

Maputo home service in Portuguese 1830 gmt 17 Sep 77

Excerpts from report:

① Rhod. Forc's (1/102)

BBC 20/9/77
② SA For Ret

The racist regime of Ian Smith, supported by imperialism, is preparing an attack of great proportions against our country. This has been confirmed by an enemy agent captured in the region of Mapai, Gaza Province, by the People's Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique, in conjunction with the people. The said agent is Afonso Johane Cotoi [all names phonetic]. . .

Afonso Johane Cotoi is one of several agents exposed during the past few months by our security forces. Infiltrated into our country early this month, Afonso Cotoi had as his immediate aim to record and transmit to the racist colony of Southern Rhodesia all possible information on our defensive capacity, namely, the location and degree of mobilization of our fighters, the kind of arms used, statistics of men and combat units, etc.

At his meeting with journalists, Afonso Cotoi confirmed that his infiltration into our country, as well as that of many other agents and traitors like him, was connected with an impending attack of great proportions being prepared against the People's Republic of Mozambique [PRM]. He said that large quantities of war material - aircraft,

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lorries, helicopters as well as countless Rhodesian soldiers and mercenaries of several nationalities - were being concentrated to this end.

Cotoi confirmed that the attack, which is expected soon, was part of a visit (?covert) plan prepared by imperialism to destabilize the PRM. He also named several places where the various stages and actions of the attack were being prepared, and named Jorge Jardim as one of the men behind the plot.

Among the operations under way or being planned, he specified the following:

- (1) The establishment of a more extensive network of agents and spies recruited from the Republic of South Africa for sabotage and espionage in our country;
- (2) the growing use of mercenaries from various European countries, South Africa and the USA, supported by the racist troops of Ian Smith;
- (3) the launching of suicide missions by commando units;
- (4) plans to attempt to eliminate physically high-ranking leaders of our country, party and state apparatus; and
- (5) to effect acts of sabotage of various kinds to cause popular demobilization and create an atmosphere of tension and hostility towards the victories achieved by the revolution. . .

Imperialism and its agents are preparing to launch ever-increasingly desperate operations from their bases in southern Africa. These are to be directed not only against our country but also against Zambia and Botswana. . .

Afonso Johane Cotoi is one of the tools used by imperialism to implement its plans and aims. Recruited in the Republic of South Africa, where he was a miner, he was given promises and taken to Southern Rhodesia, where he was first given military training and later (?prepared) for participation in one of the many attacks made on Mapai. Subsequently, after further special training, he was infiltrated into our country as a spy and reconnaissance agent. He was captured on the eve of the day when a Rhodesian helicopter was to have picked him up after Cotoi had toured many localities of former Mapai, Mabalane, Aldeia da Barragem and Chokwe. . .