MOZAMBIQUE - GENERAL

1991

JANUARY — NOV.
30 Mozambican students forced to return home

Sowetan Africa News Service

MAPUTO - The resurgence of democracy in Eastern Europe is having a major repercussion in Mozambique as students and workers are being forced to pay their way in "real" money or return home.

Mozambicans sent to study in the Soviet Union are having to return home following the recent political upheavals because some Soviet Republics are now demanding that foreign students pay for tuition in "hard" currency.

So far only 30 of the more than 600 students in the USSR have returned to Mozambique but many more are expected in the near future.

Some, however, may be stranded in various parts of the Union and the official Mozambican news agency, Am, reports that recently two students were beaten up in Baku, capital of Azerbaijan, in an apparent outbreak of racism in the turbulent Republic.

Some of the students reportedly said that tension was so high that they feared to walk further than from their residence to their place of study.

The threatened flood of students from the USSR follows riots by Mozambican students in Cuba over demands for grants in "hard" currency to pay their way in the still communist country.

Cuban police had to be called in to contain the riots that left one student dead and four teachers seriously injured, and sparked rumours that Cuban authorities might soon expel the Mozambicans.

Meanwhile in the Mozambican capital the government has begun to pay deferred wages to thousands of Mozambican workers forced out of East Germany after the collapse of the communist regime there.

This followed a protest by hundreds of the returned workers who blocked the street in front of the ministry of Labour and then temporarily invaded the building last Thursday and Friday.
Zimbabwe withdrawal might lead to fresh attacks by Renamo

From MICHAEL HARTHACK

HARARE - Zimbabwean army commanders in Harare insist the rebel Mozambique Resistance Movement (Renamo) is planning a major rainy-season offensive following the withdrawal of President Mugabe's troops to the Beira and Limpopo corridors.

The estimated 9,000 Zimbabwean soldiers in Mozambique began pulling out recently to areas demarcated under the ceasefire agreement reached in Rome in December between Renamo and President Chishano's government.

The Herald, which usually reflects the view of the Zimbabwean authorities, reported that Zimbabwean officers thought a major offensive would be launched in Gorongosa area, former stronghold of Renamo, following the withdrawal of 1,000 Zimbabwean soldiers from the dense bush of what was, under Portuguese rule, one of Africa's leading game reserves.

Special effort

Casa Banana, Villa Pava de Andrade, Machel, Fábrica and Cavoito "forward bases" were taken by the Zimbabweans in a series of bloody battles in 1986-1988 and held in the face of severe supply problems.

Zimbabwean commanders told the Herald they were only "cautiously optimistic" that the Rome ceasefire with Renamo would end the 15-year civil war which has claimed more than a million lives and displaced half the former Portuguese colony's population.

They predicted the rebels would make a special effort to intensify hostilities and recapture their headquarters at Casa Banana in the heart of Gorongosa.

Captain Bernard Kapamugumbe of the Zimbabwean Armoured Car Regiment, reportedly told the Herald that civilians in the area were already defecting to the rebels, fearing their resumed control.

The Norwegian children's relief organization, Redd Hanne, believed Mozambican government forces on their own might not be able to ensure safe distribution of food, causing a renewed threat of famine among the 500,000 orphans of the Gorongosa region. Food convoys had been protected by Zimbabwean forces.

Notable lack

Travellers on the main Zimbabwe-Malawi road through Mozambique's Tete Province, said Zimbabwean troops stopped escorting convoys before Christmas. As a result of diplomatic pressure from President Nkomanda's Malawian government, the road has been free of rebel ambushes and landmine incidents for many months, as has Malawi's Nacala railway to the Indian Ocean.

Since the Ache calls there has been a notable lack of reports of rebel raids into eastern Zimbabwe. Farm stores were frequently robbed as rebels sought supplies, forcing local people to act as porters for their loot.
Mozambican riot students await fate in Cuba

MAPUTO — More than 700 Mozambican students arrested in Cuba for rioting over Christmas were still in custody today as the authorities in Maputo deliberated over what to do with them.

The students, who were among 3,400 Mozambicans studying in Cuba, are expected to be sent back to Mozambique. It is not yet known, however, whether the Cuban authorities intend to press criminal charges against them.

During the rioting on the Island of Youth, students beat up four teachers and a representative of the Mozambican Education Ministry and wrecked two schools. Seventeen students were injured and one died after jumping from the roof of a building.

**Tough talk**

The Maputo newspaper, Noticias, reported yesterday that a Mozambique government delegation that flew to Cuba to investigate the rioting had "tough" meetings with the detained students, who are being held at a police training centre.

Seven students considered to be the ringleaders are being held elsewhere.

The students said they noted because they were being treated worse by the Mozambican government than students from other countries who are also studying in Cuba. They said complaints about lack of clothing and toilet articles had been ignored by Maputo.

Noticias says the leader of the investigating team, Health Minister Leonardo Simão, told the students they could hardly expect their complaints to be given priority by the government of a country at war and in which people were dying of hunger.

"What do the Cuban people feel when they know that these schools, built with their money, were destroyed," one member of the delegation said.
Albinism Promises Free Travel

Albinism is believed to be caused by a defect in the formation of melanin, the pigment that gives color to the skin, hair, and eyes. In people with albinism, the lack of melanin can lead to a number of visible characteristics, including pale skin, white hair, and blue eyes. However, people with albinism may also have normal skin and hair color in some areas, which can make it difficult to recognize the condition. Despite the unique physical characteristics, people with albinism can lead normal lives and may have careers in a variety of fields. In some cultures, albinism is considered a mark of beauty and people with the condition may be celebrated for their appearance.
HARARE — Rebels cut the rail line between Zimbabwe and Mozambique's port of Beira twice this week ahead of today's deadline for a partial truce in Mozambique's 14-year civil war, officials of the Beira Corridor Group (BCG) said on Thursday.

The BCG officials said the rail cuts were quickly repaired and international transport routes along the Beira and Limpopo corridors and through western Tete province were quiet.

But the officials said there was some apprehension, particularly among truck drivers through Tete, and the situation could change overnight.

**Agreement signed**

The Maputo government and the rebel Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) signed an agreement on December 1 under which Renamo undertook not to attack the Beira and Limpopo corridors if Zimbabwean troops supporting the government withdrew to the corridors.

The government and Renamo are to hold further peace talks in Rome this month.

Zimbabwe, with about 7,000 troops in Mozambique, redeployed its soldiers from combat positions to the corridors before the end of December, ahead of Saturday's deadline.

The Zimbabwean army also stopped escorting truck convoys from Zimbabwe to Malawi across Tete province on December 21, although this route was not covered by the partial ceasefire.

**Driver killed**

BCG officials said one truck driver was killed in an attack on December 20 by a Renamo group on the last escorted northbound convoy, the first such incident since 1989.

No incidents have been reported along the vital oil pipeline to Zimbabwe through the 300-km Beira corridor.

The BCG officials said all was quiet along Limpopo railway corridor, guarded by some 3,000 Zimbabwean soldiers. — Sapa-Reuters
Africans riot in Cuba

GOVT. 6/1/91 (218)

MORE than 700 Mozambican students are being held by Cuban police after a riot in which one student died and two schools were wrecked in the Caribbean island country, according to reports from Maputo.

Mozambican Health Minister Leonardo Simao told the daily Notícias correspondent in Havana the number of detained students had risen by about 100 since last week. He rebuked the students. "What do the Cuban people feel when they know these schools, built with their money, were destroyed?"

A Mozambican Education Ministry official based on Cuba's Isle of Youth and four Mozambican teachers were also beaten up by students in the December 23 riot.

The students rebelled in support of demands for payment in American dollars and extra clothing.

Simao told them Mozambique was at war and people were dying of hunger, so students could not expect to be treated as a priority.

Dr Simao, who led a team to Cuba to investigate the riot, said Mozambique and Cuba wanted "to continue co-

These five models took time off from rehearsals for the “Durban Model of the Year” competition last weekend for a little horseplay on the beach.

One dead and 700 detained

operation in education despite the situation."

"At our meeting we saw it was possible to work together so that there will be no repetition of such incidents."

The Notícias correspondent said Cuban authorities prevented student rioters from lynching the education official, Gaspar Moniquetta, who was in hospital with severe head wounds.

The four teachers were recovering, it said. - Sapa-Reuter
Pretoria's reforms are irreversible.

Mr. Chismos has become the first leader of a Frontline state to recognize the ANC, which has relied on its African National Congress Support Movement for its support

The statement, made at a traditional meeting on its African National Congress Support Movement, could be interpreted as implying that the Mozambican government has lifted the remaining sanctions, including those imposed by the UN Security Council.

He also expressed hope that the ANC would soon follow his example and return home. This decision is seen as a major step toward bringing an end to decades of conflict in the country.

The process of eliminating apartheid is now irreversible, he said. The return to South Africa of the leader of the ANC and his colleagues is a major victory for the movement and for the country.

Mr. Chismos, in his speech, referred to the tragic events of 1989, when the ANC was banned in South Africa. He said that the party had learned from that experience and was now determined to continue its struggle for freedom.

He also expressed gratitude to the people of South Africa for their support, both during and after the struggle. He said that the ANC would continue to work for the development of the country and for the well-being of all its people.

The ANC has been banned in South Africa since 1960, but it has continued to operate underground and has grown significantly in recent years. The organization has played a key role in the struggle for democracy and has been responsible for a number of significant victories.

The ANC has been associated with a range of political and social movements in South Africa and has played a key role in the country's transition to democracy.
Soviets leave troubled Mozambique

BEIRA -- Soviet experts being withdrawn from Mozambique are concerned about leaving the poverty-stricken country while it struggles against spreading famine.

"I don't know what the Mozambicans are going to do when we go. They will die without us," said Igor Zhdarkin, an interpreter with about 70 Soviet helicopter pilots based in this Mozambican port.

"The people wear rubbish clothes and are very hungry. They need us." The 15-year-old war with the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) has destroyed the country's road network, making it necessary to fly food to millions of displaced people facing starvation.

There are between 1.4 and two million people facing famine, and the situation could deteriorate rapidly, according to Peter Simkin, head of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Mozambique.

But the Soviet government, beset with problems at home, is turning its attention inwards and paring down once-generous foreign aid contracts, like that with Mozambique.

Moscow's assistance to Mozambique used to total R80 million a year but was cut to R36 million in 1990. It is likely to fall again this year, a Soviet diplomat said recently.

Sergen Andreyev, first secretary at Moscow's embassy in Mozambique told the London-based Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU):

"We have realised ourselves, and our Mozambican friends see, that our resources are not so unlimited as we used to think. We have to try to match our obligations with our possibilities."

Only 450 out of an original 750 Soviet technical experts are left in Mozambique.

The two countries have been reviewing a 10-year co-operation accord that expired in 1990.

The new agreement, tailored to fit Moscow's strained means and due to be ratified early this year, is likely to emphasise trade rather than aid.

Most Soviet assistance to Mozambique has been in the form of military advisors, hardware and technical experts, the EIU said. The rest was in credits, mostly used to buy oil.

About 66 percent of the country's oil comes from the Soviet Union, on credit but at market prices Mozambique started importing oil from the Gulf before Iraq invaded Kuwait in August and world crude prices soared.

Mozambique's oil bill could double in 1991 to around R60 million, according to Simkin.

Mozambique, sapped by the war against rebels covertly backed by former Portuguese settlers and private South African groups, needs oil desperately.

Since 1987 Mozambique has shifted away from Marxism towards a market economy and political pluralism.

A Soviet pilot in Beira, who asked not to be named, was scathing about Mozambique's progress despite years of promoting international socialism:

"Sitting in a hotel bedroom plastered with pictures of scantily-clad girls torn from a South African soft porn magazine, he said:

"Look at what these people have done since independence. They have taken all that was most hyperbolic in the Soviet example. Everything is done for friends and profit.""

Most expatriate workers long for the day when they can return home, but Zhdarkin and his Soviet colleagues are not particularly happy about going back to a country in a winter of turmoil with mounting nationalism and food rationing.

"I don't want to go home. I've heard from friends in Moscow that things are really terrible," Zhdarkin said.

"I'd like to stay on until April, until the winter," he added, gesturing through the window towards the palm-fringed beach and Indian Ocean outside.
Rebel leader orders attack

BEIRA - Alphonso Dhakama, leader of Mozambican rebel movement, Renamo, last week ordered his forces to hit Zimbabwean aircraft, troops and economic targets within the Beira corridor, Zimbabwe's Sana news agency reported yesterday.

The commander of the Zimbabwe Task Force protecting the Beira corridor, Col Clever Charamba, said radio intercepts within the operational area revealed that Dhakama ordered his troops to attack Zimbabwean aircraft.

"These attacks were done deliberately to violate the Rome accord. According to our radio intercepts, Dhakama specifically ordered Renamo to charge and attack us in the corridor.

No aircraft has so far been hit, but the railway line was attacked twice last week at Muda and Mafumbvi, near Beira."
MAPUTO. — Two vehicles have been destroyed on the road between Swaziland and Mozambique by armed men believed to be Renamo rebels.

No one was injured in the attacks, but the official Mozambique news agency, Aum, says a couple and their children were kidnapped from one vehicle.

The road to Mozambique through Swaziland has been regarded up to now as the only relatively safe route into southern Mozambique.
$1.2bn aid pledged for Mozambique

TWENTY-NINE nations and international agencies have pledged $1.2bn in "quick-disbursing" aid to assist economic development this year in Mozambique, according to a World Bank publication.

Sixteen aid donor nations and 13 international agencies made the pledges during a meeting at the World Bank's offices in Paris last month, the World Bank News reports.

Most of the aid will be provided in the form of grants to help Mozambique overcome its balance of payments problems.

According to a communiqué issued at the end of the meeting, the large amount of aid was necessary to promote economic growth, rehabilitate essential infrastructure and to invest in human capital.

Delegates noted that Mozambique had made progress in implementing its economic and social rehabilitation programme, which aims at restoring economic growth and reducing poverty.

The Mozambican parliament reformulated its constitution last November, ending 15 years of one-party rule.

The constitution removed all reference to Frelimo's "leading role" in the country and permits the formation of multiple political parties.

Multiparty elections by secret ballot are due to be held later this year. The new constitution also guarantees Press freedom, including the right to set up newspapers, and an independent judiciary.

The declaration in the old constitution that the state should "eliminate the exploitation of man by man" has been dropped, as have references to the state being the driving force behind the economy.

Delegates at the Paris meeting also pointed out that despite reduced support from Eastern Europe, increased oil prices and continued civil unrest, Mozambique still managed to achieve a GDP growth rate of more than 3% in 1990 — the fourth consecutive year of growth.

Delegates noted the progress in negotiations towards a settlement of the country's civil unrest but warned that although peace would provide opportunities, it would also create new needs for economic management.

"With the advent of peace, the government would have to adjust to the return of refugees from neighbouring countries. Many of the refugees would require training, jobs and access to basic social services."

Moving ahead with adjustment programmes would depend on the international community's considerable and sustained financial support for Mozambique, the communiqué said.

"Over the 1991-93 period, Mozambique is expected to require about $1.2bn per year in external financing."
Chissano divides frontline

MAPUTO - Mozambique's President Joaquim Chissano has become the first leader of a Frontline state to pronounce that South Africa's reform process is "irreversible".

The statement flies in the face of opposite views held by the African National Congress and other Frontline leaders.

It could be interpreted to imply that the Mozambique government believes the time has come for the lifting of sanctions and other punitive actions taken against South Africa.

Chissano made the statement at a traditional New Year reception for the Maputo diplomatic corps on Friday.

The process of eliminating apartheid is now "irreversible", he told the diplomats, and called on the South African government to rapidly remove the remaining obstacles to the negotiation of a new constitutional dispensation.

He also expressed joy at the return to South Africa of the leader of the ANC, Oliver Tambo, and said he hoped that many other exiles would soon follow his example and return home.

The Chissano speech is the first crack in the solid facade presented by the Frontline states on the South African reform process, and could be a major setback for the ANC, which has relied heavily on its African allies for moral support as European and American support for continued sanctions crumbles. - Sowetan Africa news Service.
Fear and danger lurk among innocent green hills

The young Mozambican hitch-hiker was visibly tense, answering the usual questions about destination, home town and job in moneyless English. He constantly shifted his eyes along the road ahead to right and left.

His tension was intense, especially when he confirmed in another short answer that there had been shooting on the road a few kilometres away from the border post at Nhamatanda a week before. He did not elaborate.

The 60-km stretch of road from the Swaziland border to Maputo is an important link on the traffic route, which was not heavy, illustrated by a cross-section of traffic:

- There were numbers of local taxi and heavy trucks, with South African and Swazi land registration plates, heading for Maputo. Most of the South African vehicles, especially the cars, had Natal plates and the white passengers in several of these were obviously familiar, possibly Portuguese or Mozambican connections from 20 years ago.

  Some may have been the trendy youngsters from South Africa who, according to diplomats in the Mozambican capital, are increasingly taking holidays in Maputo.

  Nobody stopped on the road even though groups of Pretoria soldiers were posted every few kilometres. Mozambican soldiers were surrounded by neatly cultivated fields on the gentle descent through open hills, bright green after recent rains, toward the coast. But apart from the soldiers and the hurrying cars, the road was deserted.

  Just 21 km from the border along a heavily pot-holed road, a sharp turn took us to a better road marked the approach to the Maputo suburb of Maide.

  The young hitch-hiker still seemed tense, and his anxiety began to appear ridiculous. A trouble-free 40-minute drive was over, a leisurely lunch then another 40 minutes, the drive through Mafikeng, where people had been worried about.

  The news that the road was more cheerful.

  "No problem, you can drive," he said.

  But approaching the final 25-km stretch before the border, it became clear that there certainly had been problems not long before.

  There were larger groups of Pretoria soldiers posted every few kilometres along the road, some carrying rocket launchers, some with light machine guns. By the roadside, some of their vehicles had been damaged, and rocket fire from the hills could be heard. It was not a pleasant place to be.

  After a short drive through a thickly wooded area, the road narrowed, and the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  After a short drive through a thickly wooded area, the road narrowed, and the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.

  Back on the road, the Pretoria soldiers were replaced by a small group of blue-uniformed Swaziland police. So we turned off the main road and into the quiet town of Sonte near the Swazi border.
MAPUTO. — Hundreds of Mozambican high school pupils and teachers have been ordered by their government to return home from Cuba, where they were involved in riots that left a teenager dead.

The Mozambican government will also more strictly screen pupils sent to Cuba. The pupils frequently include "problem children" thrown out of schools in Mozambique, the Maputo newspaper Notícias said.

Mr Leonardo Simao, a Mozambican cabinet minister investigating the incident, said more than 700 pupils who had broken Cuban law or had poor academic performances would be repatriated.

**Plotter**

Teachers whose behaviour was "inappropriate" were also being recalled, Mr Simao said yesterday.

Noticias said Mr Simao claimed there were indications some teachers had been involved in planning the riot on December 23, but it gave no details.

Hundreds of Mozambican high school pupils have been detained in Cuba since the uprising, which was over demands that the government pay their allowances in American dollars instead of Mozambican meticais.

One boy died, allegedly after jumping from a building.

**Isle of Youth**

The riot broke out at a school for Mozambican pupils on the Isle of Youth, off Cuba's southwest coast.

Cuban police said they found the equivalent of 12,000 US dollars ($30,000) in various currencies while searching pupils' rooms after the riot. They said the money was evidence of illegal currency trading and would be used to repair damage from the riot.

Mozambique has more than 3,000 students and pupils in Cuba, according to government figures — Sapa-AP.
Soviets showing new face in Africa

BEIRA (Mozambique) — Soviet experts being withdrawn from Mozambique are concerned about leaving the poverty-stricken country while it struggles against spreading famine.

"I don't know what the Mozambicans are going to do when we go. They will die without us," said Mr. Igor Zharkin, an interpreter with about 70 Soviet helicopter pilots based in this Mozambican port.

"The people wear rubbish clothes and are very hungry... they need us," he added.

Less generous

The Soviet government, beset with problems at home, is turning its attention inwards and paring down once-generous aid and contracts to former allies all over the world.

Mozambique's assistance to Mozambique used to total $200-million (R500-m) a year but was cut to $90-m (R224-m) in 1990 and is likely to fall again this year, a Soviet diplomat said.

Mr. Sergei Andreyev, first secretary at Moscow's embassy in the Mozambican capital, Maputo, told the London-based Economist Intelligence Unit: "We have realised ourselves, and our Mozambican friends see, that our resources are not so unlimited as we used to think. We have to try to match our obligations with our possibilities."

Only 405 out of an original 750 Soviet technical experts remain in Mozambique.

The two countries have been reviewing a 10-year cooperation accord that expired in 1990.

New agreement

The new agreement, tailored to fit Moscow's straitened means and due to be ratified early this year, is likely to emphasise trade rather than aid.

Most Soviet assistance to Maputo has been in the form of military advisers, hardware and technical experts. The rest was in credits, mostly used to buy oil.

About 60 percent of the country's oil comes from the Soviet Union, on credit but at market prices.

Mozambique started importing oil from the Gulf before Iraq invaded Kuwait in August and world crude prices soared.

Mr. Peter Simkin, head of the United Nations Development Programme in Mozambique, says Mozambique's oil bill could double in 1991 to around $190-m (R475-m).

Mozambique, sapped by a bush war against rebels covertly backed by former Portuguese settlers and private South African groups since independence from Lisbon in 1975, needs oil desperately.

The war with the Mozambique National Resistance — Renamo — has destroyed the country's road network, making it necessary to fly food to millions of displaced people facing starvation.

Mr. Simkin said there were between 1.4 and 2 million people facing famine, and the situation could deteriorate rapidly.

Since 1987, Mozambique has shifted away from Marxism towards a market economy and political pluralism.

Scathing

A Soviet pilot in Beira, who asked not to be named, was scathing about Mozambique's progress in spite of years of promoting international socialism.

Sitting in a hotel bedroom plastered with pictures of scantily-clad girls, he said: "Look at what these people have done since independence. They have taken all that was most hyperbolic in the Soviet example."

The pilot served in Angola and was injured in the war there. A shell exploded near him at Cuito Cuanavale during fighting between Angolan forces and their Cuban allies and the South African army — Sapa-Reuters
Mozambique ambush:
3 killed, 7 missing

HARARE. — The death toll in the ambush of an unguarded vehicle convoy through Mozambique’s Tete corridor linking Malawi and Zimbabwe has been set at three, with seven people missing.

A spokesman for the Southern Africa Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC), an independently run institution based here, said the route, which carries an average of 150 heavy vehicles a day and which is Malawi’s lifeline to the outside world, had been closed to lorries since the attack last week.

It was reported last week that several vehicles were ambushed with rockets and automatic fire following the withdrawal from the route of convoy escorts manned by the Zimbabwe National Army, who are confined to two transport routes — the Berra corridor and the Limpopo corridor — further south in terms of a December agreement signed in Rome between Renamo and the Mozambique government.

SARDC said the bodies of two drivers and a woman passenger had been recovered on Friday at the scene of the ambush. Five other drivers were missing. Also missing were two young women hitch-hikers, last seen fleeing into the bush from a blazing lorry.

Transport company officials had visited the scene on Friday under Mozambican army escort and were surprised to see a naked man emerging from the bush, waving his arms.

He had told them he had been flung from a truck when it came under attack and had been stripped of his clothing while unconscious.

Another woman passenger was said to be recovering from bayonet wounds in hospital in Tete City, halfway along the route — Sapa
Women hikers flee ambush in Mozambique

By MICHAEL HARTNÁCK

HARARE — Two white women hitchhikers are reportedly missing in the dense bush of Mozambique's Tete province, following an apparent breakdown in the Rome ceasefire agreement between Renamo and President Joaquim Chissano's Maputo government.

Zimbabwean truck drivers reported seeing two "European women" fleeing into the bush on Thursday when, for the third successive day, a convoy was ambushed on the main road from Zimbabwe to Malawi.

Huge backlogs of vehicles are reported to have piled up at the Zimbabwean and Malawian ends of the former "Tete corridor" guarded, until the Rome agreement was implemented just before Christmas, by Zimbabwean troops.

All traffic has now been halted.

Zimbabwean troops have not been able to join in the search for survivors of Thursday's ambush, in which one woman, believed to have been a Malawian or a Zimbabwean, and seven truck drivers were killed.
‘Ceasefire violated’

MAPUTO — A Mozambican newspaper accused Renamo rebels yesterday of killing six people and wounding 20 in violations of a partial ceasefire in the 13-year civil war. The paper said Renamo launched three attacks on civilian vehicles last week.
Maputo famine relief trains looted

ARGUS AFRICA NEWS SERVICE

MAPUTO. — Mozambican police have been ordered to take special action to stop the theft of famine relief food from trains. The trains, carrying the food from Maputo and Zimbabwe, are being looted of as much as half of their contents.

Thousands of people, in the areas for which the food is destined, face starvation as a result of drought and war. They depend entirely on the relief food.

Most of the thefts have taken place in the Mozambican town of Chokwe, about 240 km along the line from Maputo to Zimbabwe.

Mr. Alberto Mujovo, co-ordinator of the emergency food programme in Gaza province, said that nearly half the food on a train travelling from Zimbabwe had been stolen.

Some trucks with food from Australia had been emptied by thieves, he said. While others had only about 20 percent of their original contents left by the time they were offloaded.
Mozambique takes first step to peace

The World in Focus

By Marlin Miller

The Weekly Mail, January 11 to January 17, 1991

matured after the loss of the order. The

The Weekly Mail
R40-m for Maputo

Britain has granted Mozambique R40 million to help out with its balance of payments debt and to support the upgrading of the Nacala corridor link with Malawi.
A love affair that could end in destruction

By RACHEL WATERHOUSE, Harare

A BUDDING love affair between South Africans and Inhaca, the tropical island in southern Mozambique, could end in a sandy and polluted grave, as the lovers seem unable to agree on the issue of conservation.

Just 40km from Maputo, Inhaca (pronounced Inyahka) has the southernmost coral reefs on earth and is a sanctuary for rare species such as the sea turtle. Mozambique's 15 years of civil war resulted in conservation efforts on the island being neglected. And, recently, Inhaca has become a refugee camp.

Now the island is further threatened by rapacious tourist development plans. Large hotels would reduce the island's already sparse vegetation.

As Mozambique edges closer to a negotiated settlement and relations steadily improve between Mozambique and South Africa, the likelihood of badly needed investment in the country's tourist industry is growing. But biologists warn that tourism needs to be combined with conservation to protect its fragile ecosystem.

"It's a shame that virtually all the requests from South Africans to invest in Inhaca ignore the need for conservation in ruthless pursuit of business," said Augusto Sunbarane, Mozambique's foreign investment director.

After Mozambique's independence in 1975, the drop in South African tourists did not mean a drop in the number of people on Inhaca. In the past three years, Inhaca's population has doubled from 5,000 to 10,000 as desperate Mozambicans fled the war on the mainland.

Confined to a camp for "displaced people", the refugees nevertheless inflict damage on the island as their hunt for fuelwood strips the little shrubland that exists. On the shoreline, once plentiful fish and molluscs are becoming scarce as the thousands of hungry refugees compete for seafood. Inland, the soil is being pressed to grow crops and is becoming depleted, according to specialists.

Abdul Adamo, the government's forestry and wildlife director, said Mozambique is preparing its first national law to protect the environment.

The Maputo city authorities responsible for Inhaca would like to implement the proposals of a United Nations-funded report on the island. The report, which was completed last year, recommends a combination of conservation, medium-scale tourism and scientific research to allow the island to be developed on a sustainable basis.

However, the dozens of offers from South African investors do not propose such a balanced approach, and instead urge large-scale projects including big hotels, amusement arcades, and elaborate sports facilities.
Renamo cuts aid route
Fears for Refugees as Harare - Con.

Photograph by John Hogg

"African News Service"

Published in Dar es Salaam on 29/6/91
SA takes lead in minerals search

A SOUTH AFRICAN company is first in the field in mining exploration in mineral-rich Mozambique.

Alberton-based RUC Mining Contracting Co has formed a joint venture company with the Mozambican Government to carry out mineral exploration operations.

The company, Modrill, has 12 drilling rigs in Mozambique and offices and stores have been established at four bases.

The first phase of a drilling programme on a coal deposit in Tete province in the north has been completed and the results are being evaluated, says RUC company secretary Pat Morrison.

"If the results are positive we will begin the second phase in June," says Mr Morrison.

Negotiations with the Mozambican Government started last May and RUC executives say they went through smoothly and comparatively quickly. They are confident that mineral exploration is about to enter a new growth phase.

Specialist

Modrill is managed by Umdrilling — RUC's specialist drilling company which is controlled by Murray & Roberts and Gencor, each with a 50% stake, has been a leading player in mineral exploration in SA for 21 years.

Drilling for other minerals is under negotiation if profitable deposits are confirmed, it is intended to sell them to private operators for exploitation, says Mr Morrison.

Other companies in the RUC stable could carry out shaft sinking and underground construction "We could give the buyer a working mine," says Mr Morrison.

Umdrilling will give priority to training and re-training Mozambican staff in drilling techniques, plant maintenance and operational management. Some training will be carried out at the Alberton headquarters, but wherever possible courses will be held in Mozambique.

The Mining Journal recently listed eight minerals, including bauxite, coal, copper and tantalum, which have been mined in Mozambique. But it said the fall in output in recent years had been catastrophic.

Some gold is mined near SA's border with Mozambique and Lonrho has commissioned a dredger for alluvial gold and is exploring about 18 old mines.

Trans-Natal Coal is a member of the multinational consortium investigating a potential 10-million-ton-a-year colliery at Montare.

The Mining Journal says SA is the "natural investor" in Mozambican mining. But the new SA may want much of the country's wealth invested at home.

"The mineral potential of Mozambique that was so interesting to mining companies in 1969 is still there, and at some stage in the future — perhaps sooner than the present gloomy scene suggests — its development will occur."
RUC seals deal with Mozambican govt

THE Mozambican government and RUC Mining officially launched their joint venture company, Modri, last week.

RUC said in a statement the agreement was the first between an SA company and the Mozambican government.

Modri has been conducting exploration drilling operations on a coal deposit in the Tete province since last May. The preliminary drilling programme is complete and the second phase of exploration will begin in June if results are positive.

The company already has offices and stores in four locations, plus 52 drilling rigs to help it operate throughout Mozambique. RUC's subsidiary, Afton-based Umdrilling, will manage the new company.

RUC said training Mozambican staff in drilling techniques, plant maintenance and management was a priority.
Maputo's new transport fees put on hold

HARARE — Zimbabwe and Mozambique have agreed to a two-month delay in implementing a new hard currency payment system for transport fees, which threatened a wholesale rerouting of Zimbabwean imports to SA's ports.

Sources in Harare confirm that Zimbabwe Transport Minister Denis Norman and his Mozambican counterpart, Gen Armando Gwemba, have met to seek a compromise payments formula to ease the critical cashflow situation for Mozambique's state-owned railways, CFM.

Six years of efforts to divert Zimbabwean traffic away from SA ports were jeopardised in December when Mozambique demanded that Zimbabwean shipments be paid for in advance in US dollars. Previously, Zimbabwean importers paid in arrear in local currency.

Noman and Gwemba have agreed to delay introduction of any new payments system until April 1, pending negotiations, say transport industry sources. About R350m has been spent since 1984 on rehabilitating Zimbabwe's direct access to the Indian Ocean via Mozambique, with the result that trade sent through the SA transport system has declined from 85% to less than 70%.

CFM's cashflow crisis has been aggravated by the need to hire extra locomotives from Zimbabwe. Even greater demands will be placed upon CFM's locomotive pool if Zimbabwe succeeds in reopening the 700km Limpopo corridor as planned this quarter, restoring direct access to Maputo's deep water harbour. Routine traffic was halted by Renamo sabotage in August 1984. All traffic in the Tete corridor linking Zimbabwe and Malawi halted following a series of rebel ambushes earlier this month.
Political Correspondent

The American administration believes that ceasefires will be signed in Mozambique and Angola this year, ending protracted civil wars. US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Herman Cohen told this to journalists at a briefing in Cape Town.

About 80 percent of the negotiation work had been completed in five rounds of Portuguese-sponsored talks between the MPLA government and Unita since last June. The remaining 20 percent were tackled at five-nation talks involving the US and USSR in Washington on December 13.

"As a result we were able to come up with a basic framework for a settlement," Mr Cohen said.

The thorny issue of what to do with two armies would be dealt with by disbanding both and establishing a new national army.
Mozambique railways demand hard currency

MAPUTO — Mozambique's state-owned railways has instituted a system that forces foreign customers to pay hard currency in advance for services — a system that could cripple the country's ports.

Enraged businessmen in Zimbabwe and Malawi, two of the country's biggest customers, are threatening to use South African ports rather than bow to the new system.

Previously Zimbabwean and Malawian businessmen paid their railways in local currency, and accounts were settled later between the two national railways in hard currency.

The general manager of Mozambican Railways, Luis Ah-Hoy, said this system did not work as customers took too long to pay accounts, meaning that Mozambique Rail was in effect giving interest free loans for up to a year at a time.

However Zimbabwean and Malawian businessmen complain that, given their countries restrictive foreign exchange regulations, it will be almost impossible for them to obtain foreign exchange in advance to pay Mozambique.

The net result could be that these businessmen will find it quicker and cheaper to use South African ports.

South Africa and Swaziland, Mozambique's other major customers, do not suffer from this problem as the Mozambique regards the rand as a "hard" currency.

Star Africa News Service
Colonialism returns

From Ruth Ansah Ayis Maputo

AS an increasing number of wealthy South African tourists and businesspeople flock to Maputo, residents say their capital is in some ways taking on characteristics of the colonial days when it was called Lourenco Marques.

Then, it was commonly known as “South Africa’s playground”.

The South African presence in Maputo is becoming particularly obvious at the more expensive hotels.

Typical is the Polana, regally situated amid palm trees and rolling lawns that overlook the Indian Ocean.

Bands

During 1990, South African managers took over the hotel. Since then, huge braai and regular concerts, specially by popular South African bands — most recently Mango Groove — are organised at the side of the hexagonal swimming pool.

Apart from hotel management and tourism, South African businesspeople are showing interest in a range of activities, including mining, farming and forestry.

David Laubscher, the commercial representative of the South African Trade Mission, said more than 100 South Africans interested in business ventures in Mozambique visit his office each month.

“South Africans have always had an interest in Mozambique, and with the new economic climate here, Mozambique has attractive conditions for foreign investors and good trade connections,” he says.

Mozambicans, too, have always had close ties with their neighbour.

Many Mozambicans have relatives across the border, and tens of thousands of people in southern Mozambique have worked as migrant labourers in South Africa, especially in the mines.

Numbers have dropped by half from the pre-independence levels of 100,000, with the current average being 50,000.

The friendlier relationship has also brought about bilateral cooperation on many different economic fronts.

A recent R50-million investment for the rehabilitation of the giant Cahora Bassa hydro-electric complex in the north-western Tete province has recently been approved and the next consignment of 100,000 lanterns packed for the troops guarding the complex has just been made by South Africa.

Sabotage

Cahora Bassa, barely functioning because of sabotage, can both provide for Mozambique’s electricity requirements and earn foreign currency.

For South Africans, it is a cheap source of electricity that could meet 10 percent of the country’s power needs.

Maputo’s port, a major outlet for South Africa’s citrus fruit and coal, has been another major area of cooperation. At the end of last year a R12m loan was given for rehabilitation work.

The South Africans have also recently made their largest-ever grant of R3m to set up a project for Mozambicans to be trained in primary skills, like bricklaying and refrigeration.

South African Airways (SAA) has scheduled more flights between Johannesburg and Maputo to handle the large increase in travellers.

Just over two years ago there were only a couple of flights a week, but since December 1, 1990, there is a flight a day.

Movements

But not all reported movements across the border have been positive.

At the end of last year, there were newspaper reports of a slave trade in eastern Transvaal and Reef townships using Mozambican refugees.

One journalist had talked to Mozambican women living in “appalling conditions” waiting to be “sold” for about R200 or R300.

This reported incident reminds people that the South African interest in Mozambique has in the past been far from constructive.

Soon after Mozambique gained independence from Portugal in 1975, South African military forces attacked African National Congress (ANC) offices in Mozambique at least three times.

Up until possibly a year ago, Pretoria was the main supporter of the rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo), providing them with sophisticated military and logistical assistance.

Clearly, South Africa realises it has a lot to gain from having a more harmonious relationship with Mozambique, particularly as the country has become more open to market forces.

— AFA
A N increasing number of wealthy South African tourists and business people are flocking to Maputo and Mozambicans say their capital is taking on the characteristics of its colonial days when it was Lourenco Marques (LM).

It was commonly known as "South Africa's playground" in the past and the new South African presence in Maputo has become particularly obvious at expensive hotels.

Typical is the renowned Polana Hotel, regally situated amid palm trees and rolling lawns overlooking the Indian Ocean. Last year South African managers took over the hotel.

Since then, huge braais and regular concerts by popular South African bands like Mango Groove are enjoyed at the side of its luxury swimming pool.

South African business people are also showing interest in a range of activities, including mining, farming and forestry. According to David Laubscher, commercial representative for the South African trade mission there, more than 100 South Africans interested in business ventures in Mozambique visit his office each month.

Mozambicans, too, have always had close ties with South Africa. Many Mozambicans have relatives across the border, and thousands of people from southern Mozambique have worked as migrant labourers in South Africa.

A recent R50-million investment for a revamp of the giant Cahora Bassa hydro-electric complex in the north-western Tete Province has recently been approved and the next consignment of 100 000 ration packs for troops guarding the complex has just been delivered by South Africa.

Cahora Bassa, barely functioning because of sabotage by Renamo rebels, could provide all of Mozambique's electricity requirements and earn foreign currency by supplying neighbours.

Maputo's port, a major outlet for South Africa's citrus fruit and coal, has been another major area of co-operation. At the end of last year, a R1.2-million South African loan was given for upgrading.

South Africans have also recently made their largest-ever grant of R3-million for the training of artisans and technicians.

SAA has scheduled more flights between Johannesburg and Maputo to handle the increase of travellers. Just over two years ago, there were only a couple of flights a week, but since December, there has been a flight every day.

After years of enmity, the breakthrough came when Minister FW de Klerk, then leader of the National Party, visited Mozambique in July 1989. He endorsed President Joaquim Chissano's peace initiative with Renamo and said Pretoria no longer officially backed the rebels.

Clearly, South Africa realises it has a lot to gain from having a more harmonious relationship with Mozambique.
Mozambique downplays breakdown of peace talks

MAPUTO — President Chissano of Mozambique has downplayed the breakdown of the fifth round of peace talks in Rome between the Mozambican government and the Renamo rebel movement.

According to a report, the talks broke down over a report by the Joint Monitoring Commission blaming Renamo for violations of a partial ceasefire between Renamo and Zimbabwean troops, in the country to protect vital transport corridors.

Renamo rejected the report blaming it for at least six of 14 reported violations, and instead accused Zimbabwean troops of masquerading as Mozambican troops and continuing to fight the rebels.

During a Mozambican state television interview yesterday, President Chissano denied the breakdown of the talks was a major setback for peace.

He hinted that talks would resume after the Renamo delegation had "consulted" with its representatives. — Star Africa Service.
Truce talks on the last track

MAPUTO - Mozambican President Joaquim Chissi,

On the last track, 

| According to a report by the official News Agency, 
| the talks broke down over a report by the Mozambican government. | 
| Ceasefire violations between the Renamo and Zimbabwean forces | 
| The Mozambican government and the Renamo rebels | 

The talks broke down over a report by the Mozambican government, accusing the Renamo and Zimbabwean forces of ceasefire violations. The Mozambican government and the Renamo rebels were unable to come to a resolution, leading to the talks breaking down.
The massive task of grafting Machete

The suffering of the country's poorest people.

The poor unfortunately are less powerful. The government is not powerful enough to protect the rights of the poor. In many cases, the government is controlled by powerful companies and interests that are solely interested in profit. The poor are often Voiceless and powerless, and they are often subjected to exploitation and abuse. The government must take action to ensure that the rights of the poor are protected and that they are given a fair chance to improve their lives. The government must also work to create opportunities for the poor to improve their economic and social conditions. This will require a significant investment in education, healthcare, and infrastructure. The government must also work to reduce poverty by implementing policies that promote economic growth and distribute wealth more equitably.

Grafting Machete

The poor unfortunately are less powerful. The government is not powerful enough to protect the rights of the poor. In many cases, the government is controlled by powerful companies and interests that are solely interested in profit. The poor are often Voiceless and powerless, and they are often subjected to exploitation and abuse. The government must take action to ensure that the rights of the poor are protected and that they are given a fair chance to improve their lives. The government must also work to create opportunities for the poor to improve their economic and social conditions. This will require a significant investment in education, healthcare, and infrastructure. The government must also work to reduce poverty by implementing policies that promote economic growth and distribute wealth more equitably.
Machel's legacy lives on

From Ruth Anjah Ayisi

Maputo

"My husband's death has left me with great emptiness. The solitude I feel is immense. Only by continuing the struggle, contributing to the completion of his work, will my life have any meaning."

The words are from a letter by Graca Machel soon after her husband, the late Mozambique President Samora Machel, was killed in an air crash over South Africa on October 19, 1986. She was replying to a message of condolence sent by the African National Congress (ANC) deputy president Nelson Mandela, while he was still in prison, and his wife Winnie.

But today, four years later, Graca Machel, 45, is making a mark in her own right. This year Machel is setting up Mozambique's first private foundation — "the Community Development Foundation" — of which she will be executive director.

The aim of the foundation, which is expected to begin operations in 1992, is to alleviate the sufferings of the poorest people in the country through community-based programmes.

Machel, who joined Frelimo's armed struggle against Portuguese colonialism and was Mozambique's first education minister after independence in 1975, says she needs a change from her old style of work.

"I'm fed up with working top down," she says. "I wanted to have a different kind of approach. We want the community to tell us what they want."

The foundation is in its formative stages, known now as an "association." But it has attracted some prominent figures. These include Mozambique's finance minister, Abdul Magid Osman, the Anglican Bishop Denis Sengulane of the Libombo and the president of the Islamic Council of Mozambique, Hassan Makda. The association's chairperson is Eneas Comiche, governor of the Bank of Mozambique.

Machel says the group needs between R100m and R125m, which it can invest to gain interest. Foreign donor pledges are already appearing.

So far the McArthur Foundation of the United States has given R695,000 for concrete community projects, the European Community (EC) is providing the association with 50 million meticais (about R125,000) and the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) has promised R250,000, according to a report of the Mozambique News Agency (AIM) — AFA.
Jittery peace along Beira Corridor

THE WEEKLY MAIL, February 15 to February 21, 1991

As a Mozambican family tends its maize crop, a Zimbabwean army patrol keeps a watchful eye over the road and railway line which link landlocked Zimbabwe to Mozambique's Beira Port.

Across the heat-shimmering plains looms cloud-capped Gorongosa Mountain, the Renamo stronghold from which the rebels launch murderous strikes into the countryside.

An uneasy peace is holding along the Beira corridor, which cuts across this country's narrow-waisted centre, while war wages throughout the rest of Mozambique. As demonstrated by the breakdown of peace talks in Rome, Renamo has stepped up sabotage attacks in southern Mozambique, cutting power to Maputo for a number of days this month and killing 15 people at a restaurant in Boane, 16km south of Maputo. Renamo has also increased its warfare in northern Mozambique. Forty-five people were killed last week when the rebels attacked a convoy travelling along the Tete road from Zimbabwe to Malawi. The rebels have effectively closed that road, which is Malawi's lifeline for food supplies. Renamo is battling the Mozambican army to regain control of strategic areas of the northern Manica, Tete and Sofala provinces.

But a jittery peace prevails along the Beira corridor — the 290km road and rail route between Zimbabwe and Beira port — thanks to the partial ceasefire between Renamo and the Mozambican government. According to the Rome accord, the rebels have agreed not to attack the Beira corridor or the Limpopo railway line in southern Mozambique as long as the 3000 Zimbabwean army troops deployed in Mozambique are confined to a three km zone on either side of the two transport routes

The suspension of the Rome talks and a spate of recent attacks indicate that Renamo intends to keep the battle raging in Mozambique.

By ANDREW MELDRUM

A number of ceasefire violations were reported along the transport corridors during the early days of January, but now officials say the limited ceasefire is generally being honoured. From Chimoio, midway between Zimbabwe and Beira, the eight-nation Joint Verification Committee monitoring the ceasefire states that no violations have been reported for more than two weeks.

Ordinary Mozambicans have been quick to endorse the effectiveness of the ceasefire, flocking in their thousands to the six km safety zone. More than 250000 Mozambicans, refugees in their own country, are estimated to be bivouched along the Beira corridor.

The Italian commander of the Chimoio verification team, Lieutenant Colonel Pasquale Cardone, said he was worried by the drought-caused hunger evident among people living along the corridor. He was also concerned about the large number of arms in the country. Military sources estimate that as many as 1.5 million Kalashnikov rifles are circulating in Mozambique. On the Beira route a foreign businessman was offered an automatic rifle for a one kilogram sack of sugar, ..

Unfortunately the suspension of the Rome talks and the recent spate of rebel attacks indicates that Renamo intends to keep fighting. Analysts in Maputo say Renamo broke off the Rome peace talks in order to concentrate on winning as much territory as possible in northern Mozambique.
Namibia moves to stop guards shooting people

From DALE LAUTENBACH
Argus Africa News Service
WINDHOEK. — The Namibian Cabinet security committee has announced that it will recommend a programme of retraining for the presidential guard.

This follows broad criticism for its silence on several incidents of shooting at the public by President Sam Nujoma’s guard. But there was no word of condemnation of the guards’ behaviour.

Five members of the public have been shot at for allegedly disobeying orders from the guard who make up Mr Nujoma’s motor cavalcade. One motorist was injured in the shootings.

OFFICIAL LINE

The government has adopted the line so far that while the police are investigating five complaints by members of the public made against the guard and until the facts are presented one way or another, it will not comment on who is at fault.

The latest statement, released today, said the cabinet security committee “wishes to stress that the alleged incidents of improper conduct by persons in the employ of the army or police are being investigated and steps will be taken, as appropriate, should any criminal behaviour be disclosed.”

The committee would also recommend to cabinet a programme of retraining for the presidential guard to even better equip them for the task of safeguarding the life of our president.”

The committee also discussed “the general security situation in the country including reports of infiltration into our territory by hostile elements and the departure to South Africa by former Koevoet combatants.”

On this they “proposed ways of streamlining the intelligence gathering and reporting mechanism in our republic”.

There remains concern in Namibia about evidence late last year that former Koevoet members were traveling to South Africa.

Mr Ruan Eksteen, South African chief representative in Namibia, said at the time that the South African government was not involved with the movement of former Koevoet fighters into South Africa as, among others, President Nujoma claimed.

Former members of the force were also seen by journalists, including Argus Africa News Service, boarding an Upington-bound train in Windhoek.

Shortly after Mr Eksteen’s denial, South African Minister of Law and Order Mr Adrian Vlok said South Africa was using members of its former force in Namibia as they were being discriminated against in the independent country.
No peace as Renamo stalls

Special Correspondent

THE peace process in Mozambique is faltering because Renamo's leadership has failed to decide on a political platform for peace talks and cannot come up with a formula for ending the civil war.

The last round of direct peace negotiations were suspended on January 30 in Rome.

The rebels' main excuse for not entering into the scheduled talks is the absence of a radio link between their delegation in Rome and their representatives in Mozambique, including leader Joaquim Chissano.

A law governing political parties took effect on February 7, putting more pressure on Renamo to come out of the bush after 16 years.

A senior diplomat in the capital Maputo blames Renamo: "It's difficult to negotiate with an organisation that doesn't know what it wants. Renamo feels isolated."

Most of Renamo's demands in recent years for a multi-party democracy, general elections and an open economy have been met by President Joaquim Chissano.

A law governing political parties took effect on February 7, putting more pressure on Renamo to come out of the bush after 16 years.

Analysts say the rebels' leadership is confused because it cannot decide on its agenda for free elections and is therefore stalling for time.

Following the latest breakdown of talks, US assistant secretary for African affairs Herman Cohen said in Rome he agreed Renamo seemed to be having trouble transforming itself into a political organisation.

The Renamo delegation, headed by its foreign affairs representative Raul Domingo, used the fifth round of negotiations to squabble over violations of the limited ceasefire agreement instituted on December 1.

A joint verification commission (JVC) has been set up in Maputo to monitor the ceasefire, and has since accused Renamo of six violations.

Renamo rejects the JVC claims and has levelled charges that Zimbabwean troops, disguised as Renamo soldiers, are active in at least seven of Mozambique's 10 provinces.

