

# MNR spy theory rejected after refugee probe

SM 22/5/86

Sunday Mail Reporter

THE American expert on refugees, Mr Robert Gersony, who recently completed a study on Mozambican refugees, has said he does not believe that there could be Renamo collaborators among the displaced Mozambicans in Zimbabwe's refugee camps.

- Answering a question at a

Press conference on Thursday in Harare, Mr Gersony said the interviews he had carried out in the refugee camps had shown that the refugees were "terrified" of the bandits and there was no way they could co-operate with them.

"According to the information I got from the refugees I interviewed, I don't see how the refugees could serve as a political base for an organisation whose activities they were reporting in this manner (as in the report)."

He said there has been a positive response to the report in the United States. The fact that 35 Senators in the United States had written to the United Nations asking for an independent

investigation to be carried out in Mozambique, was an indication of the interest the report has generated.

He also said he hoped that his report would be published and distributed worldwide and that it would encourage the international community to believe the reports from refugees. There had been a tendency by the international community to ignore reports from the refugees.

Mr Gersony was in Harare last week to brief the government and other non-governmental organisations on the contents of his report which revealed that about 100 000 Mozambicans were killed by the MNR bandits in the past two years.



MR GERSONY