

# MNR massacres 15 in Zambian bus attack <sup>H</sup> $\frac{27}{9}$ $\frac{9}{9}$

## LUSAKA.

**AT least 15 people, including six children, were burnt to death after a Zambia state-owned bus in which they were travelling was ambushed late on Tuesday by MNR bandits.**

About 20 other passengers, also victims of the same attack, were battling for their lives at Petauke Rural Hospital, about 300 km east of Lusaka, according to reports reaching the city yesterday.

Eastern Province police Chief Cde Barnabas Haamanjanji confirmed the grisly attack saying it took place near Kacholola, which is between Petauke and Luangwa.

Six sacks of charred bodies, some with bullet wounds, were recovered by police from the scene of the ambush and taken to the hospital mortuary, a spokesman of Petauke Hospital confirmed.

The bandits shot at the United Bus Company of Zambia coach carrying 65 people before setting it on fire.

Two trucks following the bus were also attacked and set ablaze.

According to Cde Haamanjanji, there was still confusion and fear with vehicles running under army escort through the 100 km stretch in which MNR bandits operate.

Vehicles heading to Zambia's Eastern Province stop at Luangwa to form convoys while those going to Lusaka line up from Petauke Boma.

The area between Luangwa and Nyimba has been under frequent attacks by MNR bandits over the past few months. Over 25 people have been killed in the attacks and 15 vehicles, including 800 tonnes of maize, set on fire.  
— Ziana-IPS.