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CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TO BE SWITCHED ON IN
PALMA TONIGHT. SEE FULL REPORT INSIDE

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Spain to force streaming platforms to use regional languages

● The Spanish government will pass a new 5% tax on audiovisual production and force streaming platforms, such as Netflix, to air shows in regional languages, Catalonia's separatist party Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya (ERC) said yesterday.

The measures come in exchange for ERC's critical support for the leftist coal-

ition government's 2022 budget bill.

They will include an obligation that 6% of the streaming platforms' content is in Spain's co-official languages: Catalan, Galician or Basque, ERC's lawmaker Gabriel Rufian told reporters, without specifying if that would require original content or simply dubbed or subtitled.

Spain opposition leader comes under fire over religious service

● Spain's main ruling Socialist party demanded explanations yesterday from the leader of the conservative People's Party after Pablo Casado attended a religious service for the late dictator Francisco Franco, whose legacy still divides Spain. "We consider this an aggression, an absolute irresponsibility," Hector Gomez, spokesman for the Socialist bench in Congress, told reporters.

"We demand an explanation...whether the leader of the opposition, the leader of People's Party is endorsing Francisco Franco's dictatorship," he said.

Casado's party said he had been unaware that the mass in the southern city of Granada, which he at-

tended on Saturday with his family, was one of several services held across Spain to commemorate the 46th anniversary of Franco's death.

"It was not a mass for Franco, it was a normal mass, and we discovered the following day," a spokesman said, declining further comment.

According to a party source, Casado simply walked into a church next to his hotel because he knew he would not be able to go to a mass the following day due to his tight schedule.

The Francisco Franco Foundation thanked him for his presence there but said he had not been invited and could not be held responsible.



The *Queen Elizabeth*, will dock in Palma tomorrow morning.

Royal Navy aircraft carrier, *Queen Elizabeth*, arrives in Palma tomorrow but no events or visits are being planned

Palma.—It was widely expected but it will still come as a blow. The Royal Navy aircraft carrier, *Queen Elizabeth*, which will dock in Palma tomorrow, will not be open to the public and no events have been planned. It is cus-

tomary for visiting Royal Navy warships to hold a reception but even this will not be taking place.

The 3,000 strong crew of the warship are looking forward to some rest and relaxation in Palma after a long six

month deployment which was hit by the pandemic and meant that they were unable to go ashore in Tokyo or Singapore. The ship is on the last leg of her deployment before she returns home to Portsmouth.