

S African Foreign Minister denies Soviet charges over Machel crash Speaking in Madeira on 13th November, Pik Botha said, in connection with Soviet charges that Machel's plane had been diverted from its course by a South African transmitter, that "the Russians are obviously hiding behind the inadequacy of their obsolete equipment". In its report on Botha's comments, the South African agency said that South African officials had said that the equipment on the Soviet-built plane had been inadequate and that the crew had been drinking (details of the Soviet press conference concerning the crash are being published in SU/8416/i). 14/11/ 50