Minister quizzed on visas for slain Cristina

By TOS WENTZEL Political Correspondent THE Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr P J Badenhorst, has declined to react to reports that Mr Orlando Cristina, who was shot dead near Pretoria last month, had been a Mozambican rebel leader.

Answering questions put to him by Mr Colin Eglin (PFP Sea Point), he said that Mr Cristina had been in South Africa on a temporary visa from April 1980 to February 1982 when he was granted a permanent residence permit.

He gave details of the several times that Mr Christina had left or entered the country, in all cases through Jan Smuts



Mr P J Badenhorst

Airport. But there was no record of where he had entered the last time, in March this year.

Mr Eglin asked whether reports that he was a prominent member of the Mozambique Resistance Movement were taken into account when a visa and permit were granted.

Mr Badenhost said the leaders of opposition par-

ties had been confidentially briefed and he suggested that opposition MPs should clear further questions on the matter with their leaders beforchand.

Answering questions on Lieutenant Adriano Bomba, the Mozambique air force lieutenant who defected to South Africa in a MiG fighter in 1981, Mr Badenhorst said the department now had no knowledge on his present whereabouts.

He had been authorised to take up employment with the South African Defence Force.

Some recent reports have suggested that he, too, has now joined the Mozambique Resistance Movement.

Argus (Cape Town) 5/5/83

The Argus, Cape Town 5 May 1983