

# MOZAMBIQUE

SUPPORT NETWORK NEWSLETTER

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## MUMHCF Established in Northwest Indiana

by Sessy Nyman

The Mozambique United Methodist Health Care Foundation (MUMHCF) has been formed in order to provide health care supplies to the people of Mozambique. Its inception is a direct result of the 1990 Inter-city Ecumenical Peace Mission to Mozambique and Zimbabwe, led by senior consultant to the Mozambique government Prexy Nesbitt. Currently, the home of MUMHCF is with the founding member Reverend Ted Snyder at the First United Methodist Church in Griffith, Indiana.

Affiliated with the United Methodist Committee for Relief and Development (UMCOR), The Board of Missions and The Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church, the Indiana group has thus far raised some



**Foundation established to aid Mozambique's Health Care System**

\$300,000 worth of medical supplies and equipment which will be making its way to Mozambique's

Chicunque and Reclatla hospitals in the coming months.

MUMHCF is made up of some 10 persons working together, repre-

*(Continued on page 7)*

## South African Inspires Chicagoans

by Jill Schlueter

Chicago was one of many stops for Sister Bernard Ncube's US tour sponsored by San Francisco's "Global Exchange." In Chicago, one of Sister Ncube's presentations was part of the Community Renewal Society's "Roundtable Series." Sister Ncube's visit to Chicago was made possible by the sponsorship and organization of The Chicago Committee in Solidarity with Southern Africa (CCISSA).

Sister Ncube is an internationally recognized leader of the women's movement in South Africa, serving as president of the Federation of Transvaal Women and of the Federation of South African Women. She spent 16 months in detention in South Africa for sedition; the first nun in that coun-

try ever to be charged with a political offense.

The discussion began by Sister Ncube emphasizing that "nothing has changed in South Africa. The people are still oppressed in every sector of their lives." She spoke of the mobilization of grassroots organizations in her country as a sign of hope and maintained that the growing number of activists provided the strength necessary to continue their struggle.

The inspiring speaker ended her comments with her impressions of race relations in the US. She identified racism in the US as "evil" and concluded that "if you heal racism in the US, you'll heal it for the world!"

**see picture on page 5**

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# December Brings Partial Ceasefire

by Sessy Nyman

What many are referring to as a "confidence building...first step" occurred as both FRELIMO and Renamo delegations agreed on Dec. 1, 1990 to a partial ceasefire around the country's two main transport routes. The ceasefire is limited to 1.8 miles on either side of the Limpopo and Beira corridors. Included in the agreement is the limitation of 10,000 Zimbabwean troops, who have aided the FRELIMO army since their own independence in 1980.

The first phase of the ceasefire, which officially started on Dec. 15, is being supervised by observ-

ers from Great Britain, the USSR, Congo, Kenya, the US, Zambia, France, Portugal and Zimbabwe, with Italy serving as chair of the commission. Although many are fearful that the limitation of 1.8 miles will restrict FRELIMO's capabilities in the region, there is a suggestion that the observers may in fact use their position to extend the "peace corridor" to include a further stretch of land.

Included in the Beira corridor is not just the rail line, as in the case for the Limpopo, but also a transport highway and an oil pipeline. With this limited ceasefire, Great Britain will now be able to

continue with its pledge of L29 million in support of rebuilding the 335 mile southern rail line connecting Maputo to Zimbabwe.

Because Mozambique was established by colonial Portugal power as a transport route to connect land-locked neighbors with key ocean trading ports, the rail line is vital to the economy of Mozambique. It is estimated that already Mozambique has lost \$2 billion because of the sabotage which plagues its precious railways. In an attempt to keep the rail lines safe and to bring an end to the SA backed war of aggression, Zimbabwe has invested her troops at a cost of \$250,000/day.

Both FRELIMO's Transport Minister Armando Guebuza and Renamo's Foreign Minister Raul Domingueus returned to the negotiating table in Rome in late January.

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## New Constitution Confirmed

by Sessy Nyman

Meeting in ten and twelve hour sessions, the Mozambique People's Assembly fiercely debated the text of the proposed new constitution. The debate began on October 5, and lasted until Nov. 2, resulting finally on November 30, 1990 in its completion and implementation. Prior to the national debate, FRELIMO organized meetings and public forums across the country in order to guarantee full participation in this democratic process.

