

Name: _____
Global History II

Date: _____
Ms. Valdner & Mr. Patten

1952: Kenyatta arrested in security raid

Leading African nationalist Jomo Kenyatta has been arrested following the declaration of a state of emergency in the British colony of Kenya. He was among about 100 prominent Kenyans detained in the past 24 hours as part of a clampdown on the rebel Mau Mau movement.

The Mau Mau is demanding immediate self-government and is blamed for the mounting "lawlessness, violence and disorder" in the colony. Jomo Kenyatta stands accused of leading the extremist wing of the Mau Mau and of inciting hatred and violence against Europeans through a series of oaths of allegiance.

“Mau Mau terrorism is carefully planned, centrally directed and its object is to destroy all authority other than Mau Mau”
- Secretary of State Oliver Lyttleton

Members are called on to steal firearms from Europeans, not to sell land to Europeans and kill Europeans when asked to by the leadership. Government officials say 37 people have been murdered by the Mau Mau and the vast majority of killings have taken place in the past three months.

"Its leaders are establishing their own courts in their attempt to usurp the functions of government. Action against these leaders was imperative." In a further sign of its concern at the growing lawlessness in Kenya, the government is deploying British troops in the region.

Mr. Kenyatta was arrested by Kenyan police at his home, where he had been asleep. He apparently made no attempt to resist arrest.

Since returning to Kenya from England he has established a school movement independent of the state and funded by Kikuyu tribesmen. The Mau Mau has drawn its supporters from the Kikuyu people, the majority of whom live in the crowded reserves of Kiambu, Nyeri and Fort Hall. They regard land as their only form of security and many now have too little to be able to make a living.

They resent the fact the Europeans farm the much more profitable and sparsely-populated so-called "White Highlands" and therefore have a much better standard of living. The British Government had hoped the policy of arresting the Mau Mau leadership would put an end to the rising tide of violence. But there have been warnings of retaliation. Another of the oaths taken by Mau Mau members is to follow Mr. Kenyatta if he is arrested and try to free him.

Questions:

1.) What are members of Mau Mau encouraged to do?

2.) Provide evidence for the Kenyatta trial.

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| Evidence to prove Kenyatta was a member? | Evidence to prove Kenyatta was not a member? |
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3.) Your group decision is Kenyatta is guilty or not guilty? Why?