

Mandelas

send H. 29/10/86
condolences

MAPUTO.

JAILED African National Congress leader Cde Nelson Mandela and his wife Winnie were refused permission to attend the funeral of President Samora Machel in Mozambique.

In a message to the government and people of Mozambique yesterday the two freedom fighters said they had been saddened by the death of the Frelimo leader, who was buried in Maputo yesterday afternoon.

The message read: "Never before have we made application to leave South Africa. Today we believe that our place was to be with you physically. Each of us is

imprisoned in different jails. We were prevented from being present with you today, to share your sorrow, to weep with you, to lighten your grief and to hold you close.

"Your grief for Cde Machel is so deep that it tears away at heart. Throughout the night we have kept vigil with you. Throughout the day we shall mourn with you for a mighty soldier, a courageous son and noble statesman.

"We must believe that his death will strengthen

both your and our resolve to be finally free, for you victory over immoral surrogate bandits, for us victory over oppression.

"Our struggle has always been linked and we shall be victorious together. A caring world is with you. It cannot and will not fail you. With caring, with their support and legendary resolve, the people of Mozambique, you will emerge as victor."

The Pretoria government on Monday refused a visa to Albertina Sisulu, wife of the jailed ANC leader Walter Sisulu, to attend the funeral in

Maputo yesterday. Mrs Sisulu is a co-president of the anti-apartheid United Democratic Front.

Reports indicate that a number of South African trade unionists who would have wanted to come for the funeral were also refused visas. However, the ANC president Cde Oliver Tambo and his high-ranking lieutenants who are based in Lusaka attended the funeral of Cde Machel yesterday afternoon, together with Cde Sam Nujoma of Swapo and Yasser Arafat of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.