

PORTUGUESE AND COLONIAL BULLETIN

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CULTURAL COLONISATION

IT is by now a well-known fact to all those who are acquainted with the economic situation of Portugal under Dr. Caetano's authoritarian régime that the whole country together with her 'Overseas Provinces' has been turned into a paradise for foreign investors. And when by the end of every fiscal year fat dividends raise the stream of invisibles, which feed the prosperity of wealthy western nations, we hear the plaudits of many who view this as a small country being mercifully 'developed' by kind-hearted bankers and businessmen. Vicious practices have an annoying habit of wearing the mantle of Charity.

But if this form of colonialism no longer confuses shrewd and educated minds, the case of cultural colonization is rather more delicate, requiring a highly sophisticated approach. To channel the fruits of labour into the market system is an external process, but the mental conversion favoured by the same system is an insidious process of psychological persuasion. And the Western powers with economic interests in Portugal make a deliberate and constant effort to accompany their investments and exports to Portugal with the export of their ideas, to produce acceptance of their way of life, under cover of educational, technological and cultural 'aid and development'. They plainly aim at consolidating economic domination by means of domination and subservience into the fields of education, ideas and culture.

POPULAR CULTURE

There are in modern Portuguese culture two main social components. One of them can be broadly defined as 'popular culture' to distinguish it from the essentially literary culture, which was for long privilege of the few. In the former, one can trace

strains of an oral tradition deeply rooted in peasant life and reflecting the conditions of the peasants' plight throughout the ages; in the latter one finds a refined product of the preoccupations of the educated.

Mixed with that first strain we may now detect themes and ideas from the life and experience of the urban worker. Thus the repertoire of traditional poetry has been enriched by new compositions and old ones adapted to new demands of expression. Gradually the cultural cleavage between peasants and workers has narrowed until today one finds a common theme in their folk-poetry. This, among other things, expresses the struggle of the people in town and country against conscription for the imperial wars, against landlordly rule, against political repression and fascism.

MANIPULATING PUBLIC OPINION

Yet literacy is much higher among workers than peasants. And if the workers were quicker to learn the importance of their role in the political struggle, they were also more widely exposed to the abuses of literacy.

The great mass media, such as radio and television, being strictly controlled by the State, exert a constant pressure on the minds of the people. Too poor to own a television set, numerous groups gather in the country 'local' or in cheap cafes to see second-rate foreign films and TV productions presenting slanted versions of the news, and documentaries of political propaganda. If they venture into the cinema, they are no better off. There they are treated to films in the great majority foreign, second-rate and rigorously selected by the censors. The theatre, being more expensive, is rather exclusive, but it, too, is submitted to the de-

mands of commercialism and the rule of the censors.

In this atmosphere of intellectual conditioning there are other corrupting factors. Mass-produced editions of the strip cartoon, sex-and-violence novelettes, soggy romantic serials and film stories are sold cheaply throughout the country. Printed on poor quality paper and with profuse drawings, this 'literature' is of Anglo-American origin.

The consumers of this 'mass art' are national servicemen, office and factory workers, schoolboys and girls and even middle-class youths, for these publications are easily available from any newsagent. The better-educated can afford glossy sex magazines in the original languages, because the censors turn a blind eye to non-political literature.

Foreign interests have also started to take a direct interest in publishing inside Portugal. A first move in this direction has been made by the American-owned TIME magazine, which has taken over BERT-RAND'S in Lisbon, an old-standing and distinguished publishing firm.

FIGHTING A COLONIZED IMAGINATION

Books are an expensive commodity in Portugal and only a few Portuguese authors can make a living out of their writing. Writers are themselves subject to all sorts of foreign cultural pressures. Many follow closely and sometimes in a slavish way, the literary trends of Paris, London and New York. They run the risk, by involuntary isolation from their social environment, of becoming obscure satellites of a foreign culture.

Their best defence lies in contact with their public and with life at home. New demands are now being made on our writers by people of all walks in life in view of a thirst for knowledge and a growing desire for good theatre and literature in Portuguese. Remarkable in this reawakening of interest in Art by the common people, has been the role played by workers' clubs and recreation centres.

A cultural threat of ideological colonization by the foreign countries with interests in Portugal is very real. For the intellectuals and the public at large the struggle on this front has to be pursued as vigorously and relentlessly as the fight against foreign economic domination and political oppression.

THE COLONIES

PORTUGUESE CASUALTIES

HERE are the minimized losses reported in the Portuguese war communiqués and press from April 29th to June 6th.

	KILLED		WOUNDED	
	Armed Forces	Militia	Armed Forces	Militia
Guinea	21	20	—	58
Angola	45	29	136	80
Mozambique	48	—	17	—
	114	49	153	138

Numbers for the wounded are not always available. The sum total for five weeks and three days, if the civilian casualties of the Militia are added to the losses of the Armed Forces, is 163 killed and 291 wounded. In Angola there were 4 soldiers and 243 civilians reported missing in clashes with the African liberation forces.

GUINEA

FASCIST MURDER OF CHILDREN

Now that they feel they are losing the war, the Military High Staff of Bissau (Guinea) resort to indiscriminate air bombing raids of the liberated areas. So on February 2nd last, Portuguese aircraft, bearing the Cross of Christ on their wings, bombed the primary school of Idor village, killing eight children and wounding seventeen.

On March 30th, the airplanes dropped their bombs on the school of Tambico. Seven children were killed and eight wounded. These children were learning in two schools built by the PAIGC how to read and write the Portuguese language. And this was the first time that the people of that area have had their own schools, an ambition that the Portuguese colonialist régime has denied them through generations.

Note that Portugal has no factories to make any aircraft. The planes that killed fifteen children and wounded twenty-five are obtained by the Portuguese fascists from their European and North-American allies.

This is the reason why Western public opinion must be aroused against the constant military support given to the Portuguese by Western democracies.

The brutal face of Caetano's fascism begins to be seen in all its hideousness.

The exemplary struggle of the Portuguese people throughout all these years against repression at

home and Overseas must be widely supported by all progressives and peace-loving peoples.

REASONS OF PORTUGUESE DEFECTORS

Recently three Portuguese Navy Fusiliers have deserted the colonialist army, thus increasing the already large number of those who oppose a criminal colonial war.

One of the defectors, A. J. Pinto, said that he deserted "for the same reason for which the Portuguese people have been demonstrating at home against the war". And fusilier M. I. C. Alfaiaite stated that he did not want to fight "on behalf of the interests of those who rule Portugal" (PAIGC Actualités, no. 14; 2-70).

THE WAR GOES ON

The liberation struggle continues to rage unabated in this colony, in spite of all the efforts of Governor Spinola and his men to change the wheel of military fortune.

Portuguese war communiqués from April 20th to June 7th report frequent attacks from the patriots against Portuguese positions at Olé, Palai, Sara-Enxadé, Bissari, Tomball, on the southern banks of the Cacheu river, and at Churu and Campada (Unal). The Portuguese entrenched camps at São Domingos, Barro, Bigene, Canturê, Guidage, Cambaju, near the Senegalese border, Canquelifa, Guilege and Gademal were heavily shelled by the PAIGC forces.

