

Mozambique

The SA helicopter crews expected in Mozambique shortly to help defend the Cahora Bassa power lines to the Transvaal will find themselves involved in a war against at least 8,000 insurgents. They will join another foreign force in defending Mozambique – the estimated 1,300 Zimbabwean troops protecting the Beira-Mutare fuel pipeline and a long section of the highway through Tete to Malawi.

Both the pipeline and traffic on the road have been attacked frequently by rebels of the MNR. According to officials in the northern province of Tete, the SAAF helicopters and their crews will provide transport for Mozambican troops deployed to guard the 902km of highly vulnerable transmission lines between Cahora Bassa and the Transvaal border ...

According to officials in Tete, a decision on when the SAAF helicopters would be deployed was to have been made at last week's meeting of the Mozambican-SA Joint Security Commission. However no details of plans to protect the power lines were released after the meeting.

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