

5 MNR shot at border

FIVE MNR bandits were killed and several others wounded at dawn on Friday after attacking a Frelimo army unit at the border post of Mucumbura, next to Zimbabwe's Mukumbura District, the Zimbabwe Information Services reported yesterday.

Several Mukumbura villagers accompanied by a ZIS team visited the scene of the attack and found dead bandits scattered several metres away from the border post. Three of the dead bandits wore camouflage uniforms while the rest had civilian clothes.

The Frelimo commander at Mukumbura, Captain Eusebio Assumane, said the bandits launched their attack in the early hours of Friday, but fled after reportedly suffering losses.

Captain Assumane said that one of the dead bandits was thought to be the leader of a group of about 60 who attacked the border post for 45 minutes. A pistol, two AK 47 rifles, a machine-gun and a number of ammunition rounds were recovered after the bandits fled.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Ode Moven Mahachi, warned in Chipinge on Friday that MNR bandit gangs have taken to cross-border attacks against Zimbabwe and that their primary targets have been agricultural installations and equipment.

In July, MNR bandits attacked and destroyed the Katiyo Tea Estate's factory in the Hoodo Valley in Nyanga.