



# committee for a FREE MOZAMBIQUE

616 WEST 116TH STREET

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10027

November 18, 1970

Dear Friend of Mozambique:

We have received your heartwarming response and in solidarity with the liberation struggle in Mozambique, under the leadership of FRELIMO, we welcome you to the Committee for a Free Mozambique. We have been overwhelmed by the number of responses and notes of encouragement that have come in. The solidarity expressed is indeed gratifying.

From the contributions we have received, we are continuing to make our monthly donation to the maintenance of the FRELIMO office here in the U.S. and we have also contributed a check directly to FRELIMO through Jorge Rebelo, Secretary of Information, and Armando Guebuza, Deputy Secretary of Education, both members of the FRELIMO Central Committee who arrived in the U.S. on November 12th for a brief visit. We will be sending you a more detailed financial statement on a regular basis in the near future.

Rebelo and Guebuza are deeply grateful and encouraged by your support effort for the struggle in Mozambique. While they were here, we had the opportunity to meet with them and ask them how we could best support FRELIMO from the U.S. They stressed that for expediency, money is the most useful and direct aid. However, they also gave us a detailed list of materials and equipment that the Party needs and did not discourage the sending of material support to FRELIMO. We hope to make this list available to you in the next mailing. Finally, they requested the Committee for a Free Mozambique take on two specific tasks: the production and distribution of (1) a FRELIMO poster, and (2) a FRELIMO button. The posters and buttons will be for distribution both in the U.S. and in Mozambique. We hope that you will be interested in distributing them as well.

The representative of FRELIMO in the U.S. and to the U.N., Mr. Sharfudine M. Khan, is willing to take out-of-town speaking engagements. If you and your group(s) are interested, please fill out the enclosed form and return to S. M. Khan, FRELIMO Office, 1133 Broadway, Rm. 341, New York, N.Y., or call (212) 242-1333. Mr. Khan asks for a minimum of \$100 honorarium plus expenses, if this is possible. If it is not, please communicate directly with him.

On November 5th, members of CFM in New York organized and took part in a demonstration against the President of Gulf Oil, R.B. Dorsey, who was speaking at Columbia University Business school in the hopes of recruiting business school graduates to work for Gulf Oil. Mr. Dorsey spoke on the "Social Responsibility of American Corporations" and we felt this was particularly

contradictory in view of Gulf's presence in Cabinda, Angola and its current concession in Mozambique. The speech and demonstration were covered by the press, in the New York Times and the Daily News on Friday, Nov. 6th.

Again we welcome you to the Committee for a Free Mozambique and thank you for your demonstrated support. We hope you will continue your efforts to build the movement for a Free Mozambique in this country. We will keep you informed and up to date.

VENCEREMOS,

Committee for a Free Mozambique

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COMMITTEE FOR A FREE MOZAMBIQUE - - - News and Notes, No. 1., 11/70

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF FRELIMO on SEPTEMBER 25

(excerpts from the Message to the Mozambican People, FRELIMO Militants and the fighters of the People's Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique delivered by the President of FRELIMO, Comrade Samora M. Machel on the 25th of September, 1970.)

Comrades,

Six years of war is not a long time nor a short time; we are not at the beginning, but there is a great deal to do before we reach the end. We have shown that we cannot be beaten, but we still have to prove that we can force a victory. A mango does not become a great tree in its first day, but like a growing mango tree, we are deeply rooted in the soil that is our people, and the masses are now tasting the first fruits.

We have come a long way, from division, uncertainty and ignorance. We started with nothing and we have turned ourselves into a nation; a nation where before there were tribes. Fighters have sprung from the sons of peasants, workers and labourers, from the mines and plantations. From illiteracy we have made schools, from sickness, hospitals. Where before forced labour reigned, cooperatives are growing; production, which was once a means of exploiting the people has now become the people's strength.

Of all the things we have done, the most important, the one that history will record as the principal contribution of our generation, is that we understood how to turn the armed struggle into a Revolution; that we realised that it was essential to create a new mentality in order to build a new society.

And all this cost blood. This is why comrades have died to free the land, comrades died so that chains should fall from the people, comrades died so that cooperatives and schools and hospitals could be born, comrades died so that no one in our midst should hate the new world we have created.

