MOZAMBIQUE News reports & clippings

254 11 May 2014 Editor: Joseph Hanlon (j.hanlon@open.ac.uk)

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Also in this issue:

Special registration for Dhlakama

Judge investigating kidnaps gunned down

Dinis Francisco Silica Nhavotso, the presiding judge of the criminal instruction section of the Maputo criminal court, was assassinated Thursday morning. On his way to work, he stopped his car at the traffic lights at the junction of Karl Marx, Marien Ngouabi and Malhangalene streets, and a car pulled up beside him and machine gunned him.

The judge has been charge of the investigations of the kidnappings in Maputo over the past two years. (*Noticias* 9 May) *MediaFax* (9 May) reports that three weeks ago he confirmed the detention of businessman Manish Cantilal, who is accused of leading one of the kidnapping rings.

In a sometimes corrupt judiciary, Silva had a good reputation, with no hostile rumours or gossip. Cash, inclduing \$68,000 in US dollars, was found in his car. He was driving to work at the criminal court, and one version is that he was taking money he had been given as an attempted bribe to hand in to the attorney general.

It was Dinis Francisco Silica Nhavotso who ordered the release during the local elections of MDM party delegate Martins Nhampule, who had been arrested just before the count on the ground that his credential was not an "original". (2013 Local Elections, 25 Nov 2013)

IMF critical on poverty & borrowing

The IMF issued a quite critical report on Mozambique late on Friday 9 May. Following an Executive Board's discussion, Naoyuki Shinohara, Deputy Managing Director and Acting Chair, issued a statement that pointed to the "2013 shortfall on priority spending" and noted that "making growth more inclusive will require generating more employment." He pointed to the need for "public financial management reforms and the identification of fiscal risks."

The IMF is still extremely critical of the Ematum bond issue. Shinohara stresses that Mozambique "requires a transparent project analysis, prioritization and selection process, and should be informed by the implications for the debt sustainability. Furthermore, strict monitoring of project implementation is essential to ensure value-for-money in the use of public resources."

Shinohara accepted that government spending has rising this year, due to national elections.

http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2014/pr14211.htm

IMF points to falling rice & soya prices

The IMF's latest *Commodity Price Outlook & Risks*, issued 15 April. predicts that global soyabean prices will fall by one-quarter over the next year and that rice prices will drop by 10%. This will make it much more difficult for Mozambican producers to compete with imports.

Special registration for Dhlakama

Renamo president Afonso Dhlakama did not sign up at one of the ordinary registration posts. Instead a special mobile registration brigade, with journalists and STAE officials, went to a location in the bush to register Dhlakama. Below is a translation of a detailed report from Domingos Bila, who accompanied the registration, published in MediaFax (9 May). The original Portuguese report and photos follow.

MediaFax 9 May 2014 (English translation)
On the day that Afonso Dhlakama registered
Renamo armed men
in government army uniforms

(Gornongosa) Renamo president Afonso Dhlakama finally registered Thursday afternoon, in the middle of dense bush, in Nhadue village, Casa Banana administrative post, Gorongosa district, Sofala province. It was a calm and nice registration, but preceded by moments sinuous and scary for those not accustomed to witnessing scenes of possible war around them.

The entourage of journalists, election officials, representatives and provincial leaders of Renamo, and 12 armed and uniformed police left the district capital at noon and drove 60 kilometres to the interior of Casa Banana administrative post, where they were stopped by armed men from Renamo who suddenly appeared from nowhere. There were about 100 guerrillas. With the six vehicles of the entourage stopped, it was the armed Renamo men who began to give orders. The police, who had orders not to react, remained calm in their cars.

The armed Renamo men began their checks of the people in the group. One-by-one the journalists, registration brigade members, and election officials had to identify themselves. Shortly after, the order was given for the brigade members, journalists, Renamo members and election officials to get out of their vehicles and move forward on foot to the location where Afonso Dhlakama would register.

Strictly FADM

However, the thing that most intrigued the journalists was the half the Renamo guerrillas who came out of the bush were in the uniform of the government Armed Forces for the Defence of Mozambique (Forças Armadas de Defesa de Moçambique, FADM), and not the usual green uniform of Renamo armed men. They wore the typical FADM uniform, even with the identifying flag of the Republic of Mozambique; commanders wore red berets and the soldiers chestnut berets with the clear identification of FADM.

Even stranger was the fact that after the questioning, the Renamo armed and uniformed men and the 12 armed and uniformed policemen began hugs and handshakes.

Leaving the military men and police to chat at the point the cars were stopped, the journalists and brigade members walked about 1 kilometre into the bush, until they were ordered to stop. Minutes later, the Renamo leader arrived, accompanied by an armed and uniformed security unit of about 10 women. In addition, he was accompanied by Renamo guerrillas, some wearing FADM uniforms.

Machine problems

After his arrival, the Renamo president greeted the journalists and election officials. Then as they prepared to register him, the registration computer did not work. CNE members walked back to the car where they collected a back-up machine, and returned an hour-and-a-half later. This machine worked and registered the Renamo leader.

As well as the Renamo leader, one other person was registered - a woman by the name of Lucia, who is believed to be the wife of Afonso Dhlakama.

