The National Liberation Movements

colonial administration and the Portuguese colonists, jealous of their privileges, are set on keeping an iron-clad regime over the country, by multiplying the arrests, the torture, and the massacres, unworthy of a ‘Christian’ nation.

The Eternal in His plenitude, in His goodness and His mercy, has created man so that he may live freely. In the Bible there is no verse permitting the domination and the exploitation of man by man.

To the Portuguese People
FRELIMO

Resolution of First Congress of FRELIMO held in Dar es Salaam on 23-28 September 1962.

In these grave hours in the history of Mozambique, FRELIMO turns to you. The Mozambican people, inspired by profoundly human sentiments of freedom, dignity, and justice, is firmly decided to struggle, if necessary with the holocaust of its own life, for the conquest of national independence. The Portuguese government, extending its tentacles, maintains a fierce oppression of the people of our country. Our people continue to be obliged to do forced labour. The fascist colonial government of Portugal pursues its policy of expropriating our lands and exploiting the labour of our people. The benefits of this exploitation go only to Portuguese colonialist circles.

To try to destroy our love of liberty, your government does not hesitate to massacre the Mozambican people: Mueda in June 1960 and Xinavane in February 1961 are deeds of barbaric reaction by the colonial fascist government to the legitimate aspirations of our people.

Nonetheless, not only Mozambique, but also Angola, Guinea, Cape Verde, S. Tome e Principe desire to be free and independent. It was to try to stifle the will of the Angolan people to be independent that the government led by Mr. Salazar launched a war in Angola. But the Angolan people did not succumb and will not succumb, nor will the Guinean people. On the contrary, colonialist repression leads only to an ever stronger reaction on the part of the collective peoples of Mozambique, Angola, ‘Portuguese’ Guinea, Cape Verde, and S. Tome e Principe.

On the other hand, the situation of the Portuguese government in the international arena is one of almost total isolation, supported totally only by the fascist governments of South Africa and Spain. In effect, a horrified world conscience is reacting against the barbaric actions perpetrated by the Portuguese in Angola and now in ‘Portuguese’ Guinea. FRELIMO declares today it will not be responsible for any loss of Portuguese life or property as a result of the potential conflict that the Portuguese government is creating between the African and Portuguese peoples in Mozambique.

The Mozambican people hope, therefore, that the Portuguese people will
assume, in this conflict which opposes the Mozambican people and the fascist colonial Portuguese administration, a position worthy of its noble democratic traditions, and help to keep war from breaking out in Mozambique.

To the Mozambican People
FRELIMO

Proclamation of 25 September 1964.

Mozambican People
In September 1962 the Congress of the Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO) affirmed unanimously the will and determination of the Mozambican people to fight by any and all means for the achievement of their National Independence.

During the past two years FRELIMO never ceased to work for the attainment of that goal.

FRELIMO tried, through peaceful means, to convince the colonial-fascist government of Portugal to give satisfaction to the fundamental political demands of the Mozambican people.

FRELIMO constantly made known to Pan-African, Afro-Asian and world organizations the situation in which the Mozambican people live, and denounced the crimes of colonialism in Mozambique.

As a result, not only the Mozambican people, but also the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations and, in general, world public opinion condemned the criminal policy of the Portuguese government.

In spite of this, Portuguese colonialism continues to dominate our country. The richness of our country and the work of the Mozambican people continue to be exploited by the Portuguese colonialists and their imperialistic allies.

Our brothers are daily murdered for participating actively in the struggle for the liberation of our country. The prisons are full of patriots, and those who are still free live in uncertainty of what the next day will bring.

The PIDE increases the number of its agents, and perfects its methods of torture. The Portuguese army is being reinforced and constantly increases its potential in men and war material; and the 'Psycho-Social' continues its campaign of deceiving the Mozambican people.

FRELIMO always carried on its work in order to assume completely its responsibilities as the leader of the revolution of the Mozambican people.

Therefore, concurrent with its peaceful efforts, FRELIMO prepared itself to face the eventuality of an armed struggle.

Today, faced with the constant refusal of the Portuguese government to recognize our right to independence, FRELIMO again declares that armed