

New Renamo demands rejected

H 930724

ILE (Mozambique). MOZAMBICAN President Joaquim Chissano has rejected the new demands by Renamo leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama that MNR members be appointed as governors of several of Mozambique's 11 provinces.

Speaking at a rally in Ile, in the central province of Zambesia on Wednesday, Cde Chissano said that accepting such demands would be equivalent to renegotiating the peace agreement signed between the government and Renamo in Rome last October.

Cde Chissano said he

had come under pressure from certain people (whom he did not name) to accept Mr Dhlakama's demands, on the grounds that this would speed up the peace process.

In Maputo, UN envoy Mr Aldo Ajello yesterday said army soldiers were wrong to attack three MNR bases this week instead of waiting for an investigation of alleged ceasefire violations by Renamo.

Such attacks are prohibited under the ceasefire signed in October, ending Mozambique's 15-year civil war.

A government spokes-

man told Radio Mozambique the army acted because the MNR had taken over new territory, which also is barred in the peace treaty.

● Meanwhile, after months of delay, Renamo has finally agreed to send a first batch of 50 officers to be trained by British military instructors at a camp at Nyanga in eastern Zimbabwe.

The same number of officers from the government side have been ready since March but no training could start until both sides sent their men to Zimbabwe. —Ziana-Pana-AP.