

Soldiers lift blockade in Moz

MAPUTO. — Disgruntled former combatants from both sides in Mozambique's civil war that ended two years ago have lifted their blockade of two main highways, Radio Mozambique reported on Saturday.

One of the blockades was set up on Thursday by guerrillas of the former rebel movement Renamo at a junction linking the port of Beira with the north, south and west of the country, as well as

neighbouring Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia.

The men, reported to be disabled war veterans, demanded that Renamo give them money and houses promised during the 16-year-long war.

After receiving assurances that their complaints would be dealt with, the former rebels lifted the blockade, the radio said.

The other protest was by demobilised members

of the presidential guard regiment, who sat in the highway outside President Joaquim Chissano's office in the capital Maputo, blocking traffic.

The ex-guardsmen, who demanded cash, ended their protest after being told they would be able to meet Attorney General Eduardo Mulembue next week.

A Norwegian aid organisation said in Oslo on Saturday that two Norwe-

gian aid workers and one from the United States had been freed by Renamo soldiers near Beira.

"They have all been released. No one was harmed," said Svein Aas Henriksen, a spokesman for the organisation.

Dozens of mutinies by government troops and by Renamo have occurred in recent months as the country prepares for its first multi-party elections in October. — Sapa-Reuter.

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