

# THATCHER HITS OUT AT MNR

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**BRITISH Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher has labelled South African-backed MNR bandits terrorists.**

She was speaking at what she called a "unique occasion" when she, President Mugabe and Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano, met at a bush training camp in Nyanga where Mozambican troops are being trained by the British Military Advisory Training Team with the help of the Zimbabwean army to fight against the bandits.

Mrs Thatcher said the terrorists were brutally and callously murdering and maiming innocent civilians in Mozambique and disrupting development.

"We are grateful to President Mugabe for giving this land for training Mozambicans who will fight terrorism in Mozambique.

"I am particularly proud of the British soldiers here for the good work they are doing in training the Mozambicans," said Mrs Thatcher, adding that Cde Mugabe, Cde Chissano and herself had been considering ways in which they could further help Mozambique fight the bandits.

She spoke shortly after

by  
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watching a mock assault exercise on enemy positions by the recruits.

After the exercise, the three leaders were shown dug-in positions of command posts. So impressed were they that they opted to spend their tea break in one of the dug-in positions to the amusement of the crowd.

President Mugabe said he was highly impressed by the quality of marksmanship shown by the recruits. "We hope when you go back you will help raise the quality of counter-attacks against the bandits."

He said Zimbabwe supported Mozambique in its war against the MNR because of the historical ties that existed between the two countries.

President Chissano said victory against the bandits will bring peace and development to Southern Africa and Mozambique was determined to wipe out banditry. He thanked the British government for helping his country in training its cadres

some of whom were in Britain.

Mrs Thatcher's visit to the Battalion Battle School brought what could be the largest contingent of journalists and the largest fleet of aircraft villagers of the area have ever seen.

The crowd that had been waiting for the leaders broke into songs and ululation when a planeload of journalists accompanying Mrs Thatcher touched down at the airstrip.

The crowd broke into frenzy when the three leaders and their delegations arrived in another aircraft. To greet them on arrival were Foreign Affairs Minister, Cde Nathan Shamuyarira, Manicaland Governor, Cde Joshua Dhuba and service chiefs.

Mrs Thatcher inspected the guard of honour and was entertained by dance groups before being whisked away to a camp where the three leaders held tripartite talks in a shed overlooking the banks of the Nyangombe River.

The British leader left Harare for Malawi yesterday after addressing a Press conference.