Renamo also claims the JVC lacks impartiality, which diplomatic sources dismissed as an excuse.

In addition to three rebel leaders, the JVC includes representatives from the Mozambican government, Catholic church mediators plus delegates from the Soviet Union, the US, Britain, Portugal, Italy, Zambia, Kenya, Congo and France.

The JVC may soon include another country which is "friendly" towards the rebels. Some analysts think Malawi will be invited.

But Renamo's relations with Malawi could have soured since the closure of the 358km Tete corridor, Malawi's main foreign trade route, because of increased rebel attacks on convoys.

No date has yet been announced for the next round of talks in Rome, but the Mozambican government will be anxious to restart them as soon as possible because general elections are expected in 1992.

However, because of delays in the peace process, political analysts predict that elections are unlikely to take place before 1992.

Food for a war victim... Mozambique faces more problems after peace talks between Renamo rebels and the Frelimo government failed again.
Victim of power struggle

A MASSACRE on the Tete road in Mozambique last week and the effective closure of this road route between Zimbabwe and Malawi has put Malawi right in the middle of the power struggle between Frelimo and Renamo.

When the Zimbabwean army was providing the escort through the Tete Corridor, up to 150 trucks a day were crossing the 260 km section through Mozambique, carrying most of Malawi’s imports and exports and transporting tons of food for the 600,000 Mozambican refugees in Malawi.

But the partial ceasefire agreement reached by Frelimo and Renamo saw Zimbabwean troops confined to the Beira and Limpopo corridors, and the last Zimbabwe army troops pulled out of Tete on December 21.

Renamo maintained they had a separate agreement with Malawi regarding the Tete route and for a few weeks after the ending of the convoy system, trucks sped through Tete province, making two or three return journeys a week. The flow of goods was largely uninterrupted until January 9 when a Malawian tanker was caught in a Renamo ambush directed against Frelimo forces on the road.

The next day four heavy vehicles were attacked, crew and passengers were killed, and vehicles were abandoned. More ambushes followed involving Mozambican vehicles, and a loosely guarded convoy system was reintroduced with military and Frelimo soldiers as escort.

According to transport sources, the organisation was sloppy, and the Mozambicans were able to operate only two convoys each way a week, compared with the five or six run by the Zimbabwean army.

Last week’s ambush, which saw up to 45 people killed, most of them Frelimo soldiers, has now put paid to any immediate hopes of increasing traffic. Indeed, according to the managing director of the Beira Corridor Group, David Zausmer, the route is effectively closed.

Estimated

Most goods to and from Malawi will now have to go by road through Zambia, as the railway to Beira from Malawi is not operating and the rail route to the northern Mozambican port of Nacala can carry only limited traffic. The so-called express service takes up to eight days to make the journey to Nacala because of the poor condition of the track.

The road route through Zambia, known as the Chipata Corridor after the eastern Zambian town of Chipata means transporters have to go an additional 2,000 km on the round trip between Harare and Blantyre, making only one journey a week.

Vehicles go north from Harare, cross the Zambezi at Chirundu, go on to Lusaka, turn east across the Luangwa Valley through Petauke and Chipata into Malawi and then head south to Blantyre.

It has been estimated that 47 percent of Malawi’s foreign exchange earnings are spent on transportation. Now that bill will rise dramatically and will be increased further by the sharp rise in fuel prices in Zimbabwe this month.
Victim of power struggle

A MASSACRE on the Tete road in Mozambique last week and the effective closure of this road route between Zimbabwe and Malawi has put Malawi right in the middle of the power struggle between Freli-
mo and Renamo.

When the Zimbabwean army was providing the escort through the Tete Corridor, up to 150 trucks a day were crossing the 260 km section through Mozambique, carrying most of Malawi’s imports and exports and transporting tons of food for the 300 000 Mozambican re-
ugees in Malawi.

But the partial ceasefire agreement reached by Frelimo and Renamo saw Zimbabwean troops confined to the Beira and Limpopo corridors, and the last Zimbabwean army troops pulled out of Tete on December 21.

Renamo maintained they had a separate agreement with Mal-
awi regarding the Tete route and for a few weeks after the end of the convoy system, trucks sped through Tete prov-
ince, making two or three return journeys a week. The flow of goods was largely uninter-
rupted until January 9 when a Malawian tanker was caught in a Renamo ambush directed against Frelimo forces on the road.

The next day four heavy vehi-
cles were attacked, crew and passengers were killed, and ve-
Hicles were abandoned. More ambushed followed involving Mozambican vehicles, and a loosely guarded convoy system was reintroduced with milita and Frelimo soldiers as escort.

According to transport sources, the organisation was sloppy and the Mozambicans were able to operate only two convoys each way a week, com-
pared with the five or six run by the Zimbabwean army.

Last week’s ambush, which saw up to 45 people killed, most of them Frelimo soldiers, has now put paid to any immediate hopes of increasing traffic In-
deed, according to the manag-
ing director of the Beira Corri-
dor Group, David Zeuser, the route is effectively closed.

Estimated

Most goods to and from Mal-
awi will now have to go by road through Zambia, as the railway to Beira from Malawi is not operating and the rail route to the northern Mozambi-
can port of Nacala can carry only limited traffic. The so-
called express service takes up to eight days to make the jour-
ney to Nacala because of the poor condition of the track.

The road through Zam-
bia, known as the Chipata Corri-
dor after the eastern Zambian town of Chipata means trans-
porters have to go an additional 2 000 km on the round trip be-
tween Harare and Blantyre, making only one journey a week.

Vehicles go north from Harare, cross the Zambezi at Chirundu, go on to Lusaka, turn east across the Luangwa Valley through Petauke and Chipata into Malawi and then head south to Blantyre.

It has been estimated that 47 percent of Malawi’s foreign exchange earnings are spent on transportation. Now that bill will rise dramatically and will be increased further by the sharp rise in fuel prices in Zimbabwe this month.
Cahora Bassa: talks held to restore links

LISBON - Delegations from Portugal, Mozambique and South Africa met for talks on the future of the giant Cahora Bassa power plant, which has stood idle for eight years after repeated sabotage by Mozambican rebels.

Representatives from South African and Mozambican power companies and Portuguese diplomats reportedly discussed plans to restore sabotaged power lines connecting Cahora Bassa to South Africa.

Delegates also analysed proposals to link Zimbabwe to the power plant, Portugal's state news agency reported.

Talks were also expected to focus on security at the plant, following the murder last month of a Portuguese technician and his wife.

The huge dam and hydro-electric complex was built in the early 1970s on the Zambezi River, near the town of Songo, when Mozambique was still a Portuguese colony.

Since Mozambique gained independence in 1975, rebels opposing the government have frequently attacked power lines built to supply South Africa with electricity. In 1988, South Africa, Portugal and Mozambique agreed to restore the cables. But the continuing war between government forces and Renamo has prevented the plant's operation.

Portugal invested more than $1 billion (R2.7 billion) in the building of the dam and owns more than 50 percent of the Cahora Bassa Hydro-electric company. The Mozambican government owns the rest.

While out of service, the plant costs Portugal about $200,000 (R600,000) daily in maintenance and debt payments. Mozambique has been forced to spend up to R30 million annually to import electricity scheduled to come from Cahora Bassa.

-- Sapa-AP

Text end
RENAMO REBELS HIT BEIRA CORRIDOR

MAPUTO — Renamo has sabotaged the Beira Corridor railway line. Mozambican authorities say the rebels are obviously carrying out their threat to violate the peace agreement signed in December.

Renamo spokesmen last week threatened to resume attacks on the grounds that Zambian troops fighting the rebels had not withdrawn.

Star Africa Service.
MAPUTO - Constant Renamo attacks have cut off a district of Mozambique sandwiched between the Zambezi River and Malawi, leaving it dependent on an intermittent airstrip for supplies.

Hundreds of people in the district of Mutarara are without food and some are keeping alive by eating wild roots, according to the official news agency, AIM.

As in other parts of Mozambique where the rebels have cut the roads, food is being flown into the district but the flights have been infrequent because of security problems and a fuel shortage.

Pedro Xavier, the deputy district administrator, told AIM the rebels attacking the area were based inside Malawi.

Soweto Africa News Service
African human rights watched

MAPUTO - African leaders who have flouted their peoples' political and human rights have been criticised at a regional human rights conference held in Mozambique.

These leaders had 'plunged their countries into dictatorships which had then undermined social and economic rights as well,' the participants said in a declaration issued at the end of the conference.

They said the development of human rights was 'necessary for the triumph of democracy in the Third World, especially in Africa'.

The conference, which was attended by non-government representatives from several neighbouring states, agreed to set up a regional network of researchers and 'activists' to watch over human rights issues in the sub-continent.

Ms Brigitte Mahandla, a member of the constitutional committee of the African National Congress, told the conference that both the ANC and the Mass Democratic Movement had effectively discriminated against women by giving them inadequate representation on decision-making bodies.

She said the ANC Women's League had lost the semi-autonomous status it had enjoyed in the fifties, according to a report from the Mozambican news agency.
Mutual distrust barricades the road to peace


NAIROBI - In the final analysis it boils down to distrust.

Alfonso Dhlakama, the portly, almost cherubic-looking leader of the Renamo rebel movement, just does not trust President Joaquim Chissano when he says he wants to convert Mozambique from the one-party vanguard Marxist state he helped to create into a free-enterprise oriented multi-party democracy.

"He lies," Dhlakama says simply.

Almost in the same breath Dhlakama says he realises both that the war must end and that it must end through an agreement negotiated between the parties led by himself and Chissano - but probably not this year.

In the past six months the two organisations have been conducting negotiations in Rome under the auspices of the Catholic Church to explore ways of ending the civil war that has dragged on for almost 15 years, in the process killing almost one million people and utterly destroying the Mozambican economy.

Accusations

The fifth and latest round of talks broke up amid accusations of bad faith - leading Renamo to resume their attacks on troops confined to the Beira and Limpopo transport corridors.

Yet both sides say they intend to return to Rome and continue to talk - because both know there is simply no alternative.

"The only good thing to come out of the Rome meetings is that we have met - face to face - and will continue to meet until an agreement is reached," says Dhlakama. "But I see no possibility that this can happen this year."

"There are so many problems - political problems - to be resolved but the biggest problem is that the Renamo government is not really serious about either negotiations or about implementing a multi-party democracy."

In reply to the question that his interpretation is dramatically opposite what the government itself is saying about its new constitution, his answer again boils down to distrust.

Forced

"No, this new constitution is not a constitution of the Mozambican people, it is a constitution designed by Frelimo to allow to the outside world so that it may continue to get money."

"Just go to the country where people are still forced to live in communal villages like prisoners, with no freedom, and you will see that Frelimo is not serious about democracy," he said.

Elections

Dhlakama shrugs off the formation of opposition political parties in Maputo, and government plans to hold an election some time this year as more "propaganda."

"It is impossible to hold elections this year. Firstly, there is no electoral law, the war continues and neither Chissano nor I know how many Mozambicans there are."

"Any election will be a farce, an election in Maputo and Beira only. As for these 'parties' - such as Pademulo and Unamo - they are creations of Snsnp (the Mozambican secret police) designed as window dressing by Chissano to make him look good," he said.

What then are the major differences between Renamo and Frelimo under the new constitution?

"They are many, very many. Firstly, the law defining how political parties can be created is very vague. Secondly, under the constitution, the President has far too great a power. For example he can declare a state of emergency any time he wishes and for as long as he wishes. That is not democracy."

"Thirdly, only the president can approve the budget and only he can decide what is spent where - wherever and however helikes."

Problems

"Fourthly, the constitution says all land and water belongs to the state. Is that free-enterprise?"

"There are many other problems, such as the role of the army which under Frelimo is a petty army, and many, many others."

"But isn't it possible to have a ceasefire while these political problems are sorted out? After all, people are dying.

"The answer again is distrust."

"No, Renamo cannot accept a ceasefire until the political problems have been solved because the government will use the ceasefire to rebuild to fight Renamo. It is not possible to trust Chissano; they could drag talks on for years and years - that is not what we want."

"Also, if the political problems are not resolved, and Frelimo remains in charge, they can say at any time that Renamo people are against the constitution - the law - and simply throw them in jail.

"It is not possible to accept this.""At the same time it is not that we want the killing to continue, we don't. We have been in the bush for 14 years fighting Frelimo, and it has not been easy."

"All that time we wanted negotiations, but Frelimo just called us 'bandits.'"

"A ceasefire is easy, I just have to give the order," he says, dismissing suggestions that he does not control all those killing under the Renamo banner.

Guarantees

"But we need guarantees from the government, and the war can't end until the political problems are resolved or the 14 years we have spent may have been wasted."

"What then is the Renamo plan, if any, to end the war?"

"Firstly, there must be agreement on the political problems. Secondly, we must discuss the details of the transition period. Thirdly comes the ceasefire and lastly we demand the presence of an independent organisation to supervise the country while we have elections."

Dhlakama says he envisages a body, such as the UN ("but not only the UN - they are biased towards Frelimo"), would actually run Mozambique while the various political parties campaigned - on the same basis as happened in Namibia.

He recognises that this last demand would be very hard for any sovereign government to accept - but he does not accept Frelimo's sovereignty, adding that the condition would not be difficult. "If Chissano is serious about peace."

Political comment in this issue by Aggrey Klaaste and Deon du Plessis. Newsbills by Sydnie Mthethwa. Sub-editing and headlines by Ivan Fynn. 中文版。
Mozambican refugees in South Africa will for the first time this year, be taught Portuguese—c their country's official language.

This is according to the Southern African Catholics Bishops Conference (SACBC) who have been campaigning for the rights of the refugees to be recognised in this country. This includes their right to maintain their culture and keep links with their motherland.

**Language**

The SACBC has also argued that if the refugees did not learn their country's language and learned English and Afrikaans instead, they would have communications problems with their compatriots when they return to Mozambique.

When the Portuguese programme started the school was invaded by members of the SA Defence Force who claimed the teaching of the language in South Africa amounts to a "security risk".

**Difficult**

The first step in the project was to gather 12 refugees with at least standard eight and train them to become teachers of their countrymen. They were subjected to a test of both written and spoken Portuguese.

After a successful test the prospective monitors were engaged in a three-week course.

The school will be in Mangweni Village in the Eastern Transvaal. It has been reported that it will adopt the Portuguese curriculum. However, it has not yet been stated what will happen if the students aspire to a secondary school level.

If they were to further their studies, qualified teachers and teaching material will be needed.

This would require donors to increase their load and for volunteers to come forward.
The Ghost of Bepo

"The moment the day returns, the echo room will be the scene of a grand opening. The organizers have decided to make it a grand opening. The fun continues, and the day is finally here. It's been a long time coming."

By Andrew Melton

Cannes hosts a scene of coffee and--
Renamo attacks threaten to derail peace

By KARL MAIER, Maputo

THREE rebel attacks on Mozambique’s Limpopo railway line in the past two weeks have threatened to dash the two-month-old mini-ceasefire on two key transport routes. But as yet there have been no attacks on the busy Beira corridor, which is heavily guarded by 3,500 Zambian army troops.

The Limpopo railway line is not really in use at this point and the rebels have sabotaged recent repair work.

In a desperate bid to patch up the limited ceasefire and to keep Mozambique’s peace negotiations on track, the United States has sent an envoy to make direct contact with the Renamo rebels.

Although there have been only three small rebel actions on the Limpopo corridor, Renamo now threatens to break the limited ceasefire.

"Any attack on the corridors now would call into question the December agreement," said Manfredo de Camerana, the Italian Ambassador to Maputo and chairman of the eight-nation Joint Verification Committee established to monitor the agreement.

Renamo spokesmen, including Joaquim Vaz, personal secretary to rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama, have announced the rebels will attack the transport routes because Zimbabwe has allegedly broken the agreement by keeping troops beyond the restricted zone of three kilometres either side of the corridors.

Renamo presented the verification committee with a list of 50 places where Zambian troops were allegedly still operating outside the zone. The commission has investigated eight of the sites and found the claims to be false.

All sides agree, however, that the Zimbabwean troop presence at Chimoto airport, situated about 10km from the corridor limit, is a technical violation.

The dispute over the corridor agreement is especially frustrating for the international verification committee because all countries had been pleased with the success of the mini-ceasefire, which had been holding since January 9. US Assistant Secretary of State Herman Cohen dispatched his special assistant, Jeffrey Davidson, to Africa to try to convince Renamo leaders to respect the accord.
Aid agencies not meeting Mozambique's needs
Aid agencies not meeting Mozambique’s needs

THE efficiency of the R1bn aid programme that keeps Mozambique afloat has come under critical scrutiny in Maputo recently, and clear inefficiencies in the aid process have been highlighted. What also surfaced, however, were signs that racial tensions, brought to the fore by the emerging multiparty political debate, are behind some of the more vehement criticisms.

Some of the issues were brought into focus at a recent seminar organised by the Mozambican Ministry of Co-operation, and the UN Development Programme.

With an end to the war in sight, the Mozambican government is anxious to prepare for reconstruction. It has already designated 40 priority districts for development. And it is promoting donor co-operation.

The effective use of aid is critical if Mozambique is to emerge from the morass. The country is dependent on aid for 80% of its imports. With the drying up of its traditional Eastern European sources, this comes increasingly from the West.

Initially, Western aid was given to help Mozambique withstand what the donors saw as SA destabilisation. Aid was also, however, the carrot to encourage Mozambique to move away from socialist policies. In the words of a key US government report: “We should provide assistance at increasingly higher levels to encourage reforms, rather than deny assistance unless certain reforms are undertaken.”

But the inefficiencies of the aid process are legendary. The funds allocation proposed for a World Bank programme to help offset the social costs of Mozambique’s economic reforms is typical — $1m was allocated to provide primary health care to more than 1,000,000 rural Mozambicans, while $3m was allocated to help monitor the social impact of the reforms, mainly to fund a small team of expatriate Bank experts in Maputo.

The fall of Italy’s Cuzi government, then Mozambique’s major aid donor, provided another example. The new government halted disbursements while it reviewed its African aid programmes. As a result, a $10 million water project for the northern city of Peambá has been stopped for two years — and 100,000 residents left drinking water de-clarred unfit for human consumption. Irrigation projects which would reduce Mozambique’s dependence on food aid also suffered delays.

At the seminar, Mozambique’s Finance Minister Magid Osman chose to focus on the exorbitant cost of aid personnel. The $150 million that it cost to keep 2,000 foreign workers in the country, was, he said, three times more than the salary bill for 100,000 public servants.

This is a sensitive point. Government salaries have fallen drastically in real terms to the point where the salary of even senior civil servants is not enough to pay basic household bills. Many are searching for part-time employment or other survival schemes. There is also a steady stream abandoning the public service in search of better paid jobs in the private sector — or, very often, in aid agencies themselves.

The agencies admit they are part of the problem.

The government’s criticisms came, however, at a time when there is mounting political tension about the way aid money is channelled. Some Mozambicans feel they should be filling those well paid jobs in the aid business. This reflects the growth of race and nationalism as political issues in a multiparty Mozambique, aggrivated by the conspicuous wealth and consumption of the aid community.

The initial manifesto of PALM, the new Liberal Party of Mozambique, accused Frelimo of practising racism against black Mozambicans. Its call for all non-black Mozambicans to be stripped of their nationality was forcefully received by Western embassies. The manifesto was subsequently softened but at a recent press conference, founder member Dr Antonio Palange was unrepentant.

The incident highlights a disturbing feature of the transition to multiparty politics: Accusations of racism against white Mozambicans had already been heard at the Frelimo party congress in 1999. They arose from resentment at the fact that many top posts were occupied by white Mozambicans — a consequence of educational backings of the past and, it is said, of some favouritism.

The emergence of race as a political issue could not have come at a worse time. Government is trying to persuade aid agencies to put more resources directly into the hands of the Mozambicans themselves. At a time when many Mozambicans are interpreting free market policies to mean every man for himself, this is hard for donors to accept.

The agencies find their work increasingly difficult. Their discussions with Mozambican agencies focus too often on personal opportunities rather than the public interest.

Aid can only be one focus in the search for solutions to the broader problem of promoting development in Mozambique said Co-operation Minister Jacinto Veloso at the Maputo seminar. What was needed, he said, was a broad consensus on how best it could contribute. The signs are however that the advent of multiparty politics is unlikely in the short term to allow that consensus building to occur.

Mike Mano, a development specialist, has been involved in working with aid agencies in Mozambique for the past 10 years.
New party in Mozambique

MAPUTO - A new political party calling itself the Independent Congress of Mozambique has been formed to take advantage of the new multiparty system provided for in the new constitution. The president of the congress, Victor Saene, said party's policy was "neither communist nor capitalist — we are totally Mozambican." — Star Africa Service.
Open Mozambique lays down the rules for foreign firms

LINDA ENSOR

The Mozambican government has set conditions for foreign investors to operate in the country, which include a pre-feasibility study for development projects, agreements with local contractors, and a commitment to invest in the country's infrastructure. These conditions are intended to ensure that foreign investors contribute to the country's economic development and that local resources are not exploited.

The government has also established a framework for the privatization of state-owned enterprises, with the goal of attracting foreign investment to boost the country's economy. This includes a plan to sell majority stakes in key sectors such as energy, mining, and telecommunications.

The Mozambican government has also emphasized the importance of good governance and transparency in its dealings with foreign investors. This includes the establishment of clear guidelines for the operation of foreign companies, as well as the provision of a level playing field for local and foreign businesses.

Overall, the Mozambican government's approach to foreign investment is one of openness and commitment to the country's development. This approach is intended to attract foreign investment and to ensure that the benefits of this investment are shared with the local population.
Mozambique's elections threatened

MAPUTO — Continued difficulties in peace negotiations between the Mozambican government and Renamo rebels have put a cloud over the first free elections scheduled for later this year.

Mozambican President Chissano said they may be postponed or held in "unfavourable conditions" without Renamo.

— Star Africa Service.
We drove over attacker
as bullets hit our legs.

The bags contained

We have a dead body
in our possession.

We are not involved in
any rebellion.

We are not involved in
any political activity.

We are not involved in
any criminal activity.

We are not involved in
any illegal activity.

We are not involved in
any terrorist activity.

We are not involved in
any smuggling activity.

We are not involved in
any drug trafficking.

We are not involved in
any human trafficking.

We are not involved in
any illegal arms trade.

We are not involved in
any illegal weapons.

We are not involved in
any assassination.

We are not involved in
any murder.

We are not involved in
any abduction.

We are not involved in
any kidnapping.

We are not involved in
any extortion.

We are not involved in
any bribery.

We are not involved in
any corruption.

We are not involved in
any fraud.

We are not involved in
any forgery.

We are not involved in
any counterfeiting.

We are not involved in
any illegal gambling.

We are not involved in
any pornography.

We are not involved in
any gambling.

We are not involved in
any prostitution.

We are not involved in
any pornography.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any criminal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.

We are not involved in
any illegal contracts.

We are not involved in
any illegal operations.

We are not involved in
any illegal activities.

We are not involved in
any illegal businesses.

We are not involved in
any illegal transactions.

We are not involved in
any illegal deals.

We are not involved in
any illegal agreements.
Renamo to be left out of first free elections?

MOZAMBICAN President Joaquim Chissano has admitted that if the war continues, Mozambique may have to hold its first multi-party elections without the participation of Renamo.

According to reporters from Mozambican television and from the Maputo daily Notícias who accompanied the President to Cape Verde, Chissano told Cape Verdean journalists in the city of Praia that the Mozambican government was working “tirelessly” to ensure that the elections take place in conditions of peace, and as soon as possible.

“The negotiations (with Renamo) are continuing, and our government and our party have made the greatest of efforts to achieve peace as quickly as possible,” said Chissano.

But he admitted that it might be necessary to hold elections without any agreement with Renamo on ending the war.

“If our opponents do not see any need to change, we may perhaps be obliged to hold elections under conditions that are not very favourable for the participation of everyone,” he said.

The Freimo Party believed that those Mozambican citizens living in areas under government control had the right to elect their own leaders. But he added that “we are going to work so that all the people, all the parties, may participate, because the current situation cannot go on forever.”

Chissano also admitted that it might be necessary to postpone the elections, which were originally scheduled for this year. The last elections in Mozambique, held under a one-party system, took place in 1986, and in principle there should be elections every five years.

“We therefore made efforts so that we might be at peace this year, or earlier, but this has not proved possible.”

Asked about alleged links between Freimo and new opposition party, Unamo (Mozambique National Union), which is a breakaway from Renamo, Chissano denied the rumour, pointing out that no new party has yet registered, and little is known about these parties’ programmes.

Three opposition parties have announced their existence at press conferences in Maputo, but they have not yet registered with the Ministry of Justice, which is a condition for such activities and standing for elections.

“We don’t know what Unamo’s programme is,” Chissano said.

“There are individuals (from Unamo) who are making contacts in the country, and we are always hopeful that these parties will register and begin to work seriously. Then we shall have contacts with all of them.”

ANO
JULIETA Ngomane used to be constantly harassed by the Mozambican police, but not any longer—maybe because she always returned for more of the same.

For Julieta is one of thousands of Mozambican women dependent on street trade for the survival of themselves and their family.

Today, a shopper can find a wide range of goods—from hens to Portuguese wines and even hi-fi systems—along the dusty, potholed roads in the more populous and poorer parts of the city.

Julieta, an elderly widow who used to be a farmer, spends her days sweeping over a heap of burning charcoal roasting mealies on the cob to sell to passers-by for 400 meticais (about 95 cents).

"I have just enough money to survive," said Ngomane, who lives with eight family members in her brother's house.

This is the third year that Ngomane has been selling on the streets, after fleeing from her farm in Hamaire, in the southern province of Inhambane, following an attack by Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) rebels.

Ngomane's husband was killed by Renamo two years ago while he was on his way to the farm to fetch produce to sell in Maputo.

The hundreds of thousands of peasants who flock to the relative safety of Mozambique's cities are confronted with a housing crisis, rising unemployment, crowded hospitals, full schools and rocketing cost of living.

Many people have to resort to the informal sector to make ends meet, even schools.

Zofania Samuel, 16, left school two years ago to help his grandmother sell petroleum on the roadside.

"There are days when we don't sell anything, but sometimes we can make 20,000 meticais a month (R55)," he said.

Samuel would like to follow his three older brothers to work in the mines in neighbouring South Africa.

"Here I don't eat well, but in South Africa I have the chance of a secure job."

An estimated 40,000 Mozambican men come to South Africa to make "their fortune."

Unskilled labour is cheap in Mozambique, and the informal sector, while less secure, can bring in more money.

Adela Fernando, who sells rice, sugar and beer at a market stall, sometimes earns more than the 30,000 meticais (R83) monthly wage her husband is paid as a factory worker. But even if she makes 40,000 meticais (R110), their joint monthly earnings of 70,000 meticais (R193), do not stretch far for their family of five children.

While prices have risen—inflation is officially at 30 percent—the metical, the national currency, has undergone huge devaluation.

In 1987 there were 40 meticais to the US dollar at the official exchange rate whereas today there are 1.047.

Finance Minister Abdul Osman has promised, however, that in the next phase of Mozambique's economic and social recovery programme—started this year and sponsored by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank—there will be no further "violent" devaluations of the metical.

At least 60 percent of the population lives in absolute poverty.

The economy, bolstered artificially by international aid, has grown in recent years. But economic output is just one-third of what it was in 1974, a year before independence from Portuguese colonial rule.

About 85 percent of Mozambique's 15 million people are farmers, but the war has laid waste to much of the country's fertile land. Frequent sabotage of the power lines by the rebels, particularly last year, has disrupted industrial production.

Hopes for the future lie in a peace settlement. AIA
Little hope for early election in Mozambique

MAPUTO — After their wedding at Manhica in southern Mozambique, the happy couple and about 50 relatives and friends set out by road for the groom's home at Chibuto 100 km away. They never got there.

Their fate was unknown for weeks until one of the guests turned up in Manhica recently and said: Rebels had ambushed the cars 20 km from town and marched the entire party off at gunpoint to a hideout in the bush. He was the only one to escape.

xhd14 Sabotage The rest of the kidnap victims are still in the hands of Renamo.

Hardly a day goes by in Mozambique without news of an attack on a village, a mass kidnapping, a road ambush or a railway line sabotaged.

Hope has faded of the war-devastated southern African country holding its first multiracial elections this year.

"Elections cannot be held this year while the war continues," said a spokesman for the Liberal and Democratic Party (Palmo), one of several new opposition political groups which have sprung up since the adoption of a multiparty constitution last year.

Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano has repeatedly said he wants parliamentary and presidential elections as soon as possible.

Palmo was the first to go public, at a news conference in February, with a black power programme, which accused Mr Chissano of allowing Asians and whites to have too much control over the economy.

Since then, other groups have emerged with a dazzling array of acronyms such as Unamo (the Mozambique National Union), Commo (the Mozambique Independence Congress) and Monamo (the Mozambique National Movement).

The new parties all claim to have thousands of members and their election pledges range from TV sets for the masses to grand hydro-electric schemes.

But the parties do not seem to have any money, and Western and African embassies in Maputo have refused their requests for funds.

Dialogue

Mr Chissano's Frelimo had more than 200,000 members on its books at its last congress in 1989 and party officials say a recruiting drive since then has boosted this figure substantially.

Diplomats in Maputo say there is no reason to doubt the Frelimo membership figure because it is quite small for a party which claims to represent the whole population of 15 million.

But at the moment the battle remains a military one between Frelimo and Renamo.

The Italian government has mediated in peace talks since last July. The dialogue is expected to resume in Rome this month.

But Renamo, whose alleged brutality has earned it the title of "the Khmer Rouge of Africa" from the US State Department, is showing no rush to enter into an accord which would put its popularity to the test — Sapa-Reuters.
Rebels now seek protection pay

A BRITISH newsletter says the Renamo rebel movement in Mozambique has begun negotiating agreements with governments and private companies under which it undertakes not to attack their property in return for "protection" payments.

Africa Confidential, published in London, gives two examples. One is an agreement with the Malawian government not to attack the railway line to Nacala port in return for free access to Malawi markets to trade in ivory, cashew nuts and dugout canoes.

The other is said to be an agreement with Eskom not to attack the power line from the Cahora Bassa dam to South Africa while it is being repaired to enable the stalled hydro-electric project to begin operating.

Eskom said in November last year that it had reached an agreement to this effect with Renamo but the rebel leader, Afonso Dhlakama denied this in an interview in Nairobi in February.

Dhlakama confirmed that Renamo had been approached by Eskom about such an agreement and had had several meetings with Eskom representatives to discuss the proposal.

However, Renamo had turned it down because it would have involved repairing the access road alongside the powerline and this road could then have been used by Frelimo government troops for operations against Renamo, he said.

Agreement

Dhlakama confirmed the agreement with Malawi not to attack the Nacala line and this undertaking appears to have been respected.

Africa Confidential says that since the mid-'80s various companies have established local understandings with Renamo's regional commanders to be exempted from attack. - Sowetan Correspondent
A FRICA

‘Protection’ payments for Renamo

Argus Africa News Service

JOHANNESBURG. — A British newsletter says the Renamo rebel movement in Mozambique has begun negotiating agreements with governments and private companies under which it undertakes not to attack their property in return for “protection” payments.

Africa Confidential, published in London, gives two examples. One is an agreement with the Malawi government not to attack the railway line to Nacala port in return for free access to Malawian markets to trade in ivory, cashew nuts and dugout canoes.

The other is said to be an agreement with Eskom not to attack the power line from the Cahora Bassa dam to South Africa while it is being repaired to enable the stalled hydro-electric project to begin operating.

Eskom told the Argus Africa News Service in November last year that it had reached an agreement with Renamo to obtain the power line while it was being repaired. However, Renamo had turned it down because it would have involved repairing the access road alongside the power line and this road could then have been used by Frelimo government troops for operations against Renamo, he said.

Agreement confirmed

No work appears to have been done on restoring the power line, which Renamo sabotage has made inoperative since the dam was completed.

Mr. Dhlakama confirmed the agreement with Malawi not to attack the Nacala link and this undertaking appears to have been respected.

Africa Confidential says that since the mid-'80s various companies have established local understandings with Renamo's regional commanders to be exempted from attack. It does not name any of the companies.

It seems unlikely that the biggest foreign company operating in Mozambique, Lonrho, is involved in any such agreements as it goes to considerable expense to train and maintain private security forces to protect its farming and other operations.

The Argus Africa News Service has information suggesting that other companies do, however, appear to enjoy immunity from Renamo attack.

Devastated infrastructure

According to Africa Confidential, Renamo turned to the “protection” agreements as a means of earning money when it became increasingly difficult to obtain its requirements from the devastated Mozambican infrastructure under the policy of seizure and pillage.

A new and “very lucrative” source of income for Renamo, according to Africa Confidential, is the sale of weapons to crime syndicates and political organisations for faction fighting in South Africa. It says Renamo is no longer short of weapons, having captured large quantities from Frelimo forces.

This is the second suggestion to have emerged recently that Renamo is the source of some of the Soviet-made AK-47 military assault rifles that have increasingly been used in South Africa in crimes such as bank robberies and in fighting between ANC and Inkatha supporters.

Africa Confidential says Renamo is stalling in the peace talks with the Frelimo government in Rome because it realises it is unlikely to win power through an election. It hopes instead to persuade Frelimo to agree to a power-sharing formula.
Women flex muscle in free market.

The streets of Maputo.

Surviving the war in...
Mozambican troops in Red Cross attack

By Ken Vernon Star Africa Service

Mozambican government troops have attacked and destroyed an International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) depot distributing medicine, clothing and farming tools to rural peasants deep in Renamo-held territory in central Mozambique, according to Renamo rebels.

Official Mozambican news agencies have confirmed the attack on the depot at Senga Senga, in Sofala province, but allege that the camp was a Renamo communications centre.

According to a Renamo communiqué, stocks of clothing and medicine at the ICRC depot were burnt in the attack on Saturday. It also alleged that Zimbabwean troops were involved in the attack.

ICRC director in Maputo Marco Weil confirmed the attack, saying that ICRC personnel at the depot had been warned by Renamo to evacuate the day before the attack.

"They said our people must leave as the security situation was deteriorating because of an alleged military operation against them, so when the attack came there was no one there and I cannot say who destroyed the camp," he said.

He was unhappy about official Mozambican reports of the incident and denied knowledge of any Renamo communications centre anywhere near the depot.
Reno Man Gets Into Guns and Protection Racket

Gun money... the gun-running of middle- and upper-class South Africa is helping to keep Reno a war footing.
peace to Zambezia's Plantation

The Warrior, Priest, Businessman, and Merchant

By Karl Murer

march 1961

[Image]
Canal, rail plan to link Moz, Namibia

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A proposal for a multi-billion rand rail and waterway scheme straddling Southern Africa from Mozambique to Namibia is being studied by four of the region's governments.

The plan would link Chinde, close to the Zambezi River mouth on the Mozambique coast, and Cape Fria, to be renamed Port Ngoma, on Namibia's Skeleton Coast.

The concept has been taken on by Johannesburg-based Trans-Africa Railway and Canal Belt (Tarcbelt) International.

Talks have already been held between Tarcbelt and the Namibian, Mozambican, Botswanan and Zambian governments and with industry leaders in those countries.

A Tarcbelt spokesman said yesterday financiers in Hong Kong and Singapore were waiting only for the governments' approval before committing loans to the project.

Zambia's rail network currently stretches as far as Livingston, on the northern side of Victoria Falls. This is to be extended across the Zambezi and along the Caprivi Strip eventually turning south-west to join Namibia's existing rail network at Grootfontein.

Tarcbelt envisages a new line starting at Grootfontein to be built across southern Ovamboland, just north of the Etosha National Park, through the Kaokoveld to Cape Fria on the Skeleton Coast, where a new harbour will be built.

The existing line from Grootfontein extends south to Windhoek, Kranseport — close to the new Karibib gold mine — Swakopmund and Walvis Bay.

A Tarcbelt official said yesterday the Southern African Development Co-ordinating Conference (SADCC) had agreed to adopt the Livingstone/Grootfontein project and when finance had been confirmed, the go-ahead would be given.

Finance for the rail link would probably be provided by commercial investors and corporations and underwritten by the Namibian government and international aid agencies, such as the World Bank, he said.

At least $225 million (about R500m) in foreign aid was needed to build the railway link.

Lohro Sugar Corp., which has established a plantation in Caprivi, would benefit substantially from the new line, he said.

Tarcbelt co-ordinator Mr Francois Roux said one of the aims of the project was to provide an outlet for Mozambique's coal, mined mostly in the Tete Province. Coal would be ferried by barge through a network of canals feeding the Zambezi.

These canals would also be linked to Cahora Bassa, which in turn would be linked by canal to Kariba Dam on the Zambia/Zimbabwe border, he said.
For sale: one AK-47
Price: R20

BEHIND the post office at Lomahashe on the Swaziland-Mozambique border, a man opened a plastic bag and showed me three AK-47 assault rifles. He said I could have all three for R70.

I knew then that I had succeeded in taping into the smuggling route along which the deadly Soviet-made military rifles are entering South Africa in growing numbers, to be used in faction fighting, political killings, bank robberies and other crimes.

Lomahashe, the main border post on Swaziland's boundary with Mozambique, is the main conduit through which the guns are coming into South Africa. I proved that almost anyone can buy one there for a few rand.

Smuggling

The little town, whose name means "to lick," is described by local residents as "a bed of criminals and arms smugglers.

Arms smuggling from Mozambique to South Africa by way of Swaziland is big business for people who have been making money out of the killings in South Africa's townships.

There are two types of smugglers: the small, occasional dealers who may be regarded as amateurs in the business, and the big buyers, the professionals.

The former are usually people who cross the border illegally from Mozambique into Swaziland with AK-47s looking for someone who will buy them for as little as R20 a gun. They use the money to buy food before crossing back into Mozambique.

Renamo

The big dealers normally travel into Mozambique to fetch arms, which they smuggle through the Swazi police and army roadblocks, are sold in Natal and on the Witwatersrand for large sums — as high as R6,000, according to the South African Police.

The source of the supply of the AK-47s, as well as of the Makarov pistols and ammunition for both, is the Renamo guerrilla group that is fighting the Frelimo government in Mozambique.

I went to Swaziland to investigate reports that AK-47s can be bought for as little as R30 at Lomahashe. The area near the border post was so congested

AK-47 rifles are being sold in Swaziland for as little as R20. In SA, they can fetch up to R6,000. IKE MOTSAPI reports.

"Are you serious?" he asked. I said I was.

He took me and my Swazi guide to an area behind the post office. We stood there for some time, it was obvious that Alfonso was trying to make sure no one was watching us.

Then he opened the plastic bag he was carrying and asked me to look inside. I was shocked to see three AK-47s. My head was filled with thoughts of being arrested for smuggling.

"Give me R70 and take the lot," Alfonso said. "The police could come here any time."

I asked Alfonso where he got the guns and he said he usually gets them from Renamo soldiers in exchange for food.

Apologised

I told him about the roadblocks and asked how I could pass through them with the weapons.

"That is your problem," he said. "I need the money, and the rest is for you to take care of."

I told him I was scared to buy the guns. Alfonso apologised and gave me R18 for his trouble. He took the money and left, obviously angry with me.

In Mbabane I was told by Swaziland's CID chief, Inspector Anara Ndzundza, that the police are aware that South Africans and Swazis can buy an AK-47 for as little as R20 and a Makarov pistol for only R5.

"We are aware that it is easy to get those guns, particularly with American dollars," he said. "We are also aware that Lomahashe seems to be the nerve centre of the arms smuggling."

Arrests

"We are obviously concerned about this and we are doing our best to crack the smuggling, but it is not easy. We make regular arrests, but what worries us most is that people are able to pass through the roadblocks with these weapons."

Swaziland is paying its own heavy price for the smuggling in the form of a big increase in armed robbery, often involving the use of AK-47s. Guns are easily available in Manzini, Swaziland's second largest town, where it is now considered unsafe to walk the streets at night.

The anger of Swazis is being turned against the many Mozambicans in the country.

But the guns keep coming in — Star Africa Service ©
Inside the AK route

- The checkpoints, he said, and mentioned as an example a number of AK-47s found by police made a false extension of the petrol tank of a van.

The inspector's admission confirms the assertions by the South African Police that many of the AK-47s being used in robberies and political killings in South Africa come from Mozambique by way of Swaziland.

A few weeks ago Lieutenant Colonel R. Reynolds, the head of SAP public relations in Natal, showed journalists some of the more than 1 800 AK-47s and pistols confiscated by police in Natal since the beginning of the year, together with more than 30,000 rounds of ammunition.

He said the weapons had come from Mozambique through Swaziland to Weenen. From there they would be distributed in Natal and on the Reef, selling for as much as R6,000 each.

Swaziland is paying a heavy price for the smuggling. There has been a big increase in armed robbery, often involving the use of AK-47s. Guns are easily available in Manzini, Swaziland's second largest town, where it is now considered unsafe to walk the streets at night.

Lieutenant R. Reynolds (right), head of the Natal police liaison division, shows members of the Press some of the 1,800 arms confiscated by police in Natal since the beginning of the year.
MBABANE - Behind the post office at Lomahasha on the Swaziland-Mozambique border, a man opened a plastic bag and showed me three AK-47 assault rifles. He said I could have all three for only R70.

I knew then that I had succeeded in tapping into the smuggling route along which the deadly Soviet-made military rifles are entering South Africa in growing numbers.

And in South Africa, they have gained notoriety for their use in faction fighting, political killings, bank robberies and other crimes.

Lomahasha, the main border post of 61 Swaziland’s boundary with Mozambique, is the main conduit through which the guns are coming into South Africa.

Food

I proved that almost anyone can buy one there for a few rands.

The little shop, whose name means “to eat”, is described by local residents as “a bed of criminals and arms smugglers”.

Arms smuggling from Mozambique to South Africa by way of Swaziland is big business for people who have been making money out of the killings in South Africa from time to time.

There are two types of smugglers: the small, occasional dealers who may be regarded as amateurs in the business and the big buyers, the professionals.

All the border crossings with Mozambique are not controlled by Renamo members who sell the weapons to the buyers, but sometimes the Renamo members are caught in the act.

The Swazi police and army roadblocks, are sold in Nelspruit and Hendrina.

The source of the AK-47s, as well as Makarov pistols and ammunition for both, is reportedly the Renamo guerilla group fighting the Frelimo government in Mozambique.

The London newsletter, Africa Confidential, recently reported that Renamo had taken to selling its surplus weapons in South Africa to get funds.

However, my information is that Renamo as an organisation is not directly responsible for the smuggling.

Renamo

It is individual Renamo members who sell the weapons and exchange them for food, clothing, cigarettes and other goods.

I went to Swaziland to investigate reports that AK-47s can be bought for as little as R20 at Lomahasha.

The area near the border post was so congested with people and vehicles that resembled a beehive.

Many people were carrying bags filled with goods bought on either side of the border.

Most of the people crossing the border are Mozambicans.

I was met with great suspicion when I began questioning people about AK-47s. People did not want to talk to me.

I approached a woman who had just bought bread from a store near the border post. I gave her two pieces of chicken remaining from some I had bought on my way to Lomahasha and I bought her a cold drink.

This started a conversation that led to the meeting the man who called himself Alfonso.

Alfonso

“Talk to those people there,” the woman said, pointing to Alfonso. “You should be very careful, though, because the police are always here.”

I approached Alfonso, a Mozambican who said he had three children and no job and had to find food for his family every day. I told him I was interested in buying an AK-47.

“Are you serious?” he asked.

I said I was.

He took me and my Swazi guide to an area behind the post office. We stood there for some time. I was obvious that Alfonso was very sure that nobody was watching us.

Then he opened the plastic bag he was carrying and asked me to look inside. I was shocked to see three AK-47s.

My man was filled with thoughts of being arrested for arms smuggling.

“Give me R70 and take the lot,” Alfonso said. “The police can come here any time.”

I asked Alfonso where he got the guns and he said he usually got them from Renamo soldiers in exchange for food.

“They came around to my place looking very tired and hungry,” he said.

I told him about the roadblocks and asked how I could pass through them with the weapons.

“That is your problem,” he said. “I need the money and the rest is for you to take care of.”

I told him I was scared to buy the guns. I apologised and gave him R10 for his trouble. He took the money and left, obviously angry with me.

In Mbare was told by Swaziland’s CID chief, Inspector Azara Ndimandze, that the police are aware that South Africans and Swazis can buy an AK-47 for as little as R20 and a Makarov pistol for only R5.

“We are aware that it is easy to get these guns, particularly with American dollars,” he said. “We are also aware that Lomahasha seems to be the nerve centre of the arms smuggling.

Arrests

“We are obviously concerned about this and we are doing our best to crack the smuggling, but it is not easy. We make regular arrests but what worries us most is that people are able to pass through the roadblocks with these weapons,” Inspector Ndimandze said.

About 10 people were arrested each month with AK-47s and other smuggled arms as well as ammunition. He estimated that more than 300 weapons had been confiscated from smugglers so far this year.

“Obviously others get through,” he said.

The smugglers used a variety of devices to get the weapons in.

*To page 7
Talks focus on Mozambique

Political Staff

LONDON — Encouraging peace efforts in Mozambique and Angola dominated talks yesterday between South Africa's deputy Foreign Minister Leon Wessels and his British counterpart, Douglas Hurd.

Mr. Wessels was accompanied by the department's director-general, Neil van Heerden.

The emphasis of the 40-minute meeting, sources said, was on preserving and nurturing the peace processes in Angola and Mozambique.

Britain is anxious South Africa should continue to actively support the initiatives.

Both parties agreed the achievement of a settlement in the two former Portuguese colonies would be in the interests of the region as a whole.
The Renamo rebels, armed with automatic rifles, are being defeated in central Mozambique by a private army using only primitive weapons and led by a mystic healer who claims to have been resurrected from the dead.

Fighting only with spears and bows and arrows, the Baramas are said to have restored peace to a large part of central Zambezia province, confidently confronting Renamo in the belief that they cannot be harmed by the rebels' bullets.

This invulnerability is said to be acquired by an initiation process in which their commander-in-chief, Manuel Anténio, vaccinates them with a substance called barama — hence the name Baramas.

The Mozambican news agency AIM reports that a dramatic improvement in the military situation in Zambezia is attributed not only to a stepped-up offensive by government troops but also in part to the Baramas.

“The influence of the Baramas is very clear,” says AIM reporter Vasco da Gama in a dispatch from Zambezia, “and they receive fulsome praise not only from the civilian population but also from military commanders in the area.”

Da Gama says “The Baramas fight — and win — against Renamo using not firearms but traditional weapons such as assegais and bows and arrows.”

He says they have set up their headquarters in Ncoadala district, 35 km north of the provincial capital Quelimane, and have subcommands throughout the province.

They have no formal links with the government troops, however, and refuse to take orders from the military.

The Baramas say Anténio, after coming back from the dead, went to live for six months on a mountain, where he received orders from God to “go back and save the people from the evils of war” and to punish those waging the war: Renamo.

Baramas are forbidden to give details of their initiation. It is said, however, that they are wrapped in white cloth and placed in a mock tomb, from which Anténio calls them to be vaccinated with barama.

Da Gama says the Baramas escort columns of displaced people walking over long distances in search of food from aid agencies.

“People believe they run no risk in making such journeys when they are escorted by the Baramas, whom they say have brought tranquility back to the area,” Da Gama reports.

“Renamo is clearly worried about the Baramas, who have scored successes precisely because they are operating with some of the same elements of traditional religion that Renamo has always used. The rituals and superstitions of the Baramas work because Renamo also believes in their efficacy.”

People recently freed from Renamo captivity said rebel commanders complain that the government is "resorting to spirits to fight us."

AIM says the Zambezia provincial governor, Alfredo Gamito, in a report to President Chissano, refers to the help given by the Baramas against Renamo and says their successes "should be the subject of a profound analysis."

“The people, tired of war, are embracing superstitious beliefs in an attempt to find a way out of the war.”
4 killed in shootout

POLICE shot dead four men and seized an arms cache, including a rocket launcher, near Komatipoort on the Mozambican border on Sunday night.

In another incident, a man who was allegedly smuggling weapons into South Africa was wounded when he resisted arrest at the weekend.

The two incidents follow Sowetan's report about the illegal trade in AK-47 rifles from Mozambique to South Africa.

Commissioner of the South African Police General Johan van der Merwe said police returned fire when the four men fired shots from their vehicle as it was being stopped by a police patrol 40km from Komatipoort.

None of the five policemen was injured in the shootout shortly before 9pm.

Van der Merwe said 16 AK-47 assault rifles, an RPG launcher with a missile, a machinegun, pistols and a large quantity of ammunition were seized.

He said police had acted after a tip-off.

Later, Law and Order Ministry spokesman

Cops shoot dead four near border

Brigadier Leon Mellet said he could not speculate about where the men had come from. Police are investigating.

