

Battles continue despite ceasefire

Despite the peace agreement signed between the Mozambican government and Renamo in Rome, there are reports of continued Renamo raids in various parts of the country.

On signing the ceasefire, the two sides agreed on an immediate cessation of hostilities, and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama pledged that he would be able to inform his men of this within 24 hours. In the past week, according to the official news agency *AIM*,

- Renamo attacked a food aid convoy in the northwestern province of Tete, killing eight civilians, and wounding two members of the military escort.

- A Renamo group attacked the village of Namuquela, in Murrupula district, in the northern province of Nampula. They burnt down 50 houses and kidnapped an as yet undetermined number of people. There were no reports of casualties.

- In the district of Lago, in the northernmost province of Niassa, Renamo

attacked the locality of Miluluca, and burnt down 30 homes.

- Renamo attacked the small town of Chapa, in Mueda district, in the northern province of Cabo Delgado.

- Renamo attacked the village of Ilute, in Mogovolas district, in the northern province of Nampula.

Frelimo officers said Renamo commanders in Niassa province are opposed to the ceasefire and want to step up their armed actions instead.

In the south of the country Renamo units are thought to have a well-organised command structure radio communications, and might therefore respond better to discipline. However, according to local observers there have been battles throughout the southern Maputo province since the ceasefire was signed.

Renamo, meanwhile, has accused the government of sending armed forces into three areas under rebel control in Zambezia, Cabo Delgado and Tete. *[Staff writers]*