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## *African Weekly Notes*

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## *African Weekly Notes*

This publication has been prepared by the African branches of the Middle East - Africa Division of the Office of Current Intelligence and coordinated with other components within the Directorate of Intelligence. Comments and queries are welcome. They should be directed to the authors of the individual articles.

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~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED] (b)(3)Portuguese Guinea[REDACTED]  
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The rebel movement in Portuguese Guinea will declare independence for Portuguese Guinea "very soon," according to Victor Mania, a member of the movement's executive committee. Mania's statement, made during a recent press interview in Addis Ababa, raised new speculation that the long-promised declaration might coincide with the OAU summit meeting in late May. (b)(3)

Mania's "very soon" suggests an imminence that has not been voiced by more important leaders of the movement. Since Amilcar Cabral's assassination in January, most leaders have indicated only that a declaration would come sometime this year. Luiz Cabral, the slain leader's brother, said in February, "The proclamation will not be made for at least six months." He told a Lagos interviewer on 1 April that rebel plans to declare an independent state "were ruined by the assassination." [REDACTED] (b)(1)  
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No major obstacle to an early declaration is evident. The movement has recently been given a boost by its success in downing five Portuguese military aircraft and may launch a military initiative just prior to the OAU summit. The leadership appears to be stabilizing, and international support has not weakened significantly.

When a new state is announced, it will be recognized by almost all OAU members and Communist governments. In Western Europe, the Scandinavian countries and the Netherlands have officially given significant political and humanitarian aid, but political recognition will not necessarily follow. [REDACTED] (b)(3)

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