

Machel likens S Africans to 'fascist Hitlers'

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NEW DELHI — Mozambique's Marxist president, Samora Machel, has branded South Africa's White minority rulers as present-day Hitlers who, he said, draw encouragement from the administration of US President Ronald Reagan.

"Unfortunately, the international community has not yet become aware that the apartheid (South African) régime is just as dangerous as the nazi fascist régime of Hitler. They are the nazi fascists of our day," President Machel told a news conference after meetings with Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi and other Indian leaders during his state visit to India.

"South Africa is not alone," he continued. "The rise of the Reagan administration in the United States of America has been an encouraging factor for the régime. Hence its greater aggressiveness and intransigence."

The President, now styled a marshal, wearing a commando outfit with a cap, said South Africa was a serious threat to all independent countries of Africa and all countries bordering on the Indian Ocean.

Despite this, he said, major powers treat South Africa as "an ally and defender of modern civilization" and allow it to develop "atomic bombs and all kinds of weaponry."

As part of President Machel's visit, India and Mozambique signed a protocol for economic co-operation under which India agrees to send experts to help in agricultural and industrial development.

In an hour-long meeting with Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi he said the legacy of colonialism had left Mozambique with few trained people to undertake economic development.

Under the protocol, an Indian team will go to Mozambique to complete final details of a programme of co-operation in building construction, water supply and road maintenance.

— Sapa-Reuter.