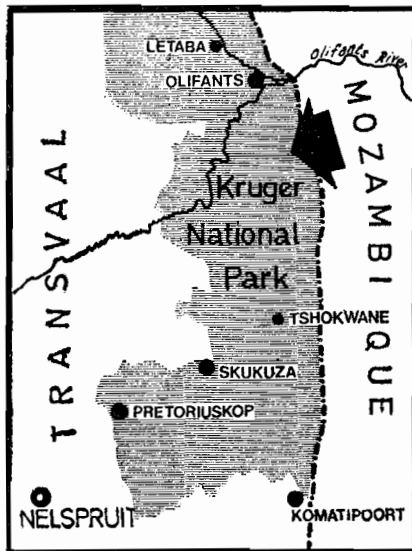

MOZAMBIQUE—SOUTH AFRICA

Frontier Incidents

Seventeen Frelimo soldiers from Mozambique are being held at Nelspruit in South Africa after crossing the border in pursuit of refugees, the Minister of Police, Mr. J. T. Kruger confirmed on March 23rd. Eight of the Frelimo troops were seized on March 21st when they pursued a group of fleeing white Mozambicans across the border after cutting the fence into the Kruger National Park. Later another nine Frelimo soldiers were captured at the same spot, south of the Olifants River. Three of the group who managed to get back into Mozambique shot at a South African police party, which returned their fire. Nobody was wounded. Other refugees who tried to escape from Mozambique failed to reach South African territory.



The arrow shows where the crossings and shootout occurred

South Africa was at pains to play down the incidents, Mr. Kruger explaining that the

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border incident was simply a matter of Frelimo soldiers following refugees who had cut the border fence. As they were then on South African soil, all of them, refugees and Frelimo troops, were arrested. "I want to give the assurance that I know what I am talking about," he said, and added: "There is no reason to think Frelimo will not respect our border once the fence has been repaired". (St 24-27/3)
(See pp. 3961BC, 3964BC)

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