

# MNR murder trial told of shooting

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## Court Reporter

THE High Court trial of an alleged MNR bandit continued yesterday, with a State witness describing how two people had been shot a few paces from him at Ratelshoek Tea Estate in Chipinge on April 3 last year.

The witness, who had been talking to one of the deceased at the time of the shooting, told the court that although his attention had been drawn to a person who was running away after the shooting, he had not personally seen that person.

He described how he narrowly escaped death, with a bullet having torn part of the collar of his shirt.

The witness, who was at the time employed as a senior official at the estate, said he had known the accused, John Mataveya, both as a former workmate and in connection with the court case.

Mataveya, a Mozambican national, 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.

In the trial, Mr Ray Goba of the Attorney-General's Office is appearing for the State while Mr Bruno Mugabe of Muga-be, Mutezo and Partners is representing Mataveya. The trial, which is before Mr Justice Ebrahim sitting with Mr Misheck Nyandoro and Mr Patrick Msengezi as assessors, continues today.