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- From Revolutionary to Regime Radio: Three Decades of Nationalist Broadcasting in Southern Africa
- Nigerian Mass Media Handling of Conflict Situations in the West African Sub-Region
- Covering the Environment in the Ghanaian Media
- Journalist Responses to Ethnic Tensions: A Study of the Press in Kenya

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## Comments on the Contents of this Issue

In this issue of AMR there are six articles dealing with the general theme of media in a political environment and their responsibility to society. In the first article, Lebona Mosia, Charles Riddle and Jim Zaffiro examine the dynamics of four anti-Apartheid radio stations in Africa which reveal the social and political transformation of the respective societies in which they operate.

David O. Edeani did a content analysis of three Nigerian dailies and three weekly magazines in view of their respective coverage of conflict between and within nations of the West African sub-region. He examined news stories, editorials and commentaries and found that generally they gave appropriate emphases to conflict stories and displayed balance, constructiveness and responsibility.

In Ghana, Kojo Yankah examined the coverage of environmental issues in the Ghanaian press. He found that though there is general concern with environmental hazards, there is little grasp of their relative importance. Perhaps this is due to reporters who have neither special interest nor special skills in environmental reporting.

With the current transition programmes of African nations, there is an emphasis on press responsibility and public opinion and their relevance within the current socio-political and economic frameworks. Noma Owens-Ibie stresses the role of a democratized press with less government presence in management and output and which will act as society's watchdog.

Jubril Mohammed writes on the proposed privatisation of the Nigerian broadcast media. This article looks at the historical, political and economic background of privatisation, identifies crucial issues and recommends policy options for resolution of the issues.

The final article is a philosophical review by Kevin Heydenrych (reprinted from *Critical Arts: A Journal for Cultural Studies*) of three articles which cast new insight on the process of political communication and conclude that the present system can do nothing more than entrench the prevailing order. It distorts, misleads and mythologizes concepts and processes resulting in self-deception.

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