

PORTUGUESE AND COLONIAL BULLETIN

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MODERNISING FASCISM

The past ten years have seen growing economic change in Portugal.

These changes have been mainly dictated by the quest for higher profits by the foreign and national monopolies which rule Portugal and her colonies. The changes have been accelerated by the need to cope with the struggle of the Portuguese people for a better life, and, in the last 5 years, by the increasing problems of the three colonial wars in Africa.

The Portuguese gross national product has been growing in recent years at approximately 6% per year, which is reasonably high by European standards. Industrialisation has certainly gone forward.

Yet standards of living in Portugal, as defined by prevailing levels of wages, salaries, housing and health, have certainly not grown at an annual rate of 6%. The Fascist State apparatus has made sure that by far the biggest portion of the profits goes into the hands of the foreign and national monopolies.

Political liberties too, have not shown any change for the better in Portugal. It can even be said that during these last 10 years the repressive policies of the régime have increased. The whole political situation has only been saved from even further deterioration by the ceaseless struggle of the Portuguese people.

The Portuguese situation demonstrates very clearly that technical or industrial development alone is no guarantee of political or social progress.

Technical, scientific and industrial developments are essential for our survival in our day and age, but they alone will not solve our problems. They need constantly to be accompanied by political struggle, which is essential to insure that the successes and developments work for the benefit of the majority of

the people.

The fact that Portuguese Fascism originated 41 years ago in an underdeveloped country does not mean that Portuguese Fascism is in a very special category. Let us not forget that Nazism consolidated itself in Germany, when Germany was in the first rank of industrially and scientifically advanced countries of that time. And also that 'MacCarthyism' took place later in the most industrialised country in the world.

The Portuguese democratic forces must certainly encourage any industrial or scientific advance in the country. But if they do not try to take advantage of these new developments under Salazar, and if they do not conduct a struggle in Portugal taking into consideration those very developments, then they will not progress as they should and the Portuguese people will not make real progress.

We are sure, however, that the fighting traditions of the Portuguese people and of its democratic forces, are sufficient guarantee of more and more victorious battles for a better life and for the political liberties which will finally come with the end of the Fascist régime.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Increased printing and postal charges are making life hard for the "Bulletin".

For over six years we have worked to expose the nature of the Salazar regime and have campaigned with success for the liberation of many Portuguese political prisoners.

The Portuguese people need our help more than ever. We wish to continue, but growing costs make it difficult.

Send us donations and subscriptions. We need your help!

Freedom for the prisoners

THERE has been no improvement in the situation of the Portuguese political prisoners kept in Peniche and Caxias. Prison conditions continue to be very bad, and in some instances they worsened recently.

In July, the Peniche prisoners received a collective punishment. They were deprived of mail, visits and meals in common, recreation time and newspapers.

In Caxias 7 women prisoners, amongst whom were RITA GANDARA and FERNANDA MARTINS, were punished with deprivation of visits, books and newspapers, for one month. They were also punished with deprivation of listening to the record player until December this year, because they refused to listen to it on May 28th, anniversary of the Fascist coup d'état. Three other women prisoners were also punished with deprivation of visits for one month and another one for six months.

AGOSTINHO SABOGA, the 56-year-old glass worker, after 11 years in jail, is in a serious condition. He was transferred from hospital to the Peniche jail as a punishment. His sentence expired in 1965.

AFONSO GREGORIO, is also very ill and BLANQUI TEIXEIRA is threatened with blindness.

In the Peniche jail there are many other prisoners whose only 'crime' was to fight for democratic rights and for a better life for the Portuguese people. This fight, let us not forget, takes place in a European country, a NATO member, the oldest ally of Great Britain.

There, prisoners, many of whom are in very poor health, include amongst many others:

FIRES JORGE, DIAS LOURENCO, OCTAVIO PATO, CARLOS COSTA, JOSE CARLOS, AMERICO DE SOUSA, JOSE BERNARDINO, Army Captain VARELA GOMES, MANUEL SERRA, JOSE MAGRO and AUGUSTO LINDOLFO.

Past campaigns for the liberation of Portuguese political prisoners

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have met with outstanding success, like those that achieved the release of **MANUEL RODRIGUES DA SILVA, MANUEL GUEDES, JOSE VIOTORIANO** and the women prisoners. More efforts from world public opinion will obtain the release of more prisoners.

Demand an Amnesty and the release of all Portuguese political prisoners—including the women, like **SOFIA FERREIRA** and others—from the Portuguese authorities. Address your protests to the President of the Portuguese Republic, Lisbon, to the Portuguese Ministers of the Interior and Justice (Ministro do Interior, Ministro da Justiça, Lisbon, Portugal), or to the Portuguese embassies abroad. (In London, 11 Belgrave Square, S.W.1.)

The following letter appeared in the London 'Times' on 26th September, 1967.

PORTUGUESE PRISONERS

From Mrs. Patricia Steadman

Sir,—After reading your report in the overseas news today about Peniche prison being 'a hell', this committee wishes to confirm to your readers that the conditions stated by the 27 leading Portuguese lawyers are, unfortunately, true.

From time to time we receive news of prisoners in this fortress telling of their inhumane treatment, but what the report did not point out was the fact that some political prisoners are kept in gaol even at the end of their sentence under what is termed 'Security Measures'. This, if the authorities so desire, can be prolonged to mean life imprisonment.

One example is that of Caetano Manuel Velez. A 44-year-old agricultural worker from Aviz, he was arrested in October, 1961, condemned to two and a quarter years plus security measures. He has now been in prison for five and three-quarter years.

Another—Alvaro Veiga de Oliveira, a 38-year-old engineer from Lisbon—was subjected to the 'statue' torture on his arrest in 1965; was allowed to sleep seven nights out of 37 during beatings and interrogation before being sent to Peniche. He was condemned to four years plus security measures. He is now deaf as a result of his torture.

Maria Lourenca Cabecinha, another agricultural worker, was condemned to two years two months plus security measures and should have been freed last month. We are still awaiting news of her release.

This committee not only directs protests to the Portuguese Embassy in London and the Minister of Justice in Lisbon about this thoroughly inhumane treatment of prisoners but also appeals to all organizations who appreciate justice and humanity to do the same.

Yours faithfully,

PATRICIA M. STEADMAN.
Secretary, British Committee for Portuguese Amnesty.

Flat 2, 42 West Side, S.W.18, Sept. 14.

INSIDE PORTUGAL

GIANT BRITISH LOAN

Lazard Bros., the London Merchant Bankers, acting together with the Banco Pinto Sotto Mayor of Lisbon, have signed the heads of agreement covering two loans to Siderurgia Nacional of Lisbon, the Portuguese steel monopoly.

The first is a loan of up to £11m. to provide finance for contracts to be placed in the United Kingdom with Davy and other British firms for equipment for the Siderurgia Nacional steelworks.

The second loan will advance up to £40 m. to finance contracts that are to be placed in the United Kingdom with manufacturers of steel plant and iron mining equipment required for extensions of steelworks and related developments of the Moncorvo iron mines. (*Times*, 6.7.67.)

The Moncorvo mines are among the biggest iron mines in Europe, with reserves calculated at some 500 million tons of iron ore. The Siderurgia Nacional belongs to the Champalimaud Consortium which is associated with CUF, the largest Portuguese monopoly, and with West German capital.

PROFITABLE BUSINESS

The statement by Mr. A. F. Roger, Chairman of the Anglo-Portuguese Telephone Co. Ltd. which provides telephone services in Lisbon and Oporto, shows a net profit of £805,428 for the year ending December 31, 1966. (*Times*, 7.6.67.)

The Company was set up in June 1887, and the statement comments: 'Throughout this long period there have been times of prosperity and times of recession but the Company has never failed to pay a dividend on its Ordinary Stock, and this fact alone does demonstrate better than any other the fair-mindedness of the Portuguese Authorities who have never denied the Company the right to earn profits...'

