

Comment on Machel's call for 1983 to be anti-bandit year in Mozambique (Excerpt from commentary in the armed forces' "Voice of Combat" programme) In 1983 we shall hold the fourth Frelimo party congress, a congress which will review what we have implemented in previous years, correct the mistakes we have made, and lay down major guidelines for the next five years. . . The Mozambican armed forces, the FPLM, have an important mission - to guarantee peace so that building socialism in our country can be successfully achieved. In his message on the occasion of the New Year, Comrade Samora Machel, referring to our struggle against the lackeys of imperialism, said that 1983 would be a year of the generalization of the fight against the armed and unarmed bandits in all locations - in urban and rural areas, in the forest and townships, ports and hospitals, markets and barracks, factories and village communes, farms and consumer co-operatives in the state apparatus, railways, airports and schools.

Everywhere let us take up arms and let us dislodge and liquidate the bandits. Let us denounce and neutralize rumour-mongers, gossips, black marketeers and any confirmed supporter of armed banditry, for those people are the active extension of the armed gangsters. Imperialism forces us into this situation of having to build our wellbeing and our economy with arms in hands. Our people are peace-loving. Once again in our history we are compelled to make war to achieve peace. At the end of this war of aggression when we shall once again have been victorious, we shall be stronger ideologically and more mature and militant, firmer and more decided and vigilant at our places of work and in our homes. That was what the supreme leader of our revolution said in part of his speech. It demands a deep understanding on the part of everyone of us so that in this year of 1983 we may fully implement the guidelines given in his speech. (Maputo in Portuguese 0605 gmt 9 Jan 83)