

Ministers hold talks in Swaziland

Maputo in key talks with Pik

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In an effort to persuade Mozambique to neutralise or restrain ANC exiles, South Africa has launched three big raids on ANC targets in Mozambique in the last two years.

Mozambique has, in turn, accused South Africa of supporting the Mozambican National Resistance (MNR) in its rebellion against President Machel's government.

Saboteurs of the MNR, which was originally thought to have been financed by dispossessed Portuguese businessmen, are widely reported to have inflicted crippling blows on the Mozambican economy.

The talks in Swaziland were confirmed by President Machel in a statement yesterday at the end of a two-day meeting of Portuguese-speaking African countries in Guinea-Bissau.

The South African Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday declined to comment on President Machel's statement, but it had earlier confirmed that Mr Botha would be in Swaziland for talks with Swazi leaders, who, it later turned out, hosted the meeting between the South Africans and the Mozambicans.

In his statement President Machel stressed that the meeting did not imply recognition of apartheid or the "bantustans" or a willingness to destroy the ANC, which he characterised as a movement struggling for the people's right to justice and freedom.

President Machel said "One cannot choose one's neighbours. The South Afri-