

SPEECH BY EDUARDO MONDLANE

Brothers in the Fight,

We are very proud of seeing you again together in this hall. We saw you here yesterday-holiday, you are here again now after a long day's work. Your presence alone shows how much you are interested in the fight against colonialism. It shows that nothing will stop you from moving ahead. The people of Africa and Mocambique specially wanted to keep going.

We pray you to keep that spirit going because you will need it to continue the fight for the freedom of your country.

To day's session is most important to the history of our country. I don't think there was ever, in the whole history of our country a day in which people met in exile, to try and found the future of their own country. We should feel proud of participating in this history making movement. We are here to establish the basis of our action in the struggle towards the freedom of our country.

For a number of years our people back in Mocambique had been wondering why our young men our young women were not going to try and get their country free. People were also wondering in many parts of the world. Of course, those of us who were active knew otherwise.

Since the Portugal took our country, about a hundred years ago, we have a long history of the struggle of freedom fighters. Many of our granfathers remember the tough and struggles when Portugal conquered our country and when most european countries shared between them our continent. More recently, many of you know individuals who have been murdered and killed because they rose against the petty power of Portugal. Some died fighting directly through political action. Others have been killed in labor strikes or labor organisations by which they resisted against their exploitation by european imperialism. Even to-day, we receive reports of thousands of people who have been put in prison because of their stand against colonialism in Mocambique. In a few years, we have seen the development of organisations such as political parties back and outside in Mocambique. Only about three months ago a number of this political parties united into one movement, the only one to this date: **THE MOCAMBIQUE LIBERATION FRONT**. This organisation called this conference.

In the past, there may have been some confusion due to the divided forces of Portugal but now we are sure our unity with the people of Africa will destroy colonial imperialism. And that unity has crystallized itself now into this powerful movement called the **MOCAMBIQUE LIBERATION FRONT**. Some of you probably have doubts as to our capacity to unite. Your participation to this movement is a link with the millions of

people now under the boot of Portuguese colonialism, with the thousands in prison, with those, ready to move, with the spirit of the people who died in the mines, with all those suffering. You are united to the people of South Africa and South Rhodesia who only a few days ago were preventing from organising political action. You know you are joining the people from every part of Africa and every part of the world who are surpressed by foreigners.

It is then your duty to do all you can to ride our continent from foreign oppression. Many african and no-african peoples work with us towards our goal. One of them is our host to-night: Tanganyika. We thank Tanganyika for the help it offers us, and we are here to prepare the steps towards the freedom.

To-night you will be able to organise the necessary committees.

We are closely connected in their killing struggle in Angola, Guinea, and Cabo Verde; last year, so many angolan political fighters have been killed, and still are to-day. I want you to feel that we are a part of their struggle against Portugal.

The work of the East African organisation called the PAFMECSA which is a group of parties has its quaters, as you know, here, in Dar-es-Salam but the work of PAFMECSA is only part of our own effort towards liberation of all Africa.

The freedom of Mocambique will not have any meaning unless all the people of Africa are free.