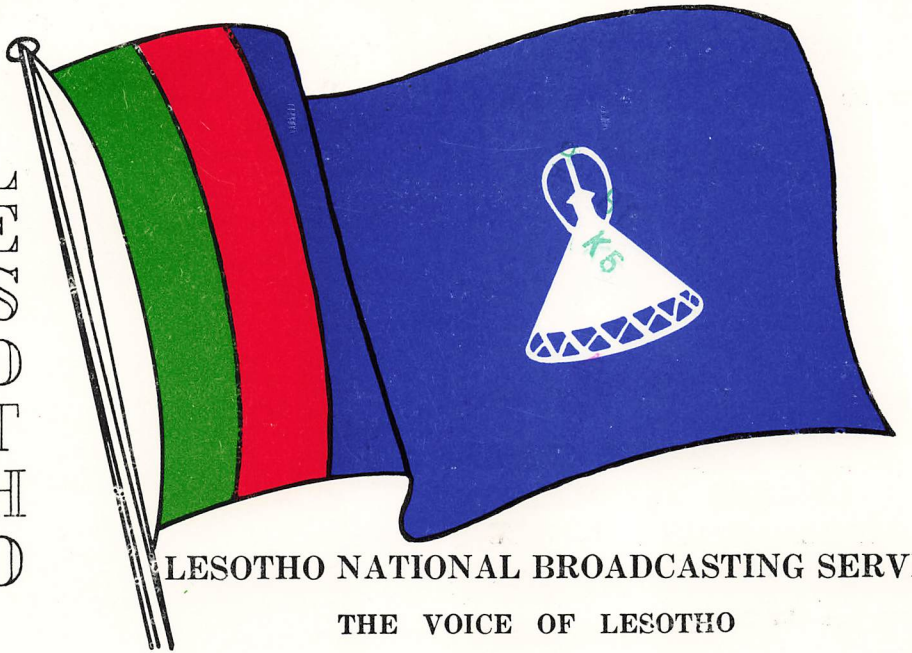
LESOTHO



LESOTHO NATIONAL BROADCASTING SERVICE

THE VOICE OF LESOTHO

We thank you for your report on the reception of our transmission from

LANCERS GAP (~~10~~100Kw)

Date: 23. 12. 86

Time 2354 · 0002 G.M.T.

0254 - 0354 Local

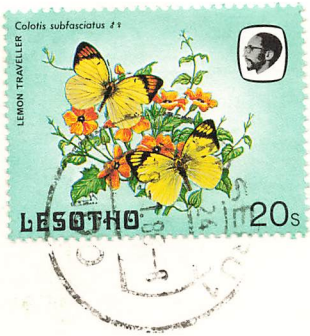
Frequency — 337 metres 60 metres

891 KHZ 4800 KHZ

LESOTHO NATIONAL BROADCASTING SERVICE

P.O. Box 552, Maseru

Lesotho.



Carl Mann

46 Hanover Road S.W

Cedar Rapids, IOWA

52404 USA

BBC LANCERS' GAP TRANSMITTING STATION
LESOTHO

QSL - CONFIRMATION OF RECEPTION REPORT

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to: CARL MANN

Your report of: SEPT 29 1996 on 6190 kHz at 0440-0445z is verified

Thank you for your interest in our station.

Station equipment:

Sender 321 : Continental Electronics 418D-1 100kW SW TX ⇐ SCHEDULED TX, AERIAL
Antenna : TCI Log Periodic, bearing 15deg ETN

Sender 322 : Continental Electronics 418D-2 100kW SW TX
Antenna : TCI Vertical Fire Array 45/225 deg ETN

Sender 323 : Continental Electronics 2 317C-2 50kW MF TXs
Antenna : Mast Radiator, Omnidirectional 1197 kHz

Sender 324 : BBC/Eddystone 1kW VHF FM 90.2 MHz
: Stacked dipole array (3 element) omnidirectional

Note : 3255, 6190 and 11940kHz close on 30/9/96 from Lesotho
: Service transferred to Sentech (formerly SABC) Meyerton, RSA

Lesotho National Broadcasting Service broadcasts from the same site on 891kHz (Harris DX 50) 50kW MF TX omni mast radiator , 4800 kHz (Continental Electronics 418D-1 100kW SW TX) vertical fire array, and on VHF stereo. New frequencies on 90m, 49m and 25m using ex-BBC TXs to be announced shortly.

Yours sincerely,

Martin J. Rigby

Comments:

CARL, many thanks for the report of the transmission which was a 'test' transmission from Meyerton. Details overleaf.

Good DX!

Martin J.Rigby (7P8/G4FUI)
BBC Senior Engineer,
c/o British High Commission
PO Box 521
Maseru 100,
KINGDOM OF LESOTHO
Southern Africa

Station Location:

29°20'S 27°29'E 1760m asl

C/O British High Commission
PO Box 521,
Maseru 100
Kingdom of Lesotho

11 October, 1996

Dear Carl,

Many thanks for your letter and the tape, to which I have just listened. Like you, I spotted the missing reference to 6.19 MHz in the announcement. I'm afraid the BBC are somewhat lax at their frequency announcements, I and others often have to get them corrected!

It is nice also to hear from a fellow broadcaster. However, this is, I suppose one of those "Good news . . . bad news" letters.

You will be surprised and possibly disappointed to hear that the transmission you heard did not come from Lancers' Gap in Lesotho, but from the Sentech (formerly SABC) transmission facility at Meyerton, near Johannesburg in the Republic of South Africa.

The transmission was scheduled to have come from Lesotho, but, in cooperation with our counterparts at Meyerton we had been transmitting the 3255, 6190 and 11940 kHz transmissions from the latter location with effect from 0600z on September 27th, four days ahead of the scheduled change of site on October 1st at 0255z. This was a proving trial for the new transmitters at Meyerton, and we were standing by to come up at a moments' notice if Meyerton ran into trouble, although no such trouble was encountered.

I hope this information isn't overly disappointing to you. You will probably not be surprised to know that with the impending closure of the HF transmissions at Lancers' Gap, my mailbag has increased enormously (so much so that it is difficult to cope - I am a "one-man operation" here). However I now have a whole series of reports of the "before" and "after" and by and large they are comparable. This is especially interesting as on the one hand worn-out old transmitters have been replaced with shiny new ones, but on the other the BBC have selected the new site and antennae in order to keep their target area substantially the same, and if reports from listeners outside the target area (slightly!) are anything to go by, then they seem to have succeeded in the latter aim. Maybe the old Continental transmitters (made in Dallas, TX) weren't doing such a bad job after all!

I have completed the confirmation letter as per normal, though there is a qualification in the remarks, so I hope this will be of as much interest to you as your reception report and tape has been to me.

Kind regards,

Martin

P.S. The 6190kHz transmission at that time would be from their 15deg antenna, this signal is usually inaudible here, now that the transmission site has moved, although the "omidirectional" signals from 3255kHz during the night, and 6190kHz during the day come in very well indeed.

PER LUGPOS
BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

Carl Mann
6711 South 139th Avenue Circle
Omaha, Nebraska 68137
U. S. A.

68137/4007

FROM: BBC
Po Box 521
MASERU 100
KINGDOM OF LESOTHO.