

Mozambique

SIR—I read your article on Mozambique (March 1st) with contempt.

Renamo is a grouping of, among others, the remnants of Coremo, a rival group to Frelimo during the independence struggle, and dissatisfied ex-Frelimo soldiers. It is not “thought to want” to do the same as Unita by kidnapping foreigners. It has done so for many years. The most famous case was the kidnapping, in 1983, of Russian technicians at the site of a mine in the province of Nampula.

An interesting question would be to analyse the truth in the (easily put on paper) accusation that South Africa is still supporting Renamo, even after the disclosures of last summer and the subsequent apologies of Mr Pik Botha and the replacement of the vice-minister responsible, Mr Nel. If the South Africans really are still supporting Renamo, why has Mozambique's President Machel not cancelled the Nkomati agreement?

I lived two years in Mozambique, from 1982 until 1984, and



Machel's gritted teeth

know what I am talking about.

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