

Swaziland Cases, 1970-2012

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torg	gname	onset	min	max
T10	SOUTH AFRICAN NATIVE NATIONAL CONGRESS		1976	1996
T2410	PEOPLE'S UNITED DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (PUDEMO)		1983	2006
T2439	SWAZILAND YOUTH CONGRESS (SWAYOCO)		1998	2003
T492	TIGERS		1998	1998
T2533	UMBANE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY (SWAZILAND)		2008	2008

I. SOUTH AFRICAN NATIVE NATIONAL CONGRESS

Torg ID: 10

Min. Group Date: 1976

Max. Group Date: 1996

Onset: NA

Aliases: African National Congress (South Africa), South African Native National Congress

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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: MK, Umkhonto we Sizwe

Group Formation: 1912 (formation); violence begins 1961

Group End: 1996 (Disarm)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The ANC was formed in 1912 to protest racial inequality and fight for political reform and inclusion in the South African government (MIPT 2008). The group's first violent attack occurred in 1961 after deciding it would not achieve its aims without resorting to violence (MIPT 2008; Associated Press, 2012). Its ideology stressed egalitarianism, but it did not seem particularly leftist (Uhlig 1986; Gleditsch et al. 2013, 530).

Geography

The group conducted attacks in Pretoria, Johannesburg, and elsewhere in South Africa (CIA 1982, 1; GTD 2017). It had an external base in Mozambique, Tanzania, and headquarters in Lusaka, Zambia (CIA 1982, 3; Uhlig 1986). By 1986, most military members staged operations out of Angola (CIA 1986). The ANC often launched cross-border raids into Swaziland and Lesotho (CIA 1982, 3). It also had offices in Botswana, Swaziland, and Lesotho for diplomatic and organizational purposes (CIA 1982, 3). By 1986, the group also opened an office in London (CIA 1986). The Angola camps formed in the 1960s (Houston 2013).

Organizational Structure

The ANC had a political wing and an armed wing, known as Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) (MIPT 2008; Smith 2011; Associated Press 2012; CIA 1986). The political wing was very well-organized and had a sophisticated command structure although it primarily conducted business from outside South Africa (CIA 1982; CIA 1986). The group had a youth wing known as the Congress Youth League, headed by Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, and Oliver Tambo (Smith 2011). Members of the group in 1912 were young black professional and tribal chiefs (CIA 1982, 1). Members primarily came from the Xhosa tribe, but increasingly recruited Zulu members in the 1980s (CIA 1982, 8).

In 1976, the group grew when several thousand young men traveled to South Africa from neighboring countries to join the ANC following the Soweto uprisings (CIA 1982, 1; Uhlig 1986). In 1982, the group had approximately 1000 to 2000 fighters and 2000-3000 additional supporters (CIA 1982, 2). In 1986, the group had 10,000 supporters including 5,000 fighters (CIA 1986). After 1964, the group's president was Oliver Tambo, Secretary General was Alfred Nzo, and military leader Joe Modise (CIA 1982, 5). Modise was later replaced by Thabo Mbeki (CIA 1982, 5).

External Ties

ANC members received military training in Angola, logistical support from Cuba, and logistical support from the USSR (CIA 1982, iii). The group received up to 90% of arms and logistical support from the USSR in 1983 (CIA 1986). The group also received military training from Cuban and East Germans in Angola (CIA 1986). It had some communist connections, but did not espouse a Communist ideology (CIA 1982, 6).

It had an external base in Mozambique, Tanzania, and headquarters in Lusaka, Zambia (CIA 1982, 3; Uhlig 1986; Gleditsch et al. 2013, 530). By 1986, most military members staged operations out of Angola (CIA 1986).

The Pan-Africanist Congress splintered from the ANC in 1959 (Associated Press 2012; CIA 1982, 9).