Mr. Roger goes on: 'our relationships over the years with Portuguese Local Authorities and the Portuguese Post Office have been of the most cordial, and any disagreements have always been settled to the mutual satisfaction of all. It is sad to think that by the end of this year

the Company will no longer be engaged in Portugal, and I am hopeful that the friendships made will continue to be of some lasting use to benefit the future relations between Portugal and the United Kingdom.'

It was surely with this in mind that such loyal Portuguese collaborators as Senhor António Cabral, Chairman of the Lisbon Board, and Dr. A. Bustorff Silva, Legal Adviser to the Company, were awarded the C.B.E.

During this same year, 1966, the sum of £100,646 was paid to the Portuguese Government as tax for the defence and development of Portuguese territories. (*Times*, 7.6.67.)

Those who fight in Portugal and her colonies against the oppression of Salazar's Dictatorship will doubtless feel the burden of such timely financial contributions.

WOLFRAM SHARES CHANGE HANDS

Charter Consolidated Ltd., with a capital of £172 million, have bought 340,000 shares of Beralt Tin and Wolfram Ltd., the largest producer of wolfram in Portugal. (See Bulletin Vol. 7 No. 2.) This financial transaction gives Charter 41% of Beralt shares. (*D.L.* 17.6.67.) The Chairman of Charter is Harry Openheimer the diamond magnate of the South African enterprise *Anglo-American*, who controls, among many other interests, the *Diamang* company which has the monopoly of Angolan diamonds.

THE TEXTILE BOSSES DO WELL...

Joining in the controversy about the threat to the British market from Portuguese textiles (see Bulletin Vol. 7 No. 2), the owner and director of *Riopedé*, one of the bigger Portuguese textile enterprises, told the *Times* representative (20.6.67): 'we shall sell in Britain as we are already selling in other places, including the U.S.A., and all Scandinavian countries, not because of cheap labour, but on high quality and good design produced at competitive prices by modern techniques...'

The last issue of this Bulletin gave some figures of the wages currently

paid to Portuguese textile workers. We add the information that the average daily wage of a woman worker is 12s 6d, and normally she will work a 48 hour, six-day week. what does *Riopele's* Director call such a wage if he does not call it 'cheap labour'?

Besides *Riopele*—which uses a polyester fibre of German origin, and supplies 40% of the Portuguese home market for mens-modes and blends in dress materials and suitings—another big firm is *Finicisa—Fibras Sintecticos* (an I.C.I. subsidiary), which now claims to supply 60% of the synthetic fibre used in Portugal. However a Swedish competitor intends to build a factory in the Lisbon suburbs. (Ind. Port. 40. No. 470, April '67.)

Another Swedish concern, the powerful consortium *Electrolux*, has opened a new factory at *Alferragide* in Portugal (D.L. 1.6.67.)

BUT THE PEOPLE SUFFER . . .

The worsening of housing conditions in Portugal was discussed recently at a meeting sponsored by the 'Associações dos Inquilinos de Lisboa' (Lisbon Tenants' Association).

Housing now falls short by 500,000 of the necessary total. In Oporto and Lisbon alone the gap is 150,000. The lag in providing accommodation tends to increase by some 34,000 homes per year. In the Lisbon district, only 51.5% of the houses have a kitchen, W.C. and bathroom. In the Oporto district the figure is as low as 25%. 40% of the families living in Lisbon have no homes of their own. (D.L. 27.5.67.)

URANIUM and OIL

There have been widespread rumours in Lisbon that West Germany has secured a dominant position over Portuguese uranium resources, which are some of the richest in Europe. A licence is thought to have been given to the *Metallgesellschaft Degussa* group to build an installation for the production of pure uranium oxide. There are also West German interests in the uranium of the Mozambique colony.

SACOR, the Portuguese Oil monopoly, has launched a new foreign unit-of-account loan. It was originally scheduled for 10 million units but it may be increased to 14 million units, or approximately £39 million.

The 10-year loan carries a 6.75% coupon ('Times', 4.7.67).

CARS and LOCOMOTIVES

There are in Portugal 18 factories for assembling motor cars and commercial vehicles, all foreign.

In 1966 a total of 33,339 motor cars were assembled. Top of the list were the British firms, with 12,609. There are 7 factories, belonging to BMC, Ford, Rootes, Leyland and AEC. (D.L. 2.6.67.)

'English Electric' supplied Portuguese Railways with 50 diesel locomotives worth £3.5 million and the colony of Mozambique with a further eight.

SHIPYARDS

The giant LISNAVE shipyards in Margueira (Lisbon) were inaugurated on 23rd June.

The investment is worth £10 million. Main investors are Dutch, (*Nederlandsche Droogdok Maatschappij*; *Rotterdamsche Droogdok Maatschappij* and *Wilton Frijenoord Bronswerk*); Swedish (*Kockums Mekaniska Verkstads* and *Eriksbergs Mekaniska Verkstads*); Portuguese (the CUF monopoly and the *Fonsecas* and *Burnay Bank*); and British (*Parry Son*), a firm installed in Portugal.

The shipyards include one dock for 100,000-ton tankers and another for 300,000-ton tankers. They will not be used for shipbuilding—the Portuguese have to build many of their ships abroad—but for repairs to tankers passing the Portuguese coast bound for Northern Europe. These tankers carry 70% of the oil shipped in the world. (*Financial Times*, 25.5.67.) Cheap Portuguese labour is the reason.

ADVERTISING

The London 'Financial Times' of 25.5.67 published four full pages of news about the Portuguese economy. Advertisements by Portuguese firms are said to have cost £2,500.

NATO ASSISTANCE

THE needs imposed by three colonial wars, which is the price that the Salazar régime exacts from the peoples under its rule, lead to the strengthening of the military apparatus.

In accordance with NATO requirements, a 'Research Centre for Ammunition' has been set up in Portugal for standardizing all am-

munition for light weapons (P.J. 20.6.67). This will enable the Portuguese Army to take a better advantage of NATO's assistance.

TROOPS FOR AFRICA

More contingents were sent to the African wars on May, 9, 17, 23 and 24 (P.J. and D.L. 9-24.5.67).

The liners *LIMA* (*Insulana Company*) and *NIASSA* (*National Company*) have been requisitioned by the Army to take troops to the Colonies (D.L. 19.6.67).

In the Military Academy, 250 cadets were sworn in (P.J. 7.6.67). And at Espinho, more than 900 recruits of an Anti-Aircraft Regiment have finished their period of training (P.J. 17.6.67).

FRIGATES FOR SALAZAR

On June 1, the frigate *João Belo*, the first of 9 vessels commissioned by the Portuguese at the Nantes Shipyards (France), was launched (D.L. 30.6; P.J. 2.7.67). These frigates are used to attack submarines. Two new launches—*Alvor* and *Albufeira*—have been acquired by the Portuguese Navy (P.J. 24.6.67).

MONEY FOR THE NAVY

By a new decree, the Navy has been granted £4,750,000 until 1970 for building new installations and training centres (P.J. 4.6.67). In the meantime, 230 fusilliers were being trained in the São Jacinto and Sever do Vouga woods, prior to their departure for Africa (P.J. 14.5.67).

AIR FORCE REORGANIZED

The Portuguese Air Force is also being intensively reorganized. The 55-year-old General J. Brilhante Paiva is the new Chief of Staff. He was trained in the U.S.A., in England (R.A.F. Flying Training School) and West Germany (P.J. 29.6.67).

As the Portuguese are encountering more difficulties in the war, they need quick repairs and replacements for their aircraft. Thus the 'Secretariat for the Air Force' has been granted £5,437,500 until 1969 for acquiring from national and foreign firms replacements, incendiary bombs, ammunition, vehicles and other war material (D.L. 24.6.67).

