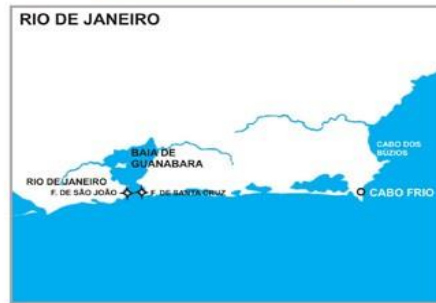


HEB, p.93 Colorido digitalmente

The expeditions, both those by sea as well as by land, were organized for the purpose of conquest and territorial occupation, in the 16th century and at the start of the 17th century (HEB, v 1, p. 26).



The maritime defense of the bays to the east of Tordesillas, was complemented by a land defense system that had its origins in two political events that occurred in the Captaincy of São Vicente:

*first* - the outline of the compulsory military service, by “document dated September 9th., 1542”, which gave organization to a militia formed by settlers and Indians”, and,

*second* - the systematization of the land defense, originated from the “imposition of the Regiment of December 17th, 1548, which declared that all settlers should own a gun, gunpowder and lead, and all sugar mill owners should have the gunpowder necessary to trigger two small caliber cannons “.

Aside from being the *celula mater* of our nationality, the São Vicente Council also took the first steps for the systematization of land defense in a permanent manner, by “enacting, on 9 September 1542, a Declaration that organized a militia force with colonists and Native Brazilians”, being binding equally on “the reinóis”, living in the countryside, competing with the Vicentines, in use of arms”.