



Embassy of the United States of America

P.O. Box 199
Mbabane, Swaziland

2 January 1987
MMB - 7001

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Swaziland Bureau -- December 1986

I. GENERAL

A. Work on the initial security modifications and electricity upgrades to the house for our new editor began on 15 December. Despite the inevitable delays, editor [redacted] was able to move into the house on 22 December. Several other improvements are still necessary, and work on these will begin after the holidays.

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B. A series of severe electrical storms hit Mbabane during the month, twice knocking out power to the remote antenna site, on 20 and again on 24 December. The Bureau engineer was able to make temporary repairs in both cases until the local authorities could be contacted -- something that isn't easy during the holiday season. The Bureau survived yet another spectacular storm on 26 December without major damage.

C. On 23 December, the Bureau received a Christmas present in the form of a message from the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria expressing thanks for "your exceptional, quick work" in processing two interviews with RSA Foreign Minister Pik Botha on 22 and 23 December. The Embassy also expressed its appreciation for the Bureau's "continued invaluable and reliable support."

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. On 10 December, the South African Government reacted to what it called a major threat to the stability of the country by imposing further restrictions on the ability of the press to report, not only on violent unrest, but also on passive opposition to the government such as strikes, boycotts, and school protests. A new "Interdepartmental Press Liaison Center" was set up to funnel requests for clearance of unrest-related items to the proper authorities. The new restrictions have been widely condemned by the press and various civilian and religious organizations, and have been challenged in court by the UDF and several moderate newspapers.

2. Two days after the press restrictions, RSA security forces arrested a number of trade unionists and community leaders; banned several conferences and festivals; and seized five people, including two Swiss citizens, on raids in neighboring Swaziland. After strong protests by both Switzerland and Swaziland, three of the detainees, including the two Swiss, were released amid reports that they had been mistaken for ANC activists. RSA Foreign Minister Pik Botha met with the Swazi prime minister on 22 December, but refused, in a television interview that evening, to reveal details of the talks or to acknowledge that the RSA had erred in raiding Swaziland.

3. In two interviews during the month, Foreign Minister Botha made strongly worded attacks on U.S. policy. He complained that a major policy speech on 5 December by Secretary of State Shultz condemned South Africa while ignoring abuses elsewhere in Africa. In the second interview, he denounced U.S. interference in South Africa's affairs and said that two congressional delegations would be refused permission to visit the country to investigate the impact of U.S. sanctions.

4. RSA President P.W.Botha used the occasion of his annual New Year's address to announce that a general election would be held in the first half of 1987. He promised to reveal the exact date in his 30 January speech at the opening of parliament, but speculation centers on April.

5. Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe was expected to announce a package of sanctions against South Africa following meetings with Zambian President Kaunda. But in his New Year's speech Mugabe said that the decision had been delayed pending further study.

6. On 4 December, Mozambican President Chissano held his first press conference with foreign journalists, in which he rejected talks with the MNR rebels and denied that he would abrogate the Nkomati Accord with South Africa. Two weeks later, on 18 December, Mozambique and Malawi signed agreements on security and defense, in which, it is widely assumed, Malawi agreed to help Mozambique in its fight against the insurgents.

7. Wide spread rioting broke out in the copperbelt region of Zambia over price increases of basic foodstuffs such as corn meal. Despite the intervention of troops and a curfew, the violence, which resulted in a number of deaths and much property damage, ended only with the repeal of the price increases.

B. Lateral Services/Cruising

Maseru Domestic Service has been unmonitorable at the Bureau since 30 November. Calls to the U.S. Embassy in Maseru on 10 and 18 December established that the radio's shortwave transmitter is

out of order and that station personnel are trying to fix it. The radio continues to broadcast on mediumwave, which is unmonitorable in Mbabane.

C. Technical

A new power supply for the Frederick 1403 Tape reader, damaged in an electrical storm, was received from London Bureau on 30 December. It was immediately installed, and the Frederick was back on line the same day.

III. VISITS

On 11 December, Embassy Community Liaison Officer Kari Johnson visited the Bureau and was given a tour and briefing by the Bureau Chief.

On 13 December, the Bureau Chief gave a presentation at the Ambassador's residence to introduce FBIS and what a field bureau does to new arrivals at post.



STAT

Chief, Swaziland Bureau

Swaziland Bureau Production Report for DECEMBER 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	373660
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	35430
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1003

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	7564.00 min.	13980.00 min.	136.00 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

ANGOLA

Luanda Domestic Service in
Portuguese

18690

BOTSWANA

Gaborone Domestic Service in
English
Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in
English

3740

0

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the
Black Cockerel in

Portuguese to Angola

1950

(Clandestine) Radio Truth in
English to Zimbabwe

0

(Clandestine) Radio Truth in
Ndebele to Zimbabwe

0

(Clandestine) Voice of Truth in
Portuguese to Angola

190

(Clandestine) KUP in

Portuguese to Southern and Central
Africa

0

(Clandestine) KUP in

English to Southern and Central
Africa

0

(Clandestine) KUP in

French to Southern and Central
Africa

1200

LESOTHO

Maseru Domestic Service in
English

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Maseru Domestic Service in seSotho	0		
MALAWI			
Blantyre Domestic Service in English	1550		
Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English			0
MOZAMBIQUE			
Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese	22740		
Maputo in English to Southern Africa	10940		
Maputo NOTIÇIAS in Portuguese			0
Maputo TEMPO in Portuguese			0
Beira DIARIO DE MOZAMBIQUE in Portuguese			0
NAMIBIA			
Windhoek ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG in German			0
Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans			0
Windhoek DIE SUIDWESTER in Afrikaans			0
Windhoek NAMIBIA in English			0
Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English			990
SENEGAL			
Dakar PANA in English		9170	
Dakar PANA in French		1460	
SOUTH AFRICA			
Johannesburg International Service in English	10170		
Johannesburg Domestic Service in English	730		
Johannesburg Domestic Service in English	9870		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Johannesburg Television in Afrikaans	6600		
Johannesburg Television in English	6410		
Umtata Capital Radio in English	10000		
Johannesburg SABA in English		144000	
Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans			0
Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English			0
Durban ILANGA in Zulu			0
Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans			0
Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English			3670
Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English			0
Johannesburg DIE VADERLAND in Afrikaans			0
Johannesburg O'SECULO in Portuguese			0
Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans			2190
Johannesburg SOWETAN in English			2320
Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English			7680
Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES English			1560
Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English			660
Johannesburg THE STAR in English			5000
Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL in English			4660
RSA Editorial Press Review of Afrikaans and English Papers			44490
SWAZILAND			
Mbabane Domestic Service in English	490		
Mbabane Domestic Service in siSwati	0		
Mbabane Television in English	110		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Mbabane Television in siSwati	350		
Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS in English			0
Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English			2
Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English			2200
UNITED KINGDOM			
London BBC World Service in English	7420		
USSR			
Moscow in Ndebele to Zimbabwe	0		
Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa	0		
Moscow in Afrikaans to Southern Africa	0		
Moscow in English to Southern Africa	0		
ZAMBIA			
Lusaka Domestic Service in English	9910		
Lusaka Radio Freedom in English	0		
Lusaka Radio Freedom in, Zulu to Southern Africa	0		
Lusaka Voice of Namibia English	0		
Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English			0
Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English			0
ZIMBABWE			
Harare Domestic Service in English	7140		
Harare Domestic Service in Ndebele	0		
Harare Voice of Namibia in English	0		
Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English			400

BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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Harare THE HERALD in English		1660
Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English		770