

ARREST OF MOZAMBIQUE LEADER DENIED BY BOTH FACTIONS

A "MYSTERY" report of the arrest in Mozambique of the exiled Liberation Front leader, Dr. Eduardo Mondlane, was denied last night both by his party's officials in Dar es Salaam and by the Portuguese authorities in Lourenco Marques, the Mozambique capital.

No one seemed to know where the report originated. "It is an imperialist trick," his party officials said, claiming Dr. Mondlane was still in Dar es Salaam. One added: "I was with him this morning."

The report, alleged to have come from Lourenco Marques, claimed Dr. Mondlane and 15 other members of the illegal organisation were arrested "somewhere" in the northern district of Mozambique.

Later last night a Portuguese Government spokesman in Lourenco Marques denied the reported arrest, and this was backed up by a denial from Lisbon.

"We have not received any report" on the matter from Mozambique," the official in the Portuguese capital said.

Dr. Mondlane, long considered one of the most outspoken critics of Portugal's overseas policies, was flown to the capital under strong escort, the original report claimed.

Dr. Mondlane, a 42-year-old anthropologist, left Mozambique in 1949 and took up the post of assistant professor of sociology and anthropology at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs in New York State in 1961.

He announced in Syracuse last February that he planned to leave the United States to take over active leadership of the Mozambique Liberation Front of which he was elected president in June, 1962.

He appeared before United Nations committees as a petitioner on Mozambique.



Dr. EDUARDO MONDLANE speaking to his supporters in Dar es Salaam.