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# WHORM Subject File Code: CO087 (Countries: Lesotho, Kingdom of) Case file Number(s): 350000-END Box: 121

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## WITHDRAWAL SHEET

### **Ronald Reagan Library**

Collection Name		WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT (WHORM): SUBJECT FILE		<b>Withc</b> DLB	er /3/2010		
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The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA] B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA] B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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CONFIDENTIAL

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

April 12, 1986

,2871 -6006-12

6210 db

MEMORANDUM FOR NICHOLAS PLATT Executive Secretary Department of State

SUBJECT:

Ambassador to the United States From the Kingdom of Lesotho (S/S 8611007)

The President has reviewed and concurs in the recommendation of the Department of State that the appointment of Mr. William Thabo Van Tonder as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Lesotho would be agreeable to the Government of the United States. You are requested to so inform the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho.

Rodney B. McDaniel Executive Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL DECLASSIFY ON: APPOINTMENT AS AMBASSADOR

NGC #8602871

#### NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

UNCLASSIFIED WITH CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT

db 6/2/10

April 11, 1986

2871

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN M. POINDEXTER

PHILLIP RINGDAHL FROM:

Appointment of William Thabo Van Tonder of the SUBJECT: Kingdom of Lesotho as Ambassador to the U.S.

State has forwarded the nomination of Mr. William Thabo Van Tonder for consideration as the Ambassador to the U.S. from the Kingdom of Lesotho.

I have reviewed the material and see no reason for denying agrement.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Forward the attached memo to State granting agrement.

APPROVE Meg

DISAPPROVE

Attachments

Tab	I	McDaniel	to Pl	att N	lemo
Tab	II	Incoming	memo	from	State

UNCLASSIFIED WITH CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT



Washington, D.C. 20520

VIS . 52

April 8, 1986

#### MEMORANDUM FOR VADM JOHN M. POINDEXTER THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: Appointment of William Thabo Van Tonder of the Kingdom of Lesotho as Ambassador to the United States

The Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho has inquired whether our Government agrees to the appointment of His Excellency William Thabo Van Tonder, currently Deputy Permanent Representative of Lesotho to the United Nations, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Lesotho to the United States (TAB 2). A biography of Ambassador Van Tonder is attached (TAB 1).

The Department believes from the information available that Ambassador Van Tonder will make a good Ambassador to the United States and recommends that the President agree to the proposed appointment. If he concurs, the Department will inform the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho.

Micholas Plan

Nicholas Platt Executive Secretary

Attachments:

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Attachments)

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- 1. Biography.
- 2. Telegram Maseru 904.

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

### **Ronald Reagan Library**

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B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

### ACT-ION COPY

# CONFIDENTIAL Department of State

PAGE 01 MASERU 00904 2015072 Action <u>CPR-02</u>

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CONFIDENTIAL MASERU 00904

E. O. 12356: DECL: 06/18/86 TAGS: OPDC, LT, US SUBJ: GOL REQUESTS AGREMENT FOR NEW AMBASSADOR TO U.S.

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. EMBASSY RECEIVED NOTE TODAY DATED MARCH 18 FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY ADVISING THAT GOL INTENDS TO RECALL AMBASSADOR THOAHLANE. GOL REQUESTS AGREMENT FOR WILLIAM THABO VAN TONDER TO REPLACE THOAHLANE. VAN TONDER IS. CURRENTLY DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AT THE UN WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

3. BIO DATA: DOB: JANUARY 22, 1948; POB: MASERU. VAN TONDER'IS MARRIED WITH THREE CHILDREN. HE HOLDS AN LLB FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF BOTSWANA, LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND AND A DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL LAW FROM MANCHESTER UNI-VERSITY. AFTER A VERY BRIEF STINT IN PRIVATE LEGAL PRACTICE (1974), VAN TONDER JOINED FOREIGN MINISTRY (MFA) IN 1974 AS A LEGAL OFFICER. FROM 1977 TO 1980 HE SERVED AS COUNSELOR OF THE MFA LEGAL DIVISION. FOLLOWING THAT ASSIGNMENT HE SERVED FOR TWO YEARS AS DIRECTOR OF THE SAME DIVISION. FROM 1982 UNTIL MAY 1984 VAN TONDER WAS MFA DEPUTY PRINCIPAL SECRETARY. HE WAS MFA PRINCIPAL SECRE-TARY FROM JULY 1, 1984 UNTIL HIS SEPTEMBER 1985 ASSIGNMENT TO THE UN.

