

**Anti-MNR operations in Mozambique's Manhica district** - (Excerpts from item in Armed Forces' "Voice of Combat" programme) The struggle against the armed bandits has been intensified in Manhica district over the past few days. Thanks to efforts by FPLM units, positive results have been achieved... The middle of May was marked by major operations against armed bandit hide-outs. These bandits were interrupting traffic between Maluane and Esperanca, as well as in Taninga. Spreading widely from Magude, FPLM operations led to a siege of the armed bandits and forced them to flee to their hide-outs deep in the jungle... [and then] actions were launched to destroy them. The FPLM forces' first target was Macaene camp, which was regarded by the bandits as the main camp for food and war materiel supplies in the province. More than 45 bandits were killed in the attack on this camp... [and among the goods recovered] were over 20 cows and large quantities of sheep, clothing, radios, and bicycles. Moreover, the bandits had hidden large quantities of maize which they had stolen from the people in the Magude communal villages. With the destruction of this camp, the surviving bandits fled with their wounded...

[Other camps in Manhica district] were destroyed in the continuation of the FPLM forces' operations.

From the 26th May, operations against the bandits in Manhica district entered a decisive phase. For three consecutive days, our forces destroyed a number of camps from which the bandits attempted to reach National Highway 1 and some communal villages between Esperanca and Maluane. The bandits suffered so many losses and became so short of equipment that some left their weapons in the jungle in an attempt to pass as local residents... On 10th June, a group of bandits complained that it had lost many men and had about 100 wounded in its hideout. The group's ringleaders immediately ordered it to march all night, taking the wounded. It must be presumed that many of those wounded were killed on the way because they were a burden to the others. It is therefore as a result

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of these successive defeats in Manhica district that the armed bandits are trying to carry out spectacular attacks against communal villages. They are murdering people to make it known that their presence is still felt. (Maputo in Portuguese 0605 gmt 21 Jun 86)