



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
P. O. Box 199
Mbabane, Swaziland

4 March 1986
MMB-5017

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Swaziland Bureau -- February 1986

I. GENERAL

Wordage Record -- Yet another bureau wordage record, 524,100 words for the month.

Rise of Rand -- Since President P. W. Botha's 31 January speech opening parliament, the rand has been rising against the dollar. Whereas a few months ago a dollar stood at 2.6 rands, it now brings less than 2 rands, and predictions in the press are for a further rise, despite the fact that unrest shows no signs of abating. South Africa, however, reached agreement with its foreign bank creditors, which has undoubtedly helped the currency, as has the world-wide fall of the dollar.

House Search -- After having progressed well in the search for a house for the bureau's new editor, the house which the bureau was close to reaching agreement on was suddenly and inexplicably taken off the market, putting us back to square one. The Mbabane housing market is very tight at present, which some attribute to the approaching coronation of the new king. The fact that the embassy and USAID are also in the market further complicates the search.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. The 7th of February was a remarkable day in the South African parliament. President P. W. Botha announced the lifting of the state of emergency in seven districts. He took the floor in a debate to publicly repudiate a statement by Foreign Minister Pik Botha that a black might become president of South Africa some day, a repudiation which provoked wide criticism among the blacks and may undercut his National Statutory Council initiative. And Progressive Federal Party and official opposition

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leader Frederick van Zyl Slabbert resigned from parliament saying he was not convinced that President Botha really intended to dismantle apartheid and that his reform program was "simply not good enough." These stories all broke on SAPA within minutes of each other. BBC Newsburo sent thanks for the bureau's "very timely copy" on the three stories, which "beat the competition" and were used by the BBC World Service.

2. For a week in the middle of the month, rioting erupted in Alexandra, a Johannesburg township less than a mile from the poshest shopping area in the city and a hotel much favored by visiting Americans. While the official death toll was put at 22, unofficial sources estimated that it was as high as 80. Independent verification was impossible, however, as the police immediately banned the press, and media reporting from the scene was very sparse. Bishop Desmond Tutu and other churchmen intervened to attempt to dampen the situation, but after meeting with a representative of President Botha, Tutu had to tell residents the government would not meet their demands and was booed by those in attendance. SAPA and the various newspapers provided some independent reporting, but Johannesburg radio and television carried only the police reports.

3. On the 4th, Angolan President Dos Santos spoke at a rally in Luanda to mark the 25th anniversary of the launching of the struggle for independence, carried live on Luanda radio. In reaction to the visit to Washington by UNITA leader Savimbi, Dos Santos said that "some conservative gentlemen in Washington have decided for themselves to make decisions on the future of Angola," but that the Angolan people rejected this interference and would have "the final word." Angolan leaders continued their criticism of the U.S. throughout and after the Savimbi visit with Foreign Minister Van Dunem on the 25th, calling U.S. aid to UNITA a "declaration of war" against Angola. Johannesburg Television carried a lengthy Savimbi interview on the Network program discussing his visit to the U.S. and Johannesburg commentaries praised the U.S. action.

4. Another aspect of the Dos Santos anniversary speech was his discussion of problems in the country. This was followed by a shakeup of high-level officials on the 13th and at the end of the month, the president removed the security minister, assuming the portfolio himself but appointing a deputy minister to handle day-to-day affairs.

5. At the end of the month, Johannesburg Television began a Teledata service during periods when SABC-TV is not broadcasting. The service carries news headlines, short news reports in English and Afrikaans, sports news, advertisements, "Top 20" song lists, and other entertainment material. The news appears to be only short SAPA reports with no unique material or news flashes. However, the bureau is continuing to observe the service to determine if it carries any news ahead of other media and is furnishing MOD with a video recording of the new service.

6. Bureau cruising efforts have been hampered by a continuing high volume of regular coverage and a shortage of one monitor in each monitoring section. However, surveys of Johannesburg domestic service in English and Afrikaans were completed during the month. In response to an MOD request, bureau attempted to monitor Radio Zanzibar, with limited success, but was unable to hear either the Seychelles or Mauritius, probably because the Mt. Kelley remote site has no antenna specifically aimed at the East African coast. Two weeks worth of Johannesburg in Zulu casts were surveyed to determine if unique material was being carried after bureau monitored from that service several unique items after the 31 January P. W. Botha speech. However, on the casts surveyed, nothing unique was carried. Bureau will continue to spot-check the cast, particularly after major government announcements.