Included in this document is the introduction of multi-party elections in 1991, abolition of the death penalty, freedom of press and speech and the right to information, workers rights to strike, maintenance of a national health

service to benefit the entire Mozambican people, and a guarantee of the right of people to use the land "as long as the social purpose is taken into consideration."

Although the majority of the people included in the debating process were opposed to a move to a multi-party system, the assembly felt there was a sufficient number of parties to warrant such a change. Already, new parties have begun to form in Mozambique in preparation for the scheduled elections in 1991. FRELIMO did, however, introduce laws to regulate the registration and the legitimacy for forming political parties. Included in these regulations was the stipulation that the parties "be national in scope," "defend national interests," "...contribute towards peace and stability in the country" and "express political pluralism."

Two parties have already formed in preparation for the upcoming elections. Both UNAMO (Mozambican National Union) and PALMO (Liberal and Democratic Party of Mozambique) fall to the political "right" of FRELIMO, and more parties "...are expected to develop as exiles return from Portugal and the United States."

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## Peace Talks Stall

On Jan. 30, 1991, the 5th round of talks between Renamo and FRELIMO delegations reached a standstill, resulting in a temporary breakdown of the talks.

According to sources, there are three fundamental reasons behind the disagreement:

1. The rejection by the Renamo delegation of the first report submitted by the joint commission;
2. The disagreement on the initial definition of "corridor," and the inclusion of both the ports and cities of Beira and Maputo;
3. The unsubstantiated accusation by the Renamo delegation of FRELIMO's unwillingness to draw the 10,000 Zimbabwean troops into the designated "peace corridors."

At the core of this latest setback is apparently a final attempt on the part of Renamo to insure a place for itself in the transitional power-sharing arrangement, before being subjected to the Mozambican people's vote.

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## Ford Foundation Awards Grant

The Government of Mozambique (Higher Institute of International Relations) has been awarded a \$230,000 two year supplement grant from the Ford Foundation. The grant will allow for staff training and fellowships in international affairs.

# Solidarity Highlights National Conference

by Rollie Hudson

CHICAGO- Debate and Solidarity highlighted the Mozambique Support Network's most recent national conference, held in the Windy City Nov. 9-11, 1990. Delegates included grassroots activists, academics, government officials, and religious leaders.

The weekend-long meeting began when United Nations Ambassador Pedro Commissario engaged Chicagoans in a public discussion on the current changes taking place in his country. Discussions during the conference were fueled by topics such as Mozambique's move to a multi-party system; the close relationship with western capital now being undertaken by both the public and private sectors; and the Kenyan government's relationship with Renamo.

"The current peace talks with Renamo have only one strategic objective-Peace!" Commissario added. The Ambassador stressed

FRELIMO's policy of "non-concessions" with Renamo. Some activists, he said, have insinuated that his government is "giving in" to Renamo terrorism. Ambassador Commissario emphasized the



**"Frelimo is still a leading and uniting force in Mozambique."**  
**Ambassador Commissario**

need for continued solidarity, explaining: "To help us best in Mozambique, you must fully know and understand the changes which are taking place there."

According to Kerry Selvester, a British organizer from that country's Save The Children organization, "IMF/WB money and food aid are all given with conditions of privatization. Bank loans are conditional on what they consider "good governance." "FRELIMO and Mozambique are caught in a trap as they enter into IMF and World Bank policies," said Professor Merle Bowen, delegate from the MSN affiliated Champaign-Urbana Coalition Against Apartheid. "Aid is a mixed bag," said Kevin Danaher, a San Francisco MSN delegate and newly elected executive committee member. In addition he stressed that "There is some good and some bad, but it is part of a larger imperialist state apparatus."

*(Continued on page 7)*

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## Wisconsin Groups Welcome Mozambique Ambassador

by Jill Schlueter

On 28 November 1990, representatives from the national MSN office and the Chicago local chapter attended a conference in Milwaukee entitled "Mozambique: Nation at Risk." The conference was held at the Institute of World Affairs at the University of Wisconsin and organized by Africa Link- Racine to Mozambique. Africa Link has had a direct solidarity relationship with Mozambique for seven years.

Four panelists were featured at the session which focused on the humanitarian needs and the economic future of Mozambique. Robert Garfield, Professor of History at DePaul University in Chicago, opened the day with an overview of the recent formative history of Mozambique, which led the way for the keynote speaker; former Mozambican Ambassador to the US Valeriano Ferrao.