Group Outcome

In 1960, the South African government banned the ANC (CIA 1982, MIPT 2008; Associated Press 2012; CIA 1986; Uhlig 1986). In 1960, South African police opened fire on a crowd of peaceful protesters in an event that came to be known as the Sharpeville massacre (Smith 2011). Soon after, the ANC established their armed wing; it is unclear if the incident had any effect on this decision (MIPT 2008; Mandela). In 1963, police raided

the MK's headquarters and arrested Mandela and other ANC leaders (Smith 2011). In 1964, police sent most of the ANC leadership to prison (CIA 1982, 1; Smith 2011).

In 1986, the MK still operated and conducted attacks in South Africa; it originally tried to avoid harming civilians, but shifted to allow it in 1985 (CIA 1986). In 1990, the group became a legal political organization (MIPT 2008; Smith 2011). In 1993, South Africa adopted a new constitution allowing the ANC to participate in the political process (Gleditsch et al. 2013, 530). In 1994, the ANC won presidential elections and Mandela became president of South Africa (Smith 2011). The group's last violent attack was around 1996 (GTD 2017).

II. PEOPLE'S UNITED DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (PUDEMO)

Torg ID: 2410

Min. Group Date: 1983

Max. Group Date: 2006

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: PUDEMO

Group Formation: July 1983 (South Africa History Online 2005)

Group End: 2010 (Mndebele 2019)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

In 1982, King Sobhuza died after over 50 years of rule in Swaziland. His replacement, Queen Mother Dzeliwe, stepped in as the regent since Sobhuza's successor was underage (BBC 2018). In 1983, Dzeliwe was deposed and Queen Ntombi became regent instead (BBC 2018).

PUDEMO was founded in 1983 by students as a political movement to oppose the monarchy (South Africa History Online 2005; Freedom House 2013; BBC 2018). As a result, the group is largely popular in the University of Swaziland (Freedom House 2013). The group is primarily opposed to the monarchy and sought for Swaziland to become a constitutional monarchy and adopt more democratic policies including the establishment of political parties (South Africa History Online 2005; Freedom House 2013).

In Swaziland, it was illegal to organize in political groups with opposing views than the ruling one (Freedom House 2013). In 1992, PUDEMO declared themselves a legitimate political party although the government of Swaziland did not permit opposition parties to form (Freedom House 2013). In 1996, PUDEMO created the People's Manifesto, where they ask for a constitutional, multi party democracy with an elected government as opposed to the current one (Freedom House 2013). Until 2003, the group declared they would adopt a civil disobedience stance (Canada IRB 2000, Freedom House 2013). In addition to the democracy, the group sought economic advancement, job creation, better education, and better health care (Freedom House 2013). The first recorded violent bombings were bomb attacks in October 1995 (Canada IRB 2000).

Geography

The group have conducted attacks in Manzini and Mbabane (GTD 2018). They have held demonstrations in Durban, South Africa during the Commonwealth Summit (Freedom House 2013). They are reportedly allied with the South African - based organization called SNN and could potentially share training bases in South Africa (Freedom House 2013). During the boycotted elections, PUDEMO would inspire country wide revolts (Freedom House 2013, South Africa History Online 2005). Swaziland is covered in rolling hills and is landlocked between Mozambique and South Africa (Freedom House 2013).

Organizational Structure

PUDEMO formed in 1983 by mostly students, receiving large amounts of support from the University of Swaziland (Freedom House 2013).

In 1993, the leader of PUDEMO was Kison Shongwe (Canada IRB 2000). The President of PUDEMO, then Mario Masuku, was charged with terrorism in November 2008 (Freedom House 2013; BBC 2018). He was acquitted on all charges by the Swazi High Court (Freedom House 2013). PUDEMO has a youth branch called the Swaziland Youth Congress who have also allegedly conducted violent attacks, including one in 2003 (Freedom House 2013; GTD 2018). In 2008, PUDEMO and a previously rivaling group, NNLC united to boycott the elections (Freedom House 2013). There are no exact size estimates for the group, but it remains the largest party opposing the existing regime in Swaziland (Mndebele 2019). The organization sends out identification cards to all members that have changing security features, as there have been five versions in the existence of the group as of 2012 (Canada IRB 2012).

