

# Chissano blames enemies for Machel's death

**GABORONE.** MOZAMBIKAN President Joaquim Chissano on Wednesday strongly attacked the enemies of peace for assassinating his predecessor, Cde Samora Machel, causing terror in Mozambique and destabilising the Frontline States.

Addressing a crowd of over 5 000 people at Tonota village near Francis town, Cde Chissano said the enemies of peace had hoped that after assassinating "our president, Mozambicans would give up their struggle". He said, to their disappointment, Mozambicans became even more united and courageous than ever before.

He blamed the South African-backed MNR for the state of terror in Mozambique. He said the MNR was being recruited, trained and armed by the apartheid regime in South Africa. Cde Chissano, who had just visited Bo-

tswana's diamond mine in Orapa, said with support from the Frontline States, he was confident that the MNR would be defeated and peace would be restored in Mozambique.

In Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) yesterday called for a halt to the massacre of civilians in Mozambique.

At least 72 people were killed in the town of Manjacaze in southern Mozambique on Monday. About 400 people were killed at Homoine, north of Maputo, on July 18 — the biggest mass killing in Mozambique's banditry war.

The International Red Cross has appealed for US\$2,9 million to help distribute basic food rations and relief supplies to 35 000 drought victims facing starvation in southern Mozambique.

Meanwhile, Botswana

and Mozambique have agreed to set up a "joint permanent commission of co-operation", to develop and strengthen programmes on socio-economic and technical co-operation, according to a joint communique issued on Thursday at the end of President Joaquim Chissano's official visit to Botswana.

The commission will co-ordinate co-operation in such fields as foreign affairs, economic development, trade, transport and communications, agriculture, education, training and culture. — Ziana-Bopa-Reuter-AP.