

MNR bandits kill 15 ^{H. 12/2}₉₀ in attack on restaurant

MAPUTO.
MNR bandits killed 15 people on Saturday night in an attack on a restaurant in Chinon-anquila in Boane district, 16 km from Maputo.

According to a report in yesterday's issue of the Maputo daily Noticias, the bandits attacked the restaurant, belonging to a local businessman named Cde Antonio Simbine, at about 9 pm, while clients were watching a musical show.

In the carnage, seven men, three women and five children were killed, and a further 18 people were wounded.

When journalists visited the restaurant on Sunday morning, the floor was still littered with corpses lying in pools of blood.

The raiders also smashed all the furniture and crockery in the restaurant, and looted food and money.

The restaurant is about 300 m from the main road that runs from Maputo to Swaziland.

The bandits have kidnapped peasants and looted property in a series of raids against communal villages in the central Mozambican province of Manica in late January and early February, according to a report carried yesterday by the Manica provincial station of Radio Mozambique.

Meanwhile, the British minister for overseas development, Mrs Lynda Chalker, announced on Sunday that the British government was to give a further 10 000 tonnes of food to Mozambique.

Speaking at a Press conference at the end of a two-day visit to Mozambique, Mrs Chalker said the aid was to be delivered shortly after April.

She added that Britain would also provide another 5 000 tonnes of

food for Mozambican refugees in Malawi. She said that over the past three years, British emergency aid to Mozambique (including aid for refugees in neighbouring countries) amounted to about \$325m.

● Mozambican defence minister Gen Alberto Chipande yesterday warned that the upheavals in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe had significantly reduced the military support that Mozambique receives from those countries.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the defence ministry, under the chairmanship of President Joaquim Chissano in his capacity as commander-in-chief, Gen Chipande said that reduced aid from Eastern Europe would lead to serious supply problems for the Mozambican armed forces. — Ziana-AIM-Pana.