

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OR TAMBO

On the Nkomati accord

On the allegation that the ANC uses Mozambique as a springboard

"... it is simply not true that the African National Congress has been launching attacks on South Africa from Mozambique. There is not a single occasion when we did. Of course, we went through Mozambique, an African country, as we have gone through other African countries, to reach our own country. We have launched no attacks from any country into South Africa. This is South African propaganda."

On transit to South Africans going back to their own country

"What are we going to do about clauses in this 'non-aggression' pact which forbids Mozambique to allow transit to South Africans going back to their own country? Well, we have had many problems like that in the past and that is how we relate to it - as a problem to be solved. What we do now is that our actions have been planned and staged in South Africa. We will continue to do that. We will find a way of intensifying those actions. In fact this agreement is a challenge to the victims of the apartheid system.

Our people are ready to meet this challenge.

"If we are required to stand alone, first alone, as the British once did faced with an offensive from the Nazis, then that is what we are going to do. We are absolutely confident about it. Our people are ready to meet this challenge. It has never been the policy of the African National Congress to burden the neighbouring states of Southern Africa with sacrifices that have to be made in order to destroy the apartheid system. They hate that system, knowing that while it lasted there was no freedom for them, no independence, no sovereignty, no peace, no stability, no progress. And if they are placed under constraints which restrict their capacity to support that struggle, a just struggle, a struggle of the people of the world, then the African National Congress will not complain. We understand."