PUDEMO organizes in youth groups and trade unions which have had to compete with opposing political organizations (Freedom House 2013). PUDEMO does have a hierarchical structure with executives and ranking officers (Canada IRB 2000). They have President Mario Masuku, Deputy President Zodwa Mkhonta, Secretary General Thulani Maseko, First Secretary Leonard Nxumalo, Finance Secretary Dennis Fruhwirth, Assistant Finance Secretary Raymond Dlamini, and National Organizing Secretary Jerry Nxumalo (Canada IRB 2000).

External Ties

In 2008, PUDEMO helped found the Swaziland United Democratic Front along with the NNLC, Swaziland Federation of Trade Unions, Swaziland Federation of Labor, Swaziland National Association of Teachers, Swaziland National Union of Students, Swaziland Association of Students, Swaziland National Ex-Miners Workers Association and the Coalition of Informal Economy Association of Swaziland (Freedom House 2013). PUDEMO also receives major support from the South African Congress Alliance (Freedom House 2013). The Swaziland Solidarity Network also are a popular affiliate of PUDEMO (Freedom House 2013). PUDEMO has additionally established alliances with the African National Congress and South African Communist Party (Freedom House 2013). While Umbane People's Liberation Army was listed under the same Suppression of Terrorism Act and there are reports of a covert alliance between PUDEMO and ULA, there is no substantial evidence to corroborate this (Mndebele 2019).

PUDEMO also has the youth wing of the Swaziland Youth Congress (Freedom House 2013). They often ally with trade unions in holding demonstrations including the Swaziland Federation of Trade Unions (Canada IRB 2000).

Group Outcome

In July 1998, the Deputy Prime Minister's house was bombed leading to an interrogation of all pro-democracy groups in Swaziland. In the October and November 1998 bombings, Authorities believed PUDEMO was also behind a series of bombings conducted in October and November 2008 intended to escalate the conflict against the existing regime (Canada IRB 2000). Following these bombings, police interrogation escalated to the detainment of activists and Jan Sithole, the leader of the Swaziland Federation of Trade Unions (Canada IRB 2000). The President of Pudemo, Mario Masuku, had his house raided and documents taken by the authorities (Canada IRB 2000). This led to protests and boycotting from SFTU and PUDEMO on election day (Canada IRB 2000). Memembers of both organizations were arrested election night for their protests (Canada IRB 2000). In February 2000, SWAYOCO's (youth wing of PUDEMO) offices were raided by authorities (Canada IRB 2000). Other pro democracy groups experinced similar treatment after the arrest of the head of the Swaziland National Progressive Party for protesting (Canada IRB 2000). In 2006, 13 high ranking members of PUDEMO were arrested for pipe bombs that had targeted government officials (Wines 2005). They were all acquitted for the attack by the Swazi High Court (Freedom House 2013). The government has remained targeting PUDEMO as they are the self proclaimed main opposition to existing rule (Freedom House 2013). Earlier on January 23, 2006, PUDEMO was accused by authorities of planting two bombs in different high schools. Only the high school in Matsapha, Manzini has been identified. PUDEMO has denied responsibility of their allegedly last violent attack. In 2008, the Swaziland government labelled PUDEMO, SWAYOCO, SSN, and Umbane People's Liberation Army as 'terrorist groups' under the Suppression of Terorrism Act (Freedom House 2013; Mndebile 2019).

In 2008, PUDEMO boycotted the 2008 elections and joined the SUFD (Freedom House 2013). In 2010, a man was arrested for wearing a PUDEMO party shirt and later committed suicide (News24 2010). In May 2010, a senior police officer's house was bombed and it was suspected to be PUDEMO (News24 2010). Two high ranking party leaders were on bail in 2016 for expressing support for PUDEMO (HRW 2017). PUDEMO has continued to be active in their boycotting of elections (The Citizen 2017).