B. Lateral Services

1. On the 11th, Tim Carney, political officer in Cape Town, requested that bureau items of RSA political developments be filed to the U.S. mission in Geneva for Ambassador Nickle, who was in Switzerland for several days.

2. Carney also asked for an interview by Zambian President Kuanda in the WEEKLY MAIL, the South African paper which is the successor to the RAND DAILY MAIL, to be processed and sent to the U.S. Embassy in Lusaka.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. The bureau tested candidates for the vacancies in the Afrikaans/African languages Section and now has two in processing. A candidate is also processing for the extra teletypist position.

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2. [redacted] wife of Portuguese monitor [redacted] has been selected to fill the bureau's part-time associate editor's position preparing the RSA press review. Aside from doing well on a press review writing test, [redacted] passed the Afrikaans monitors test and will be able to assume scanning of the Afrikaans press from the monitoring section.

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3. Bureau employees [redacted] and [redacted] were all promoted to GS-10, GS-10 and GS-11 respectively, effective 2 February 1986.

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IV. VISITS

To the Bureau

[redacted] Deputy Director of FBIS, visited the bureau 18-20 February.

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[redacted]
Acting Chief, Swaziland Bureau

Swaziland Bureau Production Report for February 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	524100
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	14170
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1191

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	5715.00 min.	11310.00 min.	139.00 issues
III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES: (publishable words per month)	178090	228240	117770

ANGOLA

Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese	14040		
Luanda ANGOP in English		1090	
Luanda ANGOP in French		280	
Luanda ANGOP in Spanish		570	

BOTSWANA

Gaborone Domestic Service in English	4580		
Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English			0

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola	0		
(Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe	1380		
(Clandestine) Radio Truth in Ndebele to Zimbabwe	1140		
(Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Portuguese to Angola	0		
(Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa		550	
(Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern and Central Africa		410	

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
(Clandestine) KUP in French to Southern and Central Africa		310	
LESOTHO			
Maseru Domestic Service in English	12030		
Maseru Domestic Service in seSotho	1050		
Maseru MOCHONONO in seSotho			0
Maseru NATION in English			0
Maseru THE COMET in English			0
MADAGASCAR			
Antananarivo Domestic Service in French	0		
MALAWI			
Blantyre Domestic Service in English	0		
Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English			0
Blantyre MALAWI NEWS in English			0
MOZAMBIQUE			
Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese	6390		
Maputo in English to Southern Africa	4590		
Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese			0
Maputo TEMPO in Portuguese			0
Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese			0
NAMIBIA			
Windhoek Domestic Service in Afrikaans	0		
Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans			0

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Windhoek DIE SUIDWESTER in Afrikaans			0
Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English			0
Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in English			0
SENEGAL			
Dakar PANA in English		2510	
Dakar PANA in French			0
SOUTH AFRICA			
Johannesburg International Service in English	4350		
Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans	1230		
Johannesburg Domestic Service in English	26670		
*Johannesburg Domestic Service in Zulu	0		
Johannesburg Television in Afrikaans	12310		
Johannesburg Television in English	27170		
Umtata Capital Radio in English	14960		
Johannesburg SAPA in English		222520	
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			720
Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English			0
Johannesburg O'SECULO in Portuguese			0
Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans			0
Johannesburg SOWETAN in English			0

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English			740
Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES English			0
Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English			0
Johannesburg THE STAR in English			2040
Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL in English			4590
RSA Editorial Press Review of Afrikaans and English Papers			108710
SWAZILAND			
Mbabane Domestic Service in English	1890		
Mbabane Domestic Service in siSwati	70		
Mbabane Television in English	0		
Mbabane Television in siSwati	0		
Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS in English			0
Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English			0
Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English			370
UNITED KINGDOM			
London BBC World Service in English	21080		
USSR			
Moscow in Ndebele to Zimbabwe	670		
Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa	4800		
Moscow in Afrikaans to Southern Africa	840		
ZAMBIA			
Lusaka Domestic Service in English	4570		
Lusaka Radio Freedom in English	6100		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Lusaka Radio Freedom in Zulu to Southern Africa	1170		
Lusaka Voice of Namibia English	790		
Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English			0
Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English			0
Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English			0
ZIMBABWE			
Harare Domestic Service in English	4220		
Harare Domestic Service in English	0		
Harare Voice of Namibia in English	0		
Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English			0
Harare THE HERALD in English			600
Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English			0