

Maputo troops kill 2 250 bandits in 6 months^U

MAPUTO.
MOZAMBICAN troops killed 2 250 MNR bandits and captured 365 others in the first six months of this year, the government said in a report released at the weekend.

The report, by the Mozambican armed forces general staff headquarters to a biennial defence review meeting, said a number of important installations of the MNR bandits were destroyed

by the army in the same period. H. 17/9/91

These included the bush headquarters of MNR bandit leader Afonso Dhlakama at Nyanzuazua in the bandit heartland of Gorongosa district in central Mozambique. Dhlakama was not at the camp at the time, according to bandits captured in the attack.

The report said other

targets destroyed between January and the end of June were the MNR's "political base, the offices of its secret service and its general staff and its commercial base".

It said 95 bandits surrendered and more than 1 200 weapons of various types were captured.

The report gave no indication of government losses.

The four-day defence

review meeting was chaired by Defence Minister General Alberto Chipande.

MNR bandits have been fighting to overthrow the ruling Frelimo government for the past 15 years in a conflict that has cost hundreds of thousands of lives and forced more than one million Mozambicans into exile in neighbouring countries. -- Ziana-Reuter.