

MINISTERS

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IN MOVES TO

CHECK MNR

MUTARE.

ZIMBABWE'S defence and security ministers are touring the eastern border area to assess the seriousness of the recent MNR movements into this country.

The incursions had caused concern to the Government, forcing the ministers and senior military officials to visit the area and analyse the security situation.

The Minister of State (Security), Cde Emmerson Munangagwa said on Saturday: "We are now looking at the situation to assess the potential danger these people can cause. We are busy

organising the people to be vigilant and to assist the security forces by passing on information about the movement of the bandits.

The South African-sponsored bandits were crossing into Zimbabwe in search of food and clothing and had kidnapped and injured civilians in the process.

Accompanied by the Minister of State (Defence), Cde Ernest Kadungure, Air Marshall Josiah Tungamirai and senior service chiefs, Cde Munangagwa said that the shortage of food and clothing inside rural Mozambique has forced the bandits to penetrate Zimbabwe to loot.

The Government was confident that after the people were alerted, the bandits would find it difficult to cross into Zimbabwe.

The minister said Zimbabweans were not al-

lowed to accommodate or feed Mozambicans who crossed into Zimbabwe before reporting them to the security forces.

"No one from Mozambique must be employed or housed in this country before being reported to the police. You must maintain maximum vigilance and report all foreigners, whether they are your brothers or not," he said.

The Pretoria-backed insurgents, who operate with utmost brutality, this year blew up the \$60 000 Katiyo Tea factory. Their attempts to sabotage other vital economic installations along the border have been repulsed by the security forces.

South African-sponsored MNR bandits are planning to hit more economic targets, particularly factories, along Zimbabwe's eastern border, the Minister of State (Security), Cde

Emmerson Munangagwa, said.

He told about 300 workers and their families at the Stapleford factory, run by the Forestry Commission, that a number of Mozambican rebels were crossing into Zimbabwe to gather intelligence information.

Home Affairs Minister, Cde Enos Nkals, has called on the people to liaise with security forces and stop Mozambican rebels from infiltrating the country.

He told about 500 villagers at Chief Chapoto's house in Kanyemba, 230 km north of Guruve, that peace was an essential component for development and the people must guard it jealously. — ZIANA.