

Basic Detail Report

A demonstration in support of Pepe Beunza

Date

1971-1971

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

A protest against Spain's Fascist regime under Franco, supporting the Basque separatists who had been condemned to death in the Trial of Burgos, 1970. The Basque conflict (1959-2011), started when the Basques, a community in northern Spain, wanted autonomy from Spain, but were forcibly repressed by the dictatorship of Francisco Franco. In the mid-1960s many Basque activists were captured and tortured under Spain's Franco's regime; in 1970 many Basque activists were captured and tried at the 'Trial of Burgos' and sentenced to death (although foreign pressure succeeded in the commutation of the sentences). This photo was probably taken during the demonstrations in Italy in support of the condemned activists. Pepe Beunza was the first conscientious objector due to political (and not religious) beliefs in Spain; 'Insubordinates', as conscientious objectors were known, were processed and imprisoned; in 1971 Pepe Beunza was tried and imprisoned in Valencia. There was an international campaign in his support, and an organized march from Geneva to Valencia. On the placard: "Obiettori fuori, generali dentro" ["Free the conscientious objectors, jail the generals".]

Dimensions

Overall: 21.7 x 30.4 cm (8 4/8 x 12 in.)