4. FOREIGN TRAVEL: ACCORDING TO CURRICULUM VITAE PROVIDED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY, VAN TONDER HAS TRAVELLED TO, INTER ALIA, SIERRA LEONE, CAMEROON, WEST BERLIN, NIGERIA, KENYA, SWITZERLAND, JAMAICA, INDIA AND THE U.S. EMBASSY POUCHING TO AF/S COPIES FO NOTE AND CURRICULUM VITAE.

5. VAN TONDER IS KNOWN TO AMB. ABBOTT WHO CHARACTERIZES HIM AS PLEASANT, INTELLIGENT, LIKELY TO EFFECTIVELY REPRESENT LESOTHO IN WASHINGTON AND TO BE USEFUL INTERLOCUTOR FOR USG CONTACTS.

15.

CONFIDENTIAL

6. PLEASE ADVISE.

ABBOTT

State Waiver dh 10/18/2022

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INCOMING

TELEGRAM

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cc: VP Regan	Buchanan Oth	er RBM	
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MEMORANDUM TO: PATRICK BUCHANAN FROM: PHIL NICOLAIDES

R.

Jan. 21, 1986

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#### SUBJECT: THE COUP IN LESOTHO & US SOUTHERN AFRICA POLICY

Having spent two weeks in Lesotho last June as a speaker on a USIA [AMPARTS] tour -- I was a guest at the home our ambassador there -- and having kept up contacts with Americans there, I have some thoughts on the recent coup.

In 1966 when Leabua Jonathan became the first prime minister of Lesotho [the former British colony of Basutoland], he portrayed himself as an anti-communist moderate. His election was widely known to have been rigged, and he showed his penchant for autocratic rule by visiting harsh reprisals on his political opposition: some were killed, others driven into exile in South Africa. Although he often promised new elections, none were ever held.

In 1970 Jonathan further clouded his "legitimacy" when he banished the popular King, Moshoeshoe II, thus alienating a strong royalist faction which had been willing to work with him until then. The king's loyalists never forgave Jonathan for this, even though he relented and let the king return as a mere figurehead after a year of exile in England.

South Africa looked on nervously as Jonathan engaged in ever more open collaboration with the African National Congress, the guerrilla/terrorist organization that has been under effective Soviet domination for the past 16 years. In 1983 South African special forces staged a lightning raid on an ANC safe house in Maseru, the capital. This raid infuriated Jonathan who hit upon an ingenious way to get even: he went off on a tour of Eastern bloc capitals and then invited the Soviet Union, North Korea, and the PRC to open embassies in his country.

The Soviet Embassy, a large heavily-staffed complex, was nearing completion late last June when I left. Since there are no Soviet nationals living in Lesotho (other than the 45 or so at the embassy), and since the country has no trade with the USSR, the South Africans concluded that the Soviet embassy was basically an observation and command post for their drive to bring down South Africa with the aid of their stooges in ANC and SWAPO. The fact the the Kremlin's ambassador, a short unsmiling man, was earlier kicked out of England as a high-ranking KGB operative, tended to confirm this view. Most disturbing of all, Jonathan sent several score of Lesotho's military to North Korea for training by the same notorious Korean unit that trained a killer brigade for Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe. [This Korean trained Zimbabwean brigade has been responsible for the slaughter of thousands of Ndebele tribesmen loyal to Joshua Nkomo. They butchered about 750 civilians during just one weekend last June.]

When Lesotho's Korean-trained and indoctrinated officers returned, Jonathan attempted to have one of them put in a high command position in the General Justin Lekhanya's Paramilitary Force. This was too much for Leyhanya. He refused to go along and promptly disarmed all the Korean-trained officers. From that time the breach between Jonathan and Lekhanya has widened.

