Suspected MNR bandits kill 4 (4)

UNIDENTIFIED armed men, suspected of being members of the MNR bandits, killed four people and wounded 13 others in an attack on Tuesday night against the "7th April" suburb of the central Mozambican city of Chimoio, according to a report on Radio Mozambique yesterday.

If MNR bandits were responsible for the raid, this would constitute a violation of the agreement signed in Rome between MNR and the Mozambican government in December 1990.

Under that agreement, the MNR pledged to halt all military operations against the Limpopo and Beira corridors, the strategic routes that link Zimbabwe to the Indian Ocean. Chimoio lies within the Beira Corridor.

Members of a sub-committee of the international Joint Verification Commission, which monitors compliance with the agreement, visited Chimoio on Wednesday to investigate and spoke with some of the wounded in hospital.

Meanwhile, the Mozambican authorities believe that MNR bandits may have used chemical weapons in an attack on January 16 against Macaene, very close to the border with South Africa, according to a report on Wednesday night on the armed forces radio programme — Voz de Combate.—Ziana-Pana.