Governor Spinola has also been working hard at his new policy of fostering tribal rivalry among the

African population of the colony. He is also determined to whip up discontent in Senegal against the freedom fighters. This is one of the reasons why, in November, Portuguese artillery shelled the Senegalese village of Samine on the grounds of the alleged presence of PAIGC forces. (P.J. 2.5 to 13.6.70).

MASTERS OF THEIR OWN ISOLATION

PAIGC war communiqués report that all attempts by the colonialists to break the permanent siege of their military camps have failed. Heavy fighting has taken place quite often in the areas of Sambaiba, Faquina and Samba-Uleucunda, to the north of Farim.

A new Portuguese camp set up at Ualicunda was completely destroyed by the patriots on February 24th. On the Southern Front, the colonialist troops remain immobilized under the fire of the guerrillas at Guidage, Ganture, Bedanda, Catió and Buba. (PAIGC Actualités no. 14; 2-1970).

A helicopter carrying four Caetano's M.P.s was shot down by the guerrillas at the end of last August.

PORTUGAL GUILTY OF GENOCIDE

In the PAIGC war communiqué of April 24th, it is reported that the colonialist forces have stepped up air raids against the civilian population of the liberated areas. Spinola's senseless and desperate policy is turning this war into a savage butchery.

ANGOLA

THE WAR CONTINUES TO SPREAD

The liberation war in this colony grows in intensity, as the Portuguese war communiqués from April 19th to June 6th clearly show.

It is reported that on May 25th, Angolan guerrillas appeared in new areas and that their attacks were intensive.

Before this, by May 19th, the communiqués had already admitted that guerrilla action had had "severe results" on the Portuguese.

The Portuguese forces were frequently engaged in the areas of Cazage, Lantamba, Leua, Rivungo and to the southwest of Louva. The Angolan forces have also struck in

the north at Pango Alaquem and in the East in the regions of Lucusse, Chafanda, Lutai, Cangumbe and Nova Chaves. On the other hand, the Portuguese raided the areas of Zala, Quipedro, Beira Baixa, Ucuu, Ambula mountain, Casai, Lumai, Ninda, Coanavale and Dima.

The Angolan patriots have also been very active in Cabinda, in the areas of Muxaloando and Terreiro in the north and in the eastern front. Particularly severe, according to Portuguese reports, was the attack by the Angolans on Aldeia Zovo, to the north of Luanda. (P.J. 1-5 to 16.6.70).

SOUTH AFRICAN AGGRESSION

It is now reported that four South African helicopters landed fascist aggressors in territory under the control of the M.P.L.A., mutilating three men and kidnapping eleven people. (M.P.L.A.—War comm. no. 14/69).

SOLDIERS CAPTURED

On May 21st, other guerrilla forces successfully attacked a Portuguese column in the region of Mabete, near Nzovo, north-eastern Angola and captured three soldiers (P.D.A.—May, 1970)

AN INVESTORS PARADISE

The intensive prospection by the colonialists of the natural resources of Angola continues in a frantic attempt to make as much money as possible before the Portuguese are forced to leave.

New gold seams have been found in Southern Angola, in the Chipindo region (P.J. 5.70) in the mining concessions of Canjenja and the Quengué river, which are the property of the Mining Society of Huila. (P.J. 9-5 and V.M. 15.5.70).

MORE OIL

The Gulf Oil Company (U.S.A.) which already owns a large concession in the Cabinda district, has struck oil in an unexplored area. The daily gush of oil is estimated at more than 5,000 drums. (V.M. 15.5.70).

PROFITS GALORE IN '69

The 'Benguela Railway Company'—British-owned and a dependent of Tanganyika Concessions— in 1969 made a net profit of £2,601,975. Of

this £272,616 is to be received by the Portuguese Government (P.J. 12.6.70).

In 1969 the Bank of Angola made a net profit of £1,306,140. (P.J. 12.6.70).

In the same year, mining and manufacturing industries in Angola made a round profit of £140jm. Compared with 1968, this means that the increase in the mining industries is 63.8 per cent, whereas the rise in the manufacturing sector is 11.8 per cent. (P.J. 30.5.70).

AUSTRIAN-ITALIAN DUET

On May 25th a mission of Italian businessmen, connected with fishing, bakery, textile, chemical, clothing and footwear industries visited Angola. (P.J. 26.5.70).

From 6th to 10th May, another commercial mission, headed by a former Austrian ambassador in Lisbon, Dr. Hermann Gohn, has been in Luanda to discuss new investments in this colony. (P.J. 6.6.70).

MOZAMBIQUE

THE CONFUSED GENERALS

The Portuguese colonialists, after the brutal assassination of Dr. Moodlane in early February 1969, are still cherishing high hopes of a reversal of their military fortunes in this colony. They have, however, to admit that the brave FRELIMO fighters are still harassing them on all fronts.

The war communiqués issued by the High Staff of the Armed Forces in Lourenço Marques continue to show a curious psychological evolution in the authors of these reports.

Rather prolix in their style and indulging in diffuse political analyses of the liberation struggle, the Portuguese chiefs of staff try to persuade themselves and the colonialists that the Frelimo is disintegrating.

They report the formation of a new small party of dissidents, the Ulipumo, and try to make great capital out of the surrender at Mueda of Veronica Mativa, an alleged member of the Frelimo. Yet they omit to mention the defections of Portuguese soldiers, who refuse to be hired criminals in Army uniform.

Far more disturbing, however, from their point of view, is their

admission that the enemy they claim to have destroyed is always 'increasing its activity', and either 'revealing himself quite active', or 'reacting to our penetration' (May War comm., P.J. 9.6.70), as soon as the Portuguese forces move into the liberated areas.

ATTACKS ON ALL FRONTS

Thus, according to Portuguese reports, the colonialist forces have been frequently engaged on all fronts by the Frelimo fighters. These engagements took place in Cabo Delgado, in Tete — where Portuguese installations at Cussanrara and Chirembue were shelled — as well as in the Niassa front, where the colonialists were attacked at Candulo, Mangololo, Nova Coimbra, Mecanbelas and Monte Chitanda.

Communication routes are also being constantly disrupted, such as those on the tracks of Mueda-Sagal-Diaca; Mueda-Miteda-Muidumbe; Mueda-Chindorilho (Cabo Delgado); and in the Chizampeta area (Tete). (P.J. 18-5 to 9.6.70).

PRECIOUS STONES FOR SOUTH AFRICA

Since May 7th, Mozambique has started to export precious stones to South Africa (P.J. 12.5.70).

The exports of tea from Mozambique to South Africa will rise in 1970 from 400 to 900 tons (P.J. 29.4.70).

MORE EXPORTS FOR EUROPE

Another innovation will be the export of canned citrus fruits from the Manica and Chimio plateau to England, W. Germany and Italy, among other West European countries. (P.J. 30.4.70).

A Portuguese official has noted that nearly eighty items of Mozambican produce, such as vegetable oils, frozen shellfish, almonds and citrus fruits, may be of great interest for the European Common Market, despite the fact that some of them are already sold in that Market. The food produce of Mozambique may make the 'total or partial entry of Portugal into E.C.M. an attractive proposition'. (P.J. 31.5.70).

FRENCH WIN CONCESSION

By a £1,160,000 contract with the Governor of the colony, the French-owned 'Bureau de Recherches Géologiques' (continued on page 529)

FOREIGN POWERS HELP FASCISM

VORSTER

DR. VORSTER'S recent tour of some European countries was regarded in South Africa as a diplomatic effort to break the growing isolation in which his country has found itself as a consequence of its obscurantist policies.

