

FREE ... But pass it on when you are done

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SOUTH AFRICAN SOLDIER



***New Chief of the
SA Air Force***



defence

Department:
Defence
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SA SOLDIER

The official monthly magazine of the SA Department of Defence

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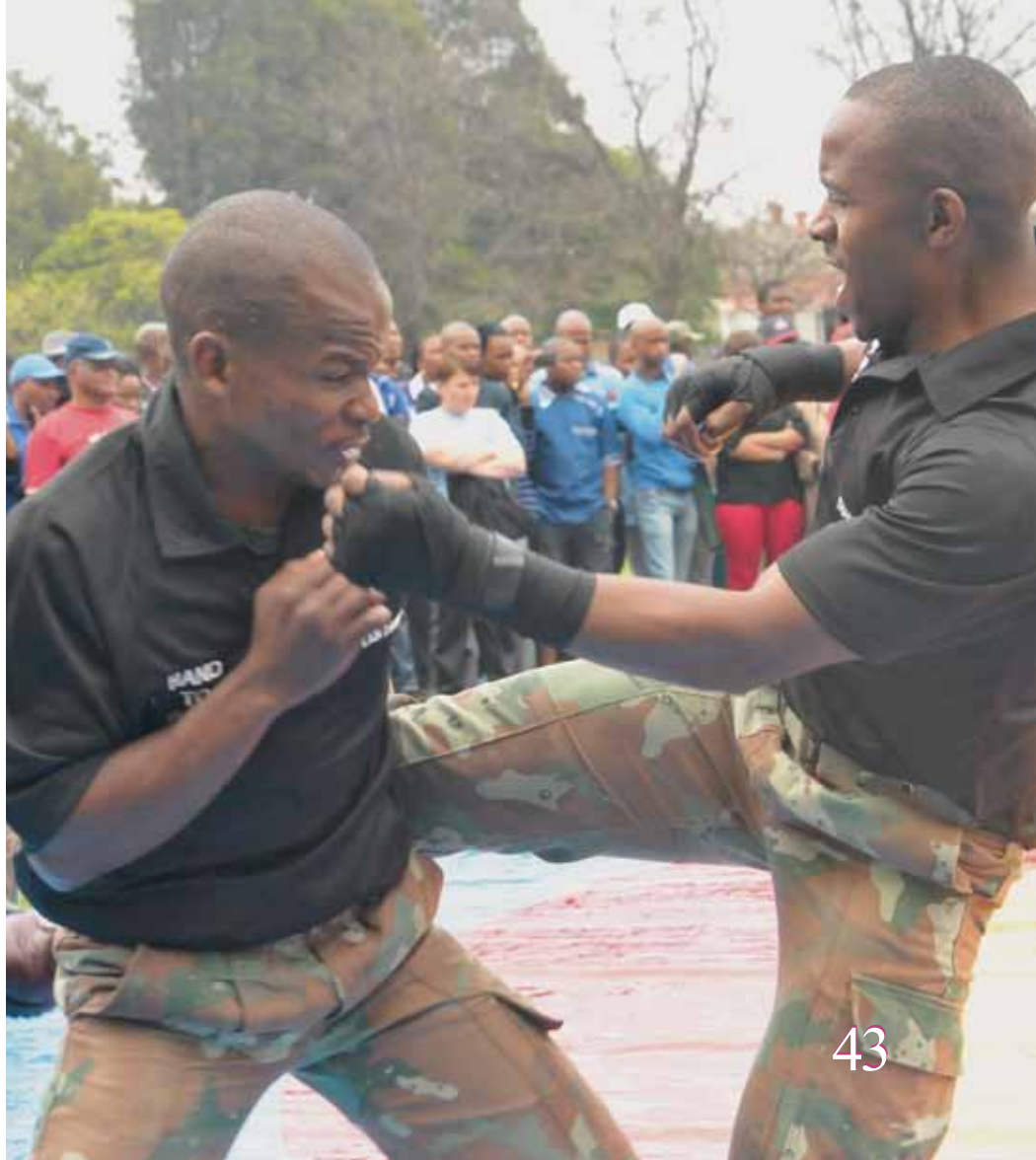


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43 Demonstrating close
unarmed self-defence
skills



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ABOVE: SA ARMY RECREATIONAL DAY A demonstration of a combination of strikes and kicks. (Photo: Sgt Elias Mahuma)



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FRONT COVER: History was made when Lt Gen Fabian "Zakes" Zimpande Msimang was appointed as the Chief of the SA Air Force. Read all about the change of command parade held at the Swartkop Airfield on pages 14 and 15. (Photo: S Sgt Lebogang Tlhaole)

For the latest news on defence matters in South Africa,
visit our website at: www.dod.mil.za

from the editor's desk



van die redakteur se lessenaar

This month we introduce to you the new Chief of the SA Air Force, Lt Gen Fabian "Zakes" Zimpane Msimang. We also bid farewell to the outgoing Chief of the SA Air Force, Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, who is leaving the SA Air Force after 44 years of loyal service. Read about the change of command parade on pages 14 and 15.

We put this edition together with the recently held Africa Aerospace and Defence (AAD) Expo 2012 in mind. After six years of absence the AAD Expo was hosted in its original setting – Air Force Base Waterkloof in Pretoria – where it attracted representatives from many countries. This year's AAD Expo recorded a maximum attendance of 101 000 visitors over the two open days as compared to the AAD Expo in 2010 that recorded an estimated 96 000 visitors. Sink your teeth into the informative and captivating articles from pages 16 to 23 about the largest defence expo in Africa.

Training and physical fitness are a major part of a soldier's life. Altogether 300 sanguine soldiers of the SA Army competed in the SA Army Fittest Soldier Competition. Their endurance, fitness and strength were tested to the extreme. The tests included running with ammunition cases and folded benches, flipping truck tyres, leopard crawling in sand, a mud hole ... They were even tested by the Extreme Fighting Champions whose well-known competitions are broadcast on *M Net*. Read on pages 26 and 27 about the men and women in SA Army uniform determined to push their limits.

We also cover time spent at the annual SA Army Skills Evaluation to evaluate basic soldiering skills of Warrant Officers and Non-commissioned Officers, with a view to improving standards in the SA Army. The emphasis in evaluating these military skills is based on discipline, which is the cornerstone of military culture - the essence of a soldier. Read all about the Warrant Officers and Non-commissioned Officers Competition on page 32.

This month we delve into one of my favourites – one's heritage. Read on page 5 about the 2012 National Heritage Day celebrations held in Upington. On pages 40 and 45 are two more articles featuring our unique heritage, which helps us define our cultural identity.

In our regular sports pages you can read on pages 44 and 45 about the victory of the Gauteng Defence Women's Soccer Team at the Intergovernmental Wellness Games during Public Service Week. Well done!

