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Send Bikes Not Bombs to Mozambique!

Innocent civilians attacked by contras...a nation newly freed from tyrannical rule only to be thrown into a war supported by a nearby economic giant...a mixed economy in shatters ...thousands killed in seemingly unending battles...

It's not just Nicaragua in this plight, but Mozambique. And Bikes Not Bombs, as in Nicaragua, is responding to the suffering by providing bicycles to development workers.

Rebels backed by South Africa have been attacking civilians since 1982. Mozambique's president visited the White House in November for continued support against rebel attacks and a drought that threatens one-half of its 13 million people with famine. Along with a deteriorating economy (per capita income is under \$250) and a high birth rate, no wonder the Population Crisis Committee ranks Mozambique first of all nations in the world in its Human Suffering Index.

Beyond immediate relief Mozambique must have sustainable means of development, and for transportation the cheap and reliable bicycle tops the list. Moreover, the mountain bikes being sent by Bikes Not Bombs are very durable. They can easily carry passengers and loads over terrain no other transport device--except a donkey--could traverse.

Beyond helping to supply all-terrain bicycles and make high quality carts, Bikes Not Bombs' Eric Schulman, now in the capital of Maputo, is offering assistance to development and relief groups. Through bike assembly, maintenance and widespread use, the bike project hopes to enhance mobility, increase productivity, income and jobs, and decrease capital outflow.

Both Africare and the American Jewish World Service have issued emergency pleas for humanitarian relief supplies to be sent to Mozambique. Bikes Not Bombs/Africa is putting out the call for sturdy bicycles to be sent through these organizations to the Ministry of Health.

A bike can quadruple the productivity of a health worker, and that might make the difference between life and death. Help ship a new or reconditioned used bicycle to Mozambique. For further information, contact Bikes Not Bombs/Africa, PO Box 56538, Washington DC 20011, 301/589-1810.

Bikes For Africa