

**Anti-bandit operations in Sofala Province.** (Excerpts from item in armed forces' "Voice of Combat" programme) . . . The enemy in Sofala Province has been suffering heavy casualties which explains its state of despair and the mass surrenders to the armed forces and members of the public. It is a result of the closely-strengthened relations between security and defence forces and members of the public. . . . In the meantime, the continuing tasks of strengthening the defence of strategic and economic units, maintaining stability among the members of the public by intensifying the preparedness and training of local forces, and raising people's vigilance to create obstacles to actions of armed bandits are some of the multiple activities that the new Sofala provincial committee is preparing to implement.

These reports were compiled by our reporters during the first session of the proceedings of that supreme party organ in the Province which was aimed at discussing the short-term tasks to be implemented within the framework of preparations for the fourth congress. The proceedings were chaired by the resident Minister, who is also the National Political Commissar of the Mozambican Armed Forces, FPLM, Lt-Gen Armando Guebuza. (Maputo in Portuguese 0605 gmt 20 Mar 83)