It became an unbridgeable chasm when the Koreans sent over some 600 "martial arts instructors" who proceeded to set up paramilitary and ideological training camps for Lethotho youth and young "refugees" (ANC recruits) from South Africa. These kids, from about 14 to 18 years of age and armed with AK 47s, have become a real menace, terrorizing, for example, the campus of Lesotho National University -- formerly Pope Pius XII University! Lesotho, by the way, is about 70 percent Catholic.

The church's highest ranking prelate, Archbishop Morapeli, told me that this indoctrination of the youth with communist doctrine was an outrage and that one day General Lekhanya would have to take strong action to put an end to it.

Seven months ago in a long meeting I had with him, Lesotho's highest-ranking Anglican churchman, Bishop Philip Mokuku, told me that Jonathan was guilty of squalid misrule and that his reckless South Africa baiting could only result in a bloodbath for his own people when South Africa finally decided it had taken enough.

"Jonatahan does all this rash and foolish posturing," he told me, "because he thinks it shows he opposes apartheid. But opposition to apartheid is no excuse for committing national suicide. Does Monaco pick a fight with France?

"We are <u>all</u> opposed to apartheid," Mokuku continued. "But the strongest blow we could deliver against it would be to set an example here of a black-ruled country that is truly free and fair and well-ruled and without corruption. But Jonathan does just the opposite. In fact he has made this country a visual aid for the defenders of apartheid." 2

It is worth noting that this moderate Anglican bishop's immediate predecessor was Bishop Desmond Tutu.

The immediate cause of the coup was, of course, that Jonathan, who had promised the military just a few days earlier that he would let them crack down on the ANC and the armed Korean-trained Youth Branch of Jonathan's party, reneged on this promise, announced he was in complete control, demanded the US and Britain provide him with a Berlin-Style airlift to undercut South Africa's tightening economic blockade, and finally threatened to turn to the Soviet Union and its satellites for aid if the West refused this utterly nonsensical demand. The fact that at the time Jonathan was putting on this bizarre performance he was playing host to Fidel Castro's foreign minister made it all the more the more galling to Lekhanya.

THE U.S. SHOULD IMMEDIATELY GIVE DE FACTO RECOGNITION AND SUPPORT TO THE PROVISIONAL REGIME HEADED BY GENERAL JUSTIN LEKHANYA. IT HAS THE BLESSING OF KING MOSHOESHOE, AND AND THE VIRTUALLY UNANIMOUS SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF LESOTHO. IF DEALT WITH IN A FRIENDLY WAY, THE NEW GOVERNMENT WILL IN DUE COURSE REVERSE THE JONATHAN POLICY OF COZYING UP TO THE SOVIET BLOC.

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PRETORIA FOR DAG

C.O. 12356: DECL:OADR TAGS: FREL, OVIP, LT SUMI: LESOTHO HEAD OF GOVERNMENT, GENERAL LEKHANYA, IN-TENDED VISIT TO U.S

REFS- (A) MASERU 2636, (B) MASERU 2557, Jet State 279366

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

CONFIDENTIAL

# WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 03 MASERU 2853

DTG: 1915Ø8Z SEP 86 PSN: Ø54851

2. WITHOUT CABLE GUIDANCE ONE HOUR BEFORE CLOSE OF BUSINESS IN LESOTHO AMBASSADOR WAS PRESSED TO REACT TO PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF MINISTRY OF DEFENSE TOM THABANE'S CALL TO DISCUSS THE TRIP THAT WAS REQUESTED BY MAJOR GENERAL LEKHANYA.

3. THE GENERAL WAS INSISTING ON SOME COMMUNICATION INASMUCH AS HE WOULD BE MEETING WITH THE FULL CABINET MONDAY, AND HIS TRIP WAS ON THE AGENDA.

4. THE LAST CABLE GUIDANCE WAS INSTRUCTING AMBASSADOR TO INFORM THE GENERAL THAT THE AMBASSADOR WOULD BE ACCOMPANYING THE GENERAL ON HIS TRIP TO THE U.S.

