

# Toll of MNR atrocities spelt out by minister

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ALL those advocating talks between the Mozambican government and the MNR bandits are actually saying the Zimbabwean Government should seek similar talks with the bandits because they were killing Zimbabweans.

Making this statement during debate on the President's State of the Nation Address in the Assembly yesterday, the Minister of State (National Service), Cde Ernest Kadungure, said in the last three years a total of 323 Zimbabweans had been murdered, 268 wounded and 217 abducted by the MNR.

He detailed attacks against Zimbabwe's economic lifelines to the sea, which included 77 attacks on the pipeline with the loss of over six million litres of petrol, 10 million litres of diesel and over 1 million litres of jet fuel.

This year alone almost

200 000 litres of diesel had already been lost.

The railway line, he said, had been attacked 269 times, while this year alone, MNR bandits had killed 29 Zimbabweans, wounded 31 and abducted another 81.

He said in view of such figures, any MP who suggested that the Mozambican government should talk to the bandits was in fact saying the Government of this country should also seek dialogue with the bandits.

Cde Kadungure stressed that Zimbabwean troops were in Mozambique at the invitation of that country's government, and to withdraw them would spell economic ruin for this country because essentially they were helping a friendly government defend the vital interests of this country.

He said allegations that there was a complete breakdown of communication between the governments of the two countries were "utter trash" and no government with any sense would send its young men to be mur-

dered by the MNR without consulting the host government.

He suggested that Mutare Urban MP Edgar Tekere, who made the allegations in the House, had obtained this information from the shebeens he frequented in Mutare.

He also said it was "utter stupidity" on the part of Cde Tekere to suggest that the unity exercise would fail because the new party card bore the picture of President Mugabe.

"Do you really feel that this unity will fail? Some people with warped minds are dreaming if they think we are going to fail. There are some of us who are actually against unity, let alone its implementation," Cde Kadungure said, describing such people as political malcontents.

He appealed to MPs to stop attacks upon each other, saying that such utterances deterred potential investors, who got the impression that there was chaos in Zimbabwe.

The Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Cde David Karimanzira, told the House it was the people of Zimbabwe who declared they wanted a one-party state and the leadership of the ruling party which insisted a one-party state must not be imposed.

He said there were some people trying to tell the masses and the world that the leadership of the party was promoting the idea of a one-party state against the wishes of the majority.

But this was not correct as the masses had expressed their view at the last Zanu (PF) congress. All nine party provinces had come to the congress with resolutions expressing a desire for a one-party state in Zimbabwe, he said.

He said the leadership would not impose a one party state and asked why, therefore, some people should tell the world democracy in Zimbabwe was in danger and a one-party state would be forced on people.