MILITARY CELEBRATIONS

As Salazar can no longer keep up the pretence that there is peace in the Colonies, he has finally accepted the tragic reality of war by turning June 10th, the Portuguese

National Day, into a day of militaristic celebrations. Exactly 188 officers and soldiers were distinguished with medals for gallantry. In a speech to the troops, the official orator Miranda Barbosa, Vice-Rector of Coimbra University, declared that the 'Portuguese Mission cannot be held within the borders of Europe'. (D.L. 11.6.67.)

BIG BUSINESS AND THE WAR

In the wake of these celebrations, the CIDLA Company, which is ruled by the SACOR trust, has also distinguished 122 men of their staff, who had served in Mozambique at Mueda. The close relation between big business and colonial militarism was once again publicly underlined by this event (D.L. 12.6.67).

INDEFINITE CONSCRIPTION

Modifications have been introduced into the regulations for national conscripts. Only in very special cases are young academics now allowed to postpone the period of their active service. And the Government are entitled to keep men in the ranks for as long as they wish, provided they declare a State of National Emergency (P.J. 8.6.67).

DEUTSCHLAND UBER ALLES!

The nostalgic German Nazis, who have found a haven in Salazar's paradise, had a great day on June 17. At Oporto and Lisbon, special celebrations were held at the 'German Schools' with the presence of officials of the Federal German Republic. The aim of the celebrations was, amongst other things, to claim the annexation of East Germany.

The audience ended the day by singing at full throttle 'Deutschland, Deutschland uber alles' (P.J. and D.L. 17.6.67).

INCREASING TOURISM

In order to cover the deficit of his balance of trade, Salazar has been trying to increase tourism in Portugal. And while the Germans are already buying land in the North at ten shillings the sq. metre(!), in the South, a new super Ritz-type Hotel, the *Hotel Algarve*, was officially opened on June 11 by the Portuguese President.

The Portuguese Overseas Bank has financed the project to the tune of £1,250,000 (D.L. 11.6.67)

Portugal would be, therefore, entitled to react strongly against the

British blockade for which Salazar is already demanding a £10 million indemnity.

And if Israel—stressed Franco Nogueira—is being condemned for keeping Arab territories she has conquered, so likewise ought India to be compelled to return to Portugal her ex-colonies of Goa, Damão and Dio.

CRUCIAL MOMENT FOR SALAZAR

In inaugural speeches of the new Oporto headquarters of the *União Nacional* (Salazar's party, the only one allowed in Portugal), the fascist Fernando Moreira admitted that this is the most difficult moment the Salazar régime has ever faced in its history (P.J. 17.6.67).

EDUCATION—ALWAYS AT THE BOTTOM!

The educational problems that afflict Portugal under Salazar are becoming daily more serious. To assess their importance, in March 1964, the 'University Catholic Youth' organization has conducted an enquiry among undergraduates.

Although the number of students was shown to have increased more than 28 per cent in 4 years, which means an annual average increase of 6.4 per cent, Portugal is still at the bottom of the scale as regards the number of students per 1,000 inhabitants (see table).

University Students	per 1,000 population
Austria (1960) ...	5.5
France (1959) ...	5.0
Great Britain (1959) ...	3.9
Italy (1959) ...	3.3
Greece (1959) ...	2.8
Spain (1960) ...	2.6
Portugal (1961) ...	2.4

(D.L. 5.5.67).

PNEUMONIA—THE KILLER

Portugal is one of the countries with the highest death rate in the world from pneumonia (D.L. 10.5.67).

CLANDESTINE EMIGRANTS

In order to run away from horrible poverty under the dictatorship, a further 200 Portuguese peasants have emigrated clandestinely to France.

PIDE is enquiring into the clandestine emigration network. (D.L. 8.5.67).

NEUTRALITY ON THE MIDDLE EAST?

The position of the Portuguese Government on the Middle East

crisis is said to be of neutrality, as defined by Dr. Franco Nogueira on June 8. In fact, the Salazar Government endorses the action of Israel. In this he has the support of the reactionary bourgeoisie. Portuguese Jewish financiers are staunch supporters of Dr. Salazar.

But Franco Nogueira, Foreign Affairs Minister, claims that the freedom of navigation in the Canal of Mozambique, coerced by Britain in view of the Rhodesia blockade, has a clear parallel with the situation created in the Gulf of Akaba and in the Strait of Tiran (P.J. 9.6.67).

News of repression

(From our Correspondent in Portugal)

NEW WAVE OF TERROR

The Portuguese repressive forces, led by the secret police (PIDE) launched a new offensive last July against Salazar opponents.

Dozens of arrests have taken place from North to South of Portugal. Industrial workers in S. João da Madeira (North), Marinha Grande (Centre) and Algarve (South), farm workers in Alentejo (South), fishermen in Algarve, students in Oporto.

The names of some of those arrested are known. Four women, AIDA PAULA, MARIANA JAN-EIRO, HELENA NOALES and GRACIETTE CASANOVA, were arrested and another woman, MARIA FRANCISCA, died as a result of her arrest. Amongst the arrested are also DINIZ MIRANDA and the Oporto students CARLOS AMADOR and ANTONIO PIRES.

POLITICAL TRIAL

GUILHERME CARVALHO, who has been in prison since May 1963, was re-tried by the Lisbon Plenary Court on June 20th. He was sentenced to a further 6½ years in jail, with the application of 'security measures' which can keep him in prison for life. He was also deprived of his political rights for 15 years and obliged to pay £62 'justice tax'.

Guilherme Carvalho, who is now 45, has been persecuted by the

Continued at foot of next column.

Foreign help for Salazar

The Portuguese press gave great prominence to a letter written by the Portuguese Press Attaché in London, Mr. A. Potier, to the British newspaper *The Guardian* in reply to an article claiming that Portuguese repression in Africa is being financed by foreign money. Mr. Potier proudly claims that the Portuguese budget is the only source of money to 'suppress terrorism' (*P.J.* 12.5.67). This may be so. How the money gets into the Portuguese budget is, however, the point. Leaving aside military assistance to Salazar's régime from NATO—NATO training and equipment *are* being used in the colonies even though Mr. Potier would say that NATO itself is not conducting the war—it is enough to remember that the Portuguese Balance of Payments is not badly in the red only because of tourism. Tourism pays for the colonial wars and every tourist who enters Portugal is responsible for the oppression of millions of people.

LET THEM EAT CAKE

First the Algarve, now Minho. Land is being snapped up in this Northern province of Portugal, and in no time it will be transformed into yet another gigantic holiday camp, bringing the usual legion of problems: dislocation of population, disruption of productive activities in exchange for a vicarious and temporary sense of wealth and eventually increasing emigration. Salazar will do anything to continue ruling Portugal, even allow the country to be emptied of Portuguese. It will make his task easier.

Meanwhile, foreign capitalists

from previous column

régime since his student days. He has now spent nearly 12 years of his life in Salazar's jails. He is in Peniche and he is very ill.

SLUM RIOT

In one of the worst Lisbon slums, the 'tin quarter' or 'bairro de lata' of Musgueira, near Lumiar, there was on May 11th, a riot which was violently suppressed by repressive forces. Several people were wounded.

have a good time. A group of British businessmen went on a conducted tour, organized by the Portuguese Airline Company (T.A.P.), to the North of Portugal. The trip is reported to have been a success. (*P.J.* 21.6.67.)

The Portuguese are growing tired of all this. So it is convenient to remind them, now and then, where the power lies. Two British warships visited Lisbon on a 'routine' visit (*D.L.* 17.6.67). Why a routine visit should call for headlines and officially distributed photographs of the ships, only Salazar knows.

IN THE NAME OF GOD

Assuming that Pope Paul *had* to pray for peace in Fatima for his prayers to have any effect and thus risk being misunderstood by evil minds, did he *also* have to give personal presents to Salazar and the puppet President of the Republic? According to the Portuguese press (*D.L.* 15.6.67) there was no feeling of compulsion on His Holiness's part. Perhaps he also felt he *had* to give U.S. \$150,000 to the Portuguese missions in Africa (*D.L.* 16.5.67) even though these missions are a very effective aid to Portuguese colonial power. The ways of God are, of course, inscrutable. But how, in the name of God, can he award the Great Cross of St. Silvester to the Portuguese Commander-General of the Police? (*P.J.* 1.7.67).

