

IV(B) - A F R I C A

Mozambican President's press conference: S Africa violating Nkomati accord President Chissano said on 4th December at his first press conference since taking office last month that South Africa had repeatedly violated the Nkomati non-aggression accord by sending planes into Mozambican airspace to drop supplies to the "bandits" of the Mozambican National Resistance, MNR. In his remarks, broadcast by Maputo radio, he said that Mozambique would not violate the Nkomati accord, but nor would it negotiate with "the South-African controlled MNR bandits", whom he described as terrorists. Chissano rejected South African claims that ANC guerrillas operated from Mozambique; if South Africa provided the evidence, he said, "then Mozambique is ready to stop this from happening". Chissano was asked about Malawi's "duplicity in our region's problems"; the President replied that Malawi had to take part in the destruction of armed banditry: "It must see to it that armed bandits - who use Malawian territory either with or without the consent of the Malawian government - stop using it." Although Mozambique was not calling on Malawi to bring in troops to fight the MNR, as Zimbabwean troops were doing, Malawi must make its position clear; "there can no longer be any middle ground", he said.*