

MOZAMBIQUE News reports & clippings

223 10 July 2013 Editor: Joseph Hanlon (j.hanlon@open.ac.uk)

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In this issue:

**Rosairo: Give Renamo something
Mozambican soldiers attacked road**

Rosairo: Give something substantial to Renamo

Renamo must be given something in exchange if government expects it to disarm, according to Lourenco do Rosario, rector of ISPU (Instituto Superior Politecnico e Universitario), who is serving as intermediary between Renamo head Afonso Dhlakama and President Armando Guebuza.

His comments are important. Rosario has status in the Mozambique establishment, and is head of the Mozambique team in the African Union peer review mechanism. And his comment was published in the government-owned daily, Noticias (8 July), albeit buried at the end of another article.

<http://www.jornalnoticias.co.mz/pls/notimz2/getxml/pt/contentx/1705170/20130708>

In his interview, he stresses that if you want someone to give up something important, you have to give something equal in exchange. And he is concerned that government is not yet ready, at least publicly, to make an adequate offer in exchange for Renamo disarming.

Rosario and the Anglican Bishop Dinis Sengulane met Dhlakama at his bush headquarters in Santhugira, Gorongosa, Sofala, Monday.

Formal negotiations between Renamo and the government remain deadlocked over each side's preconditions. Guebuza says he is happy to meet Dhlakama, but only in Maputo and only if Renamo disarms first; Dhlakama says that the high concentration of government troops near his base near Santhugira makes it impossible to leave; if government withdraws the troops he will go to Maputo, or Guebuza can come to him. And the regular Monday talks are deadlocked because Renamo insists that an agreed joint proposal for revising the electoral law to be submitted to parliament (which Frelimo would vote in favour of), while government insists Renamo must submit its proposal directly to parliament (where it would again be rejected by the Frelimo majority.)

But the growing publicity about various people meeting both Dhlakama and Guebuza suggests some sort of informal negotiation is under way. Rev Dinis Matsolo, head of the Electoral Observatory, met with Dhlakama last week and with Guebuza yesterday. After the meeting with Guebuza, he told O Pais (10 July) that he believed that conversations

between Guebuza and Dhlakama would take place and that issues around elections would be resolved.

COMMENT: Dhlakama says four issues need to be resolved: electoral law, making the civil service non-party, issues around the military, and finally a fairer share of the wealth of Mozambique. Sengulane, Matsolo, and other intermediaries continue to stress that these are a package, and the implication is always that money is important.

Meanwhile there are increasing press statements about the cost of the disruption in the centre of the country, with Central Railways director Cândido Jone talking of "enormous losses". Lusa estimates road traffic on the EN1 is down to 30% of its normal levels.

After the 1994 elections, the UN Special Representative in Mozambique, Aldo Ajello, made clear that money and status were the two keys to keeping Renamo in the electoral process. Frelimo's hard line since the election of Guebuza has cut off Renamo and Dhlakama from both. Any settlement now will require significant money, other resources, and sinecures on commissions going personally to Dhlakama, which he will be able to hand out as personal largess. *jh*

Mozambican soldiers attacked road

Three soldiers have been detained for attacking a car on the main north-south road, the army said today. The men were dressed as Renamo and shot at a car carrying three Somali citizens. They stopped the car and stole 3 celphone and \$1000. One of the victims filmed the incident on his mobile telephone and went to the police in Gorongosa. The incident occurred at 2 am Saturday morning on the EN1 in Gorongosa, This is north of the main road linking Beira to Zimbabwe and is 200 km north of Muxungue, where the main incidents with Renamo have taken place.

O Pais (9 July) reported that other vehicles were also attacked at the same time, including a mini-bus going from Quelimane south to Chimoio. O Pais quotes bus passengers to say that the attackers said they were Renamo.

Further incidents

Renamo said Tuesday that the police in Gorongosa had detained the car that was used to buy food in the town for the Renamo president's headquarters in Santhugira (also spelled Sadjundjira), as part of a plan to deprive Dhlakama of food.

Meanwhile, the army admits that the base it attacked last week was empty and had already been abandoned by Renamo. The admission was part of its explanation as to why there was no shooting and no injuries.

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The new book

Zimbabwe takes back its land

by Joseph Hanlon, Jeanette Manjengwa & Teresa Smart is now available from the publishers https://www.rienner.com/title/Zimbabwe_Takes_Back_Its_Land

<http://www.jacana.co.za/book-categories/current-affairs-a-history/zimbabwe-takes-back-its-land-detail>

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by Joseph Hanlon & Teresa Smart

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and on Amazon.co.uk for £17.09

Just Give Money to the Poor: The Development Revolution from the Global South

by Joseph Hanlon, Armando Barrientos, and David Hulme

Most of this book can now be **read on the web**

tinyurl.com/justgivemoney

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Also on the web: Previous newsletters and other Mozambique material are posted on tinyurl.com/mozamb

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NOTE OF EXPLANATION:

This mailing list is used to distribute two publications, both edited by Joseph Hanlon. This is my own sporadic "News reports & clippings", which is entirely my own responsibility. This list is also used to distribute the *Mozambique Political Process Bulletin*, published by CIP and AWEPA, but those organisations are not linked to "News reports & clippings"

Joseph Hanlon

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Mozambique media websites:

Noticias: www.jornalnoticias.co.mz

O Pais: www.opais.co.mz

Macauhub English: www.macauhub.com.mo/en/

Savana: www.savana.co.mz

Canal de Moçambique: www.canalmoz.co.mz

AIM Reports: www.poptel.org.uk/mozambique-news

Carlos Serra Diario de um sociologo: <http://oficinadesociologia.blogspot.com>

Good daily newsletters:

English: Mozambique Investor. Send e-mail to joaquim.fale@clubofmozambique.com

Portuguese: Mozambique Hoje. Send e-mail to moçambiquehoje@clubofmozambique.com

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