

ACTION
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INCOMING
TELEGRAM

Department of State

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ACTION AF-10

MBABAN 00913 261726Z 5209 AF7818
POLICY MAKERS;

ACTION OFFICE BLS-01
INFO AS-01 EXEP-01 AF:P-01 AF:I-01 AF:S-01 /006 A1

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 L-03 ICAE-00
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P R 261530Z MAR 81
FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1689
INFO FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBABANE 0913

E.O. 12865: GDS 3/26/87 (MATHERON, RICHARD C.), OR-M
TAGS: PINT, WZ
SUBJECT: FBIS INSTALLATION

REF: (A) STATE 065582, (B) MBABANE 0761

1. (CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT).
2. PARA 4 CONTAINS PROPOSED TEXT PREPARED BY AMBASSADOR WITH ASSISTANCE FROM USAID REGIONAL LEGAL ADVISOR. EMBASSY DRAWS ATTENTION TO INCLUSION OF TELEVISION IN PARA 1 OF PROPOSED TEXT. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO RPT NO MENTION OF TELEVISION IN PREVIOUS EXCHANGE OF CABLES WITH WASHINGTON, WE NOTE THAT TELEVISION WAS MENTIONED IN SOME OF THE MATERIAL PROVIDED IN RELATION TO THE IVORY COAST INSTALLATION. AS FAR AS SWAZILAND IS CONCERNED, THERE IS OFTEN MORE IMPORTANT COMMENTARY ON TELEVISION THAN ON RADIO; ALSO UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS IT IS POSSIBLE TO MONITOR SOUTH AFRICAN TELEVISION.
3. AS NOTED IN REFTEL B, SWAZILAND GOVERNMENT HAS EXPRESSED STRONG PREFERENCE FOR BILATERAL AGREEMENT OVER A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING OR EXCHANGE OF NOTES. WE SHOULD ACQUIESCE IF WE REALLY WANT TO GET FINAL AGREEMENT. QUESTION ARISES WHETHER AMBASSADOR WILL REQUIRE CIRCULAR 175 AUTHORIZATION (11 FAM 700) TO PURSUE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH SWAZILAND AUTHORITIES. PLEASE ADVISE.

4. EMBASSY'S DRAFT TEXT:

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE BUREAU

WHEREAS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ("UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT") HAS REQUESTED THAT IT BE PERMITTED TO ESTABLISH A BUREAU OF THE FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE ("FBIS") IN THE KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND; AND

WHEREAS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND ("SWAZILAND GOVERNMENT") HAS GRANTED PERMISSION FOR SAID BUREAU TO BE ESTABLISHED; AND

WHEREAS THE FBIS IS ENGAGED SOLELY IN THE REPORTING OF DEVELOPMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC INFORMATION MEDIA OF VALUE TO THE UNITED STATES FOREIGN AFFAIRS ANALYSTS AND

- NOW THEREFORE, THE PARTIES AGREE THAT:
1. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MAY ESTABLISH A BUREAU OF THE FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE IN SWAZILAND, WHICH BUREAU WILL MONITOR PUBLIC TELEVISION, RADIO AND PRESS AGENCY TRANSMISSIONS AS WELL AS SELECTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC PRESS OF TEN COUNTRIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.
 2. ALL FBIS MATERIAL MONITORED IN SWAZILAND WILL BE AVAILABLE ON A DAILY BASIS TO THE SWAZILAND GOVERNMENT FREE OF CHARGE. THE FBIS WILL ALSO MAKE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE MATERIALS DESIRED BY THE SWAZILAND GOVERNMENT FROM OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD.
 3. THE BUREAU MAY BE STAFFED BY UP TO FOUR AMERICANS RESIDENT IN SWAZILAND AND 10 TO 15 NON-AMERICANS. TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE NON-AMERICANS WILL BE RECRUITED IN SWAZILAND, EXCEPT WHERE LINGUISTIC OR TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES REQUIRE THEY BE RECRUITED FROM OUTSIDE SWAZILAND. FBIS STAFF FROM THE UNITED STATES WILL BE USED FROM TIME TO TIME, ON A TEMPORARY BASIS, PARTICULARLY IN THE BUREAU'S FORMATIVE STAGES.
 4. THE BUREAU WILL OPERATE AS A COMPONENT OF THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR. ALL UNITED STATES PERSONNEL WILL BE AFFORDED THE SAME PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES AS OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL STAFF OF THE EMBASSY.
 5. THE FBIS WILL OPERATE OUT OF SPACE TO BE RENTED IN A COMMERCIAL BUILDING IN MBABANE AND WILL EMPLOY INCONSPICUOUS ROOFTOP OR GROUND-LEVEL ANTENNAE.
 6. IN ORDER TO ASSURE THAT THE AGREED PURPOSES ARE BEING ADHERED TO, THE BUREAU OPERATIONS MAY BE INSPECTED FREELY BY APPROPRIATE SWAZILAND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS UPON NOTICE TO THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY.
 7. THIS AGREEMENT MAY BE TERMINATED BY EITHER PARTY UPON NINETY-DAYS NOTICE TO THE OTHER PARTY.

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| FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE | FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE |
| KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND: | UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: |
| ----- | ----- |
| MATHERON | RICHARD C. MATHERON AMBASSADOR. |

State Dept. review completed

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