

B. AFRICA

ANC Presence in Mozambique: Naidoo and Zuma Statements

(a) Maputo in English for abroad 1100 gmt 9 Jan 87

(i) Text of report (ME/8460/ii):

A story published in a South African newspaper has quoted an ANC official in Maputo to the effect that the ANC office in Maputo is to be closed down. During last night's ceremony, the official in question, ANC public relations officer Comrade Naidoo, had this to say:

[Naidoo: recording] Comrades, it has come to our notice that the notorious newspaper called the 'Citizen' has carried what they termed as a rumour. They alleged that I made a statement in Mozambique saying that the ANC is closing its mission in Maputo. Comrades and friends, I deny ever making such a statement [applause]. It is nothing else but a blatant lie of the racist South African regime. I would like to appeal to Comrade (?Ndobe), who is here with us today, to carry this message to the comrade President Chissano, that I would never, ever in my life make such a statement [end recording].

(ii) Excerpts from recording of the speech by Jacob Zuma, member of the ANC National Executive Committee and chief representative of the ANC in Maputo, on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the ANC in Maputo on 8th January:

Seventy five years ago today, on 8th January 1912, a few hundred of the most prominent speakers among the oppressed people of our country assembled in Bloemfontein to form the African National Congress. Our movement's founding assembly congress took place two years after the establishment of the Union of South Africa. . .

The British act of parliament which established the Union and ignored the demands of the majority of our people and conceded rights of self-government exclusively to the white minority, the majority remained as they had been since the time of colonial conquest excluded from any participation in the governance of the land of their birth.

The year in which our movement was formed was also the year in which the government of Prime Minister Louis Botha published the notorious Land Act dividing land ownership on the racial basis. In this context, the founders of our great movement sought to organise our people to struggle for their rights and govern themselves and to live as free and equal men and women in the society free of racial discrimination.

[Announcer] In his speech, Mr Zuma also referred to the death of President Samora Machel.

[Zuma] This is the first ANC function in Maputo since the tragic death of Comrade President Samora Machel, and it is fitting to record the profound shock and sorrow which our people felt at the loss of this great son of Africa. In his own message on this occasion of our 75th anniversary, Comrade President Tambo said, and I quote, the late President of the People's Republic of Mozambique, Samora Moises Machel, and others who have been murdered by the Pretoria regime and its agents, will forever remain examples of that steadfast refusal of the peoples of the region to surrender to racial and colonial domination, fascist tyranny and state terrorism. Samora Machel was a towering child of the African revolution. He dedicated his life to our own liberation. His ideas and deeds are a material force in the struggle for our emancipation. The blood shed on our soil is and will forever be a fountain of freedom for all our people, end quote [applause].