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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Swaziland Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO

DATE

STAT

August 1988

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. C/DRD				
2. C/WSS				
3. C/ICCS				
4.				
5. Managing Editor				
6. FE Branch				
7. ME/AF Branch				
8. WE/LA Branch				
9. USSR/EE Branch				
10.				
11. C/Prod				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15. Retain/Destroy				

5 September 1988
FBIS-5815-88

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report, Swaziland Bureau, August 1988

I. GENERAL

By the end of the month, a local contractor had completed an upgrade of the security bars on all windows and vents on the Bureau proper and the technician's shop. This completes the overall security upgrade program recommended by Monrovia Security during a visit by a Monsec officer in March.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Angola, South Africa, Cuba and the United States met in Geneva 2-5 August to discuss practical steps for halting hostilities in southwestern Africa. A joint statement issued simultaneously in all capitals on 8 August revealed that the parties agreed to the withdrawal of both Cuban and South African troops from Angola, to a 2 month truce in Namibia beginning 1 September, and to a recommendation that UN Security Council Resolution 435 on the independence of Namibia be implemented from 1 November. The SADF began withdrawing from Angola on 8 August, and completed the withdrawal on 30 August. Meanwhile further quadripartite talks were held in Brazzaville 23-26 August to discuss a timetable for the withdrawal of Cuban troops.

2. On 7 August Botswana President Quett Masire and his chief of protocol were slightly injured when their executive jet was forced to make an emergency landing en route to a Frontline States meeting in Luanda, Angola. Angola subsequently apologized to Botswana for mistaking Masire's jet for an enemy plane.

3. ANC leader Nelson Mandela entered a Cape Town hospital on 13 August for treatment of tuberculosis. On 18 August, President P.W. Botha declared: "I don't think that at his age and condition it would be wise for him to choose to go back to prison."

4. A strong explosion severely damaged Khotso House in Johannesburg on 31 August, causing the police to declare the building uninhabitable. The building contained the head offices of the South African Council of Churches, the Black Sash, the Detained Parents Support Committee and other vocal opponents to apartheid. The explosion was the culmination of a month of increased violence in South Africa, in which 10 smaller explosions, attributed to limpet mines or grenades, were reported in Johannesburg and other urban areas.

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5. King Mswati III of Swaziland has commissioned an extravagant new palace which, he has ordered, must rival "those seen in James Bond films." Construction cranes are already in place at the site, a mountain crest overlooking northern Mbabane. The new Palace will include such amenities as two swimming pools, one with a glass bottom to be built over the discotheque; a central reception court that can be flooded by a waterfall in a nearby dining room; and four mechanical palm trees which double as fans. The design resembles two overlapping drums, recalling traditional construction forms, and includes a 10-foot-wide moat.

B. Coverage/Cruising

1. Dakar PANA in English/French remained virtually unmonitorable throughout the month.

III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

- 1. Deputy Chief [redacted] departed PCS 7 August. 25X1
- 2. Administrative Assistant [redacted] EOD'd 21 August. 25X1
- 3. Deputy Chief [redacted] moved into her house 24 August, after contractors repainted the house and completed minor repairs. 25X1
- 4. Editor [redacted] moved into his house on 2 September, after 2 long months of hotel living. Extensive renovations, including a new roof, dining room and kitchen, are virtually completed. The painters expect to finish their work "soon." 25X1

IV. VISITORS

- 1. Contractors [redacted] visited the Bureau 9-11 August to install the bureau's new Victor transmit computer. 25X1
- 2. ALA Branch Chief [redacted] and two ALA members paid a surprise visit to the Bureau 16 August during a 15-17 August tour of Swaziland. 25X1
- 3. Ambassador Mary Ryan paid her first visit to the Bureau 22 August. 25X1

[redacted]
Chief, Swaziland Bureau

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