Such reading of Dr. Vorster's move is, however, too optimistic. South Africa's isolationism, as far as it goes, will end only when the Republic's present régime disappears. But it does not go very far since South Africa can count on powerful allies, in Europe and elsewhere, for the three basic commitments which underlie her government's policies. These commitments

are interconnected, being a three-fold expression of the same capitalistic structure expressing itself philosophically as apartheid, politically as oppression of black peoples and economically as the exploitation of that cheap black labour force.

The choice of the countries Dr. Vorster visited is in keeping with these objectives and shows no departure from South Africa's policies. Dr. Vorster visited Portugal, a country in the process of conducting a colonial war which is also a war of protection of South Africa's régime from the African peoples; he visited France, from which South Africa has been buying armaments needed for repression; he visited

Switzerland because of the obvious connections between South African gold and Swiss banking; had the Conservatives been then in power in Britain, perhaps he would have come to London. His Foreign Minister, Muller, rushed to this capital as soon as there was a hint that the new British Government would end the restriction on the sale of arms to the Republic. The meaning of Dr. Vorster's European tour is thus not very different from that of his previous 'African tour' to Malawi and Rhodesia. He was merely calling on his friends.

Both the Portuguese and the South Africans classified Dr. Vorster's stay in Portugal as a 'work session' (D.L. 4.6.70). The interests held in common by the two countries are multiple, ranging from military co-operation to economic investment, the more notable example of which is the Cabora Bassa dam. Last January, a new agreement was signed for the building of another dam, on the Cunene River, in Angola. This project is valued at approximately £30 million (D.L. 4.6.70).

There was a curiously cautious note in the welcoming speech delivered by the Portuguese Prime Minister. Dr. Caetano went out of his way to assert that 'our political conceptions do not always coincide' and foresaw attacks from those 'blinded by political passions (. . .)' who will invent news about the nature of conversations held by the two governments'. According to Dr. Caetano, 'peace' was the only objective of the common policy of Portugal and South Africa (P.J. 6.6.70). At his farewell press conference, Dr. Vorster said that he had discussed with Dr. Caetano 'all the problems facing Southern Africa' (P.J. 7.6.70).

FRANCO

As significant as Dr. Vorster's visit to Lisbon was Dr. Caetano's earlier visit to Spain. There are many links between the two fascist régimes, ranging from military co-operation, through the Iberian Pact, police collaboration and economic exchanges. As this Bulletin pointed out in its last issue, the economic balance between the two countries has been altered, as Spain's economy has expanded more in the last few years than Portugal's. Portugal used to attract large numbers of Spanish emigrants, especially from Galicia.

NEWS OF REPRESSION

(From our correspondent in Portugal)

THE increasing police repression since the end of last year in Portugal under the 'liberal' Caetano régime, demonstrates, amongst other things, that fascism can never become liberal enough to dispense with repression. The only way to end fascist repression is to end fascism itself.

THE WAVE OF REPRESSION

The large May Day demonstrations in Portugal brought about a new wave of arrests, specially in Barreiro. Over thirty people were arrested there and brutally beaten by the G.N.R. (the Republican Guards, an armed repressive force).

In other parts of the country where demonstrations took place, arrests were also made.

CATHOLICS PROSECUTED

The Portuguese fascists have always claimed their allegiance to the Catholic Church, but they do not hesitate to use repression against any Catholics who oppose the régime.

The secret police (D.G.S.) proudly announced in the Portuguese press, on June 23rd, that G.E.D.O.C., a Catholic publishing group, had been suppressed because of their activities against 'State Security' and that two priests (Felchidade Alves and Abílio Cardoso), architect Teotónio Pereira and another Catholic, Manuel Maurão, are going to be brought to

trial in connection with the activities of G.E.D.O.C.

THE TRIALS

On June 5th the Lisbon Plenary Court sentenced António Condeço, a factory worker, and José Pires, a farmer, to respectively, twenty-two and fourteen months in jail.

On June 24th the same court tried two men and one woman, for distributing pamphlets on May Day.

THE REPRESSIVE FORCES

The celebrations of the 59th anniversary of the armed G.N.R. took place on May 3rd. New recruits were sworn in.

New graduates of the P.S.P. (another armed police force) held a ceremony at their Police School, in Lisbon. The ceremony was attended by Caetano's Minister of the Interior and by the South African, Brazilian and Spanish military attaches.

The armed fascist militia 'Portuguese Legion' celebrated on May 28th the 44th anniversary of the military coup which brought the régime into power. In Oporto new recruits were sworn in.

STOP OPERATION

In a single repressive traffic operation in Oporto, on May 26th, over 6,500 vehicles were inspected by the repressive forces.

There is now a large Portuguese labour contingent working in Spain.

The Iberian Pact, a treaty of friendship and mutual help which 'has essentially a military character' (P.J. 17.5.70) was first signed in March 1939. This agreement has now been extended for a further ten-year period, 'in view of the original treaty's positive effects not only as regards the danger of aggression against the security or independence of the two nations but also in the field of economic and political co-operation' (P.J. 23.5.70).

The most important aspect of Dr. Caetano's visit to Spain, however, is regarded as the discussions held with a view towards the greater economic integration of the two countries. The possibility of an 'Iberian Common Market' has been suggested (D.L. 21.5.70). But the real aim of such integration would be the eventual accession of Portugal to the European Common Market, perhaps forming an economic unit with Spain. Spain has recently completed successful negotiations with the six countries of the European Community (P.J. 21.5.70).

SCHUMANN

M. Maurice Schumann, the French Foreign Minister, visited Lisbon last June. Speculating on the meaning of his visit, the Portuguese press stressed the recent interest shown in Paris about the affairs of the Iberian Peninsula, which could express itself in the co-ordination of Spanish and French Development Plans (D.L. 11.6.70). Mr Schumann's visit should therefore be seen as a natural outcome of the talks held between Dr. Caetano and General Franco the previous month. A cultural agreement was signed between Portugal and France. Particular stress was laid on the need to keep the 500,000 Portuguese immigrants in France 'within the influence of Portuguese culture' (D.L. 12.6.70).

However, the main theme of the conversations is reported to have been the terms for Portugal's future relations and eventual integration in the European Common Market (P.J. 13.6.70). In a television interview, Mr Schumann stated that co-operation between Portugal and the Common Market could take different forms, and it is up to the Portuguese Government to make a choice and state its proposals to us. He thought that the talks in progress

would facilitate a definition of the Portuguese position. The French Government was a friend particularly preoccupied in asserting Portugal's 'legitimate rights' ('The Times,' 15.6.70). Portugal's balance of trade with France is negative, both in relation to exchanges with Portugal herself and with the colonies (D.L. 11.6.70).

France is to deliver more arms to Portugal ('The Times,' 19.6.70).

NIXON

Dr. Franco Nogueira, the Portuguese ex-Foreign Minister, repeated to the Council of Foreign Relations, in New York, the Portuguese Government's old theme that the independence of the Portuguese colonies 'would have the most serious consequences, not only to the African continent but to the whole world'. He expressed the hope that the United States would remember where her 'true and permanent interests' lay in this matter (P.J. 29.4.70).

