

Mozambique talks ^{CT} 6/8/92 'off to a good start'

ROME. — Hopes of a quick accord to end 16 years of civil war rose yesterday when all night talks here between Mozambique's president and its rebel leader got off to a good start.

Mozambique President Joaquim Chissano and rebel leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama had their first face-to-face talks to try to end one of Africa's bloodiest wars.

The talks only broke up after dawn.

"All I can tell you for the moment is that the meeting went well," Mr Chissano said afterwards.

The talks are expected to continue until tomorrow.

● Five Mozambicans have been arrested for alleged arms trafficking to South Africa, but two South Africans involved escaped due to police negligence, reports said. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP