

MUZARABANI NORTH AND SOUTH

1. OVERVIEW

1.1 Study area

Muzarabani is located in Mashonaland central province. It has four chiefs, namely, Changara Kasekete, Hwata, Subchief Muzarabani and Chiweshe. The area has a population of more than 60 thousand people and most of the farmers grow cotton. The area falls under communal land though part of it is a resettlement area (around Centenary).

One can never understand events in Muzarabani South when he/she is ignorant of events in Muzarabani North, hence the need to carry out a combined Muzarabani survey. Muzarabani North is made up of 12 wards and Muzarabani South has 17 wards. Researchers managed to cover Ward 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24 and 27. More than 26 people were murdered during the 27 June presidential run-off.

1.2 Summary

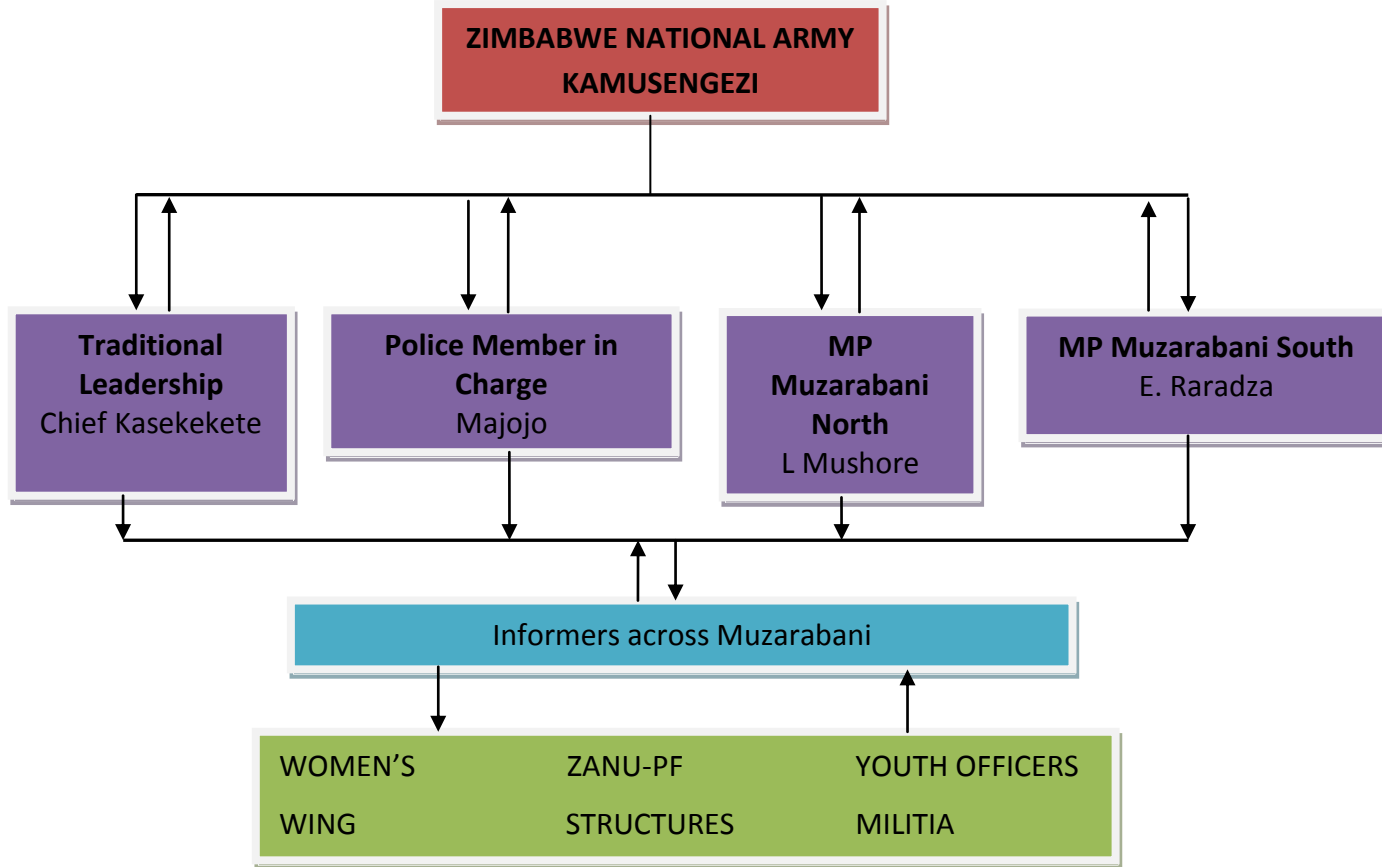
- *Organisation of violence*

Sergeant George Hamunyari Kamusengezi is at the helm of all the violence in the area. Originally he was deployed to Muzarabani as an Operation Maguta officer in 2008. He was housed at the local ARDA (Agricultural Rural Development Authority) offices. Shortly afterwards he moved to Muzarabani police station where he started setting up militia bases responsible for the June 2008 violence. After the June 27 elections he moved to the local community hall where he is still residing. The community hall is used to keep Operation Maguta commodities.

Kamusengezi works closely with the local chief Changara Kasekete, Muzarabani Police Officer in Charge - Inspector Misheck Majojo, and the two Muzarabani North and South members of parliament. He instructs them to set up bases in their local communities and he frequently visits the bases to oversee operations. The four in turn work closely with Kamusengezi's community informers to establish bases in their areas.

They engage ZANU-PF militia and structures in their communities when establishing the bases. It is at this level that victims are identified. The Police Officer in Charge, Inspector Misheck Majojo, visits the bases regularly. His key role is to protect perpetrators from possible prosecution by blocking the opening of dockets against perpetrators. Support for bases come from grinding mills set up by local ZANU-PF MPs. The chief works closely with all leaders involved. There are 10 active and 6 dormant bases in Muzarabani.

- *Organisational structure*



2. DATA ON BASES

2.1 Table of bases

Name of base	Place (Building?)	Grid ref.	Status	Used				
				02	05	08	09	10
Kairezi	School		Active	√	√	√	√	√
Chiwenga	School		Active	√	√	√	√	√
Chadereka	School		Active	√	√	√	√	√
Ndorohwe	Bush		Active	√	√	√	√	√
Museredza	School		Active	√	√	√		
Chibaya	Grave Yard Area		Dormant	√	√	√		
Utete	School		Dormant	√	√	√		
Mushowe	Home Stead		Dormant	√	√	√		
Kapembere	School		Dormant	√	√	√		
Dambakurima	Business Centre		Active	√	√	√	√	√
Hoya	Primary School		Active	√	√	√	√	√
Mutemakungu	School		Dormant	√	√	√		
Chakwe	Bush		Active	√	√	√	√	√
Muzarabani Centre	Community Hall		Active	√	√	√	√	√
Chaona	Business Hall		Active	√	√	√	√	√
Chiweshe	Primary School		Active	√	√	√	√	√

Notes: Bases Kairezi, Chadereka, Museredza and Dambakurima are getting financial assistance from grinding mill projects donated by ZANU-PF. The bases are disguised as grinding mills, but are key meeting places.

Hoya and Dambakurima bases force School Development Committee (SDC) to finance ZANU-PF programmes. (Hoya's financial report can be produced as evidence). Dambakurima School supplied 50 bags of Cement and 36 x 11 feet roofing material for the construction of ZANU-PF shelter that houses a grinding mill.

Source of information

Researchers' observation and GD.

2.2 2008 Violence

- **2008 incidents of serious violence (for each base/place)**

HOYA BASE (Ward 17 Hoya Primary School)					
Incident	Description of Incident	Source of info	Verification	Names/IDs of alleged perpetrators	Names/IDs of victims
1	Murder (Towards 27/06/08, 2200hrs). The exact date could not be established as witnesses were not exactly sure. Chief Changara Kasekete was in charge of the base. The victims died a result of severe assault. The perpetrators used logs, sticks, and iron bars. No docket was opened and perpetrators are free and in Muzarabani.	FM	Graves of the deceased victims	-Paradzai Chibwe -Chrispen Chiorere Mandawa	EN DG MM RT
2	Rape (06/05/08, 2200hrs) Three women were gang raped by ZANU-PF militia while running from harm's way. Sendenza was leading the gang. They used weapons, axes, sticks and knobkerries to intimidate the victims. The case was reported to Chief Kasekete, who stopped victims from reporting to the police, threatening further punishment. No docket was opened and perpetrators are walking free in Muzarabani.	The Victims	Account of the victims and their husbands	-Sendenza (40) -Moses Kagoda (30) -Job Kandawasvika (41) -Todias Midzi (late 30s)	RM SM LG

