

## MOZAMBIQUE: South African officer in Lisbon ICN 7/1/89

Colonel **Rosa de Oliveira**, an officer of Portuguese origin serving in the South African army, has just been transferred to Lisbon. Col. de Oliveira is reportedly closely allied to South African General **Charles Van Nierkerk**, who has so far played a leading role in South African military support for RENAMO. Col. de Oliveira's transfer to Portugal is apparently aimed at re-activating the RENAMO office in Lisbon and tightening contacts between the organisation and the South African military. In addition, Col. de Oliveira has reportedly been given the task of reducing the North American influence within RENAMO, particularly that of **Thomas Schaaf** and the Mozambique Research Centre in Washington. Col. de Oliveira, who works with other military reserve personnel for the Mitlex construction firm, had been commissioned in 1973 by the DGS, the former PIDE (Portuguese political police at the time of Salazar), to train specialised units to fight FRELIMO.

***I.O.N.-** This is proof, as if more were needed, that a part of the South African secret services is being used to reinforce RENAMO and to sabotage **Pieter Botha's** decision to reactivate the Nkomati accord. The economic benefits of peace seemed to have carried over other considerations. The decision appeared to have been endorsed by South African Defense minister **Magnus Malan**, despite the fact that he is one of the "hawks" of the regime. However, RENAMO has since increased its sabotage operations. On December 31, a fresh attack against electric cables coming from South Africa once more deprived Maputo of electricity. Despite these increased attacks, the Mozambican government has extended for one year its amnesty offer to RENAMO rebels who give themselves in. It is the only "opening" Maputo is prepared to make for the time being. The prolongation of the amnesty will permit the clergy, which is currently trying to negotiate with RENAMO for a return to peace in Mozambique, to continue their discussions.*