5. TELECON WITH AF/S ASST. DIRECTOR HARRIS INDICATED THE DEPARTMENT HAD DECIDED THAT A POSTPONEMENT OF THE REQUESTED TRIP WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE DEPARTMENT AT THIS TIME. CONFIDENTIAL

6. INASMUCH AS A GOOD DEAL OF WORK HAD GONE INTO THE GENERAL'S TRIP PRIOR TO THE DEPARTMENT INFORMING THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE TRIP WAS NOT TO TAKE PLACE, (AS HE HAD DEEN PREVIOUSLY INFORMED IN STATE 279366) IT WAS NOT WELCOME NEWS. AMBASSADOR FELT, STRONGLY, THAT THE GENERAL, AS A STROMG SUPPORTER OF THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND BEING A HEAD OF GOVERNMENT OF A BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRY IN THAT AREA, COULD BE OF SUPPORT TO THE PRESIDENT AT THIS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT TIME.

7. NEVERTHELESS, AMBASSADOR MADE REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GENERAL'S OFFICE WITH P.S. THABANE TO RESOLVE THE

CONFIDENTIAL

## CONFIDENTIAL WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE Ø3 OF Ø3 MASERU 2853

DTG: 1915Ø8Z SEP 86 PSN: Ø54851

PROBLEM IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE DEPARTMENT AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, AND AT THE SAME TIME PRESERVING THE GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN BUILT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND LESOTHO.

8. AMBASSADOR EMERGED FROM MEETING WITH A REQUEST FROM GENERAL LEKHANYA THAT HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON AND THE OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES BE POSTPONED UNTIL A LATER DATE. HE CITED AS PRESSING BUSINESS THAT HAD JUST COME UP AS THE REASON FOR THE LATE REQUEST TO CANCEL.

9. AMBASSADOR ASSURED THE GENERAL THAT HE WOULD BE WEL-COME IN THE U.S. WHEN HE WAS NEXT IN THE U.S. AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO ASSISTING HIM IN ARRANGING AN INTERESTING ITINERARY WHEN HE WAS IN THE U.S.

10. THE GENERAL EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR WHAT THE AMBASSADOR AND THE DEPARTMENT HAD DONE TO ARRANGE THE TRIP WHICH HE, UNFORTUNATELY, HAD TO CANCEL. HE EXPRESSED HIS CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND LOOKS FORWARD TO MEETING HIM IN THE FUTURE.

11. THE GENERAL WILL KEEP HIS PREVIOUS SCHEDULE TO

ATTEND THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN NEW YORK. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT PROVIDE THE HELP THEY HAD PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO PROVIDING THE GENERAL'S PARTY IN NEW YORK.

ABBOTT BT

CONFIDENTIAL

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

544995 CO087 FG006-12

October 14, 1987

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR FRANK C. CARLUCCI

HERMAN J. COHEN FROM:

King of Lesotho's Office Call on the President SUBJECT:

As you know, King Moshoeshoe of Lesotho will be taking 15 minutes of your time with the President on October 20. That will give him enough time to sit down and have a short conversation. The memorandum from the State Department (Tab A) reports that the King wants two high officials to accompany him in the Oval Office. Despite the brevity of the visit, monarchs cannot be expected to move about without an entourage. In this case, the foreign minister and senior palace advisor are substantive as opposed to ceremonial. I feel we should not object.

Marybel Batjer concurs.

RECOMMENDATION

That you concur with the memorandum from Green to Levitsky at Tab I approving the two accompanying Lesotho officials for the Oval Office call.

> Disapprove Approve

Attachments

Tab I Green/Levitsky Memorandum Tab A Memorandum from State Department

NSC# 8707634

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. MELVYN LEVITSKY Executive Secretary Department of State

SUBJECT: Composition of Lesotho Delegation During King Moshoeshoe's Call on President Reagan

Pursuant to your memorandum of October 14, 1987, Foreign Minister Monyake and Colonel Letsie are approved to accompany King Moshoeshoe of Lesotho during his call on the President on October 21, 1987.

> Grant S. Green, Jr. Executive Secretary

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5/S 8729646 United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

October 14, 1987

#### MEMORANDUM FOR MR. FRANK C. CARLUCCI THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: Composition of Lesotho Delegation during King Moshoeshoe's Call on President Reagan

The Embassy of Lesotho would like to have two officials accompany the King during his October 21 courtesy call on President Reagan.

