

Effects of famine and drought in Mozambique An airlift of food and other essential goods to the northern province of Niassa, where over 440,000 people are threatened by famine, is now under way, according to the Maputo 'Noticias' newspaper cited by the Pan-African agency on 6th October. Seven cargo flights from Maputo to the two largest towns in Niassa, Lichinga and Cuamba, have brought in about 80 tons of goods. The crisis in Niassa, the agency said, "arises partly from torrential rains that washed away much of this year's crops and partly from the activities of the South African backed MNR [Mozambican National Resistance] bandits which have left peasant families without food reserves". The provincial administration estimates that Niassa will need 24,000 tons of grain over the next six months.

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