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Mozambique bombing:

South Africa blamed

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Mozambican authorities have arrested a British citizen suspected of involvement in last month's guerrilla raid on the oil depot in the port of Beira.

Officials here blame South African commandos for the attack, which caused some \$35 million worth of damage. And police now apparently believe that detailed information about the facility was passed to the South Africans by Ian Hamilton, who heads Manica Freight Services, a shipping concern headquartered in Beira.

Manica Freight Services is one of the nation's biggest shipping firms. It is owned by the Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa, and it played a major role in Rhodesia's sanctions-busting operations.

Hamilton, the company's managing director, has lived in Mozambique for more than 20 years. A private pilot and parachute jumping enthusiast, Hamilton also recently trained a prize-winning parachute team that included several members of the Mozambican security service.

Authorities have yet to issue formal charges against Hamilton, who was arrested as he was preparing to leave on a trip to South Africa.

The Beira attack took place Dec. 9. For days afterward fires raged at the depot, where petroleum and diesel fuel is stored before transshipment to neighboring countries or other parts of Mozambique.

The main target in the Beira raid appears to have been the British Petroleum (BP) holding tanks which contain oil destined to be pumped to Zimbabwe by way of the Beira-Mutare pipeline.

Caltex and Mobil tanks holding fuel for buyers in Malawi and Mozambique were also damaged.