

Eighteen Mozambican Swazis Killed in Ambush

*MB051146 Johannesburg International Service
in English 1100 GMT 5 Apr 88*

[Text] Eighteen Mozambican residents of Swaziland are reported to have been shot and killed, and several others wounded, in an ambush as they were driving in convoy from Swaziland to Maputo on Good Friday. The dead are said to include women and children of families returning to spend the Easter weekend in Mozambique. The attack is said to have taken place inside the Mozambican border, a few kilometers from the Lomahasha Border Post in Swaziland.

A spokesman for the Mozambican Embassy in Mbabane told Radio RSA's correspondent in a telephone interview that he had heard of the incident from Mozambicans in Swaziland, but that so far the embassy could not confirm the report. After several attacks on vehicles using the Lomahasha-Maputo road in the past year, Swaziland's commissioner of police, Mr Sandile Mdzi-niso, recently warned would-be travelers that they use the road at their own risk.