alongside it against Franco's rebels.

Image: *Ilustração* no. 129, 1 March 1939 (Lisbon Municipal Newspaper Library)



A stela dos republicanos nas eleições municipais foi o grito de...
misericórdia na agonia monárquica que se arrastava há muito...
D. Afonso XIII chamou ao município as suas últimas esperanças e...



Granadas que os revoltosos abandonaram



Um caminhão transformado em ambulância

After his participation in the failed revolt of February 1927, Jaime Cortesão left for exile in France. From there, he moved to Spain, in 1931, where he fought alongside the Republicans in the Civil War. Together with Jaime de Morais, he formed the Republican group known as “The Buddhas”, one of several opposition groups in exile.

Images: *O Malho*, 26 March 1927, and Jaime Cortesão in El Escorial ca 1938 (National Library of Portugal)



Trabalhando escavando uma trincheira. Ao fundo, Igreja de Santo Ildefonso.



The uprising of Franco's nationalists on 18 July 1936 started the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939). In Portugal, the institutionalisation of the Estado Novo (1933) led to the Portuguese definitive support of the rebels, as much in the logistical, material, financial and diplomatic sphere, as in the gathering of Portuguese fighters for the nationalist ranks - the "Viriatos" -, the arrest and delivery of Republicans, communists or anarchists to the Francoists, the supplying of arms, or the provision of the Portuguese territory as a revolving platform and rearguard.

Image:

"19 Spanish communists, captured on the Portuguese border of Gadiana, are disembarked in Vila Real de Santo António " (August 1, 1936), (Diário de Notícias). Photograph taken from Portugal e a Guerra Civil de Espanha, Lisbon, City Council of Lisbon, 1996



MALDIÇÃO

pelos seus ódios à liberdade,
 e à verdade,
 que é útil, humano e moço,
 e o seu espasmo de louco,
 e os seus homens, aos milhares,
 no hospital, no calabouço.



Internally, the Estado Novo affirmed and strengthened itself and fought the opposition. In line with similar European dictatorships, it was undergoing a process of fascistization, creating in 1936 the Portuguese Youth, the Portuguese Legion and the concentration camp of Tarrafal, in Cape Verde.

Images:

A *Verdade*, with the poem "Maldição" by Jaime Cortesão (National Library of Portugal).

"The Spanish Falangists, accompanied by boys from the Portuguese Youth and the Portuguese Legion, and several army officers, pay homage to the Portuguese who were killed in the Great War", 30 January 1938 (National Archive of Torre do Tombo).



CAROS COLEGAS! —Nisto de "safanões a tempo" falo eu de cátedra...

SALAZAR SABE QUE SÓ PELO TERROR CONSEGUE MANTER-SE... POR MAIS ALGUM TEMPO, E, ASSIM, AS PRISÕES E TORTURAS DE REPUBLICANOS CONTINUAM TODOS OS DIAS, CADA VEZ MAIS INTENSAMENTE, OS CARCERES POLÍTICOS ESTÃO A ARABOTAR, NOVAS LEVAS DE DEPORTADOS SE PREPARAM, MUITOS TEM QUE SE ESCONDER NA SUA PRÓPRIA TERRA E OUTROS DE TOMAR O CAMINHO DO EXÍLIO. SAL-

VOS ALGUNS POUÇOS MELHARES DOS QUE APROVEITAM COM A DITADURA DE SALAZAR, PORTUGAL INTEIRO VIVE APATIBORADO, A GRANDE FAMÍLIA PORTUGUESA ESTÁ CADA VEZ MAIS DESFEITA E DIVIDIDA, QUANTOS LARES DESTRUIDOS, QUANTA MISÉRIA, QUANTAS LÁGRIMAS, QUANTO SOFRIMENTO, QUANTO DESPEREÇO, QUANTOS ÓDIOS E SEDES DE VEN- GANÇA DESPERTOS EM CORAÇÕES NORMALMENTE PACÍFI-

ÇOS, PARA QUE SALAZAR CONTINUE A IMPOR AO PAÍS SEUS MILAGREZOS ELIXÍRES, AS SUAS MENTIRAS FINALES, A SATISFAÇÃO DA SUA INCOMENSURÁVEL VAIDADE E SEUS INCONFESSÁVEIS DESEJOS POLÍTICOS DE JESUITA? A SOMBRA NEGRA DE SALAZAR PESA SOBRE PORTUGAL, INTERNO COMO TREMENDA MALDIÇÃO! QUEREREM PAVENEM.



In January 1939, the Republican defeat against the Francoist forces, which were preparing to take Barcelona and Catalonia, was increasingly imminent. The "Buddhas", an opposition group that included, among others, Jaime Cortesão and Jaime de Morais, designed the Lusitanian Plan which foresaw the simultaneous invasion of Portugal by Portuguese combatants in the Civil War and an operation of Spanish Republican troops. However, this bold plan fell apart with the nationalists' takeover of Catalonia, forcing the Portuguese oppositionists to seek French exile through the Pyrenees.

Image: António Dacosta, *Antítese da calma*, 1940, Calouste Gulbenkian Museum.
Barricadas en las calles de Barcelona durante los asaltos franquistas, 1939. (Barricades in the streets of Barcelona during the Francoist attack) In: ABC de Sevilla



La Retirada (The Retreat)

Faced with the nationalists' capture of Barcelona on 26 January 1939, thousands of Spanish people gathered their scarce assets and began their great escape through the Pyrenees towards French territory, where they would be installed in the camp of Algerès-sur-Mer.

Jaime de Cortesão, Jaime de Morais and their families joined this immense crowd of refugees of all ages and social conditions. The dramatic mass exodus is narrated by Courtesão in the text "No desfecho da guerra de Espanha" (In the outcome of the Spanish war), published by Óscar Lopes in the work *Jaime Cortesão*, Lisbon, Edições Arcádia, 1962 (SEE ANNEX). In this text, Cortesão also revealed the tragic situation of Barcelona days before the nationalists took over, the fateful collapse of an era and the beginning of a violent and black period not only in Spain but also in Europe and the rest of the World.

Images: Miguel de Cervantes Virtual Library





After the troubled crossing of the Pyrenees, Jaime Cortesão finally reached France. He settled in Paris first, and then, in Biarritz. In 1940, he returned to Portugal and, on 27 June 1940, he was arrested on the border of Vilar Formoso

He was then sent to the Aljube and, on 29 June of the same year, he was transferred to the Prison of Peniche. On September 13, Salazar's government gave him a deadline of 30 days to leave the country. In Brazil, he began a new exile, from which he did not return until 1957.

Images: With his wife in exile in Biarritz (1941).

In Brazil with Jaime de Morais, Engenheiro Raimundo, Moura Pinto and Sarmento de Pimentel (Óscar Lopes, *Jaime Cortesão*, Lisbon, Edições Arcádia, 1962)
