

2 MNR bandits surrender

H. 31/3/85 MAPUTO.

TWO bandits of the South African-backed MNR have surrendered to the authorities in Mozambique's northernmost province of Cabo Delgado, taking advantage of the amnesty law passed by the Mozambican parliament in December, reports Tuesday's edition of the daily paper, Noticias.

Mariamo Napuessa (34) said he joined the MNR in 1984 and took part in the destruction of 10 villages. He said that he has killed more than 23 people in the districts of Ancuabe and Namino in the southern part of Cabo Delgado.

The other bandit, Alberto

Merrope (40), who joined the MNR in August 1985, said he had hacked two people to death with a machete and had taken part in a large number of acts of theft and looting.

Neither of the two bandits was carrying a firearm when they surrendered. This had strengthened the belief that the bandits in Cabo Delgado were short of weapons and relied heavily on cold steel in their attacks on the local people.

The local branch of the Mozambican Red Cross had provided the former bandits with food and clothing. Both were born in Cabo Delgado,

and they will probably be integrated into villages in the province and given plots of land.

Meanwhile, in Beira, a group of nine bandits had been presented to the public at a meeting in the outlying suburb of Inhanconge. — Ziana-AIM-Pana.