

# Spinola Yields to Leftists and Cancels Lisbon Rally

Continued From Page 1, Col. 3

tation between an essentially conservative President and strong leftist elements within the armed forces and the civil population that contains a threat of civil war.

Today's planned rally stemmed from the President's call in a speech on Sept. 10 for the "silent majority" to "awaken and to defend itself actively against extremist totalitarianism, which fights in the shadows."

The President was understood to have been referring especially to the Communists who, as part of a left resurgent after 50 years of persecution, have emerged as the country's strongest organized political force.

## Roadblocks Set Up

Acting on the President's invitation, a number of conservative groups, just now coming back into the political scene after the defeat of the regime they either supported or tolerated, announced a rally for today in front of the pink presidential palace on the western outskirts of Lisbon.

Buses were to have brought supporters from other parts of the country, notably the north, the most conservative section. Communists and other leftists reacted vigorously, calling their followers into the streets, "to prevent the fascist demonstration."

Tension built up quickly late last night as young leftist vigilantes, some reportedly armed,

set up roadblocks. Later military units joined them and inspected cars entering the city for arms. The buses from the north appeared to have been stopped, partly because the bus drivers' union called out its men, but the cars were allowed through. Bloody disorders appeared inevitable as plans for the demonstration and counter-demonstration went on.

All newspapers and private radio stations were silenced by the Minister of Information, Maj. José Sanches Osorio, a conservative supporter of President Spinola, after they had delivered violent attacks on the organizers of the right-wing

rally. Several times during the night Major Osorio went on the air to appeal for an end to the roadblocks.

At one point it seemed that a bread-up of the Government as well as a deep split within the armed forces was imminent. The city was filled with rumors that the President had in fact staged a coup by assuming full powers and dismissing and even arresting Premier Gonçalves.

## Dozens Are Detained

None of these rumors suggesting a spinola victory was confirmed. On the contrary, the military issued a statement

declaring that dozens of people had been detained in early-morning raids following "a build-up of activity by individuals in league with the most reactionary circles." The statements referred to "seditious movements," arms trafficking and economic sabotage.

When it became clear to the left that it, not General Spinola had carried the day, it made no effort to hide its jubilation. Several thousand young leftists paraded up Lisbon's main thoroughfare, the Avenida da Liberdade. But there was a general feeling that nothing had been settled and that there would be more trouble to come.

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro