

ORGANISATION

Aljube Museum
Resistance and Freedom

COORDINATION

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Cover: View of the Permanent Exhibition of the
Aljube Museum, "Clandestine Meeting".



MUSEU DO ALJUBE
RESISTÊNCIA
E LIBERDADE

EGEAC

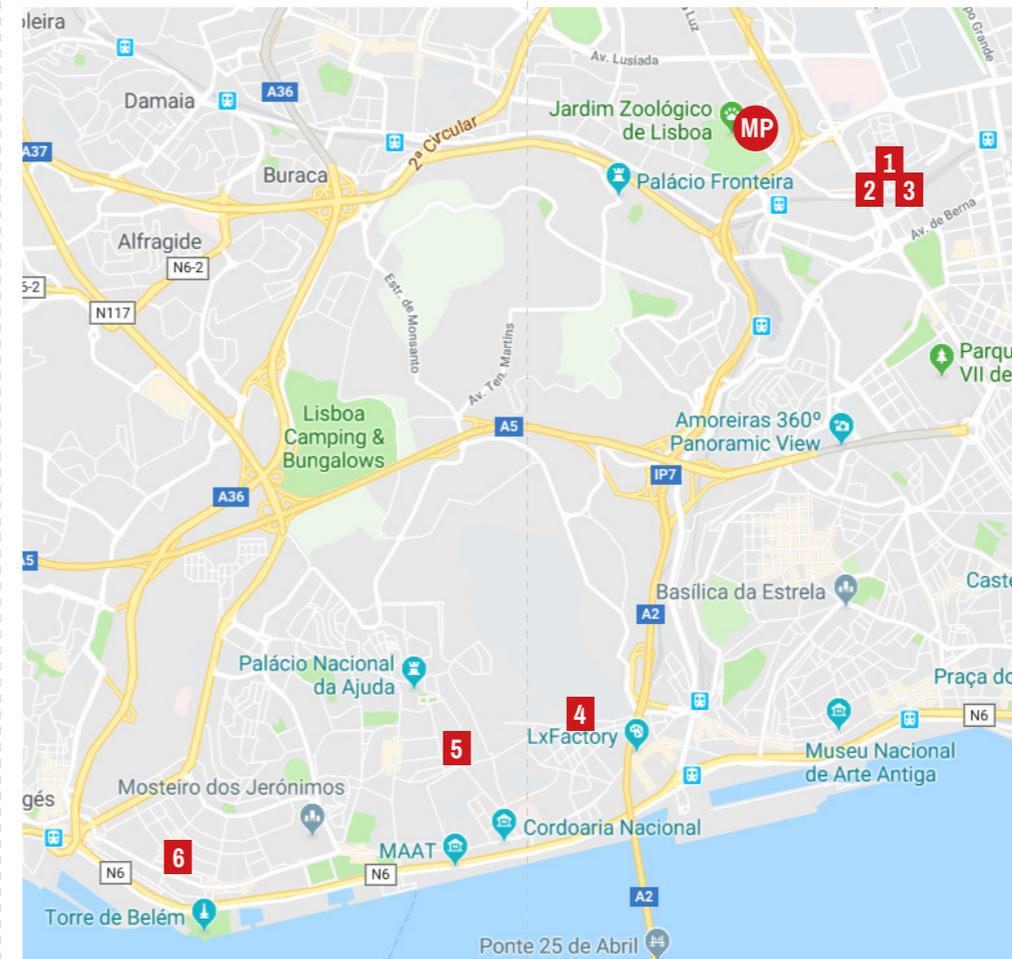
THE CLANDESTINE OPPOSITION

After it was declared illegal on 28 May 1926, the action of the PCP was only possible under harsh conditions of clandestinity. To this end, the party had a solid unit of officials and a technical foundation, consisting of "points of support", a network of clandestine houses distributed throughout the national territory, and printing houses, which enabled the printing of the newspaper *Avante!*, since 1931, and

other propaganda material. A unifying pole of all partisan activity, a house could only be leased in an area previously determined by the direction of the Party, depending on the work that was to be developed in a particular sector. The defence of the clandestine houses obeyed severe defensive measures, in which women played a key role. The change of facilities was frequent and occurred when there was a slight suspicion towards the neighbours or of police surveillance.



Vista da Exposição Permanente do Museu do Aljube, "Máquina de escrever".



*... no book will teach us,
specifically, how to defend
a clandestine house.*

Manuel Pedro, *Sonhos de poeta, vida de revolucionário*, Lx, Ed. «Avante!», 2004, p. 197

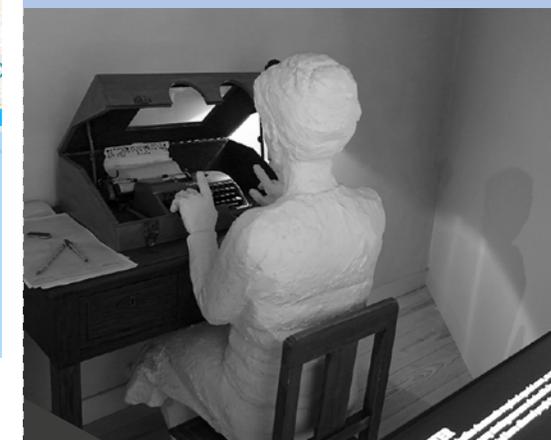
MP Meeting Point

- 1** R. da Beneficência
- 2** R. Filipe da Mata
- 3** R. Francisco Tomás da Costa
- 4** R. dos Lusíadas
- 5** R. Dom Vasco
- 6** R. Pedrouços

