

Villagers murdered

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South African backed MNR bandits murdered at least 32 people in an attack against the village of Choboene, in southern Mozambique, in the early hours of 28 November. During the attack, four people were injured, and several others were abducted. The bandits burned down 149 houses in the village, which lies 35 kilometres north of Maputo, in the district of Moamba.

Alexandre Chemane, one of the surviving villagers, told AIM that the bandits split into three groups during the raid. He said: "Our small force of militiamen was unable to resist, and within a short while the bandits were killing and kidnapping people, and setting fire to houses. My house was burned down and all my property was stolen." Among those kidnapped was 50-year-old Rosa Mahlavate. She told AIM that the bandits ordered her to return to the village after a lengthy march, during which she saw some of those kidnapped with her shot to death. "There were lots of bandits," she said, "and they were all armed. Mostly they were aged between 12 and 15. The people I saw them kill were women."

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