

Machel names new army chiefs

MAPUTO. Mozambique President Samora Machel has appointed eight new army commanders to step up operations against Mozambique National Resistance movement rebels in central Zambezia Province.

The president, presenting the officers at a rally in the provincial capital of Quelimane, said Zambezia was the worst-hit of the country's 10 provinces.

MNR violence was hindering industrial development in Zambezia, which has a population of three million people, he said.

The opening of a giant textile factory had been delayed until 1985 and food was rotting because of transport problems.

The new provincial commander, Brigadier José Ajape, who replaces Major-General Bonifácio Gruveta, commanded the Mozambican contingent which fought with nationalist guerrillas in the Rhodesian civil war before Zimbabwe's independence in 1980. — Sapa-Reuter.