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Mozambique

Further on Death of MNR's Fernandes

Gruveta Denies Allegations

MB221805 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1730 GMT 22 Apr 88

[Text] Major General Bonifacio Gruveta has denied reports that he was in Lisbon on the eve of the disappearance of Evo Fernandes, one of the ringleaders of armed banditry murdered recently.

During last weekend, I was in Beira accompanying a delegation from the PDRY [People's Democratic Republic of Yemen] Socialist Party, Gruveta said in an interview with AIM. LUSA cited Iveti Fernandes as pointing out that here husband was to meet Bonifacio Gruveta and a number of Mozambican security members after a dinner last Sunday.

Bonifacio Gruveta's presence in Mozambique during Evo Fernandes' kidnapping was equally confirmed by TEMPO magazine photographer Kok Nam, who told AIM that he was with Gruveta at the TEMPO magazine's building last Monday.

Earlier, Mozambican Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi rejected Iveti Fernandes' accusation that Mozambican authorities were involved in kidnapping her husband in Lisbon.