Renamo plotting a coup, army claims

MAPUTO. — The rebel group Renamo is alleged to be planning a coup to seize district capitals under government control, immediately prior to the signing of a ceasefire agreement in October.

Renamo had infiltrated "special units" trained in Kenya into central Mozambique to try and seize the district capitals in government hands, the general staff of the Armed Forces of Mozambique said in a statement yesterday.

The statement claimed that Renamo was "planning a spectacular coup so that, immediately prior to the signing of a ceasefire, it can occupy some districts and proclaim them as being under its control".

The coup, the statement said, would help Renamo project itself internationally as a guerilla movement that controlled several parts of the national territory. — Sapa-AFP