

speech Touré was to make. In it, Sékou Touré, as President of *Parti Démocratique de Guinée*, asked for independence but with association with France; he was asking, in fact, for what de Gaulle was forced to give the other French territories in 1960. But de Gaulle was tired after his tour of the West African hustings, and he did not read the copy of the speech which had so carefully been given to him. Its contents came as a great shock to him as Touré made the demands. In his speech he stormed back "I say here even louder than elsewhere, that independence is available to Guinea. She can have it; she can have it on 28 September by saying 'No' to the proposition which is put to her, and in saying this I guarantee that Paris will raise no obstacle to it." After this Sékou Touré's efficient party machine moved into the full scale campaign which resulted in the rejection of the constitution by 1,136,000 votes to 57,500. It was the only French territory to reject the proposals absolutely. The women of the party were as passionately behind Sékou Touré then as they are now. Today the women wander along the streets of the capital in swathes of cotton printed with the head of the President.

De Gaulle determined to make the price of independence as high as possible. "La civilisation française" was ripped out with a malevolence which the Belgians never equalled in the Congo. Telephones were dragged out of their sockets; files were burnt; anything too heavy to move was destroyed. By the first week of December 1958, only twenty French administrators and technicians remained out of the 4,000 who had been there at the time of the referendum. De Gaulle purposefully smashed the administration in order to make Guinea an example to all the other French colonies. At the Algerian peace talks at Evian last year he tried to make use of the example of Guinea. It was of little use. He had already been forced to concede independence with association to all other French territories.

IN 1958 GUINEA therefore needed help. It turned to the Eisenhower-Dulles administration. Dulles asked de Gaulle what to do, and was told to do nothing. When Touré turned to the Iron Curtain countries, Russia saw her chance to make a 'Cuba in Africa'. Guinea could be used as a propaganda and revolutionary centre for the rest of

Report of a Special Branch Major

PART ONE

*A savage saboteur
And his perilous partner
Were arrested in the bundu
of the west of the Transvaal,
For with mischievous intention
They conspired in an invention
(Which I'm not allowed to mention
If I want to keep my pension)
To indoctrinate the kudu
in the west of the Transvaal.*

*In the west of the Transvaal,
in the west of the Transvaal
To indoctrinate the kudu
in the west of the Transvaal.*

*This calculating couple
Always on the look for trouble,
Yes, a very pair of killers
in the west of the Transvaal,
With fanatical devotion
They were working out a notion
(It's a secret, hence my caution,
For I'm longing for promotion)
Training monkeys as guerillas
in the west of the Transvaal.*

In the west . . . etc., etc.

*This pestilential pair,
With a verve beyond compare,
Were about to wage a war,
please, in the west of the Transvaal,
For in sinister disguise,
They designed an enterprise
(Which I mustn't publicise
If I want to get a rise)
'Twas to devastate the thorn-trees
in the west of the Transvaal.*

In the west

*This tantalising team
Had evolved an 'active dream'
By pulsating out their thought-throbs
in the West of the Transvaal,
They had found a means eternal
With an impudence infernal
(I must keep this news internal
If I want to be a colonel)
For deflating all the wart-hogs
in the west of the Transvaal.*

In the west

* * *

PART TWO

*Now you may think I'm romancing
In unfolding such a plot,
But suspicions are advancing
(Though the evidence is not)
Which is further indication
(And we need it, I admit)
There's a subtle insurrection
Which we really can't permit.*

In the west

*Though the evidence is missing
And we cannot show the truth,
A policeman's intuition
Is worth more than any proof,
So we've thrown them into prison
And they'll stay in durance vile
For the evidence will come up
If we suck our thumbs awhile.*

In the west

*And they won't need any lawyer
And we shall not grant them bail,
And there isn't an indictment
So they'll have to stay in jail;
To imprison without trial
Is a democratic right
And I'm staunchly democratic
So I do it with delight.*

In the west

*Now my salary must rocket
Since I do the work of four,
For the judge and his assessors
Are not needed any more;
My promotion must be pending
And you know the reason why,
For I'll hold the scales of justice
Till I'm pensioned or I die.*

In the west

VAUGHAN STONE