Nelda Pienaar
Editor SA Soldier 

Hierdie maand stel ons jou voor aan die nuwe Hoof van die SA Lugmag, Lt Gen Fabian "Zakes" Zimpane Msimang. Ons groet ook die uitgaande Hoof van die SA Lugmag, Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, wat die SA Lugmag na 44 jaar se troue diens vaarwel toeroep. Lees meer oor die bevelsoorhandigingsparade op bladsy 14 en 15.

Ons het die uitgawe saamgestel met die onlangse Afrika Lug- en Verdedigingskou (AAD Ekspo) 2012 in gedagte. Na 'n afwesigheid van ses jaar is die AAD Ekspo weer by sy plek van oorsprong - Lugmagbasis Waterkloof in Pretoria – aangebied, waar dit verteenwoordigers van baie lande gelok het. Vanjaar se AAD Ekspo het 'n rekordgetal van 101 000 besoekers opgelewer oor die twee ope dae vergeleke met die AAD Ekspo in 2010 se geraamde 96 000 besoekers. Geniet die insiggewende en interessante artikels van bladsy 16 tot 23 oor die grootste verdedigingsekspo in Afrika.

Opleiding en fisies fiksheid is 'n belangrike deel van soldaat wees. Altesaam 300 hoopvolle soldate van die SA Leër het in die SA Leër Fiksste Soldaatkompetisie gekompeteer. Hulle uithouvermoë, fiksheid en krag is tot die uiterste beproef. Hierdie toetse het ingesluit hardloop met ammunisie trommels en gevoude staalbankies, omrolling van trokbuitebande, leopard crawling in die sand, 'n moddergat ... Hulle is selfs getoets deur die Extreme Fighting Kampioene wie se welbekende kompetisies op *M Net* uitgesaai word. Lees op bladsy 26 en 27 meer oor die vasberadenheid van die manne en vroue in SA Leër-uniform wat hulself tot die bitter uiterste ingespan het.

Ons publiseer ook graag 'n artikel oor die SA Leër se jaarlikse Vaardigheidsevaluasie waar basiese soldaatvaardighede van Adjudant Offisiere en Onderoffisiere geëvalueer word as 'n manier om standarde in die SA Leër te verbeter. Die klem by die evaluering van hierdie militêre vaardighede word gebaseer op dissipline, wat die hoeksteen van militêre kultuur is – die wese van 'n soldaat. Lees ook oor die Adjudant- en Onderoffisierskompetisie op bladsy 32.

Hierdie maand delf ons ook in een van my gunsteling – 'n mens se erfenis. Lees op bladsy 5 oor die 2012 Nasionale Erfenisdagvieringe wat in Upington gehou is. Op bladsy 40 en 45 is ook twee artikels wat handel oor ons unieke erfenis, iets wat ons help om ons kultuuridentiteit te definieer.

In ons gereelde sportbladsye kan jy lees op bladsy 44 en 45 oor die oorwinning van die Gautengse Verdedigingsvrouesokkerspan by die Interdepartementele Goedvoel Spele gedurende die Staatsdiensweek. Wel gedaan!

Nelda Pienaar
Redakteur SA Soldier 

Celebrating the heroes and heroines of the struggle

Article and photos by S Sgt Lebogang Tlhaole

The SANDF participated in the 2012 National Heritage Day celebrations which were held in Upington with a colourful military parade on 24 September 2012. This included the Guard of Honour formed by 8 SA Infantry Battalion, the National Ceremonial Guard Band performing the National Anthem, a 21-gun salute by 4 Artillery Regiment and a salute fly-past by the Silver Falcons of the SA Air Force.

This year's celebration was attended by Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe who gave an address to the nation under the theme: "Celebrating the Heroes and Heroines of the Liberation Struggle in South Africa".

The theme reaffirmed the significance of the Liberation Heritage as part of South Africa's cultural heritage. The aim was to foster social cohesion, nation building, economic development and inclusive citizenship. It also sought to create awareness through educational programmes, dialogue and public engagement to highlight the importance of the Liberation Heritage to the youth and to promote unity in diversity in South Africa.

Heritage Month promotes inter-governmental dialogue and encourages society to reconnect with the past in order to shape the direction for the future. Social segments such as youth, women, people living with disabilities, students, learners, civil society, religious and cultural fraternities, non-governmental organisations, trade unions, business, recreation and sport have an important role to play in this respect. Our heritage is unique and precious and it cannot be neglected. It helps us to define our cultural identity.




ABOVE: Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe speaking at the National Heritage Day celebrations in Upington, Northern Cape.



An aerial demonstration by the Silver Falcons during the National Heritage Day parade in Upington.

Therefore it lies at the heart of our spiritual well-being and has the power to build our nation. It has the potential to affirm our diverse cultures and in so doing shape our national character. South Africans celebrate the diverse cultural heritage that makes up a rainbow nation. It is the day to celebrate the contribution of all South Africans to the building of South Africa.

Our heritage celebrates our achievements and redresses past inequities. It educates and deepens our understanding of society and encourages us to empathise with the experience of others. It facilitates healing, including material and symbolic restitution and promotes new and previously neglected research into our rich oral traditions and customs. 

A SOLDIER'S LIFE

Conditions are not always the best; they could be fighting a foe you could not always see:

From mountain highs to valley lows from jungle drops to desert patrols

Our sinewy sons were sent over seas far from their families and far from their dreams

They never wrote letters of hardships despair only of love, yearning that one day soon:

They would come home; they would resume and carry on with the rest of their lives

The Prisoners of War stood steadfast against the indignities and cruelties of war They could not have lasted as long as they did if they had relinquished their hope that some day:

They would come home; they would

resume and carry on the rest of their lives Medics, nurses, and chaplains alike did what they needed to bring back life

They served our forces from day into night not questioning if they would survive:

They mended bones and bodies too; they soothed the spirits of dying souls And for those missing in action who were left behind we echo this message across the seas We will search for as long as it takes you're not forgotten and will always be:

In our hearts, in our prayers, in our minds for all time A moment of silence, a moment of summons is their deliverance of body and soul To a sacred place that we all know deep in the shrines of our soul:

In our hearts, in our prayers in our minds for all time

Interlude: gold star mothers grieve: endlessly,

winning letter

endlessly, endlessly ...

These immortalised soldiers whose bravery abounds they're our husbands, fathers, and sons

They enlisted for the duty at hand to serve the cause of country and land: They had honour, they had valour, they found glory that change them forever Men standing tall and proud they be a country behind them in a solemn sea So let the flags of freedom fly unfurled in their majesty high:

In the sun, in the rain in the winds across this land

Years of tears has brought us here gathering around to hear this sound So let the flags of freedom fly unfurled in their majesty high: in the sun, in the rain, in the winds across this land.