At the same time, a mission of the U.S. National War College, made up of twenty-nine high-ranking officers was visiting the Portuguese colonies. On their return to Lisbon, the mission held several secret conferences (a fact stressed by the Portuguese press) with the Portuguese authorities. The same news report continues: 'Judging from the persons present at the discussions, which were held behind closed doors, it would appear that problems related to the Portuguese situation in Africa were discussed, and also that those problems were integrated in a foreign policy perspective'. The mission was headed by Colonel MacIndoe, a veteran of the Second World War who fought in Korea and who, being a graduate in Chemistry, was the director of psychological operations in Vietnam for two years (D.L. 4.5.70).

The American Secretary of State, Mr William Rogers, has been in Lisbon on an official visit, where he held conversations with the Portuguese Government 'on several matters regarding the relations between the two countries' (P.J. 3.5.70).

Mr Rogers signed a U.S.-Portugal agreement on air routes ('The Times' 1.6.70). He stated the day before that 'we, in the United States, consider Portugal not only as a friend, but also as a natural ally, because Portugal plays an important role in the defence and security of Europe

and in the future of European unity' ('O Século', Lisbon, 30.5.70).

President Nixon exchanged notes with the Portuguese Government commenting on Mr Rogers's visit. Those notes stressed that 'periodic consultations between the two governments are of the greatest importance' (P.J. 7.6.70).

COLONIES (cont.)

logiques et Minières' has been granted prospecting rights in an area of 100,000 sq. km. covering the districts of Zambese, Niassa and Cabo Delgado (P.J. 7.5.70).

STEPPING UP THE FIGHT

The war communiqués of the MPLA state emphatically the need to 'never let the Portuguese colonialists sleep in peace', and report a long series of military operations, where intentions are really matched by actions. The colonialist forces were attacked in their barracks at Mavinga; others were ambushed near Lupire.

GOOD PROFITS

In 1969, the 'Hydro-Electrical Company of Revou' made a £247,510 net profit. (P.J. 12.6.70).

COURTING WEST GERMAN FINANCE

A group of West German bankers, headed by Klaus Burk, the director of the 'Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau' (Frankfurt), has visited Lour-enço Marques on April 27th, at the invitation of the Portuguese Government. (P.J. 28.4.70).

SAO TOME and PRINCE

LOOKING FOR OIL

These islands off the west coast of Africa (Gulf of Guinea) have been caught up in the foreign investment fever that is a characteristic of the policy of national surrender pursued by the Salazar-Caetano régime.

A contract has been signed between the Portuguese Government and a foreign company (Ball Collins) for the prospecting of oil in the islands and on their continental shelf. (P.J. 8.4.70).

ACCORDING to recent data¹ out of a total population of 8,889,392 in Portugal there were 3,315,639 in active employment. Of these there were 1,445,017 or 43.6 per cent in the primary sector (agriculture, fishing), 944,201 or 28.6 per cent in the secondary sector (manufacturing, mining, and building industries) and 905,065 or 27.2 per cent in the tertiary sector (transport, communications, distribution and other services).

Although the largest number of employed people in Portugal are still in agriculture, their contribution to the gross national product is the lowest (approximately only 24 per cent of the total GNP). On the other hand industrial workers, who are only the second largest group, give the highest contribution to the national product (nearly 40 per cent of the GNP).

Industrial workers are, therefore, in a leading position amongst the working force in Portugal. Their interests are also common to the interests of the employees in the tertiary sector, to the interests of the many thousands of agricultural workers and landless peasants and to the interests of over 41,000 fishermen. They depend on each other to strengthen a collective fight against the fascist régime, against exploitation by the employers; they also depend on each other for the production of the goods that they need and that they succeed in securing for themselves through hard wages struggle.

THE CORPORATIVE STATE

The military coup that brought the present fascist régime in Portugal to power on 28th May, 1926, led to the establishment of a corporative State, inspired by those institutions of medieval times and by Mussolini's régime in Italy. The corporative nature of the Portuguese State is expressed in the present Portuguese 'Constitution' imposed by a nazist referendum in 1933.

The cornerstone of the conception of the Corporate State is that employers and employees form separate organizations, but that these organizations must work in harmony, under the supervision and control of the State. In this way the class struggle and conflicts are to be avoided, and social harmony imple-

mented, under an impartial referee, the State.

The ideologies of Corporatism always forget to mention that the Corporate State came into power inspired, supported and approved by the factory and land-owners and that it continued to work under the previous relations of production. This means that the Corporate State can never be an impartial referee, that it is simply the State apparatus which implements by force and terror the defence of the interests of the factory and land-owners against the interests of the working people.

Industrial workers and employees in Portugal are organized by the State in 'sindicatos'. Agricultural workers are organized in 'Casas do Povo' ('Houses of the People') and fishermen in 'Casas dos Pescadores' ('Houses of Fishermen'). Professional people (doctors, lawyers, university graduate engineers) are organized in 'Ordens'.

The employers are organized in 'Gremios'. These corporations are represented in a Corporate Chamber, which functions besides the 'National Assembly' and has only consultative powers.

THE 'SINDICATOS'

The corporate organizations of the Portuguese industrial workers and employees had in 1965 a total of 1,249,615 members.¹ The total number of 'Sindicatos' in Portugal was then 324.

The majority of the members (546,996) were grouped in 24 'sindicatos' of 10,000 or more members each. But 185 'sindicatos' have less than 2,000 members each.

The legislation of the 'sindicatos' was mainly accomplished in 1933.² The 'sindicatos' can only be organized with Government approval which must also approve their internal regulations.

Until 1969 the leaderships of the 'sindicatos', elected by the workers, could only hold office if approved by the Government. Popular pressure then brought a very slight modification.

According to a new Decree-Law of 14th June 1969³ the candidates to the leadership of the 'Sindicatos' must be previously accepted by a special committee formed in the 'sindicato' and responsible to the authorities. No one can be elected to the leadership of a 'sindicato' who has been deprived of political rights

WORKERS' STRUGGLES IN PORTUGAL

by A. RAMOS

(this happens to anybody who is brought to trial for opposition to the régime) or who has ideas contrary to the established 'social order' (that means any ideas opposed to fascism or 'subversive ideas').

The 'sindicatos' can be dissolved by a State entity (the 'Conselho Corporativo' or Corporate Council). The accounts of the 'sindicatos' are controlled by another State organization (the 'National Labour Institute', part of the Ministry of the Corporations). This 'Institute' also controls the activities of the elected leaderships of the 'sindicatos'.

CASAS DO POVO AND DOS PESCADORES

Membership of the 'Casas do Povo' is compulsory for both farm-workers and farm-owners. Both can be elected to the leadership of the 'Casas' and two farm-owners must be given two places in that leadership. There were in 1965 a total of 626 'casas do povo' with 466,036 members.

Membership of the 'Casas dos Pescadores' is compulsory for fishermen. The President of these organizations is a delegate of the Government, who chooses his collaborators for the leadership, including shipowners. There were in 1966 a total of twenty-eight 'Casas dos Pescadores' with 59,485 members.

ANTI-STRIKE LEGISLATION

'Interruption of economic activities' is punishable by law.⁴ The State has the right 'in case of collective interruption of economic activity, of employing all legitimate means to force the strikers to work'. The collective interruption of public services is punishable by the dismissal of the strikers plus other legal penalties.⁵

Those who incite, favour or organize strikes can be punished with two to eight years in jail, followed by 'security measures',⁶ which can mean life imprisonment.