The officials are Foreign Minister Lengolo Monyake and military council member Colonel Thaabe Letsie. Minister Monyake was formerly Leshotho's ambassador to the European Community. Colonel Letsie is a close friend of the King and is responsible for military foreign affairs and palace security.

Miloyn Livitsky

Melvyn Levitsky Executive Secretary



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#### THE WHITE HOUSE

#### WASHINGTON

MEETING/PHOTO OP WITH KING MOSHOESHOE II OF LESOTHO DATE: October 21, 1987 LOCATION: Oval Office TIME: 9:45 - 10:00 a.m. FROM: FRANK C. CARLUCCI

#### I. PURPOSE

To meet with the constitutional monarch of a friendly African country which values its relationship with the United States.

#### II. BACKGROUND

Oxford-educated King Moshoeshoe II enjoys executive and legislative powers. He is generally respected and popular at home.

Lesotho is completely surrounded by South African territory. It is totally dependent on South Africa for its income which comes mainly from customs receipts and the remittances of Lesotho men working in South African mines. Good relations with South Africa must, therefore, be a cardinal element of Lesotho's foreign policy.

Recently, the King has expressed concerns about Lesotho's precarious geopolitical situation as an island in the sea of apartheid and has indicated interest in the U.S. acting as a "guarantor" of Lesotho's integrity. The government has also requested a U.S. Government loan to finance the purchase of aircraft. This is not possible, but Lesotho could order from a U.S. manufacturer who can request an Export-Import Bank loan.

Lesotho has just experienced its worst natural disaster. Torrential rain and snow in the mountain areas have resulted in at least 14 deaths, washed out roads and bridges, and loss of livestock. We are providing \$25,000 toward relief efforts.

#### III. PARTICIPANTS

List at Tab A.

N3C#8707670

### IV. PRESS PLAN

-

Photo opportunity.

#### V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Photos with the King and his party, followed by seated conversation.

Attachments

Tab	A	Particip	pants Li	st		
Tab	В	Talking	Points	and	3x5	Cards

#### PARTICIPANTS LIST

The President The Vice President Howard Baker Kenneth Duberstein Colin L. Powell Chester A. Crocker Herman J. Cohen, NSC (Notetaker) June Carter Perry (Country Officer for Lesotho)

King Moshoeshoe II William Thabo Van Tonder, Ambassador Lengolo Monyake, Foreign Minister Colonel Thaabe Letsie

#### TALKING POINTS FOR KING MOSHOESHOE II (mo-SHWAY-shway)

#### OF LESOTHO (le-SOO-too)

#### GENERAL

- -- WELCOME TO WASHINGTON, YOUR MAJESTY.
- -- PLEASE ACCEPT OUR CONDOLENCES FOR THE LIVES THAT WERE LOST IN THE DISASTER WHICH HIT YOUR MOUNTAIN REGION. WE'RE PLEASED TO BE SUPPORTING THE RELIEF EFFORTS.
- -- CONGRATULATIONS ON LESOTHO'S 21ST ANNIVERSARY OF INDE-PENDENCE THIS MONTH (OCTOBER 4).

#### BILATERAL RELATIONS

- -- I AM HAPPY THAT OUR TWO NATIONS HAVE ENJOYED SUCH EXCELLENT RELATIONS.
- -- WE'RE PLEASED TO ASSIST LESOTHO'S DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS, PARTICULARLY IN AGRICULTURE AND EDUCATION.
- -- WE ALSO PLAN TO CONTINUE OUR \$50,000 MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM.
- -- (IF ASKED FOR AIRCRAFT LOAN) I'M AFRAID THE U.S. IS NOT IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE AIRCRAFT TO LESOTHO. HOWEVER, IF YOUR GOVERNMENT ORDERS FROM A U.S. MANUFACTURER, THAT FIRM COULD REQUEST AN EXPORT-IMPORT BANK LOAN TO FINANCE THE SALE.

#### SOUTHERN AFRICA

-- THE U.S. SEEKS A PEACEFUL END TO APARTHEID AND A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT WHICH INCLUDES ALL THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA.

