

# S Africa blamed for blast

**SOUTH AFRICAN** black guerrillas are almost certainly behind a series of explosions in central Mozambique on Wednesday night which hit the oil pipeline to Zimbabwe and closed road and rail links between Salisbury and the port of Beira.

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The sabotage operation, which has been threatened for months by rebels of the Mozambique Resistance Movement, was carried out only a few days before repair work on the pipeline was due to be completed. The line has been closed since the revolt by the Rhodesian whites in 1965 and was due to open in December after tests.

Lonrho, which owns the controlling shareholding in the line had received only on-site report by yesterday and said it was too early to give an assessment of the damage. It was possible, however, that the opening would be delayed, a spokesman said.

*Stephen Taylor*