



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

P.O. Box 199  
Mbabane, Swaziland

4 May 1987  
MMB - 7006

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Swaziland Bureau -- ~~March~~ <sup>April</sup> 1987

I. GENERAL

A. On 24 April the Bureau Chief and Deputy Chief attended a celebration at the Royal stadium of King Mswati III's 20th birthday. Along with 3,000 other leading dignitaries, members of the royal family and loyal citizens, the Bureau delegation watched the Royal Swazi Regiments parade and the Swazi police motorcycle corps put on a display of trick motorcycle riding, a special favorite of the king.

B. Bureau employees were very happy to see a pay raise appear in their checks this month. This 10.6 percent pay raise was approved by PMCD retro-active to 31 August 1986. Astonishingly, so far no errors by RAMC Paris have been detected in the calculations for this pay raise.

C. Bureau staffers this month have been busy running the new FERS comparison software left by the Pretoria Administrative Officer who visited the Bureau in early April. We have all found the software most enlightening, and two of the staff have already begun contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan during the first open season.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Events in South Africa kept the Bureau busy during the month of April. Most of the activity centered around the lead up to the White parliamentary elections scheduled for 6 May. On 9 April Pik Botha warned the country of an ANC planned terrorist offensive to disrupt the elections, specifically pointing to armed ANC infiltration from Zambia. This was followed by a number of mines exploding in white areas of Natal. Finally on 25 April, a South African patrol was discovered on a reconnaissance mission in the Zambian town of Livingstone, reputedly investigating ANC infiltration routes and bases. In the resulting clash, five people were killed, whom the South Africans claimed were ANC supporters, but the Zambians claimed were ordinary citizens.

2. Union activity also increased in South African, with the postal workers and railroad workers continuing their strikes. In the worst incident during the railroad workers strike, the South African police surrounded the COSATU union hall, where a mass meeting was in progress. As union members

started to flee the hall, the police opened fire, killing 3 strikers on 22 April. The state-run railroad broke the strike by firing some 18,000 striking workers.

3. Bureau wordage for the month has increased largely due to increased processing from the nightly South African Network news program on television. This 1-hour program, normally not worth processing, has been the main forum for debate on the positions of the various parties contending for the elections. Now 4 or 5 nights per week, the bureau has been processing one or two interviews or panel discussions by high level party spokesmen on election issues.

4. Interest in relations between the United States and Angola surfaced this month when an Angolan delegation, on a visit to Brazzaville in the Congo, met with a U.S. delegation led by Chester Crocker. This coincided to some extent with a move to reopen the Benguela railroad, as an alternative to South African routes for moving goods from central Africa to the coast. The Benguela railroad has long been closed by the MPLA-UNITA fighting.

5. Starvation in Mozambique also became a topic of major international concern, as large relief efforts have begun to help solve a problem which many observers say has reached the level of the Ethiopian situation of a few years ago.

#### B. Technical

1. The new Victor VPC II computer arrived in mid-April as a backup to the IBM hard disk now in use in the Teleop room. The new Victor is being tested an hooked up to an ASR before being installed in the Teleop room as a "hot" spare.

2. Both Bureau UPS units were modified by a contractor in April so that these units would recognize the slightly different power from the Bureau generator and click off. Previously, whenever the city power went off, the UPS units would continue to operate until exhausted, not recognizing the generator power as legitimate.

3. Fluctuating city power has caused the Bureau to use its generator frequently during April. The unsteady power has caused the Bureau lights to flicker rapidly on and off, giving us a nightly light show until the editors cut off city power entirely and rely on the generator exclusively. The problem, we think, can be traced to a new city transformer installed a block away two months ago, but repeated calls and pleas to various levels of the Swazi Electricity Board have been fruitless so far.

4. A new microwave oven for office use was bought and installed in April. This should allow our hardworking staff to get a quick hot meal during busy shifts, a special advantage during this heavy election coverage period.

### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. Personnel

Periodic Step Increases were awarded in April to Bureau monitor  
[redacted] and teletypist [redacted]

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### IV. VISITS

Embassy GSO supply personnel had a tour of the Bureau on 28 April to get an idea of the size of the operation, and our small supply needs, which they purchase locally for us.

### V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The Bureau Chief and Deputy Chief, and their spouses, have been working with the American parents group to develop a program of supplementary education for their primary and secondary school children. The group has interviewed three potential teachers for an afternoon program of additional instruction in such areas as social studies, American studies, science, computer studies, and remedial reading and math. We have also procured copies of the Stanford Achievement test, which the GSO (a former New York City teacher) has volunteered to administer, to test the children's abilities compared to their American peers.

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Chief, Swaziland Bureau

## Swaziland Bureau Production Report for APRIL 1987

## I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	434350
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	34900
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	987

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	7024.00 min.	13980.00 min.	131.00 issues

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

ANGOLA			
Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese	12140		
BOTSWANA			
Gaborone Domestic Service in English	3220		
Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English			0
CLANDESTINE			
(Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe			0
(Clandestine) Radio Truth in Ndebele to Zimbabwe			0
(Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola			0
(Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa			0
(Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern and Central Africa			160
(Clandestine) KUP in French to Southern and Central Africa			1540
LESOTHO			
Maseru Domestic Service in English	310		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Maseru Domestic Service in seSotho	0		
MALAWI			
Blantyre Domestic Service in English	1200		
Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English			0
MOZAMBIQUE			
Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese	13190		
Maputo in English to Southern Africa	3670		
Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese			0
Maputo TEMPO in Portuguese			0
Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese			0
NAMIBIA			
Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans			0
Windhoek DIE SUIDWESTER in Afrikaans			0
Windhoek NAMIBIAN in English			520
Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English			850
SENEGAL			
Dakar PANA in English		9600	
Dakar PANA in French		430	
SOUTH AFRICA			
Johannesburg International Service in English	8620		
Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans	400		
Johannesburg Domestic Service in English	17300		
Johannesburg Television in Afrikaans	20850		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Johannesburg Television in English	21970		
Umtata Capital Radio in English	9380		
Johannesburg SAPA in English		156720	
Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English			970
Durban ILANGA in Zulu			450
Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans			960
Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English			7380
Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English			0
Johannesburg DIE VADERLAND in Afrikaans			0
Johannesburg O'SECULO in Portuguese			0
Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans			3000
Johannesburg SOWETAN in English			1350
Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English			5080
Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES English			6180
Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English			3710
Johannesburg THE NEW NATION in English			2870
Johannesburg THE STAR in English			20910
Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL in English			5930
Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans			0
RSA Editorial Press Review of Afrikaans and English Papers			53750
SWAZILAND			
Mbabane Domestic Service in English	0		
Mbabane Domestic Service in siSwati	0		
Mbabane Television in English	0		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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			340
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS			
Moscow in Ndebele to Zimbabwe	140		
Moscow in Afrikaans to Southern Africa	0		
Moscow in English to Southern Africa	0		
Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa	0		
UNITED KINGDOM			
London BBC World Service in English	5790		
ZAMBIA			
Lusaka Radio Freedom in English	0		
Lusaka Radio Freedom in Zulu to Southern Africa	0		
Lusaka Voice of Namibia in English	11750		
Lusaka Domestic Service in English	0		
Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English			0
Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English			490
ZIMBABWE			
Harare Voice of Namibia in English	0		
Harare Domestic Service in English	16730		
Harare Domestic Service in Ndebele	1480		
Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English			800

BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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Harare THE HERALD in English		2220
Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English		0