

# We won't quit *Chronicle* 17-6-88 Maputo: Mugabe

**HARARE** — Zimbabwean troops will continue with their operations in Mozambique against MNR bandits to protect the country's routes to the sea, President Mugabe said here yesterday.

Speaking at State House when visiting New Zealand Foreign Minister Mr Russel Marshall paid a courtesy call on him, President Mugabe said progress in the Southern African region was being undermined by South African destabilisation.

"We are still in Mozambique and we are there at great expense. But we know the benefits of remaining there," he said.

The President was speaking only a day after a group of

64 former dissidents in Gwanda threatened to return to the bush unless their demands, which included a withdrawal of Zimbabwean troops from Mozambique, were met.

Yesterday the President said there was need for all peace-loving nations to help Mozambique defend its sovereignty.

Zimbabwean and Tanzanian troops were sent to Mozambique initially to guard routes to the sea.

But, owing to South Africa's destabilisation, the two countries were now giving Mozambique military aid to overcome the MNR bandits.  
— Ziana-Own Corr.