CHIWASHIRA BASE					
Incident	Description of Incident	Source of info	Verification	Names/IDs of alleged perpetrators	Names/IDs of victims
1	<p>Murder (13/05/08, 2200hrs) The victims died as a result of severe assault. The perpetrators used log and knobkerries to assault victims. MP Raradza for Muzarabani South ordered the violence. Alfonzo Chiwashira, ZANU-PF's sitting Councillor was the commander of the base. An attempt to report the case at Muzarabani police station failed as police refused to open a docket.</p>	MA	The researchers saw the victims' graves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Alfonzo Chiwashira -Percy Chiwashira -George Hwema -Christopher Chapata -Machona Gatsi -Chrispen Laivha -Joseph Jasi -Robson Viola 	TG ZC

Notes: The base is situated 20km away from people's homes towards Mavhuradonha Mountains (in the bush)

MUZARABANI BUSINESS CENTRE BASE (Muringazuva Ward 9)					
Incident	Description of Incident	Source of info	Verification	Names/IDs of alleged perpetrators	Names/IDs of victims
1	<p>Murder (15/04/08, 2200hrs) Sergeant Hamunyari Kamusengezi (ZNA) led a team of 11 other uniformed soldiers. ZANU-PF militia abducted Chrispen Chiutsi on the 15th of April 2008 around 10pm and murdered him. An arrest was made; Kamusengezi was detained for two days but was later released and the case dropped. Kamusengezi still operates in Muzarabani. He used an AK 47 bayonet to murder Chiutsi.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The wife of the victim -Anonymous witness 	We interviewed the widow and the Agricultural Rural Development Authority (ARDA). The police confirmed the death but refused to give researchers the details of the case number.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Kamusengezi Hamunyari -11 armed and uniformed soldiers -Denshort Muzarura -Dhima Tandare -Calisto Makanda 	Chrispen Chiutsi

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2	<p>Murder (06/05/08, 1000hrs) Tendayi Chizengeya (female) was accused of supporting MDC-T. They forced her to consume 2kgs of river sand. Later that day she died. The case was reported to the police. The alleged perpetrators were arrested, but they were released the following day and the case dropped.</p>	<p>Father EN TN</p>	<p>Member in charge of Muzarabani Police: Mishech Majojo confirmed the death but refused to provide the details (the CR number)</p>	<p>-Tendai Tsvanhu -Sam Dananga -Hondo Muzanenhamo -Norman Chizeya -Sydney Chihumbi -Chimusvingo -Tafadzwa Masawi -Shumira Josiah</p>	<p>-Tendayi Chizengeya (36)</p>
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Notes: The base is situated at Muzarabani Community Hall.

CHIWENGA BASE (Chiwenga Primary School)					
Incident	Description of Incident	Source of info	Verification	Names/IDs of alleged perpetrators	Names/IDs of victims
1	<p>Murder (06/05/08, 1200hrs) Victims were marched to the base. The perpetrators used logs to kill their victims. The sitting Councillor Munda for the ward was in charge of the base. The victims died at the base.</p>	<p>Witnesses who were at the base</p>	<p>The researchers saw the graves. A death certificate of one of the victims had been provided.</p>	<p>-Munde T -Justin Chipako -Martin Mukubvu -Yahweh(nickname) -Mai Chikomo (war vet)</p>	<p>CM LM GK</p>

CHIBAYA BASE (Ward 3)					
Incident	Description of Incident	Source of info	Verification	Names/IDs of alleged perpetrators	Names/IDs of victims
1	<p>Murder (towards June 27 2008; 2200hrs) The victims, a husband and wife, were abducted and died after being and brutally beaten. Mr Mawire and Reason Kandira were leaders at the base. No docket was opened and alleged perpetrators remain free.</p>	FC	The researchers saw the graves of the victims.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Driver Kachuwaire -Franis Magase -Jameson Muchungura -Archford Furamera -Chimudende -Mr Mawire -Reason Kandira 	Mr K WB
2	<p>Stock and Grain theft The base has been surviving on taking stock and grain under duress. They have consumed 10 beasts that belonged to FC. And one tonne of maize. Mawire (war vet) was the commander. They used threats and intimidation to acquire food support. The case was reported to the police but no docket was opened and the alleged perpetrators are at large.</p>	Victim	The researchers spoke to Freddy Chinzou and the cattle headmen.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Mawire (war vet) -Reason Kandira (war vet) -Saul Karuma -Matha Chibaya -Timothy Chitenda 	FC

