

NBC Correspondent Applies for Amnesty

The New York Times

May 7, 1987, Thursday, Late City Final Edition

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Section: Section A; Page 21, Column 1; National Desk

Length: 191 words

Byline: AP

Dateline: CHICAGO, May 5

Body

An **NBC** News **correspondent**, James Makawa, joined thousands of other illegal aliens Tuesday in picking up applications under the new Federal **amnesty** program.

Mr. Makawa, 27 years old, said he came to the United States in 1977 on a student visa to escape the war in his native Rhodesia, which is now called Zimbabwe.

After the visa expired that year, he stayed, telling no one of his illegal status.

"It's been like living in a pressure cooker from day to day," he said. "You never knew whether the immigration van would show up. It's something you just kept to yourself. It's a living hell."

Mr. Makawa settled in Westville, Ind., and majored in journalism at the University of Evansville in Indiana. After graduation he worked for television stations in Evansville; Abilene, Texas; Mobile, Ala., and New Orleans before joining the **NBC** bureau in Chicago in March 1986.

Mr. Makawa's story was revealed by Tom Brokaw, the anchorman on "**NBC** Nightly News" Tuesday.

"Much to our surprise, James today was on line **applying** for **amnesty**," Mr. Brokaw said. "None of us knew he has been an illegal alien since his student visa ran out."

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Subject: PASSPORTS & VISAS (90%); ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (78%); **AMNESTY** (78%); JOURNALISM (78%); IMMIGRATION (73%)

Company: **NBC** UNIVERSAL INC (97%); NATIONAL BROADCASTING CO **NBC** UNIVERSAL INC (97%); UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE (56%); UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE (56%)

Organization: UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE (56%); UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE (56%); NATIONAL BROADCASTING CO UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE (56%); UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE (56%)

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Industry: NETWORK TELEVISION (90%); TELEVISION NEWS SHOWS (78%); TELEVISION INDUSTRY (73%)

Geographic: MOBILE, AL, USA (55%); INDIANA, USA (79%); TEXAS, USA (78%); ALABAMA, USA (73%); UNITED STATES (79%)

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