

# MATAVEYA IS AN MNR BANDIT, SAYS WITNESS

## Court Reporter

A MOZAMBICAN youth has told the High Court in Harare that Paul Mataveya, who is facing murder and several other charges, is his relative who joined the Mozambican National Resistance bandits sometime in 1983.

The youth, who now lives and works in the Chipinge area, said that just before he left

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Mozambique to seek employment in Zimbabwe in 1983 he had noticed that Mataveya (22), who had previously been a civilian, was now "a soldier".

"What made you conclude that he was a soldier?" asked Mr Ray Goba of the Attorney-General's Office.

"He was armed and was with other soldiers."

"Who were these other

soldiers?" asked High Court judge Mr Justice Ebrahim.

"They were MNR soldiers."

"In Mozambique, what do you call the MNR?" asked Mr Goba.

"We call them Matsangaidze."

Asked by Mr Bruno Mugabe for Mataveya during cross-examination what had made him think that the

armed men he had seen were MNR soldiers, the youth replied: "They are different from the Mozambican soldiers. Frelimo soldiers wear uniforms and the others do not."

Mr Mugabe further asked whether it was possible that the armed men in question were not MNR men but just another group of common bandits.

"In Mozambique, if we

see armed people who are different from Frelimo, we call them MNR," replied the youth.

In the trial, Mataveya has pleaded not guilty to two counts of murder, three of armed robbery, one of attempted murder and one of possession of arms of war. The alleged offences were committed in the Chipinge area in April and May last year.

The trial is continuing.