

# Mozambicans Bury

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# Revolutionary Hero

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*Washington Post Service*

MAPUTO, Mozambique — Mozambicans buried their revolutionary hero Tuesday and vowed to build a prosperous socialist homeland on his dreams.

Tens of thousands of Mozambicans turned out in a chill rain to watch a caisson bearing the coffin of President Samora Machel as it was pulled behind an army tank to a place of honor commemorating the martyrs of the revolution.

There Mr. Machel, who died Oct. 19 at the age of 53 when his presidential jet crashed just inside the South African border, was interred before senior officials from around the world.

The final tribute to Mr. Machel was an emotional plea that reflected the deep personal bond that the president had established with his people through his charisma and close personal contact in the

streets, in factories and in farm fields turned brown by drought.

Major General Marcelino dos Santos, ranked second in Mr. Machel's ruling Frelimo party, wept during his eulogy at City Hall. Weeping women collapsed, and soldiers in camouflage battle fatigues wept openly.

"In the voices of our children — 'the flowers that never wither,' as you used to call them — your name shall be remembered with infinite tenderness," General dos Santos said. "Eternally you shall be Papa Samora."

Tracing the life of the farm boy from Gaza province who studied nursing in colonial Mozambique and then guerrilla warfare in Algeria and Tanzania, General dos Santos called Mr. Machel a "tireless fighter" who "feli in the struggle against apartheid."

It was an oblique reference to

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suggestions in the press in some black African nations that Mr. Machel may have been the victim of assassination by South Africa. No Mozambican official, however, has publicly blamed South Africa for bringing down Mr. Machel's plane, in which 33 other Mozambican and Soviet officials died.

"You always fought constantly against apartheid," General dos Santos said of Mr. Machel before a gathering of mourners that included Oliver Tambo and Joe Slovo, leaders of the African National Congress, the main guerrilla organization battling the white government in Pretoria. "You understood apartheid as a problem for all humanity because you perceived that what is at stake in South Africa is the very definition of humanity. You had a deep loathing for the racist system."

While noting the strain of the Marxist government's 10-year guerrilla war against rightist insurgents of the Mozambican National Resistance, General dos Santos pledged: "We swear that we shall build the Mozambique of your dreams, a developed and prosperous country, the socialist Mozambican motherland."

The official delegations of mourners ranged from Maureen Reagan, the daughter of the U.S. president, to Yasser Arafat, the

chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to Raúl Castro, the brother of the Cuban leader.

The Soviet Union was represented by Geidar A. Aliyev, first deputy prime minister and a Politburo member who is responsible for Soviet relations with Third World countries.

A center of attention was the Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, the former U.S. presidential contender who in August made a successful swing through the nations bordering South Africa and projected himself as a liaison between black Africa and U.S. public opinion.

When Mr. Jackson entered the public ceremony, Mr. Machel's widow, Graça, and about 50 other mourners rose in a display of respect. When he arrived later at the funeral he was mobbed by foreign journalists and photographers.

#### ■ Flight Recorder Feud

South Africa is resisting a Soviet demand that the flight recorder of the Soviet jet in which Mr. Machel was killed go to Moscow for decoding. Foreign Minister R.F. Botha said Tuesday as reported by Agence France-Presse in Pretoria.

At a news conference Mr. Botha said that South Africa had asked for the help of a U.S. expert in judging a Soviet contention that the flight recorder, commonly known as the "black box," could

for technical reasons be decoded only in Moscow.

Mr. Botha said that Pretoria wanted the decoding done somewhere else "in the interests of all countries involved."

In Moscow, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday that his government was willing to allow experts from the International Civil Aviation Organization to be present during the decoding of the flight recorder.