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COLOMBIAN CAUGHT IN SPAIN WITH COCAINE UNDER TOUPEE

Madrid.— A Colombian man was detained at Barcelona’s international airport after half a kilo of cocaine was found hidden under an over-sized toupee, Spanish police said yesterday. Arriving on a flight from Bogota, the man attracted police attention as he looked nervous and had a disproportionately large hairpiece under his hat. They found a package stuck to his head with about 30,000 euros (\$34,000) of cocaine. “There is no limit to the

inventiveness of drug traffickers trying to mock controls,” said the police statement.

The statement enclosed a photo of a middle-aged man - apparently still wearing the toupee though with his eyes blocked in the image - but gave no more details of his identity.

Over 100 kilos of cocaine were seized by Spanish police at the Barcelona-El Prat airport in 2018.

WAR OF WORDS OVER PALMA BULLFIGHT

● Animal rights groups want it banned: Page 4



Lion King coming to Majorca in English: See film Guide

Spain’s Podemos offers to make concessions to avoid repeat elections

Madrid.—Spain’s far-left Podemos party is willing to make concessions to rescue stalled power-sharing talks with acting prime minister Pedro Sanchez’ Socialists and avoid a repeat election, leader Pablo Iglesias said. Sanchez declared negotiations dead on Monday, raising the prospect of Spain facing its fourth election in as many years as the fragmented political system struggles to resolve big problems ranging from Catalan separatism to budget reform.

Three months after the Socialists won the biggest share of votes but fell short of a majority in a parliamentary election, talks remain stalled as Sanchez ruled out Iglesias’ demand of a full power-sharing coalition and accused Podemos of acting in bad faith in negotiations. “We haven’t

stopped making concessions and we are prepared to enter into coalition negotiations and give more ground still, but it’s key that the Socialists understand that the voters did not vote for a one-party government,” Iglesias told laSexta television yesterday.

Despite the compromising tone, Iglesias also used the interview to counterattack Sanchez, saying that his calling the negotiations dead was an error.

“Anyone with a mandate to form a government can never assume talks as broken off,” he said.

Last week Podemos asked its members to vote on whether the party should continue pushing for a power-sharing agreement with the Socialists or instead support a minority Sanchez government.