

**Zambia Province Military Situation Deteriorates**  
*MB0401204089 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese*  
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[Text] Gile, Mozambique, 4 Jan (ANGOP)—AIM reports that the military situation in Mozambique's Zambezia Province has deteriorated once again, 6 months [words indistinct] the offensive launched by FPLM forces with the support of Tanzanian contingents.

The headquarters of districts recovered in the 1987-88 offensive have been targets of increasingly numerous sieges by apparently well-armed bandits since the end of October.

AIM added that Lugela district headquarters, in the center of the province, was under Renamo control during the 1st week of December, while the town of Gurue was occupied for 3 days.

Other districts like Ile, Mopeia, and the outskirts of Quelimane city have been targets of incursions over the same period.

The new escalation of aggression by the armed elements threatens reconstruction efforts in various districts. The Mozambican Government has recommended immediate reconstruction of infrastructures—particularly social ones—in areas repossessed by the army as a way of consolidating its control and accelerating assistance to the thousands of people who are freed from Renamo bandit captivity, where they are held under very inhumane conditions.