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# MNR bid to split Mozambique 'halted'

Joint military forces have succeeded in stopping rebel attempts to divide the country along the Zambezia valley, according to the Mozambique minister of defence.

Gen. Alberto Chipande said at the weekend that since the beginning of the year Mozambique National Resistance forces had been pushed out of parts of Morrumbala district and from all of Milange dsistrict on the borders with Malawi.

He was speaking after returning from Quelimane in central Zambezia where he met with his Zimbabwean and Tanzanian counterparts, Enos Nkala and Salim A. Salim, according to the Mozambique news agency *AIM*.

He said the next step was to involve the northern and southern regions of the country because the operations in the Zambezia valley had driven rebel forces into Inhambane province in the south, or north towards Niassa, Nampula and Cabo Delgado.

Earlier this month Mozambique said its forces had destroyed a base camp set up between Maputo city and the Swaziland border.

It was intended to be used for atacks on the road and rail line between Swaziland and Maputo, and against the Maputo/South Africa railway.