

17th January 1982

STATEMENT BY ME'ISONE
ON
THE SIXTH OFFENSIVE IN ERITREA

The Ethiopian military dictatorship is actively preparing to launch yet another massive military offensive against the Eritrean people. Since 1978, the Dergue launched a series of five offensives which brought untold destructions and sufferings to the Eritrean people. In spite of the millions of dollars worth of material and massive soviet support all these offensives did not help the Dergue to materialise its dream of wiping out the Eritrean liberation forces.

What makes this sixth offensive serious and particularly inhuman is the fact that the Dergue and its soviet masters have decided to use nerve gas in their attempt to crush the Eritrean struggle.

As it has repeatedly stated, ME'ISONE, the All Ethiopian Socialist Movement, considers that the continuation and intensification of the war in Eritrea is against the fundamental interests of both the Ethiopian and Eritrean masses. It has always stood against the use of blind force and the search for "military solutions". It has always called for negotiations without any preconditions. It stands for a peaceful political solution of the problem based on the recognition of the right of the Eritrean peoples to self-determination and the interest of the revolutionary struggle of the Ethiopian and Eritrean masses.

In line with this longstanding position and in view of the particularly disastrous consequences that the use of nerve gas will have on the Eritrean people, ME'ISONE again raises its voice against this barbaric act of the Ethiopian regime. It calls upon all humanitarian, democratic, peace loving and progressive forces in the world to raise their voices and express their opposition and condemnation of the use of nerve gas in Eritrea.

Make your voices heard by addressing protest letters and/or telegrams to:

- 1) Ethiopian Embassies in your respective countries;
- 2) PMAC (Provisional Military Administrative Council)
P.O. BOX 5707
Addis Ababa
ETHIOPIA