

# Kenya's 'special favours' for Renamo

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More information on Kenyan support for Renamo terrorists in Mozambique are coming to light, reports **RUTH ANSAH AYISI** from Maputo:

THE Mozambique government has released documents showing that Kenya has been linked, at least since 1988, in a clandestine support structure backing anti-Frelimo forces.

This comes after President FW de Klerk paid an official visit to Nairobi on June 15 and 16. Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi said the visit marked the beginning of a new relationship.

South Africa has also been known to support Renamo in the past.

The documents captured from Renamo, prove that Kenya has also been backing the rebel guerrilla group.

The papers show that the Kenyan government, all the way to the office of the President, has provided diplomatic status to Renamo and arranged for "special protocols".

The Kenyans provided logistical and financial support in collusion with Malawi.

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The 200 pages of incriminating documents were seized in mid-April from a Renamo base at Nhamagodoa in Maringue district of the central province of Sofala. Much of the documentation is made up of transcripts of radio messages to Renamo's leader, Afonso Dhlakama.

Typical is a radio message from the Renamo representative in Kenya dated May 9 1988.

Under the code name "Joseph", the Renamo officer reports: "I am in Kenya and I met with the Kenyan government. The Kenyan president asked me to stay in contact between him and your excellency, President of Renamo. The people in Kenya trust me and want this operation to be very secret."

Later, on May 17, the once Cana-



Daniel Arap Moi

dian-based Renamo secretary for information, Francisco Nota Moises, relayed a message from Kenya saying that the Kenyan authorities planned to assist Renamo "as much as possible because of interference from Frelimo".

No details of the "interference" were given.

The next day concrete promises of support were relayed through Nota. "Kenya will provide travel documents and air tickets from Malawi and will arrange the airlift from the interior (of Mozambique) to Malawi. Kenya will work with Malawi concerning security and secrecy."

The message also said that "Kenya requests your excellency to present a budget of needs, financial and material".

The documents show that the Kenyan government was involved with Renamo a year before Arap Moi was asked to mediate in Mozambique's peace process in 1989.



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Diplomatic sources said at the time that Kenya's apparent lack of impartiality while mediating between Renamo and the Mozambican government became politically awkward, and reached a low when unconfirmed reports emerged in 1990 that Kenya was providing military training for the rebels.

Other transcripts reveal Renamo's problems of finance. In an unsigned and undated document, Renamo's intention of smuggling ivory is touched upon: "We need missiles with capac-

ity for helicopters, MiGs and other types of planes besides Dakotas," said the message.

"I would like to know the price of every missile. I would also like to know the price of every kilogram of ivory. Renamo can arrange ivory".

Still more documents confirm Renamo knowledge of atrocities committed against Mozambicans in their own country and in Malawi as well as raids into Zimbabwe where Zimbabweans were tortured and killed. — AIA