WAYS OF STRUGGLE

Faced with the corporate machine and repressive apparatus, both aim-

ing fundamentally at curbing their demands and their chances of an active voice in their own and their country's destiny, the workers have had to choose various methods of struggle.

They used and are still using the 'sindicatos' to implement some demands, forcing the fascists to implement points of their demagogic legislation which could be of benefit for the workers. They fought and are still fighting for elected 'sindicatos' leaderships which can defend some of their interests, even within the framework of the corporate State. And this form of struggle has provided and is still providing many opportunities to strengthen the positions of the workers and to defeat the repressive machinery of the government.

But, because of being within the corporative ideology and organization, the scope of the 'sindicatos' is limited. Actions of the workers in relation to the employers, in their place of work, complement and extend the action within the 'sindicatos' and have repeatedly proved successful.

THE THIRTIES

The industrial workers' clandestine political organization grew gradually stronger, from 1929 to 1935, after the initial shock of the 1926 fascist coup. This strengthening was reflected in an increase of their struggles, which embodied purely economic demands for better wages and conditions, but which, because of the nature of the fascist régime, immediately acquired a political tone.

In 1931 and 1932 there were important strikes such as that of the Lisbon shipbuilding workers, involving some thousands of workers who struck for a month; the Setúbal 5,000 seaman's strikes, which lasted for three months; the two strikes in the port of Lisbon, and the Marinha Grande glassworkers' strike.

In 1934 the government decided to strengthen its repressive measures in relation to the 'sindicatos', wiping away the previous independent role of the workers' unions. This caused

the workers to take to arms in several parts of the country (especially in Marinha Grande) to defend their union rights, going on strike and opposing by force the Government's repressive forces. These risings were crushed by the police and the army and the subsequent repression was ruthless.

THE FORTIES

The support given by the Portuguese Government to Hitler during the second world war, the food restrictions which accompanied the sending of supplies to Germany and the ever-increasing police repression sharpened the contradictions and clashes between the workers and the régime. The period of 1942 to 1947 was one of the most active in Portugal in terms of workers' struggles and of their heightened political consciousness.

In November 1941 there were strikes of the Covilhã textile workers.

In October-November 1942 over 20,000 Lisbon shipbuilding and other workers went on strike.

In July-August 1943 over 50,000 workers in Lisbon, S. João da Madeira and Silves went on strike.

On May 8th and 9th 1944 more than 25,000 farm and industrial workers of the Baixo Ribatejo region went on strike.

In 1945 there were farm-workers' strikes in Montemor, Vendas Novas and Lavre.

In 1946 there was a new strike by the Covilhã textile workers and in 1947 more than 20,000 Lisbon shipbuilding and other workers also went on strike.

THE FIFTIES— FARM WORKERS AND FISHERMEN

The cold war policies on the international scene and the divisions within the Portuguese anti-fascist movement, brought about successive waves of repression against the clandestine political workers' organizations. As a whole, the industrial workers' struggles were less important in this period and the political struggles which then took place (such as the 1958 Presidential election campaign⁷ with Delgado and others) had a less marked class content. One of the most important industrial workers' strikes in this period was that of the women textile workers in the British-owned Oporto

factory of 'dos Ingleses', in 1954, involving 1,600 workers.

The farm-workers in the Southern provinces of Alentejo, the richest agricultural and wheat-producing region of Portugal, where the big landowners possess immensely large farms, had already been on strike in 1945 and in the summer of 1947.

But it was in the fifties that their clandestine organizations strengthened and were most active. Their clandestine paper *O Camponês* ('The Peasant') had an important role in these actions, especially frequent during the summer harvest. Their corporate organizations ('Casas do Povo') have always offered too limited a scope for any significant role in their fight, so the struggle took other forms. The most important Alentejo farm-workers' strikes in this period took place in 1952 and 1953 (when 20,000 were involved) in the nearby Ribatejo province 10,000 people went on strike in 1958, in protest against that year's electoral fraud.

The Portuguese fishermen, specially the sardine fishermen, were also very active in the fifties. Fishing is an important activity in Portugal and fish, especially sardines, is one of the country's main exports. The corporate organizations of the fishermen ('Casas dos Pescadores') also have only limited scope in relation to their struggles, so strikes have been the main weapon to defend their rights.

In 1955 over 15,000 fishermen went on strike along several parts of the Portuguese coast; the 6,000 Matosinhos sardine fishermen (in the north) held on for a month, and the 3,000 Setúbal fishermen, south of Lisbon, for a fortnight.

In 1957, the 5,000 Matosinhos fishermen again went on strike and they did the same for two months in 1959, together with 1,000 other northern fishermen in Afrada, Póvoa do Varzim and Vila do Conde.

THE SIXTIES

This decade had mixed characteristics in relation to workers' struggles.

So far as farm-workers are concerned it was characterized by a lower intensity of struggle, following very big strikes in 1962. On May Day that year 35,000 Alentejo farm-workers went on a political strike.

(continued overleaf)

which was followed by the victorious strike of 200,000 farm-workers for an eight-hour working day.

The decline, since then, of farm-workers' struggles in Portugal seems to have had several reasons, from police repression to intensified emigration of farm-workers to foreign countries, coupled with the increased industrialization in Portugal, thus attracting more hands to the factories.

There was no noticeable decrease in the fishermen's struggle. These were active repeatedly during the period. In 1960-61 thousands of cod fishermen went on strike off the Greenland coast and forced the captains to return their boats to port. In 1964 over 10,000 Algarve fishermen went on a nineteen-day strike, which was victorious.

Industrial workers' struggles showed as a whole a higher intensity than in the preceding decade, specially after the access of Caetano to power in September 1968. Throughout the decade, however, small and larger actions were always happening.

In 1965 and 1966 two important strikes occurred.

In May 1965 the 5,000 stone-workers of the Pero Pinheiro region, near Lisbon, went on strike for twelve days. They occupied the headquarters of their 'sindicato', which was later stormed by the armed G.N.R. (Republican Guards). Their wage claim was successful, at least in part.

One year later, in May 1966, over 3,500 Lisbon dockers went on a strike, which lasted six weeks. They won the wage increase they were demanding.

Two important strikes took place a few months before the withdrawal of Salazar from power. On the 16th May 1968, the women workers of the tinned fish factories of the Southern province of Algarve (Olhão, Portimão and Vila Real de S. António) went on strike for two weeks. On July 1st, the 7,000 employees of the British-owned Lisbon transport monopoly (Carris) went on strike for three days, refusing to collect the fares.

Three months after the take-over by Caetano, from January 1969 onwards, a wave of strikes and wage demands involving over 100,000 workers swept over Portugal. These were undoubtedly the most import-

ant workers' struggles in Portugal since the forties.

These struggles preceded and contributed greatly to the period of intensive political activity in 1969 in Portugal, which culminated with the October 1969 'election' campaign.

DURING AND AFTER THE 'ELECTIONS'

On October 20th, six days before the October 1969 'election poll', 12,000 railwaymen staged a one-hour strike, all over Portugal, justly linking their wage claims with the political movement of the people against the fascist régime.

