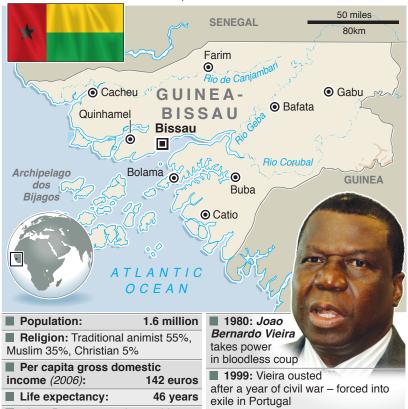
President of Guinea-Bissau assassinated

Renegade soldiers shot dead the president of the West African country of Guinea-Bissau, Joao Bernardo Vieira, just hours after a bomb blast took the life of his rival, the armed forces chief of staff



- 1974: Portuguese colony achieves independence
- 2004: Guinea-Bissau becomes major centre for cocaine trafficking. exporting 200,000-300,000kg a year from Colombia to Europe and Russia
- 2005: After 2003 overthrow of
- President Kumba Yala, Vieira returns and wins presidential election
- Mar 2, 2009: Vieira dies in tit-for-tat murder following assassination of army chief General Tagme Na Waie