

400 Zimbabweans abducted by MNR bandits still missing

KUALA LUMPUR.
MORE than 400 people abducted in Zimbabwe over the last two years by South African-backed MNR bandits are still missing, according to a report prepared for the Commonwealth Summit which began here yesterday.

The book, *Apartheid Terrorism, the destabilisation report*, written by well-known authors, Ms Phyllis Johnson and Mr David Martin, lists and describes in detail South Africa's destabilisation activities of the six Frontline States over the past 10 years.

The 164-page book, scheduled to be launched by Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda this morning, says: "From 15 June 1987 to April 1989, a total of 335 Zimbabwean civilians were murdered by the MNR just inside Zimbabwe, and 280 were wounded seriously enough to require medical attention.

"Another 667 civilians were abducted, usually to carry stolen goods, according to official records, 446 of this number remain unaccounted for and a considerable number of those missing are presumed dead."

The two authors acknowledge in their book that "there is no doubt that the official figure for the number abducted is well below the actual figure, in some cases, the exact number of people abducted in a recorded incident is difficult to quantify and in other cases there is no record".

Apartheid Terrorism, which deals with each of the six Frontline States chapter by chapter, said 29 MNR bandits had been killed in Zimbabwe over the same period, five wounded and 45 captured.

The authors said that

ascertaining the exact number of MNR killed and wounded inside Zimbabwe was difficult because the dead were frequently buried or carried back over the border as were those wounded.

"The actual figure is certainly higher than that officially recorded," they said.

The attack across the eastern border from Mozambique were only the latest item on the agenda in "Pretoria's intricate and multi-faceted programme" against Zimbabwe, said the authors.

"It encompasses a range of options, used

separately and collectively, which include direct military action and sabotage, clandestine support for action by surrogates, assassination and indiscriminate terror bombings, propaganda and disinformation, and economic sabotage such as contrived freight delays, undermining of industry, and disruption of shorter and cheaper transport routes forcing greater dependence on South African ports."