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Pilot's brother seeks asylum

By GHERHARD PIETERSE

THE BROTHER of the recently defected Mozambican pilot has also fled to South Africa and asked for political asylum.

Mr Bonaventura Bomba, his wife and two-year-old child crossed the South African border from Swaziland 36 hours after his brother landed his MiG 17 at the Hoedspruit airbase.

Brig A J S van der Lith, Chief of Air Staff: Intelligence, said he believed the lieutenant's brother had applied for permanent residence

The Director-General of Internal Affairs, Mr J W A van der Merwe, said:

"Lt Bomba's application for

permanent residence is under consideration, but we have not yet received any documentation from his brother."

Interviewed by local and foreign journalists at the Hoedspruit airbase yesterday, Lt Bomba said he and his brother had not discussed defection to South Africa.

Bonaventura and his family were in Swaziland when they heard of Lt Bomba's dramatic dash from Mozambique.

"My brother must have felt he would like to be with me."

Lt Bomba said although his parents and sisters were still in Mozambique, he did not think they were in danger because of his defection.