

One White soldier was killed and four others wounded. The communiqué said that during the clashes and subsequent "follow-up hot pursuit operations", large quantities of arms were destroyed or seized. The reference to "hot pursuit" is taken to mean that Rhodesian troops went over the country's eastern border into **Mozambique**. This follows a statement earlier in the week in which the Government described as "a notable feature" of incidents on the border the fact that guerrillas had returned to Mozambique after conducting forays into Rhodesia. (RH 26/2)

In another confrontation with guerrillas, the Rhodesian security forces announced on February 29th that 17 "terrorists" had been killed in the north-east operational area the previous day. Four Rhodesian soldiers were killed and four injured.

It has become evident, says the *Times*, that Rhodesian forces are heavily engaged on two fronts, one in the north-east in the region around Mount Darwin, the scene of earlier guerrilla operations (see map), and the other in the south-east around Chipinga.

A total of 78 guerrillas have been killed by the security forces during the past three weeks. However, in spite of this heavy casualty rate, the security forces expect an increase in guerrilla activity on both fronts during the next few weeks. Since the middle of February there have been no fewer than eight land mine incidents in the north-east operational area. Two African men were killed and five soldiers and a number of African civilians were injured. (TT 1/3)

Intensified Border War

Twenty-four guerrillas were killed on February 24th in fighting along the Rhodesian-Mozambique border, according to a Rhodesian security forces' communiqué.

ARB-P 13(2) 15/3/76 p. 3940