Pte Seragi Mothapo, email 


CHIEF SA ARMY VISITS 121 SAI BN

The Chief of the SA Army, Lt Gen Vusi Masondo, recently visited 121 SA Infantry Battalion (121 SAI Bn) accompanied by the General Officer Commanding of the SA Army Infantry Formation, Maj Gen Lindile Yam.

On the first day of the visit, Lt Gen Masondo met the command group of the unit to address some of the issues that had to be delt with. He said the

most important resource of the SA Army was its people. The commanders need to take good care of their people as they are an irreplaceable resource. They must also ensure that discipline is instilled into everyone because it gives direction in a military environment. Without it the SA Army is a lost army. Without discipline the SA Army is like a ship without a compass. Lt Gen Masondo also stressed that soldiers needed to

utilise every opportunity to develop themselves academically as education was the key to success.

In conclusion, the Chief of the SA Army wished the unit good luck with its preparations for deployment to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) at the end of October. He also promised to help if the unit needed help. **CO Sibusiso Vilakazi, 121 SAI Bn **

"GIVE A FISHING ROD RATHER THAN A FISH"

According to an old saying it is better to give a man a fishing rod than a fish. This means that empowerment and hard work are better than handouts and will instil dignity and discipline in the next generation of leaders in South Africa.


This is exactly what the officers, parents and Sea Cadets at TS Woltemade have successfully piloted and modelled over the past few years to support their Unit and to fulfil the Sea Cadets' dream of a career at sea.

Several years ago financial assistance was provided for those Sea Cadets who had the aptitude, passion and tenacity, but whose families were not in a position to fund their dreams.

Initial funding was sourced via donations from the Naval Reserve, officers, associations and local business contacts. This provided some initial funding to support these Sea Cadets until a limited number of product items were sourced and donations secured. The Sea Cadets, their parents,

officers and instructors now manage an annual raffle and hold the draw in front of the ship's company, including calling the prize winner by telephone, if necessary. Additional funding for these Sea Cadets has also been provided annually by the Seven Seas Club in London and the Baxter and Grimshaw Trust after Cdr Willie Barker (SA Naval Reserve) enthusiastically approached the Secretary, Mr Michael Pinner, for assistance. The incoming Commanding Officer of TS Woltemade, Lt Paul Jacobs, has built on the values of the Sea Cadets which his predecessor, Cdr Philip Miller, instilled and will continue to uphold these traditions.

Lt Jacobs can be proud of what the Sea Cadets at TS Woltemade, their parents, his officers and instructors have accomplished in ensuring that the Sea Cadet "family" support their own and that the youth understand that hard work is what is needed to realise their dreams.

Lt Cdr Glenn von Zeil, email 

R200-00 prize for the best letter

SA SOLDIER welcomes letters to the Editor. Short letters are more likely to be published, and all letters may be edited for reasons of style, accuracy or space limitations. Letters should preferably be typewritten. All letters must include the writer's full name, address and home telephone number. The volume of letters we receive makes individual acknowledgement impossible. **Please send your letters to: The Editor, SA SOLDIER Letters, Private Bag X158, Pretoria, 0001. Letters may also be faxed to (012) 355-6399 or sent via email to sasoldier@mil.za.** We would like to hear your comments or ideas, particularly about matters concerning the Department of Defence. Regrettably, anonymous letters cannot be published - Editor.

CHURCH IN THABA TSHWANE TURNS 110

The 110 year existence of the Christ the King Anglican Church in Thaba Tshwane was celebrated over the weekend of 19 to 21 October 2012. A gala dinner/dance was held on the Friday evening. On the Saturday the church was open to the public who could view its interesting memorabilia and beauty. On Sunday the Holy Eucharist service was celebrated by the congregation with the Rt Rev (Dr) J.T. Seoko, Bishop of Pretoria, presiding.

The church serves the community of Thaba Tshwane and the surrounding areas. The Rector is the Rev Siphiso Bam, aided by Chaplain (Dr) Kenneth Mashishi.

The first Anglican clergy to work in this area were the Chaplains to the Imperial troops who were stationed here, beginning with the Rev E.E. Day in 1902. The first Anglican Church in what was then known as Roberts Heights, afterwards Voortrekkerhoogte, and now Thaba Tshwane, was in the building now known as the SA Army College, the foundation stone of which was laid by Lord Kitchener in 1902. Hereafter

the church moved to the Special Services Battalion lines and in 1934 the "Bungalow Church", which was situated in the old Military Hospital grounds, was occupied.

With the advent of World War II, the Union Defence Force recognised the need for a permanent church. It was built to the plans of J.C. Kerr, a pupil of the great Sir Herbert Baker.

The commemoration stone of the present church was laid by Maj Gen H.S. Wakefield on 15 February 1942, the same day that the Bishop of Pretoria dedicated the new building.


On 18 December 1940 Bishop Parker, the Bishop of Pretoria, gave the church its name of "Garrison Church of Christ the King".

Special mention should be made



The 110-year-old Christ the King Anglican Church in Thaba Tshwane.

of two pieces of rock, one from the site of the palace of Caiaphas and the other from the site of the palace of the high Priest Annas. These rocks are built into the north and south walls of the sanctuary and are the gift of His Beatitude Mesrob Nishanian, Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem.

Rev Gillian Nell, email 

DEED OF GOODWILL

The Chief Personnel Clerk Human Resources Policy at Army Headquarters, WO1 M.E. Nonyane, (fondly known as *Voëltjie*) visited the Secondary School Hercules in Pretoria to hand over 32 volumes of the *Wêreldspektrum* encyclopaedia to the Principal of the school, Mr Hannes Enslin, on 2 August 2012.

WO1 Nonyane has three children who have all completed their school careers. His children were, among others, in Jopie Fourie Primary School and Princess Park College in Pretoria. The medium of instruction in the mentioned schools were Afrikaans and English and therefore WO1 Nonyane decided to buy his children the encyclopaedia to assist them with their homework and other assignments.

After WO1 Nonyane's children completed their school careers, the encyclopaedia had no further purpose in the Nonyane household and a decision was made to donate all 32 volumes to a needy school whose learners would be able to use it in

their library as reference books.


Mr Enslin was very grateful for the encyclopaedia. It is a valuable donation to the school and all 32 volumes are still in a very good condition.

This donation will have a positive and long-term influence on the lives of all those learners who utilise the encyclopaedia to broaden their knowledge. Many learners at Secondary School Hercules will be



DONATION OF ENCYCLOPAEDIA *Fitr: WO1 Voëltjie Nonyane, Chief Personnel Clerk Human Resources Policy, a learner at the Secondary School Hercules, Mr Hannes Enslin, Principal of Secondary School Hercules, WO1 Siphiso Madalane, Chief Personnel Clerk Human Resources Development. (Photo: S Sgt Chené Kruger)*

able to reap the fruits of this unselfish deed of goodwill by an individual.

