

Chissano, Thatcher To Discuss British Training

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[Text] Tripartite talks between Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano, Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher are to take place today in Nyanga, northeast of Zimbabwe.

Nyanga is a military training center where young Mozambican officers have received training from British officers since the beginning of 1986. The training of young Mozambican officers will be the central theme of the talks, and the leader of the British executive is expected to observe maneuvers by our officers.

Speaking to Radio Mozambique in Harare, the British ambassador to Mozambique, James Allen, said that during his visit to the United Kingdom in May 1987 President Chissano expressed an interest in extending the training of Mozambican officers to Mozambican soldiers, which signifies the training of a complete unit. A Mozambican fifth company constituting 120 Mozambican officers is presently being formed at the training grounds in Nyanga. British Ambassador James Allen said it was not correct to speak in terms of a peace initiative promoted by the UK. The UK is interested in helping her friends in the region.

The British ambassador accredited in Maputo said Margaret Thatcher is expected to meet with certain eminent political figures concerning the situation in the region, including how to achieve peace.

Last night on arrival in Harare, Thatcher said South Africa should learn from the Zimbabwean experience, where a multiracial society lives in perfect harmony.

President Joaquim Chissano is accompanied by Cooperation Minister Jacinto Veloso, senior Chief of Staff Antonio Hamathai, and by the Mozambican ambassador in the UK, Armando Panguene. Joaquim Chissano received departure messages from Prime Minister Mario Machungo, Defense Minister Alberto Chipande, and Foreign Affairs Minister Pascoal Mocumbi.