

April 1-30, 1971

---

## MOZAMBIQUE

---

### New Offensive Launched

The Portuguese Armed Forces in Mozambique have launched new sweeping operations on three fronts now that the rainy season is over, according to a military communique issued on April 19th.

The communique named the three fronts as Cabo Delgado, Niassa, and Tete, adding that the Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO) was expected to step up its activities, mainly for psychological reasons.

The Portuguese high command believe that the main FRELIMO drive will be in the Tete district, aimed at the Cabora-Bassa hydro-electric project. According to the communique, isolated "enemy" strikes in the area have already been made and guerrilla groups making their way to Cabora-Bassa have been wiped out.

In spite of the bad weather in the first quarter of this year, the communique went on, security forces carried out several

Africa Research Bulletin (P) 8 (4) 15/5/1971

p. 2085

successful operations, destroying 45 "enemy" camps and killing 130 "terrorists". Referring to the offensive plans for this year's dry season, it said the outlook for the Portuguese forces was far more favourable than it was when last year's large-scale operations were launched in June (p. 1789).

FRELIMO announced in a communique broadcast on April 5th that activities had developed along three lines: (i) the consolidation of regions already liberated; (ii) the increased organisation and political mobilisation of the inhabitants of regions dominated by the Portuguese; and (iii) the extension of the armed struggle to new areas.  
(R. Free Portugal 5/4)

### Rhodesian Soldiers Killed

A Government statement in Salisbury on April 28th announced that three Rhodesian soldiers had been killed and one seriously injured when their vehicle struck a terrorist mine in the Ambesi Valley area within the Portuguese territory of Mozambique.

The statement added that a patrol of the Rhodesian Light Infantry crossed the border for "friendly contact" with the

Portuguese. They hit the mine on their return.  
(RH 29/4)

(See p. 2084)

*Last reference pp. 2021B-2022B*

---