Lt Col Magdaleen du Plessis, email 

A SOLDIER'S PRAYER

*I signed a piece of paper.
I took an oath as well
I promised to protect
My country ... It is a mission
I can't fail!*


I have bonded with my comrades

*So together, strong, we stand,
In defence of this great nation
Of this bright and promised land.*

*So, I will gladly do my duty
And if I must give my all
My prayer will be ... those left behind*

Will continue to stand tall


*To fight for peace and freedom
To protect sweet liberty*

*I pray, Dear Father,
that you grant this humble
Soldier's plea. N. Mtolo, email *

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

The Officer Commanding Area Military Health Unit KwaZulu-Natal, Col Trevor Pillay, congratulated the unit members on successfully completing the three-year National Diploma in Emergency Medical Care Rescue at the Durban University of Technology.

The SA Military Health Service is optimistic that the skills attained will be of benefit to the organisation as well as to themselves individually. The unit urges all members who get the opportunity to study in order to maintain the high standards that have been set by these members.

Col Pillay and staff wish these members all the best in their future careers. Menzi Cele, email 



Back, fltr: L Cpl Nomacala Maluleka, Sgt Peter Mathobela, L Cpl Mahlatsi Magwayi, L Cpl Bonginkosi Mandla, L Cpl Tebatso Diamond, Mr Zakaria Kadna, Cpl Zodwa Zwane, L Cpl Nosipho Dlungelwa, L Cpl Phumla Ngema, L Cpl Nancy Shirinzi, Cpl Dimakatso Makinta. Front, fltr: L Cpl Tsebo Maleka, Mr Phakamani Sithole, L Cpl Bafana Ndzungu, Cpl Thamsanqa Ndlovu and Maj Bongani Sibanda.

GOODBYE "ROGER KEN"

The SA Army Infantry Formation and the SA Army lost one of its best men when Brig Gen Krubert Nel, who served as the Chief of Staff, retired in March 2012.

Brig Gen Nel joined the South African Defence Force at the School of Engineers in 1978 as a National Serviceman, where he later became an officer. In 1980 he completed the Special Forces Basic Training and was transferred to 4 Special Force Regiment in Langebaan. From 1994 to 1998 he was the Officer Commanding of 4 Special Force Regiment and then served as the Chief of Staff of the Special Forces Brigade, becoming the General Officer Commanding in 2003.

In 2006 the SA Army sent him in a completely different direction when he was appointed as the Chief of Staff of the SA Army Infantry Formation, a very difficult post as the SA Army Infantry Formation is the biggest entity in the SANDF, with over 40 units. As Chief of Staff he was responsible for the whole financial administrative process, short and medium-term planning and overseeing the personnel placement.

It was in this period that I came to know Brig Gen Nel, a man who demanded the best of everyone, but

he also led from the front. The famous words: "Roger KEN" one often received if one sent him an SMS with feedback or informed him of some incident. The KEN comes from his initials for Krubert Eric Nel.

Under his direction the SA Army Infantry Formation was able to spend 97% of its budget, not an easy feat as the formation consisted of 18 Regular and 26 Reserve units. Correct staff work was a high priority and one could not impress him with a fancy background to a presentation; he wanted facts and he wanted to be able to read it. His command of the English language was excellent and he would often correct us with the use of has, have and had.

He knew the financial and personnel policies very well and would often ask questions when these two sections did presentations. He believed the best man or woman should be appointed to the post and there was no getting away with laziness; he would catch you out. Most members who worked for him knew him as a hard taskmaster, but you also knew that your documents would be signed the next morning just after six or even that night just before six, as his working day consisted of 12 hours.


Brig Gen Nel's priority was to



*Brig Gen Krubert Nel.
(Photo: Sgt Elias Mahuma)*

ensure that our troops were looked after. He was the driving force in the refurbishing of 4 SA Infantry Battalion in Middelburg, 10 SA Infantry Battalion in Mahikeng and 21 SA Infantry Battalion in Doornkop, but he would also be the first to pick up a piece of paper from the ground and did not tolerate untidiness.

Yes "ROGER KEN" we miss you, but most importantly you have taught us well, and hopefully the people where you are working now will learn from you as we have done.

Goodbye "ROGER KEN".
Maj M. Meyer, email 

TRIBUTE

My Cancer, Someday asked me to describe our journey. Hide and seek is a good way to start.

You hid away the size of a pea. Three months later you would appear the size of a rugby ball and weighing the same as two babies in my upper thigh, but the human mind has this amazing ability to kick into natural mode. Fight or flight. This was a single decision. Fight.

I had a seven hour operation, four day hospital stay and a four month recovery period. During this time I underwent 12 "chemo" sessions, and no matter how tough it got, I believed that with every drop of poison entering my body it was the cure, and the end was in sight.

Then came the time to seek. After all this torture, and walking into the X-ray room still believing you are gone, we find you hiding again. Pea size, snug as a bug, in your old hiding place. But this time, you have lodged yourself in a more perfect place. You have chosen a place surrounding yourself with my most vital parts. Femur, main artery, main nerves making it nearly impossible for a Professor to get to you. You have already proved that you are stronger and more resilient than "chemo" so that will not be an option again. But I had a Professor that was determined to go and find you in your hiding place more than once. In total you forced me to the operating theatre eight times, with 27 hours of anaesthesia over a period of five months. Every time you hid away, every time we would find you and still every time I believed that this would be the last surgery, this would be the cure, just fight, just fight, just fight. Why was I fighting? Very simple: his name is Owen Patrick Armstrong. He is the reason every next day was worth it.

My cancer, then you came out, and became very real to me. At the time it

was the ugliest side I had seen of you. You made it personal. You made me remove my left leg. It was out there, for everybody to see that you had won. You had the victory over me, my fighting was in vain. You thought you had defeated me. I actually also thought so. But for some reason the universe=God=subconscious gave us all a month to do it, pick it up, own it and deal with it. My left leg left my body on 22 January 2012. I was discharged on 22 February. I lay in bed to recover in March, started "temp" work for a friend in April, started full-time training/working in May and moved out of my parents' house and became independent once more on 10 July. Quite an impressive year I thought. And once again, I felt that I had defeated you, my cancer. You were not hiding from me; there was no reason to seek you as there were no tell-tale signs of your existence. I had in the meantime rejoined a group of great friends as my employers, my social life was picking up, and although life was a challenge, adjusting to life in and out of the wheelchair and walking with a frame, it was doable. It was possible and I was doing it and enjoying it. It was not ideal, but I was living again.


