

Malawi again denies aiding MNR rebels (ME/8390/ii) A Malawian government statement reported on 17th October by the Pan-African agency reiterated Malawi's denial that it was allowing its territory to be used by Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) bandits operating against the Mozambican government. The country's policies, the statement said, were "often misunderstood", particularly its policy of contact and dialogue. The recent flight of Mozambican soldiers into Malawi was sufficient evidence that MNR bandits "who displaced these soldiers after reported heavy clashes do not, in fact, operate from Malawi", the statement added. As a landlocked country, Malawi had nothing to gain from MNR banditry in Mozambique.*

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The South African agency on 16th October cited the 'Herald' newspaper, published in Harare, as saying that President Banda supported the MNR "in pursuit of grandiose dreams of a 'greater Malawi' embracing much of northern Mozambique, including the Indian Ocean port of Nacala". The agency added that the 'Herald' had broken new ground by giving publicity to a previously unpublicised Malawian exiled opposition group, the Socialist League of Malawi, which had met in Nakonde, Zambia, on 11th-12th October and called for the establishment of an egalitarian system in Malawi.*