

# Like a Bomba

We have already said that one Bomba will not make a summer of difference in Mozambique. Yet those Blacks here who long for the kind of Marxist paradise they believe exists across our borders should reflect on the latest statement, of the airman who defected from Mozambique, Lieut Adriano Francisco Bomba.

Even in colonial times, he said, people had more freedom than under the Machel Government. The basic diet of the people was President Machel's speeches; the stores were empty.

There was no freedom to choose one's career — Standards 9 and 10 had been abolished, and all pupils who would have been in those standards had been conscripted into the forces.

The upper echelons consisted of Prelimo members, but the intellectuals were either imprisoned or had vanished.

Lieut Bomba believes life in South Africa is better, otherwise he wouldn't have defected here. His brother and his wife have also fled to South Africa, asking for asylum. Lieut Bomba hopes that other people in Mozambique will also follow his own example.

It doesn't say much for Machel's "paradise".

*Citizen 20/7/81, p.6*