Ambassador Ferrao took the po-

dium to discuss the roots of the crisis in Mozambique. He traced the origins of the problems from Portuguese colonialism to the present role of Renamo. During the question and answer section of the Ambassador's presentation, the discussion turned to international economic assistance and Mozambique. Admitting to the political and social "trade-offs" in compliance with the IMF loans, the Ambassador added that the amount of foreign aid received is still not enough. Ferrao concluded by suggesting that Americans now can best help Mozambique by pressuring the US government to increase its aid.

The third panelist was Randall Le Cocq, desk officer for Mozambique at the US Department of State. His focus was US policy in Mozambique. Le Cocq encouraged "...FRELIMO to include Renamo politically," and was quick to pro-

mote Mozambique as a "case study of the success of market economy and an open market system."

Rounding out the panel was consul General Daniel Smith from the South African Consulate General in Chicago. Smith's focus was the "South African Point of View." He emphasized that the Southern African region will form one of the major trading blocks in the world, when SA is in the financial position to extend a "Marshall Plan" to the financially wrecked Mozambique.

A panel discussion focusing on the future of Mozambique followed the four presenters. Among the many topics discussed were the ending of the cold war between the US and USSR, the escalating war in the Middle East, the "opening up" of Eastern Europe and the effects these events will have on the further development of Mozambique.



# CHAPTER UPDATES

## Los Angeles

The Los Angeles MSN has organized a five member steering committee to help with the planning of their growing chapter. To increase their support and participation at local events, the LA-MSN has affiliated themselves with a UCLA group called the "Mozambique Education Committee" (MEC). Together they are planning a spring concert, as both a fundraiser and an educational event. With their recently awarded grant from The Liberty Hill Foundation, the LAMSN is producing and distributing their first local newsletter, designing an LAMSN t-shirt, and making slide presentations in the region to increase their visibility. The group is also working on involving California based companies in an effort to increase support for Mozambique and the "Child by Child" campaign.

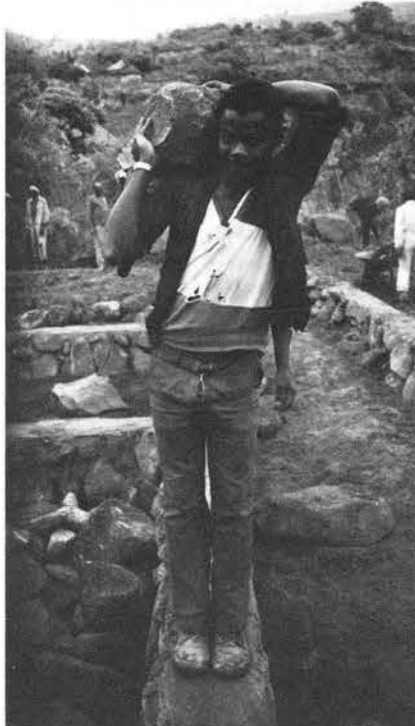
## Chicago

The Chicago chapter started in 1990 as a brand new chapter of the Mozambique Support Network and has begun 1991 by being awarded their first grant of \$1,500 by the Chicago Crossroads Fund! With this financial base, the CMSN will be increasing their outreach and educational work. In the past few months, a series on Southern Africa was taught in a local high school, with plans to expand this program to both high school and adult education classes in 1991. Research continues on "The Coors Connection," the Heritage Foundation and support for Renamo. Activist educationals and conferences will also be a big part of 1991. Together with many groups in the Chicago area, the first such activists' conference was held in early January drawing a group of over 150 people. By increasing their work and affiliations with other local anti-apartheid

groups, the CMSN hopes to increase awareness and support for Mozambique and the MSN.

## Seattle

The MSN chapter/Mozambique Health Committee continues to build their medical assistance program in Mozambique. With both Rachel Rubin, M.D. and Ann Evens working in Manica province with the local health care workers, the province has been able to receive training for additional health workers, as well as repair



### Seattle's Mozambique Health Committee works to rebuild war-torn Mozambique.

much needed equipment in the hospitals. The Mozambique Health Committee also continues to send medical volunteers over for short term assistance projects, which increases the capacity for health workers in Manica to treat more patients and also serves to show people from the Seattle area the devastating effects Renamo has caused throughout the country.

