
Mengistu says Machel died “at the hands of his enemies” (Excerpts) Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam today [22nd October] renewed Revolutionary Ethiopia’s unflinching and firm dedication to world peace, equality, freedom, justice, democracy and social progress by standing alongside all peace-loving peoples and forces. Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the WPE, Chairman of the PMAC and C-in-C of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, was speaking at the colourful Peace Torch reception ceremony at the Addis Ababa stadium. . . At the outset, Comrade Mengistu called on the gathering at the stadium to observe a minute of silence in memory of the late President Samora Machel and said the loss of Samora Machel, the select son of Africa, is a loss not only to the people of Mozambique alone, it is as well a loss to all anti-apartheid and anti-colonialist forces of the world. He further stressed what is most disturbing in addition to his tragic end is the fact that he, Machel, had fallen in the territory and at the hands of his enemies. There is no denying the fact - the fascist, racist, anti-people and anti-peace forces are expressing their joy over the death of Comrade Samora Machel, notwithstanding the fact that it would be temporary and short-lived, said Comrade Mengistu. (Addis Ababa in English for abroad 1530 gmt 22 Oct 86)