

Zimbabwe rejects S Africa's "baseless" accusations Harare radio reported on 7th November that as part of its propaganda campaign South Africa had accused Zimbabwe and Mozambique of planning to overthrow the Malawian government. Such allegations, the radio said, were "baseless and unfounded". In the past, South Africa had made up similar charges against frontline states as an excuse to attack them. The radio said that earlier this week Prime Minister Mugabe had urged the frontline states not to sever links with Malawi but to continue to persuade the Malawian government "to change its stance on the political situation in southern Africa".

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The Pan-African agency on 7th November cited Mozambican Information Minister Teodato Hunguana as saying that the South African government was trying to divert the world's attention from the major question concerning southern Africa - that is, the cause of President Machel's death. The Minister said that the South African allegations were "a vulgar attempt to turn the victim into an accused, to turn the person who has been attacked into the attacker". He said that at the end of September South Africa had launched a major invasion by Mozambican rebels of Zambezia and Tete provinces in Mozambique from Malawian territory. He went on to say that "South Africa, after being accused of trying to install a puppet regime in Maputo through direct military intervention, now wishes to present itself as the defender of Malawi against an alleged Mozambican intervention. Mozambique's right to legitimate self-defence is thus transformed into an act of intervention."