

## **MNR Kills 15, Injures 79 in Beira Attack**

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[Text] Mozambique's MNR rebels still have the ability to launch major attacks on civilians. They demonstrated this in grim fashion in the second city of Beira on the weekend, leaving a large number of dead and injured. Julio Bica cabled this report on the incident:

[Bica] At least 15 people were killed and 79 wounded when a large group of armed bandits attacked a crowd of people attending a popular fair on Saturday night in a Beira suburb of Inhamassura. According to the DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE, a daily newspaper published in the regional capital, the attack began after midnight when hundreds of people were dancing and drinking at the fair. In their excitement, the revelers only understood they were being attacked when the first explosions occurred. The fair became a living hell as in the early hours of Sunday morning the partygoers panicked.

The bandits managed to steal goods as well as kill and inflict injuries. After their attack, they escaped under cover of darkness, kidnapping a number of civilians in order to carry their booty away. Wounded people received immediate first aid assistance. Doctors in Beira's Central Hospital operated the following morning and succeeded in saving the lives of nine of the seriously wounded.

*15/7/88*