

Dutch Cardinal hears Spanish priests' account

From Our Correspondent
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Two Spanish priests, Father Vincente Berenguer, aged 36, and Father Julio Moure, aged 28, who were the main sources of information on which Father Adrian Hastings based his report of systematic mass murder and atrocities in Mozambique, today had a long private talk with Cardinal Alfrink in Utrecht. They had been invited by the cardinal, as president of the Pax Christi movement in The Netherlands, to come to Holland and talk of their experiences during the years they worked in Mozambique.

On Friday the two priests go to Brussels and on Sunday they will travel to London.

The priests have repeated in The Hague the reasons they have given previously for seeking publicity for their protests against the conduct of the Portuguese in Mozambique.

"We come as Christian witnesses, not as politicians", both stated firmly. "We are driven by our consciences, and by nothing else. We have, directly or indirectly, witnessed mass murder, genocide and the systematic destruction of a people and their culture."

The two priests had few good words for the bishops in Mozambique, of whom only two, they said, would be willing to give evidence. They were particularly angry with the Bishop of Lourenço Marques, who they have said, stated publicly that he was "first a Portuguese and secondly a Christian".

Brussels, Aug 2.—A Belgian missionary said today that he received evidence from a Portuguese officer about the burning alive of an entire village population by Portuguese Government troops in the north of Mozambique.

Father Vic Nijs, of Beringen, told the Roman Catholic Flemish newspaper *Het Belang Van Limburg* that the officer said the operation was ordered as a reprisal for an attack by Frelimo, the Mozambique guerrilla organization.