

Army Thwarts MNR Attack

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[Text] Mozambique's army garrison has frustrated an attempt by MNR terrorists to destroy the Lusalite factory on the outskirts of Maputo city. The Lusalite factory is located about 10 km from central Maputo and it makes fibercement roofing sheets.

Eyewitnesses at the scene say the foiled terrorist attack took place at 2200 Z says ago. A group of 40 terrorists split into three groups and tried to encircle the factory. Alerted by a pistol shot, the factory garrison opened fire on the raiders, making them lose the advantage of surprise. The warning pistol shot was fired by a Mozambican platoon commander returning home after having been relieved at his post. He was intercepted by two terrorists. He shot one of them dead, and it was this that alerted the garrison. The commander was wounded in the arm.

One of the soldiers in the garrison said that the terrorists were then put into flight by the bazookas that the Mozambican troops fired at them. He supposed that at least one of the terrorist raiders had been killed or wounded since the bandits were seen dragging a body away as they fled.

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The Lusalite factory has been out of operation since last June, when an earlier terrorist attack destroyed the electricity substation on which it relies for energy.