This is why, in speaking of the 25th September, we speak also of those who fell, sacrificing themselves so that the revolution should be a reality. And we speak also of EDUARDO CHIVAMBO MONDLANE who, with his inspired foresight, above all understood and absorbed the need for Revolution and for this reason was so hated by the enemy.

The sixth year of the war was above all the YEAR OF REVOLUTION, that is the year in which the militants and the masses accepted the necessity of radically transforming the socio-economic structures of Mozambique and the vital importance of eliminating old ideas in order to create a new mentality. The year in which the revolution grew deep roots among the leaders, the militants and the people.

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Other essential facts characterised the changes we undertook. In the midst of the Mozambique People's Liberation Forces (F.P.L.M.), the level of political consciousness of the fighters was raised to the point at which they were able to understand the fundamental meaning of enemy action. One of the decisive factors in the defeat of Kaulza Arriaga's counter-offensive during the dry season, was the ability of our fighters and cadres to take in the real meaning of enemy plans and to detect its strategic orientation. The enemy plans were then shown up to the masses and the Portuguese army was turned into mince-meat by our weapons, its advance was transformed into a bloody fight.

. . . . The second characteristic of our present situation is the political maturity of the people in the liberated areas who are really taking the tasks of the struggle into their own hands, becoming the real creative force in their own history, the sea in which the enemy has drowned. The enemy showed clearly that by acting against the fundamental interests of the people - and that was the real meaning of the action let loose last May - it acted like an earthworm penetrating an ant heap. By attacking the liberated zones the Portuguese army turned itself into an enormous target for the combined attacks of the armed people and the F.P.L.M.

This close co-operation between the F.P.L.M. and the people is the proof and the result of the complete unity between FRELIMO and the masses, of the close relations between the rank and file and the leadership. . . . At this level we want to emphasise the great importance of the selection of women for top leadership positions and for the higher tasks of the Party and the F.P.L.M. This last fact is a good sign of the success achieved in the promotion of women and while much remains to be done in this direction, it is clear that we are on the right road. . . .

Our victories have contributed to making our struggle better known abroad. . . . The major defeats they /the Portuguese/ suffered in the last year justifies their concern. From the 25th September last year to the middle of August this year, about 2,000 Portuguese soldiers were killed in action, 5 aeroplanes and 2 helicopters were shot down by our forces, more than 300 military vehicles of all types were destroyed, 64 bases and military posts were attacked by our fighters and wholly or partially destroyed. . . .

The task of this seventh year is determined by the situation and by our objective. . . . At this level our main task is to make FRELIMO more and more into the organised vanguard of the people. For the formation of this vanguard our action must increase vigorously in various sectors. . . . In the creation of a new mentality the militant must be in his behaviour and ideas, the beacon that guides the people. . . . Relying on the People and learning with them, submitting ourselves to the fire of criticism and practice, we will build a true vanguard; every militant must learn to combine constantly the 3 golden rules of conduct: study, production, combat. . . .

In foreseeing the development of the colonial and imperialist

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aggression against us, we must tighten still more our relations with the people. The fighters, as the crocodile does, must draw the enemy into the water that is the people, and there on our strong ground, surrounded by the people, the enemy is condemned to destruction.

In order to do this, our people, who have already grasped the revolutionary dimension of our struggle must now, faced with the imperialist threat, grasp the strategic and economic dimension of our country, which in the last analysis explains the imperialist attitude toward us.

. . . . In order to face up better to the threat hanging over us, in order to mobilise even further the energies of our people, we must destroy the very base of colonial and imperialist domination in our country. We want, so to speak, to prevent the struggle being circumscribed in this or that province; it must be extended to the whole country to reach the enemy's most sensitive and vulnerable centres. Against colonialist and imperialist aggression in Mozambique the immense fire of a people's war must spread throughout the whole country. . . . We are not isolated in our war. We assure all of them /the progressive peoples and forces throughout the world/ that our struggle will be spread even further and that our people will accept more completely their national and international responsibilities, in this way providing their concrete contribution to the common struggle.

. . . . A LUTA CONTINUA! INDEPENDENCIA OU MORTE VENCEREMOS!

(excerpts taken from the Message attached to the MOZAMBIQUE REVOLUTION Official organ of FRELIMO, July-September, 1970, No. 44).

