

# Survivor relives MNR massacre

MAPUTO.

ONE of the survivors of last Friday's massacre at Tanginga in southern Mozambique said yesterday that she had seen crying children thrown into burning vehicles by South African-backed MNR bandits.

Tanginga is about 80 km north of Maputo, and MNR bandits last Friday ambushed a convoy of civilian vehicles, killing 58 people.

Mrs Leonor Tembe (45) said: "The bus in which I had been travelling was burning and I saw the bandits throwing a great many children inside it."

Eighteen vehicles, in-

cluding three passenger buses on their way from Maputo to Gaza and Inhambane provinces, were set on fire in the attack.

Mrs Tembe had been travelling in one of the buses with her husband and nine-month-old baby.

Early in the attack, Mrs Tembe was shot in the leg and her baby was thrown to the side of the road. Although bleeding badly, she said she was able to crawl over to her baby and cover it with sand to hide it.

"They asked me what I had, and I said I only

had the clothes I was wearing. They shot me in the leg again," Mrs Tembe recalled. Four people lying close to her on the ground were not so lucky. They were shot to death, she said.

Another survivor, 61-year-old Goveta Chachuaio, had been to Maputo to visit an eye specialist about the blindness in his right eye. He is back in the Maputo Central Hospital with bullet wounds in both arms.

Mr Chachuaio said the tragedy would have been worse if the Mozambican army had not intervened. — ZIANA-ATM.

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