

Comrade President Samora Machel



**WHY
DOES
SOUTH
AFRICA
ATTACK
US ?**

Below SECHABA publishes an extract from the address given by Comrade President Samora Machel at the Non-Aligned Summit.

What does it mean when Pretoria talks of ANC bases?

Those bases are inside South Africa itself:

- * they are in Soweto when the Pretoria regime marches forward with all its military and police apparatus against schoolchildren;
- * they are in every township of South Africa;
- * each black family is an ANC base;
- * each black man, woman and child is an ANC base;

Hence,

- * The Pretoria regime goes to Mozambique and attacks the residences of refugees;
- * it attacks Maseru, Lesotho;
- * in Maputo it murders a prestigious South African lady intellectual and scientist.

When South Africa sees ANC bases everywhere and acts this way we can understand why: all those who oppose apartheid, be they White or Black, Coloured or Indian, are bases, subject to attack by the Pretoria regime.

Apartheid is the nazism of our times.

Yesterday, when Hitler's nazi beast raised its ugly head in Europe and threatened to enslave the world, the whole of mankind stood up and fought a full scale war until the beast's complete destruction.

Today, when the nazi-fascist beast raises its head in Southern Africa and threatens the independent African states

there is only the guilty silence of many western countries. Why?

The homes of black families are arbitrarily turned into prisons and their bedrooms turned into cells by a simple banning order issued by the racist regime.

Citizenship is withdrawn from Blacks, their right to residence is withdrawn, they are expelled from the cities and their homes are razed to the ground with bulldozers.

South African prisons are experimental laboratories of torture, where people are murdered by the racist police, who thereafter issue a death certificate of suicide.

This is the South Africa which presents itself as the defender and bastion of western civilisation in the region.

This is the South Africa of the massacres in Sharpeville, Gugulethu, Langa, Soweto, where hundreds of South Africans are murdered indiscriminately for the simple reason that they demonstrated against the daily humiliation of apartheid.

This is the South Africa which imperialism considers to be its strategic and natural ally.

This is the South Africa which wages an undeclared war against the People's Republic of Mozambique.

Madam Chairman,

Racist South Africa recruits thieves, delinquents, drug addicts, murderers, hoodlums, whom it trains, arms, equips, finances, leads and infiltrates in the People's Republic of Mozambique.

These elements are trained in South African military bases as an integral part of the South African army. How do they act?

- * they attack and burn down villages, steal the villager's food and livestock;
- * they burn down schools, murder teachers and kidnap pupils;

- * they destroy hospitals and murder the medical staff;
- * they attack and burn down stores;
- * they blow up railways and mine roads;
- * they attack passenger trains and buses;
- * they destroy fuel tanks and cut down power lines;
- * they destroy tractors, trucks and other means of production;
- * they attack economic development projects, and kidnap foreign technicians from various countries;
- * they kidnap, rape and kill the wives and daughters of the peasants;
- * they kidnap nuns. They kidnap missionaries;
- * they spread terror among the people cutting off ears, tongues and breasts.

These are the armed bandits who attack Mozambique and other countries of the region. It is this extension of the South African army that is presented as the opposition to the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique. It is these bandits that imperialism presents to the world as the opposition to the people's revolutionary regime.

Why does South Africa attack us?

South Africa attacks us in the name of Western civilisation, in the name of the fight to check communist penetration.

This destabilizing action is systematically extended to all the independent states of the region. This action is aimed at breaking down means of communications due to their strategic importance for the development of the region. It is aimed at disrupting the activities of the members of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) and at frustrating the efforts to create a system of regional economic cooperation which would free our countries from economic dependency on South Africa.

The world knows only what is published by international news agencies based in South Africa. But our Movement must know the real situation of the region.

South Africa has selected a part of its Armed Forces, baptized it as the Lesotho Liberation Army and infiltrated it in this country to carry out acts of terrorism and sabotage. The actions of this operational detachment are complemented by the direct and overt intervention of South Africa's regular forces. Proof of that are the recent massacre of refugees in Maseru and the blowing up of fuel tanks.

In Zimbabwe also, through armed bandits, South Africa carries out destabilisation, sabotage, terror, and directly uses economic blackmail.

Zambia, Botswana and Swaziland are not exempted from such actions by South Africa.

Seychelles, more than three thousand miles away from South Africa is subjected to repeated onslaughts of mercenaries sent by the apartheid regime.

South Africa justifies these actions by pretending to be under threat from the neighbouring states. But what is it really that threatens South Africa? The independence of the states of the region, freedom and dignity of the people, the alternative anti-racial civilisation which evolves in the region, that is the real threat to apartheid.

Our schools, attended by children of all races and religious creeds free of charge; our hospitals where people of all colours receive free medical care; our development projects which will eliminate hunger and poverty; the building of a nation in which there is no room for racism tribalism and all forms of discrimination; that is the example which South Africa fears.