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#### THE PORTUGUESE OFFENSIVE

An Analysis printed in GUERRILHEIRO, the Bulletin of the Committee for Freedom in Mozambique, Angola and Guine, Issue No. 2, September - October, 1970, 531 Caledonian Road, London N. 7., ENGLAND

There has been extensive publicity in the Western press about the large Portuguese offensive in Cabo Delgado and Niassa. However, prior to this there had been numerous warning signs that such an operation was imminent - the appointment of guerilla expert Kaulza de Arriaga as Military Commander /of Mozambique/, a tremendous influx of new troops and heavy equipment - and FRELIMO was thus well prepared. According to the Portuguese High Command 35,000 troops were mobilised, including corps of "cacadores especiais" (special hunters) rather similar to marines, and considerable air support - jet fighters, bombers, reconnaissance planes and helicopters. The Portuguese claimed to have captured "dozens" of bases, tons of weapons and to have killed "hundreds" of fighters, but their own admitted losses cast a different light on the picture. They announced the deaths of 211 soldiers during May, June and July, a staggering figure when it is considered that less than 100 casualties have been admitted during any one previous year

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in Mozambique. (Deaths due to mining operations are never included but are attributed to accidents.)

The fact that the Portuguese should consider it necessary to launch this onslaught in Mozambique at this time is confirmation that they are very concerned about their deteriorating position. Since 1964, their claims that they are only fighting "small bands of foreign terrorists" have become more and more discredited as FRELIMO forces have gradually consolidated their position and pushed forward their front lines. At the same time the international campaign against Portuguese colonialism has been gathering momentum, culminating in the current Cabora Bassa campaign. It can hardly be coincidental that the offensive was undertaken at about the same time as the Rome Conference. It was obviously intended to have the dual function of ending the war "once and for all" as widely claimed by Portuguese military leaders, and also demonstrating to the outside world that the situation was well in hand and Mozambique was a secure and stable country for foreign investment. . . . .

AND MOZAMBIQUE REVOLUTION WAR REVIEW comments on the Portuguese offensive (Issue No. 44, July-September, 1970).

. . . . . This offensive was extremely important to FRELIMO but not in the way the Portuguese anticipated. It was important because it constituted the first real test for us, and we were able to face up to that test. It revealed the level of development of our struggle, how solid our organization is, how high is the fighting spirit of our fighters and our people. The fact that we were able to confront 35,000 Portuguese soldiers (more than half the Portuguese army in Mozambique) equipped with the most modern weapons and with the constant support of a strong air force, demonstrates that our struggle has reached a stage where it can no longer be defeated, that our people are absolutely determined to defend at all costs our revolutionary achievements and march on to new fronts. What was wrong with the Portuguese "show of force" was that it completely ignored the determination of our people, our determination to be free. . . . .

(FRELIMO shot down one jet fighter (Fiat G-91), two helicopters, and 2 reconnaissance planes, sabotaged one train, destroyed dozens of Portuguese military vehicles. "Almost all of the Portuguese contingents have been repelled, and our position in the liberated areas remains unchanged, our advance to new zones proceeds.")

(excerpts from MOZAMBIQUE REVOLUTION, "War Review", No. 44, 7-9/70)

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JOIN THE COMMITTEE FOR A FREE MOZAMBIQUE. For more information, write

COMMITTEE FOR A FREE MOZAMBIQUE  
616 West 116th Street  
New York, New York 10027

COMMITTEE FOR A FREE MOZAMBIQUE

We would be very interested in having Mr. Shafrudine Kahn speak to:

\_\_\_\_\_ (Group)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Contact person)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Address & phone)

This form should be returned to Mr. Shafrudine Kahn, Room 341, 1133 Broadway, New York, N.Y. Interested groups are reminded that \$100 honorarium plus expenses is expected.

Please note that because of time limitations speaking engagements are tentative.

PLEDGE/CONTRIBUTION CARD

I am pledging \_\_\_\_\_ a month to the Committee for a Free Mozambique and will do what I can to further its aims. I look forward to receiving news of the Committee's work.

I cannot pledge now, but am making a contribution of \_\_\_\_\_ to the Committee for a Free Mozambique. I will do what I can to further the Committee's aims. Please keep me informed.

I cannot send any money now, but I will do what I can to support the Committee's aims. Please keep me informed.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

On the back of the card, please list the names and addresses of friends who you think might want to support the work of the Committee for a Free Mozambique.