

## **Renamo Obstructs Aid Deliveries to Nampula**

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[Report from Nampula by correspondent Baaventura Macauze]

[Text] Monjicual is one of Nampula Province's most seriously affected districts by the war. By and large, Monjicual District is under the nefarious influence of Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance], forcing some of the residents to take refuge in neighboring districts. Baaventura Macauze has the details:

[Begin Macauze recording] The provincial branch of DPCCN [Department for the Prevention and Struggle Against Natural Disasters] has failed in its attempts to distribute food aid and clothing among the war- and famine-stricken residents who have sought shelter in Quixaxe, an administrative region of Mongicual District.

In April, Renamo virtually took most of the district's locations, forcing more than 2,000 people to move some 50 km to Monapo District. From a logistical and administrative standpoint, Quixaxe residents face an extremely serious situation.

People living near Quixaxe told our correspondent that by taking control of the region Renamo is seeking to undermine peace efforts being made in Rome, and to continue the suffering of the people. In order to prevent any road communications, Renamo has dug defensive trenches about 1 meter wide and 2 meters deep on the road linking Monapo District to the affected region. This has been confirmed by the military authorities who, however, have expressed their resolve to send relief aid in order to boost the morale of the residents.

On Monday [27 May], DPCCN tried to distribute more than 40 tonnes of foodstuffs and cooking oil, as well as 33 bundles of clothing. However, it was prevented from reaching the afflicted area in view of the defensive trenches dug on the road. The situation has been aggravated by torrential rains which forced the vehicles to unload their cargo in order to be able to move in certain areas.