AFRICAN FRIENDS

South African General Frazer visited Portugal to confer with heads of Portuguese armed forces and to witness demonstrations on guerilla warfare (*P.J.* 24.5.67).

The Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs has been asked to visit South Africa, where he is due to confer with the Prime Minister (*D.L.* 28.6.67).

Malawi's Minister of Finance visited Lisbon for talks on the supply of electricity from the Cabora-Bassa dam, in Mozambique. The friendship between the two countries was, once again, emphasized. (*P.J.* 10.6.67).

BOSSA NOVA

The magazine *Indústria Portuguesa* (No. 40, April 1967) published

an essay by the Brazilian Professor José Garrido Torres, Director of the National Bank of Economic Development, on the establishment of a Lusio-Afro-Brazilian Commonwealth. This old imperialist dream, revived after the rise to power of the right-wing militaristic régime in Brazil, is a dangerous one both for the Portuguese Colonies and for Portugal. For the colonies are less developed producers of the same type of commodity as Brazil. Hence, their development would certainly be hampered if it were to become coordinated with Brazilian interests. For Portugal it would be yet another diversion of the country's resources to maintain an empire rather than to develop the country itself. This has been the most corroding of the diseases from which Portugal suffers and hence the urgent need to free herself from her present colonial ties, not to create new ones.

ANOTHER VICTORY

One more victory in the fight against repression in Portugal was obtained last August with the release from jail of the political prisoner ABOIM INGLES.

This 37-year-old student had spent 9 years of his life in Salazar's prisons, and was very ill. There had been widespread demands for his liberation.

This victory must be followed by others. We must free all the prisoners!

KEY TO REFERENCES

"P.J."—"*Primeiro de Janeiro*".

"D.L."—"*Diário de Lisboa*".

Two of the leading daily, censored, Portuguese newspapers.

YOU MAY QUOTE US

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PORTUGUESE

by V.

In 1960 there were in Portugal 4,634,976 women out of a total of 8,889,392 Portuguese.¹

Out of those 4.6 million women there were 1,272,481 less than 14 years of age.

The basic problems of the Portuguese women are those of the rest of their people. They are those of living under a 41-year-old Fascist régime in an underdeveloped European country, a country which is a colony of more powerful countries and, at the same time, a colonialist power. But their condition of women gives special features to their problems.

Out of the 3.7 million active women there are 2,830,372 living in rural regions and 947,909 in the urban centres. This unequal distribution reflects the characteristics of the Portuguese economy with the majority of the population in the agricultural sector. But there is a diminishing role of agriculture in the life of the country, and its contribution to the gross national product is already lower than that of industry or the services.

THE FARM WORKERS

There are at least 211,340 women farm workers in Portugal.²

Their working conditions are extremely hard. An eight-hour working day is a right they have still to achieve in many parts of the country. A low degree of mechanisation in the farms obliges them to perform exhausting tasks. Their wages are slightly over half the already very low wages of their male companions. In 1964 women farm workers' daily wages averaged 4s 11d and men's wages 9s 3d.³

The gay countryside festivals, the joyful dances and bright clothes of which tourists are so fond, do not tell of the hardships of the daily life of these women who also have their chores as wives and mothers. Their youthful graces quickly fade away under all the stresses and cares. Their occasional merry mood is very frequently a defence against despair.

Farm workers and principally the wives of small-farmers have other tragedies to face as well. A large number of Portuguese men employed in agriculture, emigrate abroad leaving behind them their wives who till their minute plots of land, until they can return with some savings, sometimes many years later. 59,159

Portuguese men emigrated in 1965 but only 29,917 women took the same path.

Women farm workers have often been forced into action for a better life. Farm workers' strikes, although illegal, have been frequent in Salazar's Portugal. In May-June 1962 over 150,000 farm workers staged a victorious strike for an 8-hour day.

On 19th May 1954 in Baleizão, in Alentejo, the richest agricultural province of the country, *Catarina Eufémia*, a 29-year-old farm worker, pregnant and with a child in her arms, was shot dead by the repressive forces. She was heading a demonstration by 2,000 farm workers on strike. Her name and the date of her assassination have become symbols for all Portuguese farm workers and for their struggles.

THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

Out of a total of 920,950 Portuguese industrial workers, 172,819 are women. In the largest industry in the country, the textile industry, their numbers equal those of the men. In other industries, such as the tinned fish and other food industries, their numbers are also high.

Portuguese industrial workers' weekly wages averaged £3 5s 0d in 1963, or approximately 1/5th of those in the United Kingdom;⁴ that same year women's wages averaged only between 3/5ths and 2/3rds of those of the men.

Lack of facilities for working women are notorious, for instance creches and day-nurseries. Transport services are inadequate and, as a result, women have to walk long distances before reaching the factories, as frequently happens in the semi-rural environment of Northern Portugal.

Traditions of struggle of Portuguese women workers go back to the 18th century when Joana de Jesus fought successfully for the rights of the Vila do Conde lace workers.⁵

Women workers have played a considerable role in the great working class struggles in Salazar's Portugal. They were in the forefront of the fight in the great strikes of the years 1942 (20,000 strikers), 1943 (50,000 strikers), 1944 (25,000 strikers) and 1947 (20,000 strikers), mainly in Lisbon.

In May 1954, in Oporto, 1,600 women textile workers staged a vic-

torious strike. Thirty women workers were arrested and brought to trial, but had to be acquitted.

This year we have already reported the victorious strikes of the Portimão and Matozinhos women in the tinned fish industry.⁶

OTHER WORKING WOMEN

There are in Portugal 176,297 women employed in domestic service. The figure reflects a considerable amount of idleness in the more affluent strata of the population and insufficient opportunities for more productive work for those women.

Other sections with large numbers of women are office workers (30,049) and shop assistants (11,051). Women nurses are very few (6,918). It is difficult to understand how their numbers can be smaller than the total number of Portuguese doctors (7,561), which is not all that high by European standards. Amongst the doctors there are only 694 women.

TEACHERS

This is a profession where women are in the majority in Portugal. Out of 35,054 teachers, 77% or 26,954 are women. The highest number is among the primary-school teachers as shown in the following table:

Teachers	Women	Men
Primary	23,300	4,305
Secondary	3,554	3,199
University	100	596

Salaries of primary-school teachers only average £241 a year and those of secondary school teachers only reach £555 a year.⁷

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Portuguese women have even fewer political rights than Portuguese men, and the latter are already extremely limited. In the 'elections' held in Salazar's Portugal, women are only allowed to 'vote' if they have a certain amount of taxable property or secondary education. As nearly 40% of the total population is illiterate, and the proportion of

E WOMEN

Maia

illiterate women is even higher, only very few women can be voters.

A number of civic rights relating to marriage laws and illegitimate children were recently revised in the new Code of Law; but with little improvement. Divorce was already allowed for civil marriages but not for those performed in the Catholic Church.

Important as their special circumstances may be, Portuguese women seem in general to have understood that the main way for their struggle is, together with their men, against the inhuman conditions imposed by the Fascist régime; not in a leftist-feminist-anti-masculine path, where their main enemies, irrespective of sex—the small bunch of foreign and national exploiters of the Portuguese people—would be forgotten. It is true, however, that pressure of the Catholic Church (98% of the women are Catholic), an excessive interest in fashions and romance are also present in Portugal but undue attention to these diversions has not been very widespread.

