

IV(B) - A F R I C A

Mozambique warns of "direct aggression" by South Africa A communique issued by the Mozambique government, reported by Maputo radio on 11th October said that the South African armed forces were preparing to carry out direct aggression against Maputo using the air force and groups of commandos which had infiltrated the country. This information had been conveyed by South African citizens who were opposed to the policy of the warmongers. Falsely accusing the Mozambique authorities of violating the Incomati accord, the warmongerers were seeking the overthrow of the government in Maputo and its replacement by a regime of puppets in the pay of apartheid. In fact the People's Republic of Mozambique had always scrupulously observed the letter and spirit of Incomati. All sections of the population must strengthen national unity in confronting this new aggression.* Security Minister Sergio Vieira said on 10th October, according to Maputo radio, that a South African commando group had infiltrated Maputo and must be caught before it committed crimes.

A South African Defence Force spokesman, quoted by Johannesburg radio, said on 11th October that reports from Mozambique about an imminent South African attack were "no more than speculation and a sign of a severe attack of nerves on the part of the government of Mozambique, which is obviously in deep waters because of its support for ANC terrorists". Defence Minister Magnus Malan, speaking in Bloemfontein, was quoted by Johannesburg radio the same day as saying that the time had come for certain southern African countries which had not responded to South Africa's repeated invitations to co-operate on common problems, including security, "to place their interdependence with South Africa above suspicion-mongering and to stop offering bases to terrorists". Otherwise, he said, these states would have to bear the consequences.