

MNR bandit

03 AUG 1987

incursion from SA increases

MAPUTO.

MASSIVE infiltration of bandits of the South African-backed MNR have taken place over the last few days across the border between the South African province of the Transvaal and the Mozambican province of Gaza, according to a source in the general staff of the Mozambican armed forces, Noticias reported on Saturday.

The bandit groups, said the military source, are heading for important economic centres in Gaza, notably Chokwe and Ohlombene in the fertile Limpopo valley.

Heavy fighting has

continued in Gaza, particularly in the area of Chidenguele, in Manjacaze district, near the coast.

Noticias states that the latest wave of bandit infiltration follows incursions elsewhere in southern Mozambique earlier in the year, which resulted in the recent massacre of 388 people in the town of Homoine in Inhambane province.

The paper also notes that the bandit infiltration coincides with new threats against Mozambique by the South African defence minister General Magnus Malan. Ziana/AIM-Pana.

H: 870803