CHADEREKA BASE (Ward 1, Chadereka Business Centre)					
Incident	Description of Incident	Source of info	Verification	Names/IDs of alleged perpetrators	Names/IDs of victims
1	<p>Murder (Towards 27 June 2008, Night)</p> <p>The two victims were beaten at the base and they died as a result. Sparner Bhebhe was in charge at the base. The militia took turns to beat the victims, while women sang and danced. The murder was committed in public. No docket was opened and perpetrators are free in Muzarabani.</p>	CC	The researchers visited graves of the deceased.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Spanner Bhebhe (base commander) -Mr Chinjekure (War vet) -Mubhadhara –Cash (War vet) -Chirangamapenzi (war vet) -Kechi Piason -Windy Kagodo -Mutsitsa (deployed headman) -Changata Kawere (war vet) -Robson Chimoi (Headman) -Orbet Kapiti (Headman) 	AC FP

CHAONA BASE (Ward 22, Chaona Business Centre, Roman Catholic Church)

Incident	Description of Incident	Source of info	Verification	Names/IDs of alleged perpetrators	Names/IDs of victims
1	<p>Murder The two victims were abducted and murdered at the base. The ZANU-PF militia took turns to beat them. They used iron bars, logs and other dangerous sharp objects to murder them. The murder was committed publicly. The two were murdered at the same time with another five victims who were apparently abducted from Mazowe North Constituency. The source failed to supply names of the other 5 victims. Some of the perpetrators were hired from Mt Darwin. CIO operative Elias Kudzonga Kanengoni was in charge of the base. Savior Kasukuwere (MP) and ZANU-PF Provincial Chairman Dickson Mafiosi ordered the violence.</p>	Witnesses	Researchers visited the grave of Jeffrey Jemedze	-Elias Kudzonga -Kanengoni (base commander) -Easisto Gwanzura -Elijah Murefu -Petros Muchiridza -Stanley Mapondera -Mai Mabhunu -Mai Matandadzi -Julius Masawi	JJ TM

DAMBAKURIMA BASE (Dambakurima Primary School)

Incident	Description of Incident	Source of info	Verification	Names/IDs of alleged perpetrators	Names/IDs of victims
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1	<p>Murder (Towards 27 June 2008) The ZANU-PF Youth Militia assaulted the victim and caused his death. They used logs and iron bars to assault him. The sitting ZANU-PF Councillor for the Ward was in charge of the base. The case was reported a few days after the June 27 election but no docket was opened and no arrests were made.</p>	Mr M	The researchers visited the grave of the victim and the ZANUPF youth grinding mill structure.	<p>-Misheck Chiweshe (Councillor) -Dlamba (war vet) -Madison (Damabakurima) -Sam Nhemachena -Mujambajecha (farmer and Councillor) -George Chiweshe</p>	IM
2	<p>Arson and Brutality (26 June 2008) The militia went on a rampage burning MDC supporters' houses in the area. More than 200 houses were burnt to ashes and property worth thousands of dollars destroyed. The militia assaulted opposition members and left hundreds of them disabled. The onslaught was reported at the local police station, Muzarabani, but no docket was opened and perpetrators are moving freely around Muzarabani. The militia used axes, iron bars and logs to assault innocent people. George Chiweshe (a local Border Gezi militia) was in charge of the base.</p>	Victims	The researchers saw the remains (rubbles) of homes destroyed	<p>-Madison Dambakurima -Fibbion Hlamba -Simbarashe Maweni (ZNA) -Mahofa Rugare -Staff Ndingwa Militia -Maweni -Mandida Rwodzi -Givemore Mukucha -Dlamba (war</p>	<p>RM TM CS IN FC MM TD</p>

notes:

- These bases receive financing from grinding mill projects.
- Some of the perpetrators are on government payroll.
- The traditional leadership is very active in advocating violence.
- Zimbabwe National Army members were involved in most attacks.
- The Zimbabwe Republic Police avoid the opening of dockets.
- Three quarters of the bases are housed on government premises, either schools or council property.

