

## **S African Air Raid on Maputo: 'Pravda' Holds US "Imperialism" Equally Responsible**

Tass in Russian for abroad 1141 (and in English 1522) GMT 23 May 83

Text of Maputo report (SU/7341/i)

South Africa's air force today made a barbarous raid on Maputo, the capital of the People's Republic of Mozambique. Speaking in Pretoria, Magnus Malan, Defence Minister of the apartheid regime, sought to link the bandit attack of the racist carrion vultures with the bomb explosion outside the building of the main headquarters of the South African Air Force in Pretoria. He cynically described this act of international brigandage as "retaliation" for actions of the African National Congress of South Africa which leads the struggle of the population of the RSA against the apartheid regime. In a bid to hold independent Mozambique and other "frontline states" responsible for the growing liberation movement of the population of the RSA, he threatened those states with an escalation of aggression. The ruling circles of the RSA and their overseas supporters thus intend to make "frontline" states in the south of Africa give up support for the national liberation movements in the region.

Our action against Mozambique reaffirms that the RSA is capable of launching strikes at any place and at any time it deems necessary, Malan boasted. He admitted that plans and targets for the bombing were "marked and reconnoitred long before". Thus the racist minister actually confirmed the close co-operation between the special services of the RSA and the USA. Security forces of the People's Republic of Mozambique are known to have discovered in March 1981 a CIA espionage network, which functioned under diplomatic cover in direct contact with the National Intelligence Service of the RSA. Six CIA men were caught collecting and transferring secret information which was used by the racials for subversive and terrorist acts against Mozambique. In their raids on the suburb of the capital, Matola, and the port of Beira, the racials and their agents used data received from the US embassy.

As the newspaper 'Noticias' reported, L. Oliver, second secretary of the US embassy in Mozambique personally collected information on the combat readiness of units of the Mozambique people's liberation forces and their deployment. (?Frederick Lundahl), CIA resident in Maputo who acted under the guise of second secretary of the embassy, made reconnaissance flights in his own plane over the suburbs of Maputo and Inhambane and delivered the data to his South African colleagues.

Under the far-fetched pretext of a "struggle against terrorists" the RSA is stepping up the undeclared war against neighbouring independent African states; armed provocation and terror against independent Africa and the South African people

is becoming a matter of state policy. It is the racist policy of the government of the RSA, where violence is an integral part of the apartheid system itself, that should be held responsible for events like the explosion in the centre of the South African capital, admitted Denis Hurley, Archbishop of Durban and President of the South African Catholic Bishops' Conference.

(c) Tass in Russian for abroad 0115 (and in English 0626) GMT 24 May 83

Text of 24th May 'Pravda' article attributed by the home service to Igor Tarutin:

'Pravda' describes the South African bandit air raid on Maputo as "a challenge to the peoples of the African continent and to the entire world community".

"The new aggressive act," 'Pravda' says, "is another in a long list of Pretoria's flagrant crimes against independent African states. The list includes repeated incursions into Angola, a lawless raid into Lesotho and provocations against Botswana and Zimbabwe. Mozambique has been raided quite a number of times already. The leaders of the apartheid regime, by heightening tension in the region, want to consolidate their shaken positions by force of arms, weaken the progressive African regimes, and make them abandon support for the African National Congress (ANC) which is struggling for the emancipation of the non-white population of the RSA."

Pretoria's violent pressure is also designed to secure that "frontline" states show "deference" over the question of Namibia, the newspaper points out.

The West has found in the RSA not only a partner for the plunder of the natural wealth of Namibia, 'Pravda' goes on. The forces of imperialism, above all US imperialism, regard the apartheid regime as a military fist which at their will could deliver blows at the independent countries of southern Africa. The racials do the dirty work of upholding the interests of imperialism. In exchange they get political and military aid and diplomatic cover for their acts of piracy. Thus, the USA has repeatedly used its veto in the UN Security Council to prevent the adoption of sanctions against the aggressors. The present Washington administration has proclaimed South Africa an ally and started close rapprochement with it. US support, the newspaper stresses, has untied the hands of the racials who are heading towards escalation of military adventures.

The brazen aggressiveness of the South African military, 'Pravda' says in conclusion has become a source of constant tension in the region. This leads to destabilization of the situation in southern Africa and creates a threat to peace and security. Responsibility for the resulting situation is equally borne by imperialism, above all US imperialism, and the racials of the RSA.

[Note: A report broadcast on Soviet television (1930 GMT 23 May 83) said that the SAAF aircraft in the raid were "French-produced Mirage fighter-bombers".]

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