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THE MILITARY PHARMACEUTICAL LABORATORY AT THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY OF SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA (1936-1939): HOW AND WHO WORKED THERE.

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At the outbreak of the Spanish civil war on July 18, 1936, the academic university activity remained suspended within the whole country. The School of Pharmacy of the University of Santiago de Compostela was organized as a military pharmaceutical laboratory to produce medicines and dressings for the army. A remarkable investment in apparatuses and laboratory material carried out in the years that followed, allowed the Faculty fulfill this function.

The laboratory was organized by a military pharmacist, ex-professor of the Faculty and supporter of rebellious army, Luis Maiz Eleizegui. Professors were militarized and appointed directors of the different departments of the Laboratory. Paradoxically, some of them with liberal ideas and republican convictions had to work on the opposing side after the appropriate disciplinary measures were taken.

This communication presents the organization, the funding and the human resources of that military laboratory. Special reference will be given to the voluntary service carried out by young women from Santiago de Compostela who took part in both the attainment of the resources and the tasks of production.