

Links to National Resistance Movement alleged

# More whites held by Machel regime

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO. - Three more Portuguese have been arrested in the continuing crackdown on foreigners in Beira alleged to be linked to the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (MNRM).

Eight Portuguese and one Briton are now being held.

The two men at the centre of the affair are Mr Dion Hamilton, director of the Anglo American-owned shipping agency Manica Freight Services, and his deputy, Mr Benjamin Fox.

Both were arrested shortly after the sabotage attack last month on the oil storage depot in Beira.

Mr Fox, a Portuguese national, was identified by a captured MNRM member as one of his commanders who regularly visited MNRM bases to give instructions and leave supplies.

Mr Hamilton is accused of "involvement in acts of sabotage in Beira", apparently including the oil terminal raid.

On Monday the Beira newspaper, *Diário de Mocambique*, published photographs of pistols, grenades, boxes of ammunition, radio transmitters and military uniforms said to have been found in Mr Hamilton's house.

In a statement last week, the Governor of Sofala, which includes Beira,

said Mr Hamilton had met MNRM supporters in Portugal.

Four other Portuguese employees of Manica were arrested at the same time for "complicity" in the alleged actions of Mr Hamilton and Mr Fox.

Mr Hamilton's wife Mize, who is Portuguese, was detained on January 12.

Several days later the Portuguese Consul-General in Beira, Mr Jao Carlos Versteeg, was placed under house arrest after arms were said to have been found in the consulate.

After high-level telephone conversations between President Samora Machel's Government and Lisbon, Mr Versteeg was allowed to leave without being formally expelled.

Both governments seem anxious not to let the incident disrupt presently improving relations.

Then, on January 18, the deputy head of East African Shipping, the other large shipping agency in Beira, was also arrested. He is a Portuguese, Mr Antonio da Silva Guerra, who is charged with "economic sabotage".

It is alleged he sold a house to Mr Hamilton and was paid in money deposited in a foreign bank account in violation of Mozambique's strict exchange control laws.

The final man to be arrested seems not to be linked to the others. He is a Portuguese, Mr Antonio da Cunha Fonseca, who is a ship's master for a fishing company.

He served as a commander in the Portuguese Army during the colonial period.

## Rumours

Mr Fonseca is now accused of spreading rumours in support of the MNRM and of "identifying with acts of armed banditism".

Mr Hamilton has been a shipping agent in Beira for more than 20 years and has had a colourful career.

He is a private pilot and a champion parachutist and has trained a Mozambique parachute team.