

Mozambique says its army killed 78 rebels

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MOZAMBICAN armed forces killed 78 rebels between January 14 and 20 in clashes in three provinces, a military spokesman in Maputo said.

The spokesman, quoted by the official Aim news agency, said 25 rebels of the Mozambican National Resistance (MNR) were killed when they attacked the town of Lioma in central Zambezia Province. They burned 11 houses, killed four civilians and kidnapped another 14.

Mozambican and Zimbabwean troops overran three MNR camps in nearby Sofala Province on January 19-20. At Nhamitutu camp they killed 25 rebels and recovered a large quantity of mortar shells and bazooka rockets.

Another 24 rebels were killed in clashes in Inhambane Province in southern Mozambique, where rebels have concentrated their attacks on the country's main north-south road. — Reuter