## Detroit

As a special event for the 3rd annual film/lecture series sponsored by the Michigan Coalition for Human Rights-Southern Africa Committee, "Children at Risk II: Mozambique/Detroit" was presented in Detroit on Feb. 16. Making presentations at the event were Prexy Nesbitt, senior consultant to the Mozambique Government, Clementine Barfield, founder and director of "Save Our Sons and Daughters" (SOSAD), and Dr. Neil Boothby, consultant to Save The Children (US). Also featured during this evening focusing on Mozambique were short presentations by Arthea Barnes and The Alisha Shule Dance Team. The presenters were followed by a premier of the newly released Austrian made film, "Is the Devil Really a Child?"

## Boston

The Boston group continues working for solidarity with Mozambique. The BMSN maintains their on-going sister city project between Boston and Beira focusing on the exchange of artists, as well as continuing to build their educational outreach in the New England area.

(Continued on page 5)



# CHAPTER UPDATES

(Continued from page 4)

## Cleveland

With two of Cleveland's most active members just having returned from Mozambique in October, the Cleveland group ended 1990 and is beginning 1991 with great fervor. With slide presentations from their recent trip, and speaking engagements to local congregations and community health workers, educational outreach and activity is what fills most of this chapter's time. Working with the Northeast Ohio Anti-Apartheid Coalition (NOAC), both Terri Harris and Mary Wild were speakers at the annual Human Rights Day program on December 8. Due to coverage and participation at such events, interest in doing Mozambique work has increased in the Cleveland area. In 1991, the CLMSN hopes to organize with other MSN chapters and affiliates to enable other activists and workers to visit Mozambique.

## Oklahoma

The Oklahoma MSN has focused on the art of Mozambique since the successful visit by Malangatana Ngwenya in December of 1989. Recently in Oklahoma City, The Oklahoma University Fine Arts Coalition, The School of Art and the Oklahoma Mozambique Support Network unveiled a mural which was created with Malangatana's inspiration and assistance during his 1989 tour. After various stops at galleries in the Norman-Oklahoma City area, the mural will permanently be displayed at the OU honors program office. With the mural, OMSN hopes to be able to gain support for Mozambique work and increase outreach for their local chapter.

## Bay Area

The Bay Area chapter, after sending four representatives to the MSN national conference in November 1990, has been busy building a network (known as BAAN) with other anti-apartheid

organizations in the Bay Area. The main responsibility of the MSN members within this network is to highlight Mozambique in the Southern African context. In addition, the MSN group has taken a leading role in establishing strong links with the Native American community in the Bay Area, by helping to arrange and publicize meetings between the ANC and the Native American community in preparation for the 1992 commemoration of 500 years of resistance since Columbus first arrived on these shores.

Chris Benner, executive committee and Bay Area MSN member, will be travelling to Southern Africa in Feb. in conjunction with TECNICA. In a project to train South African COSATU staff/members in technical assistance, Chris will be travelling with six other volunteers from across the US to various parts of South Africa. Upon their return, the anti-apartheid network will be able to benefit from their first hand experience, to continue to inform the US about South Africa's apartheid regime and its effect on the Frontline States.

## Action Alert!

On Feb. 8, Chicago's various anti-apartheid and solidarity organizations successfully joined efforts in a hasty mobilization to persuade Operation PUSH against allowing Gatsha Buthelezi a platform at a PUSH mass meeting. We congratulate PUSH in their decision.

The MSN, CCISSA, Illinois Labor Network Against Apartheid, Synapses and Chicago TransAfrica together garnered phone calls and telegrams from people and organizations throughout the US protesting the PUSH decision to host the infamous Inkatha leader. Buthelezi was in the US on a tour allegedly financed by the Heritage Foundation and people connected with Senator Jesse Helms.

## South African Inspires Chicagoans



**"If you heal racism in the US, you'll heal it for the world!"**

**Sister Ncube**

# BOOK REVIEWS

## **Liberating the Law**

Prominent civil rights lawyer Albie Sachs and Mozambican judge Gita Honwana Welch chronicle one of the most remarkable exercises in socio-political change in post-

## **Chissano Speaks Out On Mid-East**

Addressing the 45th Regular Seminar of the United Nations General Assembly, The President of the Republic of Mozambique, Joaquim Alberto Chissano made the following statement for a peaceful resolution in the Gulf:

*At a time when peace efforts became a driving force shared by all of us, and when dialogue is given an important weight in the solution of world conflicts, the explosive situation that has arisen in the Gulf is of great concern to us. Serious events whose catastrophic consequences are already being felt in each one of our countries, are taking place in the region. We repudiate the invasion, occupation and annexation of Kuwait. We demand the respect of the norms of international law and the restoration of Kuwait's sovereignty. We appeal that a peaceful platform is found to put an end to the spectre of war that hangs over the region, in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council.*

*As to the problem in the Middle East, we realize that the rights of the Palestinian people continue to be violated. We reiterate our belief in the need for the convening of an international conference with the participation of all concerned parties, including the state of Palestine.*

colonial Africa -- the transformation of Mozambique's inherited colonial system of justice. Heading the team given the task of rewriting Portuguese law, they created a legal system and code compatible with evolving tradition and the principles of the FRELIMO Party.