2.3 Current intimidation and violence

- Incidents of current violence and intimidation (for each base/place)

HOYA BASE (Ward 17, Hoya Primary School)					
Incident	Description of Incident	Source of info	Verification	Names/IDs of alleged perpetrators	Names/IDs of victims
1	<p>Intimidation and Threats (10/07/10, 1000hrs) This year soon after the introduction of COPAC, Chief Kasekete Changara called for a gathering at his homestead. He then made threats against opposition members. He reminded them of past violence in June 2008 which left more than 25 people dead, hundreds disabled, and women raped. "This time there is not going to be known incidents of violence, people are going to disappear." He said he has no room for opposition in his kingdom: "Its either you repent from opposition or you face eviction." He told the gathering that failure to support the ZANU-PF's position over the constitution will result in eviction, murder or prosecution.</p>	AK	Additional witnesses who attended COPAC gatherings	Chief Kasekete Changara Kashiri (30) (Youth Chairman)	-Opposition members FM Mr T SG

Notes:

- Chief Kasekete Changara openly summons people to come to his residence to attend rallies. He threatened MDC members with violence that would be worse than June 2008 if they do not surrender now.
- Chief Kasekete Changara urges ZANU-PF members never to associate with anyone perceived to be MDC members or sympathisers.
- Chief Kasekete Changara has demoted Village Heads who were perceived to be MDC members or sympathisers and replaced them with ZANU-PF district chairpersons or active members: Headman Murove was replaced by Kadoonda towards 27 June 2008; Headmand Chidaushe was replaced by Isaiah Musona soon after 27 June 2008.

MUZARABANI BUSINESS CENTRE BASE (Muringazuva Ward 9)					
Incident	Description of Incident	Source of info	Verification	Names/IDs of alleged perpetrators	Names/IDs of victims
1	<p>Threats and Enforced Participation, (05/08/10, 1000hrs)</p> <p>The militia are forcing people to participate in their meetings to prepare for COPAC. This is happening twice per week. The perpetrators of 2008 political violence are using threats of violence to drive the people to meetings. Hamunyari Kamusengezi is in charge at the base and the chief strategist of the programme. They publicly instruct people to remain quiet during COPAC meetings and allow only those who have been coached to participate.</p>	IC	Researchers participated in one of these meetings at Muzarabani Centre on the 5 th of August 2010	<p>-Hamunyari Kamuzengezi (ZNA-sergeant)</p> <p>-Calisto Makanda</p> <p>-Goddie Magumo</p> <p>-Marwisi</p> <p>-Mrs Mukondiwa</p> <p>-Miss Hozo</p>	<p>-Villagers</p> <p>IC</p> <p>RM</p> <p>TG</p>

Notes:

- This base is the command centre. It directs other bases around Muzarabani.
- Its footprint spans across the whole of Muzarabani.
- The base is disguised as an operation Maguta programme.
- The base commander: Hamunyari Kamusengezi (ZNA officer) is always at the base. He resides at the Community hall.

MARINGAZUVA BASE					
Incident	Description of Incident (Date, Time)	Source of info	Verification	Names/IDs of alleged perpetrators	Names/IDs of victims
1	<p>G.B.H (07/07/10, 1400 hrs)</p> <p>AK was trapped in the village by ZANU-PF militia. AK survives on buying and selling cattle. Militia attacked AK with logs and axes. They managed to axe him on the forehead and he sustained a deep cut. The victim</p>	Victim	The researchers saw the cut on the victim's forehead.	Madya Keba and other 7 unidentified ZANU-PF militia	AK

	managed to escape by firing warning shots using his gun and the perpetrators ran away. The case was reported, CR number HC 5486/10. The case is still pending in Guruve Court. Madya Keba was commanding the group.				
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MUTASSA VILLAGE					
Incident	Description of Incident	Source of info	Verification	Names/IDs of alleged perpetrators	Names/IDs of victims
1	Arson (14/06/10, 0100hrs) The victim had his house burnt by glowing embers. He had resisted ZANU-PF by speaking at the COPAC meetings. He openly told ZANU-PF officials at a meeting called by the local ZANU-PF leadership that he will speak his mind. A plan to kill him was arranged but he was informed and hid himself in a sheep's pen. When the perpetrators came at night they did not find him and they burnt his home. Whilst in the pen he managed to identify one perpetrator Titus Chitengu Mutasa. He reported the case to the police: CR No. 4906/10.	ED (victim)	Researchers saw photocopies of police summons and CR numbers	Titus Chitengu Mutasa	ED

