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Papers**

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Jose Barrionuevo, former Spanish interior minister who will be tried by the Supreme Court for illegally detaining the hapless Mary. He is also accused of organizing an armed gang.

Closely-fought race may end up without a winner

QUESTION: When is an election when not necessarily the winner?

ANSWER: When it is the Socialist Party in Hungary.

An election race that started out several months ago with the conviction the Socialists' sweeping ascendancy of election has turned into a race in which predicting the outcome of tomorrow's second and third round of voting with any near-certainty is equally impossible. Perhaps the only certainty is that neither the Socialists nor their varying challengers will come away with a decisive victory.

After chopping away at the Socialist Party's vote seemingly unaccountably, the rights of voters' Father Hungarian Civic Party has within four percentage points of the first-round voting lost its first round of voting two weeks ago.

While the Socialists got 32 per cent of the vote — as they did in 1984 — the voters' abstention system left them well short of a

HUNGARY

Bruce Kovner
Budapest

parliamentary majority, with approximately 35 per cent of the vote. Four years ago, that same percentage of votes was more than half of parliament's 500 seats.

Despite that, plotting the Socialists invited the Free Democrats into a coalition — giving it a 250-seat majority. The party abandoned the Free Democrats in the first round of voting as the party's support plunged to less than 8 per cent of the vote.

Today, meanwhile, garnered 28 per cent of the vote — more than tripling its results from 1984. However, the right-wing opposition, the Socialists' party pulled in nearly 14 per cent — substantially more than four years ago. Finally, the extreme right-

wing Hungarian Freedom Party returned to parliament by crossing the 5 per cent threshold with 31 per cent of the vote.

Police and the Socialists hoped to form a new government based on the first-round election results, but many analysts caution against making such assumptions.

Mr. Fidesz, a political coalition with 140 government ministers, gives a counterweight also predicting the results of the election. Among other things, he noted that the Socialists' party — made up of the same leadership used to be an overall extremist party. While it has toned down its rhetoric to win votes, some hard-core, many voters remain wary of it.

So, while the right-wing parties have withdrawn their candidates from ballots in favor of their respective counterparts, who posed a stronger showing in the first round, it is not at all certain that those who voted for Fidesz in the first round will automatically vote for the Socialists in the second round.

In addition, he says the reconstruction of the right-wing extremist party will be too rough to win enough votes. Fidesz and the Socialists from getting a majority. And even if the two parties join forces to form a coalition, the Socialists remain a political liability for Fidesz.

"Fidesz can't have a majority by itself," Mr. Vidso said. "It needs the Socialization, and that scares a lot of people."

"None of the blocks will have a majority," he continued. Fidesz denies the possibility of a right-wing coalition. But I don't see another alternative."

As distasteful as it may be for both sides, the only realistic chance of a post-election governing coalition may be a broad one between the left and the right.

Many, one might say, were for an ETA member who lived in his street, had been relatively happy during the last four years of the GAI's rule. But 27 people and injured about 30 more. All but three of the Aizkor, sorpal, in France. Many of the victims had no connections to ETA.

The GAI, recognized the full terrorist repertoire of the Latin American death squads. A bomb was left in a busy street in Barreir. Two junior members of ETA were tortured for several weeks, allegedly under the direct supervision of a Socialist leader and a Guardia Civil official. They were then killed and buried in quick succession. Cautions in Bayona were taken with sub-machine-guns. The injured included two young people, a woman and a man.

Next Monday in Madrid, a former figure in ETA's internal security, Jose Barrionuevo, and most of the senior figure in his anti-terrorist force will be tried by the Supreme Court for illegally detaining the hapless Mary. They will also be accused of organizing an armed gang, and financing it with public money. The prosecution alleges 11-year jail sentences.

Most of the accused, though not the senior members of his anti-terrorist force, were arrested by Rafael Vera, have admitted their involvement. The detained former prime minister, Felipe Gonzalez, currently topped the new socialist government's program Commission, has been called in a witness. A controversial legal and journalistic investigation into state terrorism, which has accused a career of corruption, torture and murder at the heart of Spain's much-praised new democracy, may at last be given a long-overdue airing.

Why would members of Gonzalez's regime and character first

ETA's baroque internal system against that Spain's transition to democracy was a sham.

The group not only refused to participate in the new democratic institutions it actually accelerated its campaign of terror in pursuit of its independence from Spain, killing 110 people in Spain 1980, as against 16 in 1975.

Consistent except to point in Madrid on a landslide of popular approval two years later. But ETA gave the new government, the time to have no links with the Francoist past, and to re-organize. Instead, they killed senior generals in an apparent attempt to force a military coup.

In this context, it was particularly illustrative for the Socialist Party to have a Socialist minister appear appearing unwilling to accept the new action against ETA. ETA figures living in France.

There was a sort of an agreement pact between ETA and the French authorities, but they were difficult to break. Rafael Vera, one of the senior Socialists facing the trial, told me that the pact. The relationship with France was "not bad, not mediocre, but excessive" in the words of a senior French diplomat.

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Campaign urges government to press Mozambique on McBride

PRESSURES have begun to mount in South Africa for the ANC-led government to persuade the authorities in neighboring Mozambique to charge or release Mr. Robert McBride.

Mr. McBride is a descendant of Irish volunteer John McBride who fought for the Boers in the Anglo-Boer war a century ago.

Mr. McBride, a former ANC spokesman, was sentenced to death in 1963 in a one-sided explosion in the mid-1980s. Later reprieved and then freed under an amnesty agreement, he has been held in solitary confinement in Mozambique for more than 10 days.

He was arrested in Mozambique on suspicion of gun running in March.

Despite repeated attempts by his lawyers to bring an end to his imprisonment in legal limbo, he has been unable to get the release. His wife Paula told The Irish Times that the judge assigned to hear Mr. Carlos Castano, a leader

SOUTH AFRICA
Patrick Laurence,
Johannesburg

look to decide whether or not to charge him by Jan. Monday.

But Mrs. McBride was disappointed and went without a decision.

The past few days have seen the campaign led by the lawyer, Mr. Aubrey Lekwame.

It has been placed demonstrations at the Mozambique Consulate and Parliament where many people were handed to consider officials, and South African Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The memorandum given to the Foreign Affairs Ministry — where Mr. McBride is a senior official at the time of his arrest — says that there is no link between Mr. McBride's arrest and the new disclosed Mozambique report alleging he was part of a coup aimed at

in 1986.

A Socialist director of state security, Mr. Patrick Laurence, has admitted his involvement in the Mary kidnapping. He has explained why Mrs. Vera had for 10 days after they knew she was dead.

He, Vera and Barrionuevo retained, he has alleged, that the kidnapping was an innocent Party resident would probably pay rather more money, but the kidnapping of a suspected terrorist.

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Many people have been accused that the Spanish security forces were behind the GAI. Spanish Police Chief, General, an earlier "dirty war" against ETA in France territory, where he was a member of the Spanish government's objectives with Paris.

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toppling President Mandela's government.

Saying that the man arrested was a South African, Mr. Patrick Laurence, Mr. Vatsi Mshaba, was the prime source of the Masing report, which led to the resignation of Defense Forces Chief Mr. Masing. Mr. Masing, the prime minister, says "The fact that the proposed charge sheets rely primarily on Masing's information suggests foul play."

The Free McBride Campaign and press inquiries have elicited an explanatory statement from the newly-created Government Communications and Information Service.

The statement stresses that South Africa recognizes Mozambique as a sovereign country and will therefore not interfere in the judicial process in that country.

It adds, however, that it is hopeful that the South African government will bring the case to a resolution soon, based on their own independent findings.