Portuguese women are more aware of other problems such as the stark reality of the lack of maternal and child care. In Portugal in 1965, over 43% of births took place without any assistance from doctor or midwife and only 26% of those assisted gave birth in a hospital. Maternal mortality of 7.1 per 10,000 births was one of the highest in Europe. Infant mortality in 1965 was 65 per 1,000 live births, the third highest in Europe, compared with rates of 14 in Sweden, 21 in Britain and 38 in Spain, for the same number of live births.

THE POLITICAL STRUGGLE, THE PRISONERS

Together with *Catarina Eufémia*, many other brave women have taken the path of the struggle for dignity and for a better life in Portugal.

The name of the late *Maria Machado*, who in 1945, in the little village of Barqueiro, saved her com-

rades besieged in an underground printing works is well remembered.

In the Caxias jail is *Sofia Ferreira*; a 46-year-old worker who has spent 9 years of her life in the underground struggle and nearly 11 years in Salazar's jails, and whose sentence expired in October 1965. She is a sick woman with liver and intestinal complaints.

In a letter sent from prison *Sofia Ferreira* wrote 'Even in the hands of our worst enemies our conscience and our honour are with us, despite the death that threatens us.'

With her are *Alda Nogueira*, a 43-year-old chemistry graduate, arrested in 1959 and sentenced to 8 years in jail after 10 years of underground political struggle. Also *Fernanda Tomaz*, a 37-year-old languages graduate arrested in 1961 after another 10 years of political struggle, and sentenced to 8 years in jail too. And *Colélia Fernandes*, serving a 5 year sentence since 1962, with over 9 years in jail. And others, *Albina Fernandes*, *Natália David*, the student *Lígia Calapez*—another very sick woman, etc. etc.

The majority of these women are in poor health and they have been tortured by PIDE.

Other prisoners, *Georgete Ferreira*, *Angela Vidal*, *Luísa Paula*, *Aida Magro*, *Aida Paula*, *Dr. Maria Luísa*

Soares, *Candida Ventura*, *Ivone Lourenço*, *Maria da Piedade dos Santos*, *Dr. Julieta Gandra*, *Conceição Matos* and *Albertina Diogo*, were released from jail because of the national and international campaign for an amnesty and against repression in Portugal.

The Caxias women prisoners are to-day the symbol of all Portuguese women in their struggle, they are the best daughters of the whole Portuguese people in their indomitable fight for their rights and for a better life.

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Tourists in Portugal

A total of 1,929,498 tourists visited Portugal in 1966, an increase of 28% compared with 1965 when there were 1,509,796.

Countries of origin of the main numbers of tourists were as follows:

Countries of origin	Tourists
Spain*	836,053
Great Britain	253,615
United States	224,572
France	184,689
West Germany	79,764
Italy	54,674

Tourism is one of the main sources of foreign currency for the Salazar régime. This foreign currency is essential to balance the huge deficit in the balance of trade. (see our previous issue). In fact what happens is that with the excess currency that they obtain from the export of their manufactured goods to Portugal, some of the industrialised Western countries buy cheap holidays in Portugal for their nationals, because

of the low cost of labour in that country.

The foreign currency obtained from tourism is thereafter used by the Fascist régime for its repressive policies at home, which keep the level of salaries low, and for its colonial wars which keep the colonial exploitation for a small bunch of nationals and for foreign powers.

* The case of neighbouring Spain is different and much less important in this context.

Portuguese and Colonial Bulletin,
K. Shingler, 10 Fentiman Road,
London, S.W.8. Subscriptions for
one year, including postage: Britain
and Europe 15s., Overseas (air-
mail), £1. Cheques and postal
orders should be made out to
Portuguese and Colonial Bulletin.

THE COLONIES

PORTUGUESE CASUALTIES

THESE are the minimized Portuguese losses reported in the Portuguese war communiqués and Press from May 2 to July 4:

	KILLED		WOUNDED	
	Armed Forces	Militia	Armed Forces	Militia
Angola ...	44	49	69	33
Mozambique ...	30	2	—	—
Guinea ...	38	4	—	—
Total.	112	55	69	33

Numbers for the wounded are not always available. The sum total for only 9 weeks is 167 killed and 102 wounded.

GUINEA

VAGUE WAR COMMUNIQUÉS

The war of liberation in which the Guineans are engaged against the Portuguese troops is becoming heavier in price for the Fascist occupants. Realising that they are losing, the Portuguese authorities have now decided to omit the names of the places where Salazar's troops are being hard pressed by the patriots.

Thus, the Portuguese War communiqués from May 5 to June 29 refer to actions 'somewhere' in the North and South of the Colony. However, clashes with the patriots are reported at Oió, São Domingos, Bata, on the banks of the Corubal river, the Jatem village, Nhambalan (North), Sinchabombo, Quibel, Copol and Bajope (*P.J.* 5.5 to 29.6.67).

By contrast, the war communiqués of PAIGC, the 'African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape-Vert', supply detailed information of their battles against the colonialist Army. Thus, in the liberated zone of Cufar, a Portuguese column was ambushed. Another column, after a seven day battle, was forced to retreat (17 to 23 April —*PAIGC War com.*, 29.5.67).

THE PATRIOTS ATTACK THE FASCISTS

On March 14, the Portuguese launched an attack on the Biambi village, already part of Liberated Guinea. The local militia repulsed the enemy. On 24th, Salazar's men

encircled the Suluco village. The guerillas attacked the Portuguese, who were forced to leave weapons on the field. On April 15th, the Portuguese base of Naga was attacked by the Guineans with light artillery and mortars. Two lorries were destroyed (*PAIGC War com.* 17.5.67).

AMERICAN MILITARY IN THE COLONY

General A. Schulz, a well-known Fascist, the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Guinea, who has undergone an emergency operation, was the great hope of the Portuguese Fascists for a quick ending of the Guinean War. Now, the Portuguese need renewed military advice. For that reason the military attachés of the U.S.A. embassy in Lisbon were taken on a visit of this colony on May 9 (*P.J.* 9.5.67).

A PRO-SALAZAR AUTHOR

In the *Geographical Magazine* (June issue), George Martelli, the well-known advocate of the Salazar régime, tried painfully to convince public opinion that Guinea is now more prosperous and that tourism on the coastal belt would be welcome by the Portugal authorities (*P.J.* 14.6.67).

ANGOLA

A WAR IN TWO FRONTS

In this colony, where there are now two fronts, one in the North and another in the South, the War is increasing in intensity and violence, as the official Portuguese casualties show (see table).

The Portuguese War communiqués for the period between May 4 and June 29 reveal that the Angolan fighters have frequently engaged the colonialist Army to the South of Quimária and Quibase. The Portuguese forces were ambushed on the tracks between M'Pala—M'Poso, Ambrizete-Quinzau, Canga-Lucoça Buela-Ciumba (Northern Angola).

In the areas of Cazombo, to the South of Teixeira de Sousa, and to the Southwest of Luso, Muíé, Cangombe, Luvuei, Lucusse and Mussuma, the colonialists were locked

in heavy fighting with the Angolan patriots. These made a very successful attack against Alto Cuito, where the local police lost 6 men in the battle.

On the other hand, the Portuguese were active in the area of Canacasala at Moxico. The Portuguese communiqué of June 29 admits an intensification of the war by the patriots (*P.J.* 4.5 to 29.6.67).

FRANTIC VISITS TO ANGOLA

While military operations are spreading through Angola, the Portuguese authorities are trying to obtain a clearer assessment of the situation. For this reason the Minister for the Navy visited Portuguese military posts along the Lucusse river in the South Eastern front, at Moxico (*D.L.* 1.7.67).

He had been preceded by the Minister for Overseas Territories, who, on May 24, flew over the 'dangerous area' and stopped at Cazombo, where the Angolans have been pressing the Portuguese troops (*D.L.* 24.5.67).

The long drought in the Alto Zambese is also worrying the Portuguese authorities (*D.L.* 23.5.67).

Meanwhile, more contingents have been arriving in Luanda from Portugal (*P.J.* 1.6.67).

