

Tete Province residents given arms (Text) In Tete, members of the Party Provincial Committee, deputies of the Provincial Assembly and workers were given arms at a mass rally held on 1st September under the chairmanship of the Governor, Joao Batista Cosme. The mass rally marked the culmination of a series of mass demonstrations held in a number of regions of Tete Province in support of the speech by President Samora Machel made at the rally of 22nd June which dealt mainly with the armed bandits. At the rally Joao Batista Cosme emphasized the need for every residential area to have an organized force to defend the people. He went on to say that other arms would be distributed to the members of the general public as they became politically and militarily prepared.

A number of armed bandits captured in Tete province were paraded at the rally. They told the people about their criminal actions. Speaking after their presentation, Joao Batista Cosme said that the armed bandits, like the hoarders, smugglers and saboteurs, should be vigorously dealt with. (Maputo in Portuguese 1030 gmt 3 Sep 82)