Police also said a middle-aged man was spotted about 30km from Komatipoort along the South African border on Friday afternoon. He started running.

When he failed to respond to an order to stop shots were fired. A bullet hit him in the leg. He was found to have a number of AK-47 rifles.

Police have offered rewards for AK-47 rifles and information that could lead to the seizure of the weapons.

A Sowetan reporter on a special assignment for the Argus newspaper group on Friday exposed illegal trading in AK-47 assault rifles and other foreign weapons sold for as little as R20 in Swaziland.

His investigation found that arms are smuggled from Mozambique into Swaziland at Lomahashe, a town bordering the two countries. The weapons come from Renamo, the guerrilla movement fighting to topple the Mozambican Government.

Renamo soldiers give their AK-47 rifles and Makarov pistols to fellow-Mozambicans in exchange for food and clothing. The arms are then sold across the border in Swaziland.
Hani accuses Anglo of crime against SA

By David Braun
Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — Anglo American Corporation had committed a crime against the people of South Africa by keeping its workers in squalid conditions while reaping profits, Chris Hani, a member of the national executive of the ANC, has said in the US.

Mr Hani told the National Press Club in Washington yesterday that in spite of Anglo's accumulation of profits, the company had built housing for its workers which was not fit for animals. Its discriminatory conditions and labour practices were terrible.

A future South African government would have to set up guidelines for companies in this regard.

They would be allowed to take their profits, but they would also have social obligations.

Mr Hani said South Africans were discussing their country's future economic programme.

Even the non-Marxists agreed something had to be done about redistributing the wealth in the country.

Everyone was entitled to at least three meals a day, to shelter that was not a squatter shack and access to education and medical facilities.

He said he did not think South Africa should be looking for models elsewhere in the world.

The Afrikaners had nationalised sections of the economy in order to uplift their people, and equally today the blacks were emerging from disastrous poverty and needed to do the same.

The ANC certainly wanted to nationalise industries such as Eskom, Iscor and Sats, but at the same time it wanted a mixed economy. In doing so, it wanted to avoid the mistakes of Eastern Europe and Africa.

However, the government had to ensure Mr and Mrs Average also had a slice of cake, he said.

Mr Hani said the ANC wanted to assure whites that nationalisation did not mean their houses would be grabbed. Simplistic people believed the ANC was going to be rushing to grab people's cars and houses. Every South African would retain his or her private property, he said.
Diet of a Mozambican peasant: Drought, locusts and Renamo

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — Life in and around the village of Nipepe in Mozambique varies between hardship and horror as hunger, drought and a locust plague are interspersed with attacks by Renamo rebels.

After the biggest attack, in January 1989, Renamo occupied the village for eight days. Townsfolk say 40 people were murdered and every building in the village wrecked, including the school, the health clinic, shops and government offices.

"We don't know what Renamo wants," said peasant farmer Mr Luís Mola.

"They don't let us cultivate fertile land. They take our tools."

When we manage to produce a little, they raid us.

"Where I used to live, about 20km from here, I could grow enough food to last for a year. Now I have managed to harvest enough maize to last for two months."

The situation in Nipepe has been made worse by late rains this year. Peasants planted three times and saw three crops fail before the rains came.

Those who still had seed shared with their neighbours.

At last, the rains came and the meagre crops sprouted and grew. Then locusts came and ate most of them.

Today, the people of Nipepe survive largely on food distributed by aid agencies.

In the only shop rebuilt after the Renamo occupation, donated second-hand clothes are offered to a few with money.

Mr Lino Assamo has set up a wooden stall alongside the shop where he sells soap, salt, matches, buttons and needles, but his shelves are mostly empty. The goods have to be brought on foot from the nearest source in Nampula and Cacu Delgado, more than 200km away.

Those who travel the route do so at night, hiding during the day, to avoid encountering Renamo or the Mozambican army.

There cannot be much laughter in Nipepe.
MAPUTO - The Mozambican peace talks, which were due to have resumed in Rome tomorrow, have again been postponed and President Joaquim Chissano has blamed Renamo for the delay. 

The resumption of the talks had initially been set for April 8, then postponed to April 15, then April 18, then April 26 and now May 2. Renamo at first blamed the delay on the lack of communication between their delegation in Rome and their commanders in Mozambique. This problem was overcome early in April when a radio link was established by way of Malawi between Rome and Caxixe, a Renamo-held area in central Mozambique.

"We don't know why they (Renamo) are delaying," the president told a party rally at Moma in Nampula province.

The government news agency, AIM, says it expressed scepticism that Renamo had any valid excuse for not coming to the negotiation table. - Sowetan Africa News Service.
THE National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) has called on employers to give workers with the AIDS virus a fair deal. It has accused mine owners of ducking their responsibilities and avoiding the cost of tackling the AIDS menace head-on.

The attitude of the Chamber of Mines to the AIDS issue came under scrutiny during the union's four-day congress in Johannesburg, which ends tomorrow.

PAT DEVEREAUX

NUM representatives at the congress said they want to negotiate a new and humane policy on AIDS for the mining industry.

The union says employers are dumping the responsibility of supporting and caring for AIDS carriers and AIDS sufferers on the individuals themselves, their families and their communities.

The Chamber of Mines estimates at least 10 miners in every 1,000 test positive.

A union pamphlet circulating at the congress said: "Some workers can lose their jobs, their pensions or their medical benefits because of AIDS. "

"More and more bosses are testing workers for AIDS before they are hired — if the worker tests positive for the virus he or she will not be hired."

The Chamber of Mines denies the practice of employing migrant labour and the hostel system, which break up families and force workers into casual relationships, contributed to the spread of AIDS. The problem could not be dealt with by the union alone.

The Chamber of Mines representatives said: "The Chamber of Mines has always been concerned about the spread of AIDS. The union does not have the power to deal with the problem alone."

Dr Pollnow said pre-employment AIDS testing is now left to individual mines.

He admitted there was some random pre-employment testing, "purely to monitor the situation."

He added that the only ongoing AIDS testing was on those tested for sexually transmitted diseases at mine clinics.
MAPUTO. — Rebels attacked a train in southern Mozambique on Saturday, killing an armed guard and a railway worker, and wounding another guard. Radio Mozambique reported the attack took place on the line between Maputo and the South African border.
Socialism can’t work, Zimbabweans told

Minister says reform ‘only way’

The party's official newspaper has taken the line that it would be necessary for a party congress to approve any move to abandon socialism.

Dr Chadzoro is quoted as saying that the trade union officials, "We have taken Marxism into account and decided to be pragmatic, so this dogma will solve itself in the process." The new capitalist order was a reality and Zimbabweans should accept this.

The Sunday Mail said in an editorial that no working class victories could be achieved in isolation.

"In the end, the workers, the peasants and the indigenous business people will have to fight together for a share of the economic cake.

Out of work

The government on its part will also have at times to face up to big business and other monopolies in defence of the interests of the majority.

There have been official forecasts that as many as two million people could be out of work within five or six years, as 200,000 school-leavers a year join the ranks of those looking for jobs.

Although Mozambique’s Frelimo government has officially embraced free enterprise, its chief propagandist has insisted that the party’s ideology remains socialist. The Argus African News Service reports from Maputo.

The assertion by Jorge Rebelo, head of Frelimo’s propaganda department, appears to reflect the dilemma faced by African governments which have been forced to abandon socialism because it did not work but which have difficulty in getting their people to accept this.

Build socialism

In an interview in the Sunday newspaper, Domago, Mr Rebelo made it clear that he did not believe Frelimo’s abandonment of Marxism-Leninism in 1989 had compromised the party’s socialist beliefs.

“We must build socialism, but we must do so looking at the specific reality of our country,” he said.

The official news agency, Aim, said Mr Rebelo defended Frelimo’s decision to abandon the one-party state in favour of a pluralist system and said that in one-party states there was a trend towards the abuse of power.
Thousands flee from Renamo

KOMATIPOORT — More than 2,500 Mozambicans — many of them women with babies — flattened razor-sharp fences and entered South Africa in a desperate attempt to flee Renamo soldiers who were reported to have killed 40 people and injured scores in attacks on two settlements in the south of Mozambique.

On Tuesday night the rebels attacked the town of Resano Garcia near the Lebombo border, and AIM, the official Mozambican news agency, reported yesterday that on Saturday, 40 people had been killed and 13 wounded when Renamo forces attacked the “7 April” commune in the Gaza district of Gaza province, which adjoins South Africa.

Guerrillas set fire to houses and looted the village before being driven off by government troops, AIM said. Government forces claimed to have killed two guerrillas.

News of the attack took several days to reach Maputo.

The reports could not be independently confirmed.

During the hour-long attack on Resano Garcia, mortars, RPG-7 projectiles and AK-47 bullets fell on the town, and hundreds of screaming people — many of them naked — rushed to the Caftan fence on the border.

Scores of people received deep cuts as they scaled the fence, which ripped clothing from their bodies.

Once they had crossed into South Africa, weeping mothers hid in long grass to breast-feed their hungry, crying babies.

Residents in nearby Komatiport said it looked like Guy Fawkes night as blazing mortars and projectiles lit up the countryside.

Electrified

Then suddenly hordes of people started making their way to the electrified Caftan border fence.

The electricity supply was cut off and custom gates were opened to allow the fleeing people through.

Many others, however, including armed Frelimo soldiers, were unaware of the open gate and had no option but to brave the razor-sharp fence.

One woman suffered a 20 cm cut on her leg.

Once the shooting stopped, the refugees were rounded up and accommodated at the Komatiport police station.

By 11 am yesterday all had been repatriated.

An elderly woman, shortly before crossing into Mozambique, told an official: “Please hurry, I’ve got to get back soon. Four of my children are with me but two are missing. I must find them before they get killed.”

Another desperate young woman said, “Please let me and my baby stay. Going back to Mozambique is hell. South Africa feels like paradise.”

By midday yesterday all was quiet at the tiny border town as escapers returned to their homes. Children were laughing and talking, smoke appeared from kitchen chimneys as fires were started, and there was no gunfire.

But less than 100 m from a tiny hut, pieces of ripped clothing and blankets stuck to the electrified fence and shoes scattered across the countryside were a reminder of what had happened the night before.

A sixth round of peace talks between the Mozambican government and Renamo is scheduled to begin today in Rome — Northern Transvaal Bureau-Star Africa Services
2500 flee hour-long Renamo bomb attack

Argus Africa News Service and Sopa

 Komatipoort. — More than 2500 Mozambicans, among them women with babies, flattened razor-sharp fences and entered South Africa in a desperate escape from Renamo soldiers who were reported to have killed 40 people and injured scores in attacks on two settlements in southern Mozambique.

The rebels on Tuesday night attacked the town of Ressano Garcia near the Lebombo border and AIM, the official Mozambiquan news agency, reported yesterday that on Saturday, 40 people were killed and 15 wounded when Renamo forces attacked the "7 April" commune in the Gaza district of Gaza province, which adjoins South Africa.

Guerrillas set fire to houses and looted the village before being driven off by government troops, AIM said. Government forces claimed they killed two guerrillas, it said.

ATTACKS

As is common with attacks on rural villages, news of the attack took several days to reach Maputo.

There was no way to independently confirm the report.

During the hour-long attack on Ressano Garcia, mortars, RGP7, projectiles and AK47 rifles rained down on the town, and hundreds of screaming people — many of them naked — rushed to the Caftan fence on the border.

Scores of people received deep cuts as they scaled the fence which ripped clothing from their bodies.

Once they had crossed into South Africa, weeping mothers hid in long grass to breast-feed their hungry, crying babies.

Residents in nearby Komatipoort said it looked like Guy Fawkes as blazing mortars and projectiles lit up the countryside.

Then suddenly hordes of people started making their way to the electrified Caftan Border fence.

The electricity supply was cut off and custom gates were opened to allow the fleeing people through.

By 11am yesterday all had been repatriated.
46 killed in two Renamo attacks

Johannesburg. — At least 46 people were killed and scores injured in two guerrilla attacks in southern Mozambique and some 2,000 refugees poured into South Africa seeking sanctuary, it was reported yesterday.

Renamo anti-government forces attacked two settlements in Gaza Province, which adjoins South Africa, killing and wounding residents and sending hundreds of people fleeing for safety, said the reports.

South African officials said about 2,000 men, women and children crossed the border into South Africa after guerrillas attacked the town of Resano Garcia in Mozambique, just across the frontier near Komatipoort, on Tuesday night.

Renamo attacked with mortars, heavy machineguns and rocket launchers, officials said it was not clear if guerrillas or Mozambique government forces held the town.

At least six people were killed and 60, mostly children, wounded in the attack. South African army and police units treated the wounded after they crossed into South Africa.

The SAP station commander at Komatipoort, Lieutenant Johan Combrink, speaking by telephone to Johannesburg, said the attack was so loud, everyone in Komatipoort could hear it.

Forty people were killed and 13 wounded in a separate Renamo attack on the same night, on the "April 7" commune 150 km to the north-west. AIM, the official Mozambique news agency, reported yesterday.

Guerrillas set fire to houses and looted the commune village before being driven off by government troops. AIM reported.

Government forces claimed they killed two guerrillas, it said.

Last Friday 16 people died when a Renamo unit ambushed a convoy of traders' vehicles in the northern province of Cabo Delgado.

A sixth round of peace talks between the Mozambique government and Renamo is scheduled to begin today in Rome — Sapa-Reuter, UPI

ANC to throw weight behind mass education

Johannesburg. — The ANC is planning a massive focus on education, criticising school boycotts and calling for more classrooms and a new respect for learning.

In a policy document to be submitted to its July congress, the ANC also proposes a state-aided mass literacy programme with the help of newspapers, radio and TV.

The ANC says massive opposition to education over the past 15 years has resulted in a "gradual but definite erosion of the need to learn."

Sclaler and students had stayed away from school for long periods of time and had fought pitched battles with the army and police. As a consequence "a whole generation of the youth of the country have grown up believing that education and learning are of no value."

"This attitude is understandable but it is wrong and it will take a long time to correct," the document said.

"Thus, highlighed the need for a new respect for learning and the institutions of learning. "And for the discipline which these will demand."

In a section on education policy, the document calls for a mass literacy programme.
Mozambique, SA to meet on Renamo attack

MOZAMBIQUE and SA government representatives would meet "soon" to discuss the Renamo attack on the border town Ressano Garcia and the resulting flood of more than 2,500 refugees into SA, a Foreign Affairs spokesman said yesterday.

About 40 people died in a mortar and RPS-7 rocket attack on the town on Tuesday night, after which the town was looted, Mozambian news agency AIM reported.

The Foreign Affairs spokesman said SA was "gravely concerned" about the attack. The meeting between representatives of the countries would take place in terms of established agreements on security affairs between the two countries.

All but 34 of the refugees, many of whom were injured when they charged the razor-wire border fence, had been repatriated.

A senior diplomatic source said yesterday the attack was probably an act of "armed propaganda" on the eve of the sixth round of peace talks which started yesterday in Rome.

The source said although Mozambique officials were confident of reaching a ceasefire agreement with Renamo, independent observers were less confident.

Few details of the Rome talks are known, and observers are not aware of what will be discussed, but most feel the talks will focus on political rather than military issues.

Although this would constitute a step forward, the diplomatic source said that even if the parties agreed on a ceasefire, it would be very difficult to round up the many bandits roaming the countryside.

Despite the Tuesday attack, the source said fighting between Renamo and government forces had lessened and that the partial ceasefire agreed between the parties was generally being observed.

The partial ceasefire stipulates that the rebels will not attack the Beira corridor or the Limpopo railway line as long as the 7,000 Zimbabwean troops deployed in Mozambique are confined to a 3km zone on either side of the two transport routes.

Italian officials are mediating in the talks, while a host of observers from various countries, including SA, are standing by in case their input is needed. It is not known how long the talks will last.
Mozambican war hots up

By PAUL FAUVE, Maputo

AS delegations from the Mozambican government and Renamo rebels prepared to meet yesterday in Rome, the war inside Mozambique showed no sign of slackening.

Last Saturday, at a village in the southern province of Gaza, Renamo massacred 40 peasants. They started burning down houses in the Seventh of April village, and were only prevented from destroying the whole settlement by the arrival of Mozambican troops, who shot dead two of the raiders.

In April Renamo stepped up its activity in another strongly pro-Frelimo area, the northern province of Cabo Delgado, which was where the war for independence from Portuguese rule started. On April 23 Renamo attacked the small town of Muidumbe and occupied it for two days, wrecking the town hall and looting all the shops and every other sizeable building.

Five days later, Renamo attacked a convey of civilian trucks in Cabo Delgado, and murdered at least 16 people. Most of the vehicles belonged to the state agricultural mar-

keting board, and the attack signalled Renamo's determination to disrupt the purchase of surplus peasant crops in a province which has traditionally provided food to other parts of the country.

On Tuesday Renamo launched a major attack against the town of Ressano Garcia on the South African frontier, and many Mozambican civilians fled in panic over the border.

However, according to sources on Mozambique Railways, the rebels were unable to capture the town.

There is little doubt that Renamo deliberately stepped up its activity in the last fortnight of April, presumably in an attempt to strengthen its hand at the negotiating table in Rome.

Despite this, President Joachim Chissano struck a conciliatory tone in his speech to the May Day parade and rally in Maputo on Wednesday. He said that the Mozambican government delegation had gone to Rome with instructions "to do everything possible to ensure that the dialogue results in success for all the Mozambican people".
Go-ahead for power proposal

THE giant Cahora Bassa hydro-electric scheme in Mozambique may yet supply electricity to the sub-continent, following the agreement between Mozambique’s Renamo rebel movement and the rehabilitation of power lines from the project to South Africa.

Rebel leader Antonio Dhlakama has publicly agreed to the repair of transmission lines sabotaged by Renamo.

Confirming the agreement this week, Eskom’s corporate secretary and secretary to the Permanent Joint Committee on Cahora Bassa, Mr Dries Loots, said the scheme could now be on line in less than three years.

“Now that we have the go ahead from all parties, we can finalise financial arrangements,” he said. - Sovietan Correspondent
Public transport crisis will go on

MAPUTO - The public transport crisis in Maputo is likely to continue despite an announcement by the director of road transport, Lucas Nhamzinga, that Maputo and Beira are to get new Dutch "AVM" buses were expected within the next five months to strengthen the fleet of the state-owned transport. - Sowetan Correspondent.
SA invited to observe Moz talks on peace

Political Staff

SOUTH AFRICA has been invited to send an observer delegation to the next round of Mozambican peace negotiations in Rome. Foreign Minister Mr P.K. Botha announced yesterday.

Mr Botha said in a statement that during discussions early in April with the chief negotiator, Mr Mario Raffaelli, it had been agreed that South Africa would send an observer delegation to Rome.

South Africa had had close contact with the St Egidio Foundation and the Italian government, both playing an important role in the current peace initiative.

"South Africa supports this initiative and has for some time played an active facilitating role behind the scenes in consultation with all the parties concerned," Mr Botha said.
Rebels get peace talks phone link

LILONGWE, Malawi.—Mozambican rebels have received advanced electronic equipment to link their remote bush headquarters with peace talks negotiators in Rome, diplomats say.

The telecommunications equipment, mainly featuring a portable telephone and satellite dish, is intended to hasten progress in discussions between the Mozambican government and guerrillas in the Italian capital.

The sixth round of talks to end the 14-year civil war in Mozambique was scheduled to resume yesterday.

Senior Western diplomats here said the telephone was supplied recently to Renamo rebel leader Mr Alphonso Dhlakama by an unnamed Western nation.

They said it was not clear how the equipment was delivered or whether it had been successfully installed at Mr Dhlakama's main base in rebel-held northern Mozambique.

"A need was felt to speed up the channels back to Dhlakama," said one diplomat.

In the past, rebel negotiators travelled to Kenya for consultations or slipped into Mozambique over the unguarded border from Malawi. — Sapa
SA to observe new Mozambique talks

FOREIGN Affairs Minister Pik Botha confirmed on Friday that the South African Government had been invited to send an observer delegation to Rome for the next round of peace talks between Mozambique's Frelimo Government and the Renamo rebel movement.

The sixth round of peace talks in Rome between the two parties has not yet started and it is still unclear when it will begin.

According to Mozambican observers, the delay is entirely the responsibility of Renamo, which has requested the talks be postponed to May 13.

The next round of talks has been repeatedly postponed since its scheduled starting date of April 8.

The Mozambican delegation eventually left Maputo in the belief that the talks would finally begin on May 2.

The official mediators from the Italian government and the Catholic Church have been holding a series of meetings with both sides in an attempt to clear the apparent impasse.

Renamo's pretext for the latest delay is a supposed need to strengthen the radio link through Malawi, with which the Renamo delegation in Rome can contact rebel commanders inside Mozambique.

This link was established with Italian technical and financial assistance. In early April, Italian Ambassador Manfredo De Camerana tested the system and reported that it was working well and he could contact Rome, Malawi and Maputo.

Now Renamo has suddenly announced it wants to dispense with the Italian technicians helping with the communications link.

Expected to take part in this round of talks, at least behind the scenes, is a group of five rightwing specialists from the pro-Renamo lobby in the US.

One of them is Brian Rice, said to be a specialist in constitutional law, who has drafted a new Mozambican constitution for Renamo.

This document contains some extraordinary provisions, including the reintroduction of the death penalty.

Meanwhile, a statement issued by Renamo offices abroad has demanded changes in the agenda for the Rome talks. Among the demands raised in this statement were the "immediate abolition" of "Frelimo's political police" - a term by which Renamo means the country's security force - and a revision of Mozambican Nationality Law.

The idea of such changes would be to prevent President Joaquim Chissano from granting Mozambican nationality to his Zimbabwean and Zambian allies. Under the present constitution, Chissano, even if he wanted to, has no such power.

The rebels also want the abolition of what they call "private armies." A reference to para-military units employed to protect key economic installations from Renamo attack.

Meanwhile, the man who calls himself Renamo's "supreme commander", Afonso Dhikama, is in Switzerland, where he held talks with a Portuguese delegation led by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation, Manuel Durao Barroso.

According to the Portuguese press, Portugal is thought to be bringing indirect pressure to bear to try to switch the venue of the peace talks from Rome to Lisbon. - ANO
MOZAMBICAN rebels have received advanced electronic equipment to link their remote bush headquarters with peace talks negotiators in Rome. The telecommunications equipment, featuring a telephone and satellite dish, is intended to hasten progress in discussions between the Mozambique government and Renamo guerrillas.

The sixth round of talks, to end the 14-year-old civil war in Mozambique, was scheduled to resume this week. A statement from African diplomats in Malawi said the link was supplied recently to Renamo leader Alphonso Dhlakama by an unnamed Western nation.

"A need was felt to speed up the channels back to Dhlakama and his commanders in the bush," said one diplomat speaking on condition of anonymity.

Meanwhile, Foreign Affairs Minister Pak Bota has confirmed that the S.A. government has been invited to send an observer delegation to Rome for the next round of peace talks.

It is still unclear exactly when the talks will begin. Mozambican observers say the delay is the fault of Renamo, which has requested a postponement until next Monday.

**Tactics**

A source in the Mozambican government delegation accused Renamo of resorting to "time-wasting tactics" that had always characterized the behavior during the negotiations.

Expected to take part in this round of talks, at least behind the scenes, is a group of five right-wing specialists from the pro-Renamo lobby in the U.S.

These include lawyers, economists linked to such ultra-right think tanks as the Heritage Foundation and the conservative Caucus.

Among them is Brian Fine, a specialist in constitutional law, who has drafted a new Mozambican constitution for Renamo which is based on the U.S. Constitution.

More promising, however, are peace talks between...
Bank of Lisbon on its way back

BANK of Lisbon hopes to re-establish a presence in Mozambique after its contacts with the country were disrupted by independence in 1975.

Managing director Derval Marques (left) says the Mozambican authorities are keen for foreign banks to open up offices there.

"We have representation through our correspondent relationships with Mozambican banks which are authorised to do foreign business."

Bank of Lisbon was established in 1963 to foster trade between SA, Portugal, Mozambique and Angola. The bank served the interests of Portuguese colonials in these countries before independence and in recent years has become increasingly involved in financing trade to Mozambique, identifying investment opportunities and arranging joint ventures.

Dr Marques says: "The economy is slowly recovering, the main difficulties being the recurring large deficits on the balance of payments which leave foreign currency in short supply and necessitate huge injections of foreign aid."
MOZAMBIQUE and the INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS
A Business Times Feature

Long haul for rail and ports

MOZAMBIQUE has been described as more an administrative convenience than a nation.

Nowhere is this better illustrated than in its transport network.

Most of the roads and railway lines run from South Africa, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi.

Ordinarily, a large part of Mozambique's earnings come from surcharges on goods transported across the country. One of the principal motives for the creation of the SADC was to upgrade Mozambique's ports and railways, reducing dependence on SA.

The main railway lines are governed by bilateral or international agreements. They are vital to the economies of Mozambique's neighbours.

More than $400-million has been spent on the upgrading and refurbishment of the ports of Beira and Nacala, which were in great need of improvement and are keys in lessening SADC countries' dependence on SA's transport systems.

National Railways of Zimbabwe provided much of the bridging finance to rehabilitate the Beira corridor. Tonnage on this route increased by 29%, 42% and 15% respectively in 1987, 1988 and 1989. Nearly 70% of Zimbabwe's traffic now passes through Beira.

The arrival of 16 new locomotives from Brazil and Canada in 1991 and 1992 should ease congestion. Use of the line is limited to daylight hours because of insurgents in the area.

Rehabilitation of the Nacala line was completed between 1984 and 1986, with an interruption in 1987/8 because of Renamo activity, which still causes disruption.

Tonnage on the line is double that achieved in the mid-1980s. But the line is still far from fully used because Malawian exporters continue to use SA ports.

SA has provided aid for the redevelopment of Maputo and the rail link through Komatipoort. But SA tonnage remains at 10% of the peak in the early 1970s.

SA freight companies say it is still more practical to use Durban and Richards Bay for exports in spite of the higher transport cost because Maputo is unable to handle large volumes of goods.

Beira has been thoroughly upgraded, including a dredging operation to enable the port to handle vessels of up to 60 000 tons. It can handle 50% of regional traffic.

Army

However, railways have been a particular target for Renamo. Between 1982 and 1985, SA locomotives and 200 trucks were damaged or destroyed, resulting in most traffic from Malawi, Zambia, Zaire and Swaziland going to SA ports.

Attempts have been made to secure the railway lines with Zimbabwean and Malawian troops and French and British assistance in training the Mozambican army.

Most of the country is accessible only by air and sea. Denmark will equip and maintain airstrips at seven regional capitals.

The transport network cannot hope to operate at its former capability before Renamo insurgents lay down their arms.
Small airlines cash in on banditry, rising demand

SMALL airlines are capitalising on Mozambique's security nightmare by offering services to Maputo and destinations deep inside the country. Road transport between SA and Mozambique has been severely curtailed by banditry.

Businessmen wishing to investigate development opportunities have to go by air. SAA, in conjunction with the Mozambique national carrier, LAM, offers regular services to and from Johannesburg.

Two independent SA airlines, Ross Air and Metavia, saw a need for smaller, more flexible services to Mozambique.

Jets

Ross Air is a charter company. It cannot sell seats on a scheduled flight, but hires out an aircraft for a destination.

Metavia operates scheduled flights from Johannesburg to Nelspruit and Maputo twice a day, as well as a shuttle service from Komatipoort to Maputo three times a week. It will soon start regular flights from Komatipoort to Xai Xai, north of Maputo, for Mozambique's workers.

Metavia's director, Deirdre Ward says the company started six years ago and now has a fleet of two Piper Cheiftans. It leases three more Piper Cheiftans and nine passengers.

Mrs Ward says, "Being a small company we have greater flexibility than the large. We pick up a lot of the overflow from SAA. If there is exceptional demand we can generally fill another aircraft quickly. Conversely, we can reduce the payload."

Mrs Ward says there is a marked increase in demand for flights to Mozambique, particularly from businessmen. The cost of a return ticket from Johannesburg to Nelspruit and Maputo with Metavia is R770.

From Nelspruit to Maputo, return costs R370. The Komatipoort to Maputo flight costs R190, with the return trip free.

Metavia also operates charter flights to other destinations in Mozambique.

Ross Air has four turbo-prop aircraft and leases seven more, including some jets. It operates an evacuation service for the sick as well as supplying food and medicine to remote areas.

The medical evacuation service is often asked to take patients from outlying areas in Mozambique to hospitals in SA. Hospital services in Mozambique are so rudimentary, says a tour operator, that "you wouldn't want to go to Maputo hospitals with anything worse than a cut finger."

Ross Air managing director Joyce Bosch says the company employs nine full-time pilots, and has started sending charter flights to Madagascar.

"We are sometimes called on to fly groups to the Indian Ocean islands. We operate as far north as Pemba and Nampula in Mozambique."

Firing

Ross Air has a base in Beira and flies groups from abroad to Mozambique. The cost of a charter flight from Johannesburg to Beira for eight is about R5,000.

Neither airline's aircraft have been attacked over Mozambique. The only two airports with traffic control are Beira and Maputo.

Mrs Bosch says, "We apply in advance for clearance at remote airstrips. The pilots receive their altitude and time parameters, so air travel is safe. We fly at altitudes far above the firing range of bandits."

Several tour groups operate in conjunction with air charter companies to Mozambique and other destinations in the Indian Ocean.

Turbo Air Charter operates on behalf of Action Adventure Tours to Mozambique, Madagascar and other islands. Fly-In Safaris and Falcon Air, based at Lanseria, near Johannesburg, operate charter flights to the Mozambique islands and to other destinations in Africa.
Eskom helps to bring light

A PRIMARY area of co-operation between South Africa and Mozambique is electricity supply.

Eskom supplies Maputo through the Indelen bve from Komatiport. Maputo is frequently short of power and residents are accustomed to sudden blackouts.

Eskom has signed a tripartite agreement with the Mozambique electricity corporation, Electricidade de Mozambique (EDM).

Under it, SA will buy most of the power supplied by the Cahora Bassa hydro-electric plant in northern Mozambique.

Cahora Bassa, on the Zambezi River at the head of the Cahora Bassa dam, is in perfect running order, but is supplying electricity only to the surrounding areas because the transmission lines between it and SA are frequently sabotaged in the civil war.

Financing is virtually in place for the recommissioning of the lines and export credits have been guaranteed.

Eskom has committed itself to the development of the Southern Africa grid, which would involve financial and technical assistance.

Studies have been carried out to investigate the feasibility of building a line from Cahora Bassa to Harare because the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Commission (ZESCO) will require more power soon.

Cede (218)

An Eskom spokesman says "We have agreed to cede some of our rights to Cahora Bassa power should the project prove feasible."

An agreement signed in November 1989 committed Eskom to providing technical assistance to EDM as part of a World Bank-funded rehabilitation of the Maputo thermal power station. The duration of the agreement is three years, during which Eskom will accredit to Maputo an operating manager, a maintenance manager and specialists.
About-turn Freilimo

Mozambique and the Indian Ocean Islands

Looking for Revival
New-look ports battle to regain freight traffic

WARMING political relations between SA and black Africa could result in neighbouring countries forsaking Mozambique for ports, says Remus chief executive Piet Steyn.

Rail links between Malawi, Zimbabwe and Mozambique are frequent targets for Renamo attacks. Transport problems are exacerbated by bureaucratic inefficiency and other problems.

Beira is facing shipping delays as a result of refurbishment and exporters routing goods through Maputo are plagued by theft.

There are also sporadic attacks on railway lines to Maputo.

Lion

Mr Steyn says: "Unless Mozambique is able to bring the bandits under control, it stands to lose a large slice of its freight traffic to SA.

"As a political and economic barrier between SA and the rest of Africa crumbles, less political pressure will be brought to bear on countries such as Zimbabwe to use Mozambican ports for exports. This could result in a greater tonnage of freight from previously hostile neighbours passing through SA ports."

Remus subsidiary Mames has been in Mozambique for 44 years. Mames is one of the few freighting and forwarding companies to continue operating in Mozambique throughout the civil war.

Many corporations pulled out of Mozambique after Frelimo came to power in 1975, but by staying behind, Man-

ica captured the lion's share of business in spite of serious operational problems caused by the internal strife.

Road haulage, for example, has become virtually impossible in places.

Mr Steyn says: "We have to move freight by sea from Maputo to Beira and Nacala because of the danger involved in road transport. We also have two aircraft based in Mozambique so that our staff can commute around the country."

The Beira Corridor, which links the Zimbabwe town of Mutare to the port of Beira, has been made relatively secure from Renamo attacks by the widespread presence of Zimbabwean troops. But there have been occasional breaches of the security cordons, resulting in attacks on the railway line and oil pipeline.

Zimbabwean troops recently pulled out of the Tete Corridor, a vital link between Zimbabwe and the Tete province in northern Mozam-

bique. It halves the travelling time from SA to Malawi.

The Tete Corridor was reopened this year, but closed after only two months. More than 100 people were killed by bandits.

Goods from SA to Malawi now go through Zambia, resulting in at least two days' additional travelling time.

Sense

Freight companies report long delays at the Zambian borders because customs officials are unprepared for the increase in traffic. Malawi is still unable to make extensive use of Nacala port because of a lack of rolling stock and occasional Renamo attacks.

The Nacala rail link is also in serious need of repair. The line from Zimbabwe to Maputo is still a target for rebel attacks.

Another disadvantage for Maputo is that port charges are levied in US dollars and SA ports charge rands.

Neighbouring countries with foreign-currency shortages take advantage of the rand's depreciation against the dollar.

Mozambican authorities hope to encourage SA exporters to send their goods through Maputo, but serious difficulties have to be overcome.

Mr Steyn says the city and port of Maputo are often without power and other services.

"We are looking at providing whatever assistance we can in Maputo - as we are doing in Durban. It makes sense for certain exporters, particularly in the Eastern Transvaal, to ship through Maputo."

Richards Bay recently increased its coal-handling facilities. But small coal exporters in the Eastern Transvaal could save money by exporting through Maputo.

Mr Steyn says Maputo received little in the way of aid since independence because donor nations thought it would be of direct benefit to SA.

Birds, feathered and otherwise...

WADING through the piles of glossy brochures promoting holiday resorts in the Indian Ocean islands leaves one a little perplexed.

The pictures promise panoramas of spectral greys and blues, white sands stretching to infinity, ravishing girls, tanned and sparsely dressed draped across reclining chairs and stubby black parrots and remains of the prehistoric forest, Vallee de Mai, said to be the original Garden of Eden.

Thirty minutes by air from Mahe is Comor, an island sanctuary owned by the International Council for Bird Preservation. Comor is home to the rare brush warbler.
A to Z of setting up joint venture

BUSINESSMEN looking to set up shop in Mozambique face a host of challenges. The biggest is to find the right partner - the opportunity is there but the process can be daunting.

As South Africa gradually re-enters the world of trade, diversifying its interests beyond its traditional markets in Namibia and Zimbabwe, Mozambique is considered a potential market. However, the process of setting up joint ventures can be complex and require careful planning.

Visa

"Many visitors have exaggerated expectations of running a business in Mozambique," says a senior government official. "However, the country offers a wide range of opportunities for foreign investors." The government has taken steps to make the process easier, including the establishment of the Mozambique Development Bank (MDB), which provides financial support for businesses.

Accountants get in on ground floor

Accountants are playing an increasing role in the Mozambican market, particularly in providing financial and legal support for businesses. The demand for accountants is growing, with many companies looking to establish joint ventures in Mozambique.

The recent rise of interest in Mozambique by foreign investors has led to an increase in demand for accountants. "We have seen a significant increase in the number of companies looking to establish joint ventures in Mozambique," says a local accountant. "Many of these companies are seeking to establish partnerships with local businesses, and accountants are playing a crucial role in facilitating this process."
Accountants get in on ground floor

ACCOUNTING firm KPMG Allen & Peat has scored a coup in Mozambique — of a financial kind.

It has won an assignment to provide specialist financial management and banking consulting services for the next two years to all three commercial banks in the country, as well as to the central bank. KPMG Allen & Peat Mozambique was established less than a year ago.

The accounting firm has tapped up a large slice of the investment consultancy market. About 40% of the firm's new client inquiries originate from SA.

KPMG Allen & Peat managing partner Paul de Sousa says: "The number of heavyweights SA corporations turning up at our offices is increasing. Many are relative newcomers to foreign investment."

The recent spate of interest in investment in Mozambique derives from the government's privatization drive, says Mr de Sousa.

The Mozambique Government recently introduced an investment code which offers foreign investors tax holidays, freedom to retain dividends, guaranteed repatriation of capital and other incentives. They include the SNAAD programme which allows virtually unhindered access to foreign currency for certain classes of investments.

"Evidence of increasingvisible and invisible trade with SA is that the Bank of Mozambique limits the dollars which its foreign-currency account holders can cash each month. But it places no limit on the amount of randsthat can be cashed."

Western Europe
Back to square one after Frelimo destruction orgy

ON GAINING power in 1974, Mozambique's Frelimo rulers destroyed environmental studies which had been painstakingly compiled over many years.

The result was that virtually no geologic or mineral surveys of the interior could be presented to prospective developers.

The reason? The studies were seen to be the work of colonial oppression.

This thirst for self-immolation is particularly poignant given the almost total reversal in the government's Marxist policies in the past three years.

A significant amount of surveying and planning of natural resources was carried out by Johannesburg-based environmental consultants Loxton Venn & Associates before independence.

Its work was to have provided a blueprint for Mozambique's agricultural and mineral development.

But virtually no environmental development has taken place for 15 years. The country remains a land of "enormous potential" — a euphemism for wholesale economic sabotage.

Aerial photographs of Mozambique's countryside show a frightening sociological catastrophe: the land has been demeared of human habitation.

**Sappi**

Hundreds of thousands of refugees have fled to Maputo, Beira, Nacala and other towns, as well as Zambia, Malawi and South Africa.

All that remain are isolated villages scattered among the thick forest of the north and the bushveld. Virtually no farming takes place away from the towns.

Loxton Venn environmental consultant Frank Merryweather says the firm retains the only plans and maps of the interior.

"We are working with Sappi on a forestry project south of Maputo, and with Mondi on another near Xai-Xai, north of Maputo. We map fuel wood resources. No work can be done on the ground because of the security problem. All mapping is done by aerial photography in co-operation with people who had ground knowledge in colonial times."

The Zambezi valley is fertile, and was the most studied and farmed region of the country. Sugar estates which existed in this area until the 1960s bore yields double those achieved in SA because of the excellent soil and temperature conditions.

Today, it is doubtful that even subsistence farming takes place.

SA and other companies are keen to become involved in agriculture in this region because the returns are likely to be high. The Zambezi valley is ripe for irrigation, having a wide, flat flood plain.

Two problems threaten environmental development in Mozambique. The first is the security problem, which has prevented projects such as Sappi's and Mondi's from advancing.

**Irony**

The government tells potential investors that they are responsible for their own security outside of the major towns.

Security arrangements in Mozambique are not as simple as requesting the army to move into an area and flush out the bandits.

Mr. Merryweather recalls an incident where he was involved in ground surveying with an army patrol — the soldiers refused to leave the road.

The second problem is Mozambique's poverty, which appears likely to result in desertification of large parts of the country. Various projects awaiting the go-ahead involve cutting down ancient forests of indigenous trees without any plans for re-planting.

Mr. Merryweather says that much of his recent work arose out of a dispute between the Mozambican government and the World Bank about whether the ancient indigenous trees could be used for firewood and then replaced with faster-growing non-migratory eucalyptus.
R150m for a holiday town on the coast

SEVERAL South African businessmen plan to invest R150-million in a coastal development in southern Mozambique.

South Africans will be able to buy prime beachfront properties under a 99-year lease. The first phase of the development involves buying and refurbishing more than 400 deserted houses between the coastal towns of Mungua and Porto de Ouro in an area infested with Renamo bandits.

Part of the plan involves clearing the area of bandits from the southern tip of Mozambique up to Maputo. Built into the budget is an initial R2.25-million to train and equip the Mozambican army for the job and running costs of R3.7-million a year to keep the area free of insurgents.

Belinda's project is entrepreneur David Guthrie, who conceived the idea 2½ years ago. A company called Mozambique Leisure has been set up to plan and finance the project.

Mr Guthrie says: "We encountered many problems in getting this off the ground. For example, we had to help the government draft a Land Tenure Act to permit 99-year leases.

"We also drafted a Condo Act, which is modelled on the Swiss one."

The plan includes building a hotel-casino complex with 200 beds.

Mr Guthrie says the potential income for Mozambique is R200-million a year, the net present value of tourism earnings in the country in the early 1970s.

Work on the project will begin later this year. The refurbished houses will be rented out initially for about R150 a day and later sold.

Considerable investment has to be made in building roads and providing sewerage and power.

Further housing developments are planned in a subsequent phase of the development. For South Africans cut out of the running for a coastal property because of high prices and overcrowding, beachfront houses in southern Mozambique will be affordable at about R150 000, says Mr Guthrie.

The directors of Mozambique Leisure include Steve Phelps of Unidep, Dean Mayer (formerly with Quantum Housing), Robin Vorster of architects Sauch, Vorster and Alan Bernstein of JH Isaacs.

The resort will be a six-hour drive from Johannesburg.

Mozambique Leisure also plans to develop the 360,000-hectare Maputo Elephant Reserve. The Natal Parks Board will stock the reserve.
Renamo demand off agenda

MAPUTO — Renamo appears to have dropped its demand for a transitional government in Mozambique pending elections. The proposal made at the beginning of May, is not on the agenda for peace talks in Rome, which resumed yesterday. The Freiune government has always argued that if the rebels want power they should seek it through the ballot box. — Star Africa Service.
Shaky start to Beira's opposition convention

BEIRA — The first opposition party convention ever held in Mozambique got off to a shaky start on Monday with only half the country represented.

Mauricio Bilal, founder of the Liberal and Democratic Party of Mozambique (Palmo), said before the convention opened there would be 100 delegates drawn from the country's 19 provinces, but only about 50 turned up for the opening session.

It is the first opposition convention to be held under Mozambique's new multiparty constitution after 16 years of Frelimo rule.

Palmo plans to run against Frelimo in the country's first multiparty elections next year.

Political observers said it was premature to describe the meeting as a failure because of serious transport problems caused by civil war. Bilal said Beira had been chosen as a venue rather than Maputo because of easier access — Sape-Reuters.
IN THE NICK OF TIME

BORIS PILIATSKIN

Soviet journalist Boris Piliatskin, based in Maputo, has represented Izvestia in Africa for some years. He has also visited SA on several occasions. In this article, first published in Izvestia, Piliatskin takes a critical look at the sad effect Mozambique's socialist policies had on the once prosperous country.

On the green coastal slopes near Maputo stands a plywood sign. A slogan was printed on it in honour of the “Fatherland of Socialism.” The colours on the sign are faded by the sun and rain; most likely someone simply forgot to take it down.

Today it is a pattern ofynchronism. But it is not long since such slogans were considered obligatory adornment: appealing, admonishing, mobilising. When I saw them I forgot that I was in Africa; it seemed they were copies The People’s Republic of Mozambique — one of four African countries having a Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation with the USSR (the others being the Congo, Angola and Ethiopia) — was regarded by us as an outpost of “socialist orientation” on the southern African continent. Its leaders sang the praises of the fatherland of “mature socialism,” and borrowed its ideological and economic postulates.

After Mozambique’s declaration of independence in 1975, the economy was put on the road to total nationalisation and collectivisation. The land, the banks, industries, schools, hospitals and homes became state property. A National Planning Commission and a Supply Commission were created to regulate production, determining what and how much to produce, where and how to sell, and so on.

Very soon certain tendencies began to manifest themselves: lack of motivation among the workers, the inefficiency of the central command system and the unwieldiness of the bureaucratic machinery. About 10 000 qualified whites, alarmed by the turn of events, emigrated (mainly to SA). However, instead of trying to halt the brain drain, revolutionary fervour was encouraged.

Throughout the country, starting in enterprises, so-called vigilante groups were established which did less to regulate production than to organise political demobilisation and brainwashing of the population.

Is it surprising that the imposition of such a system damaged the country’s agricultural mechanism? Though productivity was artificially lowered, business worked at only 20% of capacity. Unprofitability was compensated for out of the State budget — which also had to support the expanding bureaucracy.

By 1986 the country had more than 130 000 managers in the production sphere, one for every 1.4 units.

Especially sad is the effect of “socialist orientation” on agriculture. I remember a trip I made through the Lumilapa valley, formerly considered the country’s granary, producing commercial products — fruit, vegetables, grain. Now the valley has been turned into a terrain for the “socialisation” of agriculture. Peasants who traditionally tended only the family ground were herded together into collective villages and State farms.

This was presented as a voluntary process. But when the number of rural people flocking to the cities in search of a better life went into hundreds of thousands, a policy of forced removals to the north and to Nyanza province was implemented. The newspaper Nurturas wrote optimistically about the cities of the future which would supposedly soon arise amid the savanna. However, not even construction was under way when I last visited those regions. It is well known that the anti-government Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo), having reached Nyanza, recruited many immigrants suffering from official policies.

It was distressing to see how, month after month, the country sank ever deeper into economic paralysis. The statistics enlarged production figures, but unemployment rose, people died of starvation, everything went on in front of one’s eyes. The first symptom of the disease was the disappearance of African bazaars in Maputo and in the provinces. Even the poorest people used to sell fruit there so they would not have to beg. Later, with deprecation, money was turned into paper sweepings — and sandals, shirts or wrapping for soap. Not even bare necessities were available on shop shelves.

Academics still write about how and why, in different socio-political and historical stages, dissimilar administrative systems perform equally meaningless functions. In Mozambique, those who were able to and wanted to work — for example, fishermen — were stigmatised. In a collective village near the sea I was one day presented with a metal plate containing a skinny fish as a mark of special respect.

The height of the economic crisis coincided with the intensification of the propaganda campaign promoting “socialist goals” and impractical hare-brained schemes Mozambique — before independence one of Africa’s top producers of cashew nuts, sisal and tea — became a starvation zone and one of the world’s poorest countries with an annual per capita income of US$90.

The National Planning Commission, also with the active involvement of a group of Soviet experts, drew up a long-term plan for 1981-1990. It was based on the establishment of heavy industry, totally disregarding reality. Fortunately, for various reasons, the wild idea of building a huge Mozambican metallurgical complex was not realised. However, the echoes from those times can still be heard.

In Boma, the long-term Soviet plan to build an agricultural equipment factory was not implemented. Initially it was conceived as a tractor plant. Today it produces metal knives and forks despite the fact that the raw materials are supplied by the USSR.

I think that with our (the Soviet Union’s) deficit and disorder, it should be of interest to us to learn about a country which was fast approaching economic chaos and collapse and yet suddenly revived Phoenix-like when, under Joachim Chissano’s leadership, it espoused good sense and pragmatism and renounced ideological dogmas.

A by-product of this about-turn is the Programme for Economic Renewal for 1987-1989 (now extended for five years) its core lies in the scope it gives to a market economy, to other forms of ownership, to making people interested in the fruits of their labour.

I have already had occasion to write about this programme in Izvestia. Only note that at its heart lies increased food production. The stimulants for this serve as an introduction to market prices, the division of disbanding State farms among those who worked them, all kinds of incentives to the private sector, and help from the government with credit and sensible politics. In the industrial sector there is a process of denationalisation, of allowing enterprise to enter foreign markets.

There are no more prescriptions. But even with the present degree of democratisation in Mozambique, local reality does not allow for other projects or pluralism.

Thus the programme offers leadership to the people. Though prices have risen, and the nation lives in poverty and hardship, the economy has begun to recover. Bazaars, big and small, have appeared like mushrooms after rain and shops are selling consumer goods.

No one doubts the path that Mozambique is taking. People are simply rebuilding normal life.

And as for the lonely sign on the coastal slopes with which I began my report, even its end is not delayed. I don’t think anyone even reads its message.
Renamo talks hiccup

MAPUTO - Peace talks in Rome between the Mozambican Government and Renamo rebels have hit delays and snags.

This could lead to the talks being interrupted for the seventh time without any movement toward a ceasefire in the 14-year civil war.

According to a report from the official Mozambique news agency AMM, the delays have been caused by Renamo introducing new items onto the talks agenda already agreed to between the two parties.

Face to face talks between delegation leaders, Mozambican Transport Minister Armando Guebuza and Renamo "foreign minister" Raul Domingos failed to resolve the apparent impasse. - Sowetan Africa News Service.
Confusion at Mozambique opposition congress

BEIRA — Multi-party democracy came to Mozambique more with a whimper than with a bang as confusion overtook the country’s first legal opposition party congress.

