

STATEMENT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

The President of FRELIMO, Comrade Eduardo Chivambo Mondlane, was assassinated on the 3rd February, 1969. This brutal death has put a physical end to the life of a brother, a fighter, and of a man unequalled in stature in the history of the people of Mozambique. This criminal act, perpetrated by treacherous means, deprives the Mozambican people and FRELIMO of their leader and enlightened guide, of the dedicated and courageous militant who throughout his life was the embodiment of the dignity and the fighting spirit of the Mozambican people.

It is still difficult for us to weigh our loss by this untimely death; it is still difficult to digest the totality of his action in the creation, the structuring, the fermentation and the elaboration of Mozambican Nationalism.

But the brilliant marks of his bright trajectory among us can be found in every militant, in every structure, in every political principle, in each part of the whole which FRELIMO and the Struggle for Liberation are today. In every portion of the whole he taught us to build, and to overcome our ethnic and regional differences, our various religious and cultural horizons, in order to make Mozambique a Nation with FRELIMO its avant-garde

Because Eduardo Mondlane knew how to embrace completely his destiny of Liberator, as a living symbol of unity, the builder of a community; as the Inheritor of the traditional African culture; the man who fought against cultural alienation in our country; and principally as the man of our time, able to put our country on the path of social progress and to establish its place in the world.....

Because his destiny was helped by his exceptional gifts of honesty, courage and frankness, by his enormous capacity for work and organisation, by his clear understanding of the nature of our country and our Struggle.

Today, the Struggle for Liberation extends throughout one third of our country; large regions are free from colonial domination where the people are building a new life. The total situation in our country is characterised by the continuous extension of the armed struggle to larger and larger regions; an armed struggle which is a people's war and a prolonged war, an irresistible stream able to sweep out of our country all the vestiges of the colonialist and imperialist domination.

President Eduardo Chivambo Mondlane was the man of this struggle, assimilating completely the political and ideological exigencies of the people's war, he affirmed himself as the ardent defender of the interests of the great masses of

the Mozambican people. In this combat he taught us how to define clearly the essential objectives of our struggle, and how to know the real enemies -- which are the colonial domination and the exploitation of man by man, as well as tribalism, regionalism, and racialism; he taught us that it is necessary to place the principal emphasis of our struggle on the fight against all exploiters, independent of their colour, to distinguish the fundamental from the secondary, and to direct against the real target, the fire of our weapons.

President Mondlane was the active fighter for African Solidarity, making Mozambique an integral part of militant Africa, and in particular a part of the armed struggle of the people of Portuguese colonies and of the whole of Southern Africa. It was for this reason that his death was felt in our Continent as a loss not only for FRELIMO and the Mozambican people, but for the whole of Africa.

The racist regimes of white domination established in the South of our Continent whose aim is to exploit our people and our riches with the active complicity of world imperialism, found in him a resolute adversary who threatened the foundations of their domination. Cahora Bassa delenda est --- with which he galvanised the FRELIMO fighters for the destruction of the big imperialist economic project which was aimed at perpetuating the domination of our people. In that way, the forces of capitalist oppression became clearly aware of the defeat to which their neo-colonialist activities are doomed.

President Eduardo Mondlane was thus the builder of the new Mozambique which already lives in large regions of our country and affirms herself in the militant consciousness of our people. He was the incarnation of the revolutionary nationalism of the Mozambican people.

This was the meaning of his life, and this is the meaning of his murder. This is the heavy heritage of courage, honesty and fight which falls upon us. This is the immortal image of the leader and comrade who will remain among us beyond the disappearance of the physical things which were part of him and which we had learned to love.

The Central Committee of FRELIMO, by expressing its absolute determination to continue the armed struggle for national liberation against colonialism and imperialism within the lines clearly drawn up by the Second Congress of FRELIMO, is certain that it interprets completely the significance of the exemplary life and the death of President Eduardo Mondlane.

The Central Committee of FRELIMO, as well as all militants and the Mozambique People, will know how to dry their tears and transform the hatred against his murder into the burning fire which will destroy oppression and will lighten the construction of the Free Mozambique.

Thus we will merit the legitimate pride which made our Comrade President Mondlane say after the Second Congress:

"I can now die happy, because I know that the revolution will continue...."

LONG LIVE THE UNFORGETTABLE MEMORY OF PRESIDENT MONDLANE!
A LUTA CONTINUA.... INDEPENDENCIA OU MORTE, VENCEREMOS!

The Central Committee 21st April, 1969.