

Radio Report, Johannesburg, Aug. 20, '82

Various witnesses and the American charge d'affaires in Maputo say the letter bomb which killed a senior leader of the African National Congress in the city on Tuesday, Mrs Ruth First, was in an unsealed envelope mailed from the American Embassy. It was apparently rigged in the Mozambican capital. One of the survivors of the blast, Prof Aquino de Braganca, a senior adviser to President Machel, told visitors at his hospital bed that the blast came as Mrs First opened a large-format envelope containing an American Government publication, and closed only with a metal clip. The American charge d'affaires, Mr William Twaddell, told the AFP news agency that he was meeting Mozambican authorities today. Two other people in the room are also recovering in hospital following the blast. Mrs First played a leading role in the activities of the terrorist organization, which is banned in South Africa.