- -- WE KNOW THAT MANY OF SOUTH AFRICA'S NEIGHBORS, INCLUDING LESOTHO, FEEL THEIR SECURITY IS THREATENED BY TURMOIL IN SOUTH AFRICA.
- -- WE VALUE OUR FRIENDSHIP WITH YOU AND WANT TO BE HELPFUL.
- -- THE U.S. IS SUPPORTING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA'S NEIGHBORS.
- -- WHAT WAS THE IMPACT OF THE RECENT MINERS' STRIKE ON YOUR CITIZENS WHO WORK IN SOUTH AFRICAN MINES? DO YOU AGREE WITH OTHERS WHO SAY THAT THE STRIKE WAS A MILESTONE IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING?
- -- WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE PROSPECTS FOR ACHIEVING FULL PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT FOR ALL SOUTH AFRICANS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS?

#### CONCLUSION

-- YOUR MAJESTY, THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES WISH YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE WELL.

-2-

#### NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506 October 19, 1987

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR FRANK C. CARLUCCI

FROM: HERMAN J. COHEN

SUBJECT: President's Meeting/Photo Op with King Moshoeshoe II of Lesotho Wednesday, October 21, 9:45 - 10:00 a.m.

The King has dearly wanted a meeting with the President. Ambassador Smalley strongly recommended it because the Soviets have stepped up their wooing of the Lesotho government in recent months. You offered 15 minutes on NSB time.

Overall U.S. relations with Lesotho remain excellent. This meeting will give a boost to a leader whose country confronts the dilemma of being totally landlocked within South African territory.

Marybel Barjer Soncurs. RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I regarding the meeting with King/Moshoeshoe.

Approve

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by: Alison P. Rosenberg

Attachments

Tab IYour Memorandum to the PresidentTab AParticipants ListTab BTalking Points and 3x5 CardsTab IIIncoming Correspondence

#### SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN DURING COURTESY CALL BY KING MOSHOESHOE II OF LESOTHO

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1987

I. COURTESY POINT

-- Congratulations on Lesotho's 21st anniversary of independence (October 4).

II. LESOTHO'S RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES

POINTS TO MAKE:

-- The U.S. is pleased that it has been able to assist Lesotho, particularly in the areas of education and agriculture.

-- We are hopeful that improved marketing techniques and increased income will result from these programs.

ONLY IF ASKED:

-- The U.S. cannot provide aircraft to Lesotho. The government of Lesotho may order from a U.S. manufacturer, who can request an EXIM bank loan for Lesotho.

-- We plan to continue our \$50,000 military training program.

III. SOUTH AFRICA

POINTS TO MAKE:

-- The U.S. seeks a peaceful end to apartheid and a democratic system of government inclusive of all the people of South Africa.

-- We know that turmoil in South Africa threatens the security of its neighbors, including Lesotho.

-- The United States values its friendship with Lesotho and will continue to support it.

-- We wish Lesotho well as it begins its twenty-second year of independence.

S/S 8729645 United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520



October 16, 1987

#### MEMORANDUM FOR MR. FRANK C. CARLUCCI THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: Draft Talking Points for President Reagan's Meeting with Lesotho's King Moshoeshoe II

Attached are draft talking points for President Reagan's October 21 meeting with Lesotho's King Moshoeshoe II.

The King has recently expressed concerns about Lesotho's precarious geopolitical situation as an island in the sea of apartheid and has indicated interest in the U.S. acting as a "guarantor" of Lesotho's integrity. The government of Lesotho has also requested a loan from the U.S. government to purchase aircraft.

We cannot provide such a loan. However, Lesotho can order from a U.S. manufacturer who can request an Exim bank loan. The U.S. plans to continue its economic development assistance to Lesotho at current levels. We will continue the existing \$50,000 IMET program but do not plan a military assistance program.

The attached talking points provide responses should the King raise these issues with the President.

Melon Lev

Melvyn Levitsky Executive Secretary

Attachment: As stated

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#### MOTLOTLEHI – HIS MAJESTY KING (CONSTANTINE BERENG SEEISO) MOSHOESHOE II OF LESOTHO

#### (mo-Shway-Shway)

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His Majesty was born on 2nd May. 1938 at the Village of Salang in the mountain district of Mokhotlong in Lesotho. He is the second child and the eldest son of the late Paramount Chief Simeone Seeiso Griffith and Mofumahali 'Mabereng.

