

Renamo bid to shift army deadline

MAPUTO — Rioting by soldiers demanding to be demobilised has prompted Mozambique's rebel movement Renamo to suggest pushing back the deadline for the creation of a new, unified army.

The AIM national news agency reported yesterday Renamo had recommended allowing thousands of government troops and guerrillas now in holding camps to go home.

A Renamo spokesman told AIM that troops for the unified army could be recruited after the nation's first multiparty election in October.

Under a 1992 peace plan, a 30 000-strong army comprising former guerrillas and government soldiers was to be in place before the election. But as of Wednesday, AIM said, only about 6 000 troops had been assigned to the new army. — Sapa-AP.

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