Three weeks later, on November 11th, the 5,000 shipbuilding and repair workers of the 'Lisnave' Dutch-Swedish-owned enterprise in Lisbon, went on strike for two days. The workers occupied the premises until the early morning of November 13th, when mounted armed Republican Guards and shock brigades of the armed police (P.S.P.) with machine-guns and police dogs stormed the place, forcing the workers out with the barrels of the machine-guns at their backs. In one of the works (Rocha do Conde de Obidos) 2,300 workers clashed with the police and their dogs—using tools in self-defence. The works were occupied by the armed police until November 17th.

This is how the 'liberal' Caetano guarantees the fascist 'law and order' and the money of foreign investors in Portugal.

But small and large workers' struggles have gone on since then, and are continuing.

CHARACTER AND MEANING

When Portuguese workers decide to strike they risk considerably more than those in most of Europe.

They risk imprisonment, which can be indefinitely prolonged. They risk brutal and immediate police repression; they risk the tortures of the secret police (D.G.S.).

There are no strike funds, their unions (sindicatos) are controlled in the way described, their meagre wages do not allow them any savings for support while out of work.

During some fishermen's strikes the secret police has even prevented the men from angling for their subsistence. Shopkeepers are pressed by the police not to sell on credit to

the strikers; families and wives of strikers are intimidated by the secret police.

But all these repressive measures and the character of the régime contribute to the deep political meaning of the strikes and other workers' actions. These actions and strikes tend to be of shorter duration than it is usual in other European countries, for the reasons pointed out, but their political meaning and repercussions tend to be greater.

During the forty-four years of the fascist régime in Portugal the Portuguese workers have been the leading force in the fight against this régime. We hope to have made clear in this article the reasons for that.

The brave Portuguese workers, who fight a common fight with all the rest of the Portuguese people, are still today the best hope of victory. Together they lead the struggle to overthrow the fascist régime in Portugal.

They have proved their worth, their courage, their persistence, their refusal to be beaten, during these long forty-four years, against an implacable and ruthless enemy. They are unbroken, and they are unbreakable. But they need the solidarity of the workers in all other countries, of all freedom-loving people all over the world. Victory will be theirs!

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INSIDE PORTUGAL

BRITISH MONEY FOR THE FASCISTS

LAZARD BROS., the merchant bankers of London, have signed an agreement with Celulose do Norte de Portugal which provides for a loan of £13.6 m. to finance a contract between the Portuguese company and Walmleys (Bury) for the construction of a pulp and paper mill near Oporto. A consortium of British Banks will raise the funds for this investment. (The Times', 1.7.70).

The Export Credits Guarantee Department signed on June 30th, 1970, a guarantee covering the financing of a further £3.3 m. contract gained by C. A. Pursons, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and John Thompson, of Wolverhampton, to supply and erect a fourth boiler and generating set for the Carregado thermal power station, twenty-five miles north of Lisbon, owned by the Companhia Portuguesa de Electricidade (The Times', 1.7.70).

In 1967 Lazard Bros. negotiated a giant £51 m. loan for the Portuguese steel industry (Siderurgia Nacional) and for the mining of iron, both essential for the weapons used by the Portuguese Dictatorship in its repression at home and in the colonies.

SIEMENS MOVE IN

Siemens, the giant West German Corporation, is to build a factory for the production of telecommunications equipment in Evora, Southern Portugal. Two thousand Portuguese workers are expected to be employed in the factory within five years. The sum to be invested in this enterprise amounts to £2.3 m. (D.L. 8.6.70). There is a West German air base in the nearby city of Beja, and a huge West German irrigation scheme in the same region (Alentejo) which is looking more and more like a West German province.

HOTELS AND TOILET REQUISITES

A new American hotel is to be opened in 1972 on the island of Madeira. The American concern involved — David Rubinoff — is also planning to build another hotel in Algarve (D.L. 22.5.70).

Reckitt & Colman have opened a new factory in Loures, near Lisbon. Among the products to be manufactured are the brand names 'Nugget', 'Harpic', 'Karpex', and 'Savona'. The investment totals £714,000 (P.J. 1.5.70).

MOTORS AND MOTORWAYS

The 50,000th vehicle has been produced at the IMA factory near Lisbon, which is a branch of the British Leyland Motor Corporation (D.L. 21.5.70).

A Portuguese-Spanish-Italian consortium for the construction and exploitation of motorways in Portugal has been formed with an estimated total investment of £300 m. Banco Portugals do Atlantico will hold 60 per cent, Liga Financera SA 20 per cent and Impresit 20 per cent (D.L. 29.5.70).

INVESTMENTS FROM ABROAD

Foreign investments in Portugal are expected to reach £12m. in 1970, an increase of 30 per cent over 1968 stated (P.J. 5.6.70) the late Dr. Pinto Leite, Chairman of the German-Portuguese Chamber of Trade, and deputy in the Portuguese 'Parliament'.

BUT INFLATION INCREASES

Inflation in Portugal reached a peak figure of 8.8 per cent during 1969. This is a record amongst the countries mentioned in a recent survey published by the German paper 'Die Zeit'. The figure compares with 5.4 per cent in Great Britain, 5.6 per cent in the U.S.A., and 2.4 per cent in Greece (D.L. 8.5.70).

AND THE BANKS FLOURISH

The Banco Nacional Ultramarino, ('Portuguese Overseas Bank') which has the monopoly of financial transactions between Portugal and her colonies, and issues the currency in all Portuguese colonies except Angola, presents the following picture of the growth of its net profits: 1965 £2.7m.; 1966 £2.8m.; 1967 £3.0m.; 1968 £3.1m.; 1969 £4.2m. (P.J. 28.5.70).

NEW REFINERY

A new oil refinery, with a capacity to treat two million tons of oil a year, was inaugurated on June 6th in Matosinhos, near Oporto (P.J. 6.6.70).

It has an annexe — a lubricating oil production unit with a capacity to yield 100,000 tons a year. It belongs to the SACOR oil monopoly, which has the exclusive right to oil refining in Portugal, and has capital from France, Britain, Holland, and other countries in addition to its Portuguese capital. It also has connections with the Shell monopoly.

A total of more than £54m. was invested in the new refinery. Last October the nearby Leixoes port was equipped to handle tankers up to 100,000 tons. Equipment for the new refinery brought fat profits to 238 foreign suppliers mainly from West Germany, France, and Switzerland.

It is proposed to double production as soon as possible, to reach some four million tons a year, linking the refinery to a petrochemical industry producing amongst other things, synthetic textile fibres.

Portugal produces no oil, though every year it consumes four million tons of refined oil products. The oil comes mainly from the Middle East and therefore Portugal is kept in complete dependence on foreign sources of supply. More than 62 per cent of the sources of energy needed by Portugal were imported in 1968.

Portugal has a good supply of hydro-electric power; her rich uranium resources — mainly in foreign hands — are completely unexploited in terms of supplying nuclear power to Portugal; and her coal resources, although small, are inadequately exploited.

The foreign oil monopolies continue to do well at the expense of the Portuguese people.

'BETTER' USE OF MANPOWER

In the present atmosphere of militarism prevailing in Portugal, numerous lectures are arranged at the 'Institute of High Studies for National Defence', aimed at preserving the official interpretation of the problems faced by the country. On June 13th, the Under Secretary for Planning reported the need for a better use of existing manpower inside Portugal and the colonies, which he deems to be still quite substantial.

