

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

The following is the position of the Government of the United States, concerning the statements made by Mr. Paulo Oliveira about the contacts that had been made between American citizens and RENAMO.

Any contacts between Patrick Buchanan and RENAMO or private supporters in the United States while he was in the White House were not authorised and they are not a reflection of U. States policy. The Administration's policy is not to work with RENAMO because its history, activities and methods raise serious questions about its interest in reducing the suffering and in a peaceful solution in Mozambique.

The fact that some Americans disagree with the policy of the Government of the U. States and have lent support to RENAMO should not be interpreted as a sign of weakness or hidden intentions. The constitutional system of the U. States allows open debate and gives private citizens considerable liberty of action within the law. That does not mean that the Government of the U. States agrees with their actions. It simply means that the U. States is a free society.

Maputo, 24 March 1988