

Portugal after the leftist purge: the good guys have won

LISBON (CUP) - "At Last the Good Guys Seem to Have Won" was how *Time Magazine* described the elimination of the leftist influence from Portugal's armed forces late last November.

"A triumph for the moderates" intoned another western news agencies.

But current events are showing clearly just which "guys" *Time Magazine* and its press cohorts have been rooting for.

During the past two months the country's renovated military authorities have released hundreds of ex-agents of the old fascist PIDE/DGS secret police. Notorious for its informer network and torture techniques, the PIDE/DGS was fundamental to the 48-year life of the fascist regime. When the movement of the captains, the Armed Forces Movement, overthrew the regime on April 25, 1974, hundreds of agents were jailed. Now Lisbon citizens are recognizing these people back on the streets.

This article was written by Art Moses for Canadian University Press. Moses is a former Ottawa Bureau Chief for CUP and has been in Portugal for the past few months, filing the occasional feature for Canadian campus readers. It seems that things are getting quite rough for foreigners in Portugal at this moment - beatings and those sorts of things - and therefore we won't expect any more stuff from there; Moses is leaving for greener pastures in Eastern Europe. C'est la vie en Europe, n'est-ce pas?

Released from jail on January 21, was Kaulza de Arriaga, former commander of Portugal's colonial forces in Mozambique, and implicated in the attempted rightist coup here on September 28, 1974. Current Mozambique president Samora Machel calls de Arriaga a war criminal.

He is now being touted as a possible presidential candidate in elections planned in Portugal for the spring.

Portugal's authorities offered de Arriaga conditional liberty in December, involving his absence from the country during presidential elections. But he refused, demanding he be found guilty or released without conditions, according to the Lisbon daily *Diario Popular*. "Meanwhile, the evolution of the political situation made possible the liberation of General Kaulza," the paper said.

Also released January 21 was Moreira Baptista, the fascist regime's chief censor before going on to head the DGS as Interior Minister. He was also implicated in the September 28, 1974 coup attempt.

Earlier military authorities had ordered the release of Santos Junior and Silva Cunha, both cabinet ministers under long-time fascist prime minister Antonio Salazar. Junior was minister responsible for the PIDE when its agents assassinated General Humberto Delgado, who had almost defeated Salazar's candidate for president in 1958 in one of the regime's rigged elections.

Meanwhile, on January 19 military authorities jailed major Otelo Saraiva de Carvalho, chief architect of the April 1974 anti-fascist coup.

Otelo was jailed for unspecified involvement in the events of November 25 which military authorities have been describing as an action to suppress an abortive leftist conspiracy to seize power.

Authorities released a "preliminary report" on the events on January 20. Although Otelo had no proven involvement in the alleged conspiracy, the report says, he did not intervene to stop it. The report provides only the sketchiest of details of the conspiracy.

The former fascist officials and PIDE figures were released on the grounds no formal process had been initiated against them.

Meanwhile, Portugal's regular police forces are resuming their strong-

armed tactics. Unreconstructed since fascist times, the urban police and rural Republican National Guards had been relegated to mainly traffic duty until just before November 25. Major policing responsibilities were handled by military security forces, generally under Otelo's command. All that has now changed.

In December police broke up a peaceful picket line of bookstore workers in the northern city of Oporto. On January 1 Republican Guards killed four people when they opened fire on demonstrators outside an Oporto jail holding leftist military figures imprisoned after November 25. On January 21 - as Kaulza de Arriaga and Moreira Baptista were being freed - police killed one person and wounded six others when they opened fire on a downtown Lisbon crowd, during a two hour store clerks' strike.

The next night police took four shots at a Canadian journalist when he fled, after police had roughed him up in a park, accusing him of being a communist.

