

Civil war up-date

The government forces are continuing their operation in Maputo and Inhambane provinces in the south, and in Manica and Sofala provinces in the centre of the country. On May 14, Green Beret units trained by the British captured a RENAMO base at Ngunge, five kilometres from the South African border in Magude district 180 kilometres north west of Maputo, the capital. The operations was however a failure as the rebels had already abandoned the base before the Armed Forces arrived. A Mozambican military source told *The Indian Ocean Newsletter* that the two countries' Joint Security Commission was to meet shortly to discuss "*certain elements discovered at Ngungue.*" Furthermore, the road between the base and South Africa is said to be "*well maintained.*" The best part of the fighting is taking place in the regions of Manica and Sofala. Red Beret units which defend the capital have been dispatched there and the RENAMO has abandoned some of its positions in the Zambezi and Nampula regions to reinforce troops also in these areas.