

**Reported Government Attacks on Civilians 'False'**

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[Text] Claims by South Africa's MNR bandits that the Mozambican armed forces have killed hundreds of civilians gathered to receive relief shipments of aid from the International Red Cross are false. The claims put out this month from Lisbon say the people had gathered at specific points in the provinces of Manica and Zambezia to receive supplies of aid, which had been announced by the Red Cross. The incidents, the latest of which was reported by the bandits, were all said to have taken place this month. However, a spokesperson in Maputo for the International Red Cross reports that the Red Cross is not operating in Manica and Zambezia Provinces. Since April this year, Red Cross operations in Mozambique have been limited to the province of Sofala.

South Africa and the MNR have stepped up their propaganda against Mozambique in recent weeks. This follows the publication by the United States State Department that the bandits had murdered more than 100,000 civilians in Mozambique.