

A setback for the CIA: claim

MAPUTO. — American aid advisors working in Mozambique yesterday expressed apprehension, relief and solidarity, but no surprise, at Wednesday's announced expulsion of CIA agents, claimed to be working under US Embassy cover, the official

news agency AIM reported.

"I'm not at all surprised," said one American, a long-time Maputo resident. "I expected it all along. I am surprised that a whole ring was caught because it's unusual to expose a network. "This is an important vic-

tory for Mozambique because it is a setback for the CIA in terms of the kind of destabilising work they are doing in Southern Africa."

He pointed out that the CIA had been involved in Mozambique for some years and commented: "If it was possible without Reagan's support, this sort of thing is going to be even easier now that he is President."

The AIM report said the American advisory community in Mozambique was relatively small and all those interviewed asked not to be named.

Many expressed the hope that the Maputo government would continue to differentiate between the actions of the American government and American citizens.

AIM said a statement from two American workers there stressed their complete support for the Mozambican action and efforts "to consolidate the Mozambican revolution by assuring its political, economic and military security."

The statement said Mozambique's support for "liberation" movements in South Africa had made it a particular target for CIA attacks.

Another resident said American citizens had to increase their vigilance. "as Reagan people take charge, the covert actions will increase and the need to cut funds that support it and to expose these actions becomes even more important," she said. — Sapa.