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FPLM Forces Kill 33 Rebels in Sofala Province *MB1005121688 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 10 May 88*

[Text] Units of the Mozambican Armed Forces, FPLM, stationed in Buzi, in central Sofala Province, killed 33 armed bandits and captured an equal number of light weapons during combat on 6 May. This was reported by sources at the provincial military command.

According to the sources, the battles were carried out by a Mozambican military unit pursuing a large group of bandits who, in the early hours of that morning, had attempted to attack a village of war veterans. During this criminal action, four children and two women were murdered. Along with the bodies of the dead bandits, several rounds of ammunition and goods stolen from the population were found at the battle site.

Information from Gaza, in the south of the country, indicates on 7 May a group of bandits attacked the 25 September village in Chokwe district, killing 17 people. During their retreat, the criminals stole a number of items belonging to the villagers.