Chissano Delivers Eulogy for Mozambican Air Crash Victims

Maputo home service in Portuguese 0700 gmt 27 Oct 86

Excerpt from live relay of the eulogy for the victims of the 19th October 1986 aircraft crash, by the Frelimo Party Central Committee, Political Bureau, the People's Assembly Standing Commission, and the Council of Ministers; read by Joaquim Alberto Chissano, member of the Frelimo Party Central Committee Political Bureau, in Maputo:

Dear comrades and friends: The Mozambican nation mourns the passing away of our colleagues Luis Maria de Alcantara Santos, Jose Carlos Lobo, Aquino de Braganca, Lt-Col Fernando Honwana, Alberto Cangela de Mendonca, (?Muradali Muhammad Hussein), Joao Tomas Navesse, Yvette Lidia Luisa Amose, Osvaldo Fernando de Sousa, Bernardino Carlos dos Santos Chiche, Gulamo Khan, Maj Daniel Maquinasse, Capt Parente Francisco Manjate, Nacir Charamadane, Adao Gore Nhoca, Eduardo Viegas, Alberto Ernesto Chauque, Alibino Falteira, Jose Quivanhane, Azarias Ionguane, 2/Lt Fernando Lazaro Nhaquila, NCO Orlanda Garrine, Esmeralda Luisa, Sofia Francisco Arone, and Maria Ilda Carrao.

On behalf of the Frelimo Party Central Committee, Political Bureau, the People's Assembly Standing Commission, and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Mozambique, we would like to present our deepest and most sincere condolences to our dear colleagues' mourning families.

This sorrow is shared by all Mozambicans from Rovuma river to Maputo river. They feel your grief as mothers, fathers, spouses, children and brothers. We thank you for your love, tenderness, zeal, support and deomestic harmony, as well as your understanding of the tasks which so often took our dear colleagues from you. We are well aware of the immense importance of the happiness of these homes, that enabled our colleagues to dedicate all their energy, intelligence and work to their tasks as militants and patriots.

We bid farewell to colleagues whose lives enriched our own lives. They were colleagues who knew how to translate their love for the fatherland and the people into concrete action, arduous combat and fertile work.

Their example as militants, revolutionaries, freedom fighters, internationalists and patriots will forever remain alive in our memory. The work that they left and the fruits of the struggle for which they fought are already part of mankind's history. Their lives will forever remain engraved in the immortal pages of that great book which is the collective memory of our people. They will always be a constant source of inspiration to coming generations.

From Rovuma river to Maputo river, the hands of Mozambicans reach out to take up the weapons, which only death prevented our colleagues from continuing to hold firmly. We will all continue their struggle. We will be more united by their example, firmer by their courageous legacy, and more determined by the memory of the blood they shed. They will always be present in the heart of each one of us, in the heat of each new struggle we may fight, and in the exultation of all our victories. They made the fatherland. The fatherland will always make us [words indistinct].

The struggle continues.