

# BANDIT AID EXPOSED

By a Special  
Correspondent

MILLIONS of rands were spent financing thousands of Mozambican bandits in camps in the northern and eastern Transvaal, according to Cde Trish Hanekom, a Zimbabwean, just released after three years sentence in Pretoria's maximum security prison.

Details of her security trial which was held in camera, and South Africa's efforts to undermine

the governments of Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Lesotho and Angola are emerging for the first time, following her release on Friday and immediate deportation.

The arrest of Mrs Hanekom (30), her husband (32) a South African and Roland Hunter (29), born in Lesotho, and who was doing his national service in military intelligence, caused a sensation at the time, not only because

they were white, but because Hunter was labelled a spy.

All three are expected to be charged with treason, which carries the death sentence. However, they got light sentences following a deal between the state, embarrassed by their knowledge of South Africa's covert operations, and their defence counsel.

The arrests took place

shortly before the Nkomati non-aggression pact in 1984 signed between South Africa and Mozambique, and revelations of Pretoria's activities in the region, would have been devastating for the peace plan.

The authorities refused the three accused's defence team access to 12 key documents, which contained damning proof of South Africa's secret wars.

Hunter had for a year photo-copied documents in military intelligence headquarters. The Hanekoms, who were friends of Roland Hunter, buried them in a trunk on their farm in the Magaliesberg Mountains near Johannesburg.

In addition to photo-copying top secret

papers, Hunter memorised file numbers detailing covert operations and would have subpoenaed the files in court.

The state proposed a deal because it knew any leak of the contents of the documents would have been an incredible embarrassment.

They were eventually charged under the International Security Act.

Mrs Hanekom served a three-year sentence, one of only six white women at present in prison for political offences.

Roland Hunter still has two years to go before he is released and Derek Hanekom was freed last year.

"Roland handled large amounts of money on behalf of the military, paying Renamo rebels, including one of its leaders, Alfonso Diakhama. The leaders were very well-paid and also received freeboard and lodging.

"He witnessed new AK 47s being loaded into aircraft at Voortrekkerhoogte, South Africa's military headquarters, destined for Mozambique, and was told by his superiors that this operation codenamed Mila was successful and cost-effective.

"They admitted their plans for Zimbabwe's destabilisation were not going as well as expected."