COLONIAL EXPLOITATION

But if the War casts a gloomy shadow over the Fascists, never have they been more keen on making money quickly by exploiting natural Angolan resources with the aid of foreign capital. The gross profits of the 'Benguela Railway Company', integrated in the Tanganyika Concessions, were £2,653,507, for the year ending on May 22, 1967. (*P.J.* 15.6.67). This firm is British owned, has 900 miles of track and carries minerals from the African Hinterland to the Port of Lobito.

This is an encouraging example for the foreign and colonial investors. The new oil wells now being sunk at Cabinda, which are owned by the American 'Cabinda Gulf Oil', promise to be as rich as those of Nigeria (*Financial Times*, 23.6.67).

Intensified exploitation is also revealed in the granting of new concessions for talcum mines in the Uíge district and at Talambanza and Cuala (*P.J.* 13.6.67).

INDUSTRIES DOING WELL

In the industrial field, new plastics factories will soon be operating in

Angola (*P.J.* 20.5.67), a £225,000 rubber tyre factory for bicycles will soon be installed in Luanda (the property of A. Jean Cohilis) (*P.J.* 12.5.67); and the 'Alumínio Português (Angola) Company, with an initial £125,000 capital, will start work this year in alliance with the French concern Pechiney (*Boletim Trimestral-Banco de Angola*, No. 36-1966, p. 20).

A fish flour and fish oil factory with a total capital of £250,000 is going to be built at Porto Alexandre.

A factory for frozen fish, with an initial £100,000 investment, is being built in Benguela. It will have a daily output of 25 tons (*ibid.*, p. 21).

THE ANGOL AT WORK

The Oil Company ANGOL with £4 million assets, a branch of the SACOR monopoly, which is interlocked with French and other Western European trusts, has been granted new concessions for the exploration of oil in the colony.

A former minister of the Salazar régime is the Chairman of the Company. The ANGOL will cooperate with the Petrangol, another Portuguese Government concern with Belgian capital, belonging to the Petrofina Group. (*D.L.* 30.6.67.)

MOZAMBIQUE

DIRTY COLONIAL WAR

The brave Mozambican fighters are also speeding up the war against Portuguese Colonial occupation. An incident which took place in a small hamlet near Mueda, on March 26, as reported in the *Mozambican Revolution*. (No. 28, 5.67, pp. 67) has shown once again the colonial mentality of the Portuguese troops.

A group of Portuguese soldiers interfered with the local people of the village and were beaten up by them. When the African Police, called by the Portuguese, saw that the Mozambicans they had arrested were being knifed by the soldiers, they started shooting *these*. This mutinous retaliation shows clearly the anger of the Africans against Portuguese occupation.

In the field, the *Frelimo* fighters have been very active. In Niassa, in the area of Mecanhelas and beyond, the guerillas have been operating daily. And in Cape Delgado, the

Portuguese have been frequently attacked and ambushed at Serração (25.3), Nchamomo village (27.3), Sagal and Mueda (*Frelimo Comuniqué*, May, 1967).

The Portuguese themselves admit considerable military activity in Cape Delgado and Niassa. In April they were ambushed by the patriots at Rugia, Chai-Quiterajo, on the road Coimbra-Maniamba and at Chai-Macomia. The freedom-fighters also launched a successful attack against a Portuguese post on the banks of the Lugenda river (*P.J.* 9.5 to 12.6.67).

More troops arrived in Lourenço Marques on May 5. (*P.J.* 5.5.67.)

POLITICAL TRIALS

Dr. D. Arouca, Domingos Manuel, M. Espírito Santo and A. S. Ochuané are being tried by the Military Court of Lourenço, Marques for alleged association with the *Frelimo* Movement (*D.L.* 14, 22 and 23.6.67).

BRITISH INTERESTS DO WELL

The British-owned 'Sena Sugar Estates', the biggest producer of sugar in all the Portuguese colonies, made gross profits of £906,516 in 1965. After the tax for the Colonial War was paid, the company retained £374,496. Dividends for 1966 totalled £322,481 (*Times*, 27.6.67).

An 80-mile railway between Inhamitanga and Marromeu will be built at the cost of £1,875,000 for the convenience of the 'Sena Sugar Estates' (*D.L.* 1.7.67).

Another 90-mile railway will be built by Japanese, South African and French firms at a cost of £3 million to connect Mpimbe in the Malawi with Nova Freixo in Mozambique (*P.J.* 21.6.67).

SOUTH AFRICA PLUNGES IN

South Africa intends to obtain part of the electric power to be produced by the Cabora Bassa dam, which will be built soon (*D.L.* 26.6.67).

A Rhodesian commercial delegation, headed by Mr. J. Graylin, has visited Lourenço Marques to attend an Agricultural Fair. The idea of a South African Cominon Market is being canvassed by the many delegates who attended this Fair (*D.L.* 30.6.67).

COPPER

Copper has been found at Nacala (*D.L.* 20.6.67).

ST. THOMAS AND PRINCE

PROSPECTING FOR OIL

In these islands, situated in the Gulf of Guinea, a concession to prospect for oil has been granted to Mr. M. Rodrigues Lagos. The initial capital of £375,000 invested in the project may be raised to £1,250,000, and foreign investors will be given all guarantees, as laid down in Decree-law no. 46, 312, 28.4.65. (*Ind. Portuguesa*, no. 469, 3.67).

MACAO

TOP BRASS AND HOT HEADS

Our correspondent in Lisbon informs us about insistent rumours in the capital which allege that, at a Council of Ministers, the top brass and the Ministers for Overseas suggested that a confrontation between Continental China and the Formosa régime in Macao might help to end the humiliation to which the mainland Chinese have recently subjected the Portuguese fascists.

The more cautious counsel of Franco Nogueira, the Foreign Minister, however prevailed. But Anti-British demonstrations are now allowed in the colony (*D.L.* 17, 18.5; *P.J.* 20.5.67).

WEST GERMANY AND PORTUGAL

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In Angola

The fact that Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach was not only received by Governor-General Coronel Silverio Marques, but was also accompanied by him on his tour of Central and Southern Angola (*ANI e.L.*, 9th November, 1965) shows how far this influence extends. The other person accompanying Krupp was Kai von Ahlefeld, Krupp's representative in Angola and a big landowner in Nova Lisboa.

Here, especially in the highlands of Southern Angola, there are no fewer than 1,100 big German landowners, many of whom were expropriated after the war in the course of the land reform which was carried out in East Germany, and fled because they feared punishment for their war crimes and brutal treatment of Soviet, Polish and other forced labourers. Today they are making huge profits through the use of forced labour in Angola.

Here, in huge haciendas, sit former German feudal aristocrats like von Richt-hofen, von Rochow, von Krosigk, von Alvensleben and so forth, notorious representatives of the most sinister reaction against the German people. (From the booklet '*The Bonn-Pretoria Alliance*').

THE PEOPLE FIGHT

(From our Correspondent in Portugal)

The brave Portuguese people continue their fight for better living conditions, for their rights, against repression, against the régime. Their whole struggle has become a matter of survival for a better future. The extent of their fight is frequently underestimated.

LISBON TRANSPORT WORKERS

The British-owned Lisbon Electric Tramways (C.C.F.L.), which has the monopoly of public transport in Lisbon, recently increased passenger fares.

The employees decided to ask for their long-overdue wage increases. As no satisfaction was obtained to their demand for a 2s 6d increase, they started last April mass meetings near the administrative quarters of the firm. From 10th-18th May there were almost daily mass meetings, some attended by over 4,000 employees.

The English administration did not stop at calling in Salazar's repressive forces, including PIDE, to disperse the workers. Three were arrested.

FISHERMEN STRIKE

Viana do Castelo (in the Minho, Northern Portugal) fishermen went on strike from 24th-27th March in protest against new conditions of sale and taxation of their catches. On March 23rd, over 1,000 people demonstrated in the streets of the town against these measures.