2.4 Description of bases

HOYA BASE						
PERSONNEL						
Name	Age	Sex	Organisation	Rank/ID	Role	Source of information
Changara Kasekete	50	M	Traditional Leader	Chief	Leadership	SG

Kashiri	37	M	ZANU-PF	Chairperson	Day to day running of militia
Sendeza	40	M	ZANU-PF	Member	Militia
Yahwe	40	M	CIO	-	Militia
Job Kandawasvika	41	M	ZANU-PF	Member	Militia

FINANCE AND SUPPORT

VEHICLES

<i>Name of owner/ driver</i>	<i>Make/model</i>	<i>Reg.No</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Colour</i>	<i>Marking</i>	<i>Use</i>
Chief Changara Kasekete/Driver: Kadoonda	Mazda B1800	830 830A	2008	White		Transporting militia

WEAPONS

<i>Name of owners/users</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Display(Yes/No)</i>	<i>Notes and comments</i>
Militia	Axes Iron Bars Logs	Several	Yes	Most of the weapons are not of value, so they are used and disposed of (with the exception of axes and iron bars that are kept at the chief's home or taken by perpetrators to their homes.)

ACCOMODATION AND EQUIPMENT

<i>Description</i>	<i>Use</i>	<i>Notes and comments</i>
Perpetrators operate from their respective homes. Some weapons are kept at the Chief's homestead.	Assault	

Notes: Footprint (Q3-4):

The base operates as a spring board of violence and its footprint extends up to 30km in radius. There are people at the base all the time and the Chief commands the base. Most of the perpetrators of 2008 violence operate from this base.

MUZARABANI BASE

PERSONNEL

<i>Name</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Rank/ID</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Source of information</i>
Hamunyari Kamusengezi	40s	M	ZNA	-	Commander	Headman Charumbuka
Mishech Majojo	40s	M	ZRP	-	Preventing arrests	Agreement Kagura
Calisto Makanda	30s	M	ZANU-PF	Organiser	Terror	Eddy Charumbuka
Goddie Magumo	30s	M	ZANU-PF	Publicity	Investigation	Freddy Matonhodze
Marwise	30s	M	ZANU-PF	Informer	Investigation	
Mrs Mukondiwa	40s	F	ZANU-PF	Informer	Investigation	
Miss Hoza	28	F	ZANU-PF	Informer	Investigation	

FINANCE AND SUPPORT

Payments to personnel (Q22, 23):

- The base is well funded; Kamusengezi, the base commander is a member of the Zimbabwe National Army who was deployed under the National Maguta Project.
- ZRP member in charge for Muzarabani (Majojo) actively supports activities of the base and in particular refuses to open dockets against perpetrators.
- Other youths are on government payrolls as ghost workers e.g. Dorcas Kataya has an Agribank Account – 010-542131-101.
- Militia also get cash from grinding mill projects around Muzarabani.

VEHICLES

<i>Name of owner/ driver</i>	<i>Make/model</i>	<i>Reg.No</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Colour</i>	<i>Marking</i>	<i>Use</i>
Police Vehicle/Driver: Majojo	Nissan Hardbody		2008		Police Logo	Carrying Youths
Police Member in Charge	Twin Cab	830830A		Police colours		Transporting Kamusengezi
Chief Kasekete/Driver: Kadoonda	Mazda B1800		2008	White		Night visits to make threats.

WEAPONS

<i>Name of owners/users</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Display(Yes/No)</i>	<i>Notes and comments</i>
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Hamunyari Kamusengezi	AK 47 Logs and Sticks	1 several	Yes	
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ACCOMODATION AND EQUIPMENT

<i>Description</i>	<i>Use</i>	<i>Notes and comments</i>
Government buildings, phones, electricity and water supplies all provided by the government.	Militia bases	

Notes:

- The violence is state sponsored.
- The 2008 murder and rape perpetrators are still vocal and active.
- All militia bases are active following the introduction of COPAC.
- A petition that was handed over to the police by Muzarabani victims complaining about the current wave of intimidation, threats and unfair application of the law by the police.
- There appears to be no new wave of violence.
- No successful arrests have been made so far.