Have you ever had that moment where, for just a split second, you have a revelation that seems to last forever? Mine was like a supersonic version of Morse code "I'm back". This time I took a difference approach. I did not have that fight left in me. I had three years of trying, fighting, trying, fighting ... I had gone through the agonies, the pains the surgeries the emotional roller coasters, and the clinging onto hope that did not exist. We had three years to prepare ourselves for this time. Owen understands the concept of living and dying. He understands the concept of struggling, he has compassion for others and most of all he understands living life, before life lives you.

So here I am sitting in front of you,



The late Ms Elaine Armstrong (30 August 1970 – 17 June 2012).


Cancer my friend. Naked, wrapped to the bone with useless flesh and waiting. You have once again forced me to go find you. As your preferred residence no longer existed, you now settled to manifest yourself in my lungs. By the time we found you, we were only able to do Palliative Radiation, meaning: giving me three months to get my paperwork in order, before you consume me altogether. Just remember one thing my Cancer, you did not defeat me, not now, not ever. I am merely leaving one life for another.

* This heartfelt poem written by Ms Elaine Armstrong before her death was emailed to SA Soldier by Ms Liz Raath. Ms Armstrong was a friend of Ms Raath and Capt Leon Fourie from the SA Navy. (She was close to a lot of people at Navy HQ even though she did not work for the SA Navy.) 

PSAP MISCONDUCT

In terms of section 7.3 (b) of the Public Service Act, 1994 (as amended) the Head of Department (Secretary for Defence) is, inter alia, responsible for the maintenance of discipline and the promotion of sound labour relations. For rules to be effective they must be enforced by Commanders/Managers and Supervisors, but in the interest of fairness such enforcement should be constrained by concern for the rights and needs of individuals. The duty of Regional Labour Relations officers is to conduct and provide workshops to increase knowledge on labour related matters among all clients, Officers Commanding, Commanders, Managers, Supervisors and Union Representatives. There is also a need to highlight essential clauses that have implications for non-compliance.

Regional Labour Relations offices at ASB Limpopo in Polokwane received reports of a number of cases of misconduct by Public Service Act Personnel (PSAP). This led to the Labour Relations/PSAP initiated disciplinary hearing and practical empowerment workshop on 19 July 2012. The main purpose of the practical training was to acquire practical knowledge of how to conduct a disciplinary hearing. After the empowerment workshop, the Officer Commanding ASB Limpopo, Col John Malepe, indicated that all PSAP at ASB Limpopo should also attend a workshop of this kind to reduce misconduct at ASB Limpopo.

Together we can serve. WO1 L.T. Netshikweta, Labour Relations Regional Office Limpopo 

SANDF MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN A CULTURAL DAY

SANDF students attending the Joint Command Staff Course No 25 participated in the annual Cultural Day of the Zimbabwe Defence Staff College on 8 September 2012. The theme of the day was: "Empowerment through Cultural Initiatives, Independence of Cultural Heritage".

The South African Embassy and two SANDF students attending the Joint Command Staff Course at the Zimbabwe Defence Staff College, Lt Col Fiks Dlali and Lt Col Zola Mjandana, displayed the diverse South African culture at the Southern African Development Community (SADC) cultural displays by students from the region. The People's Republic of China added an international flair as the People's Liberation Army Instructor Team displayed a vibrant cultural display. The guest speaker at the event was Zimbabwe National Army Chief of Staff, General Staff, Maj Gen Martin Chidondo.

The South African stand was colourfully decorated with posters, banners, handicraft, brochures, small flags and traditional garments (Zulu, Venda, Swazi, Xhosa and Setswana).

The display of SA cuisine, *umqombothi* (African beer) and wines was admired the most. The adjudicators at the event were impressed by the design, façade and the originality on display. The *vuvuzelas* and *makarabas* of the 2010 Soccer World Cup took centre stage. The South African stand won for the second time in the thirteen years of its participation in the event.

Other participating countries were Lesotho, Botswana, Zambia, Namibia, Tanzania, Malawi and Mozambique. Tanzania won the first prize followed by Zambia. South Africa took the third prize, which included a floating trophy and a goat. Vibrant dance groups from Malawi and Zimbabwe added more flair to the event.

The members' participation in such philanthropic events reflects very positively on the country and the National Defence Force and also contributed to consolidating the

friendly relations that exist with the other SADC participating countries. The South African Embassy promised the members of the SANDF that the standard they set in this year's event would be maintained and even improved on in the coming years. The Deputy Ambassador of South Africa to Zimbabwe, Ms Pumla Makwabe, who was among the guests attending the event, commended the two members for keeping the South African flag flying high during the event. **Lt Col M.F. Dlali, email** 



Ftr: Lt Col Fiks Dlali, an SANDF member attending the Joint Command Staff Course at the Zimbabwe Defence Staff College (in a Xhosa shirt), Ms Pumla Makwabe, Deputy Ambassador of South Africa to Zimbabwe (in Zulu attire), Ms Busi Sibeko, Personal Assistant to RSA Ambassador to Zimbabwe (in a Ndebele print dress) and Lt Col Zola Mjandana, an SANDF member attending the Joint Command Staff Course at the Zimbabwe Defence Staff College (in an African suit) with officials of the Zimbabwe Defence Staff College.

NGUNGU TEMPORARY OPERATIONAL BASE IN THE DRC

Surrounded by hills, Ngungu Temporary Operational Base (TOB) has been home to many SANDF soldiers during missions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) over the years. During Operation Monusco XIX it was home to Platoons 1, 2 and 3 of Charlie Company of 2 SA Infantry Battalion. (The platoons rotated bi-monthly to experience the majestic scenes of nature close to the base.)

The evergreen landscape around the base, the mountains and the hills at a distance, and the grazing cattle provide a touch of closeness to nature. This can be very comforting and relaxing to behold.

The living conditions at the TOB are typical for soldiers with high resilience. Conditions include:

- No running water
- Field toilets and other



Challenging road conditions in the Democratic Republic of Congo. (Photo: Sgt E. Sibeko)

- sanitation facilities
- Tents
- A "donkey" used for hot water
- Use of coal and gas



SANDF members assessing a bridge in the Democratic Republic of Congo. (Photo: Sgt E. Sibeko)

- Generators supply electricity
- Water is supplied from a source outside the base, and is stored in s- and jojo tanks and then purified.

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE BEYOND OUR BORDERS

As Heritage Day is one of South Africa's national holidays and most people having different ideas about it, we have a variety of ways to celebrate the day.

We in the RSA Engineer Squadron in Goma in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) on Operation mistral 19 had nine tribes or cultural groups celebrating Heritage Day with traditional dances, attire and food. We also invited our casual workers at the Squadron to represent their Congolese culture that is the most dominant culture in the north Kivu Province – the Kinande traditional dance group.

