

DESTABILISATION CALENDAR

Note: Due to the poor state of communication in the country, many MNR bandit attacks in remote areas do not come to the attention of the media. This record is therefore incomplete.

1989: Units of the Mozambican armed forces (FPLM) killed about 1,000 bandits of the South African backed MNR in the central province of **Sofala**. They also captured over 200 bandits and destroyed 23 MNR camps.

The FPLM killed 568 MNR bandits and captured 301 in the northern province of **Nampula**. They also put out of action 150 bandit collaborators, and freed out 2,500 peasants from bandit control.

MNR bandits burnt down 60 communal villages in the northern province of **Cabo Delgado**, and attacked a further 106 villages. They also raided 42 agricultural cooperatives.

November: The FPLM killed 23 MNR bandits in operations in the district of **Govuro**, in the southern province of **Inhambane** and freed 70 people from bandit control.

Week of 20 November: Units of the Mozambican armed forces (FPLM) killed 44 MNR bandits and captured four others during operations against three MNR camps in **Inhambane** province.

The camps were located in the areas of **Praia Jangamo** and **Lagoa Chutane**. An unspecified quantity of AKM rifles, pistols and ammunition was also captured.

Militiamen killed 25 bandits and captured five in the district of **Chicualacuala** in the neighbouring province of **Gaza**.

December: Mozambican forces killed 70 bandits and captured four others in operations carried out in various parts of **Inhambane** province. About 250 people were also freed from bandit control.

December 1 - 15: The FPLM killed 17 MNR bandits in the district of **Bilene** in **Gaza** province.

First week of December: MNR bandits murdered four civilians in the town of **Insaca**, in the northern province of **Niassa**. **Insaca** lies about 10 km east of the border with **Malawi**. The bandits also abducted an unspecified number of people, and robbed belongings of the local population.

Mozambican forces stationed in **Nampula** province killed two MNR bandits in the district of **Meconta**, on the railway line that connects **Malawi** with the port of **Nacala**.

December 4: MNR bandits destroyed a Catholic mission and a health centre supported by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) at **Namahaca** in **Memba** district in **Nampula** province, killing two civilians. The bandits also kidnapped an unspecified number of other people.

They looted and stole medicines and other medical supplies from the health post, where they were being used to treat large numbers of patients, most of them children.

Memba is the district where 5,200 people died of starvation between January and March. Notice of the seriousness of the situation was given to government authorities by Catholic missionaries who had recorded the deaths of 3,591 people between 5 January and 17 February.

Since then, emergency food supplies have been reaching the district both by sea and by truck, but there are still many illnesses caused by malnutrition in the area.

In November, MNR bandit spokesmen told *The Voice of America* that they would not guarantee the safety of foreign aid workers in bandit-occupied areas. According to independent sources, the ICRC then tried to clarify the situation in meetings with the leadership of the MNR in the Kenyan capital of **Nairobi**.

Following its philosophy of "neutrality", the ICRC has flown in emergency food and medical aid to areas under bandit control. But because of recent government offensives against them, the bandits have lost most of the towns and their accompanying air strips and the work of the Red Cross has been confined to people who live in the areas controlled by government sources.

December 9: Militiamen stationed in the locality of **Mafa-Caconde** in the northwestern province of **Tete** killed seven MNR bandits and freed 27 people from bandit captivity.

December 11: MNR bandits wounded 13 people in an attack against an outlying suburb of the town of **Boane**, about 30 km west of **Maputo**.

December 13: The FPLM killed 11 MNR bandits during a raid against the town of **Marracuene**, about 30 km north of **Maputo**. The bandits looted a local shop, stealing food that had just been trucked in for sale during the holiday period. The raiders also damaged the **Marracuene** telephone exchange.

The last time the MNR raided **Marracuene** was on 20 October.

December 21: MNR bandits murdered five people and wounded another three in an attack against the town of **Manhiça**, in **Maputo** province.

This was the fourth time in 1989 that the MNR raided **Manhiça**, which is about 75 km north of **Maputo**, on the country's main north-south highway.

December 22: Mozambican forces repelled a bandit attack on the communal village of **Massucumbire**, in the district of **Sussundenga**, in the central province of **Manica**.

MNR bandits massacred at least 21 civilians and wounded another 19 in **Nhantsembene**, 25 km from the capital of **Gaza** province, **Xai-Xai**, in southern Mozambique.

The people who were killed had been previously kidnapped in four localities of the province.

December 23: The transmission line carrying power from **South Africa** to **Maputo** was sabotaged once again, for at least the ninth time since July.