

over the cities of Algiers and Oran, and only a few days before the referendum did the Organization come to an agreement with the FLN. The Europeans, who had been harassed by FLN terrorism for more than seven years, began to lose confidence in the future. Doubting the practical value of the guarantees, they started to emigrate to France. Two-thirds of the European population (nearly 800,000 people) have now left Algeria. As a direct result, the country has been plunged into a financial and economic crisis without precedent. A large number of Moslem Algerians who had sided with France (there were more of these than is generally believed) and of French Army *harkis* did the same, for fear of FLN retaliation. Others left simply in order to find employment. A daily average of as many as 1,000 Moslems left for France. Some Moslem nationalists who were members of groups other than the FLN felt ill at ease with the latter and, contrary to what could be expected, showed strong opposition to it. Still more serious was the rivalry inside the FLN itself. Two important crises in July and August, among which was the revolt of the Willayas III and IV, preceded the coming to power of Ben Bella; the rancour has not yet disappeared. On the other hand, some extremist remarks by President Ben Bella, and the tension which has characterized Franco-Algerian relations for the past few months, are causing apprehension to the moderate elements in the FLN and to others.

The situation, therefore, remains critical. Time and patience will be needed before order is restored. As in many post-revolutionary situations, the pendulum swings before stopping. Independent Algeria is seeking its specific gravity in the modern world. It can only find itself through the experience of facts and of government. A few encouraging signs are already appearing. In particular, some Europeans have gone back to Algeria. But their number is still very small, and the possibility of a mass return may be doubted, unless interior conditions improve significantly. Yet only the Europeans, whose means, skills and techniques were such assets, can ensure the proper functioning of the administration and of the school system and put the country's economy back on its feet. Moreover, if they do not return, will France be able or willing to continue financial assistance on the scale provided for at Evian, however necessary this may be?

In brief, unity, stability, moderation and the return of those who left are the components of the Algerian conditions upon which the Évian Agreements are based.