



ERITREAN PEOPLE'S LIBERATION FRONT

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Date 5/12/1978

STATEMENT NO. 6

SOVIET WARSHIPS ATTACK EPLF POSITIONS

Ethiopian and Soviet aggression on Eritrea conducted by two Soviet generals - one of them Ogaden war veteran - 11 high ranking officers and over 1000 commissioned and non-commissioned officers continues to escalate. At this stage of the war Soviet warships are heavily involved not only in providing supplies to the invading army in the Eastern Front, but also shelling EPLF positions from the sea and providing cover to the enemy forces fighting in the East. On the second of December, Soviet warships landed a large number of aggressor troops at Mersa Gulbub with the object of encircling our fighters in the forefront on the one hand and cutting our supply route on the other. This new move of cornering our gallant fighters in the Eastern Front has been totally shattered, all designs frustrated by our heroic People's Army, People's Militia and our people. Enemy losses in the Eastern Front is as follows:

- 7 enemy tanks were captured intact
- 20 enemy tanks were turned to ashes
- large quantities of heavy artillery - doshkas, mortars and light weapons were captured.
- over 2000 Ethiopian soldiers were killed
- 300 Ethiopian soldiers were taken as prisoners.

The Northern Front is not silent either. It is still the scene of heavy fighting. Enemy troops, reinforced by MIG planes and other Soviet artillery, have made repeated attempts to break our line of defence north of Keren. They were, however, beaten back several times with the following losses :

- 5 enemy tanks were captured intact
- 20 enemy tanks were destroyed
- large quantity of heavy artillery, namely, 23-mm anti-aircrafts, mortars, etc., and light weapons were captured.
- over 3000 enemy soldiers were killed
- 150 Ethiopian soldiers were captured

The Soviet Union is sparing no effort to crush the EPLF and destroy the 17 year old Eritrean struggle for national independence and freedom. It is, thus, continuing with burning crops, wiping out animals, razing villages to the ground and -massacring innocent civilians - mainly women, children and the aged. These barbaric acts of extermination which is largely being conducted by the Soviet Union cannot extinguish the revolutionary struggle of our people, it can only worsen the misery of Eritrean masses. Since this aggression is unjustifiable, and is a crime

against humanity, the number of countries, organizations and individuals condemning this aggression and crime is increasing from time to time.

The EPLF calls again upon all freedom, peace and justice loving nations and people to voice their opposition and condemn this barbaric act of aggression against the Eritrean people and give their moral and material support.

Fierce battles still continue. More details will follow.

For More information call 42603 (POB 8144)

VICTORY TO THE MASSES ! ! !

EPLF Khartoum Office
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