

Commander Reports Destruction of 'Bandit Camps'
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[Text] FPLM forces in Manica Province destroyed two main armed bandit camps in the first 6 months of this year. Mavonde camp is especially worthy of note because it was regarded as the regional bandit camp.

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Our forces killed 12 armed bandits and captured an assortment of weapons, as well as secret weapons, in the Mavonde camp clash. This was disclosed by Lieutenant Colonel Fernando Tembo, Manica Province's military commander, during the Frelimo Party provincial committee's 10th session, which ended in Chimoio yesterday.

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Lt Col Tembo said that, during the first 6 months of this year, our forces killed 37 armed bandits who were part of a group of more than 300 bandits trying to attack Macossa town, in northern Manica Province. Our forces captured 25 weapons in this operation.

Lt Col Tembo reports the bandits attempted another attack against Rutanda administrative post, but the FPLM forces killed seven armed bandits and captured five weapons. He said that in the districts of Guru, Barue, Gondola, and Macossa armed bandits and abducted people have been surrendering to the authorities in larger numbers.