

Mozambican troops urged to step up anti-MNR war

MAPUTO.

THE commander of the Mozambican army, Lieutenant-General Tobias Dai, has called on troops in the central province of Manica to step up the struggle against the MNR bandits, according to a report yesterday on Radio Mozambique.

General Dai was speaking on Monday in the provincial capital, Chimoio, to officers and soldiers of the Manica provincial command and of the third motorised infantry brigade.

He said that the struggle in defence of the country and of its new constitution, which came into force on November 30, should be intensified. The battle against banditry should be redoubled

until a ceasefire was achieved, Gen Dai insisted.

He was speaking just two days after the signing in Rome of the first ever agreement between the Mozambican government and MNR under which Zimbabwean troops are to be restricted to the Beira and Limpopo Corridors linking Zimbabwe to the Indian Ocean, and bandits are to refrain from launching attacks in these areas.

This agreement is very limited in scope dealing with only the first point on the agenda of the peace talks in Rome. It falls a long way short of the general ceasefire which the Mozambican government side had hoped to negotiate. — Ziāna-Pana-Aim.