

Mozambican Newspaper Again Questions South African Role in Machel's Death

Harare home service in English 0600 gmt 1 Nov 86

Text of report (ME/8400/B/5):

The Maputo Daily newspaper 'Noticias' has once more questioned who was responsible for the death of the Mozambican president in an unexplained plane crash on 19th October. In an editorial entitled "Who Can Doubt", the paper points out that the Pretoria regime is responsible for destabilisation, sabotage, crime, terrorism, aggression and individual and collective acts of murder not only in South Africa but also in all the neighbouring countries. The paper says all the people of the region (?felt) the barbarity of the Pretoria regime and have experienced (?this) because of the criminal behaviour of a handful of unscrupulous individuals.

It says the enemies were not expecting the defeat they suffered when the use of Malawi in their plans of destabilisation and sabotage of the region (?particularly) of Mozambique was uncovered. The death of President Machel, the editorial continues, has been a tragic loss not only for Mozambique and Africa but for the entire international community because he was a consistent fighter for the cause of peace and progress. The editorial also says the enemies are deceived if they feel that with one man's death an entire well-founded political project can be destroyed. It adds that, on the contrary, it will (?make it) stronger and more cohesive.