The fishermen continued to boycott the new conditions for many weeks.

AGAINST REPRESSION

Over 400 people subscribed to a petition to the Lawyers Guild (Ordem

dos Advogados) asking it to take action for the liberation of political prisoners and to end 'security measures'.

In June, forty-one relatives of prisoners in Peniche jail protested to the 'President' of the Republic and the Minister of the Interior, against worsening conditions in Peniche.

4."

In September twenty-seven leading Portuguese lawyers signed a petition to the Minister of Justice complaining of conditions in Peniche. They declared that 'the whole organization of the penal fortress seems made to destroy physically and psychologically the prisoners who are there' (as 'The Times' of 14.9.67 reported).

They complain of the almost complete absence of medical assistance, poor food and lack of proper diet for sick prisoners, the rigorous visiting system, prohibition of books and newspapers, and an arbitrary system of punishment designed to make life unbearable.

They say that Peniche is 'a veritable hell', where prisoners 'completely lose hope and often their psychological . . . balance'. They finally demand a full enquiry into these conditions which they compare with those current in the worst totalitarian days.

MAY DAY

News has only just reached us of the demonstrations which took place in spite of official prohibition.

In Lisbon many slogans appeared on the walls. South of the Tagus there were many meetings, fireworks, and minutes of silence to pay homage to those who have fallen in the struggle.

The printworkers in Lisbon, Oporto and other towns did not go to work that day. Similar action took place among the farm-workers in Evora, Montemor-o-Novo, and other places in Alentejo (South Portugal).

FARM WORKERS

The Alentejo is the richest agricultural province in Portugal, where most of the wheat is grown. But as wheat has ceased to be a profitable crop, because of disastrous government policies, it is now imported; new crops like tomatoes, which are exported, are now being introduced, but this has not solved the problems of the farm workers.

Struggles for better wages and conditions have taken place in Montemor-o-Novo, Pegoes, Alcorrego, Pavia and Aviz (where the women went on strike).

THE STUDENTS

The Lisbon Economics and Law students obtained successes in their fight for better academic conditions and the Oporto students protested against repressive measures and arrests of their comrades.

OTHER STRUGGLES

The Oporto bank employees (who obtained partial successes), the insurance workers, the cork workers in Montijo (who obtained a wage increase) and the Lisnave ship-repair workers have been, amongst others, very active.

'NO' TO SALAZAR IN BRITAIN

The British Committee for Portuguese Amnesty (Flat 2, 57 West Side, Wandsworth Common, London, S.W.18) has continued its campaign against repression and for an Amnesty in Portugal.

Protests against the imprisonment of ABOIM INGLES were made in writing and by 'phone to the Portuguese Embassy and appeals were distributed for the liberation of SOFIA FERREIRA and the women prisoners.

THE UNITED NATIONS

The U.N. De-Colonization Committee (Committee of 24), meeting in Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania) on 20.6.67, approved by 17 votes in favour, two against (U.S.A. and Italy), one abstention (Finland) and one absence (Britain), two resolutions condemning the Portuguese colonial policy, which denies the right to independence to the peoples of her colonies. One of the resolutions also demands the suspension of all help to Portugal, especially military support from NATO countries. ('D.L.' 22.6.67; 'P.J.' 23.6.67.)

THE CONGO

Kinshasa Radio accused Portugal of allowing the infiltration of saboteurs and mercenaries from Angola into the Congolese territory.

IN VENEZUELA

160 Venezuelan intellectuals signed a petition for the liberation of the Portuguese writer Sttau Monteiro, and against Salazar policies.

IN FRANCE

The 56th Congress of the Union of French Students (UNEF), meeting in Lyon from 3rd-8th July, approved a resolution condemning Salazar policies and demanding the liberation of the Portuguese students in jail.

Fifty French personalities recently signed an appeal for the release from prison of ABOIM INGLES.

AT THE I.L.O.

At the 51st meeting of the International Labour Organization in Geneva (Switzerland) in June, there were protests against the presence of a Salazar delegation.

Representatives of the Portuguese opposition F.P.L.N. attended the meeting.

NORWAY

At a seminar organized last June by the Norwegian anti-apartheid movement and the student organization of the Norwegian Federalist Youth, Portuguese colonialist policies were unanimously condemned.

WEST GERMANY AND PORTUGAL

THE CABORA BASSA PROJECT

The most important pillars of the joint South African-West German policy of expansion in Southern Africa (of which Kenya is at present only a northern outpost) are the Portuguese colonies of Mozambique and Angola. The South Africans are in the forefront in Mozambique and the West Germans themselves in Angola.

Economically considered, Mozambique is very largely dependent on South Africa and is the main supplier of cheap forced labour for the Witwatersrand gold mines.

A huge project has been under way in Mozambique since mid-1966—the Zambesi dam on the Cabora-Bassa rapids.

The 'Stuttgarter Zeitung' writes enthusiastically (3rd September, 1966) about the setting up of an 'African Ruhr area' and transformation of 'more than 100,000 square kilometres of jungle, swamps and bush into fertile land for hundreds of thousands of peasant families'.

Of course, as the paper hints, the idea is to have white settlers there. The incorporation of the project into the plans for a greater South African is expressed even more plainly in an article by Dr. van Eck, chairman of the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), which heads the international consortium financing the project. He includes the project as a matter of course in the network now being built up for all of Southern Africa. He stresses especially that the giant Zambesi will in this way be navigable right across the continent as far as Angola and will form a link which will in addition bind Rhodesia, Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique even more closely to South Africa from an economic point of view. ('Perspective', London, December, 1966.)

Krupp in Angola

Angola is one of the biggest and richest countries of Africa. It is becoming to an ever-increasing extent a domain of the West-German imperialists. Cassinga, the iron ore centre, built up by the West German armaments firm of Krupp at the head of an international consortium at a cost of over 500 million marks, is to export over 5 million tons of high quality iron ore in 1967.

For this purpose the harbour of Mocamedes is also 'with the help of Krupp... to be built up into the biggest ore-shipping harbour in Africa', which calls for further investments of 560 million marks. 'The expansion planned includes a quay for ships up to 100,000 tons, ore-loading equipment with a capacity of 10,000 tons an hour, a modern rail network and storage space',

Cassinga reserves are 'estimated at over 3 thousand million tons, including at least 80 million tons of high-quality ore. A 70 km. long branch railway line—also built with the help of Krupp—links Cassinga with the Mocamedes railway, along which the ore reaches the coast'. ('Handelsblatt', Düsseldorf, 22nd April, 1967.)

The late Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach made this statement himself at a press conference in Luanda, the capital of Angola, during his tour of Angola and South Africa. He carefully stressed, and repeated more than once at this press conference, that the owner of the Cassings Mines, the Companhia Mineira do Lobite, was a completely independent Portuguese company. The Krupp firm had taken over only the financing of long and short-term investments; it delivered equipment for mining plant and attended to the general orientation and carrying-out of the project which, he added, far exceeded the initial conception. ('Agencia Nacional de Informacao e Lusitania' (ANI e.L., 9th November, 1965.)

Krupp evaded journalists' questions about the opening up of the considerable gold deposits and especially of the oil which has been discovered in the huge concession of the Companhia Mineira do Lobite.

In the meantime the oil rights have been relinquished to 'Petragol', a daughter company of the Belgian 'Petrofina' in which the Deutsche Bank has a share. Krupp himself, of course, is a prominent member of the consortium which is financing the opening up of mines in Lobite and Lombigo. ('Les Intérêts impérialistes contre l'indépendance des peuples coloniaux', January 1966, published by the 'Front Patriotique de Libération Nationale', Portugal.)

Krupp also stressed at the above press conference that such projects in Angola were completely sovereign and worked 'within the framework of Portuguese pre-rogatives'. (ANI e.L., 9th November, 1965.)

