THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER

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MOZAMBIQUE: Nairobi and military aid to RENAMO

Kenya's authorities have denied the existence of <u>a RENAMO military training camp on their</u> <u>territory</u> which was revealed, by diplomatic sources wishing to remain anonymous, by British daily *The Independent* of August 28. According to the newspaper, the Mozambican rebels, on completion of their training in Kenya, are said to travel to Malawi crossing the border between this country and Mozambique thus entering the province of Tete. They are reported to be transported by vehicles belonging to a paramilitary group which is fiercely loyal to President **Banda** of Malawi, the Young Pioneers. Arms supplies too are reported to be transited through Kenyan ports before reaching their final destination, the ranks of the RENAMO. On August 11, the Mozambican national press agency, *AIM*, said that a group of rebels trained in Kenya had entered Mozambique near the village of Tsangano, in Tete province. In Nairobi, the RENAMO have their own <u>radio</u> <u>transmittor</u> to maintain contact with their headquarters in Gorongosa in Mozambique. And Kenya provided, with the approval of the Mozambican authorities this time, official papers for RENAMO's head of External Relations, **Raul Domingos**, so that he could travel to Rome for the recent talks with the government delegation.

I.O.N.- Kenya's presence in an observeration capacity at talks between the RENAMO and the Mozambican government is a point of disagreement between the two sides. Maputo would like to do without intermediaries now that the RENAMO has recognised the government de facto, as legitimate, and is prepared to negotiate with it as such. But the rebels would like Kenyan diplomats to be present at any talks as their experience in such matters might come in handy. This is why this recent information is so timely, and reinforces the Mozambican government's argument. However, in spite of the bone of contention, the Portuguese Military Intelligence Service (Serviços de Informaçao Militar - SIM) and the Mozambican Minister of Security led by Mariano Matsinhe, have recently come to a gentlemen's agreement in order to facilitate the establishment of a means of rapid and regular communication between Gorongosa, Lisbon and Maputo. Three people are running the communication network: the third secretary of the Mozambican Embassy in Lisbon, Manuel Neves, Lieutenant-Colonel Diogo from the SIM and the personal representative of Afonso Dlakhama at the SIM, José Augusto.