

PIK BOTHA OPENS NEW SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE BUILDING

(a) Maputo home service in Portuguese 1730 gmt 25 Oct 88

Text of report (ME/0292 ii):

The South African Foreign Affairs Minister today officially inaugurated the new building of the South African trade mission in Maputo. Speaking on the occasion to hundreds of national and foreign guests, Roelof Botha said that the new installations show the intention to develop bilateral co-operation following the Nkomati accord of 1984.

Mozambican Co-operation Minister Jacinto Veloso represented the Mozambican government. He said that participation at the inauguration of the new trade mission building is in the spirit of the Nkomati accord, the recent meeting at Songo and of hope for greater stability in bilateral relations.

[Veloso recording] The People's Republic of Mozambique practises a firm policy of national independence, good-neighbourliness and non-alignment, seeking to create a climate of peace and stability for all countries in the region and for the peaceful resolution of ongoing conflicts.

Unfortunately, Mr Minister, forces and organisations with aims contrary to the aims of peoples and countries in this region continue to support and promote violent actions of terrorism and social and economic destabilisation, which hinders the normalisation of peoples' lives and normal relations between states. These forces must be neutralised for the sake of peace, co-operation and development for our peoples and countries. With this aim in mind, we will continue seeking solutions that will guarantee stability, good-neighbourliness and co-operation. We will go on working to ensure that the resources in our country and in other southern African countries will be valued and used for the priority benefit of each country and all people in our region without any discrimination, ever mindful of independence, democracy, co-operation and non-alignment. The spirit that characterised the Songo meeting gives us hope that we can work together to achieve those aims [end recording].

Jacinto Veloso expressed the desire that differences and obstacles separating the two countries might be eliminated through the consolidation of bilateral relations.

The following officials attended the ceremony as honoured guests Trade Minister Aranda da Silva, Labour Minister Aguiar Mazula, Deputy Transport Minister Isaias Muhate and Deputy Agriculture Minister Alfred Gamito.

The South African delegation, led by Roelof Botha, also included Manpower and Public Works Minister P.T. Du Plessis and Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Jacobus Meiring, and their wives. This morning, the South African delegation, which also included some relatives of the Afrikaner group that arrived in the then Bay of

Lourenco Marques in 1838, paid homage to the head of that group Louis Trichardt, who died exactly 150 years ago.

This afternoon, the South African delegation visited the installations to be used by the South African Trade Mission's workers. These installations are being built in Triunfo ward, near The Avenue, by the sea in Maputo. Shortly before leaving, South African Foreign Affairs Minister Roelof Botha was asked by Radio Mozambique whether South African support for the armed bandits would stop. He only replied that his country wanted peace.

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