

# MACHUNGO VISITS MASSACRE SITE

**MAPUTO.** Prime Minister Mario Machungo, and other government officials, on Thursday paid their last respects to the victims of Saturday's bandit massacre in the southern Mozambican town of Homoine, in which at least 386 people died.

Cde Machungo visited Homoine's Manhica Cemetery, where many of the victims have been buried. Some lie in individual graves, but those who could not be identified have been buried in a mass grave.

The prime minister also visited the hospital that the bandits looted, and

where they murdered patients, including newly born babies and pregnant women. He also inspected shops looted by the MNR, and spoke with eye-witnesses of the massacre.

Before his visit to Homoine, Cde Machungo was in the provincial capital, Inhambane City, where he visited the provincial hospital and spoke to people wounded in the bandit attack.

He also discussed the measures taken to aid the families who lost relatives in the massacre, and to re-establish normal life in the Homoine area.

Also on Thursday, the Mozambican president,

Cde Joaquim Chissano accused South Africa of direct responsibility for the massacre.

"We don't think, we know who did it. It was the South Africans," Cde Chissano said at Maputo Airport before flying to Lusaka.

● In Washington, the United States assistant secretary of state, Dr Chester Crocker, this week said the principal responsibility for the creation and continuation of MNR bandits in Mozambique was firstly Mr Ian Smith's Rhodesia administration and then the South African defence force. — Ziana-AIM-Sapa.

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