

# Maputo soldiers end ZNA H. 14.11.87 training

**Herald Reporter**  
THE training of Mozambican soldiers by the Zimbabwe National Army inside that country will boost the fighting capacity of Mozambicans against the South African-backed MNR bandits.

Already four battalions have been trained this year by the ZNA team inside Mozambique with the most recently trained battalion passing-out on Tuesday at the small town of Nyamatanda.

Veteran guerilla fighter and commander of the Nyamatanda Training Centre, Lt-Col Rex Tichafa, of the ZNA, said the Mozambican soldiers went through a rigorous training programme in classical and counter-insurgency warfare as well as basic military training.

"In fact I can safely say that these men can fight side-by-side with the ZNA," he said.

However, the numbers of the battalions need to be boosted to make the

training programme more effective. The South African-trained and equipped MNR bandits have to be fought by a well-trained army with full logistical back-up if they are to be smashed.

Tuesday's pass-out parade was a popular event as hundreds of people

gathered at a local football ground to witness the parade held in the heart of the small town of Nyamatanda in Sofala Province.

Three other units were trained in Manica and Tete provinces earlier this year.

Lt-Col Tichafa said the main problem during the training was inadequate facilities and the language barrier as the courses were done in English. The official language in Mozambique is Portuguese.

Besides the four battalions which have been trained by the ZNA inside

Mozambique, a number of officers from the Mozambican army had been trained by both British and Zimbabwean instructors at the Nyanga training camp.

All these are efforts by the Mozambican government to build up a fully trained professional army to fight MNR bandits.