MARINGAZUVA BASE

PERSONNEL

<i>Name</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Rank/ID</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Source of information</i>
Madya Keba	30s	M	ZANU-PF	Chair	Admin	Mr M
Hondo Muzanenhamo	40s	M	ZANU-PF		Militia	
Norman Chizeya	35	M	ZANU-PF		Militia	
Sydeney Chihumbi	35	M	ZANU-PF		Informer	
Bhibho Marara	40s	M	ZANU PF		Deployed headman militia	
Daniel Nzuda		M	ZANU-PF		Militia	

FINANCE AND SUPPORT

Payments to personnel (Q22, 23):

- The base is supported by grinding mill projects.
- The following are on government payroll, Sangu Zhuwau (27), Richmore Nyalumwe, Percy Chiwashira, Alfonso Chiwashira, Christopher Chapata, Machona Gatsi, Joseph Jasi, Crispin Laiva, George Hwema, Robson Viola, Calisto Makanda, Stephan Mudzingwa, Same Nhemachena, Mbili Chihangera, Denshot Mazarura, Dorcas Kataya (Agribank Acc 010-542131-101), Kasango, Lancerot Makoni and Issac Marikeza. They receive salaries at Mvurwi Agribank.
- Grinding mill projects: Dambakurima, Kairezi Central, Chadereka, Batanai and Musedredza.

VEHICLES

<i>Name of owner/ driver</i>	<i>Make/model</i>	<i>Reg.No</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Colour</i>	<i>Marking</i>	<i>Use</i>

WEAPONS

<i>Name of owners/users</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Display(Yes/No)</i>	<i>Notes and comments</i>
Youths	Axes, knobkerries, logs, sticks and iron bars.	Several	Yes	

ACCOMODATION AND EQUIPMENT

<i>Description</i>	<i>Use</i>	<i>Notes and comments</i>
Bush venue 20km away from people homes	To terrorise constituents	The base is active and the venue is mostly used to assault people.

Notes: Footprint (Q3-4):

- The base is situated 20km away from people's homes and its footprint covers 40km radius. There are no permanent residents at the base. It is used occasionally.

Perpetrators of violence (Q15):

- The people at the base are the perpetrators of 2008 political violence.

2.5 Summary of Means of Control

- **Denial of access to food, resources and benefits**

The ZANU-PF militia has used food assistance as a campaigning tool. Food access is denied to alleged MDC activists so as to force them to join ZANU-PF. The names of opposition supporters are deleted from the government agricultural inputs assistance register in order to suppress support of opposition activism.

- **Raiding Resources and destroying property**

ZANU-PF militia loot grain and livestock from perceived MDC supporters. MDC sympathisers are forced to give a beast as fine for supporting the MDC and this is done through the traditional courts and in particular by Chief Changara Kasekete's courts. Hundreds of houses belonging to MDC supporters have been burnt.

- **Coercion, threats and violence**

Despite the murder, rape and looting of property, ZANU-PF militia have not been prosecuted. The failure to administer justice has given the youths courage to continue perpetrating violence.

3 Community Strategies and Tactics for violence free elections

3.1 Background

- **Community Assessment**

Level of fear

Able to speak freely 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 *Unable and unwilling to speak freely*

Willingness to resist violence

Strong will to resist 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 *violence* *No will to resist violence*

Capacity to resist violence

Well organised, strong leadership 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 *Weak organisation and leadership*

Comments

The communities lack leaders to guide them in resisting violence. There is a strong will to resist.

- **Non Governmental Organisations**

ORGANIZATION	MANDATE	LEVEL OF INDEPENDENCE
Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights	To assist victims with legal representation on cases relating to the June 27 election	The organization is exceptionally resistant to ZANU-PF influence.
Heal Zimbabwe	To comfort victims of political violence and unveil tomb stones.	Level of independence: a) The organisation's level of independence is above average. There is no political infiltration so far. b) The organization helps victims of state sponsored violence.

		c) We could co-opt them into a community strategy to reduce violence, but caution is advised because Muzarabani is a tense and violent area.
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3.2 Organisation

- **Establishment of committees and operational units**

A district committee has been established and is headed by FM. Ward committees comprising 7 members have also been established in 17 wards. Each ward has its own Defender of Peace. The district committee established an information centre at Itai Charumbuka's residence at Muzarabani Centre. The information centre will alert people of impending danger. The newly constructed Econet booster will make communication through cell phones more reliable. Two Defenders of Peace already have cell phones.

