

# Renamo wants to

# stop war - Mugabe

Sowetan

13 JAN 1992

HARARE - Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe, who met Mozambican rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama for the first time this week, says the Renamo boss is keen to end Mozambique's 16-year-old bush war.

"He is talking peace and expresses his desire for

peace," Mugabe told reporters on Friday night after returning home from a short visit to Malawi.

The local media said Mugabe and President Kamuzu Banda of Malawi met Dhlakama secretly in the city of Blantyre.

Mugabe described the meeting as "very good" and said he hoped it would help achieve peace.

The rightwing Mozambique National Resistance has been negotiating with the Mozambican government for 18 months to end the war, which has raged since soon after independence in 1975.

Political sources said Banda was trying to use his influence on Dhlakama, who has used Malawi as a political base, to advance the peace process. - *Sapa-Reuter*