

Defence is top priority

SM 25/8/85 MAPUTO.

TOP priority must be given to the defence of the country, declared Mozambican government and military leaders on Friday at a series of meetings held in Maputo factories.

At the meetings they explained the origins of the bandits of the Mozambique National Resistance, and called on all workers to defend the independence won at the cost of so much blood and sacrifice.

Speaking at a cashew nut processing factory in the industrial suburb of Machava, General Sebastiao Mabote, Chief of Staff of the Mozambican armed forces said, "There is no civil war in Mozambique. This is a war directed from outside, by people who lost their wealth in Mozambique after independence."

The real leaders of the MNR, he said, are those whose property was nationalised in 1975 and 1976.

"But we will never allow them to get them back," he pledged to thunderous applause. — Ziana-AIM.