The founding meeting of the Liberal and Democratic Party of Mozambique (Palmo) ended late on Saturday after an abrupt about-face on policy and a bruising leadership contest that saw the favourite walk out of the gathering.

Mr Martin Bilal, a 45-year-old Maputo businessman, defeated party founder, Mr António Palange for the presidency after another businessman tipped for the post, Mr Cassimiro Nhambumbe, walked out minutes before the election.

Mr Bilal said there had been a bitter fight for the presidency, with Mr Palange, a 56-year-old doctor trained in East Germany, seeking the right to head the party.

Mr Nhambumbe, 53, refused to give specific reasons for his departure but he later accused Palmo of lacking democracy.

Mr Palange, slumped and glum in his chair as the other 53 delegates who attended the conference hailed their new leader.

Three of the country’s 10 provinces were not represented due to transportation problems, the party said.

“We began well, healthy, full of hope, but if we carry on as we’ve proved in this congress, I don’t see it going as well as we had hoped,” Mr Bilal said just before his election.

Palmo, like other emerging parties and Mozambique’s ruling Frelimo itself, faces an uphill struggle to attract voter attention as a new pluralistic era of politics opens in the country. General elections are expected next year.

But many people in the country of 16 million, devastated by 16 years of civil war, have heard little and care less for politics. All they want is peace.

But the latest round of peace talks, between Frelimo and the rebel Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo), being held in Rome appeared deadlocked. — Sapa-AP
If war ends, refugee problems will begin in Mozambique

By RACHEL WATERHOUSE Maputo

WITH the sixth round of peace talks between the Mozambican government and Renamo rebels due to start this week in Rome, there is growing concern in surrounding African countries about the reparation of its 1.5 million refugees.

Once a peace accord is reached, Mozambique will immediately face the huge problem of when and how to repatriate one of the largest numbers of refugees ever on the African continent.

So far there has been little preparation for a mass return, either inside Mozambique or in the host countries. Some 300 refugees are forcibly "repatriated" from South Africa every week, but thousands manage to remain in the country illegally. The Reverend White Bakuba of the South African Council of Churches' refugee department estimated recently that there are some 250,000 Mozambican refugees in South Africa, most of them living "incognito".

"So far, Mozambicans have no guarantee that it's safe to go home — but that day will come," said Bakuba.

The numbers are mindboggling. One million refugees are in Malawi, 250,000 in South Africa, 180,000 in Zimbabwe, 24,000 in Zambia and smaller groups are in Tanzania, Swaziland and Lesotho. In addition, an estimated 3.75 million, one-quarter of the country's 15 million people, have been forced from their homes by the war.

"When direct peace negotiations between the Frelimo government and Renamo got underway last year, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) warned that a sudden influx of thousands of "returnees" could be imminent. Yet, despite hopes that a ceasefire could be agreed upon quickly, Mozambique has no clear programme to cope with all the people wanting to go home as soon as safety improves.

Even with war still raging, Mozambicans regularly trek home to check out the security situation for themselves and the government estimates that over 300,000 have "permanently" resettled. Refugee camp workers throughout the region confirm that the vast majority of Mozambicans are keen to return — but not until they have a minimum of confidence in the future.

"Going home to Mozambique will still be completely different from the triumphant return of refugees to Zimbabwe (1980-1981) or to Namibia (1989-90) at national independence," commented Zambian relief worker Shirley Dewolf. She said Mozambique's social and economic infrastructure had been almost totally destroyed by the war.

Peace efforts have been the main focus of President Joaquim Chissano's ruling Frelimo party in meeting Renamo's demands for multi-party politics, an end to Marxism and the introduction of a free-market economy. Frelimo is due to hold general elections as soon as there is some kind of accord with Renamo.

Once an election date is set, there is likely to be strong pressure to get refugees "voters" home — matched by a push from reluctant host countries to get rid of them. The sooner the Mozambicans go home the better," said a Malawian camp worker. "There is no room for them and the strain on our country is incredible."

In December, the UNHCR asked donors for $7.7 million to fund the transport of returnees, but with world attention on Kurdish refugees, the floods in Bangladesh and the continuing upheaval in eastern Europe, it appears this target will not be reached.
Mozambicans don’t care who is at the top any more

Battling for the hearts and minds

Some refugees emerging from the bush in western Mozambique, for example, think Samora Machel is still president.

News of the death of the country’s first president in an air crash in October 1986 has still to circulate fully through the country of 15 million people.

Relief workers and political sources say many people in rural areas have heard little of the dramatic political changes in the capital, Maputo, which are aimed at turning the country into a parliamentary democracy.

Stalled

Most couldn’t care less. What they want is an end to the civil war between the ruling Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo) and Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo) rebels, whose current peace talks are stalled in Rome.

"No one cares who is at the top, or going up, or going down. They are exhausted. All they want is peace, a settled life and the basic necessities."
Mozambican
shot dead at
Soweto house

Zaneta Nkomo heard gunshots outside her home in Klipspruit, Soweto, on Tuesday evening and locked herself in the bathroom, unaware that a family friend was being killed.

She told The Star yesterday of the death of Costa Mutass, a Mozambican national with whom her family had shared a home since last year.

Mr Mutass was later found dead outside her house.

Mr Mutass, a tailor who had been in South Africa since 1996, was one of four men killed in separate incidents on Tuesday by gunmen suspected of being from the nearby Nancefield hostel.

Police found three other bodies lying in the street in Klipspruit.

Residents said the men, builders from Mozambique, were shot dead at point-blank range outside their home.

"The hostel dwellers from Nancefield once threatened to wipe out all men here. If we refused to pay a R5 protection fee," a resident said.

Lieutenant-Colonel Tienie Halgryn, police press liaison officer for Soweto, said no one had been arrested in connection with the shootings.
MAPUTO — Renamo rebels have been blamed for the mutilation of 14 Mozambicans in two separate attacks in which the victims’ ears or noses or both were cut off.

In the latest attack, the rebels allegedly hacked off the ears of nine residents of the Albassani suburb on the outskirts of Maputo on Tuesday.

On May 8, the rebels allegedly cut off the ears and noses of five people at Ndlavela just outside the capital.

All of the victims are being treated in the Maputo hospital.

One of them, Lena Mabuua, told Radio Mozambique that when the rebels attacked Albassani they burnt down the local co-operative, looted homes and abducted a number of people.

The official Mozambican news agency, AIM, says facial mutilation of victims has become “one of the hallmarks of Renamo’s behaviour.”
Renamo rebels mutilate civilians

By KARL MAIER  Maputo  21/8

WEARING a faded green shirt with dried blood stains around its collar, Rodrigues Laike sat on a hospital bed and recalled Santane's last order: "Go and show your ears to your president, Chissano."

With those words, a platoon commander of the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) rebels sent Laike (43), his wife Olinda Francisco (52), and another man running off into the bush without their ears and with deep knife wounds across the bridge of their noses. Earlier that day, the rebels had mutilated two elderly men.

"He said we could not return without a sign," Laike told The Weekly Mail.

The mutilations were carried out by several boys, eight to nine years old, wielding penknives, Laike said.

While Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama has repeatedly denied that his 20,000-strong guerrilla army resorts to mutilations of civilians, there have been hundreds of documented cases of such abuses, especially in the central provinces of Sofala, Manica and Tete.

Laike and his neighbours were recent victims of a stepped-up Renamo offensive in southern Mozambique which coincided with the sixth round of Italian-mediated talks in Rome to negotiate an end to the 16-year-old war.

From May 3 to May 8 alone, there were at least five incidents on the road, with 16 people being murdered in one attack about 100km north of Maputo.

The upsurge of ambushes was aided in large measure by the army's decision to withdraw an elite commando unit, known as the Red Berets, in April, after reports that the soldiers had gone on strike for lack of pay and rations.

Laike was one of 10 residents of Ndalvila village on the outskirts of Maputo abducted on May 8 by a Renamo platoon of 17 soldiers, at least 12 of them mere boys. "There were five adults, and the rest were children," said Francisco. "They all had AK-47s and a few had uniforms."

They were marched north until they reached a rebel-controlled zone of Mocachitene, about 30km north of Maputo, the next day. When two elderly men complained that they could not keep up, several boys were ordered to chop off their ears and lips and then release them. The three adults, including Laike, who completed the march were let go the next day minus their ears, while the rebels kept five young boys whom they picked up in the mud.

One 49-year-old woman who was allowed to leave said that, before departing, the adults were given a lecture by a Renamo commander about why the rebels had committed the massacre.

"We are not bandits, we are your brothers. Those ruling in Maputo know who we are," the woman recalled the rebel commander as saying. "We want to eat too, but they just want to eat alone. That massacre we carried out to show that Frelimo is nothing. If they do not accept to eat with us, there will be nothing too. We will make war until there is nothing left but Frelimo and Renamo."
Optimism over Mozambique peace talks

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — Stalled peace negotiations in Rome between the Mozambican government and Renamo rebels may be back on track following a meeting in Malawi between Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama and talks mediators.

The meeting took place last Thursday at the request of the mediators after Renamo and government negotiators had failed to break a 17-day deadlock over the agenda for the talks.

Direct talks between delegation leaders, Mozambican Transport Minister Armando Guebuza and Renamo Foreign Affairs minister Raul Domingos, had previously failed to break the deadlock.

The Italian ambassador to Mozambique, Mr Manfredo Di Camerana, said after the Malawi meeting that he hoped that the talks could get under way next week.

The broad topics already agreed to be discussed include the contents of a law authorising the formation of opposition political parties, an electoral law, an election timetable and supervision of the electoral process.

The Mozambican Cabinet has also discussed a draft law to disband the country's feared secret police, Snapp, one of the key Renamo demands that has delayed the talks.
Rebels cut into chances for peace

WEARING a faded green shirt with dried bloodstains around his collar, Rodrigues Laice sat on a hospital bed and recalled the rebel commander's last order: "Go and show your ears to your President Chissano".

With those words, a platoon commander of the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) rebels sent Laice (43), his wife Olinda Francisco (32) and another man running off into the bush without their ears and with deep knife wounds across the bridges of their noses.

Earlier that day, the rebels had also mutilated two elderly men. "The commander said we could not return without a sign," Laice said in an interview.

Mutilations

The mutilations were carried out by several boys, eight to nine years old, wielding penknives, Laice said.

The victims were ordered to sit on the ground with their hands between their legs while the boys began to cut. Rebels looked on, clasped and sang anti-Renamo songs which are broadcast by the state-run Radio Mozambique.

"Go and show your President Chissano that the guys you call the bandits - Renamo - did this," the commander, known as Sante, said.

Laice and his neighbours were victims of a stepped-up Renamo offensive in southern Mozambique which coincided with the sixth round of Italian-mediated talks in Rome to negotiate an end to the 16-year-old war, which has cost the lives of hundreds of thousands of civilians and driven nearly two million more from their homes.

Renamo has been increasing the pressure on Maputo for the past several months, with repeated attacks on homesteads on the capital's outskirts, sabotage of power lines, and attacks on the railroad to South Africa and National Highway No 1 to the north of the country.

Abducted

Lace was one of 10 residents of the village of Ndawela abducted on the night of May 8 by a Renamo platoon of 17 soldiers, at least 12 of whom were boys.

"There were five adults, and the rest were children," said the wife. "They all had AK-47s and a few had uniforms."

While Renamo's leader, Afonso Dhlakama, has repeatedly denied that his 20,000-strong guerrilla army resorts to mutilations of civilians, there have been hundreds of documented cases of such abuses by the rebels, especially in the central provinces of Sofala, Manica and Tete.

Ken Flower, who, as intelligence chief of Ian Smith's white-ruled Rhodesia, played a crucial role in establishing the movement, said the rebels had used such tactics as early as the mid-1970s.

"There were reports of atrocities, the mandatory processes, especially the cutting off of ears and noses, and thus did happen in the fairly early days," Flower said in an April 1987 interview, three months before his death in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Government soldiers have been accused of similar atrocities, though on a far smaller scale.

Laice said the Renamo platoon had appeared at his door at about 8pm demanding to be told the whereabouts of local officials of President Joaquim Chissano's ruling Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo) party, policemen, and grocery stores.

The rebels kidnapped Laice and Olinda Francisco and went from house to house looking for food and tontonto, a home-brewed liquor.

The raiders apprehended and killed an unarmed militiaman and beat senseless another man who refused to hand over tontonto.

Then they began the march to the rebel zone near Micaheutene. When two elderly men complained that they could not keep up, several boys were ordered to chop off their ears and lips and then release them.

The three other adults, including Laice, who completed the march, were let go the next day minus their ears, while the rebels kept five young boys they had picked up in the raid. They too presumably have already begun training to enter the rebel army.

The Independent, London
Donors’ aid piles up in Maputo

MAPUTO — A Mozambican newspaper has found hundreds of tons of forgotten or abandoned aid goods at over-full warehouses in Maputo docks. Reporters from the government-owned Noticias newspaper found donated school and hospital equipment, bundles of clothing, vehicles, crates of beer, tons of raw materials and spare parts for Mozambican factories.

The amounts were so large the port was running out of space to store it all.

A Noticias investigation found that most organisations approached said that the reason they had not collected their goods was that they could not afford import duties.

Port authorities pointed out that donated goods did not carry any duties.

They said that most people were simply too lazy to do the required paperwork to claim their goods.

Mozambique could need more than 1 million tons of food donations this year following what was expected to be a very poor harvest because of drought in the normally fertile Manica province.
Winds of change: Overturning winds of war
A DISCREET slave trade involving Mozambican refugees is thriving in the Bophuthatswana enclave of Winterveldt, several kilometres outside Pretoria.

The impoverished Mozambicans, driven out of their country by hunger and the brutality of Renamo guerrillas, are brought into South Africa by slave masters who charge R450 a head, a City Press investigation has found.

The operation is conducted in utmost secrecy, but follows a simple pattern once you have met the right contacts.

We met a slave master this week and placed an order for two slaves—a male and female.

The two slaves would cost R900—each going for R450, we learnt.

"But since you want two, there will be a discount of R50 on each, bringing it down to R800 for both," the slave master promised after satisfying himself with our credentials.

We posed as business owners from Kipps, also in the neighbourhood, and told him we needed the Mozambicans to keep out in our business.

"We don’t trust people around here," rattled the slave master, who kept on demanding how we got to know about him.

"This is a risky business," he added. "We get into trouble with the authorities if we know about you. You two don’t look like troublemakers. I can trust you."

He then said an initial amount of R100 was needed. This would cover transport costs from Mozambique—R50 each for the two slaves we had ordered.

He packs up fortnightly or monthly "consignments" depending on demand, and brings them into the country in kombis.

But we will have to wait for three weeks. He said he was leaving tomorrow and would come back with two "fresh ones" in three weeks’ time since we appeared to be "in a hurry."

He had other orders already placed. But our slave master had a problem: where to drop the people once the consignment was already in the country.

He briefed us on how they operated: "Once we are in, we are forced to operate under cover of darkness to evade arrest. We normally bring these kombis in the middle of the night and drop your order at your doorstep. It is only then that you pay the full amount—R450 a head. It’s a cash-on-delivery operation."

He demanded we show him where we stayed for the drop-off purpose.

"I promise prompt service," he promised.

We were in a fix. Showing him where we stayed would give the game away. We were not genuine buyers. Also the moral aspect of what would happen to our Mozambican man and woman once made the country forced us to call off the game.

But we didn’t tell this to our slave master. We pretended we would be back later with the initial R100, and would then show him the drop-off point.

The whole Winterveldt area is now teeming with Mozambicans, our investigation revealed.

"They actually outnumber us," one villager confided.

"It is for this reason authorities are now on the look-out."
New party for Mozambique

THE Liberal Democratic Party of Mozambique (Palmo) became this nation's first legal opposition party to hold a founding congress in Beira, finishing five days of deliberations on May 12 amid a blaze of criticism levelled against the ruling Frelimo government.

The occasion was attended by about 65 delegates from all but three of the nation's provinces at a small hotel. Hundreds of curious citizens gathered in front of the building straining to hear the proceedings.

The meeting passed off peacefully but a good deal of inventive was reserved for the government.

Frelimo was condemned for clinging to power, being "opportunistic", "incompetent" and for "devastating the country".

Most contentious were statements on the origins of the 16-year-old war between Frelimo and the rebel Renamo movement that has left an estimated 900,000 dead.

According to the new political group it was Frelimo's disrespect for the reality of Mozambique, its attempt to copy foreign communist models and a general "lack of liberty" that led the anti-communist forces to destabilise the country.

At the same time, without citing the guerrillas by name, the Palmo congress denounced violence as the "practice of genocide" against the Mozambican people.

The congress heard from the president of Palmo's founding group Antonio Palange, who said: "Palmo believes it wouldn't be good for Mozambique to be governed either by Frelimo or Renamo, due to the past history of both."

Palmo's programme calls for a market economy.

At the outset the congress had advocated that vital sectors of the economy should be placed under control of "genuine" and "original" Mozambicans.

Just what constitutes a "genuine" Mozambican has been a thorny issue since Palmo started circulating its propaganda last year.

At a meeting in February Palange said an "original" Mozambican was a "black" Mozambican.

But by the end of the congress Palmo had redrawn its programme, leaving out all racial references.

Another Palmo founder, businessman Casimiro Nhamtamo, said that the words "genuine" and "original" Mozambican had been deleted "to avoid misunderstandings."

Little known Martins Bilal was elected president, Palange, a medical doctor, vice president and Matias dos Amores secretary general.

The open debate about alternative political ideas marked a new stage in Mozambique's democracy, which should culminate in general elections next year.

Diplomatic sources believe the emergence of different political parties, like Palmo, might put pressure on Renamo to make its transformation from a military organisation to a political one.

Political analysts say that a new party could gain support just because people are weary of the war and poverty. But it is too early to say how much support Palmo will be able to muster.

From the nature of the delegates at the conference initial support seems to come from small traders and business people. There are no membership figures, but party officials say they have complied with the constitutional requirements of having at least 2,000 members.

Already, however, it is confronting a crisis. The congress ended in a split with Nhamtamo threatening to set up his own party.

Nhamtamo, who was a promising candidate for the Palmo presidency, at first said he resigned because there was a rumour that he had been "infiltrated" by Frelimo.

Then he announced that there were "contradictions and political ambitions" within Palmo which he, "as a defender of democracy", could not accept.

Days after the event Dos Amores was calling for the removal of Palange who has been accused of being a chronic alcoholic. — AIA
Mozambique talks progress

MAPUTO — The peace talks in Rome between Mozambique's Frelimo and the Renamo rebel movement are reported to be making progress. The negotiating teams and the Italian government mediators are maintaining a strict silence on what is taking place in the negotiations, but "a broad consensus" is said to be near. — Star Africa Service.
**A soldier of peace?**

Meet Eskom’s peace envoy Garth Barrett, who is also an ex-SAS soldier, a warrior for SA’s special forces and an expert at knife-throwing.

**Did he draw up a plan to invade the Seychelles?** He deny that he was involved in the Seychelles. Some former colleagues of mine were court-martialled, Mike Hutt’s mercenary invasion and I drew up a plan to get them out. I wrote the secretaries, announcing, letter, announcing, letter of resignation. But I was never involved in the Seychelles. I was facing my court-martial, facing my court-martial, facing my court-martial.

**But was he ever involved in the Seychelles?** Yes, we were court-martialled. Mike Hutt’s mercenary invasion and I drew up a plan to get them out. But I was never involved in the Seychelles. I was facing my court-martial, facing my court-martial, facing my court-martial.

**Did he deny that he was involved in the Seychelles?** He deny that he was involved in the Seychelles. Some former colleagues of mine were court-martialled, Mike Hutt’s mercenary invasion and I drew up a plan to get them out. I wrote the secretaries, announcing, letter of resignation. But I was never involved in the Seychelles. I was facing my court-martial, facing my court-martial, facing my court-martial.
Socialism didn't destroy Mozambique
Millions living in poverty

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — Two-thirds of Mozambique's population of about 16 million are living in a state of "absolute poverty", according to Prime Minister Mario Machungo.

The Aim news agency reports that the Mozambican prime minister told a seminar here his country had twice as many poor people per capita as the rest of Africa.

Mozambique has been racked by civil war and interethnic violence since 1975. The prime minister said poverty was still pervasive.
MAPUTO — Two-thirds of Mozambique's population of about 16 million are living in "absolute poverty," says Prime Minister Mario Machungo.

The Amn news agency reports that the Mozambican premier told a seminar in Maputo yesterday his country had twice as many poor people per capita as the rest of Africa.

He said poverty was pervasive. "The state itself was poor. Our budget, even with assistance from donors, cannot provide basic health and education, water or extension services for most Mozambicans. It cannot even pay adequate wages to its own employees."

Mr Machungo said his government lacked foresight in the face of civil war. He said the 10-year development plan did not take into account the scale of destabilisation.
MAPUTO - Mozambican President Joachim Chissano has said that the Renamo rebel movement had refused to discuss any "matter of substance" at the Rome peace talks suspended last week.

Speaking on the apparent collapse of the peace talks for the first time during a tour of Inhambane province, Chissano said the rebels knew only how to attack mistakes made by the ruling Frelimo party without offering any ideas of its own on how to rectify those mistakes.

Chissano admitted that Frelimo had made mistakes during its 15 years of one-party rule, but said it was now trying to rectify those mistakes - Sowetan Africa News Service.
MAPUTO - Mozambique's ruling Frelimo party has issued a draft programme of policy that could be the first shots in a future election for the embattled country.

The draft programme comes hard on the heels of a provincial tour by President Joaquim Chissano and the collapse of peace talks with the Renamo rebel group in
Eating roots and leaves to live

MAPUTO — The shortage of food in Mozambique’s Sofala province is so severe that people in some of the main centres of the province are resorting to eating roots and leaves of wild plants in order to stay alive.

People in and around towns such as Chamba, Cua and Marromeu along the Zambezi River in the north of the province, and Chinhoyi and Machanga in the south, have been worst hit.

The Beira daily newspaper, Diario de Mocambique, reports that the first harvest this year in Sofala province is no more than 10 percent of what was initially planned. The reason for this drastic decline in output is said to be the severe drought.

The second, and less important, season, however, has also been badly affected. However, the second harvest is only expected to yield 50 percent of initial estimates. The problem with the second season was not only the weather, but the lack of seeds, or their late arrival.

It is therefore not only people displaced by Renamo landmines in Sofala who will need food aid this year.

Thousands of peasant families who in the past have been able to sell surplus crops and face hunger, and will now rely on donated food to survive.

The provincial emergency commission puts the number of people needing food aid in the province at a minimum of 350,000 out of a population of over one million.

The lot of displaced people living in isolated parts of the province has become extremely difficult.

Migration

Some of these areas have not been re-supplied since November last year, because the money for airlifts of foodstuffs ran out.

There is also a mass migration of people from the main centres along the Zambezi River to the Beira Corridor, the road and railway line between Beira and Zimbabwe.

People along the corridor have easier access to supplies, but the land there is already overcrowded.
Refugees flood country

Unwanted people with no status...Mozambican civil war refugees relax inside their tent at the Mangweni Transit Camp in Kangwane.

AN average of 700 victims of the Mozambican civil war, described by a volunteer relief worker as “unwanted people with no status”, enter South Africa every month.

In April alone, 715 refugees crossed the border—many through a killer electric fence along the Komatipoort border, as the Mozambique National Resistance intensified its attack on civilians.

By THEMBA MOLEFE

A youth, now aged 18 years, who crossed in 1988 bears the scars of the fence. He lost an arm when he touched the live wire and stayed in hospital for three years. He now lives in a refugee camp in KaNgwane.

Those who were brave enough to cross the Kruger National Park and survived, tell stories of lions eating other Mozambican refugees.

Volunteer relief workers in the KaNgwane homeland, which is nearest to the Mozambican border, say more than 20,000 refugees live in several villages across the territory.

On top of being victims of war, refugees upon entering the country become victims of abuse and exploitation. They also face the constant fear of deportation.

Said independent refugee field worker Ms Sally McKibbon: “As the war in Mozambique intensifies, so does the influx of men, women and children fleeing the crisis — human beings who become unwanted people with no status in South Africa.”

She said a major problem was that the war victims had no refugee status in South Africa. It was only through the mercy of the KaNgwane government that transit and refugee camps and aid centres were established.

Relocated

Former Chief Minister Mr Enos Mabuza said: “In 1989 that any refugee crossing into KaNgwane should be helped to reach the refugee centres, where they would be relocated and absorbed into the community until conditions in their country improved.”

While Komatipoort police do not arrest refugees, the South African Defence Force, with the help of informants, does.

Anonymity, ability to learn a South African black language fast and concealing a “giveaway” vaccination mark on their left forearms (South Africans are vaccinated on the left upper arm) may guarantee not being detected at an SADF roadblock.

On arrival, refugees immediately assume South African names for fear of being detected.

Refugees and residents in KaNgwane said SADF personnel randomly manned road blocks and demanded to see people’s left arms if they did not have any identification.

Many women who managed to cross the border never reach the refugee transit camp at Mangweni village, about 50 km from the Komatipoort border.

Sold

Some told the Sowetan they were sold for as little as R30 as concubines by policemen manning the South African side of the border.

Self-styled guides who help Mozambicans cross the border for a fee of R200 also ply the business of selling teenage girls.

A 24-year-old woman said she was sold to a 65-year-old drunken man in Tembisa on the East Rand. But she managed to escape and return to the refugee transit camp at Mangweni.

Despite aid the refugees get through voluntary groups sponsored by the British, German and Canadian embassies, many of them try to gain employment on farms around Komatipoort.

“This is where many are exploited because their status or lack of it.” said McKibbon.

She said there were many cases where employers called in the police instead of paying workers. “The refugees, sent by police back to Mozambique for repatriation, then begin the long trek back to South Africa.”
Mozambicans eat roots, leaves to survive

MAPUTO: The shortage of food in Mozambique's Sofala province is so severe that people in some of the main centres of the province are resorting to eating roots and leaves of wild plants to survive. People in and around towns such as Chembo, Cala and Marrome along the Zambezi River in the north of the province, and Chichabava and Machanga in the south, have been worst affected by the shortage. - Sowetan Africa News Service
Kenyan ships held in Beira

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO—Mozambique has detained two Kenyan warships on suspicion that they might have been involved in dropping supplies to the Renamo rebels.

The frigates were boarded and held by Mozambican security forces in Beira at the weekend after being escorted by local naval vessels into the port from a point off the coast of the central Sofala province.

But the incident seems to have been a misunderstanding, according to AIM, Mozambique's news agency.

Earlier, the Kenyan authorities had sought permission for the two ships to dock at Beira as part of a training mission which also included stops at Tanzanian and Madagascan ports.

But before the Mozambican government could reply to the request, the frigates had already left Mombasa.

In Beira, the two captains were allowed to come ashore to discuss the situation and the frigates sailed for Madagascar on Tuesday.

Suspicion by the authorities was fuelled by the fact that the Kenyan government, houses and supports the Renamo leadership.
War-torn Mozambique has a new enemy: Time

After two years of faltering negotiations in Mozambique, the peace process is in tatters and a settlement in the war-ravaged country is still nowhere in sight.

By KARL MAIER in Maputo

With Mozambique’s peace talks stalled yet again, one of Africa’s bloodiest conflicts continues and the Pretoria government is feeling the pressure of a new, potentially dangerous enemy time.

While President Joaquim Chissano has sought to put on a brave face over the current impasse, saying his government is prepared to resume the negotiations in Rome at any time, the reality is that, nearly two years on, the Mozambican peace process has produced little to show for its efforts. When the talks broke up recently, they still centred on the first point of a 20-point agenda.

Back home, the austerity programme sponsored by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank has brought some growth to the economy but has also dealt crushing blows to wage earners and the poor.

Crime in the capital and other major cities is soaring, and night-time gunshots in Maputo are now routine.

Severe food shortages have once again hit the central provinces of Manica, Sofala, Tete and Zambezia, leaving tens of thousands of civilians displaced by the war, threatened by famine and a host of other illnesses brought on by malnutrition.

The only tangible result of the peace talks with Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo), the December 1990 mm-ceasefire on two of Mozambique’s regional trade routes, the Limpopo and Beira Corridors, has already lost its lustre. The 10-nation Joint Verification Commission (JVC) is now effectively defunct. While the 7,000-strong Zimbabwean army contingent has been restricted to guarding the railroads and rebel fighters have refrained from attacking the Beira corridor, the rebels have repeatedly sabotaged the rehabilitation work on the Limpopo route, which links Zimbabwe to the port of Maputo. The attacks are so frequent that the government no longer bothers to lodge complaints with the JVC.

Renamo has justified its decision to resume attacks on the Limpopo Corridor with an accusation that Zimbabwean soldiers have violated the agreement by dressing up as government soldiers and operating in 52 places. The JVC inspected 18 of the sites where the violations were said to have taken place and found no evidence to back up the rebel charge. And General Pascoal Jose, one of three rebel representatives to the JVC in Maputo, privately admitted recently that he did not believe his own leaders’ claims.

"What a lot of nonsense," said one Western diplomatic source. "Renamo could enter into an agreement, and if things don’t go their way, they could simply reneg on it, with any kind of claim no matter how outrageous."

Elsewhere, the rebels have intensified pressure since January, especially around the capital, Maputo, where surrounding villages have become their hunting grounds. The city has also been hit by a new wave of power cuts, brought on by sabotage of high tension lines from South Africa.

Apart from the rebels, several other opposition forces have appeared since the Law on Political Parties came into force in February, but none so far has shown the mettle to be able to mount a serious challenge to either Frelimo or Renamo in general elections now tentatively scheduled for next year.

The first opposition force to hold a national congress in Mozambique since independence from Portugal in 1975 is the Party of Democratic and Civil Liberation (PDL), virtually self-destructed. At the end of the congress held from May 6-12, one of its founding members, Casamiro Nhambambo, quit the party while the president, Martins Bilai, accused his vice-president, Dr Antonio Palme, of being a drunk.

A second party, the Mozambique Nationalist Movement (Monamo), resurrected in Maputo last month with the return from Portugal of Maximo Dias, a major figure in the short-lived opposition movement on the eve of independence, who later flitted with Renamo. While Monamo appears to have ample financial resources at its disposal, its leadership is tainted with allegiances of past co-operation with the Portuguese colonialists and is made up largely of Asians.

Those two parties, and several others which have emerged since the beginning of the year, have focused mainly on reacting to Frelimo’s past errors but have proposed policies that differ little from the ruling party’s own political programme: a commitment to multi-party democracy, a mixed economy, and respect for fundamental individual rights.

Renamo, however potent on the battlefield, remains politically inarticulate. Its draft constitution, a response to the government’s new liberal constitution which entered into force on November 30 last year, is poorly written and poorly reasoned. For example, immediately after saying that torture and inhuman punishment will be banned, it calls for the death penalty.

Lacking funding, intellectuals and political savvy, Renamo presents a sharp contrast to Jonas Savimbi’s Unita, which earlier this month signed a peace agreement in Lisbon with the government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. Ironically, until six months ago, most analysts believed Mozambique’s peace process was well ahead of Angola’s.

Now, while Angola appears set on the road to peace, Mozambique’s war continues to drag on with no end in sight.
Mozambique stifles threat of army coup

MOZAMBIQUE'S embattled Frelimo government has moved to stifle a threatened coup attempt by disgruntled soldiers.

The unrest reportedly began last weekend at the Boane military base, south of Maputo.

Diplomats do not believe the coup bid was organised by Renamo rebels or rival factions in the Frelimo government.

Early reports suggest it was instigated by soldiers disgruntled about poor living conditions and irregular pay.

President Joaquim Chissano has assured the South African Government that he has the situation under control. Arrests are expected to be announced today.

Maputo is calm and the airport open, Foreign Minister Pico Botha said in a statement last night. His deputy, director-general Rusty Everitt, had met Mr Chissano to discuss the peace talks between Frelimo and Renamo.

President Chissano had told Mr Evans about reports of a coup attempt, but said any threat would be dealt with effectively.

Saturday Star's Africa News Service reports that sources in Maputo said the town was quiet and that few, if any, residents knew anything about the coup plot.

The manager of one hotel said that, after hearing some rumours late yesterday, he drove around the town and found no indications of any extra-military or police presence.

There are fears that any instability in Mr Chissano's government might jeopardise the delicately poised peace talks with Renamo.

The two parties made a breakthrough by signing a comprehensive agenda for a peace process several weeks ago. But since then the talks have stalled because of disagreement about the structuring of new elections.

South Africa's apparent acting as a go-between in the peace talks...
Peace hopes after plot in Mozambique

LISBON — Washington's top Africa expert said on Saturday he hoped a reported coup plot in Mozambique would not affect peace talks between the government and rebels.

"It's hard to tell...I hope not," Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Hermann Cohen said at a weekend seminar, in Lisbon, on Portuguese-speaking Africa.

The Mozambican government said earlier it had arrested several army officers and civilians suspected of planning a coup against President Joaquim Chissano.

Diplomatic sources said that while in Lisbon, Mr. Cohen had met Italian officials involved in mediating in the Mozambican conflict.

He would not be drawn on speculation that the US might play an active role in peace talks by sending official observers. Up to now, State Department officials have gone to Rome to follow the talks without sitting in on discussions.

"We would be available to assist in any way the parties would want us to," Mr. Cohen said. "But we are not seeking a more active role."

Mr. Cohen said in a speech that a May 31 peace accord in the former Portuguese colony of Angola provided a model for ending Mozambique's 15-year-old civil war.

"The Angolan agreement provided a very relevant example for Mozambique," he said, adding that he hoped the conflict could be resolved this year.

The Angolan pact provides for a ceasefire between the government and Unita. - Sapa-Reuters
MAPUTO — Several army officers and civilians have been arrested in an alleged plot to overthrow the government, Security Minister Mr Magama Matsainhe said on Saturday.

He said they included active officers as well as retired officers and civilians.

Mozambique’s AIM news agency described the country as calm on Saturday. "There have been no signs of any unusual troop movements, nor of any additional security measures," it said.

AIM quoted government officials as saying the coup plot was hatched at a time "in which efforts are under way in the country to deepen democracy, and to win a dignified, just and lasting peace."

In Lisbon the American Secretary of State for Africa, Mr Herman Cohen, said he hoped the reported coup plot in Mozambique would not affect peace talks between the government and rebels — Sapa-AP
Plan to work together

LISBON - Mozambican Prime Minister Mr. Mario Machungo has proposed the creation of an agency which would be responsible for co-ordinating projects between the Portuguese-speaking African countries.

A priority for the states - Angola, Mozambique, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau and Sao Tome and Principe - was the training of businessmen, he said.
Frelimo press-gangs youths into military

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — Young Mozambicans are being illegally press-ganged into the Frelimo government's armed forces, according to news reports from Nacala.

Men of military age are said to be rounded up indiscriminately on the streets by armed soldiers and taken off for military training.

The official news agency, AIM, says the practice of press-ganging has repeatedly been condemned by the government.

Official policy is that men and women who turn 18 must register for military service. The military authorities then select them for training.

The head of the recruitment centre in Nacala said, however, he had been forced to resort to press-ganging because people were simply failing to register for military service.
Mozambican peace talks delayed

A SEVENTH round of peace talks between the government and rebels waging a 14-year-old civil war will start on July 10 in Rome, the ANI national news agency reported from Maputo yesterday.

It said a message from the Italian government and Catholic Church mediators confirmed the next round in the year-old talks would begin nine days later than originally scheduled.

The message said all parties needed more time to prepare.

Radio Mozambique on Friday quoted a top mediator in the peace talks as saying the next round would involve disputes over a new Mozambican law on forming and registering political parties.

The issue was the first item on an agenda agreed to at the sixth round of talks.

Mozambique's formerly Marxist ruling Frelimo party has undergone democratic reforms in the past year while holding peace talks with rebels.

A new constitution that took effect last December permits opposition parties and free elections, two key demands of the rebels known by their Portuguese acronym Renamo. It also calls for freedom of speech and assembly and a free press.

The war began two years after Mozambique gained independence from Portugal in 1975. Frelimo has been the ruling party since then, and was the lone legal political organisation until after the new constitution took effect.

More than 660,000 people have died in the war, which has left half the country's 15-million people in need of food.
Mobutu stays put as his nation's economy topples

KINSHASA - Mobutu Sese Seko, last of the cold warriors installed to block communism, has managed so far to thwart the demands for democracy that have brought down one African dictator after another.

The economic collapse over 26 years of Mobutu's rule is so complete that his political foes have trouble even organizing opposition.

Communications and transport, once among the best in Africa, have collapsed.

Many government agencies are shut down or on strike. "There is no government for anyone to oppose," said Buane Kabwe of the Zaire Human Rights League.

In May and June, opposition leaders hoped to organize huge protests. Mobutu's failure to schedule elections as he promised months ago.

Most public attention, however, was focused on get-rich-quick schemes being promoted on state radio and television.

Riots broke out when the schemes failed, and US and Belgian diplomats said they would "set off the fire that brings the regime down". But the violence affected only Kinshasa. Police rarely intervened unless they were attacked.

Mobutu seldom visits the capital. He spends most of his time on his riverboat or in residences more than 1800 km from the city, in a region with virtually no roads.

Travel is difficult even in Kinshasa. Streets are washed away by rain or overrun by bush. The only improvement visitors notice in the communication system is that cellular phones have replaced radios for the few businessmen connected to the private system.

Collapse

The best way to make an overseas call is to cross the Congo River to Brazzaville, the Congolese capital.

Zaire's gross national product is 30% of what it was in 1980, when the country became independent of Belgium.

The collapse of the infrastructure is so complete the US State Department's Human Rights report includes mention of it.

In April, the government-controlled copper company, which provides 90% of the Central African nation's foreign exchange earnings, announced it was cutting exports by 45% because of strikes, bad weather and maintenance problems.

Aid has been cut off by the IMF, World Bank, Belgium and the US.

The remaining leaders and students interviewed and Zaire's 36-million people spent so much time just surviving they have little time for political revolts.

Critics say Mobutu's personal fortune is worth more than $4bn, and his system of patronage has kept him in power.

On April 24, 1990, Mobutu announced he would legalize opposition parties.

Now there are more than 160, and opposition leaders claim he finances many of them to dilute the strength of his political rivals. The promised elections have not been scheduled.

The newly freed Press describes the situation as "multi-Mobutization," or a choice between the many faces of the president.

"It is not clear that the political system will be liberalized sufficiently to permit citizens to change their government through democratic means," said the US State Department's human rights report. — Sapa-AP

Violence reigns in Beira Corridor

HARARE - A sudden upsurge of violent incidents, apparently sparked by hunger, has broken out on Mozambique's Beira Corridor, Zimbabwe's closest link to the sea, posing new dangers for travellers on the 313km link.

The BCG Bulletin, published monthly by the Beira Corridor Group, the private company monitoring business interests on the route, says in its latest edition there were five attacks in May and early June in which one person was killed and another wounded.

"None of the attacks appear to have been politically motivated," says the Bulletin.

Instead, they were carried out by men in a desperate attempt to find food or money.

Sapa's correspondent in Harare reports food production has fallen by 45% in the central Mozambican provinces of Manica and Sofala through which the corridor runs.

It is heavily guarded by Zimbabwean troops to protect the road, railway line and fuel pipeline link from the port city of Beira to the eastern Zimbabwean border city of Mutare.

Reports say the number of refugees on the corridor, fleeing hunger and attacks by Renamo, have swelled dramatically in recent months.

The Bulletin says all the attacks, between May 16 and June 7, occurred during daylight, and were mostly shots fired at passing vehicles.

The incidents occurred after a long lull in the violence on the corridor which has earned the reputation for being one of the two safe roads in Mozambique.

The Bulletin says the attacks "seem to have been carried out under the assumption that vehicles travelling from Zimbabwe will contain food, and travellers coming from Beira will have money" for shopping in Zimbabwe.

The Bulletin says the Zimbabwe National Army has arrested some of the gunmen but adds "the easy availability of weapons may result in further attacks of this nature." — Sapa
Maputo approves law on association

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — The Mozambican parliament has unanimously approved a law regulating freedom of association, as enshrined in the country’s new constitution.

The law establishes that 10 or more people may constitute a non-profit making association that shall acquire legal status if it is recognised and registered by the government.

The government may, only, refuse such recognition if the statutes of the association are illegal, or if the association does not have the necessary resources to function.

Associations must be public in nature.
Stuttafords opens Mozambique office

Increased prospects for trade with the rest of Africa prompted Stuttafords Van Lines, a subsidiary of listed household removals group Laser, to open its first office in Mozambique yesterday.

Laser MD and CE Denis Kaye said the Maputo operation was established in expectation of peace in Mozambique, when the country would be positioned to take advantage of its enormous trade and tourism potential.

The new operation in Maputo would handle import and export shipments from throughout the world, with the majority of the international removals market in Mozambique centring around embassy and international aid personnel, Kaye said.

The firm felt Maputo would play a key part in southern Africa's transport chain once the situation normalised, and would offer the PWV a viable alternative to Durban.

Kaye said Stuttafords' move was part of the company's overall strategy of establishing bases in potential boom areas in order to be well positioned when these markets became active.

Laser is investigating the establishment of another office in Beira.
Sabta helps organise taxis in Mozambique

THE Southern African Black Taxi Association (Sabta) is to help Mozambican taxi operators set up routes and an association as part of Sabta’s drive to expand into Africa.

Foundation of African Business and Consumer Services (Fabcon) spokesman Fanyana Shiburi said yesterday that Sabta had established links with taxi operators in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

Fabcon affiliate Sabta has sent two officials and 10 taxis to Mozambique. It has had unofficial talks with Zambian and Zimbabwean taxi operators, who are maintaining a low-key contact with Sabta as their governments are still cautious about contact with SA.

Most southern African regions will be sending delegations to Sabta’s annual conference in Sun City in September, when regional co-operation will be discussed.

“Our presence in neighbouring countries has of course been determined by the attitudes of our political leaders who want local black entrepreneurs to forge links with Africa,” Shiburi said.

After Sabta helped upgrade services in Lesotho, Botswana, Namibia and Swaziland, it saw the benefit from the profitable commuter trade between SA and neighbouring states.

The taxi associations in these countries are affiliated to Sabta and are represented on its national executive. Shiburi said Sabta might soon become the first post-apartheid regional trade association.

He said revenues of taxi operators in neighbouring countries were declining as their national economies faltered and they wanted to switch from a metering system to Sabta’s point-to-point fare structure. Sabta had also assisted taxi owners in neighbouring states by guaranteeing a portion of the deposits needed to buy minibus.

Sabta’s rival, the National Federated Taxi Organisation, is also making headway in establishing links with Africa, with the assistance of its parent, the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce.
Charting a course in Mozambique

NELSPRUIT-based Metavia airline and two Maputo businessmen have set up a Mozambique-registered airline to operate charter and relief aid flights in that country.

Metavia director and G M Diedzle Ward said the new airline, called Tropical Airlines, had applied for licences to operate scheduled flights between Mozambique's major centres.

Tropical is one of several undertakings vying to exploit Mozambique's domestic aviation market which has been largely neglected by the national carrier LAM.

"It took us two years to get the airline registered as bureaucracy slowed things down, but we are optimistic that the Mozambique department of civil aviation will make a decision on our application within the next six months," she said.

Metavia injected about 3100 000 into Tropical. If the scheduled licences are granted, more will probably be invested to help finance the acquisition of a 50-seater passenger aircraft.

For SAA, deregulation is something we are considering," she said. "We are looking at a new aircraft, but we need to see the cost. We need to rationalise and we need to make sure we have a competitive offer.

One suggestion has been that the DCA purchase the equipment from SAA to ensure level playing fields.

ence earned by Itek acting as Luxair's SA marketing and sales division (Luxavia).
They threw a party...and only seven showed up

Namibians are up the whole handing their independence with a skill and panache that must be pleasing to anyone who sees developments in that country as a mirror of South Africa's own future.

But there have been hiccups, and these have not been confined to the politicians. Some broadcasters have been having a bit of trouble with English usage since independence gave them access to the airwaves.

Thus Namibians were introduced to a form of rail transport described as a 'right train'. This actually has nothing to do with those fairground conveyances that take screaming people through tunnels filled with fake spooks. The news reader was talking about a goods train.

Radio listeners must have been vastly more interested to hear about the doings of "the Duke of Edinburgh" and of "Queen Elizabeth the Eleventh".

The Namibian broadcasters' teething troubles are nothing compared with those of the politicians in Mozambique as they plunge into multiparty democracy.

Last weekend, for instance, the Independent Congress of Mozambique (Commo) became the second opposition party to hold a congress inside the country — and only seven delegates turned up.

Even more embarrassing, the delegates were outnumbered by the journalists covering the congress.

When the rules for multiparty politics came into force in February, formally ending Frelimo's 15 years of exclusive rule, political parties sprouted like mushrooms after rain.

They had rhyning acronyms that would gladden a poet's heart to Frelimo and Renamo were added Commo, Palmo, Monamo and many others.

But it soon became apparent that none of them was going to put up any challenge likely to worry the ruling party, not immediately at any rate.

It's not just that the opposition politicians are a bit out of practice — they have never had any practice at all. They are starting from scratch and they face unique difficulties in a country whose politics were for so long dominated by a Frelimo that would not allow opposition and a Renamo that was more familiar with firing short bursts from the AK-47 than making long speeches.

Commo's president, Victor Saene, attributed the absence of delegates at the congress partly to the fact that some members of the party were in a Catch-22 situation. They had previously given their allegiance to Frelimo but were now afraid to resign from Frelimo in case they were victimised. And they were afraid to disclose their links with Commo because the new law allowing other parties makes it illegal for anyone to belong to more than one party at a time.

Mr Saene told the Mozambican news agency, AIM, that Commo actually had 32,000 members in five of Mozambique's 10 provinces. But AIM said that when it added up the provincial totals given by Mr Saene they came to only 20,000.

That's still a lot better than seven, but the question remains where were they when the party needed them?

AIM says the handful who attended the congress adopted the slogan "Viva Monomazano", which the agency said was "a term that completely baffled the Mozambican journalists present".

Mr Saene explained that it was derived from the names Monomotapa and Gungunyana "in an attempt to honour these heroes of Mozambique's pre-colonial past".

Maybe the tongue handles it more easily in Portuguese than in English, but it does seem that Commo may have to teach Mozambicans how to pronounce Monomazano before they can start shouting it at rallies.

To achieve political machismo you must, after all, have the right gismo, whether your party is called Frelimo, Renamo, Commo, Palmo or Monamo and that's the truth, ou ❀
Link man scoffs at Eskom supplying Renamo

JUST what, if anything, did South African electricity giant Eskom give Mozambique’s Renamo rebel movement in return for not sabotaging the Cahora Bassa power lines?

This is the central question in a row that has blown up over the unusual relationship that has developed between an odd couple that only have 800 km of power lines in common.

Destroying

On one side is Eskom CEO Ian McRae, a man with a dream of linking southern Africa with a grid of power lines that would develop the entire region and bring prosperity to all.

On the other side is Afonso Dhikakama, a man with a dream of a new Mozambique built upon the ashes of the old, ashes that he has helped create through a strategy of destroying his country’s infrastructure — including the thin ribbons of copper constructed to bring power from Cahora Bassa to South Africa.

This week a Johannesburg newspaper alleged that ammunition, uniforms and food formed the quid pro quo Renamo received for their apparent agreement to stop sabotaging the first step of Mr McRae’s dream.

In the report Mr McRae admitted that either he or members of his organisation had met Mr Dhikakama several times to discuss security for the rehabilitation of the power lines and that attacks on the lines had since ceased.

In an interview earlier this year, Mr Dhikakama admitted meeting Eskom several times, but denied that any agreement had been struck.

Uncontactable

Approached for comment on the allegations, Eskom politely asked me to come back week. Pressed, a spokesman said Mr McRae was “uncontactable” in fact he was in Cape Town.

Acting as intermediaries between the odd couple is an even older single, Garth Barrett, former Rhodesian SAS and SADF officer and renowned anti-communist crusader.

It was he who came up with the answer to the question.

What Dhikakama and Renamo hope to gain from any agreement with Eskom is good publicity.

Mr Barrett said it was “laughable” that Eskom would place itself in a position of endangering its links with the Permanent Joint Commission on Cahora Bassa and with other African states, to say nothing of violating the Nkomati Accord, by supplying anything to Renamo — especially ammunition.

"Besides, where would Eskom get ammunition?"

He said that while Renamo have agreed in principle to the rehabilitation of Cahora Bassa, nothing has yet been put on paper.

Uplift

“Most of the Cahora Bassa lines run through Renamo territory and the PJC have suggested that in the event of the lines being rehabilitated, this would have to be accompanied by a social upliftment programme in the area — further benefiting Renamo.”

