

GUINEA:

The People Are the Invincible Force

Excerpts from the speech by President Ahmed Sékou Touré of Guinea, at the opening of the extraordinary session of the National Assembly converted into the Revolutionary People's Tribunal

**"Only the working
class and social
sector
constitutes the people."**

THE diverse and numerous antagonistic contradictions that everywhere place imperialism and its followers in opposition to the legitimate, progressive aspirations of the people have their logical ramification, their internal prolongation, in the social relationships of the peoples.

In effect, not all social and human aspects of a nation are strongly a part of the people. If all social classes and all individuals can proceed from the people, not all peoples really and sincerely embody the people in their per-





sonalities, their interests and their aspirations. All are not of the people. Such an identification would create a highly prejudicial confusion in the strategic conduct of the class struggle in the exclusive interest of the people. In saying that all are not the people, we understand in the concept people, that class that encompasses equally all the interests, all the aspirations, all the will of the people to the exclusion of any other interest, any other aspiration, any other will.

Only the working class and social sector constitutes the people. The people are born in and for creative work, in and for mankind's continuing battle against the nature of domination and the individual and social classes devoted to undermining the bases of equality, justice and peace on which they intend to build their stability and their happiness.

The people, through their creative work and human thought, remain the only invincible force of history, the only source and unique determining cause of quantitative change and qualitative transformation that guarantees the evolution of human societies.

If the people, in their permanent nature, in their aspirations and behavior, constitute the purest, the most honest and most progressive element, we must never forget that within the bosom of the people there also exist impurity, illegality and illegitimacy. These are expressed in reactionary behavior; in backward concepts and in the destructive work of individuals or social groups motivated by greed, egoism and immorality.

That is to say that the people encompass both the true people and the antipeople, and for this reason in a democratic revolution it is very im-



portant to analyze the contradictions in the bosom of the people.

As far as the components of the Guinean people are concerned, we can cite the following:

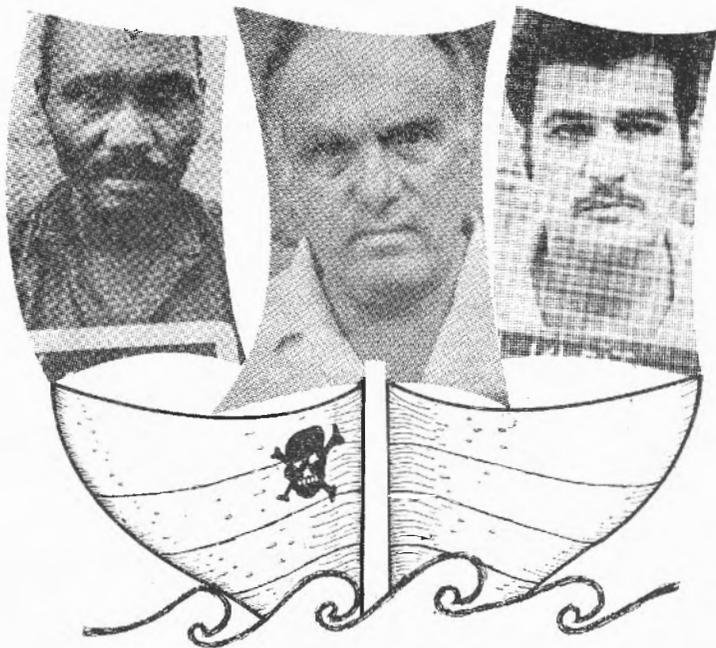
The working people composed of the peasant class, the working class, the artisans, the youth and women and the progressive intellectuals.

Alongside the true people, the Guinean society encompasses the growing bourgeois class, the unreconstructed feudal elements, those intellectual, technical and military sectors that are the receptacles of the reactionary ideology inculcated by the former feudal-colonialist regimes.

It is these backward, alienated and corrupted elements, opposed in all their activities to revolutionary principles and methods, that represent, within Guinean society, the natural and active allies of the foreign enemy.