Scarcely a day passes without bomb attacks on the office of left-wing parties and on the homes of their members. The attacks are especially prevalent in northern Portugal where the Communist Party says the basic atmosphere for the holding of free elections is being threatened. The terrorist Portuguese Liberation Army (ELP) and Movement for the Democratic Liberation of Portugal (MDLP), aligned to former president Antonio Spínola, are operating with impunity, and have ordered terrorist regalia from a print shop to give public expression to their clandestine terrorist activities. Spínola, himself, met the chief of the CIA mission in Paris last week, according to the liberal French magazine *Nouvel Observateur*.

The right-wing parties are expanding rapidly. The Popular Democratic Party - described by western news agencies for months as "left of centre" - is now preparing an openly right-wing electoral campaign.

The PPD, which came second in last April's elections, is demanding the elimination of the Armed Forces Movement and the end of land occupations by rural farm workers.

The openly right-wing Centre Social Democrats (CDS) are gaining strength, now that political winds have changed. Many rich Portuguese conservatives are switching allegiances from the Socialist Party and PPD to the CDS, completing their ingenious and anti-communist manoeuvring. The western press obscured this game by referring to all parties to the right of the Communists as "moderate".

Amid these developments looms Portugal's economic crisis - the legacy of fascist reliance on colonial exploitation and domestic under-development - but now blamed on the leftist government that administered Portugal from September 1974 to September 1975.

The current government, dominated by the Socialists and PPD, has frozen wages while allowing prices to rise on many basic necessities.

Socialist Party leader Mario Soares, now on tour of northern Europe and the United States seeking economic assistance, says one of the solutions to Portugal's problems is more emigration.

With a few exceptions, the Portuguese news media is now compliant and uncritical of current developments. After November 25 scores controlled Radio Renascença has returned as the propaganda arm of the Catholic Church. The leftist Radio Club Portuguese has been incorporated into the new state-run broadcasting authority, and now serves up bland news broadcasts from the single state-owned newspapers; the major circulation morning papers are now firmly in the control of the Socialists and PPD.

"At Last the Good Guys Seem to Have Won"

ELECTION '76

Election Rally

will be held in SUB Theatre between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm Thursday, February 12, 1976. Candidates for all offices will be permitted to speak and as well respond to questions during a question period. All University classes are cancelled between 11:00 am and noon.

Voting

OLD ARTS
COLLEGE ST. JEAN

- Main Entrance
- Main Entrance

CAB
CAB
EDUCATION
EDUCATION

1 - At entrance to Cameron Library
2 - At entrance to Engineering Bldg.

TORY
TORY

1 - In front of elevators, old bldg.
2 - In lounge main floor, new bldg.

SUB
HUB

1 - Main entrance facing Rutherford
2 - Tory Lecture Theatre

LISTER
LAW CENTER

- In front of doors facing Phy. Ed. Bldg.
- Main Office

FINE ARTS
HUMANITIES

- In front of cafeteria
- Main Entrance

AGRICULTURE
DENTISTRY-PHARMACY

- Main Entrance
- 2nd Floor, by HUB entrance

MEDICAL SCIENCES
CLINICAL SCIENCES

- Main Floor, coffee room
- 2nd Floor, coffee room

CORBETT
UAH NURSES RESIDENCE

- 2nd Floor, Medical Student Lounge
- 2nd Floor, by escalators

PHYSICAL ED.
V WING LECTURE ROOMS

- Inside north door facing UAH
- Main Entrance

BIO SCIENCE
GENERAL SERVICES

- Main Entrance
- Main Entrance

MECH. ENGINEERING
CHEM.-MIN. ENGINEERING

- By Room P-126
- Main Floor in front of tunnel to CAB

HOUSEHOLD ECONOMICS

- Main Entrance
- Main Entrance

Advance Poll

will be open in Room 271 SUB on Thursday, February 12 between 2:00 and 5:00 pm and is to be used only by students who will be absent from the campus on election day.

Voters

include all full members in good standing of the Students' Union. Students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies who have paid full Union fees may vote, but those whose identification cards are marked 'Associate members' may not. You must present your Identification Card at the poll. **Remember, bring your ID Card February 13, You can't vote without it!**

Further information may be obtained from the Returning Officer, Room 271 SUB.

Ken Reynolds
Returning Officer