

South African soldiers provided cover for the MNR bandit attack in which 10 civilians were killed and 22 wounded, on the border town of Ressano Garcia on the night of 26 April, eyewitnesses told AIM. "The bandits were unloaded from a South African army 'pincher' (an open-topped armoured vehicle), said Lucas Chirute, who owns a local disco. "I saw at least 15 bandits who were blacks get out of the vehicle," Chirute added. Another witness said that during the attack, South African soldiers shone huge searchlights from their vehicles on a supermarket that was being looted by the bandits: "They lit up the area around the foreign exchange store (FNAC) from which the bandits stole most of the food." The same sources said that South African soldiers shot at people who were fleeing towards the South African side of the border. Townspeople unanimously agree that there was South African involvement in the attack.

*M10 News Review (153)
4/5/89*

from AIM - 29/4/89