When Paramount Chief Seeiso died in 1940, the Young Prince was brought up by his uncles under the Regency of Mofumahali Mantsebo who was Regent from 1940 up to 1960 when the Young Prince was installed Paramount Chief. His Majesty is a direct descendant of His Majesty King Moshoeshoe I, the founder — King of the Basotho Nation, who died in 1870.

He started his primary education in Mokhotlong and continued at Roma Primary School through to Secondary School at Roma College (now Christ the King High School) from 1948 to 1954.

From 1954 to 1957, His Majesty studied at the Benedictine College of Ampleforth, Yorkshire, in the United Kingdom. He then entered Corpus Christi College, Oxford University in 1957 to read Politics. Philosophy and Economics (PPE). After nearly three years at Oxford, he returned to Lesotho at the end of 1959. Shortly afterwards he was installed as Paramound Chief of Lesotho.

In the early seventies, His Majesty resumed his studies with Corpus Christi College, Oxford to complete his Degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE). He did another Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Law at the same College.

When he was installed Paramount Chief of the Basotho Nation on March 12 1960, he was proclaimed "Motlotlehi" by the Nation and assumed the "English title" of "King" in 1966 when Lesotho's Independence was finally restored by the British Queen. He remained a Constitutional Head of State; was exiled from Lesotho in April 1970, but returned from exile in December 1970.

With the change of Government in 1986, the King has both Executive and Legislative Powers in Lesotho in accordance with the provision of the 1986 Lesotho Order No. 1.

In August 1962, His Majesty King Moshoeshoe II married Princess Tabitha 'Masentle Lerotholi Mojela, the daughter of the late Principal Chief Lerotholi Mojela, a veteran of the First World War. Her Majesty Queen 'Mamohato Bereng Seeiso was born in the Mafeteng District.

They have three children, Crown Prince Letsie Mohato, Principal-Chief-Designate of Matsieng and heir to the throne, born on July 17 1963; Prince Simeone Seeiso born 16 April 1966; and Princess Christina 'Maseeiso born on 24 December 1969.

His Majesty has travelled widely, having visited the United Kingdom, Holland where he stayed in exile in 1970, West Germany, Botswana, Swaziland, Nigeria, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Zambia, Tanzania, Zaire, Liberia, Sweden, the United States of America, the People's Republic of China and the Bahamas.

He also attended conferences starting in 1958, when he attended the first Constitutional conference in London, which granted Self-Government to Lesotho, the second Constitutional Conference in 1964 which granted the Pre-Independence Responsible Government, and the 1966 Independence Talks which resulted in the restoration of full independence of the Kingdom of Lesotho in 1966. His Majesty has addressed the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations Security Council on various issues including the problems between the Kingdom of Lesotho and her neighbour, South Africa.

His Majesty's interests are wide-ranging, including tennis, squash and horse-riding. He owns and breeds race-horses.

Like most Basotho, His Majesty is keen on and enjoys mixed farming. He keeps cattle, sheep and goats.

His Majesty is interested in the welfare of the Basotho people and has great interest in education and social issues which he considers the key to the development and progress of his people. In the early 1970s, he established the Mohato Scholarship Fund financed by him to aid needy Basotho youngsters to further their education.

His Majesty established a high school named after him in 1965. Moshoeshoe II High School in the area of Matsieng was created to meet the problems of students who had to travel long distances for placement in schools, many times with little success. He maintains active links with the school and its developments.

He had been Chancellor of the University of Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland in rotation with other Heads of State of Botswana and Swaziland, and is now Chancellor of the National University of Lesotho (NUL), with which he maintains both formal and informal contact and follows its development with keen interest.

In 1975 His Majesty established the Matsieng Development Trust, a body whose main purpose is to encourage and promote rural development on the lines of self-help and self-reliance.

His Majesty is Patron to a number of Charitable Organisations like the Red Cross of Lesotho, the Lesotho Save the Children Fund, to name only a few. Whenever possible, he participates in Charity Walks and other activities with the purpose of fund raising for special social and development projects and programmes.



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