“I agree, no one does anything for nothing, but if the rehabilitation programme goes ahead, everyone stands to benefit.”
Rising from ‘dead’ to foster peace

MOCUBA (Mozambique) - This first time that Imama António doel was a "dead" 15-year-old in his home town of Nhamu. Two days later he rose from the dead and became an Imama - traditional healer or witch doctor. Now Imama 'doz' regularly.

Each time he dies he is because he feels a message coming to him. When he dies he is buried in a grave between two branches and an incense is burned and there is a message to his family about the death.

According to his family, Ama António believes the message is from the spirits and that they are calling him to return.

"Just as Jesus died and suffered to save his people, so must Imama António die and suffer to save his people." He is said to be compassionate and respectful to all those he encounters.

It was to fulfill this commitment that two years ago Imama António formed a band of followers called the NLS, meaning "lightning medicine" in the Mozambican language of his native Chibaka. This group is known as the "Living Imamas".

To return to the main village, the NLS travelled by foot and reached their destination. They had to cross a river and climb over a mountain.

"The Imamas are a special force," says one foreign aid worker at a UNHCR office in the area. "They have a special relationship with the people here and they are very respected for their work.

They are dedicated to helping those who have suffered from violence, providing them with food and shelter. They are also involved in educating people about health and hygiene.

The NLS is made up of about 20 Imamas who live and work in the village. They are very active in the community, providing assistance to those in need.

They are also involved in peacebuilding efforts, helping to bring together communities that have been divided by conflict. They encourage dialogue and reconciliation, working to heal wounds and rebuild relationships.

"The Imamas play a vital role in the area," the aid worker continues. "They are respected and trusted by the people and are able to reach communities that may not be reached by other organizations.

They are a valuable asset in the fight against violence and helping to foster peace in the region."
Kenya’s ‘special favours’ for Renamo

More information on Kenyan support for Renamo terrorists in Mozambique are coming to light, reports RUTH ANSAH AYISI from Maputo:

THE Mozambique government has released documents showing that Kenya has been linked, at least since 1988, in a clandestine support structure backing anti-Frelimo forces.

This comes after President FW de Klerk paid an official visit to Nairobi on June 15 and 16. Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi said the visit marked the beginning of a new relationship.

South Africa has also been known to support Renamo in the past.

The documents captured from Renamo prove that Kenya has also been backing the rebel guerrilla group.

The papers show that the Kenyan government, all the way to the office of the President, has provided diplomatic status to Renamo and arranged for “special protocols.”

The Kenyans provided logistical and financial support to conflict with Malawi.

Selezi

The 200 pages of incriminating documents were seized in mid-April from a Renamo base at Nhamagoda in Marrungue district of the central province of Sofala. Much of the documentation is made up of transcripts of radio messages to Renamo’s leader, Afonso Dhlakama.

Typical is a radio message from the Renamo representative in Kenya dated May 9, 1992.

Under the code name “Joseph,” the Renamo officer reports: “I am in Kenya and I met with the Kenyan government. The Kenyan president asked me to stay in contact between him and your excellency, President of Renamo. The people in Kenya trust me and want this operation to be very secret.”

Later, on May 17, the once Camarian-based Renamo secretary for information, Francisco Naka Moses, relayed a message from Kenya saying that the Kenyan authorities planned to assist Renamo “as much as possible because of interference from Frelimo.”

No details of the “interference” were given.

The next day concrete promises of support were relayed through Naka Moses: “Kenya will provide travel documents and air tickets from Malawi and will arrange the airlift from the interior of Mozambique to Malawi. Kenya will work with Malawi concerning security and secrecy.”

The message also said that “Kenya requests your Excellency to present a budget of needs, financial and material.”

The documents show that the Kenyan government was involved with Renamo in a year before Arap Moi was asked to mediate in Mozambique’s peace process in 1989.

VICTIMS: Youths are turned into killers in Mozambique’s civil war

Diplomatic sources said at the time that Kenya’s apparent lack of impartiality while mediating between Renamo and the Mozambican government became politically awkward, and reached a low when unconfirmed reports emerged in 1990 that Kenya was providing military training for the rebels.

Other transcripts reveal Renamo’s problems of finance. In an unsigned and undated document, Renamo’s intention of smuggling ivory was touched upon: “We need missiles with capacity for helicopters, MGs and other types of planes besides Dakotas,” said the message.

“I would like to know the price of every missile. I would also like to know the price of every kilogram of ivory. Renamo can arrange ivory.”

Still more documents confirm Renamo knowledge of atrocities committed against Mozambicans in their own country and in Malawi as well as raids into Zimbabwe where Zimbabweans were tortured and killed — AIA
REBELS AT REST: Renamo's representatives on the Joint Verification Committee relax at their haven in the heart of Maputo

MAPUTO — The sounds of the brutal civil war being waged in the countryside have not yet penetrated the grounds of the luxury Bonifica compound of the Italian embassy, squeezed between Maputo Bay and the Mini-Golf Disco.

Sights
But now some of the sights have
Three senior officers of the Renamo rebel movement — still referred to as the “South African-backed bandits” by the state-controlled media — have taken up residence at the compound.

As Renamo and government soldiers continue to kill each other in the bush not 50 km away, these three officers meet their counterparts in the army over coffee — to discuss war at a more sophisticated level.

General Pasqual Jose, Brigadier Jeronimo Malagueta and Major Inacio Morgado are the Renamo representatives on the Joint Verification Committee (JVC) formed by the government and Renamo to oversee the partial ceasefire that has restricted Zimbabwean troops in the country to two transport corridors, where they are supposed not to be attacked by Renamo.

As the first Renamo members to live in Maputo — officially at least — since the civil war began almost 15 years ago, they agreed to a very rare interview, provided politics was not discussed.

Despite the vitriol still directed against Renamo, the trio say they move freely around Maputo and have even joined in the diplomatic cocktail circuit at times.

“I was born right here in Maputo,” says the youngish (37) General Jose, “but many things have changed since I left. I went back to my old neighbourhood the other day and still recognised some old friends.”

Castigated
The soldiers say they are well known on the streets of Maputo ("we have even been on State television") but say they have never been castigated in any way because of their membership of Renamo.

"People come up to us and ask when the war will end — everyone wants the war to end — but we have never had any trouble," says Brigadier Malagueta, who nevertheless wishes he were back at the Renamo bush headquarters of Gorongosa.

"It's much more beautiful there. Maputo is dirty — and dangerous. We prefer to stay in at night because there are too many people, even kids, running around with guns and robbing people."
More than an acronym has changed in Mozambique, writes Ken Vernon

Secret police under surveillance

Nothing represented the autocratic nature of the Mozambican one-party dictatorship more than the activities of the feared and hated secret police operating under the slightly ridiculous acronym of SNASP.

And nothing represents the newly found and still fragile freedom in Mozambique more than SNASP's dismemberment.

It is to be replaced with a State Information and Security Service with the equallyBondish acronym of SISE.

As the death of SNASP was being debated in parliament recently, the unlikely and rather bizarre situation arose of the former Minister of Security, Sergio Vieira, arguing that the problem with SNASP was a lack of control over its multi-faceted activities.

SNASP was answerable only to one man — President Joaquim Chissano.

The mere fact that the former Security Minister could stand up in parliament and point a finger, admittedly obliquely, at the once inivolate President for allowing his private police to get out of control, more than anything else, represents the reality of the new Mozambique.

It was also an indication that the still largely servile parliament is beginning to stretch its newly acquired democratic muscle.

At its peak, SNASP's tentacles reached through every strata of Mozambican society as well as allegedly being responsible for assassinations inside South Africa and Portugal.

Initially SISE was also to fall under the sole control of the president, and Mr Vieira had harsh words to say about this proposal, suggesting that security bodies should not be dependent on one man — even if he is head of state.

He criticised the excessive secrecy of SISE, as well as the fact that his secrecy was to be carried over to SISE, saying that "the imperatives of democracy demand transparency."

Following these criticisms, presidential control of the new body, SISE, will be augmented by the "assistance" of a consultative body termed the National Defence and Security Council.

In its initial form the Bill dealing with the security service continued to enshrine secrecy. It proposed that the director-general of SISE and its senior officers be appointed only by the President and that such appointments be hidden from the public.

Even Assembly Chairman Marcelino dos Santos — still a reputed hardline communist — queried this secrecy, saying it was against the tenets of the new constitution.

"This Bill is a made-to-measure suit for one man, but the suit must fit not only President Chissano but all those who succeed him," said Mr Vieira.

Again the President compromised and now the names of the director of SISE and his deputy will be published in the Government Gazette, while other "officails" will remain unknown.

It would be churlish to ask why these men didn't expound these worthy sentiments in the past.

Times and men change.

Last week the same government that seeks to ensure SISE stays in the shadows, refused to accept amendments to other security legislation that would have made it illegal to spread rumours.

It also amended its own definition of espionage that sought to make it illegal to attempt to obtain secret information because it was deemed to be a threat to journalists trying to perform their watchdog role on the activities of the state.

Such action might appear contradictory for a government that until very recently controlled every word written in the country and which still controls — and intends to continue to control — the electronic media.

But in the new Mozambique, contradictions abound — Star Africa Service
Renamo "beheaded 1000" after attack

MAPUTO. — Mozambican rebels rampaged through a small northern town and adjoining villages, killing about 1000 people and beheading them, survivors of the massacre said yesterday.

"The shelves of shops were emptied and the severed heads were put there on display," said one witness quoted by the Maputo daily Noticias.

People who fled Lalana in northern Nampula province after the June 29 takeover by Renamo rebels, described horrific scenes after reaching safety in the town of Riiane, 60 km away.

One survivor said the stench of death in Lalana had become so overpowering that Renamo had abandoned the town centre and set up camp on the outskirts.

Noticias indicated that a possible motive for the brutality was revenge against followers of a quasi-religious cult who call themselves Naparamas.

The Naparamas, led by a Christian mystic named Manuel Antonio, are generally pro-government and fight against Renamo using only spears and bows and arrows.

They believe Antonio's medicine makes them invulnerable to bullets and in the past two years they are reputed to have inflicted heavy defeats on the superstitious Renamo rebels — Sapa-Reuters.
Survivor

One survivor said that the attack of Nhambe had completely destroyed the village. The survivors were left with nothing but their strength and determination.

The government's officials in the town of Nhambe were reported to be in a state of shock and confusion. The situation was dire, and there were concerns about the safety of the residents in the town.

The rebels were said to be celebrating their victory and were targeting other villages in the region.

Maputo - An attack by the Nhambe rebels on a small village north of Maputo last night claimed the lives of more than 1,000 people, according to government officials.

The rebels reportedly launched a surprise attack on the village, which resulted in the deaths of many villagers. The authorities said that the attack was a response to a recent military operation by the government forces.

The Nhambe rebels have been active in the region for several years and have been fighting for greater autonomy and rights for the local people. The government has been accused of human rights abuses in the region.
Renamo beheaded 1,000 on village rampage report

MAPUTO — Mozambican rebels rampaged through a small northern town and outlying villages, killing and beheading about 1,000 people, survivors were quoted as saying yesterday. "The shelves of shops were emptied and the severed heads were put there on display," said one witness quoted by the Maputo daily Noticias.

People who fled Lalaus in northern Nampula after Renamo’s June 23 takeover described horrific scenes after reaching safety in the town of Ribafe, 60 km away.

One survivor said the stench of death in Lalaus was so overpowering Renamo had set up camp on the outskirts of town. They ransacked three nearby villages, burning down more than 2,000 peasant homes, Noticias said.

Disasters Control Office workers said 4,000 refugees had arrived at Ribafe by the weekend.

The Noticias story indicated a possible reason for the return to brutal tactics was revenge against followers of a quasi-religious cult who call themselves Naparamas.

The Naparamas, led by Christian mystic Manoel Anta- mo, are generally pro-government and use only spears and bows and arrows to fight Renamo. They believe Antonio’s medicine makes them invulnerable to bullets, and since 1989 are reputed to have inflicted heavy defeats on the superstitious Renamo rebels.

Noticias quoted survivors of the massacre as saying Renamo singled out suspected Naparamas for instant death. — Sapa-Reuters
Red Cross man is released, deported from Mozambique

MAPUTO - The representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Mozambique, detained on suspicion of supplying uniforms to the Renamo rebel movement, has been released from custody and will be deported from Mozambique if it has been reported. - Sowetan Africa News Service.

Cubans in Angola says Unita

LUANDA - Unita's representative in the Joint Politico-Military Commission, Elias Salupeto Pena, said his party would present proof that Cuban soldiers are still in Angola, a breach of the New York accord.

Unita's representative in Lisbon said 5 000 Cuban soldiers are still in Angola.

Salupeto Pena said Unita would produce proof to back up its claim "in due course".

However, a UN verification mission headed by General Pereles Gomes, of Brazil, has found that all Cubans have now left for home. - Sowetan Africa News Service.
Frontline states ‘lack strategy on new SA’

CAPE TOWN — The Frontline States were paranoid over SA’s economic dominance in the region but had no unified strategy to deal with it, said a visiting British lecturer and expert on the foreign policies of southern African states.

University of Kent international relations lecturer Stephen Chan told a Centre for Intergroup Studies seminar that the Frontline States were afraid of losing their fiscal independence to an economically dominant SA, but lacked unity and a common vision.

Chink

He said it was likely that Zambia would be the first chink in the “Frontline armour”.

Zambian elections were scheduled for October, Chan said, and he expected the Movement for Multi-Party Democracy (MMDP), representing the middle sector of the economy, and the legal profession, to be the key actors in the election.

Chan said that he was conducting in-depth research into key sectors of the economy and the legal profession, to identify the factors contributing to the Frontline States’ economic structure.

The MMDP has already indicated its interest in developing economic and political ties between Zambia and SA, in order to regenerate Zambia’s economy.

The paranoia of the Frontline States towards SA would be greatly reduced if these links were forged, he said, as they would have an economic and political effect, with other states following suit.

Multiparty democratic systems were in the process of evolving in other Frontline States such as Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Angola, and this would change foreign policies in the region.

“The problem now is how to maintain a common front on economic matters and determine a joint policy before multiparty governments can come about,” Chan said.

The concern about economic domination by southern African States was not only on SA but also on the US and Japan.

Chan said that Japan was conducting in-depth research into key sectors of the economy of southern African States with a view to future investment.

There was little hope of a resource-rich Angola forming an economic counterpoint to SA as all its efforts would be devoted to the reconstruction of its economy after years of civil war.

Politically, the Frontline States feared an arrogant future SA government might not have much regard for them, and would in any event be too involved in creating social equality inside the country to be in a position to grant them any beneficent

Frelimo wants UK to help build united army

LONDON — Mozambique’s socialist Frelimo government, which is negotiating with right-wing Renamo rebels to end 14 years of civil war, is asking Britain to help it form a single national army when peace is reached.

Mozambique is keen to use Britain’s skills in training government and rebel troops which have already been applied in Zimbabwe, Namibia, and most recently, Angola. It has also approached Portugal, Spain, Egypt and France.

Britain would fund its assistance by diverting aid currently used to provide military training in Zimbabwe and South Africa, and for Mozambican troops guarding the Beira and Limpopo trade corridors to the sea.

Britain would work within the framework of the 12-country Joint Verification Commission, set up to monitor a partial cease-fire along the two corridors.

The issue of what to do with thousands of demobilised troops will be one of the trickiest issues in a post-war Mozambique and is a key item on the agenda of the talks in Rome, mediated by Italy and the Roman Catholic church.

Mozambican officials say they hope to achieve peace by the end of the year. But the talks, which began a year ago, are moving at snail’s pace.

Renamo says it wants UN officials to monitor the formation of political parties.

British and American officials are playing important behind-the-scenes roles in the talks, trying to persuade Renamo that it is in its best interests to transform from a military to a political force as quickly as possible before they lose financial backing from right-wing groups in the US, SA and Portugal.

British officials have hinted that their patience will not last indefinitely. If no progress is made within a year, they say they may swap the carrot for the stick.

These steps could entail stepping up military aid to Frelimo. — Daily Telegraph.
SADF denies link to coup plot

Pretoria Bureau 2/18

Renewed allegations of SADF collusion with Mozambique's rebel Renamo movement and a plot to overthrow the Mozambican government have been dismissed as nonsense by the SADF and other parties mentioned as being involved.

In an interview with the official Mozambican news agency AIM, two men, identified as former members of the SADF, have alleged that SADF elements continue to supply weapons to Renamo.

Former sergeant Felix Ndume, who recently alleged SADF involvement in recent train massacres, has been joined in his claims by Carlitos Joao Marra, who has denied that he was kidnapped by SADF commandos while on holiday near Porto da Ouro on the southern tip of Mozambique in 1997.

Both men told AIM this week that they became members of the Five Reconnaissance Regiment, based at Phalaborwa — which they say is the source of South African assistance to Renamo — in defiance of the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique.

AIM reported that Mr Maria said a Portuguese-born sergeant-major in 5 Recce, whom he named, is the conduit for the re-supply of Renamo.

Mr Ndume also told AIM that an alleged plot to overthrow the present Mozambican government uncovered in June this year had received support from the Conservative Party, the AWB and the Phalaborwa Mining Company.

All three of these parties have denied the allegations. The SADF also refuted the latest allegations.

Both Mr Maria and Mr Ndume told AIM there were many other Mozambicans in 5 Recce, some of whom had been press-ganged and some of whom volunteered, and that Renamo maintained a "training and support" base near Phalaborwa on the Olifants River.

Mr Ndume said that as late as February this year South African police had rounded up Mozambican refugees at Luke Lane in Gazankulu and handed them over to Renamo at their base — presumably for incorporation into the organisation.

He told AIM he believed the 5 Recce operations against Mozambique were continuing and that members of the unit were involved in an attack against the Mozambican border town of Ressano Garcia in April, saying that a group from the regiment had left the base before the attack on an "outside" mission, returning two days later.

In reply to a question on the death of Mozambican President Samora Machel in a plane crash in October 1986, he said he had been told by a Zimbabwean member of 5 Recce that he (the Zimbabwean) had been "in the operation to liquidate your president".

*Falsehoods* slated — Page 6
Glimmer of light for peace is still just a glimmer

Since the breakdown of the sixth season, there have been promising signs of both sides being prepared to be more amenable to compromise. The government has conceded one major Renamo demand by disbanning the secret police, the Sosap. It has also moved to depoliticise the army and has introduced legislation guaranteeing the independence of the judiciary.

The conflict in Mozambique seems to elude resolution. KEN VERNON of The Star Africa Service reports.

The only issue of substance now dividing the two sides appears to be the question of exactly how the future democratic political process is to be conducted.

While both appear to agree on the basic parameters of the process - such as a commitment to a multiparty system and a rule for international transitional period leading to an internationally monitored election - it is the mechanics of how that is to be achieved that is in dispute.

After 14 years of brutal civil war, the two parties, not surprisingly, simply do not trust each other.

To overcome this mutual distrust, the mediators are placing emphasis on international supervising of any ceasefires and elections.

Fighting on the ground is continuing, reports Karl Maier of The Independent newspaper in London.

Prelimo government released documents which showed that Renamo officials were using Malawi as a logistics base.

Observers have expressed frustration at the repeated delays.

Renamo officials are also angry about the government's determination to push ahead with reformist legislation in parliament. The rebels appear to be in no hurry to end the war.

Mr Dlakama recently pledged to stop attacking powerlines from the Cahora Bassa hydro-electric complex in return for money, radios and vaccines from Excom 03.
Business is now looking to Maputo

SOUTH Africa’s best-kept secret - business in Mozambique - is now being discovered by local entrepreneurs.

Mozambique's move to a multiparty democracy and the privatisation of businesses has created hundreds of trading opportunities - and South African companies are queuing up to make business contacts in the country.

Guidance

According to the president of the Mozambique Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Americo Magal, business in the country is improving under the guidance of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank programmes instituted as part of Mozambique's economic recovery programme.

He stresses, however, that if local industries are to survive they will have to compete with imported goods - and in the world market, with products from industrialised countries.

By ALI MPHAKI

"Although the free market principle has improved the quality of goods available on the local market, there is a need in Mozambique to work with foreign investors on quality, technology, financial skills, promotion skills and export promotional skills so that the local industries can compete effectively in these markets," he says.

Priority areas cited by Magal for the country's economic recovery programme include:

* Unit parts and spare parts for road transport equipment goods, and for the collective transport of passengers;
* Raw material, equipment, parts and spare parts for the clothing manufacturing industries;
* Equipment, raw material and spare parts for the shoe industry, and
* Equipment, parts and spare parts for the agricultural industry and construction industry.

A major boost to Mozambique's trade prospects has been planned for October with the launch in Maputo of Mobex '91, the country's first "business to business" exhibition.

Organised by Sandton-based Exhibition Management Services in conjunction with the Mozambican authorities, Mobex '91 has been specifically designed to introduce outside suppliers of products and services and technology to the country's rapidly re-emerging business community.

Products

Unlike conventional exhibitions where displays of products are expected, "business to business" utilises exhibition stands as "offices" or "neutral communication zones" where the emphasis is on business contact rather than the immediate sale of products.

The response to the exhibition has been overwhelming, with hundreds of inquiries from South African businessmen eager to make contact with their Mozambican counterparts.
Healing psychological wounds of war

Millions of Mozambican children have been displaced, orphaned or separated from their families. Tens of thousands more have been kidnapped by rebels who forced them to witness and participate in acts of brutality. American psychologist Neil Boothby, who conducted a survey of children directly affected by the war in Mozambique, recounts some of his findings:

SIX YEAR-OLD Framse was kidnapped by Renamo, the Mozambique rebel movement, while he was down at the river. Hands grabbed him, and he was shoved up the path to his village, where a man gave him matches and made him set his family’s hut ablaze.

His mother ran out first, then his father Framse was made to watch as the bandits cut his parents’ heads off with machetes. Their bodies were dismembered and the heads impaled on stakes.

There are tens of thousands of children like Framse in Mozambique. Child survivors can be seen staggering into government-run refugee centers physically malnourished and psychologically numbed, sometimes speechless, seemingly incapable of showing emotion other than a kind of numbing wait-and-see stoicism.

Nightmares

Sometimes they awake from nightmares with somatic complications. Headaches, stiff necks, respiratory ailments or, occasionally, temporary loss of eyesight or hearing.

Given time and stability, many of these children have been able to make substantial recoveries from the almost unimaginable tragedies they witnessed and experienced.

Among the children we worked with in Mozambique was a group of 42 former soldiers between six and 16 years old who were being cared for at the Lhanguen Centre.

Nearly all the boy soldiers had been abducted by Renamo, trained as combatants and, in many instances, encouraged to kill other human beings.

In our initial experimental treatment for the boys at the Lhanguen Centre, we found that the length of time spent in the Renamo camp, more than direct involvement in violence itself, affected their varied abilities to later act upon traditional concepts of right and wrong.

In general, 35 boys who had spent less than six months in Renamo camps appeared to have their basic trust in the traditional community values intact. Although some had committed violence, they continued to define themselves as victims, rather than as members of Renamo.

After liberation, most of these boys had displayed aggressive behaviour and feelings that were distrustful of adults. However, this subsided quickly, and their early recovery efforts were marked more by symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder — including appropriate feelings of remorse — than by antisocial behaviour.

But the remaining seven boys who had spent between one and two years in Renamo camps appeared to have crossed a kind of identity threshold in which their own self concepts had become more solidly linked with their captors. These boys had come to view themselves as members of Renamo.

As one 15-year-old boy put it: “I was born in that base camp. Even if I could have escaped, I could not have gone home again — not after what I had seen and done.”

Only after three months at the Lhanguen Centre did we begin to observe signs of remorse over previous acts of violence among these boys, as well as anxiety connected to reminders of other traumatic events.

These symptoms began about the same time the boys began to show increased attachment behaviour and more positive feelings toward their new adult caretakers, a “softening” that was also accompanied by an increased interest in social activities outside the centre.

This led us to suspect that these symptoms were prompted by their struggle to leave behind a world in which killing was sanctioned, and to re-enter a world in which killing is, once again, condemned.

Helpful

Even more helpful in the boys’ efforts to re-enter civilian life than our psychological intervention were the efforts of members of the Mozambique Women’s Organisation (OMM) who were the caretakers at the Lhanguen Centre.

One 52-year-old volunteer told us that the attitudes and behaviour of both boys and caretakers gradually changed over time from mutual fear to mother/child relationships.

The patience and dedication of OMM caretakers enabled most of these boys to reorient various aspects of their mental, emotional, social and moral development.

When the boys were reunited with their families or returned to their communities, we continued to follow their progress during the first 18 months of the readjustment.

The results also showed the same high potential for readaptation. Even those who had been cursed with the worst possible circumstances have been able to manage moments of competent behaviour, good humour and optimism. Community cohesion, family care and psychosocial support services are all playing a role in the children’s recoveries.

But it has been Mozambique’s policy of amnesty that has ensured that at least some of these boys soldiers can return home to their families and friends — AFRICA NEWS.
Renamo stalls peace negotiation

MAPUTO — The Mozambican peace talks in Rome have again ground to a halt because of Renamo’s refusal to recognise the Frelimo government.

The talks, which have been going on intermittently for more than a year, were postponed at the weekend after proposals submitted by the Italian mediators were accepted by Frelimo but flatly rejected by Renamo.

The negotiations are now expected to resume next month.

The rebels refuse to recognise the government because it was not elected. Frelimo rejects this attitude on the grounds that it took office in terms of an agreement with the former colonial power, Portugal, which was signed in Lusaka in September 1974.

The government has since been recognised by the international community and admitted to the United Nations, the Organisation of African Unity and other representative bodies.

According to the official Mozambican news agency, AIM, Renamo does not want to recognise the government because it wants the first multiparty elections to be supervised by the UN.

The Mozambique government has scheduled elections for 1992 but whether these will go ahead without any agreement having been reached at the Rome talks is uncertain.
World responds to Mozambican appeal for help

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — Mozambique's appeal to the international community for help is beginning to bear some fruit. Last week three countries responded with offers of aid.

On Friday the Mozambican and German governments signed an agreement in Bonn, under which Germany is to provide aid worth about $38.2-million (R110-million) to Mozambique.

The German aid is earmarked for development projects in ports and railways, and in the water and electricity services. It will go into helping Mozambican workers who have returned from the former East Germany.

Also on Friday Japan granted Mozambique $5.5-million (R18-million) for the purchase of fertilisers, and other agricultural chemicals and equipment. According to the official Mozambican news agency, AIM, the this is part of a package of about R110-million granted by Japan to support food production in Mozambique.

Finland has also decided to convert loans, amounting to R50.4-million granted to Mozambique between 1983 and 1987 into grants.
Moz coup plot: Top govt member detained

MAPUTO — Mozambique Interior Minister Mr Manuel Antonio has been detained for questioning in connection with investigations into a coup plot discovered in June, Radio Mozambique said yesterday.

The radio, quoting "an official source", said Mr Antonio — who is a member of the ruling Frelimo Party central committee and a veteran of Mozambique's war for independence from Portugal — was detained on Sunday. It gave no further details.

Mr Antonio, whose portfolio includes responsibility for the national police force, is the first government member held in connection with the plot.

The government announced at the end of June that 16 people had been detained because of suspected involvement.

They included former armed forces chief of staff Colonel-General Sebatiano Mabote as well as a brother and half-brother of the late president Mr Samora Machel.

No mention was made of Mr Antonio’s detention at the opening session of Frelimo’s sixth party congress in Maputo yesterday morning, attended by more than 700 delegates.

In his opening speech, President Joaquim Chissano said delegates would be asked to endorse a proposal that Frelimo should contest the country’s first multi-party elections, scheduled for next year, as a “democratic socialist party”.

He said that since the party’s last congress, in 1989, Frelimo membership had almost doubled to about 500,000 members. — Sapa-Reuter
MAPUTO - Mozambique's appeal to the international community for help is beginning to hear some fruit.

On Friday the Mozambican and German governments signed an agreement in Bonn, under which Germany is to provide aid of about $38.2 million to Mozambique.

The German aid is earmarked for development projects in ports and railways, and in the water and electricity services.

Also on Friday, Japan granted Mozambique $6.5 million for the purchase of fertilizers and other agricultural chemicals and equipment. The grant is part of a package of about $40.6 million granted by Japan to support food production.

Finland has decided to convert loans, amounting to $18 million, granted between 1982 and 1987 into grants.

- Sowetoan Africa News Service
MAPUTO coup plot - Minister held

MAPUTO - Mozambique's Minister of the Interior, Colonel Manuel Antonio, was detained at the weekend on suspicion of involvement in a coup plot said to have been uncovered last June, an official spokesman said yesterday.

In June the government arrested 12 Mozambicans in connection with the alleged plot. Among them was a former chief of staff of the armed forces - Star Africa Service.
Mozambique gets millions in foreign aid

MAPUTO — Mozambique's appeal to the international community for help is beginning to bear some fruit.

Last week several industrial nations responded with offers of aid.

On Friday the Mozambican and German governments signed an agreement under which Germany is to provide aid worth about R115 million to Mozambique.

The money is earmarked for development projects for ports and railways, and in the water and electricity services.

It will also go towards helping Mozambican workers who have returned from east Germany.

Also on Friday, Japan granted Mozambique $6.5 million (about R19 million) for the purchase of fertilizer and agricultural equipment — Star Africa Service.
AFRICA

Frelimo moots final break with Marxism

MAPUTO — A congress of Mozambique's ruling Frelimo Party yesterday discussed proposals for a new structure that would break completely with its Marxist-Leninist past.

A report from the party's Central Committee, presented by President Joaquin Chissano in Maputo on Monday called on the 700 delegates to abandon 'democratic centralism', the Leninist principle that has been Frelimo's cornerstone.

There had been 'excessive centralism', leading to passivity among the rank and file and dependence on instructions from the party leadership, Chissano said.

"Now we need to broaden and develop democracy inside the party," he said, adding that divergent opinions had to be tolerated.

Frelimo dropped its Marxist label at its last congress in 1989 and has been seeking a political identity before the country's first multiparty elections planned for next year.

The government last week cut short a round of peace talks with rightwing rebels without making progress towards ending a civil war in which a million people have been killed since 1976.

Under the changes Chissano who is Frelimo leader as well as head of state would remain party president. This would be symbolically important because the popular reformist is considered to be Frelimo's greatest electoral asset.

The Soviet-style Politburo would be renamed the Political Commission and would concentrate on broad political issues and the party's electoral strategy.

The document for the first time defines Frelimo as a 'democratic socialist party' committed to humanist values and to ending "authoritarian phenomena" — Sapa-Reuters

Angolan peace commission to discuss PoWs

LUANDA — Angola's joint peace commission is due to meet on Monday to discuss the release of hundreds of prisoners of war held by UNITA and the government. Official sources said the meeting of the joint political and military commission, set up after the end of Angola's civil war in May, would discuss UNITA's failure to present to the Red Cross on Saturday prisoners who, it says, want to remain at its Jamba headquarters in the south.

About 326 of the estimated 1,500 prisoners of war have been released so far by the two sides under the peace agreement.

The commission said UNITA should present those prisoners to it and the Red Cross after allegations that it was forcing them to remain at Jamba — Reuters

IMF praises Uganda's economic recovery

KAMPALA — The IMF yesterday praised Uganda's economic recovery in recent years, but said further reform was necessary.

A fund official, speaking before a Ugandan visit today by IMF MD Michel Camdessus, said the economy had responded well to IMF-backed reforms launched in 1987.

But further efforts were needed in a country still plagued by security problems, poor industrial infrastructure and shortages of labour and hard currency.

"The objectives are to reduce inflation to 15%, achieve annual growth rate of 5% and to strengthen the balance of payments position," he said.

The official, who declined to be named, said Uganda was the first stop on a tour which would also take Camdessus to Tanzania and Kenya next week.

Austerity

A decade of industrial neglect in Uganda, much of it under dictator Idi Amin, and a five-year bush war which brought current president Yoweri Museveni to power in 1986, has shattered the once-prosperous country's economy.

Under an austerity programme backed by the IMF, World Bank and international donors, Uganda has cut its inflation from 240% in the financial year 1987/88 to 26%.

Growth has recovered to an average 6% annually in recent years, having declined at an average rate of 2.8% a year between 1960 and 1989.

But the IMF official cautioned that Uganda was likely to continue to suffer shortages of hard currency because of its low coffee prices. Coffee is the country's main foreign exchange earner, accounting for 95% of total export income.

Government officials estimate Uganda has lost $260m a year since the collapse of an International Coffee Organisation quota pact in 1959 — Sapa-Reuters
Maputo coup bid: minister arrested

MAPUTO - Mozambique's Interior Minister has been detained on suspicion of involvement in the coup plot said to have been uncovered last June.

The minister, Colonel Manuel Antonio, was arrested at the weekend, an official spokesman announced yesterday. "He was described by the official news agency, Aim, as a veteran of the war to free Mozambique."

12 arrested

In June the government arrested 12 Mozambicans in connection with the alleged plot. Among them were the former chief of staff of the Mozambican armed forces, Colonel-General Sebastiao Mabote, and a retired major-general, Jose Monene. - Sowetan Africa News Service
Accountants to open office in Maputo

MARCIA KLEIN

SA accounting firm Ernst & Young will officially open its office in Maputo towards the end of September.

The firm will join forces with the Maputo office of Portuguese international accounting group Norma to form Ernst & Young – Norma

Ibraimo Ibraimo was actively involved in the country’s fiscal deregulation legislation and its economic rehabilitation programme.

Ibraimo said additional opportunities in audit, tax, financial and management consultancy services had been created by recent changes in Mozambique.

These included a free market economy, privatisation of some nationalised companies and greater promotion of foreign investments.
The government in Colombo-2045 is facing a crisis as the economy continues to decline. The country is struggling with high inflation rates and a growing balance of payments deficit. The government has announced a series of austerity measures, including cuts to public sector salaries and increased taxes, in an effort to stabilize the economy. However, the measures have not been well-received by the public, who are protesting against the government's policies.

Suspect found: Kandhi Killer

Right of the field was one of the few people who escaped the shooting. He is in the hospital recovering from his injuries. The government has launched an investigation into the incident, and security forces have been deployed to the area to maintain order.

Asylum in S Africa

Three Soviets seek asylum

The situation in South Africa is tense, with protests and strikes ongoing. The government has imposed strict lockdown measures to curb the spread of the virus, but the opposition argues that the measures are too harsh and have led to widespread job losses and economic hardship. The opposition has called for a general strike, and the government has responded with a crackdown on protesters.
Stolen uranium surfaces in Maputo

A LARGE quantity of enriched uranium stolen from a Soviet ship several months ago has apparently surfaced in Maputo where, it is alleged, it is being sold to Israeli and SA agents.

According to a report in the respected German newspaper Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, international police organisation Interpol is investigating the possible existence of a uranium black market operating from Maputo.

It is also understood that the Mozambicans have arrested four suspects in connection with the allegations.

The latest edition of Nuclear Fuel reported that several hundred drums of material, labelled with Cyrillic characters (Russian script) and the international sign for radioactive material, had been offered for sale.

The report stated that for a small canister weighing 45kg, dealers were asking $190 000, a larger cylindrical container cost $190 000, and $70 000 was the price for an 80cm-long rectangular container — about $3 300/kg.

That compared with the cost of natural mined uranium of about $44/kg.

Atomic Energy Corporation (AEC) spokesman Nick Laghein said those prices would indicate that the uranium was highly enriched.

Laghein strongly doubted reports that SA was importing enriched uranium from Mozambique.

He said that SA would not threaten its recently signed nuclear non-proliferation (NPT) agreement by buying on the black market.
Party members back Chissano to the hilt

MAPUTO — President Joaquim Chissano’s firm position at the head of Mozambique’s ruling Frelimo party was confirmed over the weekend when he received an overwhelming vote of confidence at the party congress.

He was re-elected party leader by 98 percent of the delegates.

Although the voting for party officials was for the first time conducted by secret ballot, opening the way for a challenge from a contender, nobody else sought the post.

His massive support is seen as a mandate for him to continue with his policies of implementing a multiparty system and negotiating an end to the war with the MNR rebels.

Party sources said Marcelino dos Santos, who occupied second place in the Frelimo hierarchy and who at first declined to seek re-election, was re-elected to the central committee.

Among those who failed to be elected to the central committee was former Minister of Security, Sergio Vieira.

Behind President Chissano in the voting for membership of the central committee came Felicito Gundana, Minister in the Presidency; Aguilar Maula, Minister for State Administration, and Armando Guebuza, Minister of Transport and leader of the Frelimo team in the peace negotiations with Frelimo in Rome.

Grace Machel, widow of former president Samora Machel, won most votes among the women candidates.

Two necklace killers jailed

Two white men who necklaed a disabled black man last September were each sentenced to 23 years’ jail by Mr Justice M.M. Joffe in the Rand Supreme Court on Friday.

The State had called for the death sentence.

Arguing before sentence, State advocate Dame Dorling said the men’s motive had not been morally justifiable and called on the court to set an example to the community by expressing its disapproval.

Deon van Deventer (25) of Jan Hofmeyer and Evert “Japie” Boonzaaijer (24) of Newlands murdered Johannes Masango by kicking him to death on September 14 last year. They then necklaed him. — Court Reporter.
to terms with marketing

in other areas like direct marketing Agencies believed clients wanted direct marketing, so many started a direct marketing arm or bought up direct marketing agencies which were doing well in various countries, but these were often mismanaged because agency people did not understand direct marketing

Although it was a significant part of the agency's business, it was a different kind of business, with different priorities, ways of operating, and accounting.

While advertisers talked about how much to spend on a campaign.

“the direct marketer says we will spend whatever we can afford to spend — that pays” The direct marketing campaign would run for as long as the advertisers or the mailings were producing results

Bird said this was not determined by budget, and advertising agencies often could not understand why direct marketing agencies found it so difficult to predict their income.

While advertising agencies were trying to influence the way people felt about a product, direct marketers were trying to change the way people behaved.

He said running direct marketing and advertising together would increase the effectiveness of both.

Finance ads to win recognition

The Business Day Financial Advertising Awards, to be made later this year, will reward creative financial advertising and improve standards.

Times Media Limited financial advertising executive Barry Tannenbaum says judges will be looking for clear communication from the ads, and a style “which best underscores a company's culture and corporate image.”

Creators of financial ads have been asked to submit what they regard as their most visually pleasing design, irrespective of the financial results it reflects.

The awards will be given for financial ads which have appeared in Business Day between October 1 1990 and September 30 1991. Entries close on October 15.

There are three categories — interim statements, year-end statements and chairman’s statements.

The judging panel will include an agency creative director, a merchant banker, a stockbroker, a TML financial editor and an accountant.

Apart from certificates, trophies and plaques, winning agencies and clients will receive editorial exposure, and the agency with the highest overall score will receive R20 000 worth of advertising space in Business Day.

Further information can be obtained from Barry Tannenbaum (011) 497-2469 or Barbara Dunn (011) 497-2132.

Local group forges Mozambique link

SAATCHI & Saatchi Klerk & Barrett (SSK & B) has joined up with Mozambique agency Intermark in the first phase of its expansion programme into southern Africa.

SSK & B CE Jurie Snyman said Intermark was the first full service agency in Mozambique, with a head office in Maputo and a contact office in Beira and Quelimane.

Its client list included BP, national airline LAM, People's Development Bank, state lottery Toto-Loto and Mabor Tyres.

Snyman said major opportunities Mozambique link had been presented for advertising agencies to extend their networks into Africa. The partnership was part of a plan for a network of agencies covering southern Africa.

Intermark MD Mario Perrot, former editor of Mozambique newspaper Notícias, said the country had progressed rapidly towards a free market economy in the past year.

SSK & B in Johannesburg would give the agency the know-how it needed in terms of infrastructure and strategic communications skills, he said.

Comic book classics are back in the stores

CLASSICS Illustrated, the comic book series which gained popularity in the '40s and '50s, is back in the bookstores, challenging recent electronic media blockbusters Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, the Simpsons and Nintendo games.

"Parents and teachers are anxiously awaiting the response of a TV-bred generation," says publisher, Americom MD Jeanne Raphael.

"Ironically, while the series was slated by the academic community at the height of its popularity, it's now being applauded as the only means of getting children and young adults to read the classics," she said.

She felt the comics would revive interest in "the nearly forgotten classics and their authors."

Apology

Classics Illustrated sold more than a billion copies in the '40s and '50s, and were published in 22 languages and distributed in 80 countries. They were given to Allied troops during the Second World War.

Artwork and text have been reworked to appeal to the modern generation.

Of the 560 new titles, Hamlet, the Count of Monte Cristo, Rip van Winkle and The Adventures of Tom Sawyer are available and Wuthering Heights, Moby Dick, Great Expectations, the Jungle Book and Treasure Island are coming soon.

Raphael says it is important to make reading more attractive to younger readers in a country where illiteracy is high.
Chissano in control
Sowetan Africa News Service

MAPUTO - President Joachim Chissano's firm position at the head of Mozambique's ruling Frelimo party was confirmed when he received an overwhelming vote of confidence at the party congress.

He was re-elected party leader by 98 percent of the delegates at the weekend.

Although the voting for party officials was for the first time conducted by secret ballot, opening the way for a challenge from a contender, nobody else sought the post.

His massive support is seen as a mandate for him to continue with his policies of implementing a multiparty system and negotiating an end to the war with the Frelimo rebels.
Little joy for Frelimo’s pride

IN the days when men were more manly than some of them tend to be today and women were, shall we say, disposable, warriors returning from campaigns used to bring back as the spoils of war things like slaves, jewels and women.

Nowadays victorious soldiers tend to return home with much less interesting souvenirs such as bayonets, helmets and captured flags.

Some troops of the Mozambican government army did better than that when they returned last February from an operation against the Renamo rebels in Zambezia province. They brought back two lions.

These were only cubs, to be sure, but a lion is a lion at any age. There is in any case not much else to bring back from a campaign in war-devastated Mozambique except sore feet.

The soldiers said they had found the cubs after they had been attacked by the mother lion and been forced to shoot her. In a war in which troops have been known to slaughter game from helicopters their story may be somewhat suspect but they made it sound good when they were afterwards asked to explain the lions.

“As determined by the constitution,” said an official army statement, “the Mozambican armed forces do not only defend the people, but also the land and all its riches, and so the soldiers sent the animals to the Alto Mocuene district authorities, who in turn sent them on to the Zambezia provincial command.

“This command then offered the lions as a trophy of war to the general staff.”

The lions, explained the army, were “a symbol of the bravery of the Mozambican armed forces, who have the figure of a lion on their emblem”.

The general staff, not being well placed to look after lions, asked the Maputo Zoo to take care of the cubs.

That was perhaps not a good move, given the zoo’s questionable reputation for looking after its animals. The health of the cubs deteriorated and one died.

Then a Zimbabwean businessman living in Maputo offered to look after the survivor. It ended up in a cage in the back yard of his house in the relatively affluent Maputo suburb of Summersfield.

Somehow, the news agency, AIM, heard about the suburban lion. Disclaiming ownership, the Zimbabwean businessman told AIM the lion belonged to the chief of staff of the Mozambican armed forces, Lieutenant-General Antonio Hama Thali.

But the civilian authorities were not satisfied and began asking “did you get a licence” type of questions. The Department of Wildlife and Forestry pointed out that it was illegal, not to mention downright dangerous, to keep a lion in the middle of a densely-populated suburb. It threatened to take “appropriate measures”.

It is not yet known what those measures will be. But having survived a war and the Maputo Zoo, this is one lion that surely deserves to have an undisturbed future.

□ □□

Staying with animals, we move to Lusaka for a story about the Cabinet Minister who threatened in parliament to take a swing at an MP who had found an indirect way of calling him a dog.

A news report describes Decentralisation Minister Dondon Syatlulima as “visibly seething with anger” when he tabled a note sent to him by MP Leonard Subuwa after the latter had defected from the ruling Unip to the Movement for Multi-Party Democracy. The note simply said that names like Dodson, Eli and Jeremiah were given to dogs.

Education Minister Eli Mwangan'gone and Health Minister Jeremiah Chikulwa did not react. Mr Syatlulima threatened to do so physically.

Mr Speaker, Fwanyanga Mwita, observed that Dodson was a common name among Europeans and the Minister should not worry about it.
Mozambique needs help to reach peace

MIKE MANO (2.18)

There was little ground for optimism that Mozambican peace negotiations would bear fruit in the near future. That was the unanimous conclusion of participants at a workshop organised this week by the SA Institute for International Affairs.

Third parties like SA had a vital role to play — as well as much to lose from continued war. There was disagreement, however, as to whether they should use the stick or the carrot to help bring about peace.

The Department of Foreign Affairs’s Les Labuschagne argued for the carrot. He believed that Renamo would be encouraged to the negotiating table if it were taken more seriously by the West.

Durban academic Jeremy Greed disagreed. He believed only a policy of “active intervention” would work. It was not enough for the SA government to cease active support for Renamo, he argued. What was needed was for it to take steps to end support from other quarters as well.

The changed nature of Renamo’s support was noted. Whereas SA used to be the organisation’s main backer, it now enjoyed support from a range of right-wing groups in the US and Germany, from the Kenyan government as well as from private groups in Portugal and SA.

ANC delegate Temba Tabetla suggested that the SA government had established Renamo and therefore was arguably best able to influence them. Labuschagne retorted that during the Rome negotiations, the Renamo delegation had refused to meet SA representatives. They appeared concerned to maintain credibility as being independent of SA support.

The general consensus was that Renamo had little incentive to end the war. It was unlikely to win an election. Too many people had suffered its depredations. Frelimo had introduced many of the reforms it had originally called for, and it was in no danger of being defeated militarily by the Mozambican government.

Given this situation, said Wits international relations specialist Chris Alden, a resolution to the conflict which accommodated the interests of both parties was unlikely to be found. The alternative was for a “coercive solution” to be applied.

Since there was little international interest in Mozambique, SA was potentially a major player.
2 000 flee attack in Mozambique

ABOUT 2 000 Mozambicans escaped into South Africa during an attack, allegedly by Renamo rebel soldiers at the Ressano Garcia border village late on Tuesday.

A South African military spokesman said the attack, with mortars and light machineguns, took place about 11.30pm.

A large group of men, women and children rushed to the Lobombo border post where they were allowed to cross into South Africa.

Three seriously wounded people were treated by South African Defence Force members and later taken to nearby Shongwe Hospital.

Soldiers rounded up the refugees who, once the situation at Ressano Garcia returns to normal, will be repatriated.

This is the third time this year that Mozambicans have escaped into South Africa following attacks at Ressano Garcia.

A Komatipoort resident, who witnessed the incident on Tuesday night, said the attack was not as bad as the previous two.

One of the escapees had been shot in the buttocks and another in the foot.

About 60 percent of the group was made up of children.

As they entered South Africa one elderly woman shouted “thank you South Africa, thank you South Africa” and then collapsed.

Sowetan Correspondent

Career guide

Don’t miss Sowetan’s 12-page career supplement in our bumper issue tomorrow. Read all about the golden rules needed when choosing the right career.
'Talk - and fight'

MAPUTO - Mozambique's ruling Frelimo party, has adopted, a talk-and-fight strategy against the Renamo rebels.

At its sixth congress, Frelimo decided to step up military activity against the rebels while continuing efforts to reach a negotiated solution through peace talks in Rome.

Criticised.

A resolution adopted at the congress criticised southern African countries that were said to be continuing secretly to assist Frelimo. The countries were not named but were widely assumed to be Malawi and South Africa.

- Sovietan Correspondent.
Frelimo pins hopes on new party chief

MAPUTO — Mozambique's ruling Frelimo party has chosen a man acceptable to all sides to spearhead its campaign in the country's first multi-party elections, scheduled for next year.

Feliciano Gundana was elected general secretary of Frelimo late on Wednesday by the party's central committee.

His task will be to revive the fortunes of what many Mozambicans see as a moribund party whose saving grace is that it won independence from Portugal in 1975.

Like Frelimo's president, head of state Joaquim Chissano, Gundana is a veteran of the independence war.

His election as general secretary means he will take charge of the day-to-day running of the party, allowing Chissano to devote his attention to government business in the run-up to the elections.

Party sources say there is no threat to Chissano's position.

Gundana is a government minister in the presidency and is thought to be politically close to Chissano. After independence he was a popular governor in provinces in the north and south of Mozambique.

Political analysts say the fact that he is a native of the central province of Sofala will help him to realign the image of Frelimo, currently seen as being dominated by southerners.

The central provinces are the heartland of support for Mozambique's armed rebel movement, Renamo, which says it will not compete in next year's elections.

Gundana had only one rival in the election — information minister Rafael Magum, who is an independence war veteran from the north. Gundana won 61% of the votes, according to Frelimo statistics.

But there were some surprises in Frelimo elections for central executive organs.

