

Mozambique: surrender of rebel commander (Text)

Jose Joao, an armed bandit known as Cdr Derere [phonetic], recently surrendered to the military authorities in Gondola district of Manica province. He was accompanied by 103 people who had been living under the yoke of the armed bandits. Jose Joao, 46 years old, joined the bandit ranks in 1982. He led sabotage actions against the Beira-Mutare pipeline and murdered many defenceless civilians. Last Saturday [16th January] he was handed over to the Mozambican Red Cross along with 32 other armed bandits who benefited from the amnesty law which the People's Assembly approved recently. (*Maputo home service in Portuguese 1030 gmt 20 Jan 88*)