

Mozambique Resistance Movement's Strength and Policy

“Voice of Free Africa” in Portuguese 0400 gmt 16 Aug 80

Excerpts from poorly received commentary

Sebastiao Mabote [the Mozambican CGS] has recently confirmed the popular nature of the second struggle of national liberation being waged by the Mozambican National Resistance [RNM], the armed wing of the Mozambican people. Addressing a rally in Chimoio, Sebastião Mabote said that the Resistance guerrillas were the sons, grandchildren and husbands of the Mozambican people... [His] words reveal the inability of the Machelist oppressive forces to capture or even to kill the glorious forces of the Mozambican National Resistance. Unable to hold back the RNM's advance, Machelism is resorting to soliciting aid from the very people whom it oppresses and exploits.

The Mozambican people are fighting against the betrayal - of which they are now the victims - by the Machelist Frelimo. Therefore they will not betray their sons, grandchildren and husbands by denouncing them to the government of the dictator, Samora Machel. By referring to the sons, grandchildren and husbands of the people of Manica Province as bandits, Sebastião Mabote has exposed the contradictions existing between Machelist communism and the Mozambican people... (?We were not surprised) to hear Sebastiao Mabote say that the struggle of the RNM was a popular one... It is a popular one because it expresses the will of the entire people in revolt against a barbarous and inhuman system which survives on exploitation and oppression of the broad working masses. Machelist communism is the system which for years has been widening the conflict in Mozambique. That conflict is between the people and the tribalist minority holding power by force, which it uses to implement its exploitative and parasitic interests.

There have been many instances of the exploitative class trying to present the RNM struggle as a simple act of armed banditry, although it encompasses 5,000 guerrillas holding firmly on the ground against all (?odds). In the early years of the second national liberation struggle, the Machelist regime used the situation in Zimbabwe to accuse the Resistance of being an instrument of Ian Smith's racism - an instrument acting as an agent of imperialism. The Machelist propaganda has never been able to define [word indistinct] in concrete terms. Machelism can no longer use that excuse in its plots to discredit our just struggle... The whole world now refers to us by our proper name, the Mozambican National Resistance. Nobody can say that we are lackeys of either Rhodesia or South Africa... The position of the “Voice of Free Africa” and the RNM regarding the apartheid regime has been made clear from the beginning. Since our inception we have been denouncing the (?ties) existing between Machelist communism and South Africa racism.

On many occasions we have pointed out that South Africa constituted an obstacle to the just struggle of national liberation of the Mozambican people... There exists a policy of good neighbourliness between Maputo and Pretoria. Samora Machel needs South Africa in his struggle against the Mozambican people, while at the same time he presents himself to Africa and the world as an irreconcilable enemy of the South African racists. The RNM will never let itself be intimidated by plots by Machelist communism. We are used to such nonsensical claims by Machelist communism, which yesterday said that we used to be the agents of Ian Smith and that today we are (?part) of the Botha regime. We are not interested in nonsense of that kind. We are interested in serving the Mozambican people in their just second struggle of national liberation, in spite of the slander, abuse, (?insults) and rumours which have been spread about the RNM.

We are interested in our own resolve. Our revolutionary resolve will not be destroyed by shameless enemy plots. They have not succeeded in disrupting our organization and have not stopped us from being freedom-fighters.