The event was officially opened by our Squadron Commander, Maj Mothibedi Sesotlho, who highlighted a few points and quoting from our former President Nelson Mandela's address in marking Heritage Day in 1996: "When our first democratically elected Government decided to make Heritage Day one of our national days, we did so because we knew that our rich and varied cultural heritage has a profound power to help build the new nation".

The performances began with the Bapedi showing us (*mogobo*) their



The Maswati cultural group celebrating Heritage Day in the DRC. (Photo: Sapper Simphiwe Cele)


traditional dance when they are giving away their daughters to get married as *makoti* (brides) then the Tsongas, vhaVendas, Basotho and Batswana performed their cultural dances respectively, and the amaZulu and Maswati dancing to greet their kings.

The Xhosas presented dances

when they welcome back and give names to young boys from the initiation school as they graduate to become men. The Congolese Kinande traditional group presented the Munde dance that is used on different occasions, mostly to greet their kings and at weddings.

The most interesting part is that all cultures have two things in common, that is food and clothes. In all the cultures maize, peanuts and sweet potatoes were cooked the most, while most of their clothes were made of animal skins, mainly springbok and kudu.

We also learned that in the Congo bananas are used in different types of meals or as a relish.

The Bapedi culture concluded the day with their famous wedding dances - the day was wrapped up with joy and ululations. **Sapper Kolobe Lebepe, email** 


BRAVO TO BRAVO COMPANY IN THE SUDAN

Brave, passionate, determined, are but a few words to describe a well-oiled machine called "Bravo Company".

Under the watchful eye of their Commander, Capt Francois Sass, with his leader group, boundaries have

Food and other supplies arrive via road or air. The road conditions pose challenges when it rains. Drivers need to be cautious and have to adapt to the circumstances. A distance of 35 km can take between 1-3 hours. Bridges also pose a challenge. They are either not strong enough to carry the weight of the Mambas, or the construction is questionable.

Recreation at the TOB includes playing pool. There are also a few weights in the gym. Sporting events with locals also provide the necessary recreation.


Technology at the base includes: *DStv* and Internet. *Super Cell* is the only cellphone operator that is working in the immediate area of the base. **Sgt S.A. Dingaan, currently deployed in the DRC, Ngungu** 


been shifted in every direction to make this deployment Operation Cordite XV a big success.

A positive approach and attitude with the least equipment are the order of the day.

From dusk to dawn, from early in the morning till late at night, Sunday to Sunday, if you listen closely you can hear troops preparing for their task lying ahead.

Tired, stretched out, overworked, but still determined to reach their objectives.

Talking about objective driven soldiers, neither rain, nor *haboob* (a violent, oppressive wind blowing in summer, 

especially in the Sudan), nor clearance or heat can keep Bravo Company from reaching their goals. I have realised that it does not matter how hard it looks - together you can. "They can because they think they can!" *Haboob* greetings! **Capt E.A. George, Sudan** 



The Leader Group of Operation CORDITE XV at Mellit Base in the Sudan.

DOD provides desks for disadvantaged learners

Article and photo by S Sgt
Lebogang Tlhaole

On 17 September 2012 the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, members of the Civil Aviation Authority of South Africa and sponsors of the Youth Development Programme donated *Tutu desks* to the Bafedile Junior Secondary School in Hammanskraal as part of the social responsibility initiative of the Africa Aerospace and Defence (AAD) Expo 2012.

A total of 1 162 school desks were donated on the day of which the Department of Defence sponsored 431, while the Civil Aviation


A total of 1 162 school desks were donated to the Bafedile Junior Secondary School in Hammanskraal.

Authority of South Africa sponsored the same number of desks. The other 300 desks were provided by sponsors of the Youth Development Programme.

Traditional wooden desks are expensive to produce, environmentally unsustainable and are often unsuitable for large classes with limited indoor space.

Prior to the donation of the *Tutu desks*, the learners struggled to find a solid surface on which to practise their writing. In an environment

where many lessons are taught outside, learners resort to writing on the ground where dust and dirt interfere with their work. The only alternative is to rest their paper on the back of another child or use the bench they have been sitting on where space is limited.

These desks are part of the *Tutu Desk* campaign and provide a writing surface for any situation. The desk is placed on the learner's lap to provide him or her with a surface to write on whether sitting on the floor or on a chair. 



Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, presenting Tutu desks at Bafedile Junior Secondary School in Hammanskraal as part of the social responsibility initiative of the Africa Aerospace and Defence (AAD) Expo 2012.

Deputy Minister Makwetla provides career guidance to young churchgoers

By Mr Kgabo Mashamaite
Photos: Sgt Elias Mahuma

Faith based organisations can also play a meaningful role in building the nation, as they continue to pray and ask God to provide guidance and wisdom for our Government leaders and institutions such as the SANDF.

Churches provide fertile ground for the SANDF to advance its recruitment drive to look for young talent to join the SANDF through the Military Skills Development System (MSDS) to address its critical skills shortages.

This was demonstrated during the visit of the Deputy Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Mr Thabang Makwetla, to the Evangelical Lutheran Church of South Africa Vosloorus Parish on 30 September 2012. He used the opportunity to appeal to the congregation to advise the youth of the community about exciting careers in the SANDF.

Deputy Minister Makwetla said: "The SANDF believes in providing every young man and woman with an opportunity to meet certain



Mr Thabang Makwetla, Deputy Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, addressing the congregation in Vosloorus during his visit.

criteria to apply and build a wonderful career within the National Defence Force.



Cdr Mthobisi Ngwenya providing young people with information about career opportunities in the SANDF during the visit to the Evangelical Lutheran Church of South Africa Vosloorus Parish.


At the moment the SANDF does everything possible to train as many youth of the country as possible to operate its sophisticated weapons. This is done to meet the modern Defence Force requirements so that it is able to meet its constitutional obligation to protect the country on land, in the air and at sea."

According to Brig Gen Elsie Mahlangu, Director Human Resources and Acquisition, there are specific processes to be followed once the target group applies to join the Military Skills Development System.

She added: "The application forms with all the relevant attachments are received by the office and then captured on the database. Thereafter applicants meeting the set criteria will be invited for interviews for selection purposes. Members of the community should be aware that the SANDF does not guarantee anyone employment once the applications have been submitted."

Mr Vusi Ntshangase, Chairperson of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of South Africa Vosloorus Parish, thanked Deputy Minister Makwetla for making himself available to share career guidance with the congregation.

He said: "We are delighted that Mr Makwetla and his team have responded to our invitation at such short notice to accommodate our request in his busy schedule. We also would like to thank the management of the Department of Defence and the SANDF for allowing their members to advise our youth about possible careers within the SANDF.

Col Nomtsha Mkutuka, SSO Marketing and Recruitment, advised the youth to avoid activities that could land them in trouble with the law, as one of the prerequisites for joining the MSDS is that a prospective member should have a crime free record. 