A unique study, Liberating the Law tells the story of ten years of achievement and setback and reveals the basic features of the concept of popular justice. As part of an elaborate and revolutionary consultative process, tribunals were established across the country to listen to what the people wanted. New laws of property, inheritance, marriage and family were forged from the marriage of western and customary law. Although the process was tragically disrupted by the South African sponsored war, Liberating the Law is a celebration of Mozambique's attempts to create a law finally free from its colonial past.

## **Mozambique: Who Calls the Shots?**

Joseph Hanlon raises central questions about aid by looking at the example of Mozambique. Why do donors give aid and what do they expect from the recipients? What is the balance between charity and political pressure? How subservient must recipients be?

Aid donors and non-governmental organizations (NGO's) have become the agents of the recolonization of Mozambique. Dr. Hanlon, author of Mozambique: The Revolution Under Fire (ZED), argues that Mozambique tried to avoid the traditional aid relationship. This was unacceptable to big western powers, who used destabilization to weaken Mozambique to the point where the country was forced to accept aid, and thus enter the conventional subservient relationship with the donors.

This book is essential reading for people concerned about the relationship of the rich world with Africa. As the western countries scramble for the re-colonization of Eastern Europe, the central Cold War question for Mozambique and other weak countries remains:

Who Calls the Shots?

## **Running to Maputo by Jill Rufsvold- American Colleges of the Midwest Intern**

Ironically light in tone, Running to Maputo recounts the 1988 bombing of Albie Sachs, an exiled white South African freedom fighter living in Mozambique. In a narrative "stream of consciousness" technique, Sachs tells of his psychological and physical recovery and his ultimate return to the daily struggle against apartheid.

As the author weaves varied tales of political and emotional battles as a white South African working for an end to apartheid, the reader can appreciate the growth of Sachs' strength and sensitivity. Sachs' experience reinforced his conviction that people "born into privilege," rather than despising themselves, should focus their efforts on the struggle and on refining their "sensitivity to the culture and longings of the oppressed."

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## National Conference

*(Continued from page 3)*

Debate also focused on the role of the MSN if Renamo sympathizers became part of the government. "FRELIMO could be put in an underdog situation," according to the Ambassador. He emphasized that the MSN should continue to establish relationships with FRELIMO and with other Mozambicans to avoid being "surprised" as many in the Central American solidarity movement were with the electoral loss of the Sandanista party.

"Do your work to give people an idea of what FRELIMO stands for," he urged. "FRELIMO is still a leading and uniting force in Mozambique, without which there would be serious confusion."

"We should make clear our support for FRELIMO, yet remain critical. Our support must also remain progressive and with the workers in mind," maintained Rachel Chapman, executive committee member from the LA chapter. Kevin Danaher added that "our job is to change US policy, not to take sides with Mozambique's political parties."

The MSN wrapped up the conference with a business and strategy meeting, in which substantial ground regarding the group's political direction was covered. National committees were established to develop: a) legislative strategies for affecting US policy; b) a delegation to Mozambique; c) an organizing packet to encourage and assist new MSN chapters; and d) information focusing on the MSN's commitment to non-racialism and anti-sexism in the US. Updates and strategies were also given on the 1990-91 national Child by Child campaign, a program established to fund traumatized child centers throughout Mozambique. The program will be facilitated by the Ministry of Education, Special Education Department.

The next MSN national conference will be held in Chicago during the second weekend in November 1991.

## Boycott Update

Article adapted from The Boston Globe, Jan. 4, 1991

Last month renowned anti-apartheid activist Art Serota, a Springfield, MA lawyer and educator speaking on behalf of the Philadelphia-based Southern Africa Working Group of American Friends Service Committee, asked a subcommittee of the Springfield School Panel to declare city schools "Coke-Free Zones."