- **Building of membership**

Each of the wards now has more than twenty members. The ward committees will embark on a serious recruitment drive. Ward Defenders of Peace have been tasked to closely monitor the movements of key perpetrators within their area.

3.3 Information and Communications

- **Methods of gathering information**

Defenders of Peace have been placed at strategic locations, which include shopping centres, council premises, and within traditional leadership. Information gathered by them will lay the basis for the peace committees' planning process.

- **Methods of relaying information**

Word pass: In the event that cell phone communication is impossible.

Cell phones:

Drum beat: A special drum beat shall be used to alert possible victims of impending danger.

3.4 Strategic Objectives

- To minimise levels of violence so as to produce a free and fair election
- To weaken the perpetrators' confidence and means of control
- To build morale and confidence so that citizens can freely express themselves during the next elections

3.5 Key Strategies

- **Food and Medication reserves**

Muzarabani is an area hard hit by droughts. Distribution of food is currently channelled along ZANU-PF chains of control. The area is also prone to malaria. Vulnerability due to hunger and sickness is a recruiting tool used by ZANU-PF to manipulate villagers into committing acts of violence. Impartial food and medical aid needs to be provided.

- **Conflict avoidance: Getting out of harm's way**

Targeted individuals need to be moved out of the area when the situation becomes dangerous.

- **Neutralising key points in structure of violence and control**

There is need to cut support for militia bases. Sergeant George Hamunyari Kamusengezi is a key individual in the structure of violence. There is therefore need to neutralise his influence and involvement. There is also need to liberate the traditional leadership from ZANU-PF

control and manipulation. The police should continuously be pressured for them to adhere to the rule of law.

3.6 Tactical Actions

- **Food and medication reserves**

There is need to engage NGOs involved in food distribution so that they render assistance to the people in Muzarabani. The leadership of peace committees should approach Care International, Christian Care and other NGOs. To make food distribution impartial, Defenders of Peace will liaise with local leadership such as kraal heads and councillors so that they inspect the food register and report their findings to peace committees. The committees have already chosen AK and MS to lead negotiations. The committee will expose any unfair food distribution to the media.

The locals shall engage St Albert hospital to ensure that medical facilities can be used by victims of violence. FM has been given the task to engage the administration of the hospital. Peace committees have also suggested that there is a need to train members of the committee in first aid so that they can deal with minor injuries.

- **Conflict avoidance: Getting out of harm's way**

The peace committees have tasked FM and IC to approach the management of a bus company to make arrangements for the payment of 400 advance tickets. In addition, there is need to prepare safe houses for these people here in Harare. The owner of the company is also a victim who had his bus burnt in 2002 when he was accused of supporting the MDC. He assisted victims during the June 27 election.

The Defenders of Peace shall protect the immovable property of those targeted. Movable property shall be transferred to other areas. When elections draw near the same bus company shall be approached to ensure those targeted come back to vote.

- **Neutralising key points in structure of violence and control**

The rebuilding of the Mbuya Nehanda shrine shall be a tactic to gain the favour of chiefs and kraal heads. The shrine of Mbuya Nehanda was destroyed by ZANU-PF. Muzarabani is an area with a very strong traditional outlooks and beliefs. The destruction of the shrine has also been condemned by some ZANU-PF members. The rebuilding exercise coupled with a peace message which had been issued by a spirit medium can be a powerful tool to combat violence.

Locals shall be told to shun visiting the grinding mills owned by perpetrators of violence. Peace committees will publicize the fact that funds from these grinding mills are being used to finance rape, torture, and murder in the community.

Ghost workers need to be removed from the government payroll. Many of them were involved in the June 27 violence. There Ministry of youth, Ministry of Finance and Public Service Ministry should be informed of this and asked to amend the situation.

Demonstrations shall be held to continuously expose the police and also to put them under pressure. The locals have already pursued this initiative and it has forced the police to open some dockets for the June 27 violence. Legal representation has been offered through Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights. ZLHR have told victims to register their cases with

ZLHR lawyers. In response to this initiative the police have also visited victims and talked with them and assured them that they will open dockets for the June 27 violence.

4 SUPPORT

- Impartial food aid from NGOs. About 9 000 people are in need of food
- Legal representation from Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights and Legal Resources Foundation. The donor community should provide funds necessary for the logistical and technical support.
- Cell phones for communication
- Funds for the rebuilding of shrine
- Funds for bus tickets