

SWB

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(Text) Lisbon, 29th April: Mozambique's South African-backed rebels said here Monday [28th April] their forces had killed 172 government soldiers in recent fighting in the north of the country. A spokesman said 75 were killed last Wednesday when rebels seized the town of Chonga, in Sofala province. In Zambezia province, 97 more were killed when the town of Hile was captured. He gave no indication of any rebel casualties. The spokesman also said insurgents had attacked a train near Meconta, on the Nacala-Nampula line, in northeastern Mozambique. The Portuguese news agency meanwhile said rebels killed three people last Saturday in an attack on a police station at Matola, 12 kms from the capital, Maputo. (AFP in English 0306 gmt 29 Apr 86)