Renamo claims responsibility for Maputo explosion (Text) In a communique issued in Lisbon today the Mozambican rebel group Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance Movement] claims that a military operation it carried out last Saturday [6th September] in Maputo caused the death of seven policemen. The official explanation of last Saturday's explosions at the army ammunition stores in the Mozambican capital was that they were caused by the intense heat. Already on Saturday Renamo had claimed responsibility for these explosions and also for those at the municipal market.

In today's communique the rebels say that 120 men split into various groups were involved in the attack on Maputo. The targets were the ammunition dump, the municipal market and two police stations in Liberdade district where the seven police officers were killed. The communique cites Renamo President Afonso Dlakhama to the effect that the actions against Maputo are going to be stepped up and that Renamo will make its presence felt with military operations on the 25th of this month. The 25th September is Mozambican Army Day and a year ago there were explosions at the army ammunition dump, described by the Maputo authorities as an accident but claimed by Renamo as a military operation. (Lisbon commercial radio for abroad 1830 gmt 9 Sep 86)