Three former senior leaders stood down Prime Minister Mario Machungo, parliamentary chairman Marcelino dos Santos and Frelimo mobilisation secretary Jorge Rebelo were elected to the Frelimo central committee by a party congress last week but did not stand for election to the executive leadership bodies.

But most of the old guard of leaders who took part in the independence war are still in senior posts — Sapa-Reuters
Refugees sent back to war zone

By ELIAS MALULEKE

About 2,000 terrified Mozambican refugees fleeing Renamo bullets and mortar fire were rescued by South African soldiers and police this week — but sent back to their village in the war zone a day later.

More than 35 people were allegedly massacred on Tuesday night when Renamo rebels surrounded and attacked the village of Rossano Garcia with mortar and light machine gun fire.

A South African military spokesman confirmed the 11:30 pm attack. Scores were also injured and up to 200, including women and children, were abducted by the rebels.

About 2,000 villagers fled to the Lebombo border in Komatipoort and were rescued by the SADF and SAP as mortar and light machine gun fire tore through them.

The police discovered three people among the refugees had been seriously wounded. One, a child aged eight, had his leg shot right off his body.

A woman was also found dead with a shrapnel wound in her back.

The villagers were returned to Mozambican territory by South African authorities on Wednesday.

City Press this week went into Mozambique where villagers told of their hopeless situation.

They said they had nowhere to go and were the "unwanted people." Frightened villagers near the South African border claimed the Mozambican government was not telling the world the truth about war atrocities.

Alfonso Díaz said that on Tuesday night the rebels surrounded the village of Rossano Garcia and started attacking it with mortars and machine guns.

The rebels then looted homes and businesses before marching the women and children off to secret bases.

Dimba said there was a "huge cover-up" because the world was not told the truth about the war.

According to a Frelimo government statement the rebels were rounded up and shot.

However, villagers have denied this. They said their abducted families have not yet been returned.

Yunnette Sithole, who escaped from the attackers, said her whole family was abducted, including her 65-year-old aunt and her six-month-old baby.

Another woman said her horror at watching the rebels force her 22-year-old sister to kneel on the naked body of her brother before she was raped and shot.

In another incident a man who resisted had his lips and nose cut off before he was hacked in the stomach.

A child, aged seven, was also found with his body riddled with bullets near the Nkomati River.

Umculo Makamo said he told City Press he prayed for the safe return of his 10-year-old son Belzario, who was abducted when the rebels struck.

Fortunately, his other relatives managed to flee after sustaining the shooting and were seized at the border.

A villager near the border, who asked not to be named, said Frelimo ordered the burial of all dead on Wednesday and removed the injured.

Some of the victims were buried in mass graves and other families elected to bury their dead separately.
Suspect thief burnt by mob

MAPUTO - A suspected thief "necklaced" by a lynch mob in Matola, ran to a nearby hospital with the burning tyre round his neck - but, when nurses tried to help him the mob threatened to necklace them too.

The man was one of five burned to death in this way by mobs in the Maputo area in the past few days.

Another suspected thief was stabbed to death by a mob and a third was shot dead.

Lynching

These lynchings bring to at least 20 the number killed by mobs in the past month in Maputo and nearby Miotola.

The lynchers are said have taken the law into their own hands because the police are ineffective in halting the rising crime rate.

However, the lynchings have done nothing to stop the crime, says the official news agency AP

Among the victims of recent burglaries was the wife of President Joaquim Chissano.
Nuclear fuel ‘for sale on black market’

The International Atomic Energy Association has expressed ‘concern’ at reports that uranium — the raw stuff of nuclear weapons — is for sale on the Maputo black market according to reports emanating from Mozambique. A high-ranking United States diplomat in Mozambique was recently heard by the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung to have been offered uranium a few months ago in Maputo harbour. The uranium was allegedly to have been stolen from a Soviet ship.

A reporter for the German daily Mr Udo Ulftkotte also offered uranium for sale in Maputo harbour in July and was told by a dealer that there are hundreds of containers of uranium in Maputo.

According to Ulftkotte, the black-market uranium was available in various packages. For R432 000 one could obtain a 45kg package of uranium, a triangular container was on offer for R514 000 and a rectangular container 80cm long was going for R202 000.

Experts in the nuclear field have pointed out that the shape of the containers could mean that enriched uranium is involved.

A statement from the International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA) said that the shape of the uranium containers now on offer in Maputo was “out of the ordinary and a cause for concern”. It said the possibility existed that the uranium on offer could be enriched uranium and not uranium oxide, otherwise known as “yellow-cake”.

Obtaining a sizeable quantity of enriched uranium is the first step towards building a nuclear reactor and producing weapons-grade nuclear material.

A member of the European Development and Or-

Dealing

Speaking on behalf of the Atomic Energy Corporation, Mr Nick Ligthelm denied that South Africa was dealing in illegal uranium products.

“We made a statement as far back as 1984 that we would not sell any nuclear material to any country without IAEA safeguards, and we recently signed a nuclear non-proliferation agreement.”

“As far as South African civilians are concerned, dealing in uranium would be a criminal offence subject to whatever the laws of the particular country were,” he said.

A spokesperson for the United States Information Service in Maputo, Mr Gerald McLaughlin, dismissed allegations of illegal uranium dealings.

“In the first instance the uranium allegedly stolen off a Soviet ship is nonsense. Pravda reported that they don’t ship uranium via sea. The stuff also doesn’t come in the shiny containers mentioned,” he said.

McLaughlin confirmed that Mozambican officials had arrested people in connection with uranium dealing on the black market, but claimed the prisoners were involved in fraud.

“They arrested some people who were trying to pass off some toxic waste in containers as uranium. If you walk around Maputo you’re bound to have someone come up to you and offer diamonds or ivory. It’s more likely that the diamonds and ivory would be real than the uranium,” he said.
15 to be charged for plotting coup

MAPUTO, Mozambique — The attorney-general announced yesterday that 13 people, including the Interior Minister and the former military chief of staff, would be charged with plotting a coup.

The accused also include three brothers of the late president Samora Machel, killed in a 1986 plane crash, the national news agency AIM reported.

Attorney-general Eduardo Mulembane told a news conference the accused were planning to overthrow the leftist government of President Joachim Chissano on June 22, but were arrested the week before. Most of the accused are current or former members of the military, including Sebastiao Mabote, the former chief of staff of the armed forces.

Interior Minister Manuel Antonio also will be charged with crimes against State security.

President Chissano's government is locked in a 14-year-old war with Renamo rebels. Almost half of the 15 million population require food assistance — Sapa-AP
MOZAMBIQUE

Come home, capitalists

Mozambique is moving towards restoring property rights for individuals. Accordingly, South Africans who wrote off their properties in the war-torn former Portuguese colony after independence 16 years ago — when it became a Marxist-Leninist state — should find and dust off their long-forgotten title deeds.

Among the properties that may be restored are land and buildings seized by the people's republic for public housing after they had been left vacant for more than 90 days. At any rate, that is according to David Spence, who claims his new firm, Spence Pendray, is the first estate agency registered in Maputo since independence. He maintains that the increasingly Western-orientated government is becoming more sympathetic to original property ownership claims.

And, he says, there are a growing number of property investment opportunities in the rundown city.

That depends. The Reserve Bank cautions that would-be investors are bound by the same exchange control regulations when applying to invest in Mozambique as for any other country. In other words, the cross-border investment must provide a tangible benefit to SA. "It's not enough to recognise a good property investment, or want a holiday home in Maputo," says exchange control manager Pieter Troskie.

Spence is, nevertheless, optimistic. He says those who do manage to reclaim property could find that it has substantial value. "There's such a pent-up demand for developed property (in Mozambique) that a house which in Bryanston would sell for R250 000 will easily fetch US$250 000 in Maputo."

"There's even profit to be made in development. The high prices mean that a developer can do well even if all the materials and equipment are imported from SA — though there are plenty of materials available here." Regular business travellers to Mozambique agree that there is a shortage of properties. They also stress that those that are available are decaying and must often depend on their own resources, such as power generators, for basic utilities. Furthermore, Maputo is still a city under siege — the civil war continues. While relative normality prevails within the municipal boundaries, the capital is isolated from the rest of the country and air travel still provides the only really safe access for visitors. Trains are frequently ambushed.

Spence started the estate agency in July — his family has done business in Mozambique since 1895 (his grandfather, Hugh le May, built the Polana Hotel, he claims). He has set himself two targets to seek out as many original title owners as possible to try

and have their properties restored to them, and to identify development opportunities and partnerships in Mozambique for investors in SA and other countries.

To date, he has about 40 properties registered with him from about 17 different original title holders. Most comprise land, mining concessions, farms and holiday homes in places like Xi Xi. He concedes that he has not yet completed the process of having any of these properties restored to their original owners. "But the process is under way. Spence has applied to the SA and British trade missions for lists of citizens who have claims to property in Mozambique. "I'm still waiting for a response, but I imagine it could take some time. Claimant consent is probably necessary before such information is released," he adds.

As far as development is concerned, two firms interested in cluster housing or duplex schemes in the city have already contacted him. He says "Another company is keen to build a high-rise building on a site registered with us." Spence is keen to identify schemes that will result in a capital injection into Maputo property development. "I would, for example, obtain land, either with original title or municipal land, for a developer interested in cluster housing in Maputo. The developer can then build the homes and sell them or do whatever else he chooses.

(Sell to whom? Most of the nationalised properties are used for mass housing within the city, which has sprawling shanty settlements on its fringes.)

Though Mozambique is not part of the SA monetary union, Spence maintains that the foreign exchange constraints should not be difficult for potential investors: "If we get the land and the plans approved, the investor need only put in an initial deposit. They can build with finance raised by the buyer. That has already happened. A whole block has been developed through such cooperation between a local insurance firm and a Portuguese developer."

It may not be as easy as it all sounds. The Reserve Bank's Troskiel, who says he does not know whether there has been an increase in demand for foreign exchange for Mozambique, stresses that investors receive no special treatment for wanting to invest there. "It would be very difficult at this stage to say what the policy would be towards investments related to any previously owned properties in the former colony."

So is there a realistic chance of people reclaiming properties? Is Spence raising false hopes? He says not — for people who are willing to return to Mozambique. A number have apparently done so but it would hardly be a realistic option for most who left when Marxism came in. As Spence sees it, people with a claim to title have the best chance of success if they form partnerships with Mozambiquans, once the property is sold the profit is shared.

Though property in Mozambique holds

A MATTER OF TIMING

Facing the generally tougher property market, institutional backing is becoming harder to find. Rather than scrap projects, developers are turning to syndication as an alternative form of financing.

One of the more recent companies to enter the field is the Time Life Group. The second of its syndication schemes is McCarthy House, a new 1 950 m² office block planned for Sandton's Wierda Valley.

Construction of the classically styled building has started and Time Developments says it will be ready for occupation by June. This is Time's second syndication project. Its first was the Durban Centre in Kensington. Launched in July it is sold out. A plus factor for the McCarthy House syndication is that, though Wierda Valley has high vacancies, the building is pre-let.

Time subsidiary R. McCarthy Construction is building the block, is to establish its headquarters in the development.

FINANCIAL MAIL • SEPTEMBER 5 • 1991 • 79
promise it is probably rather too early to consider re-investment — unless you really
want to take a flyer Mozambique remains a
high-risk area where the Freiromo
government's commitment to free enterprise
and private property can only be tested once it
has achieved an accord with the Renamo
rebels That seems a long way off yet The
restoration of property rights will be wel-
comed — if that is what it is It is notoriously
difficult to get clear-cut policy statements
out of Maputo

INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

Treading water

Industrial premises are being let at a
discount Even institutional landlords, re-
nowned for waiting out downturns rather
than lowering rentals, are relenting so that
they can fill space

That is the message coming from brokers
and others as industrial stagnation exacer-
brates factory and warehousing vacancies.

But as J.H. Isaac's Wayne Wright points
out, there are conflicting signals There is life
in the market, and even shortages of indus-
trial space in some areas and categories, but
the bottom line generally is that it is still a
tenants' market

Just how much so is brought home by
Wright's comment that some institutions
that have brought speculative schemes on
stream in the past 18 months have softened
their usually tough stance on negotiating
rentals

"Rather than leave the premises vacant
they are agreeing to slash base rentals by
as much as 20%," says Wright "But in doing so
they usually insist on short — usually three-
year — leases and high escalations, above
12% This is to cover themselves for any
future revival Other landlords prefer to
offer rent-free periods rather than discount
rentals This avoids the risk of being paid
submarket rentals when the demand for
manufacturing and storage space recovers"

He adds that the general feeling is that
there should be a recovery in demand for
space in 1993-1994 and the short leases are
timed accordingly, so that they can be re-
negotiated in a landlord's market

Greatest demand for space, he says, is in
the micro-factory market, which is between
100 m² and 200 m², while the soft areas seem
to be the mid-market involving industrial
premises of between 400 m² and 600 m²

Areas that have held up best in the vicinity
of Johannesburg include Selly, City and Sub-
urban, Denver, Benrose and Edenrose Rentals
have not come off in these areas as much as
locations like Kya Sand, Route 24 or Robert-
ville on the West Rand

Nevertheless, Russell Marriott Boyd
Trust's David Alcock says he is quite bullish
about the industrial market While develop-
er's often prefer the glamour sectors such as
shops and offices, the growth in prime indus-
trial rentals has kept pace relatively well in
percentage terms with those of shops and
offices — which are more glamorous for
investors — (see graph)

Alcock says, "Rental in prime industrial
areas, for example Denver, have increased on
average by 13.5% over the past five years
compared with 15.75% a year for CBD off-
ices and 16.5% for prime shops However, it
should be remembered that industrial invest-
ments are generally less costly to run, com-
pared with the other sectors in terms of
management and building running expenses
and, therefore, the net rental growth differ-
ence between these sectors is closer than
might appear"

He adds that most of the vacancies in the
market are on the more remote industrial
estates "There are shortages in good central
locations with good communications"

Alcock, therefore, believes that a big hike
in rentals may be imminent as little new
industrial development is taking place on a
speculative basis "One cannot develop for less
than R10 a square metre and there will be a big
jump when the existing space is absorbed
and a shortage results".

Property economist Erwin Rodé, however,
is more pessimistic He points out that the
property market as a whole is marking time
while the economy has yet to bottom out
"Even if there's an upturn, property lags the
economy by a year or more," he says "Indus-
trial rentals are now tending to lose
ground even in nominal terms In general
terms, smaller units are showing greater
resilience than larger premises"

RESIDENTIAL

Home-in-one

The Japanese are said to be golf crazy — but
this seems equally to be true of South Afri-
cans First there were golf clubs, then
country clubs, the latest innovation in the Trans-
vaal is the golf estate, with the launch this
week of JCI Properties' Danfern near
Chartwell north of Johannesburg

While they may have been the first to
adapt the US concept of combining subur-
ban living with golfing on the Highveld, they
certainly won't be the last There are at least
two other schemes being developed north of
Johannesburg close on the heels of JC1

Danfern seems to have been a head start on the
competition, with a completed golf course
and clubhouse The property developer has
also announced that the stands in phase one of
the residential component are now fully
serviced and ready for sale and 90 sales
worth R1m have already been agreed
Stand prices average R143 000

About 66% of the 300 ha property will be
devoted to housing — 1 750 homes varying
from clusters to 1 ha properties

BUILDING UP STEAM

Ten years on and the north-western en-
trance to Durban city, down Soldiers' Way,
remains dominated by the empty
old railway station building — left to
decay after the new station opened on the
outskirts of the city But that could soon
change

While architecturally and historically
important — it is a national monument
— the red-bricked Victorian "streaky ba-
con" building has become an eyesore, a
frequent target for vandals and graffitii
artists Now Ampros has plans to spend
R30m on redeveloping the site into a
5 000 m² four-storey office complex

Since Durban's station moved previ-
ses, there have been several grand
schemes for the old building and adja-
cent platform site, but funding has always
proved the problem Most recently, Cape-
bered Monex Development wanted to
build an extensive underground shopping
area link with the station building, plat-
form site and Poynton House across the
road

Monex and Compass Property Holdings — Compass's portfolio is managed
by Ampros — still has a substantial inter-
est in the platform site And there re-
mains a faint hope that this development,
even though a scaled-down version link-
ing the platform section to the Workshop
shopping complex, will proceed in con-
junction with Ampros' plans for offices

Ampros Durban manager Peggy Daley
says initial internal demolition work to
make way for the office complex should
start by the end of the year with construc-
tion following early in 1992 "We want to
preserve as much of the original material
— such as staircase and wooden fittings
— as we can for the office block," she
says

Final development plans are still on the
drawing board and involve discussions
with the National Monuments Council.
The offices are aimed at individualised
accommodation in tune with the Victo-
rian character of the building
SA clergy to meet Chissano on refugees' plight

CAPE TOWN — An SA Council of Churches (SACC) delegation, led by general secretary, Rev Frank Chikane, arrived in Mozambique yesterday to discuss the plight of Mozambican refugees in SA.

The purpose of the two-day visit was mainly to discuss the status of the refugees and their future prospects, the SACC said.

The delegation will meet President Joachim Chissano and foreign minister Pascoal Manuel Mocumbi.

Chikane would also discuss the matter with the SA government and the UN-High Commissioner for Refugees.

The SACC statement said: "It was found that the refugees were hunted by the SA government and forcefully returned to Mozambique."
MOZAMBIQUE is in search of a peace-maker as the nightmare of violence, death and destruction — comparable to the suffering of the peoples of Cambodia and Sudan — continues unabated.

In the streets of the capital, Maputo, there is a growing fear that inhabitants may share the fate of the rural populations. The city has become an artificial island in a sea of decay, kept alive only by the inflow of international money. As conditions become more desperate in eastern Europe, Russia and the other republics of the Soviet Union, these resources may dry up.

The outlook for a political solution is bleak. Italy and the Catholic bishops who brought the rebel movement Renamo to the negotiating table have few options left to push the peace process ahead.

The peace talks in Rome have reached a stalemate. Renamo leader Alfonso Dhikakana, outmanoeuvred at the negotiating table by President Chissano’s swift concessions to turn Mozambique into a non-socialist multi-party system, has chosen to stall.

Outsiders are sometimes overwhelmed by the difficulties in dealing with him and his entourage in the negotiations. His psychological and intellectual set-up and that of his entourage are extremely difficult to judge. Apparently they strongly dislike being confronted with sophisticated politicians and one protracted negotiating process. More than once, Dhikakana and his team simply dropped out of the process, knowing they could always go back to violence.

In Namibia, Nicaragua, Angola and of becoming one of the dominant powers in sub-Saharan Africa, together with South Africa and Nigeria. Zimbabwe will remain on the sidelines as Renamo will never trust her. Pretoria’s officials keep international experts guessing how much of South African involvement with Renamo is left. Whatever the truth, it seems that even the military and politicians in Pretoria — apart from not being acceptable as peace-makers — do not have enough leverage left to decisively influence Renamo’s behaviour at the negotiating table. The same holds true even for Washington, which is busy with other problems anyway.

One reason for the lack of outside leverage is somewhat paradoxical. Although violence is somewhat diminished in Mozambique was negligible. As a result, Mozambique has often been depicted as a case of caution. However, one should never underestimate the power of a military conflict.

The outlook for a political solution in Mozambique are bleak unless a peace-maker can be found.

By WINRICH KUHNE

Other countries the decisive and timely application of pressure on all or one of the contending parties have been a crucial element for success. There seems to be no international actor who is able and prepared to play a similarly role in the case of Mozambique. Italy lacks the political will as well as the leverage to be more than a facilitator. Arap Moi’s Kenya is playing a dubious role, motivated by strange dreams.
PRETORIA. — Maputo is famous for its prawns and the mayor does not eat the tasty crustaceans. But he hopes prawns and Laurentina beer will draw tourists.

"But certain changes will have to be made before Mozambique is completely safe," said Mr. Joao Baptista Cosme.

He and four members of the Maputo City Council are in South Africa on a three-day visit at the invitation of the Urban Redevelopment Corporation which is busy working on upgrading certain areas in Maputo.

Mr. Cosme said he would like to see Maputo return to the days when Lourenco Marques was a haven for South African tourists.

"Peace has to be established before tourists can go in safety although I must stress there is no problem in Maputo. We will also have to upgrade our hotels and build new hotels. Most of the hotels in Maputo are always fully booked."

Mr. Cosme said funding for these projects would have to come from external financing.

"A substantial part of the economy is spent on the war effort but we are trying to look at new ways to increase revenue."

"The State monopoly on housing has been lifted and we are encouraging people to invest in new buildings and show entrepreneurial spirit as estate agents."
Caught between two armies

By ELIAS MALULEKE

WAR-RAVAGED Mozambique is heading for a multiparty democracy, but the war is continuing between soldiers of the ruling Frelimo Party and rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (Renamo).

The carnage is never revealed by authorities. City Press discovered in Maputo last week, when residents accused Frelimo of not telling the world the truth about the war situation.

More than 35 people were massacred in Ressano Garcia, many others were injured and scores abducted after Renamo attacked the village with machineguns and mortars last week. Many continued to die this week in other remote villages across the country, but information coming out of Mozambique is sketchy and always in favour of government troops.

Villagers cited a government statement shortly after the massacre in Ressano Garcia, which said the rebels had been rounded up and shot by loyal troops. No mention was made of casualties in the village.

Villagers told City Press Renamo was increasing attacks on the government and civilians and claimed dozens of people were massacred every week. They blamed Frelimo troops for some of the attacks.

Civilians claim they are caught between two undisciplined armies. Renamo has cut off Frelimo soldiers from their main supplies and bases.

On the other hand, the Renamo rebels cannot advance any further and both armies fire on defenceless villagers. In most cases, the attacks are followed by looting of food and clothes from the deserted villages.

Truck drivers have also been told of ambushes by the armies.

Villagers of Ressano Garcia say they are the "unwanted people." They have no protection from the government and have no place to hide. They are at the mercy of the two armies and when they flee across the border into South Africa, sometimes risking their lives on the electrified fence, they are immediately sent back.

A day after last week's attack, South African authorities sent more than 2,000 refugees back into Ressano Garcia and closed the border gates.

Ressano Garcia has been cut off by the rebels. The Lebombo border post is the only escape route for villagers and only a few locals, who have passports, can cross into South Africa legally.

Ressano Garcia has been turned into a ghost town. There are no jobs, shops or livestock and the land is dry.

Villagers said this was the case in all areas cut off by the rebels.

In Ressano Garcia everything was in ruins. Huts had been shelled, roofs were off and some of the "unwanted people" were still salvaging the little they could from the ruins.

Although the attack was late at night, said Mabalane Singo, it was not difficult to know who the attackers were.

"Mapungu (rebels) kill, loot our homes and take hostages, which was the case in this attack. But Frelimo just shoot and take our food before fleeing to the hills. They do not take hostages," he said.

He said since Easter the village had been attacked four times - three times by Renamo and once by Frelimo.

Villagers estimate more than 500 people have been killed since the beginning of the year and many more kidnapped.
MAPUTO coup trial

MAPUTO - The Supreme Court is to decide whether there will be a separate trial for two members of parliament who are among 15 Mozambicans charged with plotting a coup.

Colonel-General Sebastiao Mahote, former minister of defence, and Colonel Manuel Antono, former interior minister, are required by law to be tried by the Supreme Court.

All 15 accused are to appear initially in the Maputo city court. At the end of this preliminary hearing the Supreme Court will decide which court should try the men.

Sowetan Africa News Service
Teachers learn to heal traumatised children of Mozambique

By ANDREW MELDRUM Harare

FILLED to the brim with eager students, the Mozambican school on the outskirts of Maputo is woefully short of books and other supplies. Just four of the 15 classrooms have desks and chairs, while in the rest the children sit on swept floors, huddling together to pore over the scarce textbooks.

Bullet holes in the walls are grim reminders of attacks by Renamo rebels. Despite the rounds of negotiations in Rome, the war continues and is once again creeping near Maputo. Nighttime Renamo raids on the barro (poor neighbourhood) occur frequently and sometimes children are kidnapped.

 João, 33, is a thin, bearded, nervously energetic fifth grade teacher who has 63 students in his morning class and 54 students in the afternoon. It would seem he has far too many students to know any of them as individuals, but he tries to give them specialised attention.

Speaking through an interpreter, João describes Luna, a gawky 15-year-old girl who was in his class last year. "At first I did not notice her," he admits. "She was very timid and did not do very well in class."

But then João took part in a weekend programme to show teachers how to deal with the thousands of students who have been traumatised by the war's violence. "That training opened my eyes and I identified Luna as one of my troubled students," said João. "I spoke to her and found out that she had been kidnapped and forced to live with the rebels for two years. She had escaped and lived with her grandmother but she was still worried about her family. She was still frightened."

João talked to Luna after classes, "to let her know she was not isolated".

Slowly, his efforts began to pay off.

"Luna began mixing with the other children. Her marks started to get better and by the end of the year we were able to pass her to the next grade."

The course that trained João to help war-affected children is run by Mozambique's Education Ministry and the British charity, Save the Children. The teacher training programme was started after it was estimated that well over one million children have been traumatised by the war's violence.

"A very effective therapy is to let the children draw," said British specialist Naomi Richman, who has worked in the programme since 1989. "I think drawing is one of the best ways to get children to express themselves, but most schools do not have the crayons and paper needed so instead we encourage teachers to talk with their students."

In the barro school, João is keen to pursue the counselling he has learned. And Luna? What has happened to the girl that João helped last year? There are not many stories with happy endings in Mozambique. Luna did not return to school this year and no one knows what happened to her.
Lonrho sells hotel shares

MAPUTO — Lonrho International is to sell its shares in the Maputo hotel, the Cardoso.

Hotel general manager Ralph Wilken said at the weekend that only Mozambican citizens or Mozambican companies could buy the 13,045 shares on offer. He understood the offer to be half of the total share capital.

A senior bank official said he believed this was the first public flotation of shares in a private company since Mozambique won independence in 1975.

Nominal share value is 100,000 meticais, but the minimum selling price is set at 130,000 meticais per share, which Lonrho says is below the real value.

Lonrho bought the four-star Cardoso from Italian owners in June 1990. — Sapa-Reuter
Case questions

herbalists' status

MAPUTO — A medical doctor who has been charged in court with conducting a private practice has in his defence put the status of Mozambique's traditional herbalists in doubt.

Dr Arnes Fernandes, who is employed in the general clinic of Maputo Central Hospital and lectures in medicine at Eduardo Mondlane University, admitted setting up a private practice in his home.

But he argued that if it was illegal for him to practise privately then the practices of Mozambique's traditional healers were equally illegal.

He said 70 percent of the country's population was being treated by traditional healers who practised privately.

Testifying for the defence, Dr Ivo Garrido, former director of Maputo Central Hospital, said that by working two hours a week for the special service he earned more in a month than his monthly salary at the hospital — Star Africa Service.
The Acceptable Face of Renaming

London - Brussels

Why Renaming? When did we begin our renaming exercise? The origin of the word "rename" is not clear. Some suggest it comes from the Middle English "renam," meaning "to give a new name." Others trace it back to the Latin "renovare," meaning "to renew." Whatever the etymology, the concept of renaming is not new. It has been a part of human history for centuries. From ancient civilizations to modern-day corporations, renaming has been used as a tool to signal change and progress. In the context of the European Union, renaming has often been a contentious issue. The term "European Union" (EU) was adopted in 1993 as a replacement for the European Community (EC), which had been in place since 1957. The change was intended to reflect the union's expanded responsibilities and aspirations. However, the transition was not without its challenges, and the term "European Union" has been the subject of much debate and discussion. The concept of renaming is not limited to the EU. It is a common practice across various sectors, from sports teams to startups. Whether it is a matter of adapting to new circumstances or simply embracing change, renaming can be a powerful tool. In conclusion, the concept of renaming is a timeless one, and its significance remains as relevant today as it ever was. Whether in the realm of politics, business, or culture, the act of renaming is a testament to the human desire for progress and innovation.
Sex slaves flee ordeal

By SOPHIE TEMA

THREE women, victims of the Mozambican slave trade, told City Press how they were held captive as sex slaves by a man who acted as an agent for the Mozambican police.

Doris Thembe, 17, Zodwa Mathenjwa, 24, and Sibongile Mhlango, 20, said they were collected by KwaZulu police at Emangeni near Empangeni on September 7.

They were kept in a cell for seven days before being driven in a bakkie to the Mozambican border by four black men and one white man.

Although the women said they were not Mozambicans, the men maintained they were because of the vaccination marks on their arms.

Mhlango told City Press they were handed to Frelimo soldiers and kept in a tent for two days. "On the third day a man came to the border and told the soldiers he wanted to buy us because he had jobs for us in South Africa," Doris said.

The man took them into the bush and raped Doris and Sibongile, leaving the elder Zodwa. He then took them to his house in Komatipoort where he kept them as sex slaves, raping them at random.

"On Monday last week he drove us to Gazankulu where he left Zodwa and me in the care of his brother and other family members and took Sibongile with him in a minibus," Doris said.

Sibongile told City Press that after she had left with the man in the minibus, they drove towards Ladysmith, where the vehicle broke down.

"We went to a nearby garage for help."

"The man left me at the garage and went to a nearby house to look for another vehicle to tow him."

"While he was away I ran to the home of a nearby businessman, Sam Mzima, who called the police to arrest the man."

"When the police arrived at the scene he had left and could not be found."

"He left his minibus at the garage and the following morning the minibus was also missing."

The women are being looked after by Operation Hunger, which is trying to establish their background and resettle them.

Millions of free condoms

CP Correspondent

ABOUT 40 million condoms will be distributed next year as part of government anti-Aids measures.

The free condom exercise was disclosed recently by Department of National Health and Population Development spokesman Dr Neil Cameron at an Aids seminar in Cape Town organised by the Institute for Personnel Management.

He was outlining the new State strategy developed in the wake of criticism of its first Aids prevention campaign.

The R50-million strategy calls for Aids education to be part of school curricula and to concentrate on promoting healthy behaviour.

The strategy report also suggests it might be necessary to change some laws regulating homosexuality and prostitution to make Aids education programmes more acceptable.

The campaign aims at a short-term goal of ensuring 80 percent of sexually active people in South Africa are "literate" in Aids and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) within 18 months.
Sex slaves flee ordeal

By SOPHIE TEMBE

THREE women, victims of the Mozambican slave trade, told City Press how they were held captive as sex slaves by a man who acted as an agent for the Mozambican police.

Doris Thembe, 17, Zodwa Mathenjwa, 24, and Sibongile Mlongo, 20, said they were collected by KwaZulu police at Empangeni on September 7.

They were kept in a cell for seven days before being driven in a bakkie to the Mozambican border by four black men and one white man.

Although the women said they were not Mozambicans, the men maintained they were because of the vaccination marks on their arms.

Mlongo told City Press they were handed to Frelimo soldiers and kept in a tent for two days.

"On the third day a man came to the border and told the soldiers he wanted to buy us because he had jobs for us in South Africa," Doris said.

The man took them into the bush and raped Doris and Sibongile, leaving the elder Zodwa. He then took them to his house in Komatipoort where he kept them as sex slaves, raping them at random.

"On Monday last week he drove us to Gazankulu where he left Zodwa and me in the care of his brother and other family members and took Sibongile with him in a minibus," Doris said.

Sibongile told City Press that after she had left with the man in the minibus, they drove towards Lilydale, where the vehicle broke down.

"We went to a nearby garage for help," he said.

"The man left me at the garage and went to a nearby house to look for another vehicle to tow him.

"While he was away I ran to the home of a nearby businessman, Sam Mzima, who called the police to arrest the man.

"When the police arrived at the scene he had left and could not be found.

"He left his minibus at the garage and the following morning the minibus was also missing."

The women are being looked after by Operation Hunger, which is trying to establish their background and resettle them.
Mozambican child death rate shock

HARARE — Mozambique has the world's highest death rate among children under five.

The United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) annual report, based on 1988 statistics, says that of every 1,000 children, 297 died before the age of five.

Mozambique is followed by Afghanistan, which loses 296 children of every 1,000, Angola 292, and Mali 287.

The armed conflict in Mozambique, Afghanistan and — until recently — Angola, was blamed for the high death rate.

According to the report, all 44 countries with high infant mortality rates are in the Third World, 34 of them in Africa.

South Africa's rate is 91.

Sapa
SEX SLAVERY... FROM LITON, PORTOF RENADES, 17, SPOTLIGA MUNDEGA, with her daughter X陈列, 3.

TRADERS ABUSE

BOYS AND GIRLS

LURED INTO SEX SLAVERY
Pay if you want to stay, alien told

By Sophie Tema

...The immigration official took me to the police and informed the immigration officer to me who kept me to the immigration office to me who kept me to the immigration office...

In a Tight Spot...

Moses Mafela

South African officials have been out on a MOZAMBIAN national who was held in the police station where he was held for two days. The second...

...and taken to the border immigration office to me who was arrested by a member of the border immigration police...
Mozambique
renews talks.

ROME: Talks aimed at ending Mozambique's 16-year civil war will start in Rome tomorrow, the Italian Foreign Ministry announced yesterday.

The negotiations between the government and the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) movement are the latest in more than a year of talks after recent signs Maputo might meet Renamo's demand that 7000 Zanlaibwein troops leave the country. A ceasefire can be put in place. (2/18)
Low-profile DP councillor resigns

KILLARNEY and Lower Houghton's DP councillor has resigned from the Johannesburg City Council after being disqualified for not attending meetings.

Carl Stein confirmed in a statement yesterday he had resigned from the council at the beginning of October because he felt he was unable to devote the time and attention necessary to properly fulfill his duties as a councillor and a practising lawyer.

Since his election to the council three years ago his commitments and responsibilities as a lawyer had grown to a great extent. Stein was unavailable for personal comment.

CP caucus leader in the Johannesburg City Council Jacques Theron said Stein's resignation had been expected because he would otherwise have been disqualified from the council.

The CP had approached the town clerk about Stein's continued absence at meetings, particularly those of the markets, tenders and licenses committee on which he served.

"We have no personal grudge against Stein and in fact hold his legal knowledge in high esteem, but unfortunately the council and ratepayers in his ward were not benefiting from that," said Theron.

He said Stein would have been disqualified because he had not complied with the ruling that a councillor could not skip more than three meetings except for circumstances beyond his or her control.

In his statement Stein said his main motivation for standing for council had been to play a role in the transition of local government from one based on apartheid principles to one based on non-racial democratic principles. He had also wanted to assist the DP in taking control of Johannesburg's management.

Both of these aims had been achieved in large measure, Stein said.
Frelimo lifts clamp on press

Benjamin Faduco (below) leads a new press revolution.
By KEN VERNON of The Star Africa Service.

THE RICH mahogany and
ebony tones in Benjamin
Faduco’s colonial-style office
seem an unlikely setting for a
revolution, and the man himself
an unlikely revolutionary.
But as editor-in-chief of No-
ticias and Domingo, Mozambi-
que’s two major newspapers, he
is at the forefront of a revo-
lution slowly crafting a free and
independent press for a country
long used to State-controlled
papers.
Ironically, the latest incre-
ment in this slow revolution has
been the nationalisation of the
company controlling Mr Fadu-
co’s papers.
Abandoned by its owners at
independence in 1975, the com-
pany has had to be nationalised
to rationalise ownership before
privatisation.
“Now the government plans
to relinquish control is debat-
able. While at the moment Noti-
cias is not the voice of the gov-
ernment, it is very close to the
government,” Mr Faduco says.
“But the final decision on
whether to print or not rests
entirely with me, not the De-
partment of Information.”
The press revolution has
come about in the wake of
political reforms towards a
multiparty democracy. Free-
dom of the press is guaranteed
in the new reformist constitu-
tion, and laws have recently
been promulgated giving sub-
stance to that guarantee.
This year the country’s first
independent paper, Econo,
a financial weekly, was estab-
ilished, and more are thought to
be in the pipeline.
Like all editors of Noticias
since 1975, Mr Faduco was ap-
pointed by the Frelimo govern-
ment, but speaking before the
recent nationalisation move, he
expressed the hope that the
paper would soon be independ-
ent and “move even further
away from both government
and party.”
Freedom has brought in its
wake both problems and oppor-
tunities.
“A problem is that because of
the nature of the press in the
past, we have few experienced
journalists. The changes mean
staff members are more enthu-
siastic, but training is a prob-
lem.”
Mr Faduco has also been at
the forefront of other major
changes, introducing cash bon-
uses of up to a month’s salary
for the “story of the month” and
rewarding productive reporters
with motorbikes.
The political and economic
reforms have allowed Noticias
to increase its advertising vo-
lume dramatically, making the
paper financially independent,
except for a government sub-
sidy on newsprint.
For the first time since
independence, Mozambicans
have been able to read reports
critical of the government, in-
cluding exposés of corruption
in high places.
But Mr Faduco cautions that
“the new freedom means
papers can now print anything
... but have to be responsible
for what they print.”
NAIROBI - Eleven months after a partial ceasefire was signed in Mozambique's 15-year civil war, the rebel movement's chief has ordered a halt to military operations in a southern region.

State television said late on Monday Mozambique National Resistance leader Afonso Dhlakama, currently in Kenya, had ordered the halt along the Limpopo river corridor in line with a ceasefire signed last December.

The corridor forms an important rail and road trade link between the capital Maputo and landlocked neighbouring Zimbabwe.

Another vital corridor runs from the Mozambican port of Beira.

Renamo's stronghold is in Mozambique's central region but its forces have conducted guerrilla operations over most of the rest of the country, sabotaging installations.

A new round of peace talks between the warring sides, the eighth in 18 months, began in Rome on October 7 with Italy and Catholic churchmen mediating.

The European Community appealed this month for Renamo to lay down arms and the same message was expected to come from US Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, Mr Herman Cohen, in a meeting with Dhlakama scheduled for later this month.

But Kenya's television, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said Dhlakama's announcement on the Limpopo was made as a result of Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi's mediation.

Kenya has played a central role in bringing Renamo to peace negotiations with the Maputo government and the two factions have often used Nairobi as a meeting place.

But Kenya has also been widely accused of giving military aid to Renamo.

- Sepa-Reuters
Renamo opt for peace

ROME: Mozambique's government has agreed with Renamo to a set of mutual guarantees as a basis for negotiating an end to the 13-year war that has claimed a million lives.

The Italian Foreign Ministry said the protocol was a crucial turning-point in negotiations which have dragged on for 18 months.

The accord was based on a trade-off in which Renamo recognised the authority of the government and promised it would cease guerrilla attacks and act as a political opposition within the existing framework.

ROW over Soviet gold reserves

MOSCOW: Former prime minister Nikolai Ryzhkov, who retired in January, has denied he oversaw a massive sell-off of Soviet gold reserves, adding tight government controls prevented unauthorised sales.

In a newspaper interview yesterday, Ryzhkov said the Kremlin ordered the sale of 250 tons of gold in 1990, far less than his critics have charged.

He said mandatory permission from President Mikhail Gorbachev made illicit sales by Communist Party officials or others virtually impossible. "On January 1, 1990, gold reserves were at 347 tons," Ryzhkov said. "By January of 1990 that figure had reached 344 tons. In 1990 it was decided to sell 250 tons."

Leading economist Grigory Yavilinsky, at the IMF meeting in Bangkok earlier this week, put Soviet gold reserves at 240 tons, with a further 150 tons being used as collateral abroad in swap arrangements. The West had previously estimated Soviet holdings at between 1,500 and 3,000 tons.
Maputo, rebels in accord

ROMA — Mozambique's government has agreed with rebels to a set of mutual guarantees as a basis for negotiating an end to a 15-year war that has claimed a million lives, Italy said yesterday.

The accord signed on Friday night was based on a trade-off in which the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) recognised the authority of the government it has been fighting since 1977.

The rebel movement promised it would cease guerrilla attacks and act as a political opposition within the existing framework.

In exchange, the government pledged it would not legislate on any of the points under negotiation in Rome until elections have decided who should rule Mozambique — Sapes-Reuter.
Hurd, Chissano talk peace

MAPUTO — British Foreign Secretary Mr. Douglas Hurd left Mozambique yesterday after a 24-hour visit, during which he had talks with President Joaquim Chissano on efforts to end the country's 15-year civil war.

Mr. Hurd said he and Mr. Chissano had discussed ways of consolidating the preliminary agreement reached in Rome on Friday between Mozambique government representatives and the rebel Renamo movement. The accord provides for a ceasefire and eventual elections. — Sapa-Reuters
Freed Bop striker is ‘in high spirits’

THE Garankuwa branch of the African National Congress Women’s League has placed former Bophuthatswana hunger striker Mr Johannes Simelane under guard at the Garankuwa Hospital.

Miss Gwen Mahlangu, chairman of the Women’s League, said the decision to post ANC marshals at the hospital was taken to ensure Simelane’s safety.

Simelane, who was imprisoned for his part in the abortive 1988 coup in Bophuthatswana, was in high spirits when Sowetan visited him yesterday.

He was released from the Otji Hospital and transferred to Garankuwa Hospital on Saturday after being on hunger strike for 61 days.

Speaking from his hospital bed, Simelane said he did not regret going on the hunger strike.

He said he would not rest until Bophuthatswana had been reincorporated into South Africa.

He warned: “There are a number of missions I have to carry out to bring an end to the homeland system.”

“I wish newspapers would do me a favour by informing (President Lucas) Mangope that I will be back. I swear by my gods that he will be stripped of all the powers that enable him to harass and intimidate our people.”

Seven gunned down in Ogies

POLICE have confirmed seven people were shot dead and two wounded at Phola near Ogies, east of Johannesburg, at the weekend.

Police spokesman Captain Cornelius Gouws said a group of about 20 men were believed to be responsible for the killings.

Police had launched a massive manhunt for the killers, Gouws said.

SABC radio news reported that the two wounded men were in a serious condition at the Witbank Hospital.

Police said violence in the township broke out on Friday night when two men were shot dead.

Three men and a woman were gunned down on Saturday, while another body with bullet wounds was found yesterday - Sapa.

Namibia’s first census

NAMIBIA’s first population and housing census begins next week when more than 3000 people begin covering the 27 districts into which the newly-independent country has been divided - Sapa.
Mozambican aid

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, on a side trip from the Commonwealth summit in Harare, had talks with Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano at the weekend. Mr Hurd said talks focused on British aid for Mozambique. Britain is Mozambique's most important Western military partner.
Agreement

MAPUTO - THE Mozambican government and Renamo are close to signing a document recognising each other's political status that could be the precursor of a peace agreement. The government has agreed to refrain from making new laws that might go against the spirit of any Rome agreement.
Cahora Bassa to be revived

A R260m project to rehabilitate the dormant Cahora Bassa power scheme is planned for early next year following an undertaking by Mozambique’s Renamo rebel government to make the project possible. More than 1500 transmission towers were damaged during the fighting in Mozambique, bringing the Cahora Bassa scheme to a standstill.

McRae, outgoing chairman of the permanent joint committee on the Cahora Bassa scheme, said the Italian government had granted a R177m loan and the SA Merchant Bank would provide a further R165m. The World Bank had undertaken to underwrite the outstanding amount of about R120m if no other financing could be found.

An agreement had been reached with Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama whereby the rebel group had undertaken not to sabotage the power lines and to assist with the rehabilitation wherever possible. More

Cahora Bassa

The reason we agreed to this is we have a surplus generating capacity in SA at the moment,” said McRae. He expected the surplus to last until the turn of the decade, after which SA would probably take up the 500MW allocated to Zimbabwe in terms of the deal, giving SA access to a total of 800MW from the scheme.

The R260m would effectively cover the rebuilding of power lines, transmission towers and other hardware on the Mozambican side of the border.

It was hoped work could begin in April, with a target of three years for the scheme to become fully operational once again.
Eskom to Risk Millions on Cahora Bassa Power Project

By Ken Vernon

Sta.24/10/9 (c)
Out in search of friends at court

Hilary Anderson Reports on the Renamo/Pembapea peace struggle
Peace talks in danger again

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO. — The peace talks between the Mozambican government and the Renamo rebels are again deadlocked.

The two sides failed to reach agreement on the principles to be used in establishing multi-party politics in the country.

According to the official Mozambican news agency, Aim, the prospects for any chance of reaching agreement on substantial matters during the current round of talks now look grim.

Renamo wants the debate on the legitimacy of the Mozambican state and its institutions reopened, a debate which the government believed had been closed with the signing of the October 16 protocol.

That document was believed to have committed Renamo, once a ceasefire was achieved, to abandon violence and to wage a political struggle in the framework of the existing Mozambican institutions, and to obey existing laws.

Renamo also appears to be unhappy with the role of the mediators, the Italian government and the Catholic Church, and wants Portugal, Mozambique's former colonial power, to be involved in the talks.
SA farmers join in Mozambican land rush

Most of the bids have come from South Africans already farming in Natal. They are hoping to follow the success of Zimbabwean farmers who have acquired large areas of land along the 230 km Beira Corridor.

News of the new land rush in southern Africa comes from the fortnightly information bulletin, Africa Analysis, which reports the development on the front page of its latest edition.

Africa Analysis says there has been a flood of applications for land acquisition permits, especially along the Rossano Garcia-Moamba route.

It quotes a Mozambican Agriculture Ministry spokesman as saying more than 2,500 applications have been received from South Africans in the past few months.

Such has been the rush to move in and the government's readiness to agree to the influx that local farmers are protesting against, the favourable treatment given to outsiders. Of the 30 applications filed by local farmers, only 10 have met the criteria for land titles.

Africa Analysis reports that the government is also supporting original property ownership claims dating back to the period before Mozambique became a Marxist-Leninist state.
Mozambique seeks SA market for gas

HARARE — Mozambique was looking to SA as an export market for its natural gas. Mozambican Mineral Resources Minister John Kachamila said yesterday, "Mozambique is very interested in exporting natural gas and we look for the main market in SA," he said.

Industry sources said SA wanted the gas as feedstock for fertilizer production. Kachamila said his government hoped to start production of natural gas next year for local use, supplying a power station at Vilanculos, 125km south of the onshore gas field at Pande on the southern coast. Earlier, Kachamila told a southern Africa metals and steel conference that drilling in the Pande area had confirmed natural gas reserves of 40-billion m³. The gas was dry with 98% methane and free of sulphur, he said.

Drilling had stopped at 1 500m and the gas potential could be much greater as deeper wells were drilled, he said.

Pande, discovered by Gulf Oil in 1961, is one of the world's biggest gas fields — Sapa-Reuters
PRETORIA. — Foreign
Minister Mr Pik Botha
last night confirmed that
he and President F W de
Klerk held meetings
with the leader of Ren-
amo in Nairobi, Kenya,
earlier this year.

In a statement Mr
Botha said the meeting
with the Mozambique
Renamo movement
leader, Mr Afonso Dhla-
kama, took place during
the president's visit to
Kenya in June.

The meeting was part
of South Africa's efforts
to procure a ceasefire in
Mozambique and to fa-
cilitate the process of
reconciliation in that
country, he said.

Peace drive

Mr Botha said there
had been additional
meetings with Mr Dhla-
kama and other South
African government rep-
resentatives.

All these meetings
took place with the full
knowledge of Mozambi-
can President Joaquin
Chissano, and were con-
ducted as part of the
overall effort to achieve
a peaceful settlement in
Mozambique.

According to an earli-
er Johannesburg news-
paper report, Mr De
Klerk had questioned
Mr Dhlakama during the
meeting about allega-
tions that Renamo was
acquiring arms from
South African syndi-
cates. These allegations
were denied; the report
said. — Sapa

● UK pilot dies in Moz
cash — Page 2
DORBYL LIFTS EARNINGS 6%
HARARE — Coal and gold are the priority minerals for the Mozambican government as it seeks to create a mining industry virtually for the first time in the country's history.

Mineral Resources Minister John Kachumula said the government and exploration companies had invested about $100 million in the past 10 years in surveys of the mineral resources of the vast country.

Virtually no investment under Portuguese colonial rule and a civil war that has devastated the country since independence in 1975 has left these resources untapped.

“Our priorities are gold production — we know there is big potential for gold — and coal,” he said in an interview.

Mozambique was richly endowed with other minerals, but coal and gold offered faster returns for one of the world's poorest countries.

Mozambique also planned to develop a vast natural gas field with exports targeted at South Africa.

Minerals this year would represent less than two percent of Mozambique's $170 million in overall exports.

A decision had been made at a meeting in Maputo last week to go ahead with a $40 million feasibility study to develop the giant Moatize coalfield in central Mozambique, with an overall estimated cost of $1.5 billion.

Gencor interest

An initial feasibility study had already been undertaken by CVRD of Brazil. Gencor's Trans-Natal and the Mozambican government.

Mr Kachumula earlier told a Southern African metals and steel conference organised by London-based Metal Bulletin that participants in the project were looking both at rehabilitating a rail line to the Indian Ocean port of Beira and barges on the Zambezi river to haul the coal for export.

