

Clash with Frelimo

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Frelimo troops from **Mozambique** have fought their first battle on Rhodesian soil, it was officially confirmed in Salisbury on July 27th. A Defence spokesman said the Frelimo men retreated to Mozambique when their rocket, mortar and small arms fire was returned. There were no Rhodesian casualties, the spokesman said, and it was not known if the attackers suffered any losses.

Reports reaching Salisbury indicate that the encounter, about 30 miles south of Umtali, lasted several hours. It took place on white farming land lying directly along the border. Official confirmation of the clash underlines the increasing tension along the 700-mile border and the active role being played by Mozambique troops. Defence spokesmen have said that Frelimo has repeatedly fired on Rhodesian targets from across the frontier (p. 4069).

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