

US denies recognition of MNR bandits

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THE fact that a United States government official had talks with an MNR bandit representative in Washington did not mean that the United States now recognised the organisation, the State Department has said.

A statement released in Harare yesterday by the United States Information Service reported that State Department spokesman Charles Redman

confirmed at a briefing in Washington on Monday that a department officer had held "low level" talks with MNR's Washington representative Luis Seraplao.

However, Mr Redman had emphasised that "this meeting does not mean recognition of the group as a political organisation". "We are not changing our policy (towards Renamo bandits) in any way," he said. — Ziana.