



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

5 February 1986
MMB-5016

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Swaziland Bureau -- January 1986

I. GENERAL

Wordage Record -- The bureau set another wordage record in January, this time topping the 500,000 mark. Over 400,000 words of this total was devoted to South Africa.

Slot Approval -- Plans to add another American staff editor at the bureau are progressing. The bureau received approval from the Swazi Government for this and an additional teletypist position, and the ambassador has cabled his approval of the two positions to the department. The bureau chief and engineer are now looking for suitable staff housing.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. At the first of the month, South Africa began applying pressure to Lesotho, imposing "security measures" at the border which resulted in reducing the flow of goods into the country to a trickle and therefore causing shortages of various items, especially gasoline. Not surprisingly, this caused great dissension in the country and on 20 January, after a week of reported rumors of a coup, SAPA reported that Para-Military Force Commander J.M. Lekhanye had announced he had taken over the government from Chief Jonathan--the first military coup in southern Africa. An open watch was immediately initiated, and a number of announcements were processed on the establishment of the Military Council, the declaration of a curfew, and the vesting of executive and legislative power in the king. This put a strain on the bureau's limited Sesotho capability, which has now been reduced to one monitor with the resignation of the second monitor with some capability in the language. The American Embassy in Maseru told Ambassador Nelson that the bureau's file was being heavily relied on for information on the coup, especially during

the early hours, and the embassy was grateful for excellent coverage. Moreover, the State Department's AF/S desk praised both embassy reporting and "as always, the timely feeds from FBIS Mbabane" for keeping the department informed of developments.

2. On the 31st, South African State President P. W. Botha gave his long-awaited speech opening parliament. Among other things Botha said that South Africa had "out-grown" apartheid and he promised changes on the pass laws. He also announced the creation of a National Statutory Council which would be composed of black leaders with himself as chairman to negotiate and formulate change. The bureau filed many SAPA reports on highlights of the speech and processed the text in Afrikaans and English from the radio. BBC Newsbuero sent thanks for the speed at which the bureau "moved Botha" and said its "professional handling was appreciated."

3. During the month, the bureau assumed coverage of Dakar Pana for items on southern Africa and of Moscow in Afrikaans, a new program carried on Friday evenings. At the request of Pretoria Political Officer Tim Carney, the bureau covered Johannesburg Domestic Service in Zulu on the 31st for a special message by the state president directed specifically at blacks, asking for support of his reform efforts. The bureau was able to process a report on the statement, although the statement itself was not carried textually. Evidently the test was X carried on TV-2, the Zulu television service which the bureau is unable to monitor as the Swazi feed only carries TV-1. The bureau plans to sample the Johannesburg Zulu cast to determine if it adds material not covered elsewhere.

4. Johannesburg television continues to prove its value as a source, particularly since the new "Network" discussion program was begun. The program carried alternately in Afrikaans and English six in-depth discussions of constitutional options for South Africa, all of which were processed. During the month, the bureau began participating in the "Cities project," sending back via DHL the main English news on each weekday night. This is in addition to the fairly large number of tapes being supplied MOD regularly by pouch.

5. Luanda Radio has carried considerable material dealing with Angola's concern--some say panic--that the U.S. will begin providing aid to UNITA. At the same time, the Angolans are attempting to reorganize the country in an effort to get the economy moving and cope with the rising UNITA threat. Among other things, the bureau covered Dos Santos remarks at a press conference with Assistant Secretary Crocker, his speech to the People's Assembly reiterating that the withdrawal of Cuban troops is not "realistic" under current conditions, a Party Central Communique reorganizing the party structure, and an announcement of the firing of several ministers and the creation of four "super-ministers" to revitalize the country.

6. A little surprisingly, the bureau was busy with coverage of the deteriorating situation in both Sudan and Uganda. As a result of its coverage of BBC for all of Africa, a fair number of lengthy interviews with participants were processed and a number were run on the wire.

7. Guess who didn't come to dinner in Harare. The Iranians. On his swing through southern Africa, the Iranian president arrived in Harare only to find three women of rank and power waiting to greet him at the airport. He ignored them. After much diplomatic wrangling, the Iranians then refused to attend a dinner at the Sheraton Hotel because of the presence of wine and women. The Zimbabweans went ahead and ate without them, the Foreign Minister stating that Zimbabwean women had played a major role in the revolution and would not be excluded. Further evidence for those who say Sally Mugabe really runs the country, as well as a victory for wine-lovers everywhere.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. [] arrived 18 January from Tel Aviv to replace [] as bureau electronics specialist. [] and family departed 2 February on PCS headquarters.

2. Afrikaans/African Languages monitor [] resigned effective 1 February. The bureau is currently testing candidates for this and another vacant position in that section.

B. Buildings and Grounds

1. The emergency generator at the remote monitoring site is now fully operational. Wiring was completed during the month allowing automatic operation.

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Chief, Swaziland Bureau

Swaziland Bureau Production Report for JANUARY 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	508410
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	16550
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1225

	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)	209,390	183,340	115,680

ANGOLA

Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese	19820		
Luanda ANGOP in English		770	
Luanda ANGOP in French		540	
Luanda ANGOP in Spanish		0	

BOTSWANA

Gaborone Domestic Service in English	6120		
Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English			0

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola	0		
(Clandestine) KUP in French to Southern and Central Africa	0		
(Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe	2490		
(Clandestine) Radio Truth in Ndebele to Zimbabwe	0		
(Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Portuguese to Angola	0		
(Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa		350	

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
(Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern and Central Africa		970	
LESOTHO			
Maseru Domestic Service in English	14700		
Maseru Domestic Service in seSotho	1250		
Maseru MOCHOCHONONO 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	930		
Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English			0
Blantyre MALAWI NEWS in English			0
MOZAMBIQUE			
Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese	7710		
Maputo in English to Southern Africa	1700		
Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese			360
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 FANA in English		390	
Dakar FANA in French		300	
SOUTH AFRICA			
Johannesburg International Service in English	6250		
Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans	1000		
Johannesburg Domestic Service in English	38100		
*Johannesburg Domestic Service in Zulu	800		
Johannesburg Television in Afrikaans	21820		
Johannesburg Television in English	26130		
Umtata Capital Radio in English	16770		
Johannesburg SAPA in English		180020	
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			400
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			3260
Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES English			1640
Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English			0
Johannesburg THE STAR in English			420
Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL in English			2460
RSA Editorial Press Review of Afrikaans and English Papers			106310
SWAZILAND			
Mbabane Domestic Service in English	0		
Mbabane Domestic Service in siSwati	300		
Mbabane Television in English	1050		
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			240
UNITED KINGDOM			
London BBC World Service in English	30080		
USSR			
Moscow in Ndebele to Zimbabwe	0		
Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa	3120		
ZAMBIA			
Lusaka Domestic Service in English	3330		
Lusaka Radio Freedom in English	0		
Lusaka Voice of Namibia English	0		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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	5920		
Harare Domestic Service in English		0	
Harare Voice of Namibia in English		0	
Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English			C
Harare THE HERALD in English			59C
Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English			C