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in spite of the emigration of 700,000 people within the last decade (P.J. 14.5.70).

This is the way in which the Government tries to reassure the General Staff of the Armed Forces that everything is rosy in the Lusitanian garden.

MORE RECRUITS FOR THE COLONIAL WARS

For the very same reason, the Minister for Overseas chaired a seminar arranged by the Mocidade Portuguesa (Fascist Youth Movement) at Lisbon University to study the strategy of the African liberation movements. The Minister exhorted his young audience to join the fight in his colonies (P.J. 18.5.70).

THE ULTRAS CLOSE RANKS

Recently, the ultras, clan of the Portuguese fascists headed by the former minister Franco Nogueira, held a luncheon party at Oporto attended by 850 people at which the need for the Portuguese to stay in Africa was repeatedly underlined (P.J. 18.5.70).

MADE IN WEST GERMANY

On April 30th, the President visited a new frigate 'João Coutinho' now docked in Lisbon. The frigate is the first of six vessels to be delivered, which are under construction in West German shipyards. This frigate is the most modern unit of the Portuguese Navy (D.L. 30.4.70).

MEN AND BOATS FOR WARS

A new patrol-boat, the 'Quanza', was launched for immediate service, at the Mondego shipyard in Portugal (D.L. 5.6.70).

Sixteen army helicopter pilots have finished their training at Tan-cos air base (P.J. 8.5.70).

MILITARY REORGANISATION

By a reorganization of the Military Regions inside Portugal and in the colonies, there are now seven military regions (Lisbon, Oporto, Coimbra, Tomar, Evora, Angola and Mozambique) and eight territorial commandos (Cabinda, Carmona, Nova-Lisboa, Sá da Bandeira, Luso — all in Angola — and three

more in Mozambique — Nampula, Beira and Lourenço Marques) (D.L. 12.5.70).

TO STOP HIJACKERS

A detector of any metallic objects which might be carried by passengers has been set up in Lisbon airport to forestall any potential hijackers. (P.J. 14.6.70).

SPANISH CAPITAL WILL FLOW IN

Current projects of economic co-operation with Franco's Spain will enable Spanish financiers to take an even greater share in the foreign exploitation of Portuguese labour and the country's natural resources.

The Spanish economy is stronger than the Portuguese. It has already been mooted that Portuguese uranium might be used to feed Spanish nuclear power.

On the other hand, a high increase in Spanish investments would enhance the Portuguese economy even more deeply.

A dramatic example of the effects of the close co-operation between the two Iberian dictatorships is given at the village of Tourém, in the northern province of Trás-os-Montes.

The PENOSA, a Spanish company that is building a dam on the Portuguese border, has started to expropriate one square kilometre of Tourém land. This area will be flooded by the new dam. But the land on the Spanish side was bought at 12 sh. the sq. metre, whereas at Tourém the Portuguese owner was offered 3 sh. for excellent arable land.

To make things worse the Spanish farmers who owned land at Tourém have been paid at the same rate as their compatriots on the other side of the border.

The Portuguese owners are being defrauded of £435,000 and the Lisbon Government has not raised a finger to stop this crooked treatment of hundreds of their own small farmers. (D.L. 8.6.70).

MILLIONS EARNED UNDER FASCISM

The millions of the Sommer-Champalimaud family, who have been long-standing supporters of the fascist regime in Portugal, are at present engaged in rather mysterious

litigation in the Portuguese courts. (D.L. 7.8.70).

It will be recalled that one of the Champalimaud brothers, who have huge interests in the National steel and cement monopolies in Portugal, escaped from Portugal in the last days of the Salazar reign and is now living abroad.

DRAMATIC RISE IN PRICES

Meanwhile the cost of living has risen dramatically in Portugal. Recent statistics show that in 1969 there was an average 10 per cent rise in the prices of consumption products compared with 1968. This rise leaves Portugal in an unenviably unique situation in Europe. The only countries with similar inflation are Iraq, South Vietnam, South Korea, Chile and Brazil. The highest rises were recorded in Lisbon (10.5 per cent), Oporto (8.7 per cent), Coimbra (8 per cent) and Faro (5.2 per cent). (V.M. 1.5.70).

THE ACUTE HOUSING PROBLEM

More than 200,000 people live in squalid conditions in Lisbon. But the municipal authorities sell land at such high prices that in some areas of Lisbon the land costs as much as the construction of the building; in others, it is even more. (D.L. 19.5.70).

KEY TO REFERENCES

'P.J.'—*Primeiro de Janeiro*

'D.L.'—*Diário de Lisboa*

Two of the leading daily, centred, Portuguese newspapers.

PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Portuguese primary school teachers are at the end of the line, according to Caetano's deputy, Dias Neves, in the National Assembly. Already earning the meagre pittance (£30 a month), they have to wait ten years to obtain an increase of £4-7s. monthly. (D. de S. 29.4.70).

CRISIS IN THE CHURCH

The Portuguese Church is also facing a crisis in its ranks. In the last twenty-five years the number of young men studying for the priesthood in Portuguese seminaries has fallen to less than one-half. (D.L. 8.6.70).

FASCISTS ATTEND A MASS

On May 28th, a **MASS** was celebrated in the Penha de França barracks, in Lisbon, to commemorate the fascist coup that brought the present régime to power. These barracks belong to the Portuguese Legion, a para-fascist military organization set up at the time of the Spanish Civil War.

U.S.A. SYMPATHIES

A special seminary on 'The Future of Portugal in the Contemporary World' was held in May at the Institute of High Studies for National Defence.

Ambassador Calvet de Magalhães informed his audience that the U.S.A. now has a more sympathetic attitude to the Portuguese 'problems' in the African colonies. He said he expected a closer collaboration in future between Portugal and the U.S.A., in view of Portugal's rich material resources; also between Portugal and Great Britain, if both countries join the European Common Market. Debates following the ambassador's speech were conducted with extreme secrecy. (P.J. 7.5.70).

INFANTILE MORTALITY

In 1968 the average rate of infantile mortality in Portugal was 61.12 per thousand, the second highest in Europe. But in the Guimarães district (northern Portugal) that rate was nearly twice as high. (P.J. 1.5.70).

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

The present Portuguese Government consists of ten ministers, twelve secretaries and eight under-secretaries, making a total of thirty-one members. (P.J. 5.5.70).

The 'President of the Republic', Admiral Tomaz, held a special session on June 10th in the Belém Palace (Lisbon) for members of the Government and the Armed Forces.

The ultra-fascist general, Santos Costa, urged the Government to remain inflexible concerning the continuation of the colonial wars. He was immediately reassured on this point by Tomaz. (D.L. 11.6.70).

THE PEOPLE FIGHT

From our correspondents in Portugal

FISHERMEN STRIKE

THE sardine fishermen in the North of Portugal and also in Peniche (Central Portugal) and in the Algarve (South) have been on strike for several weeks. The strike involved thousands of fishermen, principally in the north (Matosinhos).

They demanded higher payments and an improvement in their conditions.

TEXTILE WORKERS STRIKES

In the Riba de Ave industrial zone there have been a number of strikes for wage increases. One of them took place in the Oliveira Ferreira factory. The same happened in Farnalico (Riopele and Manuel Gonçalves factories).

