

# Italian propagandist for MNR killed

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THE price of illegally entering Frontline States with bandit groups has been starkly illustrated by the death in Mozambique of an Italian journalist, Almerigo Griz.

On May 19 emergency relief supplies were moved into the town of Caia on the south bank of the Zambezi River in Mozambique's eastern Sofala province.

A few hours later a bandit group attacked the town in an attempt to destroy the supplies. In the resulting battle, the bandits suffered heavy casualties and Mozambican troops found

among the bodies a dead white man identified from his travel documents as Griz.

The Italian, who ran an agency called Albatross, was well known as a propagandist for the armed bandits in Mozambique.

In early 1986 he had illegally entered Mozambique from Malawi with the MNR. He was accompanied by Lord Michael Cecil whose brother, Richard, was killed in the Zimbabwean liberation struggle while carrying a gun as well as a camera with Rhodesian troops.

Articles and film by Griz and

Cecil were widely distributed in Europe, including in the London newspaper, The Sunday Times, as part of the propaganda offensive in support of the armed bandits.

Last September, when the late President Samora Machel visited Malawi with the Prime Minister, Cole Mugabe, and Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, to protest at Malawian support for the bandits, he presented the Malawian leader with a dossier containing evidence in support of the protest.

Included in this dossier were

photocopies of the passports of Griz and Cecil. Griz's passport number was M214847 showing that he was born in Trieste on April 11 1933, and still resided in that city.

His Malawian visa had been issued by the Malawian High Commission in London on March 18 and he had entered Malawi at Lilongwe on April 11 to make his illegal entry into Mozambique with the armed bandits.

Since then Griz had become a major propagandist for the armed bandits. — Herald Correspondent.