

# Thousands of refugees still fleeing to SA

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Thousands of Mozambican refugees are still pouring into Gazanku'u, kaNgwane, Swaziland and Lebowa, each month in a desperate bid to escape the bitter conflict between MNR and Frelimo forces.

The South African Government announced last week that it is to ban the recruitment of Mozambican workers and to repatriate Mozambicans when their permits expired, but it is unlikely that the number of refugees crossing South Africa's borders will drop, say refugee relief workers.

About 60 000 "war refugees" have entered South Africa since early 1985. Operation Hunger is feeding more than 20 000 refugees daily in Gazankulu and about 10 000 more are receiving aid in kaNgwane.

In Gazankulu about 500 new refugees enter the Mhala district every month and up to 2 000 — who are caught by game rangers in the Kruger Park or security forces — are sent back to war-torn Mozambique monthly.

"If the war in Mozambique gets worse we can only expect more refugees to seek shelter in South Africa," said Mr Sam Nzima, chairman of the Phalalani Relief Committee.

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