

Frelimo aids Rhodesia raids

27/x1/75 G. P4

From HENRY MILLER: Salisbury, November 26

Mozambique's Frelimo guerrilla movement is providing valuable assistance to Rhodesian guerrillas in mounting their campaign in the North-east of Rhodesia, according to official sources here.

A briefing for reporters on the current security situation by security force commanders showed that Rhodesian guerrillas are freely using Frelimo base camps across the border. The political changes in Mozambique have also allowed Rhodesian guerrillas easier passage in and out of Rhodesia, using Frelimo base camps as staging posts, the security spokesmen said.

The end of the war in Mozambique had also meant that traditional guerrilla training camps to the north also had more time to spend on Rhodesian guerrilla trainees.

The briefing showed that since the middle of this year Rhodesian guerrillas had made an attempt to extend their operations inside Rhodesia.

The spokesmen said this had become apparent soon after the spread of guerrilla activity and Rhodesian security forces had taken counter measures.

The calibre of Rhodesian guerrillas had fallen considerably in recent months, the spokesmen said. One reason for

this was that many of the original "hard-core" and more dedicated guerrillas had been either killed or captured since the campaign started in December, 1972.

It was estimated that there were between 350 and 400 guerrillas currently operating in Rhodesia. The guerrilla death toll since December, 1972, stands at 468, with an undisclosed number captured. In the same period 20 convicted guerrillas have been hanged. Because of the increased "kill rate" in recent months the morale of the Rhodesian security forces was "very high."