

COUNTER OFFENSIVE AGAINST BANDITRY

Maputo province - At least four civilians were killed and 11 wounded during the South African backed MNR bandit attack on 7 May on the town of Moamba, centre of the district of Moamba, about 75 kilometres northwest of Maputo. According to a Radio Mozambique journalist who went to Moamba, the attackers burned down seven homes, four vehicles and a store owned by a Mr. Patel. They also looted goods from a number of houses in the town and from the surrounding suburbs, and assaulted the town's city hall. They pulled down some transmission and telephone lines and robbed a large amount of goods from the Moamba hotel.

The bandits also kidnapped an unknown number of people. According to Radio Mozambique, some of them managed to escape, and reported that the bandit group numbered about 300. During clashes with the bandits, the Mozambican armed forces killed seven bandits and captured various arms.

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