Lt Gen Gagiano hands over command of the SA Air Force

By Cpl Itumeleng Makhubela
Photos: S Sgt Lebogang Tlhaole

The SA Air Force witnessed history on the Friday afternoon of 28 September 2012 when the third longest serving Chief of the SA Air Force, Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, handed over the reins to Lt Gen Fabian “Zakes” Zimpande Msimang, during a change of command parade held at Swartkop Airfield.

During his address at the parade Lt Gen Gagiano said: “After 44 years, 6 months and 16 days of service in the SA Air Force my time has come to hand over command of the SA Air Force to Lt Gen Msimang. I dedicated my life to the SA Air Force and if I were once again 17 years old today I would make no other decision, but to become a fighter pilot.”

Lt Gen Gagiano joined the SA Air Force in 1968 and qualified as a pilot on the Impala aircraft in December 1969. During his long and illustrious flying career, he flew the Harvard, the Astra, the PC 12, the Vampire, the F-86 Sabre, the Mirage 3, the F1CZ and the Cheetah D and E aircrafts.

Speaking at a press briefing he said it was difficult for him to leave behind the dedicated Air Force personnel. Lt Gen Gagiano conceded that the SA Air Force had a difficult task as many of its personnel were extremely marketable in the private sector and might leave for greener pastures.

Lt Gen Gagiano said that the SA Air Force was entering a new phase with the assumption of command by Lt Gen Msimang. He said that they had had ample time to discuss SA Air Force tasks at hand in detail.

He added: “Today Lt Gen Msimang takes over the race, fresh with new ideas and vigour. We must all embrace and support him and his wife Africa in running this race without any distractions. Zakes, congratulations



The last inspection on parade by Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, the outgoing Chief of the SA Air Force (right), accompanied by the incoming Chief of the SA Air Force, Lt Gen Zakes Msimang.

and I wish you well and hope that the time that lies ahead will be very rewarding.”

Lt Gen Gagiano’s career highlights during his term of office were opportunities to engage with foreign air forces and the introduction of new systems into the SA Air Force. He said that he was proud to observe how competent the current generation was and that he had been flying the PC 12 during the last few years with junior officers.

He said: “Engaging and working side by side with the local defence industry and establishing the C 130 maintenance

and repair facility at Air Force Base Waterkloof was another highlight. An activity particularly close to my heart was project Sinothando, a project to assist Air Force parents with disabled children.

“After 4 124 flying hours there are so many people to thank. I must thank my commanders, instructors, wingmen and my technicians who ensured that my aircraft were always in a safe condition to fly. But then also those disciplined airmen in the background such as the air traffic controllers, chefs, protection personnel and all of them who ensure that the SA Air Force functions optimally.”



Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, the outgoing Chief of the SA Air Force (left), bids farewell to the SA Air Force. Lt Gen Zakes Msimang fully assumes office on 1 October 2012 as the first black male to become Chief of the SA Air Force.

The outgoing Chief of the SA Air Force

In 1985 Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano completed the SA Air Force's Senior Command and Staff Course, and was subsequently appointed as the Officer Commanding of 3 Squadron, then operating F1 CZ aircraft. In 1989 he was appointed as the Officer Commanding of 89 Combat Flying School operating Cheetah D aircraft.

From 1991 to 1994 he was on a diplomatic assignment to Israel, where he served as South Africa's military attaché. On his return he was nominated for the SANDF's Joint Senior Command and Staff Programme. Upon completing the course he was transferred to Central Flying School in Langebaanweg as the Officer Commanding.

In December 1998, after a four-year tenure at Langebaanweg, he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General and transferred to the Air Force Office as the Inspector General of the SA Air Force. It was in this appointment that he and his team pioneered the introduction of the European Foundation Quality Management Excellence Model into the Air Force.

On 1 November 2001 he was promoted to the rank of Major General and Chief Director Operations Development at the Joint Operations Division, where he was responsible for the country's defence capabilities, joint force employment strategy, joint command and control, and joint doctrine.

Having served for three years at the Joint Operations Division, he was transferred back to the SA Air Force as the Chief Director Air Policy and Plans, and was thus made responsible for all matters relating to Air Force policy, capabilities, strategy and resource allocation.

On 1 March 2005 he was appointed as Chief of the SA Air Force, a position that he held for over seven years. Of the numerous highlights during his tenure as the Chief, the two that stand out significantly were the introduction of the Strategic Defence Packages, and the Air Force's sterling contribution to the 2010 Soccer World Cup.

Lt Gen Gagiano leaves the SA Air Force, having meritoriously served in it for 44 years. He lived for the SA Air Force, and the SA Air Force was his life.

The newly appointed Chief of the SA Air Force

Lt Gen Fabian "Zakes" Msimang was a member of Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), the military wing of the African National Congress. He engaged in combat in Angola in 1986.

He started his initial flying training at Frunze 1 Central Officers Training Centre – Kirghizistan, in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, from 1986 to 1991.

He graduated from the institution with a diploma in Command and Tactics in Military Aviation. During his career he has flown the Mi 8, Mi 25, Allouette III, Oryx helicopters and also did a factory conversion onto the A109E helicopters at Agusta/Westland in Italy.

In 1994 he completed the Air Force Junior Staff Course in Zimbabwe before integrating into the SANDF. Post 1994, he served as an operational pilot in both maritime and inland operations.

In 2000 he was appointed the Assistant Project Officer on the acquisition programme of the Agusta A109 in Italy. He went on to successfully complete the Senior Staff Course at the Italian Air Force War School.

On his return from Italy in 2003, he was appointed Officer Commanding of 87 Helicopter Flying School at Air Force Base Bloemspruit. The following year he successfully completed the Joint Senior Command and Staff Programme at the SA National War College.

In 2005 he was appointed Officer Commanding Air Force Base Bloemspruit and promoted to the rank of Colonel. In 2006 he completed the Executive National Security Programme at the SA National Defence College.

In June 2007, after a two and a half year tenure as Officer Commanding Air Force Base Bloemspruit, he was appointed Director Helicopter Systems and promoted to the rank of Brigadier General at the Air Command.

In November 2010 he was appointed Chief Director Air Policy and Plans and promoted to the rank of Major General responsible for Air Force strategy, policies, capabilities and

Strengthening relations between local defence industry and international countries

By Mr Kgabo Mashamaite
Photos: Sgt Elias Mahuma and Mr Frans Setlau

Even though many developing countries strive to balance their defence requirements against other competing social and government priorities as a result of the tough economic climate, the return on investment in the Africa Aerospace and Defence (AAD) Expo 2012 to the AFB Waterkloof between 19 and 23 September 2012 has encouraged the world's military and defence professionals to build and nurture mutually beneficial relationships.

