

GOVERNMENT OF LESOTHO  
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PRESS RELEASE

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PRIME MINISTER DENIES "TV FROM AIR" REPORT

Mr. Carel Birkby's article in the Sunday Times of December 18 on television by plane from Lesotho has been brought to the notice of Prime Minister Jonathan, who wishes to make it plain that he has no knowledge of any negotiations alleged to be taking place between himself and a Johannesburg syndicate.

In any event, he is concerned about the suggestion in the article that such plans would affect South African territory and would proceed without consultation with the South African authorities in circumstances which could lead the South African authorities to "clamp down". On the contrary, the Prime Minister emphasised that if he should eventually decide that television is good for Lesotho, he would introduce it in such a way that the transmission would in no way affect South African territory and would be confined to Lesotho. These, however, are technical matters which will have to be investigated, and irresponsible speculation to the contrary, such as is contained in Mr. Birkby's article, is deplored by the Government of Lesotho.