

Report says S A helped MNR with 'supply drop'

Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG—A report issued by the London-based International Institute of Strategic Studies, says South Africa supplied the Mozambique National Resistance movement with a 'massive supply drop' about the same time that the two governments were negotiating the Nkomati Accord.

The institute, an independent and respected research organisation, said in London last night that South Africa 'also seems to have allowed' more than 1500 trained MNR personnel to enter Mozambique with their weapons before it closed the movement's camps in the Transvaal.

It says that after Press reports in December that arms were reaching the MNR via Saudi Arabia and the Comoro Islands, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, visited both states to urge them to prevent such flights.

The institute report said that, 'in spite of these efforts in late December President Samora Machel accused South Africa of disionburing the Nkomati Accord, and the accord looked to be badly frayed'.

The institute said: 'For Mozambique the results of Nkomati have already proved politically embarrassing as well as disappointing, since attacks by MNR have actually increased in number and intensity since March 1984.

'This resurgence was

the result of South Africa's decision to provide the MNR with a massive supply drop around the time the Nkomati Accord was signed.

'Pretoria has made apparently sincere efforts to honour the terms of Nkomati, and even to curb MNR activities in Mozambique.'

Dealing with the South West African situation, the survey says the South African Government decided to release jailed Swapo founder, Mr Andimba Toiva ja Toiva, because it hoped he could be persuaded to join one

of the internal parties and perhaps bring about a split in the Swapo leadership.

'Toivo, however, immediately denounced the internal parties and was later made secretary-general of Swapo, which has been strengthened, not weakened, by his return to Namibian politics,' it states.

Asked to comment last night, a South African Defence Force spokesman said Mr Pik Botha had 'recently placed on record the fact that there had been a link between the SADF and Renamo'.

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