MPs grieve over death of Machel

A ZANU (PF) backbencher, Cde Rudo Mungwashu, sank weeping into her seat in the Assembly yesterday as she ended an emotional tribute to the late President Samora Machel.

Cde Mungwashu (Murewa North) was speaking on the motion lamenting the death "in circumstances that leave much to be desired" of the Mozambican president.

"He wanted to put an end to the slavery in Africa," said Cde Mungwashu, speaking with difficulty

as she fought against tears.

Cde Henry Pote (Zanu-PF, Chiredzi North) said there could be no question that Cde Machel was killed by South Africa's apartheid system.

Cde Shuvai Mahofa (Zanu-PF, Gutu South) said Cde Machel's death was like "lightning in a thunder-storm which cracked in the Zimbabwe people's brains and left them unconscious".

Cde Idah Mashonganyika (Zanu-PF, Glen View) said Cde Machel was respected and "feared by all the white people". She said those who killed Cde Machel thought that by getting rid of him, they would end the turmoil they were experiencing. They did not realise that by killing him they were creating greater turmoil.