Mozambique

Chissano Continues Nampula Tour in Nacala MB0610120688 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 6 Oct 88

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano said on his fourth day of a working visit to the northern province of Nampula that he neither carries guidelines in his pockets nor special solutions to the problems existing in the province. The president said his aim is to learn for himself the real situation in Nampula. His visit is also to encourage the local provincial leadership to seek alternative solutions to the various problems in the province.

Nampula has been the scene of destruction through South Africa's MNR banditry. About 80 percent of the factories have come under attack, some of them several times. Sixty-six of the communal villages have been destroyed. In 1988, 591 people were murdered. The war has also substantially reduced the areas agricultural cultivation [words indistinct] for wheat are down by half compared to 1981, the best year since independence. Work on the Nacala Railway line is being paralyzed due to the security situation arising from MNR terrorist attacks. The government set up 85 centers for displaced people in the province.

Today, President Chissano was expected to visit the air base and the paratroops (living) in the city of Nacala. These installations are particularly significant due to the major and increasingly successful role played by the Air Force and by Mozambican special forces in the fight against the terrorists. The president is also due to visit the Nacala cement factory which has been rehabilitated in order to provide raw material for the plant producing concrete railway sleepers at Namialo, about 100 km to the west. President Chissano received a rousing welcome by the people on his arrival in Nacala yesterday.