Then the Renamo leader made a short statement and the entourage of journalists and brigade members walked back through the bush to their vehicles. Arriving at the cars, it was clear that the Renamo guerrillas and the police were chatting in an ambient of tranquillity and peace. Then everyone returned to the Casa Banana primary school, where the brigade would spend the night and conduct registration on Friday. (Domingos Bila)

From CanalMoz:



From the Renamo Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/renamo.rnm:



Note has been taken that in this picture, Dhlakama is looking thinner and older:



Assim apresentaram-se no dia em que Afonso Dhlakama recenseou Homens armados da Renamo rigorosamente uniformizados a FADM

(Gorongosa) O Presidente da Renamo, Afonso Dhlakama, finalmente recenseou na tarde desta quinta-feira, no meio de uma mata fechada, no povoado de Nhadue, no posto administrativo da Casa Banana, distrito de Gorongosa, província de Sofala. Foi um registo eleitoral calmo, bonito mas que foi antecedido por momentos sinuosos e assustadores para quem não está habituado a presenciar cenários de guerra iminentes à sua volta. Tendo partido da sede do distrito pouco depois das 12 horas e depois de percorrer cerca de 60 quilómetros para o interior do posto administrativo da Casa Banana, a comitiva de jornalistas, dirigentes do STAE, representantes e dirigentes da Renamo na província de Sofala, brigadistas e ainda um contingente de 12 agentes da Polícia da República de Moçambique devidamente uniformizados e armados, foi parada por homens armados da Renamo que, do nada surgiram da mata. Eram aproximadamente uma centena de guerrilheiros. Com as 6 viaturas da comitiva paradas, as ordens começaram a ser dadas pelos homens armados da Renamo. A Polícia, que já tinha ordens para não tentar qualquer reacção, manteve-se serena no interior das viaturas. Os homens armados da Renamo iniciaram a averiguação de quem eram concretamente as pessoas que faziam parte da comitiva. Os jornalistas, brigadistas e membros do STAE tiveram que identificar-se uma por uma pessoa. Logo depois foi dada a ordem para que os brigadistas e os jornalistas, incluindo alguns membros da Renamo e dirigentesdos órgãos eleitorais, deixassem as viaturas e entrassem a pé, rumo ao local onde deveria ser recenseado Afonso Dhlakama.

Rigorosamente a FADM

Entretanto, o que mais intrigou parte da comitiva, particularmente jornalistas, foi o facto quase metade de guerrilheiros da Renamo, que surgiu das matas, ter estado trajado de uniforme das Forças Armadas de Defesa de Moçambique (FADM) e não o habitual uniforme verde que identifica a ala armada da Renamo.

O uniforme militar característico das FADM tinha até a bandeira identificativa da República

de Moçambique, incluindo boinas vermelhas de comandos, assim como boinas castanhas com clara identificação das FADM.

Mais estranho ainda foi o facto de, depois da revista e questionamentos, os homens armados da Renamo e os 12 agentes da Polícia da República de Moçambique (com uniforme pingo de chuva) terem iniciado abraços e apertos de mão com os guerrilheiros devidamente uniformizados e armados da Renamo.

Deixando os militares e polícias a conversar no local da intercepção, os brigadistas e jornalistas efectivamente avançaram ao local do registo do líder da Renamo. Foi uma caminhada de quase 1 quilómetro. Chegados a um determinado ponto, os jornalistas e brigadistas receberam ordens para parar a marcha. Minutos depois, surgia o líder da Renamo acompanhado de cerca de 10 seguranças femininas devidamente uniformizadas e armadas. Dhlakama estava também na companhia de guerrilheiros da Renamo, alguns também trajados de uniforme das FADM.

Máquina com problemas

Logo à chegada ao local do registo, o Presidente da Renamo começou por saudar os jornalistas e membros dos órgãos eleitorais. Entretanto, já preparado para o registo, as problemáticas máquinas mostraram que são efectivamente problemáticas. De repente a máquina pura e simplesmente não aceitou funcionar. Foi cerca de uma hora e meia de espera até que os membros da CNE tiveram que fazer mais 1 quilómetro de regresso aos carros para buscar uma segunda máquina. Foi esta segunda máquina que registou o líder da Renamo.

Além do líder da Renamo, foi registada no mesmo local, uma mulher de nome Lúcia, que se acredita ser esposa de Afonso Dhlakama.

No fim da cerimónia, o líder da Renamo fez um pequeno pronunciamento público e a comitiva de jornalistas e brigadistas iniciou a marcha de regresso pela mata até ao local onde as viaturas tinham sido deixadas.

Chegados ao local das viaturas, foi possível ver que os guerrilheiros da Renamo e os agentes policiais a conversar com um semblante de tranquilidade e paz. Logo a seguir iniciou a viagem de regresso à vila sede, tendo os brigadistas ficado na Escola Primária da Casa Banana, onde devem pernoitar e dar seguimento ao censo esta sexta-feira. (Domingos Bila)

The next book

Galinhas e cerveja: uma receita para o crescimento

by Teresa Smart & Joseph Hanlon will be launched 2 July in Maputo.

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 also as an e-book and https://www.jacana.co.za/book-categories/current-affairs-a-history/zimbabwe-takes-back-it-s-land-detail

Now in paper at a reasonable price

Do bicycles equal development in Mozambique?

by Joseph Hanlon & Teresa Smart is now available in **paperback**, for £17.99 (+ p&p)

from the publisher http://www.boydellandbrewer.com/store/viewItem.asp?idProduct=13503

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

This newsletter can be cited as "Mozambique News Reports & Clippings" **Also on the web:** Previous newsletters and other Mozambique material are posted on tinyurl.com/mozamb

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

On Facebook:

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

Good daily newsletters:

English: Mozambique Investor. Send e-mail to theinvestor@clubofmozambique.com Portuguese: Mozambique Hoje. http://mail.clubofmozambique.com/mailman/listinfo/mhoje

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