

S African spokesman dismisses accusations of complicity in crash (Text) Pretoria, 22nd October: The truth about the cause of the air disaster in which Mozambican President Samora Machel was killed on Sunday [19th October] would be established by the international investigation to be conducted soon, a spokesman for the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said today in reaction to accusations South Africa was to blame for the accident. The President of Zambia, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, the African National Congress and others have said they hold South Africa responsible. Mr Botha's spokesman said the minister had refused to even reply to inquiries on the accusations. Mr Botha "does not deem it fit to reply to such fabricated and unfounded allegations. The board of inquiry, being handled under international aviation rules with Soviet and Mozambican participation, will make its findings and the truth will come out", he said. It is understood the Russian aviation experts who will take part in the investigation are en route already and should arrive at the crash site, from Maputo, by tomorrow. (SAPA in English 1729 gmt 22 Oct 86)