DOCKERS STRIKE

The Leixões (Oporto) dockers, after having been denied a wage increase, banned overtime for several days. They also asked for wages and conditions identical to those of the Lisbon dockers.

Finally they went on strike until their demands were accepted.

STOPPAGES

Stoppages took place recently in the UPLA plastics factory (Marinha Grande), in the FIL textiles factory and in the SONAFI, SECHERON FACAR and NACITEX enterprises (all in Oporto). In the Barreiros truck assembly works (Setúbal) the stoppages were not only successful in winning a wage increase but also in forcing the management to re-admit several workers who had been forcibly dismissed as a reprisal.

FOR WAGE INCREASES

Mass meetings of workers, asking for wage increases, near the management headquarters took place in the Silvio Saldanha factory (in Santa Iria) near Lisbon, and in the cork products Corticite factory (in Lisbon). Both were successful.

Wage increases were also won, after struggles by the workers, in the steel works Siderurgia Nacional (in Seixal, South of Lisbon), in the Movauto motor car assembly factory (in Setúbal, also South of Lisbon),

in the Lanificio Tejo wool textiles factory (in Alenquer, North of Lisbon), in the Metalúrgica Luso-Italiana metal works (in Lisbon), in the SOCEL paper factory (in Setúbal) in the EFACEC electric material factory (in Oporto) and in the Movil (Vila Franca de Xira), SONACA (Lower Ribatejo) and Argibay (Alverca) factories (the latter three all near Lisbon).

IN THE 'SINDICATOS'

The Caetano government is trying to impose a new 'election' for the leadership of the state-controlled metal workers' union (Sindicato dos Metalúrgicos) of the Oporto district, because the workers succeeded in electing a leadership they trust. This had been rejected by the government and the factory owners.

The 17,000 bank employees have won a new collective contract giving them improved conditions and salaries.

AGAINST THE COLONIAL WARS

Earlier this year, in Evora, a whole Army detachment of forty soldiers, due to leave for the colonies, deserted, together with their commanding officer, a conscripted university graduate.

In the Vendas Novas barracks many slogans against the colonial wars and fascism appeared on the walls. In other Army barracks the conscripts are showing a growing dissatisfaction with the colonial wars.

The Lisbon medical students, in their annual play, shown at the Monumental theatre of the city, openly satirized the colonial wars.

THE DOCTORS

The Portuguese doctors continue their struggle for better conditions. In Oporto they went on strike, last May. In Lisbon one woman doctor was arrested by the secret police (D.G.S.) and other doctors have been subjected to police threats.

YOU MAY QUOTE US

All the material and articles published in the 'Portuguese and Colonial Bulletin' may be reproduced or quoted. We shall be grateful for an acknowledgment of the source.

IN THE HANDS OF THE FASCISTS

THE 2nd World War was fought to wipe fascism from the surface of the earth. Millions and millions of people, all over the world, gave their lives to end the nightmare that had produced Mussolini, Hitler, the Spanish Civil War, the Gestapo, the concentration camps, the world war itself.

But, even before Hitler, that nightmare had produced the fascist régime in Portugal, with Salazar and his followers. The concentration camps, the fascists, the Gestapo-like secret police and the jails were all there. The difference with the rest of Europe (except with Spain and Greece, whose régimes came later) is that the fascists, the Gestapo-like secret police and the jails still remain in Portugal. The difference with the great part of Europe is that the anti-fascists are still kept in the Portuguese jails, twenty-five years after the end of the war that was supposed to end fascism. And that the Portuguese anti-fascists are kept in jail with the approval of the United States and Britain, whose peoples also fought that war against fascism.

PIRES JORGE

In the Portuguese jails there are men such as **PIRES JORGE**, the 62-year-old workers' leader, who has been fighting Portuguese fascism since 1927; that is twelve years be-

fore the beginning of the second world war.

PIRES JORGE, who was one of the leaders of the clandestine anti-fascist resistance struggle in Portugal for over nineteen years — after also having been in Spain fighting against Franco — has now spent over thirteen years in jail. After over eight years in the terrible conditions of the Peniche fortress jail he had recently to be admitted to the Caxias prison hospital. His life is in danger. His only hope of survival is to be free from the hands of the fascists.

OTHERS

JOSE MAGRO, a 50-year-old anti-fascist, who has spent over seventeen years in jail, after many years in the clandestine anti-fascist movement in Portugal, had also to be admitted recently to the Caxias prison hospital, in a serious condition.

In the Peniche gaols there are other anti-fascists such as **DIAS LOURENÇO**, **BLANQUI TEIXEIRA**, **ÓCTAVIO PATO**, **JOSE CARLOS**, **JOÃO HONDRADO**, **MÁRIO ARAÚJO**, **GUILHERME CARVALHO**, **ROGERIO CARVALHO**, **DOMINGOS ABRANTES**, **DINIZ MIRANDA**, **CANAIS ROCHA**, **MANUEL SERRA**, **ANGELO VELOSO**, etc., etc.

They are men who have spent long years under the terrible hard-

ships of the clandestine anti-fascist struggle, who have been arrested several times and savagely tortured by the Portuguese secret police, which was trained by the Gestapo and helped by the C.I.A. and the British secret services. **GUILHERME CARVALHO**, has spent over fifteen years in jail, **DIAS LOURENÇO**, over fourteen years, **MÁRIO ARAÚJO** and **ROGERIO CARVALHO** over ten years, **ÓCTAVIO PATO** and **BLANQUI TEIXEIRA**, over eight years. The health of most of these brave anti-fascist fighters is ruined. Their only hope of survival is freedom from the fascist jails.

WOMEN

Courageous women who dared to oppose the fascist terror in Portugal have not been spared either.

Amongst others, kept in the Caxias fortress jail, near Lisbon, are **FERNANDA TOMAZ** — who has been there nine years — **ROSALINA LABAREDAS**, **URSULA MACHADO** and **MADALENA DE OLIVEIRA**, all in poor health.

THEY NEED YOUR HELP

You, or, through yourself, the organizations to which you belong, and any person who cares for human dignity and loathes fascism, can help these brave men and women, by demanding to the Portuguese authorities that they shall be released.

In the past many prisoners, for whom we had been campaigning, were freed from jail in this way.

Demand an Amnesty for all Portuguese political prisoners from the 'liberal' Caetano, the Portuguese Chief of Government, by writing to him (address, Professor Marcello Caetano, Lisbon, Portugal).

Save the lives of the brave anti-fascist fighters in the Portuguese jails!

'NO' TO REACTION!

ITALY

A meeting of international support for the peoples of Angola, Guinea (Bissau) and Mozambique, which are fighting against Portuguese colonialism, took place in Rome, from the 27th to 29th June last.

It was attended by leaders of the liberation movements of those colonies, many personalities and representatives of varied organizations. The anti-colonialist leaders were later received by the Pope. The Caetano Government made a dip-

lomatic protest and recalled its ambassador in the Vatican.

U.S.A.

Protests against the giant Gulf Oil investments in Angola and Mozambique were made at the annual Gulf shareholders meeting, held last April 28th in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. A dozen demonstrators were forcibly ejected from the meeting, and two were arrested. Other 400 demonstrators paraded with posters, outside the meeting place.

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