

Row over MNR

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Dr Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, said in Nairobi yesterday the US believed a "pattern of communication and support" by South Africa for the MNR still existed.

He said US officials had discussed, without making a decision, the possibility of providing military aid to Mozambique's Marxist government for its fight against the MNR.

"There is already a lot of arms in that country," said Dr Crocker, noting that Mozambique now receives US economic and food aid. "What we would hope is that neighbours would leave Mozambique to settle its own problems, and some of them have not been doing that."

Soon after Dr Crocker's statements, South African Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha said he regretted the comments.