We already know that the criminal attack on the Guinean nation by the NATO powers in general and the Portuguese colonial army in particular, could not have been carried out if the external enemy had not had in the bosom of Guinean society, a fifth column ready to create the subjective and objective conditions for the success of an enterprise so profoundly antinational and antipeople.

It is clear, therefore, that all the powers belonging to NATO, as well as the imperialist powers that offer their solidarity in the subversive activities against African progress, have utilized their particular sectors in Guinean society, inviting their experts, their clients, to devote themselves to activities that can weaken beforehand the confidence of the Guinean people in their regime, to sabotage the realization of the objectives of happiness proposed by the government and to provide, at the op-



portune moment, their support to the active phase which was the aggression itself.

Within the framework of these preparations, camps were created for the formation of mercenaries around Guinea and particularly in the zone of Guinea-Bissau still occupied by the enemy.

Within the framework of these preparations, the mercenaries of the pen and the mercenaries of radio, through their false information, dedicated themselves to creating an international opinion of doubt concerning the Guinean regime.

Within the framework of these same preparations, a vast campaign was expertly prepared to convince international opinion of the flight of more than a half million Guineans abroad, while the reality shows completely the opposite — that is to say, the return to

the native country of more than 200 000 Guineans after our national independence.

Within the framework of these same preparations, certain segments of the press, always under the influence of corruption and of malevolent intent, made every effort to present Guinea as the country of misery, that had engendered cholera, while cholera had caused tragedy in more than eight African countries before it manifested its existence in Conakry at all, where it was contained in a minimum of time thanks to the dynamic setup and vigorous action of the Guinean health institutions.

Within the framework of these same preparations, imperialism has the journalists and commentators in its service say and write that nothing works in Guinea, that the people are discontented with the regime and that they are simply awaiting the liberators to

be able to breathe the air of liberty and enjoy their dignity.

However, we cannot cite all the manifestations of hostility, of systematic denigration, of broad lies utilized by a gang of mercenaries seeking to undermine the moral influence and political prestige of the Guinean revolution in the world; but we can affirm that in July and August of 1970, a reactionary situation and even a counter-revolutionary tension had been created by certain administrative cadres with the aim — today this is very clear — of favoring the success of the aggression. Happily the PDG watches out for the political and moral health of the people and this gives them an absolute confidence in their regime and their leaders.

The internal fifth column placed in motion by its bosses, was working for the recolonization of our country, for the liquidation of its revolutionary regime and for the advent of neocolonialism with all that this system brings with it in the way of indignity, disqualification, irresponsibility and calamities for the nation's working class.

The fifth column does not exist in Guinea only. It is also organized in other African states and up to the level of the leadership of countries subjected to the neocolonialist regime.

African reactionary forces and the Guinean bourgeoisie, ruled by the imperialist powers in addition to their class interests, have been utilized against the Guinean revolution whose fall they hoped would provide the cloak of polit-

ical security and perpetuation of their illegal and abusive privileges.

We should not be surprised that some diplomatic missions of the imperialist countries, that some agents of their technical assistance, that some foreign industrialists and businessmen should be actively utilized in this anti-Guinean work. But yes we should be surprised to see that Guinean citizens that lived in feudal and colonial periods that supported racial discrimination, humiliation and indignity, the irresponsibility of colonialism, should have converted themselves, at the moment of African independence, into servile and docile instruments of the recolonization of their country, of their people; that they come to terms with imperialism after having known it and lived under the infamy of colonial domination. The undignified attitude of these backward elements is due to a sorrowful dehumanization and at the same time an incalculable hatred toward the people.

To this sad conclusion we add our no less great indignation at seeing that the mercenary performs a new function, one given to Africans who are against all progress on the part of their own country.

The mercenary is the shame of contemporary Africa. He must disappear completely at the same time that direct or indirect colonization disappears and to do this Africa must, without vacillating, use revolutionary violence, use the force of its unity with the aim of destroying all the social groups and all the systems of life opposed to its liberty, its unity and its historic progress.