

**Station Comments**

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[Commentary by Machado da Graca]

[Text] Evo Fernandes, the missing bandit ringleader, has turned up dead, according to news agencies, shot in the head. Since Sunday his wife had been making all kinds of statements to the Portuguese press about the disappearance of her husband. She began by talking of a dinner Evo was to have with a certain Alexandre Chagas, who she considered an agent of SNASP [People's National Security Service]. She went on to mention a meeting her husband was to hold with Mozambican Government representatives. She even affirmed that Evo (?then believed to be alive) was already in Maputo. In other versions of statements by Mrs Fernandes, she spoke about (?her husband's trips) that (?took him) through Spain and Algeria. (Yvette Fernandes) also accused the group's wing based in Washington, affirming that, and we quote: They have never liked my husband and there were always threats, unquote.

Luis Serapiao, the bandits' representative in the United States, immediately denied any involvement. He also took the opportunity to explain that this was definitely another invention of Evo Fernandes, who had made up many stories in the past. He recalled that one time Evo said that someone had planted a bomb in his car. This later proved to be one of his inventions.

Not even Evo's Lisbon colleagues gave much credit to Mrs Fernandes' statements. Manuel Frank, who is the current bandit representative in Lisbon, told the Portuguese agency LUSA that his organization did not suspect that Alexandre Chagas was a Mozambican agent. He did, however, find it strange that if Evo Fernandes was going to hold meetings with Mozambican representatives, he had not told him about it beforehand.

The denial today by Major General Bonifacio Gruveta, who, according to Mrs Fernandes, was to be the Mozambican Government representative in the negotiations, further clarifies the position of the Maputo Government. Bonifacio Gruveta was in Beira last Sunday, accompanying a delegation from the Democratic Republic of Yemen. He has not left the country since last September.

As Pascoal Mocumbi said in a recent meeting with African ambassadors in Maputo, it is not Frelimo policy to commit terrorism. Therefore let us leave terrorism for the terrorists, so that they can kill each other. We will all benefit from that.