He estimated the cost of rail rehabilitation at $400 million and of developing Beira port at $150 million.

“We hope the project can be funded through aid and soft loans plus the participating companies,” he said.

Mozambique had a number of coal basins and overall potential reserves could be as high as 10 billion tons of coking and steam coal.

The London-based Lonrho company in October last year started the first gold mine in many years in Manica province, just across the border from a gold-rich area of Zimbabwe.

The minister said there were a number of other potential gold areas that needed to be explored.

The government had made great efforts in recent years to collect geological data through airborne surveys and regional geochemical and geological field surveys.

Rare metals

Today the country has a large volume of geological data, which should be followed up.

Despite meagre information, substantial deposits of minerals were known, including gold, copper, asbestos, bauxite, talc, rare metals and rare earths, chromium, cobalt, platinum, manganese and iron ore.

“Mozambique is probably one of the most poorly explored countries in Africa which has resulted in a very underdeveloped mining sector,” Mr Kachumula said. — Sapa-Reuters
SA-Maputo train mined

MAPUTO - A goods train travelling from South Africa to Maputo hit a mine placed on the tracks and burst into flames, according to Mozambican authorities.

A spokesman for Mozambique Railways southern division told the daily newspaper, Noticias, the ambush took place about four kilometres from the border town of Ressano Garcia on Monday. The train was carrying a cargo of coal.

All crew members escaped unharmed, but the damage to the train is said to be severe. It was still burning by nightfall.

The railways spokesman could not speculate about who had laid the mines, but it is believed to be the work of Renamo, which has frequently ambushed trains along the Maputo-South Africa line.

Meanwhile, military authorities claim to have killed nine members of a Renamo gang who attacked a convoy last Friday in Tete province.

The convoy, consisting of 170 trucks, mainly from South Africa, Zimbabwe and Malawi was travelling along the Tete corridor, the road linking Zimbabwe to Malawi that runs through the province.

In the ambush the raiders killed two Mozambican soldiers, and wounded six civilians, including a Zimbabwean driver.

In June this year Renamo leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama pledged that trucks using the Tete corridor would not be attacked, in accordance with an agreement signed in Rome last December.

Until December last year, convoys in the corridor were defended by units of the Zimbabwe national army, but under the Rome agreement all the Zimbabweans were withdrawn from Tete.

The authorities have also announced that the death toll in Saturday's raid against the Maputo suburb of Zona Verde has risen from seven to 11. Four more people died in hospital.

A band of unidentified armed men surrounded a group of local residents who were enjoying themselves at stalls selling food and drink. The raiders opened fire indiscriminately, and then looted the stalls.

The owner of one of the stalls said he could not understand how raiders could attack with impunity "because just 300 metres away there are barracks which under normal circumstances should have responded to the raid". - Sowetan Africa News Service
MAPUTO - Eight people were killed when rightwing Renamo rebels attacked a northern suburb of the Mozambican capital.

According to residents, the attack on Infulene was the closest to Maputo's commercial centre since rebels from Renamo - the Mozambique National Resistance - began raiding the city's northern outskirts about six months ago.

Infulene is only about 10km from central Maputo.

Dozens of people fled their homes in Wednesday's attack.

"My husband and I and our child escaped out of the back door when we heard the Matsangas (the local nickname for Renamo) at the front," housewife Mrs Raquel Mbanze told Reuters.

Like many other Infulene residents, the Mbanze family spent the night with friends closer to the city centre.

Residents said that because it was dark it was hard to tell how many rebels took part in the attack, but one witness estimated there were between 80 and 90.

Police arrived and fired shots at the raiders, residents said, but there were no immediate reports of Renamo casualties.

Renamo raids around Maputo and Beira, the country's second city, have this year coincided with progress at peace talks between the government and Renamo in Rome.

Two protocols of a ceasefire accord aimed at ending the 15-year-old war have already been signed and the two sides are due to meet again on December 10. - Sapa-Reuter.
SA farmers rush for Mozambique land

ALAN ROBINSON in LONDON

SOUTH African farmers are rushing to take up rich, fertile tracts of land in Mozambique following the lifting of rigid state control.

Already more than 18 000 hectares in the Moamba region have been made available to South African farmers and applications for a further 5 000 hectares in the Sable region are awaiting government approval.

Most of the bids have come from South Africans already farming in Natal. They are hoping to follow the success of Zimbabwean farmers who have acquired large areas of land along the 200 km Beira corridor.

News of the new land rush in southern Africa comes from the influential fortnightly information bulletin Africa Analysis. It reports the development on the front page of its latest edition.

Africa Analysis says there has been "a flood" of applications for "land attribution permits", especially along the Resano Garcia-Moambo route.

It quotes a Mozambican agricultural ministry spokesman as saying more than 2 500 applications have been received from South Africans in the past few months.

Such has been the rush to move in and the government's readiness to agree to the influx, that local farmers are protesting against the favourable treatment given to outsiders. Of the 80 applications filed by local farmers, only 10 have met the criteria for land titles.
FW, Pik ‘held talks with Renamo leader in Kenya’

Star Africa Service

President de Klerk and Foreign Minister Pik Botha secretly met Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the Mozambican rebel movement Renamo, in Kenya on June 8, according to knowledgeable sources.

The sources said the meeting was held in Nairobi during Mr de Klerk’s visit to Kenya for talks with President Daniel arap Moi.

Issues related to Mozambique are said to have been discussed by Mr de Klerk and Mr Moi.

Settlement

According to the sources, Mr de Klerk asked Mr Dhlakama whether allegations that Renamo was acquiring arms from South African syndicates were true. The Renamo leader denied that his organisation had any such contact with South Africa.

During the meeting Mr de Klerk ‘asked about SA arms syndicates’. Klerk is said to have urged Mr Dhlakama to speed up efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Mozambican conflict.

Other senior Renamo officials, including Raul Domingos, Renamo’s spokesman for external affairs, and a key player in the current Mozambican peace talks in Rome, were present at the meeting in Kenya, the sources said.

In addition to the reported meeting between Mr de Klerk and Mr Dhlakama, there is understood to have been at least one other instance of official South African contact with the rebels in recent years.

That took place in June 1989 in order to co-ordinate the release of the Muller family who had been taken hostage after running their yacht aground on the Mozambican coast. Sandy Muller was a personal friend of President de Klerk’s wife.

Eskom have had discussions with Renamo in connection with efforts to persuade the rebels to stop attacking the power line from the Cahora Bassa dam to South Africa and thus enable the hydro-electric scheme to become operative.

Support

Before the meeting in Nairobi in June, the last known direct high-level South African contact with the rebels took place during the Pretoria Declaration talks in 1984, in which Pik Botha attempted to broker peace between Renamo and Frelimo.

SADF links with the rebels, which included logistical support, continued for some time after the 1984 Nikomati Accord. Allegations that these contacts have persisted have continued despite SADF denials.

Efforts to obtain comment from Mr de Klerk’s and Mr Botha’s offices on the reported meeting with Mr Dhlakama were unsuccessful yesterday.
MOZAMIBUE - GENERAL

1991 DEC
What they’re talking about in Gaborone

A NYONE with experience of the Batswana would agree that they are eminently peaceable people to whom violence is foreign. They do not become embroiled in faction fights as do the Zulus of the Manga area. They do not get caught up in tribal conflicts as in the South African hostels. And the rate of murder, rape and assault in Gaborone is only a tiny fraction of what it is in Soweto.

All of which makes it a mystery why Botswana’s Cabinet Ministers should be acquiring the reputation of being prone to engage in fistfights with one another. It may be completely unjustified and the stories going around Gaborone may be entirely untrue. But they are going around.

On the rumour market of Gaborone you can hear all about how two Cabinet Ministers began throwing punches at one another outside the House of Chiefs, which is next to the National Assembly. No punches were thrown this time, it is said, but for a while it looked as if they would be.

It is all very difficult to explain. Could it be that in the absence of any real violence and of a TV substitute like Dallas, the Batswana are turning to inventing stories about their Cabinet Ministers?

IN Mozambique a young man who goes out in the morning to buy a pack of cigarettes could find himself in the army before sundown. Faced with a marked reluctance by the country’s youths to do their military service, the army has turned to press-ganging just as British naval vessels in the days of sail used to send out gangs to seize able-bodied men for service at sea when they were short of crew.

It seems that the vast majority of Mozambican youngsters are reluctant to serve in the army in the seemingly endless civil war against the Renamo rebels, especially as the two-year period of national service tends to become arbitrarily extended, sometimes for up to 10 years.

So dismal was the response to call-ups that orders were issued for all draft dodgers to be rounded up. But the army apparently found it easier to simply grab the first available youths. Newspapers have carried accounts of groups of young men being seen shoeless, shirtless and roped together after being seized by army press-gang.

Students and even teachers are reported to have been dragged out of classrooms and put, shaven-headed, into uniform. Youngsters have been picked up in the streets of Maputo, put on aircraft and flown off to join the army without any medical examination or questions about their status or chance to say goodbye to their families.

The military command has refused to say how many “draft dodgers” have been picked up. Declaring the figures a “military secret”, it has tried to play down the press-ganging furor and has denied reports that some of the press-ganged youths were transported or locked up in shipping containers, where some suffocated.

Government officials have condemned the press-ganging as illegal. But it seems to be continuing.

So just who is in charge? 

...
Maputo to sell off state-owned concerns

MAPUTO — Mozambique has announced plans to privatise large state-owned companies, two days before a crucial meeting with a group of world aid donors.

Finance Minister Eneas Comiche, who begins talks in Paris today with a World Bank consultative group on Mozambique, said government would soon issue a list of state companies to be sold in 1992.

The consultative group plays a key role in determining aid levels to Mozambique and monitors the World Bank-supported structural adjustment programme which has been transforming the formerly centrally planned economy since 1987.

About 120 small and medium-sized companies have been sold to Mozambican businessmen since 1986 and the new regulations would apply only to larger companies, the minister was quoted by the official Mozambique News Agency as saying.

"Those that provide basic goods and services or undertake strategic activities are to remain in state hands," he added.

He said next year he hoped to double this year's $22m of foreign investment on the balance of payments. — Sapa-Reuters
Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO. — The leader of a Mozambican independent militia, who claimed supernatural powers, has died in a clash with Renamo in the central province of Zambezia, according to authorities here.

Mr Manuel Antonio, a charismatic 29-year-old, founded a militia known as the “Napramas” or “Baramas” who have proved highly effective in the struggle against Renamo in Zambezia and parts of Nampula province.

Even government soldiers were not allowed to bear arms in his territory.

Radio Mozambique said Mr Antonio died last week when he was leading a Barama group against Renamo at a coconut plantation in the coastal town of Macusa.

Nine other Napramas died and militia sources claim 25 Renamo rebels were also killed. Mr Antonio’s body was taken to Ncodoala, the Baramas’ command post, where it was buried. It was riddled with bullet and bayonet wounds, the radio said.

The Baramas have been operating in the area for two years.

They are organised as a secret society, and each member is initiated through secretive rituals which include “vaccination” with a substance called “Barama”. Hence the group’s name.

The identity or origin of this substance is unknown and so Barama is willing to give details of the initiation ceremonies.

Since they believe that they cannot be killed by bullets, the Baramas behave with great bravery in battle, even though they are armed, not with firearms, but with traditional weapons such as spears and bows and arrows.

Initially the Baramas had a devastating effect on Renamo. Since they operated on the same ideological terrain as Renamo, using elements of traditional religion that were familiar to Renamo commanders, the rebels believed these claims of invulnerability, and fled whenever the militia appeared.

The Frelimo army admits that the Baramas played an important role in liberating much of Upper Zambezia from Renamo control.

But Renamo now seems to have overcome its fear of the Baramas, and the death of Manuel Antonio himself may prove a fatal blow for the militia.
Frelimo’s thumbs up for rights

MAPUTO - The Mozambican parliament yesterday unanimously voted to ratify the international covenant on civil and political rights adopted by the United Nations General Assembly almost 30 years ago.

The convention establishes that no one shall be submitted to torture or other forms of cruel and inhuman treatment, and that all people deprived of their liberty must be treated in a humane manner.

The convention outlaws slavery and forced labour, and declares that no one may be imprisoned other than in terms of the law, and that any one imprisoned illegally has the right to compensation. It also guarantees that an accused shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty.

Parliament also began discussing a Bill relating to the granting of refugee status and political asylum.

Based largely on the OAU’s convention on refugees, the Bill states that anyone who has left his or her home country for fear of persecution on the grounds of race, religion, nationality, or political beliefs may be considered a refugee.
Leader's death a blow to Baramas

AFRICA NEWS SERVICE

MAPUTO — The leader of a Mozambican independent militia, who claimed supernatural powers, has died in a clash with Renamo in the central province of Zambezia, according to authorities here.

Manuel Antonio, a charismatic 29-year-old, founded a militia known as the N Bramas or Baramas, who proved highly effective in the struggle against Renamo in Zambezia and parts of Nampula province.

Even government soldiers were not allowed to bear arms in territory "liberated" by the N Bramas.

Radio Mosambique said Mr Antonio died on Thursday last week when he was leading a N Brama group against Renamo at a coconut plantation in the coastal town of Macuca.

Nine other N Bramas died and militia sources claim 25 Renamo rebels were also killed. Mr Antonio's body was taken to Nico Sadala, the Baramas' command post, where it was buried. It was riddled with bullet and bayonet wounds, the radio said.

The Baramas have been operating in the area for the past two years. They are organized as a secret society, and each member is initiated through secretive rituals which include "vaccination" with a substance called "barama", hence the group's name.

The identity or origin of this substance is unknown and no Barama is willing to give details of the initiation ceremonies.

Since they believe they cannot be killed by bullets, the Baramas behave with great bravery in battle, even though they are armed, not with firearms, but with traditional weapons such as spears and bows and arrows.

Initially the Baramas had a devastating effect on Renamo. Since they operated on the same ideological terrain as Renamo, using elements of traditional religion that were familiar to Renamo commanders, the rebels believed these claims of invulnerability, and fled whenever the militia appeared.

The Frentamo army admits that the Baramas played an important role in liberating much of Upper Zambezia from Renamo control.

But Renamo now seems to have overcome its fear of the Baramas, and the death of Mr Antonio may prove a fatal blow for the militia.
MAPUTO — The Mozambican parliament has refused to pass a Bill, thereby temporarily frustrating government attempts to sell off the state housing stock. After complaints from many MPs that the Bill was poorly drafted, did not safeguard tenants' rights and would provoke social conflict, it was withdrawn and submitted to the legal and social affairs committee for review.

The Bill deals with State-owned houses built of flimsy materials such as reed, timber and zinc.

When rented housing was nationalised in 1976, not only did apartment blocks owned by settler landlords fall under state control, but so did many flimsy dwellings in the suburbs which western observers might regard as slums.

The 1976 decree abolished landlordism altogether. The Bill thrown out by parliamentarians intends to return the reed houses to their former owners. It would have allowed any owner of a nationalised house constructed of such material to reclaim his property within 360 days of the Bill becoming law.
Clean, fresh water for those across border

By Clyde Johnson
Lowveld Bureau

MALELANE — Ressano Garcia, the Mozambican border town regularly attacked by Renamo in recent months, is to get a R100,000 Christmas present from the TSB Sugar mill in Malelane.

A fully reconditioned electric pump and purification plant will allow about 7,000 residents and 5,000 refugees to have clean drinking water for the first time in a year.

Their only water supply has been the Nkomati River from which townsfolk have been carting water to their homes in buckets.

The new pump will also help overcome serious sewerage, medical and health problems experienced during the past 12 months.

Tony da Sousa Naves, formerly of Ressano Garcia, brought the residents' plight to the attention of TSB agricultural engineer Piet Steyn, and the company agreed to repair the equipment after a meeting with the town council last week.

Work on the pump station will start early next year.
Mozambican talks

ROME — Mozambican peace talks were to resume in Rome today amid new hopes that the end of the country’s civil war was in sight, a mediator said yesterday. However, he played down hopes of a Christmas ceasefire.

Mercury goes to No 1

LONDON — Rock star Freddie Mercury, lead singer of the group Queen, made British pop history on Sunday with a chart-topping single. Bohemian Rhapsody, three weeks after he died of AIDS. Queen’s 1975 hit was re-released as a tribute to Mercury and shot to number one. Proceeds will go to AIDS research.

24 A
Letters

[Image 0x0 to 1792x2422]

SIMON BARBER in Washington

out of the mire
help Mozambique Handouts will not

INTENSIFIED.
RENAMO rebels in Mozambique have destroyed more than 54 percent of the country's primary schools, depriving more than 600,000 children of an education, says President Joaquim Chissano.

Opening a conference on children in Maputo at the weekend, Chissano said at independence in 1975, only 692,000 children attended school.

By 1979 this figure had risen to 1.5 million. But the following year, due to the war, the numbers in schools dropped.

He urged organisations to help "street children". 

Sources: News Service
Mozambique will receive foreign aid

MAPUTO — Western donor nations and organisations pledged $1.125 million (about R3.1 billion) for Mozambique at a three-day meeting of the World Bank’s consultative group on Mozambique in Paris last week.

The World Bank said the amount met the full external financing requirements for 1992 for Mozambique’s World Bank and IMF supported structural adjustment programme.

But the World Bank added that “participants had indicated that there had been serious deficiencies in the handling of emergency food aid in the past, and expressed concern that it was not reaching the intended beneficiaries”.

Participants also indicated that “improved accounting for use of foreign assistance would enable donors to provide funds in a more flexible manner”.

The meeting also emphasised that it was imperative that a peace agreement between the Frelimo government and Renamo was reached as soon as possible.
No money for water.

MAPUTO — The city of Chimoio, the capital of Manica province, has been without water since Tuesday last week. The local water company cannot supply clean drinking water because it does not have money to buy chemicals needed by the treatment plant. The company says the financial crisis was caused by the failure of major consumers to pay their debts. Residents with wells or boreholes are now selling water to other residents at inflated prices. — Stal-Africa Service
Private health care in Maputo

MAPUTO — Doctors and other health professionals are now free to open private practices in Mozambique following the passing of a new law by the country's parliament. Despite serious misgivings expressed by some MPs, the vote allowing private practice, outlawed in 1975, was unanimous. It allows Mozambicans or foreigners to set up private health units. — Africa News Service
MOZAMBIQUE, once one of Moscow’s closest allies in Africa, has recognized the independence of republics which made up the Soviet Union.

The Mozambique News Agency yesterday quoted a government statement saying Maputo wanted to establish diplomatic relations with Russia, the 10 other republics which have joined it in the new Commonwealth of Independent States, and Georgia, which has not yet joined.

The government wants to set up diplomatic relations with Russia immediately, likely to be a formality, since the Soviet embassy in Maputo is now Russian.

On Friday the Mozambican Foreign Minister, Mr. Pascoal Mocumbi, met the former Soviet ambassador, Mr. Vladimir Korchev, who said he was now representing Russia.
Premier warns Maputo over import duty claim

MAPUTO — A South African company, Premier International, whose Maputo warehouses have been closed by the Mozambican customs authorities, has warned that the action may threaten future investment in Mozambique by South African companies.

Premier holds a contract with a Portuguese company, FNAC, which runs duty-free shops in Mozambique, where purchases are made in foreign currency.

This contract allowed Premier to sell goods wholesale, for foreign currency, from its warehouse near Maputo port.

But customs officials, who are waging a war against tax evasion, say that Premier is not exempt from import duty.

On December 10 customs sealed the customs warehouses, saying they could be reopened only once import duty had been paid on existing stocks.

In a full-page statement in the Sunday newspaper Domangue, Premier said it had merely acted in accordance with the terms of its contract. It said many of the goods in the warehouse had already been sold and were waiting for clients to collect them.

The statement said Premier chairman, Albert Nelsen, visited Maputo last week to try to reach a just solution that would respect existing contractual undertakings. The visit had so far produced no result.

Mr Nelsen said the non-recognition of existing legal commitments would cause difficulties for future investments by Premier in Mozambique and could affect investment policies of other South African companies towards Mozambique.
MOZAMBIQUE - GENERAL

1992

NOV - DEC
IFP denies deal with Renamo

By Mathatha Tsedu and Ruth Bhengu

THE INKATHA Freedom Party yesterday denied that a white man was smuggling arms for the organisation.

Mr Bruce Anderson, who represented the IFP at Codessa until he was deported to Britain in July, said in a newspaper report yesterday that guns and explosives had been smuggled from Mozambique's rebel movement Renamo to the IFP for use in political killings.

The IFP has asked the Goldstone Commission to ask Anderson to give evidence before it.

National IFP chairman Dr Frank Mdlalose described the claims as a "pack of lies".

IFP spokeswoman Ms Suzanne Vos also denied that the organisation ever had any dealings with Renamo or had its own army.

"The IFP emphatically denies that it has ever bought arms or acquired arms in the way Mr Anderson said it has, or in any other way," she said.


**next Talkback topic**

The Sowetan/Radio Metro Talkback Show opens the lines tonight for you to raise any topic of your choice.

Dial the hotline (011) 714-8063
WORLD

Renamo threatens to cause bloodbath

MAPUTO — The Mozambique rebel movement Renamo threatened a "bloodbath" should the government try to recapture two towns, and a UN envoy warned that any further fighting would jeopardise the international support that Mozambique needed for its reconstruction.

A UN special representative, Aldo Ajello, spoke on Sunday night after Renamo warned of "a bloodbath" should government troops attempt to retake the towns of Lagonha and Maganje da Costa in the central province of Zambézia.

The two towns fell to Renamo in an offensive in mid-October in violation of a ceasefire agreement reached in Rome on October 4. Two other towns, Angoche and Mamba, were retaken by the army in fierce fighting later in the month.

Renamo claimed that troops were preparing counterattacks against Lagonha and Maganje da Costa. It threatened retaliation in Zambézia and elsewhere "where Frelimo is to be found".

It said in a statement, signed by Renamo's organisation department head Raul Domingos, that "in case Frelimo decides to go ahead with this belligerent action, there could be a bloodbath".

Ajello warned that "any new violations of the ceasefire would have a devastating effect on the participation of the international community in the peace and reconstruction process".

He said that both sides had informed him of troop movements which "could signal new attacks or counter-attacks", in breach of the ceasefire.

He pointed out that the rise in tension came just days before the UN Security Council was to approve a UN peacekeeping mission and two weeks before a donors' conference was to meet in Rome to pledge funds for the demobilisation of troops on both sides, the repatriation and resettlement of refugees and displaced people, and for next year's elections.

For the past week, Ajello has been chairing meetings between Renamo and the government to set up monitoring mechanisms in terms of the Rome peace accord.

Renamo has made participation in these mechanisms conditional on receiving luxury housing in the capital for its representatives. The government has promised to make six houses available for high-level Renamo figures, and Renamo has promised to end its boycott of the accommodation meets its requirements.

Ajello planned to announce the composition of the monitoring commissions today and to chair the first meeting at the ceasefire commission tomorrow — Sapa-AFP.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS  Rebels slam Zimbabwe

Renamo pulls out of central town

MAPUTO - Rebel Mozambican forces have withdrawn from a town in central Mozambique they have occupied since October 17, Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama has announced.

Dhlakama, in an interview with the Mozambican news agency AIM, also warned that Renamo was considering holding up implementation of a peace accord worked out last month because of planned Zimbabwean participation.

Rebel units - in the face of an army counter attack - abandoned Maganja da Costa in Zambezia province late on Monday "to avoid further civilian deaths."

Renamo had seized the town in violation of a ceasefire with government forces.

Dhlakama accused the army of killing civilians in outlying villages rather than confronting the rebels. He justified Renamo's breaches of the ceasefire on the grounds that after the Mozambican peace agreement of October 4, government forces had occupied "more than 25 towns" that had previously been in Renamo hands.

Dhlakama did not name the towns and the armed forces have denied carrying out any offensive actions since the peace accord.

Renamo in a mid-October operation occupied four northern and central towns, but only one - Lugela - still remains under rebel control.

Dhlakama also told AIM that Renamo is considering delaying establishment of monitoring commissions that should be established under terms of the peace agreement because it objects to a government proposal to invite Zimbabwe to take part.

The commissions, to be chaired by the United Nations, should consist of representatives from other countries, to be decided by consensus.

Dhlakama insisted that the countries participating must be "neutral" and that Renamo therefore rejected Zimbabwe, which sent troops to fight against the rebels and to defend rail corridors linking Zimbabwe to Mozambican ports.

The Zimbabwean troops are being withdrawn, a process that should be completed by this month, Sapo-AFP.
RENAMO had withdrawn from a
town in central Mozambique it
had occupied since October 17,
Mozambican rebel leader Afonso
Dhlakama said yesterday (28).
It was considering holding up
implementation of a peace accord
worked out last month because it
objected to a government propos-
al to invite Zimbabwe to take part
in monitoring commissions. Zim-
babwe was not a neutral party,
Dhlakama said.
MAPUTO: South Africa and Zimbabwe, the two countries most directly interested and involved in the Mozambican peace process, have been excluded from the international joint commission set up to supervise implementation of the Rome accord.

The commission will consist of representatives from the Organisation of African Unity, Italy, France, Britain, the United States and Portugal.
SA and Harare kept out of talks on Mozambique

Argus Africa News Service (218)

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa and Zimbabwe, the countries most directly interested and involved in the Mozambican peace process, have been excluded from the international joint commission set up to supervise implementation of the Rome accord.

The commission will consist of representatives from the Organisation of African Unity, Italy, France, Britain, the United States and Portugal, with United Nations special representative Mr. Aldo Ajelli, an Italian, as chairman.

Renamo leader Mr. Afonso Dhlakama told the Mozambican news agency, Ar. that the Frelimo government had proposed that Zimbabwe and Kenya be included in the commission's membership.

Zimbabwe sent troops to fight with the Frelimo government's forces during the conflict and Kenya was one of Renamo's main backers.

Mr. Dhlakama said, however, that Renamo refused to accept Zimbabwe on the commission. The inevitable result was that both Kenya and Zimbabwe were excluded.

The five European countries were appointed because they helped to broker the peace accord signed in Rome last month and set on the commission that monitored the partial ceasefire in the Beira and Limpopo corridors that preceded the Rome pact.

The failure to appoint South Africa to the commission has surprised observers, given its close interest in Mozambique and Pretoria's active promotion of the peace effort.

South Africa is believed to have been willing to serve if asked but not to have sought nomination. Frelimo is thought to have wanted South Africa on the commission but informed speculation is that Renamo opposed it, having decided to distance itself from its former military backer in the new era of peace.
UN Zim troop request

HARARE - The United Nations has asked Zimbabwem to keep troops in Mozambique until February instead of withdrawing them this month under a ceasefire to end a 16-year civil war.

"We believe the government has agreed to the proposal and we expect a statement on this to be issued next week," a Zimbabwean government official said.

The government had no immediate comment on the request, which another official said had come from Aldo Ajello, the UN's special envoy to Mozambique.

Zimbabwe had said its 5,000 troops would be back home by November 15.
Arms cache on border

A large arms cache has been discovered at Lonhusha on the border between Swaziland and Mozambique. SAR reported on Wednesday that five men were discovered in joint raids by the police and the army.

He said 62 firearms and thousands of rounds of ammunition were found. Among them were AK-47 assault rifles, a light machine gun, an anti-tank missile and an assortment of shotguns.

Police believe the arms were from Mozambique and were destined for South Africa.

— Sapa, Sapa-AP and Sapa-Reuters
UN set to meet today over Moz peace treaty

MAPUTO — A United Nations-led commission was set to meet three weeks late today to shore up Mozambique’s fragile truce.

The peace treaty was to have started immediately after the government and the Renamo rebels signed the agreement in Rome on October 15.

But swearing-in of members was delayed until last Thursday when, at a brief meeting, the two sides traded allegations of ceasefire violations.

At today’s meeting the head of the UN military team, Lieutenant-Colonel Garish Sinha, will present “a working plan for investigating the violations”, a UN spokesman said. — Sapa-Reuters
Barefoot journey is a trek against hunger

By JENNIFER GRIFFIN

TATTERED women and children emerge from the surrounding bush in Macque to watch as sacks of food are loaded onto a Red Cross plane that will fly 100 km north into Renamo territory to deliver food to another drought-stricken and war-torn region of Mozambique.

The plane picks up food from a sandy airstrip in the southern village of Macque, which serves as a base for government troops. A camouflaged net is lowered so that Red Cross vehicles can unable bags of food back and forth to the plane.

From an old farm warehouse next to the government’s troop barracks, Christopher Wieser, a Red Cross aid worker, has also organised food distribution for people from villages up to 30 km away.

“We have to feed both sides,” said Wieser, whose organisation is the only one to deliver food to people in Renamo territory.

Most people from the sand as families, consisting mostly of barefoot women and children, walk back to their villages carrying 18 kg parcels of maize meal, beans, cooking oil, and soap.

Children mimic mothers who walk balancing the sacks of food on their heads. Little knees buckle from the weight of their bundles.

“Visually, they aren’t that bad off. We’re protective here, but they’ve become dependant on food aid. They think it’s normal for people to come and give them food,” said Wieser, as he counted the number of people in a family lined up to receive their monthly ration of food.

For the past 10 years the people of Macque and nearby Alto Chongwe have been receiving food aid from the government as well as humanitarian aid groups. During the 16-year civil war that has claimed over a million lives, civilians have had their farms raided by soldiers who stole all of their food and tools. Many have been forced to leave villages that were looted and burnt by both sides.

The recent cease-fire signed on October 4 in Rome will hopefully improve the lives of rural subsistence farmers in Mozambique.

But recent breaches in the peace accord combined with a second year of drought, the worst in a century, suggest that Mozambicans will have difficulties returning to their land and will remain dependent on foreign aid, which reached almost a billion dollars last year.

Since last year’s emergency food aid given to Mozambique by the international community has doubled. This year 400,000 tons of food will feed 3.1 million people, according to John Yala, director for World Vision in Mozambique, a Christian aid group.

“As we speak, stocks are very low, but in the next five weeks 160,000 tons will be coming in. Last year they got that over the entire year,” said Joe Kessler, head of Care, a US-based relief group which has co-ordinated the Mozambican government’s aid effort.

Red Cross workers in Macque sit in a smoky, open shelter where they hand out pieces of paper saying how much food each family is entitled to. Each person in the family receives an 18 kg ration and each family member must show up for the family to receive its food.

Sometimes the Red Cross runs out of food before everyone receives their ration, but none of the people waiting panic.

“They know there is enough food coming. We’ll probably run out today, but they know there will be more tomorrow,” said Wieser, who pays his employees food for work.

Dusty, barefoot people arrive and stand in line that snakes around the warehouse. A man with a stick stands in front to make sure that the distribution remains orderly. Waiting children play a game of cut and choose with him and laugh as he chases them off with his stick. Women with babies strapped to their backs step toward to receive their papers before collecting their food.

“Most men are in the army, in SA, or dead,” said Wieser, as he lit a cigarette.

Some men do accompany their families, but even then the women carry most of the food during the 8 km journey back to their village. Men wearing beaten leather shoes stand next to their waves and daughters, all of whom are barefoot.

A few old men stand with their hands crossed in front of them, wearing their Sunday best. Some wear wool cardigans and heavy long pants in the muddy heat, which reaches over 46 degrees Celsius in the shade.

Eight people step up to the table where Wieser is handing out numbers. Most of them are children.

“How are they going to carry the food? That’s over 150 kilos!” said Wieser, as he shook his head.

No one says thank you or even nods to acknowledge that they are receiving free food. Hundreds of people stream past the aid workers, collect their parcels and walk back to their villages in silence. A blind woman walking a cane puts a bulging bag of maize meal on her head.

“People don’t feel bad about taking food aid. They just accept it as a fact of life. They always have had the feeling the administration is responsible for them, that the Portuguese were the ones who brought them to this,” said Peter Knapp, who works for the Swiss Disaster Relief.

The combination of drought and war has left Mozambicans mostly rural subsistence farmers, unable to feed themselves.

“These people are ready to continue what they were doing before — farming. But the drought is pushing everyone into the cities," said Felice Dinse, head of the International Red Cross in Mozambique. “It’s useless to give seeds when they have no fields.”

Without the devastation from the war, aid workers say that people could have survived the drought. Those who had to leave their villages because of the war are now dependent on aid. Cane shacks are cropping up in all of the towns and cities, while 1.6 million Mozambicans remain in refugee camps in neighbouring countries, which are also experiencing drought.

“In the short term, the cease-fire doesn’t impact on us. We need to respond to the drought,” said Care’s Kessler.

Any corn chokes that grew last year burned on the stalk when the rains failed.

A small child with a slightly distended belly stands waiting for a food ration from the Red Cross. He’s wearing blue rubber boots. Unfortunately, there’s been no rain, but the boots protect his feet from the hot sand.

“It’s the worst drought that I can remember,” according to Arlinda Nhandu, who owns the farm warehouse from which the Red Cross distributes food. “In 1990 there was a little bit of rain. In 1991 there was nothing. In 1992, ‘nsaliw,’ which means ‘We ate nothing’” said Wieser.
New plans for Mozambique ceasefire

HARARE — United Nations peace monitors in Mozambique are redrafting a ceasefire timetable to end 16 years of civil war.

Ziana news agency said yesterday the schedule drawn up last month in Rome had proved overly ambitious and almost every stage of disengagement was lagging.

Announcing the redraft, the UN's special representative in Maputo, Mr Alfo Ajello, confirmed speculation that Zimbabwean troops in Mozambique, due to be completely withdrawn by Sunday, would remain in place beyond that date.

According to the Rome Accord all Mozambican troops and Renamo rebels were supposed to have been confined to barracks and assembly points by October 20.
IGI to establish business in Mozambique

LOOKING to Africa for growth, insurer
IGI begins trading in Mozambique next
week and is seeking other opportunities
further north, says Hooken Consolidated
Investment group co-ordinator and IGI di-
rector Terence Maher.

Besides the Companhia Geral de Se-
gueros de Mozambique (CGSM), IGI re-
cently set up a life office in Zimbabwe to
complement its long-standing insurance
business there.

The group was seeking opportunities
even further north and had investigated
Kenya as well as a "more accessible south-
ernly neighbour of Kenya".

"Apart from being overtraded, Kenya is
a little too far to service at the moment,
and we need a stepping stone to get there,"

When pressed on whether IGI had Tan-
zania in mind as the "stepping stone",
Maher declined to comment.
He said CGSM would compete with Mo-
zambian national insurer EMOSE, which
had monopolised the market, as well as a
Portuguese-backed insurer looking to open
in Maputo.
Rebels delay peace
Rebels delay peace

MAPUTO - Mozambique's Renamo rebel movement delayed progress on implementation of a ceasefire by failing to turn up for a second meeting of the United Nations chaired ceasefire commission (CCF), held over until yesterday.

The meeting was to draw up procedures for investigating ceasefire violations and to take definitive lists from Renamo and the armed forces of their total numbers and all the weaponry, munitions and explosives they hold.

The Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) sent no message to the commander of UN military observers in Mozambique, Lieutenant-Colonel GP Sinha, to explain their absence or request a delay.

Early on Monday the head of the Renamo delegation to the CCF, General Hermínio Morais, accompanied Raul Domingos, head of the rebels' organization department, and generally considered their deputy leader, to Renamo headquarters in the central district of Manigaue.

Morais and the other Renamo delegation members had been expected to return to Maputo for the meeting but Sinha told journalists that he had no news of them around nightfall - Sapa-APP
Chissano is my lost son, woman claims

MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — After a brief face-to-face meeting on Monday, Mozambican ambassador to Zimbabwe Lopez Tembe rejected the claims of a poverty-stricken Zimbabwean septuagenarian to be the mother of President Joaquim Chissano, the Daily Gazette reports.

Anna Mudzanganwura claimed she had been told by relatives the Mozambican leader was one of the sons of her first marriage to a migrant worker from Sana, who came to then Rhodesia for employment. She asked the Mozambican embassy to pay for her to visit Chissano in Maputo and establish whether he is her "lost son".

Mudzanganwura lives with relatives in the poor Highfield suburb of Harare. "My sons were about eight and 10 years respectively when their father took them across to Mozambique to see their native land for some days," she said. "I couldn't have gone to look for them in Mozambique because I didn't know where exactly the home was. "I waited, but time didn't wait for me. To hear the sad news my husband had died after an illness, so did my other son Machadu."

She said she knew the surviving son, whom she claims is now Mozambique's head of state, by the name "Jujo". Tembe told the Daily Gazette "As far as I am concerned the mother and father of my president are living in the Malekise area of the Gaza province in Mozambique. The woman's claims are not true."
Mozambican peace ‘could threaten SA’

SA COULD lose its stranglehold on southern Africa through its monopoly of regional transport if moves to bring democracy to Mozambique proved successful, an advisor to Renamo rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama said this week.

Unisa Institute of Foreign and Comparative Law director Andre Thomashausen said while democracy in Mozambique would benefit southern Africa greatly by providing access to Mozambique’s sea routes, stability in that country could be perceived by governments in the region as a direct threat to their survival.

In a paper delivered at a meeting of the Institute of International Affairs in Pretoria, Thomashausen said it was not clear whether the emergence of private sector and large project opportunities in Mozambique would outweigh the loss of SA’s perceived regional power based on transport monopoly.

“The refurbishment of the Cahora Bassa project, which alone could ensure economic recovery in Mozambique, may not be as attractive as would appear, at a time of economic recession and declining demands for electric power.”

“The revival of the Mozambique tourism industry would probably have negative effects on SA attempts to substantially expand its own tourism industry. And similar obstacles can be anticipated if Mozambican coal and gas productions should again reach relevant proportions.”

SA and Zimbabwe would probably be the first to feel renewed pressure for true multiparty democracy.

“In international relations, a success of the Mozambique Peace Accord will lend strength to those who are pleading for international and UN involvements in the resolution of the SA conflict,” he said.

Thomashausen said the fact that “problems” had arisen since the peace accord came into effect, and that ceasefire timetables had been extended, did not contradict the view that a Mozambican settlement would set a revolutionary precedent in Africa.
Botswana revamps exchange controls

GABORONE — The Bank of Botswana says the government has approved changes in exchange control policy and regulations governing internal portfolio investment and local borrowing by nonresident-controlled companies.

These changes are intended to facilitate development of the financial sector and the stock market, and to encourage much-needed inward foreign investment into Botswana,” the central bank said.

Nonresident-controlled companies incorporated in Botswana could now invest in the securities of companies quoted in the Botswana share market without financing such acquisitions with nonresident-source funds. The authorities had ensured local investors would not be crowded out.

The aggregate of inward and internal portfolio investments by nonresidents and nonresident-controlled companies could not exceed 10% of the “free stock,” defined as total stock issued and paid up less stock held by direct investors.

Further, a nonresident-controlled company could not hold more than 5% of the free stock of a company listed on the Botswana share market.

Because of the change, the eligibility of nonresident-controlled companies for local financial support would be determined by applying the 4:1 debt-to-equity limitation after deduction of internal portfolio investment holdings.

In addition, the limit for approvals by authorized dealers of the initial tranche of local financial support that could be afforded by residents to nonresident-controlled entities or unincorporated branches of nonresident-owned entities had been raised to 500,000 pula from 300,000.

The purpose for which local financial support might be used would also be extended to include working capital, construction of new plant and buildings, and purchase of machinery and equipment.

The use of local borrowing for acquisition of existing assets such as land, and the purchase of a going concern was not allowed, the central bank said. — Reuter

Court rejects Namibian sea boundary

WINDHOEK — The Windhoek High Court has upheld an objection to Namibia’s northern sea boundary lodged by three Spanish trawlermen charged with illegal fishing in Namibian waters.

Fisheries authorities arrested the Spanish Xeitiano for trawling inside Namibia’s 200-mile exclusive economic zone, south of Angolan waters, on July 20.

When the case opened on Monday, defense counsel Andreas Bignaut SC questioned the legality of the sea border.

He said, according to news reports, that neither a technical committee of the Namibian cabinet nor the cabinet itself had the authority to determine the northern sea border of the exclusive economic zone. He argued that this border determined by cabinet or a technical committee had never been promulgated.

Judge T. Frank ruled on Tuesday, after argument, that the boundary line drawn on a map handed to court had no legal validity.

The State was given until today to amend the charge sheet. — Sapa.

Disabled rob food trucks

CHIMOIO — They are called “mutalado” — disabled veterans armed with huge rocks who sometimes block the Beira Corridor to rob food relief trucks.

Feeling abandoned by the Mozambican government, they do not pay much attention to a fragile ceasefire between the government and Renamo.

The periodic looting on the Beira Corridor illustrates Mozambique’s shaky security conditions and mounting tension despite the October 4 ceasefire agreement.

Security in the corridor is likely to deteriorate even further this month when Zimbabwe withdraws its troops. Drought-stricken central Mozambique depends on the corridor for food deliveries, as does Zimbabwe. Each week about 20,000 tons of food passes through the central provincial capital of Chimoio.

The mutalados are mostly demobilized government soldiers who believe officers stole their disability pensions to buy into the transport businesses that have proliferated since improvements to the Beira Corridor by Western donors.

Zimbabwe is to withdraw its last 3,000 troops from Mozambique by Sunday. After that, police and army units will be left to patrol the Beira Corridor under the supervision of six unarmed UN observers. — Sapa-AP.
Amnesty -
13 accused
Soweto 18/11/92
go scot-free

Three brothers of Samora Machel released:

MAPUTO - The trial of 13 people accused of
plotting the overthrow of President Joaquim
Chissano's administration has been abandoned
after the accused were granted an amnesty by
the government.

The accused benefited from an amnesty law
covering all offences under the country's secu-
ritry and military legislation which was passed
by the Mozambican parliament last year.

Those released on Monday include three
brothers of former Mozambican President
Samora Machel - businessmen Beaventum and
Orlando Machel and Sergeant Malaque Machel.
The most prominent of the group is retired
General Jose Motaane.
Mozambique peace process holds firmer than that of Angola

Peace truce holds

MAPUTO - While Angola’s peace process flounders and is close to collapse, the peace in Mozambique appears to be getting firmer by the day.

This contradicts expert predictions that Angola was much more likely to consolidate its peace than Mozambique, where much of the violence was attributed to bandit gangs operating beyond the control of the Renamo rebels.

Despite some clashes between troops of the Frelimo government and Renamo, the ceasefire agreed to in Rome on October 4 and implemented from October 15 has held throughout the country.

This suggests either that the bandit operations were not as widespread as had been supposed or that Renamo's control of its forces was more effective than it had been given credit for, or both.

According to the head of the United Nations military observer force, Lieut.-Col G P Sutch, both sides have pledged to order their forces to avoid any "disorderly" movement from the positions they now occupy.

He said the pledge was given on Monday at a meeting of the Ceasefire Commission (CCP) There had been an atmosphere of "mutual understanding."
"Frelimo ready for bloodshed".

MAPUTO — Mr Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the rebel group Renamo, has accused the government of getting ready for renewed bloodshed.

Mr Dhlakama claimed on Tuesday the government was transferring personnel from the army to the police force.

"This is exactly what happened in Angola and it was this that disturbed the situation," he said.

The government's chief negotiator, Transport Minister Mr Armando Guebuza, said Mr Dhlakama's statements were "extraordinary".

"What happened in Angola was not provoked by the police, but by Ua-lia, which launched systematic acts of violence." — Sapa-AFP.
Truce violations

MAPUTO - A fact-finding mission sent to investigate eight alleged violations of the Mozambican ceasefire referred to "abnormal military activities" when it reported back to the Ceasefire Commission.

The head of the UN team of military observers, Lieutenant-Colonel Girish Sinha, said after Wednesday's meeting that only six of the eight places mentioned could be visited. Two of the areas that the rebel Renamo claims were attacked by government forces, Muanza and Samancuza, in the central province of Sofala, turned out to be completely inaccessible.
posal might avert Angolan-type election disaster

More UN troops

Sowetan 24/11/92

Sowetan Africa News Service

M

APUTO - France, one of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, will back the deployment of enough UN troops in Mozambique to implement the peace accord.

This was said by French Deputy Foreign Minister Georges Kieym, who has also suggested that the Zimbabwesian troops guarding the transport corridors through Mozambique might be allowed to remain under UN supervision.

Sufficient number

Kieym said that France "will express the need to send a sufficient number of UN personnel to Mozambique to implement the peace accord".

So far only 20 UN monitors have been sent to supervise the gathering of Freimo government and Renamo rebel troops at 49 assembly points in preparation for their demobilisation and for an election.

The head of the UN military team, Lieutenant Colonel G P Simba, said he needed five observers at each assembly point - a total of 245 in addition to headquarters staff. The

3 die as radicals firebomb flats

BERLIN - Radicals firebombed two west German flat buildings early yesterday, killing two Turkish women and a 10-year-old girl.

This was the worst neo-Nazi hate crime since Germany reunified and a wave of xenophobic violence spread over the land.

The attack in the village of Kurscheid near the North Sea, which has a population of 18,000, followed perhaps the worst weekend of rightist violence.

Authorities said that shortly after midnight somebody set fire to two flat buildings about 600 metres apart. Three people were killed and nine injured.

The attack occurred shortly after midnight and an anonymous caller told police "A house burns on Muslim and Ratzburger streets. Heil, Hitler," said prosecutor Guenter Moeller.

The buildings have been home to Turkish families for years.

Moeller said the victims had lived in Germany for years. Sapa-AP

'Change or disorder' - No to white domination

LONDON - South Africa would get it "more or less right" in the end, the leader of the Democratic Party, Dr Zach de Beer, predicted yesterday.

In a speech to the Association of West European Parliamentarians Against Apartheid in the British House of Commons, he said there might be smooth progress to democratic elections or a slide into anarchy.

There would not be a return to white domination. Overwhelming opposition ruled that out. Sapa

Sowetan 24/11/92
Firms to sue Defence Ministry

Companies allege ministry reneged on contract:

MAPUTO - SA and Mozambican companies are threatening to sue the Mozambican Defence Ministry for breach of contract over the export of military scrap metal.

The Mozambican company Rovimpex and the South African firm Devsa are purportedly two of the companies involved.

The ministry is said to have agreed to sell the consortium all its scrap metal, but then reneged on the deal.

The Mozambican companies are said to have signed a contract with another South African company for the sale of the scrap metal.

BE JOB VIALBE
Foundation of S.A. Management Training

ENROL NOW AT 1992 PRICES

Commencement date: January 18 1993

MANAGEMENT DIPLOMA COURSES:
- Business Admin - 12 months
- Business Accountancy - 9 months
- Marketing & Sales - 8 months

QUALITY CONTROL & QUALITY MANAGEMENT COURSES
(Start January 23 1993)
- Quality Management I
- Quality Management II
- Quality Management III

SECRETARIAL COURSES OFFERED
Contact Isabelle/David/Cynthia at 838-1773/45
Call at 2nd Floor, York House,
cor Risik & Kerk Sts, Johannesburg
Maputo-Beira road is opened after 12 years

MAPUTO — The main road linking Mozambique’s two main largest cities, Maputo and Beira, has been re-opened after 12 years in which no driver has dared risk taking his vehicle along the entire 1,100km.

A symbolic ceremony was held on Monday at the Inchope crossroads where the road to Maputo diverges from the Beira-Zimbabwe highway, attended by Culture and Youth Minister Matias Katupha and the governors of the three provinces that can expect most benefits from re-opening the road, Manica, Sofala and Inhambane.

The stretch from Inchope to the Save River has been a no-go area for drivers for more than a decade. This passes through the sparsely populated district of Chinhavare, Renamo leader Afonso Dhakama’s home area.

Rural Chinhavare is a Renamo stronghold, and from 1989 Renamo succeeded in closing the road.

The re-opening shows confidence by the Mozambican authorities that the October 4 ceasefire agreement with Renamo will last. In general the ceasefire is holding, and no significant incidents have been reported along the Maputo-Beira road.

After the ceremony, trucks drove down the road carrying food aid into Renamo areas. Two buses set off hoping to reach the towns of Maxixe and Vilanculo, more than 300km to the south, in Inhambane province.

The main problem that these face is no longer the threat of ambush, but massive potholes and trenches dug by Renamo to obstruct traffic. — Saps-APP.
Mozambican army wins
town back from Renamo.

MAPUTO — The Mozambican army has recaptured Lugela in the central province of Zambézia, the last of four towns seized by Renamo in mid-October, that was still in rebel hands.

Lugela was retaken on Saturday after all attempts to persuade Renamo to withdraw peacefully had failed, the general staff of the armed forces said.

Military action was not taken earlier because UN special representative to Mozambique Aldo Ajello had promised the UN would seek to ensure Renamo's speedy withdrawal.

Mozambican troops who had been advancing on Lugela were ordered to halt 5km from the town and wait, but there was no sign of Renamo leaving. On November 12, a fact-finding mission from the UN-chartered ceasefire commission found Lugela was being held by 100 rebel soldiers.