Behind Portugal—West Germany

There is deliberate intention underlying this. The more that 'Portuguese sovereignty' is stressed, the less obvious will be the fact that Portugal's role has changed in recent years. In order to hold their colonial 'overseas provinces' against the struggles for freedom of the national liberation movements, Salazar and his regime have delivered themselves into colonial dependence. Portuguese liberation fighters wrote about this as far back as 1962.

'West Germany is now, even more than the U.S.A. and Great Britain, the country from which Salazar is trying to get economic support for his barbarous policy in Portugal and the colonies. This support, as usual, is acquired in exchange for important concessions—which are placing Portugal more and more in the absurd position of having to be a colony in order to keep on being a colonialist coun-

try'. (*Portuguese and Colonial Bulletin*, London, April-May, 1962, p. 77.)

This process has in the meantime continued through the past five years. West Germany has long since ousted Great Britain and the U.S.A. from first place in trade with Portugal and has penetrated deeply into the Portuguese economy through its tactic of quiet export of capital in the form of deliveries of investment goods which are then transformed into shares in the business, but also through the open activities of Krupp enterprises. Twenty-one years after the defeat of Hitler, dangerous West German imperialism had risen to first place in foreign domination of Portugal and had far out-run the Americans, the British, the French and the Belgians.

The Federal Republic now takes first place in the Portuguese trade balance. In 1965 it exported goods to the value of 4,200 million escudos to Portugal and imported goods to the value of 1,308 million escudos from Portugal.

By 1965 West Germany had, in addition to Krupp's dominant position in the Portuguese metal industry and in the Angolan mines, won an important position for itself in the Portuguese glass, surgical instruments, photographic and electrical apparatus industries, with its capital introduced in this way. West German capital finances the irrigation and afforestation plan of Allentejo province and the construction of the new airports in Lisbon, Porto, Faro and on the island of Madeira. West Germans have also penetrated with their capital into the Cape Verde Islands, especially in the fish processing industry. Even the exploitation of Portuguese emigrants (there are 19,000 Portuguese 'guest workers in West Germany) has become an object of business jealousies between the two governments. For every Portuguese worker who goes to the Federal Republic the Bonn government subtracts 80,000 escudos from the debts of the Portuguese government. In a similar way the South African Government pays £1 to £1½ for each African forced labourer sent by the Mozambique authorities to work in the Witwatersrand gold mines.

The 'Mixed Commission for German-Portuguese Economic Co-operation' has been in charge of all this economic penetration since 1960 (*Handelsblatt*, 1st September, 1960; *Industriekurier*, 28th February, 1961.)

Representatives of Abs, Krupp, Siemens etc., are members of this Commission. It is supplemented by the 'Permanent German Military Mission' in Portugal headed by General Becker. (*Portuguese and Colonial Bulletin*, London, 1, 1965.) It has an important voice in the use of the military budget, which in 1967 constituted 45 per cent of planned government expenditure. (*AP*, 22nd, November, 1966.)

Arms for Portugal's 'Overseas Provinces'

4,040 million escudos were spent in 1966 for the 'defence of overseas possessions', where between 100,000 and 120,000 Portuguese soldiers are now stationed; this sum is to be considerably increased in 1967 because of the 'increasing fighting strength of the national resistance groups'. Despite four-year service for soldiers, introduction of military service for women, constant increases in taxation, introduction of a defence tax fixed at 10 per cent

of income, inflation and other economic measures, Portugal cannot carry this burden alone either financially or from the point of view of personnel. (*Industriekurier*, 1st June, 1966; *Volksstimme*, Vienna, 11th December, 1966; *AP*, 22nd November, 1966; *Frankfurter Allgemeine*, 28th December, 1966.)

Here West Germany 'helps' and also books this money under the heading of 'development aid'. West German Foreign Minister Schröder negotiated on this in Lisbon in March, 1966, agreed on further 'bi-lateral co-operation in the military field', and promised that 'measures to strengthen the Portuguese economy would be stepped up'. (*Communiqué on the negotiations, DPA, Official West German press agency*, 27th March, 1966.)

A few months later Portuguese Foreign Minister Dr. Franco Nogueira negotiated in Bonn on 'mutual support within Nato, further West German military and economic support, and more investments in the Portuguese overseas territories'. (*Primeiro de Janeiro*, Oporto, 15th October, 1966.) This 'military and economic support' is being given more and more openly. Here, too, pseudo-judicial reasons are used to justify it. Portugal claims that its colonies are 'overseas territories', provinces of the motherland.

West Germany accepts this 'judicial' claim and delivers to its Nato partner Portugal, arms which it naturally uses in the 'provinces'. The same applies to military trainers, advisers and so on from West Germany, who are being sent in increasing numbers both to Portugal itself and to its 'overseas territories'.

10,000 modern machine-pistols are known to have been delivered as early as 1962; these were bought by the Bundeswehr in Israel (within the framework of larger arms purchases) and delivered to Mozambique and Angola. (*Spiegel*, June, 1962, p. 21.)

Sixty F 86 fighter-planes bought in Canada were also re-sold to Portugal, despite the protest of the Canadian government, and used in Angola and Mozambique. The protest, which referred to U.N. resolutions against supporting colonialism, was brushed aside with the 'judicial' argument that Portugal was 'just as much a member of Nato as Canada and the Federal Republic', and that 'Angola is not a colony but a part of Portugal'. (*Tagesspiegel*, West Berlin, 17th February, 1965; *Kurier*, West Berlin, 13th February, 1965.)

Meanwhile West German papers have been reporting quite openly on the use not only of F 86 machines but also F 91 jet fighters from West German Nato stocks, and on 'heavy Mercedes-Benz trucks' in the attacks against FRELIMO liberation fighters in Mozambique. (*Stuttgarter Zeitung*, 3rd September, 1966.)

After the open participation of West German bombers in the strafing of Djagali village in 'Portuguese' Guinea (report by Amílcar Cabral, Secretary-General of the African Independence Party of Guinea and the Cape Verde Isles to the U.N. 24-Nation Special Committee, 5th June, 1966), the Berlin trade-union paper '*Tribüne*' wrote:

'The manoeuvre ground for training the Federal German Luftwaffe under wartime conditions is obviously to be 'Portuguese' Guinea, Angola and Mozambique'. (*Tribüne*, 1st July, 1966.)

TWO PENICHE PRISONERS

AGOSTINHO SABOGA, is a 57-year-old glass worker, from the glass-making centre of Marinha Grande.

He took part in many workers' struggles and was arrested for the second time in December 1958 and badly tortured. In October 1959, he was sentenced to 5½ years in jail with 'security measures'. He has now spent a total of over 11 years in jail.

Last year, due to an internal haemorrhage, A. Saboga had to be transferred from Peniche to the S. João de Deus Prison Hospital. This year, as a punishment he was sent back to Peniche.

PIRES JORGE is a 59-year-old workers' leader.

In his youth he was arrested for his political opposition to the regime and deported to Angola.

In 1936 he was in Spain, at the side of the Republican Government, and was made a prisoner by the Francoists. The following year he was handed over to the Salazar policemen and kept until 1940 in the prison of the Angra fortress in the Azores.

He was then set free and took the only path open to those actively opposing the Salazar regime, the underground political struggle. Arrested again in 1942, he succeeded in escaping from prison the following year.

From 1943, for 18 years he kept at the head of the underground movement against Salazar, leading many victorious struggles and bravely facing the ruthless repression of the regime under terrible hardships and stress. His wife died during this period due to lack of proper medical assistance.

He was finally arrested in December 1961, together with Octavio Pato and Julio Martins, his companions in the struggle. With him was sculptor Dias Goetho, who was murdered by PIDE in a Lisbon Street.

Pires Jorge was brutally tortured but never betrayed any of his companions. In December 1962 he was sentenced to 10 years in prison plus 'security measures'. He was prevented from making his defence during the 'trial' and, as he persisted, he was gagged and dragged from the Court room.

He has now spent 11 years of his life in Salazar's jails.