

'Tar our border roads to beat bandit menace'

4 04 JUL 1987

ALL roads in areas which border Mozambique should be upgraded and surfaced to give the defence forces greater mobility in countering the MNR bandit threat, the Assembly heard yesterday.

In his contribution to the debate on the Presidential speech, Cde Pad-dington Zvorwadza (Zanu (PF) Rushinga) also said that following the massacre of 11 civilians by MNR bandits in his constituency a fortnight ago, roads in the area and in other areas bordering Mozambique should be upgraded and surfaced urgently.

"Roads leading to the Mozambique border must be upgraded and tar-macadamed. There are two such roads in my area and they urgently must be tar-macadamed," he said.

He also said that airstrips and more microwave telephone links should be built and installed in vulnerable

areas, while the police should be provided with cars.

Cde Zvorwadza also called for the training of more militia personnel, adding that local professionals and businessmen whose loyalty to the country had been proved should be included in the militia training.

He also warned that following the bogus elections in South Africa, Botha had become "more mischievous" and had set himself up as the "godfather of mischief makers in the region", particularly the Renamo bandits in Mozambique.

"Therefore all the people of Zimbabwe had to be more vigilant," he said.

The MP praised the fortitude of the Rushinga people who were attacked by MNR bandits seeking food, and thanked the Government and missionaries, as well as other people who had helped the victims at the time.