

Report blames Renamo for further atrocities

MAPUTO — At least 33 people have been killed by Renamo rebels in attacks in southern Mozambique since Saturday, Radio Mozambique reported yesterday.

The deadliest assault by the Renamo (Mozambique National Resistance) raiders was on Saturday when they attacked a village near the town of Xai-Xai, capital of Gaza province.

Thirty people, 14 of them children, were killed, the report said. Their heads had been cut off with machetes, according to state radio's local station in Xai-Xai. Nearly 70 peasant houses were burned down, an unknown number of people kidnapped and 29 head of cattle stolen, the radio said.

The violence of the attack could have been connected to the name of the village — Voz da Frelimo, or Voice of Frelimo. Frêlimo is Mozambique's ruling party, which Renamo has been trying to

overthrow for more than 15 years. Attempts to negotiate an end to the conflict have been dragging on without success since 1989.

On the same day another village near Xai-Xai, this one named after former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, was attacked by Renamo. A pregnant woman was killed and four people were seriously wounded, the radio said.

Also on Saturday a goods train was attacked on the line to Maputo 10 km from the South African border town of Komatipoort.

Another rail line in the south, leading to Goba on the border with Swaziland, was attacked about 40 km outside Maputo yesterday morning. The locomotive hit a landmine and the rebels then attacked, killing two railway workers and wounding two others. — Sapa-Reuters.

10 SEP 1991