Mozambique accuses SA (8.182

MAPUTO. — South African aircraft violated Mozambique's airspace 11 times in the last six weeks, the Mozambican

armed forces said at the weekend.

A statement read this morning on a weekly radio programme called "Voz de Combate" — the official voice of the Mozambican armed forces — said the SAAF aimed to "supply armed groups trying to destabilise Mozambique, carry out reconnaissance, and airlift their "agents and mercenaries" in.

A Defence Force spokesman refuted the claims in Pretoria at the weekend: "It is well known the concerted propaganda effort against South Africa follows the same pattern every

time major discussions are entered into to deal with the South West African question".

This "well-orchestrated" propaganda had been levelled at South Africa by Marxist-backed and oriented countries in Southern Africa unable to "handle their own worsening internal problems," he said.

These countries should look at the destabilising influence Russia and its surrogates have on the region rather than blame South Africa for their own problems," he said. — Sapa-Reuter.