

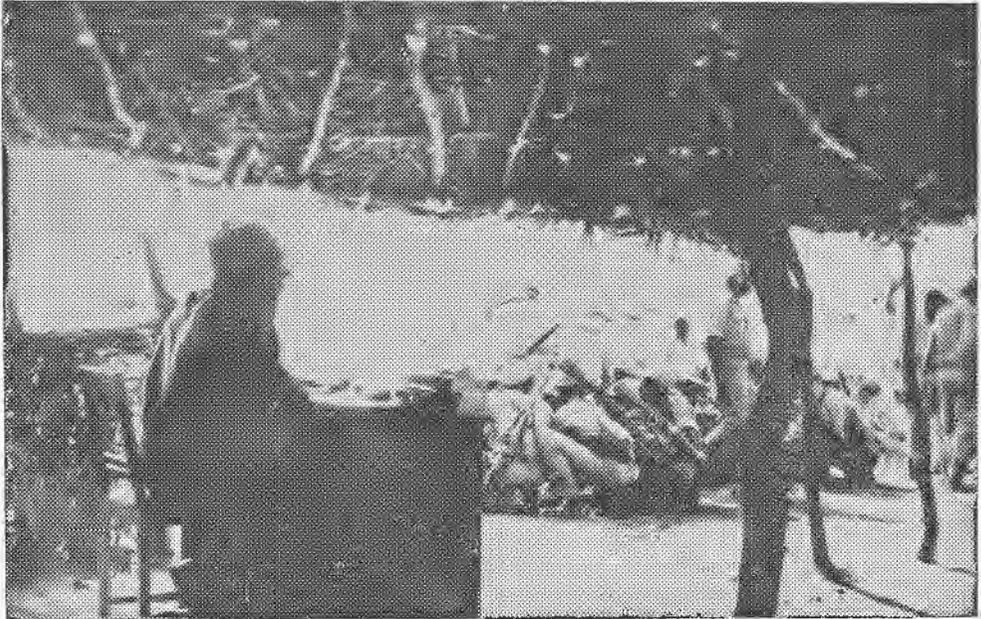
# The Revolutionary Struggle in Guinea (Bissau)

Reports from the Oliveira Salazar government itself confirmed that the guerrilla movement in so-called Portuguese Guinea has developed its political and military tactical and strategic capacities to the maximum.

The *Diario do Noticias* of Lisbon, which reflects pro-Salazar opinion, said in a recent article that the guerrilla movement "is not an enemy to

be looked down upon; the leaders have been trained in guerrilla warfare... they are well-armed... and haven proven their intelligence and spirit of initiative..."

Conservative figures from the same source admit that since the fighting began in the Portuguese colonies, 818 regular soldiers and officers have been killed in action.



The persecution let loose by the Portuguese authorities against the people, aimed at preventing contacts with the Partido Africano de la Independencia de Guinea y Cabo Verde (PAIGC) and the extermination plans in the freed zones, reveal the cracks in colonialist strength in the colony.

Nevertheless, in spite of the participation of 20,000 Portuguese troops

August 3, 1959. More than 50 workers were murdered by the Portuguese police for demanding a small wage increase.

The PAIGC, which had been founded in 1956 in response to the nationalist longings of various sectors of the urban population, had no alternative but to go underground, purify its ranks and prepare a new program for struggle.



and the aid of the NATO countries which allow Portugal to carry out large-scale offensives, the PAIGC guerrillas continue to inflict overwhelming defeats.

The PAIGC victories are the result of a long process of political and military maturation, deeply rooted in the events of Muelle de Pijikiti on

After two years of underground life, with a clearly-defined political platform based on national liberation and unity in the struggle against new and old colonialism, the PAIGC began guerrilla warfare where objective conditions were most favorable. The first battles were waged in the south until the Portuguese troops were

pushed out of the rural zones; later, fighting began in the north.

Along with its military actions, the PAIGC has worked hard to raise the political level of the peasant masses. In the freed territories—50% of the country—a new economic and social structure has been established which will be the basis for the independent future.

The efforts of the guerrillas and the Army of Liberation have materialized in production cooperatives, schools and small medical units.

Despite all of these successes, Amílcar Cabral, secretary general of the PAIGC, has pointed out that the victory of so-called Portuguese Guinea must be tied to the liberation of the other Portuguese African colonies. It was for this purpose that

the Conference of National Organization of the Portuguese Colonies (CONP), which brings together the movements of Angola, Mozambique, Santo Tomé and Príncipe and Guinea itself, was founded.

With the same program of struggle, as to principles, applied according to the characteristics of each of the member territories, the Portuguese colonies are on the road to definitive liberation. The colonialists themselves realize this. The case of Guinea is the most eloquent example: "the leaders have been trained in guerrilla fighting... the guerrillas are not an enemy to be looked down upon... they are well-armed... they have proven their intelligence and spirit of initiative..." and they are ready to win.