

**Bandits Posing as Renamo Members on Manica Road**  
*MB3105085491 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network*  
*in Portuguese 1730 GMT 30 May 91*

[Text] In addition to Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] activities, there are people who have taken advantage of the war to carry out armed robberies in many parts of the country. An example comes from Chimoio.

Soon after the Rome accord came into effect, whereby Renamo agreed not to attack the Beira and Limpopo corridors, there were reports of armed men wearing civilian clothes ambushing cars on the Maforga-Sengo stretch of National Highway No. 6. The raiders threatened to kill drivers who refused to give them money. Many citizens fell prey to the new bandits who were reasonably assumed to be Renamo men, for the latter have committed the most odious crimes without parallel in the history of humanity.

Meanwhile, the situation on that road stabilized somewhat, leading people to believe that vandalism had been thwarted. However, some months later, vandalism returned to that highway. Armed men posing as Renamo bandits have carried out barbaric actions on that road, firing at those who tried to escape. The most common demand heard from the assailants is: Give me money. Those who refuse to comply are threatened with death. Victims of these raids include taxi drivers traveling on the Beira-Chimoio road.

People believe that the raiders carry weapons that cannot be accounted for. We had better, therefore, tackle this situation, otherwise traffic on that important highway might come to a halt. If the views expressed by local residents are to be taken seriously, the raiders are not, in fact, Renamo armed bandits. Thus, a logical question must be raised: What is the source of the weapons being used to threaten our lives? Why has action not been taken against a situation that appears to be easy to deal with? Let the powers that be answer.