

## MOZAMBIQUE: A PERIOD OF TRANSITION

25 June, 1962 FRELIMO formed (FRont for the L liberation of M0zambique)

25 Sept, 1964 Outbreak of the Armed Struggle

Once it was clear that armed struggle was the only means to achieve independence for Mozambique, FRELIMO initiated the liberation struggle with 250 troops on this date. Within five years, the struggle had spread through three provinces and FRELIMO had grown into a powerful political and military force.

3 Feb, 1969 President Mondlane Assassinated by Portuguese Colonialists

Despite his death, Mondlane has continued to influence the development of the struggle. Indeed, all the victories achieved since his death -- the liberation of three provinces, the construction of a new way of life in Mozambique, the advance of the war front to the center of the country -- can be traced back to the unity and political orientation he gave to the movement.

25 April 1974 Military Coup in Portugal

Due to the intensity of armed struggle in all of Portugal's colonies, it became apparent that it would be impossible for Portugal to continue to resist the forces of liberation -- even with financial aid from the United States and indirect aid via NATO. A military coup deposed Premier Caetano and placed General Spinoza, an advocate of a revised colonial policy, in power.

20 April 1974-

25 June 1975 Period of Transition

After thirteen years of struggle, death and untold hardship, Mozambique is on its way to independence. With an interim government containing six FRELIMO and three Portuguese appointed cabinet posts, Mozambique is now confronting the task of nation-building.

Because of FRELIMO, through Mondlane, has defined the colonial enemy in terms of exploitation rather than race, those whites who wish to live lawfully under a FRELIMO government will be welcome to remain in Mozambique.

Despite FRELIMO's rural origins and development, the organization and discipline of FRELIMO has adapted remarkably well to urban settings.

Nevertheless, many problems remain: how to deal with its racist neighbors in terms of trade, political recognition and liberation.

25 June 1975 Independence

For further information:

Southern Africa Liberation Committee  
Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution  
1118 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI. 48823  
(517) 332-0861

