

# Goods train travelling to Maputo hits mine <sup>Herald</sup>

20/11/91

MAPUTO.

A GOODS train travelling from South Africa to Maputo hit a mine placed on the track on Monday afternoon and burst into flames, according to a report in yesterday's issue of the Maputo paper Noticias.

A spokesman for Mozambique Railways southern division told the paper that the ambush took place about 4 km from the border town of Ressano Garcia. The train was carrying a cargo of coal.

All crew members escaped unharmed, but the damage to the train is very severe. It was still burning by nightfall.

The railway spokesman did not speculate as to the identity of those who had laid the mine, but it is believed to be the work of MNR bandits, who have fre-

quently ambushed trains along the Maputo-South Africa line.

Meanwhile, the death toll in Saturday's raid against the outlying Maputo suburb of Zona Verde has risen from seven to 11. Four of the injured succumbed of their wounds on the way to hospital, according to Noticias.

The Saturday night killings occurred when a group of unidentified armed men surrounded a group of local residents who were enjoying themselves at stalls selling food and drink. The raiders opened fire indiscriminately, and then looted the stalls.

The owner of one of the stalls attacked said he could not understand how the raiders could attack with impunity "because just 300 m away there is a barracks which, under normal circumstances, should have responded to the raid". — Ziana-Pana.