

Search for abducted Italian priest in Mozambique (Excerpt) Mozambican troops in Inhambane Province are engaged in an intensive search for an Italian priest and a gang of bandits who kidnapped him two weeks ago. The priest, Father Giuseppe Alessandro [phonetic], was taken at gunpoint from his residence at Mayimelane [phonetic] in the northern part of Inhambane. A spokesman for the Italian Embassy in Maputo said the abductors identified themselves to Father Giuseppe's colleagues as members of an organization which they called the Mozambican National Resistance. This organization, which is known as Gizumba [phonetic] in Mozambique, is composed of Mozambican traitors based in South Africa's Transvaal Province. Last March the Gizumba murdered a Portuguese priest, also in Inhambane. Their latest abduction took place in the area where South African vessels drop arms supplies to the traitors. There has been no sign of Father Giuseppe since he was marched off on 19th July. (Maputo in English for abroad 1800 gmt 7 Aug 82)