LISBON FROM ALJUBE

THE CLANDESTINE OPPOSITION

An itinerary through the
clandestine houses of
the dictatorship period



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1938 Rua da Beneficência,
n° 180 – 3rd floor

Clandestine house inhabited by Francisco de Oliveira “Pavel” and Francisco Miguel, where the editorial office of *Avante!* operated, which was invaded by the PVDE on 10 January 1938, resulting in the arrest of “Pavel”. Documentation, various pamphlets mainly aimed at young people and women, as well as a small library of books in Spanish, French and English, were apprehended. Francisco Miguel was arrested on the same day, in a street meeting next to Marquês de Pombal, by the squad of José Gonçalves. The action of the political police was echoed in the press of the time which reported, “The fight against communism. It can be said that the police laid hands on the entire Communist organisation, making new arrests and seizures.” (*O Século*, 12/1/1938)



1942 Rua Filipe da Mata,
n° 133, c/v esq

Clandestine house inhabited by Joaquim Caetano Rebelo and his wife, Joaquina Gomes Martins, and where Joaquim Pires Jorge, one of the members of the reorganising movement of the PCP, stayed for a while. The couple eventually assembled a printing house in Algueirão (Sintra), where Joaquina Martins was arrested, on 24 November 1942.

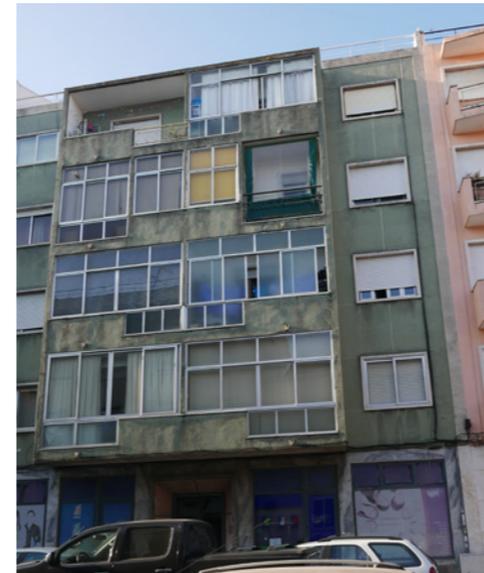
On the first years of the “Reorganisation”, Joaquim Pires Jorge remembered: “We went to areas where we lived with difficulties and created the organisations, we connected the comrades. (...) We created some opportunities. Anyway, it was a clandestinity that was not clandestine at all.” (Joaquim Pires Jorge, *Com uma imensa alegria*, Editorial «Avante!», 1984, p. 40)



1937/38 Rua Francisco Tomás
da Costa, n° 4, r/c

Considered the first clandestine printing house of the PCP, it was inhabited by Francisco de Oliveira “Pavel”, member of the Communist Party’s leadership, and by Francisco Miguel, head of the Regional Committee of Lisbon. During these years there was an investment in propaganda, as well as an increase in the circulation of *Avante!*, which started to be published weekly.

In the words of Francisco Miguel, “the party press had the widest clandestine circulation and came out more often”. The organisation did not correspond, in strength or capacity, to the volume of the press that we published. In a way, we had built a great castle over the sand.” (Francisco Miguel, *Uma vida na revolução*, A opinião, 1977, pp. 64-65)



1959/61 Rua dos Lusíadas,
n° 8 – 3º esq/fr

Clandestine printing house which included Eduardo Pires, Maria da Glória, their son, Carlos Pires, and Alice Capela. When José Dias Coelho was assassinated, the printing house of Rua dos Lusíadas was still in operation. The proximity to the murder site and the fact that José Gonçalves’ car (a PIDE agent) was in a nearby garage, justified the rapid dismantling of the printing house.



1953/54 Travessa D. Vasco,
n° 2, 3º esq

Clandestine house inhabited by Sérgio Viarigues, who joined the Portuguese Communist Youth Federation in 1932 and the PCP in 1935. In September 1934, he was arrested, then he passed through several police stations and the prisons of Aljube, Peniche and Angra do Heroísmo, incorporating the first batch of prisoners who went to the concentration camp of Tarrafal. He returned to the continent in July 1940 and joined the group that promoted the reorganisation of the Communist Party. In the III Congress, which took place in 1943, he was elected for the Central Committee. He was responsible for several regional organisations and took over the editing of *Avante!* in different periods of time.

He was the last leader of the PCP to come out of hiding.



1961 Rua de Pedrouços,
n° 69, 3º andar

Clandestine house inhabited by Margarida Tengarrinha, Teodósia Gregório and José Dias Coelho, when the latter was murdered, on Rua da Creche, on 19 December 1961. After the news of his death, Margarida Tengarrinha, who was a member of the editorial staff of *Avante!*, abandoned the facility and looked for support near fellow intellectuals, so Teodósia Gregório assumed the responsibility of the dismantling of the house.

“On December 19, at dusk, Zé left the house where we lived with our daughter Guida, the comrade Teodósia Vaguarinho and Zézinho (her son and of her companion Afonso Gregório, who was imprisoned). (...) We were hoping that Zé would come home at dinnertime, but he didn’t, nor did he come home in the next few days. (...) When he didn’t show up on Christmas day, we were sure he was in jail.” (Margarida Tengarrinha, *Memórias de uma falsificadora*, Lisbon. Ed. Colibri, 2018, p. 77)