

UN Unit Confirms Massacres And Torture in Mozambique

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 10 (Reuters).—Portuguese and Rhodesian soldiers were responsible for the torture and massacre of at least 1,000 Africans in west-central Mozambique in the last three years of the war of independence, according to a UN report released here yesterday.

The previous Portuguese government, whose determination to maintain its African colonies despite African guerrilla successes led to the military coup in Lisbon in April, had denied that massacres took place.

The report also established the existence of a village, Wiriyamu, where some 200 people were killed, although the former Portuguese government denied knowing of the village.

Commission's Findings

Among the commission's findings were the following:

- Portuguese troops and secret police killed more than 400 in the Tete villages of Chawola, Joao and Wiriyamu, which are at the confluence of the Zambezi and Luenha Rivers, in December, 1972. Wiriyamu was also known as Vilano Valete.

- Portuguese and Rhodesian forces killed 184 people in the village of Zambeze and neighboring villages in March, 1972.

- Ninety people were killed in Chisauaio, in an area called Angonia.

- As recently as March of this year, 200 were killed in Inhaminga, in the Beira District.

- To force the local population to move to other districts, especially to move Africans from the area around the Cabora Bassa dam, Portuguese troops often destroyed their property.