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Chief, Operations Group				September 1988 STAT		
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6 October 1988 FBIS-5816-88

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report, Swaziland Bureau, September 1988

I. OPERATIONS

- A. Monitorial/Editorial
- 1. Angola, South Africa, Cuba and the United States met in Brazzaville 7-9 and 26-30 September to discuss the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola. The four sides announced that progress was being made and that all parties remained committed to implementing UN Resolution 435 on 1 November. However, no formal agreement has been reached.

During Bureau Chief recent stopover in Abidjan, the DCM asked to see him in order to convey their appreciation for Mbabane's coverage of the Brazzaville talks. The embassy has passed FBIS items on the talks to Dr Crocker and the U.S. delegation mediating the talks.

- 2. Pope John Paul II made an unscheduled stop in Johannesburg 14 September during a 10-19 September tour of southern Africa. Bad weather in Lesotho forced the pope's plane to land in the RSA, a country he had vowed to avoid until it renounced apartheid. The pope did not follow his usual practice of kissing the ground when he stepped onto the tarmac. Foreign Minister Pik Botha rushed to Jan Smuts International Airport to greet the pontiff before the papal delegation proceeded to Maseru by car.
- 3. Three prominent emergency detainees were given "temporary refuge" status at the U.S. Consulate in Johannesburg 13 September. The "Kine Three" were joined by a fourth escaped emergency detainee 22 September. Although both the foreign minister and the law and order minister assured the detainees that they were free to leave the consulate without fear of arrest, a U.S. spokesman stated that they expect the detainees will be there a "long time".

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4. South Africa began a nationwide security campaign 14 September, canceling all police leave until after the 26 October municipal elections. The campaign includes the detention or restriction of civil rights and trade union activists and surprise "cordon and search" operations on selected city streets. Traffic police and transportation officials have been given wider security authority, and the government has begun restricting people simply by publishing names in the Government Gazette. Twenty-nine explosions were reported in urban areas throughout

B. Cruising/Coverage

1. Dakar PANA in English/French is currently monitorable at Mbabane after 1600 GMT. However, daytime reception remains unmonitorable.

II. ADMINISTRATION

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- joined an embassy group which attended the annual Reed Dance 2 September. Foreigners permitted to watch the event were cautioned to dress modestly, to take pictures only if they had obtained camera permits, and to not open umbrellas in the presence of the king. Thousands of Swazi maidens, wearing short bead skirts and bright smiles, brought reeds to rebuild the Queen Mother's kraal and then celebrated by dancing for the king, who traditionally chooses his wives from among the young women participating in the dance.
 - 2. Bureau Chief was on TDY 9-30 September to attend the Bureau Chiefs Conference in Washington and the BBC-FBIS African meeting in Caversham.
 - 3. Bureau Engineer and family arrived PCS 24 September.

III. VISITORS

1. DCM Arma Jane Karaer paid her first visit to the Bureau 7 September.

Chief Swaziland Bureau

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