Nine days later, the general staff decided it could wait no longer. Renamo claimed its forces withdrew after the town came under shelling from the army.

The rebels accused the government of violating the ceasefire, and also complained the UN was biased in government's favour.

Head of the team of UN military observers, Lt-Col GP Sinha said he found it strange that Renamo made its complaints through the Mozambican media rather than using its delegations on the monitoring commissions overseeing implementation of the peace agreement. — Sapa-AFP.

...
Mlangeni inquest
told of bungling

THE police investigation into the murder of attorney Bekht Mlangeni was fatally flawed from the start, a Rand Supreme Court inquest was told yesterday.

Presiding Judge B O'Donovan reserved his findings.

Mlangeni was killed on February 15 last year when a Walkman cassette player with explosives in the headphones, intended for former police captain Dirk Coetzer, exploded when he attempted to listen to a tape recording.

All the parties represented at the inquest — the family of the deceased, the police, the SAP and the State — said in closing arguments that on the totality of the evidence, no finding could be made as to who was responsible for killing Mlangeni.

"It is submitted that no proper investigation had been conducted, the findings could have been dramatically different and public confidence and satisfaction could have been promoted," counsel for the Mlangeni family Gys Rautenbach argued.

He called for an admonition of the SAP and the manner in which they conducted the whole investigation.

Rautenbach said deficiencies in the investigation included the fact that it took police 15 months to apply their minds to the investigation of suspects.

Herman Broodryk, for the State, submitted that no factual finding as to the complicity of members of the SAP could be made on the evidence at the inquest.

He told the court that a great deal of time and money had been involved in the police investigation and that no expenses had been deemed too costly.

"If the SAP themselves were involved, they would hardly have gone to all this effort and expense," Broodryk said.

Etienne du Toit, representing the SAP and individual policemen, agreed with Broodryk that "nothing whatsoever in facts or in allegations" before the court implicated any of his clients.

Evidence about the SANDF Military Intelligence project Echoes — the visit of Capt Pamela du Randt and Lord Floris to the UK to determine the extent of the activities between ANC military wing Umkhonto we Sizwe and the IRA — was irrelevant to the inquest, the court heard.

"To determine whether Flores had any hidden agenda or whether the police were involved in monitoring Dirk Coetzer after the death of Mlangeni was just not within the court's role," Du Toit argued.

Anton Mostert SC, representing the SANDF, argued that no room existed for linking Mlangeni's death with the SANDF.

"In the circumstances, the court is asked to exonerate the SANDF," he said.

Mozambican denies
affidavit on killings

PRETORIA — Mozambican army deserter Joes Cuna yesterday effectively denied he had participated in the killing of ANC members in a Durban township last year before abruptly cutting short his evidence before the Goldstone commission.

Giving evidence before a one-man commission, Cuna substantially contradicted the contents of an affidavit which formed the basis for a recent report in Vrye Weekblad. In the affidavit, he claimed to have participated in the shooting of between seven and nine people with AK-47 rifles together with a black man and a white man.

He told the inquiry that during the trip to Durban, he and men said they were policemen, had collected AK-47s from the hands of a Portuguese speaker. Nothing else of significance had happened during the trip, he said.

Cuna substantiated other elements of the affidavit, confirming the logistical details of the trip, including the places the group had stayed and met ordinary people, he said.

He also denied that he had provided a Johannesburg lawyer with a statement, but claimed that it was not read back to him.

After giving evidence for about two hours, Cuna hung his head and did not respond to questions being asked by the lawyer for the commission.

After granting an adjournment, commission chairman Rob Wise said he had been informed that Cuna was extremely afraid and had decided to provide further evidence as part of an open hearing.

The chairman adjourned the hearing in order to ascertain by means of a personal interview whether Cuna's fears were justified.

Wise said however undesirable it might be in principle, it could become necessary for Cuna to give evidence in the absence of the public and legal representatives if this was the only alternative.
Dhlakama for Maputo?

MAPUTO — Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano announced rebel Renamo leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama will move from his headquarters in the central district of Maringue to Maputo by the end of the year.

Speaking at a rally in the northern city of Pemba, Mr Chissano said on Saturday Mr Dhlakama "is finally going to leave the bush and return to Maputo this year."

The main reason raised publicly by Renamo for delaying Mr Dhlakama's move to the capital was a supposed shortage of suitable accommodation. A demand for luxury housing, not only for Mr Dhlakama but for top ranking Renamo officials, delayed implementation of the peace accord. "We are preparing good houses for Renamo," Mr Chissano said.

Renamo representatives have already rejected one house in Maputo the government had proposed to give to Mr Dhlakama — Sapa-AFP
Call to delay voting

MAPUTO - The leader of the opposition Mozambican Nationalist Movement, Maximo Dias, has called for the country's first multiparty elections to be postponed by three years.

He said the priorities in Mozambique were to resettle displaced people and to prepare for the return of refugees from neighbouring countries. The official Mozambican news agency, AIM, reports that Monsamo, the second opposition party to propose delaying the elections, the Patriotic Action Front has called for a caretaker government to run the country for two or three years prior to an election.
MAPUTO — Child soldiers of the rebel Renamo movement were reportedly robbing traffic on roads near Maputo as Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano yesterday called for reconciliation in the wake of the 16-year civil war.

The independent newsheet Mediafax reported that armed children aged between seven and 10 were ordering vehicles to stop and demanding food, money or cigarettes near a village about 80km north of here.

Truck owner Mr Ussene Mavila said, “We’re afraid of the kids. They frighten us because they’ve got guns.”

District administrator Mr Daniel Munguia said the children had been positively identified as belonging to Renamo.

Renamo, which signed a peace accord with the Mozambican government on October 4, has in the past denied regular accusations that it press-gangs children into its army.

Mr Chissano told the opening session of an extraordinary meeting of Frelimo’s central committee yesterday that it should “mobilise our members, sympathisers and the public in general to participate in healing the wounds left by the war.”

He said that despite delays in setting up the commissions that are to monitor the peace accord, “we can note with satisfaction that there is a climate of peace.”

He praised the tolerance of the Mozambican people towards members of Renamo.

Turning to prospects for multi-party elections next year, Mr Chissano said Frelimo would have to depend on “the force of reason and of argument” and should always treat its opponents with respect — Sapa-AFP
Renamo troops

SEVEN-YEAR-OLD child soldiers are beginning to emerge from the Mozambican bush as the government and rebel movement Renamo try to make a ceasefire agreement stick.

Mozambique's state-run news agency, AIM, reports that groups of children armed with automatic assault rifles still stop traffic on

brief

Southam 3/12/92 (218)

the main road north of Maputo.

The child soldiers, some groups ranging in age from seven to ten, order vehicles to stop and demand food, money or cigarettes.
UN to decide on troops

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — After weeks of delay, the United Nations Security Council is expected to decide this week on the number of UN troops to be sent to monitor the peace process in Mozambique.

Aldo Ajelli, head of the UN monitoring operation in Mozambique, has been waiting in New York for the Council to act on his report.

Details of his recommendations have not been disclosed. The Mozambican newsheet, Mediafax, said it had been told by sources in New York that the Security Council would be asked to station 7,000 UN personnel in Mozambique to monitor the ceasefire, the demobilization of the rival armed forces and their integration into a single army and the preparations for an election.

There is no certainty that the UN will provide such a force, for its resources are said to have been stretched to their limits to meet demands for other peacekeeping forces.

Mozambican president Joaquim Chissano has told the ruling Frelimo party that it was responsible for ensuring that war did not return.
US Marines stand by to help feed Somalis

WASHINGTON — An amphibious task force of 1,600 US Marines arrived off Somalia’s coast yesterday and the US Defence Department said they were standing by to spearhead an expected UN military operation to provide food to starving Somalis.

The US amphibious warships Tripoli, Juneau and Rushmore also carry 23 transport and attack helicopters.

They could provide an initial launch base for a more massive military operation to protect humanitarian shipments.

The UN Security Council was scheduled to resume debate yesterday on a resolution to authorize use of force to protect humanitarian food shipments from warring factions and bands of gunmen.

That resolution is expected to extend the military operation, which could include as many as 30,000 international troops - most of them Americans - under US command and UN oversight.

In Mogadishu, Somalis looked to US troops to bring feuding warlords to heel while relief agencies stockpiled supplies for a 1,800-man advance guard of peacekeepers.

The capital city, lashed by the first heavy rains of the season, was calmer than it had been for weeks as residents awaited the final UN decision to send troops to the famine-stricken country.

Some Somalis warlords resisted deployment of an earlier 4,200-man UN force, intended to protect relief convoys from marauding bands of gunmen.

Bound by strict UN rules that required the warlords’ approval for any move in Somalia, a Pakistani contingent of 500 troops has been largely confined to barracks since it arrived in September. It has moved only as far as the airport.

Last Friday Mogadishu warlords Mohamed Farah Aidid and his bitter rival Ali Mahdi Mohamed finally overthrow dictators Mohamed Siad Barre last year but then fell to feuding, said they would welcome the US-led force.

But last week rockets were fired at the base of the Pakistani contingent in the UN force. Three mortar bombs landed near the soldiers’ camp, causing no injury.

Not since the Katanga crisis in the Congo (now Zaire) in the early 60s has the UN sent armed troops to a conflict in Africa. The move could establish a precedent in the post-Cold War era on a continent beset by famine, ethnic unrest and war.

Tens of thousands of Somalis have died in the war and about 300,000 were killed by starvation in the last two years.

Relief agencies in Mogadishu stockpiled food and readied hospital operating theatres for the day the troops’ arrival.

In the capital, Canadian deputy commander of some UN forces already in the country, Colonel James Cox, said, "We have rations for about two weeks," adding that two operating theatres staffed by two surgeons had been set up in case of emergency.

In addition to the Pakistanis, the UN staff in Mogadishu includes 94 unarmed military peace observers, staff officers and members of a logistics support team and about 200 civilian workers.

There are about a further 200 foreign civilian staff working for independent relief agencies.

Cox said that if UN medical facilities were overstretched, the entire world body would call for help from the foreign medical teams that have been struggling to cope with the sick and war-wounded for the last two years of civil war.

Mocambique needs $1,1bn

MAPUTO — The Mozambican economy needs foreign funding in 1993 of $1,10bn if it is to continue with the economic and social recovery programme, according to a World Bank report.

The report, prepared for next week’s meeting of the consultative group on Mozambique, says this figure includes emergency food aid and presupposes that this year’s severe drought does not continue.

Of the total, $410m is debt rescheduling. The report stresses that the finance for programmes arising out of the peace agreement with Renamo - demobilisation of troops, resettlement of displaced people and refugees, and preparations for the country’s first multi-party elections should not be at the cost of the economic and social recovery programme.

Demobilisation costs are estimated at $111m to $141m for food, infrastructure and administration of assembly points and a further $115m to $560m for demobil pay and transporting demobilised troops to their home areas.

The report puts the costs of next year’s elections at between $40m and $80m. Support for resettlement of displaced people and refugees will need donor finance of up to $37m.

The World Bank report takes an optimistic view of the impact of the recovery programme on the Mozambican economy, despite poor growth rates since 1990. In the first three years of structural adjustment (1987-1989), GDP grew at an average annual rate of 5.4%. But from 1990 to 1992, the bank estimates the average annual growth rate at 0.9%.

It attributes the decline to the continued war, the 1991/92 drought and reduced foreign support. The bank estimates that if drought had not devastated this year’s harvests, there would have been 5% growth in GDP.
Report gives new twist to Webster murder

By EDDIE KOCH 
MEMBERS of the South African Defence Force trained Renamo rebels at a concealed military base in kwaZulu's Tembe Elephant Park near Kosi Bay in 1989, according to an official intelligence report leaked to The Weekly Mail.

Lawyers for the David Webster Trust have examined the document to see if it can throw any light on why the human rights academic was gunned down outside his home in May 1989.

Webster was investigating Renamo activities in the Kosi Bay district of kwaZulu, which straddles the border of southern Mozambique. He was assassinated a week before he was due to travel to the region on a research expedition.

The homeland's conservation authorities have confirmed that SADF personnel conducted a paramilitary course in Tembe during the early part of 1989, but they insist only game rangers employed by the homeland's conservation department were trained.

"On one occasion in 1989 we had a protective training course in Tembe. Military guys taught our rangers defensive tactics because armed militias from both Pretoria and Renamo were crossing the border into the park. At no stage were Renamo members trained in the reserve," said kwaZulu Bureau for Natural Resources (KBNR) director for Nick Steele.

The intelligence report says the military programme inside Tembe included training in the use of 60mm mortars. Steele denies this.

"We would never allow mortars to be used in a game reserve," he said. "Rifles were used in that course, which took place in February 1989, and the military also did a demo, which involved detonating a land mine." The Mozambican armed forces flew a Soviet-made helicopter over the Kosi Bay region in early 1989, with Cuban intelligence officers on board who were looking for evidence of Renamo bases in the area, the intelligence report says.

"The surveillance caused a considerable amount of alarm among members of the South African military operating in the area. The author of the report says this should be investigated as a possible reason for Military Intelligence's intense interest in monitoring the activities of Webster."

"There has been consistent speculation in human rights circles that Webster was killed because he was investigating covert SADF operations in northern Natal. The intelligence report is the first indication that members of the security establishment have also considered this as a possible motive for the assassination."

The report says some of the officials who work for the kwaZulu conservation body have strong links with MI5. "It is not impossible that individuals in the KBNR might be working for Military Intelligence," said Steele. "But it is not my policy, nor the policy of the KBNR, to do this. We swap information with the military, but this is only to ensure the protection of my staff and the game reserve." Steele added that his organisation had no interest in supporting Renamo or other military operations in the area.

Investigators for the David Webster Trust are looking into the report, but generally believe that Webster's work with the End Conscription Campaign and other pro-African National Congress organisations provided a stronger motive for his murder.
Mozambique asks for R3-b

MAPUTO - Mozambique is asking international donors for more than R3 billion for its emergency programmes and to allow it to continue with its World Bank-led economic and social restructuring.

The appeal appeared in a World Bank report being prepared for next week's meeting in Paris of the donor nations. The R3 billion appeal includes money needed for debt rescheduling (R1,2 billion), for Mozambique's 1993/94 emergency programme (R1,5 billion), and for implementing a peace agreement (R300 million), which will include the demobilisation of an estimated 70,000 troops, the resettlement of people displaced by the war and preparations for the country's first multiparty elections.
Money seized over scrap deal

Weekend Argus
Africa Service

MAPUTO — The Witwatersrand Supreme Court has ordered the seizure of R170 000 in Mozambican government bank accounts in South Africa in an action arising from a dispute over a scrap-metal deal.

The Mozambican government was sued for breach of contract by South African partner Devsa in a consortium with Mozambican interests that signed a contract with the Mozambican defence ministry last March to buy all the ministry’s scrap metal.

The scrap available, much of it disused weaponry left over from the Mozambique war, is estimated at between 300 000 and 1 million tons.

Devsa says that, in spite of a clause preventing the contract from being revoked for five years, the defence ministry tried to revoke it last August, and, on the same day, signed a separate contract with another South African company, Specialised Supplies, which had offered higher prices.

Devsa began its action in the Witwatersrand court under a clause in its contract providing for South African law to apply to any breach of the deal.

The court ordered the seizure of Mozambican government assets in the Bank of Lisbon in Johannesburg. However, the Mozambican news-sheet, Mediapex, said it was told by a bank spokesman that it had no accounts.

However, the government might have assets in other banks in South Africa.

Devsa’s Mozambican partner, Rovimpex, has decided not to join in the court action, according to Mediapex, on the grounds the Maputo government will not regard itself as bound by the orders of South African courts.

A second court action might arise from the first, according to Mediapex, which reported another South African company, Matbou Engineering, which was sub-contracted to process and export the scrap, might itself demand compensation of between R20 and R30 million.
UN plans Mozambique task

NEW YORK — UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali yesterday recommended a major UN operation in Mozambique involving 7,000 to 8,000 troops to oversee the peace process and general elections.

The UN contingent would include troops, police and civilians responsible for the political, military, electoral and humanitarian aspects of the operation, Boutros-Ghali said in a report to the Security Council.

The UN force in Mozambique would be responsible for monitoring implementation of a peace agreement signed in Rome in October by the Mozambique government and the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) rebel movement, ending a 16-year civil war.

The UN operation would monitor the disarmament and demobilization of forces on both sides and the establishment of a new military.

It would oversee the return home of five- to six-million refugees and displaced persons.

It would also monitor distribution of humanitarian aid and the organization of presidential and legislative elections.

The peace accord set the date of the elections for October 1993, but might have to be delayed depending on conditions on the ground, Boutros-Ghali said. — Sapa-AFP.
108 prisoners still on the loose after breakout
Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — More than 100 prisoners escaped from a Mozambican jail when six men serving sentences for armed robbery overpowered a warden and then threatened to shoot other inmates with his pistol if they did not escape with them.

With the guard locked in a cell, 111 prisoners fled from the main jail at Nampula on Saturday, while 20 convicts refused to flee and stayed in their cells. Three escapers returned voluntarily the next day.

A hunt is on for the remaining 108 prisoners, some of whom are described as extremely dangerous.
Vigilance on health sector

■ Expert warns of deterioration after independence: 1992

By Mokgadi Pela

SOUTH Africans should guard against their gains in the health sector being reversed after independence, a Mozambican medic told a conference in Broederstroom yesterday.

Dr Julie Clift of the Faculty of Medicine at the Eduardo Mondlane University, said most of the gains made during the transition in Mozambique 17 years ago had since been reversed.

She was addressing 150 delegates at the conference organised by the National Progressive Primary Health Care Network and the South African Health and Social Services Organisation.

Clift said at independence the national health service was established and private practice abolished.

She said Mozambique embarked on two national campaigns, namely, to build latrines and to vaccinate people.

"Such campaigns are visible gestures that something is being done in the community and South Africans would be advised to follow our examples," Clift added.

She said the gains were reversed by the destabilisation waged by Renamo, which targeted clinics and health care centres.
Renamo calls for UN aid in peace process

HARARE — Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama has called on the United Nations to speed up the Mozambique peace process, saying the Maputo government was dragging its feet in implementing the agreed programme.

Dhlakama, who is due to meet Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe today to discuss the accord, said he was ready to move from his bush headquarters in central Mozambique to the capital Maputo as soon as the government found him suitable accommodation.

"It is important that the UN sends in troops and sets up the machinery to speed up the process," he told reporters yesterday on his first official visit to Zimbabwe.

Dhlakama, who flew in from Kenya, said he hoped his talks with Mugabe would consolidate the peace pact.

The plan agreed under a truce signed by Renamo and President Joaquim Chissano's government in October is running behind schedule on several issues, including the confinement of troops to designated points — Sapa-Reuters
Unita warned to honour peace accords

LUANDA — Angola’s new armed forces commander warned Unita yesterday to keep their latest pledge to honour May 1991 peace accords or face a new civil war.

New armed forces commander General Joao Matos said at the ceremony “The situation in the country requires that measures be taken rapidly.”

Economists and diplomats say Unita’s offensive is creating economic havoc in the country.

Hope for a negotiated settlement rose on Wednesday night when Unita announced readiness to join a new national unity government.

However, Unita generals failed to take up senior posts offered to them in the new military command.

Prime Minister Marcelino dos Santos cautiously encouraged by Unita’s statement on Wednesday, said it had to honour the peace accord before it could join the government.

Diplomats also appeared suddenly encouraged by the statement but noted that Unita had many times gone against its word.

“Let’s see words translated into action,” a Western diplomat said.

The state media said the two sides might hold a peace meeting next week in the southern city of Namibe and dialogue had begun in Zaire, Malange and Benguela provinces.

The ruling MPLA has left several government posts open for Unita.

Unita for the most part suggested moderate terms for the posts, including the culture minister, two deputy ministers and the head of the army — Sapa-Reuters.

Irish extremists in rival bomb blitzes

LONDON — Rival Northern Ireland extremists stepped up a Christmas bombing blitz yesterday with separate incidents in Ireland and London.

The IRA blamed responsibility for two blasts that injured eight people in London, while the Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF), an outlawed group fighting to keep Northern Ireland British, admitted responsibility for planting eight fuses in Dublin and Dundalk near the Northern Ireland border, none of whom caused serious damage.

The London explosions damaged electrical and magazine shops in Wood Green shopping centre in the north of the city that had been partially evacuated after a warning by a man saying he was from the IRA.

The mainland is in the grip of the worst IRA bomb campaign since the 1970s, and armed police have mounted roadblocks around Britain.

Republican sources in Ireland said the roadblocks would not deter the bombing campaign, and pointed out that IRA guerrillas had consistently broken through security checkpoints in Belfast.

The UFF sounded a similar note of warning after its attacks in the Irish Republic, saying “We will bring in 1993 with a bang.”

In a statement issued in Belfast, the UFF said “Sheer luck prevented our operation from bringing you a merry Christmas. You will not be so lucky in 1993.”

Irish police put traders on full alert for a pre-Christmas blitz. They feared the UFF might step up its campaign with van bomb attacks on Irish towns — Sapa-Reuters.

Concern over peace pace

HARARE — Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama arrived in Zimbabwe on Wednesday and was expected to meet Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano to discuss the slow pace towards peace.

He told reporters the UN should “breath fire” into the peace process.

A peace plan signed by Renamo and Chissano’s government in October is running behind schedule on several issues, including the confinement of troops to designated posts.

“It is important that the UN sends in troops and sets up the machinery to speed up the process,” the Renamo leader said — Sapa-Reuters.
Delay in Moz
peace process
HARARE. — The
Mozambique peace
operation that should
have seen more than
61,000 troops and 21,000
rebels moved to 49 as-
sembly points is behind
schedule.
They should have
started moving on Oc-
tober 15.
A UN spokesman said
the move was better late
than badly planned.
Assembly points were
being assessed to ensure
the troops could be
properly accommodat-
ed. — Sapa-AFP
Dhlakama discusses peace with Mugabe

HARARE - Mozambican former rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama met Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe in Harare yesterday and said they should bury the past and work together to promote the peace process in Mozambique.

Dhlakama said he came to discuss with Mugabe how the peace process in Mozambique, already two months behind schedule, could be speeded up.

He told journalists before meeting Mugabe that he was convinced things would go well after discussions with Mugabe, who played a major role in mediating the country's peace talks out of deadlock this year.

Once condemned in Zimbabwe as a bloody bandit leader, Dhlakama told newsmen after his 50-minute meeting with Mugabe: "We came to say that both sides, Zimbabwe and Renamo, must forget what happened in the past. We must build a relationship because the two countries are neighbours."

The local news agency Zana said Mugabe and Dhlakama embraced each other at the start of the meeting.

It was the Renamo leader's fifth recorded meeting with Mugabe since January.

Zimbabwe has 9,000 troops stationed in Mozambique guarding its road and rail supply route to the Indian Ocean from Renamo attacks. This troop presence was one of the main topics of Dhlakama's discussions with Mugabe.

Dhlakama had already stated that since the UN troops expected in Mozambique to oversee the peace agreement had not yet arrived, he did not see any problems with the Zimbabweans as long as they were not involved in military activities.

Dhlakama is expected to meet other southern African leaders today in Harare during a one-day summit of the Frontline states about the situation in Angola, before going on to meet Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano in Maputo. - Sapa-APP
UN votes on Mozambican peace force

UNITED NATIONS — The UN Security Council is soon expected to authorise the deployment of an 8,000-strong UN peacekeeping force to Mozambique, diplomatic sources said.

A draft resolution being considered by the 15-member council would give the UN Operation in Mozambique a mandate until October 31 and could be approved by Monday, the diplomats said.

UN secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali on Thursday offered the council an estimated cost for UNOMOZ of some $331 million (about Rs950m).

The UN effort in Mozambique would entail UN troops, police and civilian staff to supervise the enforcement of the peace accords signed on October 4 in Rome by the Maputo government and Renamo.

UNOMOZ would oversee the disarming of Renamo and government forces, the formation of new armed forces, the relocation of some five million to six million refugees, the distribution of humanitarian aid throughout the country and the organization of national elections.

According to the Rome accord, legislative and presidential elections have been scheduled for October 1993. Some 1,200 UN observers will supervise the polls.

The diplomatic sources said that Italian troops forming part of UNOMOZ would be among the first to be deployed in Mozambique.

Bangladesh and Uruguay are other countries that could contribute troops to the UN contingent, the sources added — Sapa-AFP
RENAO leader Afonso Dhlakama agreed at a meeting with President Joaquim Chissano in Harare on Friday to move to Maputo to help consolidate Mozambique's peace process.
SA to aid Mozambique

By Peter Fabriess
Political Correspondent

South Africa is to participate in the United Nations-sponsored peace process in Mozambique and will offer technical aid in reconstructing its war-ravaged economy.

South Africa's ambassador to Italy, Glenn Babb, is to announce details of the aid offer at an international donors' conference in Rome, which starts today.

The World Bank announced on Friday that international donors had promised Mozambique US$760 million (about R2.3 billion).

Department of Foreign Affairs sources said South Africa would also serve on the multi-national commission which will re-integrate the demobilised military forces of the Frelimo government and Renamo.

However, the sources said South Africa would not contribute troops to the UN peacekeeping force of between 7,000 and 8,000, to be sent to Mozambique to monitor the transition to a multiparty democracy.

The Foreign Affairs sources would not disclose the amount the SA Government would spend in aid to Mozambique, but emphasised it would be largely technical rather than financial.

The offer would include drilling for and purifying of water, providing agricultural knowhow, manpower training and technical expertise in holding elections.
Bonanza in offing for SA suppliers

MAPUTO — South African suppliers of goods and services stand to benefit indirectly from the R3.6 billion that foreign donors have pledged to give Mozambique to finance its economy next year.

The donations were made at a meeting in Paris last week of the World Bank's consultative group on Mozambique, the forum where much of the foreign funding for the country's economic reform programme is decided.

Mozambique's economy, ravaged by years of civil war and Marxism, is having to be largely rebuilt in the new multi-party, free-enterprise society, and many of the skills, materials and services required for this will have to be imported.

On his return from Paris yesterday, Prime Minister Mario Machungo said the R3.6 billion was made up largely of R2.38 billion in grants and credits and R1.29 billion in the rescheduling of debts.

He said many of the Paris donors had intimated that they would make further contributions at a meeting in Rome this week to seek foreign funding for the programmes arising out of the Mozambican peace accord.

The Rome meeting will consider a document drawn up by the Italian government, in consultation with Mozambique's Frelimo government and the former Renamo rebels.

The peace programmes are mainly concerned with the demobilisation of the opposing forces, the resettlement of refugees, and preparations for the forthcoming general election.
End to telecommunications monopoly

MAPUTO — The Mozambican government has introduced a bill in parliament which will end a state monopoly in the sphere of telecommunications.

While the basic telephone and telex networks will remain in the hands of the public company TDM, auxiliary services will be opened to competition.

Foreign capital would be allowed, but only in association with Mozambican companies.

Foreign capital would be limited to 50 percent, with possible exceptions — Star Africa Service.
Rome — International donors yesterday promised $200 million (about R600 million) to build peace and avert famine in Mozambique.

The largest single pledge of about R270 million was made by the European Community. Italy, which is hosting a two-day donor conference for Mozambique, promised about R222 million.

The conference brings together Western donors and countries such as Russia and China which held ideological sway over the former Portuguese colony after it gained independence in 1976.

Mozambique pressed the meeting for aid to rebuild the country after a devastating 16-year civil war and one of the worst droughts this century.

"If the donors fail to seize the opportunity offered by this Rome conference all hopes to which the peace has given rise will inevitably be dashed," said Carmelo Azzara, an under-secretary in Italy's foreign ministry in his opening address.

Not all countries at the conference made pledges yesterday, saying they wanted to hear more about Mozambique's problems before deciding on an amount. These potential donors include the US and Scandinavian countries.

Mozambican diplomats said they hoped donors would have met their request for $400 million (R1.2 billion) in aid before the conference ended today.

Mozambique says it needs help to implement a peace accord signed in October between the government of President Joaquim Chissano and right-wing Renamo rebels.

UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali has called for a mission of 7,500 troops, police and civilians to monitor the peace accord.

Italy last week agreed to dispatch 1,200 troops to Mozambique as part of the UN effort. They are expected to arrive early in January.

Mozambique also needs food aid for 1.5 million refugees returning to the country after the war and for another 4.5 million displaced people — Sapa-Report.
War may continue.

MAPUTO - An ex-soldier has warned that the war in Mozambique may continue if the government does not take proper care of the many thousands of mainly government soldiers to be demobilized under the UN-supervised peace agreement.

Mr Francisco Minuwre, president of AMODEG, an association representing demobilised soldiers, made these remarks at a two-day seminar organised by the Eduardo Mondlane University this week.

"The demobilised may upset the government at the time of the elections," he warned.
Aid for Mozambique

SA WOULD provide Mozambique with agricultural equipment, seed, fertiliser and training. SA ambassador to Rome Glen Babb said yesterday. He told the Mozambican Donors' Conference that peace in Mozambique was a key to regional prosperity. (2/18)

SA would also train electoral officers, set up industrial training centres and provide members for the reintegration commission.
R580m pledged for Mozambique peace

ROME — International donors have promised about R580 million to build peace and avert famine in Mozambique.

The largest single pledge, R27 million, was made by the European Community, Italy, which hosted a two-day donor conference for Mozambique, promised about R214 million.

The conference brought together Western donors and countries such as Russia and China which held ideological sway over the former Portuguese colony after it gained independence in 1975.

Mozambique pressed for the gathering to ask for aid to rebuild after a devastating 16-year civil war and one of its worst droughts this century.

Not all countries at the conference made pledges, saying they wanted to hear more about Mozambique's problems before deciding on an amount. These potential donors included the United States and several Scandinavian countries.

Mozambican diplomats said they hoped donors would have met their request for R160 million before the conference ended.

The southern African country — which wants to avoid following the experience of Angola where a peace agreement is on the verge of breakdown — said it needed help to implement a peace accord signed in October between the government of President Joaquim Chissano and right-wing Renamo rebels.

United Nations Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has called for a mission of 7,500 troops, police and civilians to monitor the peace accord.

Italy last week approved the dispatch of about 1,200 troops to Mozambique as part of the UN effort. They are expected to arrive at the beginning of January.

Mozambique also needs food aid for about 1.5 million refugees returning after the war and another four to five million people displaced within the country.

UN officials have said Mozambique could be the next famine emergency after Somalia if aid does not reach refugees.

The Rome conference will discuss care for Mozambique's refugees, the integration of demobilised rebel troops into society and the establishment of a new electoral system.

The conference follows a two-day World Bank meeting in Paris last week at which the bank announced international donors had promised R240 million for Mozambique's long-term reconstruction programme.

The $780 million includes around R387 million in food aid, with the rest intended for economic and social projects plus import support, the Bank said — Sapa-Reuters
Peace now, says Chissano

MAPUTO — Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano yesterday told the country's parliament, the Assembly of the Republic, that the ceasefire between the government and the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) is holding firm.

There had been serious violations of the peace agreement in mid-October, in the days after the agreement was signed, when Renamo had briefly occupied four towns north of the Zambezi. But now calm reigned.

Giving his annual report on the state of the nation, Chissano said that when he met Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama in Harare last week, Dhlakama promised he would not allow Renamo forces to commit ceasefire violations. This was a reciprocal promise, he said.

Chissano said there were still problems with ensuring freedom of movement throughout the country, due in part to landmines on many roads, and in part to Renamo's refusal to allow free movement on the roads it controlled. But demining operations would be accelerated.

The UN Security Council had still not debated the report on Mozambique from Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, which recommended sending a peacekeeping force of between 7,000 and 8,000.

The delay was because many other conflicts had been placed before the security council. He hoped the Mozambican situation would be discussed this week.

Chissano also dealt with discontent among demobilized soldiers, the war-disabled and veterans which erupted into rioting this year.

He said the financial problems they faced were not because the state had forgotten them, but because there were problems due to the extreme poverty of the country.

He warned that the end of the war would increase the pressure on the Mozambican education system, as children from displaced families returned to their zones of origin. — Sapa-APP
Into Mozambique now UN moves. Rt-then to demobilise troops, feed refugees and hold elections.
Infantry

UN Secretary General Mr Boutros Boutros-Ghali said in a recent report that Onumoz's military component would comprise five self-sufficient infantry battalions each with 850 men, an engineer battalion, three logistics companies, a headquarters company, and air, communications, medical and movement control units, plus 354 military observers.

It will also include 128 police officers and hundreds of civilian staff, with up to 1,200 international observers for the election campaign.

The troop-contributing countries have not yet been named but diplomats said Italy, which played a key role in negotiating the Rome peace accords, is likely to provide a large contingent. Offers have also been received from Uruguay and Bangladesh.

A source said the United States had been approached for an engineering unit but nothing had yet been settled.

Infantry units are particularly needed to guard four key transport corridors from the Indian Ocean to landlocked countries to the north and west.

Troops from Malawi and Zimbabwe helped the Mozambique government to keep these routes open during the civil war but must be withdrawn under the peace plan. UN troops will have to replace them to prevent the corridors falling to armed irregulars.

Onumoz will be far larger than a UN mission sent last year to Angola to monitor a similar accord ending years of civil war.

Mr Boutros-Ghali, taking account of the lessons learned in Angola, said it would "not be possible in Mozambique to recreate the conditions for a successful election unless the military situation has been brought fully under control".

MIKE LITTLEJOHN
The Argus Foreign Service and Sapa-Reuter

NEW YORK. — The United Nations Security Council has unanimously agreed to send about 7,500 troops, police and civilians to monitor a ceasefire and elections in war-torn Mozambique.

It will be the fourth major peace-keeping force established by the UN this year and the 13th in trouble spots around the world.

Because of the high cost of the operation — estimated at more than R1 billion by the time it ends next October — the council's resolution calls for a phased deployment and strict reporting on progress. In this way, it hopes to keep expenses to a minimum.

The UN operation in Mozambique (Onumoz) will oversee the peace accord signed in Rome on October 4 between the former Marxist government headed by President Joaquim Chissano and rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo), led by Mr. Afonso Dhlakama.

The troops will demobilise 10,000 Mozambican soldiers and secure the delivery of food and humanitarian aid to 1.8 million returning refugees, as well as 3 million already receiving assistance.

Onumoz is also charged with helping to organise presidential and legislative elections late next year.

A small advance mission, including about 25 military observers, arrived in October and an interim UN special representative was named to head the operation. He is Mr. Aldo Ajello, an Italian official with the UN Development Programme.
The key to lasting peace: Aid to Renamo

By BOBBIE JO KELSO

DEVELOPMENT organisations are scrambling to do what could have once been considered treason but is now widely regarded as the key to lasting peace in Mozambique, working with Renamo.

In the last week several of these groups have met district commanders in the rebel army. Led by a United Nations representative, such as Redd Barna (Norwegian Save the Children) and the Irish organisation Concern, are already working with Renamo to provide emergency assistance in isolated areas.

The catalyst is the need, and now the ability, to supply food and humanitarian aid in zones held by Renamo, with controls virtually everywhere but the nation's capital and urban centres.

The co-operation is not only helping rural Mozambicans, but revealing a large populace of Renamo supporters. Such teamwork could also eventually make or break the peace process.

A common belief, promoted by government reports, was that most civilians living in Renamo areas were prisoners throughout the 16-year war. It's a belief created by extensive propaganda, according to UN emergency operations co-ordinator Jean-Claude Legrand.

"It's definitely true there were some kept against their will, but there are many more who volunteer, are willing and want to be there," says Legrand, who oversees humanitarian aid actions in the Renamo zones of Mozambique's Manica and Sofala provinces.

He says instead the government acts as captor, blocking citizens from returning to Renamo areas once they come into towns in search of drought assistance. This view is becoming increas-

Ernst Schade, the resident representative of Redd Barna, says: "These days we are being contacted by Renamo in a lot because they know of our existence. They are looking for support and looking to have organisations in areas of their influence.

Private organisations' are getting involved as well. One religious mission, Maforga Farm, is now openly admitting it supplied food and clothes to Renamo soldiers months before the ceasefire. Today, it has food relief and medical operations near Renamo's headquarters in the remote Gorongosa district.

That same area is also being targeted by the International Committee of the Red Cross which had been the only relief organisation officially allowed in Renamo areas until recently.

Still, the opportunity to work in these isolated zones doesn't come automatically with peace. First, bridges must be repaired and land mines removed - dangerous and slow work that relief workers hope will be speeded up by four UN mine experts who arrived in the country earlier this month from Kuwait.

Political analysts say that carrying out relief work - and eventual reconstruction efforts - in Renamo areas could well play a key role in ensuring that Mozambique's move towards peace doesn't collapse or become mired in new fighting as happened in Angola.

Opening up the roads and allowing free movement will help avert fights for scarce food. Thousands of displaced citizens could return to their homes and regain a sense of normality after years of displacement from war and drought.

And if Renamo is involved in rebuilding the ailing country, it, too, will have a stake in avoiding another round of war.
MAPUTO. — United Nations forces heading for Mozambique will police a country brought to its knees by 16 years of civil war and the worst drought of the century.

But diplomats and aid officials said yesterday that the peace-keepers were likely to have a quieter life in the land of 15 million people than in other trouble spots where the UN had sent forces this year.

The Security Council decided on Wednesday to send about 7,500 troops, police and civilians to monitor a 10-week-old ceasefire and oversee the first free multi-party elections.

UN secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali has estimated that UN-UMOZ will cost more than $330 million (about R690m) by the time its mandate ends on October 31 next year.

The force, to be deployed in phases, will monitor a ceasefire and the separation and demobilisation of the opposing sides' troops.

It will also help organise presidential and legislative elections late next year and co-ordinate an extensive humanitarian programme for war-shattered Mozambique, helping resettle between five and six million refugees and displaced persons.

Infantry units are particularly needed to guard four key transport corridors across Mozambique, from the Indian Ocean to land-locked countries to the north and west.

International donors failed on Wednesday to meet Mozambique's request for $400 million (about R1.2 billion) in aid to build peace and avert famine after its worst drought this century — Sapa-Reuters.
Frelimo govt may legalise gambling

Star Africa Service 18/12/12

MAPUTO — South Africans could soon be crossing the border into Mozambique for their gambling.

The Mozambican parliament has left it to the Frelimo government to decide whether to legalise gambling, and particularly the opening of casinos, in the country.

Deputy Planning Minister Tomaz Salomao told parliament that the government wanted to grant concessions to companies that wanted to open casinos.

Salomao said this would raise further tax revenue for the state and would also help develop tourism in the country.

The government was aware of the “negative aspects inherent in gambling”, and for this reason sites for casinos would be carefully considered and would be in areas of major tourist potential.

The casinos would be mainly for foreign clientele and not for local Mozambicans.

But the parliamentary commission on commerce, supplies and transport said the government was “downplaying the serious social consequences of gambling”.

Although most MPs were unhappy with the bill to establish gambling houses, they left it to the government to make the final decision.
Mozambique's parliament yesterday approved an increase in defence spending in the 1993 budget, despite the apparent success of a peace agreement ending 16 years of civil war.

Deputies voted unanimously to pass the budget, which allocates 38% of current expenditure to defence and security, compared with 34% in 1992.

An explanatory document provided to the deputies noted that in 1992, defence and security spending amounted to $23.6 million (about R277.3m) out of total current expenditure of $270m (about R310m).

Next year's total budget will be $310m (about R380m).

The document on budgetary policy said the increased defence spending was needed to pay a 47% army wage increase decreed in October and back wages that the defence ministry owes to troops.

There have been a number of demonstrations and even local mutinies this year by troops complaining that they have not been paid.

"Next year, projected income covers only 36% of current expenditure and 48% of total expenditure," Finance Minister Mr Eneas Comche told parliament.

"The state has no capacity to undertake any investment at all, except with recourse to foreign aid," he said — Sapa-Reuters
Defence drains vital funds

MAPUTO — Mozambique's parliament yesterday approved an increase in defence spending in the 1993 budget, despite the apparent success of a peace agreement ending 16 years of civil war.

Deputies voted unanimously to pass the budget, which allocates 38 percent of current expenditure to defence and security, compared to 34 percent in 1992.

An explanatory document noted that in 1992 defence and security spending amounted to R277.3 million out of total current expenditure of R810 million.

In 1993 defence spending will go up to R351 million, still the largest slice of total current expenditure.

The document on budgetary policy said the increased defence spending was needed to pay a 47 percent army wage increase decreed in October and back wages that the Defence Ministry owes to troops.

The document says that as the effects of the peace accord between the government and Renamo rebels are felt in coming years, the percentage of the budget spent on defence and security will decline but that "no reduction in this area can be expected in 1993" — Sapa-Reuters
Fear in a handful of dust

War in Angola and Mozambique, political changes in Malawi and Zambia — and drought all round.

ANDY MELDRUM
reviews 1992 in southern Africa

Angola's elusive quest for peace and Mozambique's determination not to repeat the same mistakes marked 1992 as a transitional year for southern Africa. While the entire region coped with the drought, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe continued their journeys towards more democratic systems.

Throughout most of the year it appeared that Angola was far ahead of Mozambique in the race for peace. Angola achieved a ceasefire and peace process leading to elections before Mozambique's interminable negotiations in Rome had even produced a cessation of violence.

But by the time the results of Angola's elections were announced in early October, the whole settlement quickly unravelled as Jonas Savimbi's Unita rejected the outcome and fighting erupted throughout the country.

As 1992 came to a close Unita had taken control of the provincial capitals of southern and central Angola, where its ethnic support is based, and had also taken key positions in northern Angola. Despite Unita's return to the government of two northern cities and Savimbi's conciliatory statements, it appears highly probable that Unita will attempt to seize control of the entire country before January 20, when Bill Clinton becomes US president.

The Bush administration has withheld its recognition of the newly elected Angolan government, making it easier for Savimbi to wrest control.

At the same time, there are gathering rumours that the MPLA, under pressure from military hardliners, is preparing for a massive new year offensive to drive Unita back to its traditional strongholds.

The sinister hand of South Africa's Department of Military Intelligence (MI) cannot be ruled out as a factor in Angola. Known MI agents were with Savimbi throughout his election campaign and afterwards. The frontline states have accused South African planes of repeatedly violating their airspace, charging that South Africa's C-130 jets are flying heavy artillery and tanks to Unita-held areas. That equipment could well be used in an assault on Luanda.

The violence, chaos and despair in Angola at the end of 1992 contrasts sharply with the guarded optimism prevailing in Mozambique. Although its ceasefire only took effect in November, Mozambique rapidly learned the mistakes made in Angola and appears to be sprinting towards a lasting settlement.

Both the Frejimo government and the Renamo rebels have stated their commitment to the peace process and open elections. Even more decisively in favour of peace has been the United Nation's decision to send 7,500 personnel to Mozambique — it sent 500 people to Angola.

The UN special envoy to Mozambique, Aldo Ajello, has taken a high profile and is determined to see the UN force push Mozambique towards a genuine settlement. Admitting the UN made mistakes in Angola, Ajello insists the international force in Mozambique will not permit the election campaign to begin until all military forces are disarmed and dispersed from their camps.

Clearly, Mozambique's peace timetable, which calls for elections in October 1993, is unrealistic as it is already behind schedule in several key regards. In Angola, such lapses from the timetable were glossed over by the UN monitors, but in Mozambique Ajello has stipulated that a lengthier time frame must be set, giving the country at least 18 months to prepare for elections.

Political developments were not as decisive in the rest of the region, although drought continued to bring misery to millions and sap economic development. Millions of tons of food were imported to avert famine.

Malawi experienced tumult as activists pressed for an end to the one-party stranglehold in which President for Life Hastings Banda has held the country. Although Banda's regime is still firmly in control, former leaders like Chakufwa Chihana, now jailed, challenge the system, and it will be hard to turn back the clock.

In Zambia, the new government of President Frederick Chiluba struggled to run the bankrupt country more justly and efficiently than his predecessor, Kenneth Kaunda. As cholera broke out again in Zambia, the jury is still out on whether Chiluba's government can achieve real improvements in the living standards of Zambians.

Zimbabwe's political situation remained largely static, with President Robert Mugabe's government widely unpopular in the cities, but with no effective opposition to pose a challenge to it.
Maputo sued for breach of contract

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — The Witwatersrand Supreme Court has ordered the seizure of R1 170 000 in Mozambican government bank accounts in South Africa in an action arising from a dispute over a scrap metal deal.

The Mozambican government was sued for breach of contract by a South African partner, Devsa, in a consortium with Mozambican interests which signed a contract with the Mozambican Defence Ministry last March for the purchase of all the Ministry's scrap metal.

The amount of scrap available, much of it disused weaponry left over from the Mozambican war, is estimated at between 300 000 and one million tons.

Devsa says that despite a clause preventing the contract from being revoked for five years, the Defence Ministry tried to revoke it last August, and on the same day signed a separate contract with another South African company, Specialised Supplies, which had offered higher prices for the scrap.
SA has say over use of funds

Star Africa Service

MAPUTO — South Africa, once accused of destabilising Mozambique, is one of 18 countries on a committee that will direct the spending of aid funds pledged to Mozambique at a conference in Rome last week.

The committee's power to control distribution of the R1.2 billion pledged in aid has raised fears in Mozambique that it will operate as a parallel government to Frelimo. But Italian ambassador Manfredo di Camerana said the committee would probably not control the actual disbursement of the money on the ground.

The committee, to be known as Unohac, will be chaired by the UN and will include the Mozambican regime and Renamo among its members.
Renamo to set up Maputo base

MAPUTO — Renamo secretarygeneral Vicente Ululu arrived in Maputo on Tuesday to set up Renamo’s national headquarters.

He planned to organise “grassroots political activity”, including Renamo’s first public rally.

Ululu said that after the October 4 peace agreement, Renamo was transforming itself into a political force and pledged that all other Mozambican political forces could work freely in Renamo areas.

This followed complaints that Renamo blocked free access to its areas.

Ululu said Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama would move to Maputo after provision is made for him to live and work there.

The government allocated the former Yugoslavina embassy to Dhlakama after Renamo complained it had not provided suitable accommodation for him — Sapa-AFP.
Chissano says Moz poll may be delayed

MAPUTO — President Joaquim Chissano said here Mozambique's first multi-party elections scheduled for next October may have to be postponed.

He said the implementation of the October 1992 peace agreement between the government and Renamo was so far behind schedule that postponement was now "a possibility."

Addressing an annual meeting of representatives of Mozambican communities abroad, Mr. Chissano said holding the elections on time would depend on how fast measures outlined in the peace pact were carried out.

He said an electoral register had to be compiled and citizens had to be educated about multi-party elections.

Fledgling opposition parties have already called for the postponement of the elections until 1994. — Sapa-Reuters
Hope dawns as refugees return

WHEN the rains came in early December, Julius Malema went back to Mozambique. He had wanted to return from his self-imposed exile for a long time. The urge was strongest in October when he learned the war between Renamo and Frelimo was finally over.

He knew, of course, that pockets of bandits still roamed the countryside but he was not afraid of his own people. Yet he did not leave immediately. He was held back by the drought.

Now seeking rains had fallen and it was time to return. Malema, a member of the French-based medical relief organization Médecins Sans Frontières, said this week that hundreds of Mozambicans such as Malema were returning to ascertain the conditions of the countryside.

Malema said "We heard the rains had come and they went to see for themselves if they could plant crops. They wanted to find out if seed and water was available so that they could start rebuilding their lives."

In many instances, seed fertilizer and agricultural implements were there. South Africa is one country that has offered food. It hoped for reconstruction from other countries can be expected for reconstruction. From other countries once peace is established.

Kaska said the peace process negotiated by Frelimo and Renamo was "going through quicker than originally thought. Many of the roads were not fit for a month or two ago. The bandits had started retreating."

One of the most remarkable aspects of the conflict is the spiritual, he said. It was the spirit of reconciliation in Mozambique. Villagers whose families had been murdered and whose lands had been burned down were now allowing the men who had killed and burned to settle in villages with them as long as they did not use their weapons.

Mozambicans are tired of bloodshed and are prepared to forgive in exchange for peace.

During the 10-year war, more than 5 million Mozambicans fled their homes. Some 1.5 million have crossed the borders as refugees and settled in Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana and South Africa. Others, displaced by the war, moved closer to the cities of Mozambique and in search of protection. Most lost all their possessions.

Kaska met President de Klerk earlier this month to speak to him about refugees in this country and to present him with a book published by MSF "Population in Danger:演说". He told the president that in spite of the recurring peace process, it was taking too long for all refugees to return home.

De Klerk, he said, had assured him that refugees in Mozambique and South Africa would be treated humanely. Julius Malema was in the vanguard of the returning refugees. After five years in exile, he is hopeful he can survive once again on the land that has been his family's forever.