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Maputo Mass Meetings Held To Strengthen Military #5
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[Text] Mozambique Government and Frelimo Party leaders will continue this week to hold mass meetings in and around Maputo as part of the campaign to strengthen the armed forces and mobilize for the war against the MNR terrorists. The meetings began last Friday in gatherings held in several key factories around the Mozambican capital. Fifty meetings are scheduled to take place in work places and residential areas. The theme of the meetings is the reorganization of the armed forces and recruitment of young Mozambicans into the ranks of the army. The government and party leaders stress that recruitment will take on a new, more organized form than in the past.

Students will not be called up until the end of their academic year. People who were legally married before 1 January this year will not be called up on the grounds of family responsibilities and citizens over 30 years old will not be called up unless they possess specialized training which can be of benefit to the armed forces. It is also hoped that an influx of new recruits could help demobilize soldiers who have been in the army for longer than the stated 2-year period of compulsory service.

The present reorganization effort affects military administration, logistics, and training. Living conditions of soldiers and officers in the barracks are being improved. New training courses are to begen in military instruction centers in Maputo Province in September and October.