"Here in the US the entire anti-apartheid movement selected Coca-Cola and Shell as [boycott] targets." The Coke [and Shell] boycott is the anti-apartheid movement's way of expressing and

enforcing sanctions, on which the "ANC remains firm."

[Serota] said the company has been singled out as a target because it is so well known around the world and supplies almost 70 percent of the soft drinks sold in South Africa.

The [Coke] company says it is only selling Coca-Cola concentrate to independent bottlers in SA, whose white-minority rule government has been condemned by rights activists. However, critics say the company is still profiting from those sales.

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## MUMHCF Established

*(Continued from page 1)*

sending the church community as well the medical profession. They are presently in the process of incorporating themselves due to their rapid and unexpected growth. The advisory board will also include a government advisor, as well as representatives from major pharmaceutical firms.

The program is currently working on a two point plan. The first is a "Reclamation Program" which entails taking supplies unnecessarily disposed of in local Methodist hospitals and sending them to hospitals in Mozambique. The second, still in planning, is a "Supervised Learning Program" which will allow for last year

medical interns to go and do their final year of residency on a "One to One Mentor Exchange" with Chicupe hospital in Inhambane province. In return, Mozambican medical students will complete their medical training in the US.

Presently, the MUMHCF program is only working with the two hospitals mentioned above, but plans on extending the program through the Ministry of Health to various hospitals around the country. According to Rev. Snyder, all involved in the project have been amazed at how quickly the "word spread," and how willing medical services and supply companies have been to give aid to Mozambique's recovering health system.

### Mozambique Support Network Newsletter

#### Editors:

Sessy Nyman  
Jill Schlueter

Layout: Kathy Devine

The MSN newsletter is published by the National Office of the Mozambique Support Network, approximately six times a year. Opinions expressed in this newsletter are the author's and not necessarily representative of the editorial staff. Please address all inquiries to the attention of the Editor, MSN Newsletter.

## Mozambique Support Network

Mozambique Support Network is a not-for-profit organization that promotes and conducts educational campaigns, fund raisers, emergency aid drives and other humanitarian efforts in the name of The Republic of Mozambique.

Today, Mozambique is under siege by South African-backed Renamo bandits. Their targets are the people and the development of Mozambique, and thus far they have destroyed more than 2,000 schools, hundreds of health-care centers and have left 5.9 million people homeless. The UN Children's Emergency Fund estimates that over 325,000 children have died as a result of these apartheid terrorists.



### **Mozambique. Learn More About it - Become More Involved!**

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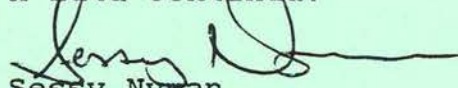
The Mozambique Support Network is very happy to be able to, after an extended hiatus of 6 months, produce our MSN newsletter once again. Mozambique has been going through many changes and the US support network members have been working very hard to bring the plight of the Mozambican people into the public eye here in America. Because the MSN is the only organization working specifically on Mozambique, the newsletter is a vital source for information. In addition, the MSN is active in communities across the US, providing literature and speakers on the current situation in Mozambique and the problems which plague the entire region.

Many of our services are provided to the public at a very minimal charge. We have, however, reached the point in which we must look to those familiar with the MSN to support us financially, so that we may continue our solidarity with the people of Mozambique. Membership is the foundation of the MSN. Due to the "democratization" of Eastern Europe and the war in the Middle East, attention has been taken away from the events in Southern Africa. As a result, our membership has fallen drastically in the past few months and in effect has weakened our financial foundation.

This mailing is a direct call to action in order that we may be able to continue our Mozambique outreach here in the US. We are asking the friends and members of the MSN for two things: first, to put forward an extra effort to increase the membership of the MSN and secondly, to make an additional contribution if at all possible. With every new member, we not only secure a more effective network working for peace in Mozambique, but we also provide for our own financial security. Please remember that our annual membership rate allows the MSN not only to produce this newsletter but also to produce and reproduce other helpful and hard to get information concerning Mozambique.

Thank you for your support and solidarity both with the people of Mozambique and with the Mozambique Support Network. We look forward to the day when there is peace and justice in Southern Africa, but until that day, for the survival of the peoples of Southern Africa, we ask you now to assist in our survival.

A Luta Continua!

  
Sessy Nyman  
National Coordinator

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**DEFEND MOZAMBIQUE DEFEAT APARTHEID**