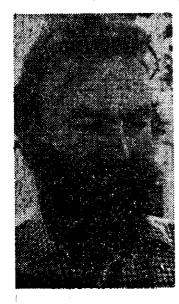
Mozambique resistance 'is well armed and fed'



From John Borrell in Harare, Zimbabwe

The Mozambique National Resistance, which is engaged in an increasingly bitter struggle against President Machel's Frelimo Government appears to be better armed and supplied than official reports suggest.

son, the British zoologist released this week after five months as a prisoner of the MNR, the guerrillas are well armed and fed, and can move with comparative ease over large areas of central Mozambi- he could not establish whether power. A few old parachutes que.

Mr Burlison, aged 28, said yesterday, that he had counted about 1,000 guerrillas at camps where he had been held pri-

Mr Burlison

Soviet-made AK-47 rifles, and mortars. Landmines He said the guerrillas moved weapons captured in engage march between two camps. brought back.

According to Mr John Burli- spent most of the five months escape. "I heard the shots but the guerrillas did not seem un- myself." maize meal, vegetables and markings on them, meat were plentiful.

soner. All were armed with he said. "I actually put on reinforced Maputo's claims that assault weight in the camps."

Prisoners had also been in the camps was good, al- routed by government forces. though he was once told of pri-At the base camp where he soners being shot for trying to there were thatched huts and didn't actually see anything

duly concerned about the possi- Mr Burlison said he saw bility of attacks by government nothing to connect the guerforces. Food was supplied by rilla movement with South local vifilagers and, although Africa or any other outside they did so willingly, or under were in evidence in one of the duress. Mr Burlison said the camps, but there were no

The MRN is generally "We ate three meals a day thought to be backed by South and beef or goat meat was Africa. Documents captured re- Britain today and plans to visit served almost every evening." cently by Mozambican troops his family in Stockton-on-Tees.

Pretoria is involved.

However. Mr Burlison's and machine guns were in evi- about freely during daylight, observations while a prisoner dence. Several times the guer- and on one occasion he was do not tally with the official rilias returned to camp with accompanied by 300 men on a line from Maputo that the movement has a rag-tag army, ments with Mozambican troops. Discipline and organisation which is continually being

> Burlison who was abducted in the Gorongosa Game Reserve, where he worked, on December 17, estimates that he was marched a total of 500 miles during his time with the guerrillas.

> He said he had been welltreated and had even been provided with anti-malaria pills on a regular basis. When a sore went septic on a march he was given an injection of penicillin.

The zoologist flies back to