III. SWAZILAND YOUTH CONGRESS (SWAYOCO)

Torg ID: 2439

Min. Group Date: 1998

Max. Group Date: 2003

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Swayoco

Group Formation: 2003 (GTD 2018)

Group End: 2003 (GTD 2018)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group is a branch of PUDEMO which was founded in 1983 (Freedom House 2013). PUDEMO itself is a primarily student initiated group (Freedom House 2013). It gained traction on college campuses such as the University of Swaziland (Freedom House 2013). The ideology of the Youth Congress is the same as PUDEMO's (Freedom House 2013). They seek a constitutional, multi-party democracy with elected Government (Freedom House 2013). The only violent attack they are suspected of conducting was in 2003 in Hhohho (GTD 2018). The target was a Royal Police Camp and there were no casualties(GTD 2018).

Geography

The group is a branch of PUDEMO which was founded in 1983 (Freedom House 2013). They operate out of the same locations as PUDEMO (Freedom House 2013). Cities that have been attacked include Manzini and Mbabane (GTD 2018). They potentially train in South Africa as they are allies (Freedom House 2013).

Organizational Structure

It is unknown the hierarchy within the Swaziland Youth Congress. It is presumed to be similar to PUDEMO. When 15 PUDEMO party members were charged following the November bombings, the president of SWAYOCO was one of the accused (Freedom House 2013). The group is a branch of PUDEMO which was founded in 1983 (Freedom House

2013).

External Ties

SWAYOCO shares the same alliances and external ties as PUDEMO (Freedom House 2013). The group is a branch of PUDEMO which was founded in 1983 (Freedom House 2013).

Group Outcome

It is unclear whether SWAYOCO remains active. They joined the Swaziland United Democratic Front when PUDEMO did in 2008 (Freedom House 2013). No attacks or alterations have been recorded since the violent incident on the Royal Police Camp in 2003 (GTD 2018). PUDEMO remains boycotting elections (Freedom House 2013). It is likely the SWAYOCO does the same (Freedom House 2013). The group is a branch of PUDEMO which was founded in 1983 (Freedom House 2013).

IV. TIGERS

Torg ID: 492

Min. Group Date: 1998

Max. Group Date: 1998

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: None

Group Formation: 1998 (GTD 2018)

Group End: 1999 (Africa News Service 1999)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

It is unknown what the founding date of the Tigers is. The first attack was in 1998 in Mbabane possibly when they attempted to assassinate the king as he rode through Matasapha (BBC 1998a). The group’s second attack came on November 20 when an explosion rocked the deputy premier’s office a few hours after the King swore in the new cabinet (BBC 1998a; GTD 2018). Similar to other political armed groups in Swaziland, the Tigers opposed the monarchy and their inability to form a political group (STA). Political parties had been banned in Swaziland since 1973 (Mail and Globe 1998). They are against the suppressive existing regime and want a democratic multiparty state with a government that is elected (MIPT 2008). The primary goal of this party is to encourage nationwide boycotting of the elections and the development of a democratic state with elections (Xinhua 1998).

Geography

They have claimed responsibility for an attack in the Hhohho province, in the city of Mbabane (BBC 1998b). They operate out of Swaziland (MIPT 2008). It is unknown where their bases are located or what other locations they operate out of. Swaziland is a landlocked country bordered by South Africa and Mozambique (Xinhua 1998).

Organizational Structure

It is unknown the organizational structure or hierarchy that exists within the Tigers. Their leadership is also unclear. It is also unknown where they receive their funding from, if there are other wings, and size of membership (MIPT 2008).

External Ties

It is unclear if the Tigers have any external allies or connections to other states. There is a lack of information on if the Tigers have splinter groups or other branches. No groups have been linked to the Tigers.

