

# CROWDS GRIEVE AS MACHEL PASSES

**MAPUTO.** THOUSANDS of Maputo's residents lined the main streets yesterday morning to watch in stunned silence as the body of President Machel was transported to the Maputo City Hall where the remains will lie in state until Monday.

A sea of people filled Avenida Eduardo Mondlane, the broad central Maputo thoroughfare named after the founder and first president of Frelimo murdered by Portuguese agents in 1969.

The last time that such a huge crowd had gathered was in 1975, when President Machel, victorious over Portuguese colonialism, completed his triumphal journey from the Tanzanian border to the

capital, then still named Lourenco Marques, just five days before the proclamation of independence.

Yesterday the cortege took half an hour to reach Maputo City Hall. Lined up outside was a guard of honour and a military band.

The guard paid military honours to their fallen commander-in-chief. Then Mozambican officers, to the sound of a funeral march played by the band, carried the coffin inside.

Preparations for the journey began earlier at the mortuary where the president's widow, Cde Graca Machel, arrived to pay homage to the president.

She embraced the coffin, and needed the support of those around

her to prevent her falling.

Representatives of Mozambique's mass democratic organisations, members of the government and relatives were there to pay their last respects.

Former Tanzanian president Julius Nyerere wept yesterday as he presented a message of condolences from Tanzania's Party Chama Cha Mapinduzi to Frelimo after arrival in Maputo.

President Machel will be buried in full military honours on Tuesday at Maputo's Heroes' Acre near Mavalane Airport.

Meanwhile, Herald reporter Pascal Mukondiwa reports that as the cortege pulled up at the civic centre, the coffin was taken down to the strains

of mournful military music while women nearby wailed and men sobbed uncontrollably.

The proceedings were in full military fashion and the coffin, which had Cde Machel's military cap, was taken to the centre's first floor where Cde Graca and her two children Josina and Malengane laid wreaths.

## FOLLOWED

They were followed by Frelimo party officials and foreign dignitaries.

The Zimbabwean delegation was led by the Minister of Information, Posts and Telecommunications, Cde Nathan Shanuyarira, and included the Minister of Energy, Water Resources and Development, Cde Kumbirai

Kangai, and the Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture, Cde David Karimanzira.

Also reviewing the body was Frelimo leader Cde Marcelino dos Santos, Foreign Minister Joachim Chissano and Prime Minister Machungo.

● Zimbabwean Minister of Information, Cde Nathan Shanuyarira, said in Maputo on Thursday that Zimbabwe's military co-operation with Mozambique will increase following President Machel's death.

Speaking in an interview with AIM, he said reports about Zimbabwe reducing its military presence in Mozambique were "completely untrue".

"It's wishful thinking and actually mischievous. We will never cut our

links with Mozambique. And we are not going to cut those links now. Actually we are going to strengthen them".

The President of Botswana, Dr Quett Masire is to attend the funeral of President Machel.

In Maseru, police used tear-gas to break up a march by about 1000 university students protesting at the death of President Machel, and arrested between 100 and 200 youths witnesses said.

US President Ronald Reagan's daughter Maureen is likely to head the official US delegation to the funeral of Mozambican leader Samora Machel, US state department and congressional sources said in Washington on Thursday. — Ziana-IPS-Bopa-AP-AIM.