

New life for MNR victims

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MAPUTO.

LIFE is beginning to return to normal in the war-torn district of Gorongosa in central Mozambique, while Mozambican and Zimbabwean troops continue mopping-up operations against scattered bandits of the Mozambique National Resistance.

Yesterdays' issue of the daily paper Noticias reported that several members of the Mozambican government, including deputy health and education ministers, Cde Fernando Vaz and Cde Paulo Mulanga, and Secretary of State for Supplies Cde Francisco Masquil, have been working in Gorongosa on a programme of rehabilitation.

The district was shattered by the experience of the past five years during which it was dominated by the banditry of the MNR. Trading circuits broke down, the health service was wrecked, bridges were destroyed and roads

rendered impassable.

About 8 000 people in the district have now been freed from bandit control. Most are in a poor state of health and are malnourished.

A major priority for the government is to ensure that agricultural production can restart, as the basis for restoring peasant life to normal.

● South African President P. W. Botha has refused to suspend South African officers involved in breaching the Nkomati non-aggression accord with Mozambique.

According to the South African Broadcasting Corporation, Botha peremptorily rejected the call made by the acting leader of the Progressive Federal Party, Colin Eglin, for the temporary suspension of the officers implicated in violations of the accord.
— Ziana-ATM.