Group Outcome

The last known attack of the Tigers was in Mbabane on November 20, 1998 (GTD 2018). They had planted bombs in the Deputy Prime Minister's office. There was one casualty, the security guard, and two additional seriously injured (GTD 2018). Aruthur Koza, the Deputy Prime Minister, was not present during the attack (GTD 2018). An anonymous call was made to the Times of Swaziland media claiming responsibility for the attack (GTD 2018). Tigers have said they warned Prime Minister Sibussio Dlamini about the upcoming attack (Mail and Guardian 1998). The Prime Minister has publicly denied this (Mail and Guardian 1998). The Prime Minister also publicly referred to the attack as an act of terrorism (Mail and Guardian 1998). Various trade union leaders and opposition parties were questioned in the investigation and authorities believe the attack was intended to harm the King (Mail and Guardian 1998). The bomb blast occurred the same day the King swore in the new cabinet. The general public reaction was shock and anger towards the group (BBC 1998a). There is uncertainty about when the last attack was committed by the Tigers (Africa News Service 1999). Due to the similarity to the 1998 bombing, it is speculated that a bomb blast in Mahlanya constituency offices in 1999 was also conducted by the Tigers (Africa News Service 1999).

V. UMBANE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY (SWAZILAND)

Torg ID: 2533

Min. Group Date: 2008

Max. Group Date: 2008

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Swaziland’s People’s Liberation Army (Lansford 2019)

Group Formation: 2008 (GTD 2018)

Group End: 2008 (GTD 2018)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

It is unclear how the Umbane’s People Liberation Army formed. They, like various political groups in Swaziland, opposed the monarchy (Berger 2008). They desire a multiparty constitutional democratic government consisting of people who were elected

(Berger 2008). They first came to attention as a violent group when they claimed responsibility for a series of bombings on August 7, 2008 in Mpaka and Big Bend (GTD 2008; BBC 2008).

Geography

They have conducted attacks in Mpaka, Big Bend, and the capital, Mbabane (GTD 2018). It is unknown where or if they have bases located. There is little information on where they operate out of and which cities they target besides where known attacks have occurred.

Organizational Structure

There is very little information available about where the group receives funding from or who the leader is of the group (BBC 2008). Membership procedures and estimates are also unclear. Following a failed bomb attempt against King Mswati III, the only known member of Umbane People's Liberation Army, Amos Mbedzi was arrested and convicted for 85 years (News24 2012). The bomb intended for the King, exploded earlier in Mbedzi's car on the bridge the King was supposed to use (News24 2012). He is a member of the South African Communist Party and trained under the Africa National Congress, which are also known pro democratic groups (News24 2012). There is not much information on the hierarchy and leadership and if there are different branches of the group.

External Ties

There is mixed evidence about the extent to which the Umbane People's Liberation Army is connected to PUDEMO (news24 2012). While PUDEMO high ranking officials appear to have been connected to higher ranks in Umbane, many forward-facing officials refute this (BBC 2009). The Swaziland Solidarity Network denied any connection to Umbane and suggested any evidence to the contrary was false (BBC 2009). The group is believed to received training from the Sudan People's Liberation Army and to have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the SPLA for financial assistance as well (BBC 2009, Lansford 2019). SPLA is a liberation movement as well and supports Umbane in the form of a business in South Sudan where SPLM, a wing of SPLA, can provide additional training for Umbane (BBC 2009).

Umbane People's Liberation Army did not join the coalition formed which was the Swaziland United Democratic Front (news24 2012).

Group Outcome

In 2008, the government published a Supression of Terrorism Act and proscribed Umbane as a “terrorist” group (Amnesty International 2009; State Department 2011). Their only recorded attacks happened on August 7, 2008 (GTD 2018). In the province of Lubombo, in the city of Mpaka, they found an explosive device on a bridge (GTD 2018). There were no casualties and Umbane declared responsibility for it (GTD 2018). They said the attack was to rebel against the undemocratic elections in September and demand the right for political parties to exist (GTD 2018). In the same province, Big Bend, another explosive was found on a bridge (GTD 2018). There were also no casualties (GTD 2018). Following a failed bomb attempt against King Mswati III, the only known member of Umbane People’s Liberation Army, Amos Mbedzi was arrested and convicted for 85 years (News24 2012). The bomb intended for the King, exploded earlier in Mbedzi’s car on the bridge the King was supposed to use (News24 2012). He is a member of the South African Communist Party and trained under the Africa National Congress, which are also known pro democratic groups (News24 2012).