

Carlos Cardoso Murder Trial  
Verdict details

Mailing 14 - 31 January 2003

AIM Joseph Hanlon

**ANIBALZINHO RECAPTURED & RETURNED TO MAPUTO:**

Anibalzinho, who was convicted today (Friday) of organising the killing of Carlos Cardoso, was returned to Maputo this evening. He had been allowed to escape from the maximum security prison on 1 September, and was arrested near Pretoria, South Africa, yesterday.

**OTHERS MAY BE INVOLVED:** Giving his ruling, the presiding judge, Augusto Paulino stressed that "others" could also have been involved in the murder of journalist Carlos Cardoso. Paulino specifically mentioned Nyimpine Chissano, the son of President Joaquim Chissano, who is already under investigation by the Public Prosecutor's Office. Businesswoman Maria Candida Cossa and others with links at the top of Frelimo were also mentioned at the trial, both in connection with the murder, and in relation to money laundering and other financial misconduct.

**ALL 6 CONVICTED:** All six men accused for murdering journalist Carlos Cardoso were found guilty today and sentenced to long jail terms. Anibal dos Santos Junior ("Anibalzinho"), who escaped from prison and was tried in absentia, and who recruited the death squad that murdered Cardoso and drove the car used in the ambush, was sentenced to 28 years and 6 months in prison. The two other members of the death squad, Carlitos Rachide ("Carlitos") who fired the fatal shots, and Manuel Fernandes ("Escurinho") who acted as look-out, each received a sentence of 23 years and 6 months. The other three were found guilty of ordering the assassination. Loan shark Nini Satar was sentenced to 24 years imprisonment and his brother Ayob Satar, owner of the Unicambios foreign exchange bureau, to 23 years and three months. Their associate, former bank manager Vicente Ramaya, received a sentence of 23 years and six months. Carlos Cardoso's two children were awarded \$588,000 in compensation and the injured driver, Carlos Manjate, was awarded \$21,000.