

5. AFRICA

Messages of Condolence on Death of Samora Machel

China The message of condolence sent on 21st October to Mozambique leaders by Hu Yaobang, Li Xiannian and Zhao Ziyang said in part: As an outstanding leader of the Mozambican people, President Machel made great contributions in leading the Mozambican people in the struggle to gain and consolidate national independence; safeguard state sovereignty; develop the national economy; and fight imperialism, colonialism and South African apartheid. He also exerted persistent efforts to promote peace and co-operation in southern Africa and unity among the Third World nations. His death is a great loss for the Mozambican people and the Third World as well. President Machel was a respected old friend of the Chinese people. He always attached great importance to friendship and co-operation between the people of the two countries and worked for improvements. The Chinese people feel great grief over his death." (Xinhua in Chinese 0735 gmt 21 Oct 86)

North Korea Kim Il-sung sent a message on 21st October to Dos Santos, Secretary of the Permanent Commission of the Mozambique People's Assembly, saying: "Comrade Samora Moises Machel was an outstanding leader of the Mozambican people and a prominent political figure of Africa who devoted (his) life to the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racism and for the independence of the country and complete liberation of Africa from his early years. . . Comrade Samora Moises Machel was a reliable comrade-in-arms who, as a closest friend of the Korean people, made tireless efforts to strengthen and develop the fraternal relations of friendship and co-operation between the peoples of our two countries and actively supported and encouraged the Korean people's just cause of independent and peaceful reunification of the country." (KCNA in English 1529 gmt 21 Oct 86)

Kim Il-sung also sent a wreath to the Mozambican embassy in Peking. It was presented by Kim Yong-sop, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs (KCNA in English 1510 gmt 25 Oct 86). Kim Hwan, Secretary member of the Political Bureau of the KWP, left Pyongyang on 26th October to attend Machel's funeral (KCNA in English 1110 gmt 26 Oct 86).

India (Excerpt from report of message from Rajiv Gandhi) The Prime Minister has expressed his deep grief over the tragic death of President Samora Machel and has offered profound sympathy to the people of Mozambique on his own behalf and on behalf of the government and people of India. In a message, Mr Gandhi said that he has lost a good friend and Africa and the non-aligned world a dynamic leader. Paying tribute to President Samora Machel, the Prime Minister said through his courage and outstanding organisational ability he led Mozambique to freedom and guided its march to the modern age. . . (New Delhi home service in English 1530 gmt 20 Oct 86)

Indochina (Excerpt from message from Truong Chinh, General Secretary of the CPV Central Committee) Pham Van Dong, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Nguyen Huu Tho, Chairman of the National Assembly, sent the Mozambican leadership a message saying: "Comrade Samora Moises Machel's passing away is a great loss to the Mozambican people. The African people and the whole progressive mankind have lost a staunch revolutionary. The Vietnamese people have lost a close friend who had constantly cultivated the militant solidarity, friendship and co-operation between our two parties, governments and peoples." (VNA in English 1457 gmt 21 Oct 86)

The message from Kaysone Phomvihane, General Secretary of the LPRP Central Committee, and Souphanouvong, President of State, to the Mozambican leadership, said: "Comrade Samora Machel was a staunch and gallant revolutionary, respected and beloved leader of the Mozambique people, and a world-renowned politician. His passing away is a great loss to the party, government and people of Mozambique and to the fighting movements of nations for peace, national independence and social progress. In this prevailing atmosphere of sorrow, we would like to express our deep sadness and to share this profound grief with the Frelimo party, the government and the fraternal people of Mozambique, and the bereaved families." (Vientiane home service 0000 gmt 23 Oct 86).

The message from Heng Samrin, General Secretary of the KPRP Central Committee, Chea Sim, Chairman of the National Assembly, and Hun Sen, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, said: "President Samora Moises Machel's demise is a great loss not only for the Mozambican people and the peoples of frontline states in southern Africa, but also for the Cambodian people and all peace-and justice-loving peoples throughout the world." (SPK in French 0459 gmt 23 Oct 86).

Mongolia 'Unen' on 22nd October published a telegram of condolence from the MPRP Central Committee, the Presidium of the MPR People's Great Hural, and the MPR Council of Ministers to the Mozambique leadership in connection with the death of Samora Machel. "The telegram notes in particular that the bright memory of Machel, a glorious son of the Mozambican people and a noted figure in the cause of national and social liberation of peoples, will forever remain in the hearts of the Mongolian people." (Montsame in Russian 1430 gmt 22 Oct 86)