

# Majorca Daily Bulletin

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## Mascherano accepts one-year jail term in plea bargain

**B**ARCELONA defender Javier Mascherano accepted a one-year prison sentence for tax evasion yesterday as part of a plea bargain, Spanish media reported, although he is unlikely to serve time in jail. The 31-year-old Argentina international, who joined Barca in August 2010, pleaded guilty last year to defrauding the Spanish tax authorities of more than 1.5 million euros by concealing earnings from his image rights by using companies set up in the United States and Portugal.

During a brief appearance in court yesterday, he agreed to pay an 800,000 euro (\$870,000) fine and cover the legal costs, the newspaper *El Pais* reported. Sentences shorter than two years are not usually enforced in Spain.

Mascherano also paid back the unpaid tax plus almost 200,000 euros in interest.

In a tweet, Mascherano acknowledged the plea bargain, and said he reserved the right to take legal action against those who had given him poor advice on his personal finances.

# Foreign Legion on the march



● Official census claims that there has been an important decline in the

number of foreign residents living in the Balearics. ● See Page Three Inside.



Marina Litvinenko, the widow of the murdered spy outside the London law courts.

## Wall Street weighs into Britain's EU referendum: Goldman, JPMorgan back 'in' campaign

*London.*—Goldman Sachs and JPMorgan are making large donations to the campaign to keep Britain inside the European Union, sources said, highlighting the concern among some of the world's biggest banks over the impact of a British exit.

Goldman Sachs has agreed to donate a "substantial six-figure sum" according to one source, while JPMorgan was preparing to make a similar donation, another source familiar with the matter said.

Another U.S. bank, Morgan Stanley, is also likely to make a donation but has yet to decide a sum to contribute, a source said. The bank declined to comment.

In the face of growing Euroscepticism among the British electorate and political pressure from within his own party, Prime Minister David Cameron has promised to hold a referendum on Britain's EU membership by the end of 2017.

Yesterday, Cameron urged business leaders at the World Economic Forum in the Swiss resort of Davos to speak up about the benefits of Britain staying in a reformed EU.

Cameron is hoping to head off the threat of a British exit, or 'Brexit', by negotiating a deal on reforms to the bloc that address concerns about immigration, sovereignty and competitiveness at an EU summit next month. He received some support yesterday from French President Francois Hollande, who said none of Britain's EU reform demands were "insurmountable", but that they must not prevent the euro zone from pursuing further integration.

Cameron said very good progress had been made with the EU but that they were "not there yet".

## Putin probably approved London murder of ex-KGB agent Litvinenko: Page 9