

Nations' leaders arrive to mourn Machel

M 27.10.88

MAPUTO.

HUNDREDS of people were still queuing along Maputo's main street yesterday to view the remains of the late President Samora Machel, lying in state at the Independence Hall since Friday afternoon.

Yesterday 19 of the 34 victims of last Sunday's air crash lay in state in Maputo's Fourth Congress Hall.

The building was first used to house the Fourth Congress of the Frelimo Party in April 1983.

The bodies were moved from the mortuary to the Fourth Congress Hall in groups, a process lasting all morning.

On Saturday, President Aristides Pereira of the Cape Verde arrived in Maputo for the state funeral.

With the Cape Verdean delegation was the widow of another murdered African hero — Ana Maria Cabral, widow of Amilcar Cabral, the leader of the Guinean and Cape Verdean liberation struggles, who was assassinated by Portuguese agents in 1973.

The vice-president of the Council of State of Cuba, Cde Jorge Risquet, and the vice-president of Nicaragua, Cde Sergio Ramirez, arrived late yesterday afternoon aboard the same plane.

An advance team from Zambia had arrived at midday led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Luke Mwananshiku.

Other delegations arrived from the Soviet Union led by Vice-President Cde B. A. Aliev and the Deputy Minister of Defence Cde E. F. Ivanovskii. Aboard the same plane was the Polish delegation.

The Congo, South Yemen and Yugoslav delegations also arrived yesterday.

Already in Maputo is a Zimbabwean advance party led by Minister of Information, Posts and Telecommunications, Cde Nathan Shamuyarira, Minister of Energy, Water Resources and Development, Cde Kumbirai Kangai and Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture Cde David Karimanzira.

Meanwhile Maputo yesterday was calm following a hectic Saturday in which thousands of Maputo residents filed past Cde Machel's coffin which lies in state at Maputo's City Hall.

Tomorrow Cde Machel will be buried near Cde Eduardo Mondlane, and his first wife, Josina Machel in the star-shaped monument in the Square of the Mozambican Heroes on the road from the city to the airport. — ZIANA-AIM-Tanjung.