EDUARDO MONDLANE

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DR. EDUARDO MONDLANE, President of the Liberation
Front of Mozambique (FRELIMO), who was assassinated on
February 3, first came to public attention when he was expelled
from South Africa in 1948 whilst studying at Witwatersrand Uni-
versity. The reasons for his expulsion were his activity as member of the
African National Congress Youth League and in particular his
leading role in the formation of the African Students’ Association
at the University.

Later Dr. Mondlane was thrown amongst revolutionary students
in Lisbon and Paris. He completed his studies and became Professor
of Sociology at Syracuse University, New York. There he met and
married an American girl, Janet. They had three children.

Later he worked in the United Nations where he did much to
expose conditions in the Portuguese colonies in hearings before the
Trusteeship Committee.

In 1962, he abandoned teaching to assume leadership of the
Mozambique revolution, after three clandestine Mozambican
organisations—UDENAMO, UNAMI and MANU—were fused
into a single organisation—the Mozambique Liberation Front
(FRELIMO).

Under the leadership of Dr. Mondlane, FRELIMO has liberated
one-fifth of the country and at present FRELIMO’s fighting force
is 15,000 strong. The liberated areas have seen the translation of the
political and economic ideas of FRELIMO in action: an elaborate
structure of democratic organs of self-government have been set up
in all the liberated areas; an intensive educational programme has
been embarked upon and agricultural changes are bringing in
increased production to the peasants who enthusiastically support
the revolution.

Little wonder that the Portuguese authorities, and their secret
police—PIDE—in particular, described him as Portugal’s most
wanted man. There is little doubt who his murderers are. But if
they think that the struggle in Mozambique will be halted because
of the death of this people’s leader, then they are in for a rude shock.
The fighting people of Mozambique have been steeled in struggle
and they will avenge the death of their leader in the battlefield.