Zimbabweans shocked by death

Herald Reporter

THE death of Cde Samora Machel yesterday shocked many Zimbabweans, some of whom wept openly as hundreds turned out at Herald House grief-stricken to buy the late special edition of The Herald which gave the first detailed account of how Cde Machel died in the air crash.

Cde Joseline Mukupe said she was shocked to hear of Cde Machel’s death. “I started crying when I heard the news. It was now up to us to unite, Africa and the Organisation of African Unity should strive for unity to help counter South Africa’s aggression.” She then broke into tears.

“I admired Cde Machel for his courage and the way he freed his country. If I had money I would not have hesitated to fly to Maputo for his funeral,” said Cde Lazarus Mandipaza.

The tragic death of the Mozambican President saddened Cde Patrick Mdzikiza. “because I never thought he could die so young before seeing an end to the war that has ravaged his country. He fought hard for the independence of Zimbabwe and his own country. Had it not been for him we would never have achieved our independence.”

Mr Lyle Rew said he was shocked to hear the news. “I thought my friend was lying until I saw the headlines in your special edition. We have lost one of freedom’s greatest fighters.”

Cde Richard Rupiya said the death of Cde Machel was a great loss to the people of Mozambique, southern Africa and Africa as a whole.

“His death has come at the wrong time when he was struggling to eliminate the bandits destabilising Mozambique,” said Cde Joseph Kuzanga.