

# MNR attack wreaks havoc in Mozambican town

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## NAMPULA.

**BANDITS** of the South African-backed Mozambique National Resistance have attacked the town of Monapo in the northern province of Nampula, wrecking industrial installations, an electricity station and the local hospital.

The attack, which took place in the early morning of January 2, has been confirmed to ADM's Nampula correspondent by military sources.

Monapo lies on the line of road and rail from Nampula city to the port of Nacala. It is 140 km east of Nampula.

In the raid the bandits killed eight people and kidnapped several others, including a Portuguese citizen and his wife and child. He is one of several

Portuguese employed by the Monapo industrial company, a firm of largely Portuguese capital, that makes soap and edible oils.

The bandit force split into two groups during the attack so as to raid simultaneously the industrial zone and the part of Monapo that houses the local administration. The two areas are separated by about 2 km.

In the industrial zone the MNR dynamited the Monapo industrial company's electricity generating plant, burnt 12 vehicles parked in front of the factory, and destroyed a nearby wagon containing 30 tonnes of cashew nuts.

The group then moved on to a cotton ginning mill where they burnt several bales of cotton.

The second MNR group blew up the Monapo district administrative offices, and the residence of the district administrator. The administrator was not in Monapo that day.

The bandits also destroyed Monapo rural hospital, and the town's electricity station. This is also the centre for the transformation and distribution of electric power from Nacala to Nampula city, to Mozambique island, just off the Nampula coast, and to the district of Mossuril.

The bandits also destroyed the Monapo police headquarters.

Eye-witnesses of the attack said that the bandits were led by a man carrying a list of people to be killed or kidnapped.

Meanwhile, the military situation in the district of Nicoadala in Mozambique's central province of Zambezia is returning to normal after search and destroy operations carried out in recent weeks by Mozambican commandos against MNR bandits.

The town of Nicoadala is about 35 km north of the provincial capital, Quelimane, and Nicoadala district stretches to the borders of Mopela and Morrumbala, two districts very severely affected by MNR banditry. — ~~Blade~~ Pana.