

Assoc. Dir.	
Dep. AD Adm.	
Dep. AD Inv.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Intell.	<i>COG/PA</i>
Laboratory	
Legal Coun.	
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8 JUN 78 07 14z  
 RECEIVED  
 FEDERAL BUREAU  
 OF INVESTIGATION  
 COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

POLITICAL MATTERS CUBA

*Adrian*

(b)(3):10 USC 424,(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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22 JUN 15 1978

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SUBJ: DIA DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE (DIN) (U)

DIADIN 158-10A (AS OF: 2000 EDT 7 JUN 78)

CUBA: ~~(S/NOFORN)~~ DIPLOMATIC MISSION TO SOUTHERN AFRICA. (U)

1. ~~(S/NOFORN)~~ A CUBAN DIPLOMATIC TEAM HAS MADE THAT NATION'S FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO LESOTHO, AN AUTONOMOUS ENCLAVE LOCATED DEEP IN SOUTH AFRICA. THE TRIP MAY REFLECT LESOTHO'S DECISION TO BROADEN INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS, BUT IT ALSO INDICATES HAVANA IS CONTINUING TO EXPAND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, DESPITE GROWING WESTERN CONCERN ABOUT CUBAN WORLDWIDE INVOLVEMENT.
2. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ A CUBAN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL TEAM MADE A GOOD-WILL VISIT TO MASERU, LESOTHO'S CAPITAL, DURING THE WEEK OF 29 MAY. THE CUBANS SAID THEY WISHED TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE COUNTRY AND TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF AN "INCREASED" RELA-

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TIONSHIP. REPORTEDLY, THE CUBANS INITIATED THE TRIP, AND IT HAD  
BEEN PLANNED FOR SOME TIME.

3. ~~(S/NOFORN)~~ US OFFICIALS INDICATE THAT THE VISIT WAS UNUSUAL  
FOR LESOTHO, A WESTERH-ORIENTED COUNTRY, AND THE DECISION PROBABLY  
REFLECTS THE VIEWS OF A FEW, HIGH-LEVEL LESOTHO OFFICIALS WHO SYM-  
PATHIZE WITH COMMUNIST AND RADICAL GOVERNMENTS. THE CUBAN VISIT  
MAY REFLECT A MASERU INITIATIVE TO BROADEN INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS  
AND TO ENHANCE LESOTHO'S IMAGE IN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT OR WITH  
RADICAL AFRICA S. MASERU COULD ALSO BE ATTEMPTING TO WORRY WESTERN  
PARTNERS.

4. ~~(S/NOFORN)~~ FROM THE CUBAN PERSPECTIVE, THE VISIT INDICATES THAT  
HAVANA APPARENTLY IS DETERMINED TO CONTINUE TO EXPAND ITS INTER-  
NATIONAL RELATIONS, DESPITE INCREASED EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN  
BY THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER WESTERN NATIONS REGARDING CUBAN  
WORLDWIDE INVOLVEMENT. ON 7 JUNE HAVANA ANNOUNCED IT WAS ESTABLISH-  
ING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH LESOTHO AT THE AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL.  
SUCH OFFICIAL CONTACT BETWEEN CUBA AND LESOTHO WILL NO DOUBT  
ESPECIALLY DISPLEASE AND WORRY THE SOUTH AFRICANS. MOREOVER, A  
CUBAN OFFICE IN MASERU WILL PROVIDE HAVANA AND MOSCOW A POST  
TARGETED AGAINST PRETORIA.