

# Maputo, Salisbury sign security pact

DAILY DISPATCH

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**SALISBURY** — Zimbabwe and Mozambique signed a mutual security assistance pact at the weekend, both accusing South Africa of deliberately trying to destabilise the Southern Africa region.

Mozambique's Minister of Security, Major General Jacinto Veloso, and his Salisbury counterpart, Mr Emerson Munangagwa, spent three days in analysing the security situation in both countries.

Mr Munangagwa said after signing the agreement that they affirmed the major source of attacks and subversion against their countries came from South Africa.

Observers believe it likely that a big new effort may be launched soon with Zimbabwe help against the so-called Mozambique Resistance Movement (RNM).

The rebels have been waging a terror campaign in border areas near Zimbabwe's eastern districts, have attacked the railway line to Beira and have cut the Cabora Bassa power supply line in the past few months.

Mr Munangagwa alleged that the RNM — which he said had been a "baby" of the former Rhodesian regime — had been

transferred to South Africa after Zimbabwe became independent.

Asked if South African support for the RNM was increasing, Mr Munangagwa said: "What we are aware of is that they are based there and are allowed to operate from South Africa."

Maj Gen Veloso said: "Our forces have been attacking them, making arrests, going into action against them with much more capability, destroying and capturing war material."

He said the South African support for the rebels was all part of South Africa's policy to destabilise Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

The security agreement is for co-operation in all fields "necessary to preserve, consolidate and strengthen the sovereignty of both countries."

Mr Munangagwa said they had agreed that on attack on Mozambique would be regarded as an attack on Zimbabwe and vice versa.

Earlier, at a separate press conference, the Zimbabwe Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, repeated his charge — made several times last year — that South Africa was training 5 000 men for subversion

in Zimbabwe. He said the number was growing daily.

Mr Mugabe said the state of emergency would be renewed later this month because the security situation was not yet normal.

He said South Africa was trying to destabilise the free black states on its border in an attempt to prop up apartheid.

South Africa's apartheid policy objective was to consolidate the white man's position.

"Any emergence of a democratic state is a threat to South Africa's policies. Democracy is a threat to South Africa," he said. — DDR.