This was the feeling of the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, during her keynote address at the opening of the AAD Expo on 19 September 2012 before almost 40 000 exhibitors, military guests and visitors.

Minister Mapisa-Nqakula spoke of the benefits to the defence industry likely to follow from the AAD 2012 Expo: "In our pursuit of the objective of growing our defence industry we have devised a strategy to create a sustainable and mutually beneficial strategic partnership with companies from other countries. It is our belief that through this partnership we can share knowledge and expertise that will stand partners in good stead to deal with the unfolding reality of our time.

"Equally, our strategy provides possibilities of building strong mutually beneficial marketing partnerships. Similarly, we have set out to invite research institutions to partner with us to develop a strong research culture in the defence industry. It is within this strategic environment that we have set ourselves the objective of maintaining and growing our defence industry



ABOVE: Mr Zwelakhe Ntshephe from Denel Dynamics explains to the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, a bi-national project between SA and Brazil - the A-Darter air-to-air missile - at the Africa Aerospace and Defence Expo.

ABOVE: Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, at the opening of the Africa Aerospace and Defence Expo 2012.

to achieve outcomes, such as a suitably resourced SANDEF, a strong research and development capacity for the country and a diversified and commercially active defence industry." According to Mr Leon Dillman,

CEO of the Commercial Aviation Association of South Africa (CAASA), whose members contributed over 90 aircraft to the static display at the base's aprons, the event presented an opportunity



ABOVE: Representatives from some of the international defence companies explaining their latest military hardware creations to Ms Mapisa-Nqakula, the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, at the Africa Aerospace and Defence Expo.

for the world's military aircraft to come together to build and nurture mutually beneficial relationships.

Mr Dillman said: "These relationships form the foundation of the international military and defence industry, but they also facilitate crossover interactions between military and commercial aviation and the aerospace suppliers. This is one of the few events on the calendar where companies in the sector, regardless of their size, get together to exchange insights and ideas."

Among the biggest beneficiaries of the AAD Expo, according to Denel State Owned Company was the opportunity to showcase the achievement of local industry and confirm its capacity to compete successfully with global manufacturers.

Mr Riaz Saloojee, CEO Denel State Owned Company, said:

"The exhibition confirmed Denel's position as the premier manufacturer of cutting-edge defence products and provider of security related services

for the air force of the United Arab Emirates and other international clients.

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OTT Technologies, a local company, displays one of its flagship products - the M22 LMAV built on a commercial drive line - at the Africa Aerospace and Defence Expo.

>> from page 17

According to Denel Dynamics it is also on track to start with the production of the A-Darter air-to-air missile, jointly developed with Brazil, within the next two years. Partnership agreements were also signed with four of the world's largest manufacturers of helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft. The agreement with Italian based Alenia Aermacchi will enable Denel Aerostructures to participate in future manufacturing and assembling of aeronautical structures and spare parts. The provision of humanitarian demining services was strengthened with the release of the CASSPIR NG2000 mine protected vehicle, which will be in great demand from multinational peacekeeping forces because of the unequalled protection it provides against landmines, roadside bombs and automatic rifle fire."

Newly unveiled products that also drew a lot of attention included the Advanced High-performance Reconnaissance and Surveillance Aircraft (AHRLAC), a Paramount/Aerosud project, the result of a study launched into the viability of developing a low-cost yet high-performance manned alternative to unmanned aerial vehicle.

The review of the aircraft's capabilities on the AHRLAC's blog, states that the aircraft will be optimised for multiple missions via the carriage of payload combinations of security imaging systems and sensors all integrated with an advanced avionics suite optimised for both on-board display and data relay. The AHRLAC mission definition focuses on "Homeland Security" covering applications such as border security, coastal and maritime/EEZ patrol, the combating of piracy and drug traffic control.

Mr Simpfiwe Hamilton, Executive Director of the SA Aerospace Maritime


and Defence Industries Association (AMD), said that his organisation was overwhelmed by the positive response and accolades on the successes the show had achieved.

He explained: "The feedback we are getting is extremely positive from both the local and international exhibitors and the majority are considering booking space for the next AAD 2014, scheduled for 17 to 21 September. Out of 347 exhibitors, the AAD Expo 2012 had a total of 153 international companies from 26 countries, 13 of whose exhibitions were organised in the form of national pavilions. We are also glad about the ground-breaking agreements made during the event when we witnessed Denel Aviation reaching an agreement with Russian Helicopters for the maintenance, repair and overhaul of their platforms on the continent. All these agreements allow for the SA defence industry to work both military and commercial platforms

and will lead to the diversification of our business and ensure a balance between defence and civil work."

The AAD Expo 2012 recorded over 100 000 visitors between 20 and 21 September, both declared trade days for members of the public to come and enjoy a military spectacle on land, in the air and the maritime static display.

Various activities were conducted during the event to demonstrate a healthy relationship between the defence aerospace industry and the civilian commercial aviation sector, such as the fly-past of the SA Air Force's Silver Falcons with the SAA Boeing Z5 5XD.

* Additional information on the Advanced High-performance Reconnaissance and Surveillance Aircraft (AHRLAC) obtained from www.ahrlac.com/index.php/ahrlac.explained 



ABOVE: The synergy between military and the commercial aviation is exhibited with a fly-past by the SA Air Force's Silver Falcons and the SAA Boeing Z5 5XD at the air capability demonstration of the Africa Aerospace and Defence Expo.

AAD Expo 2012 through the eyes of the Armscor Chairperson

By Amn Bibi Sibanyoni

Photo: Mr Lufuno Netshirembe

It's been a month since the biggest ever Africa Aerospace and Defence (AAD) Expo took place at Air Force Base Waterkloof in Pretoria from 19 to 23 September 2012. The AAD Expo attracted many countries and this year it was hosted in its original setting - Pretoria - after six years of absence. An *SA Soldier* journalist interviewed the Chairperson of the Armscor Board of Directors, Lt Gen (Ret) Maomela Moreti Motau, about the highlights, successes and challenges of the AAD Expo.

Lt Gen (Ret) Motau was previously the Chief of Military Intelligence and Special Adviser to the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans. He has experience in the integration of the Non-statutory Forces into the SANDF and was instrumental in the negotiations leading to the democratic order in South Africa.

He praised the AAD Expo 2012 and stated that it was a great success as it managed to draw the attention of many countries in Africa and the world at large. He mentioned that China had filled the international hangar with nine stalls.

Lt Gen (Ret) Motau said: "Since its inception in 2000, the AAD Expo has continued to grow in size and stature. This year we presented 92 civilian and military aircraft on static display and 350 exhibitors. Those attending included 300 accredited media representatives from all over the world, 8 ministerial delegations, 14 national pavilions as well as exhibitors from Namibia, the only other African country, not counting South Africa as



Lt Gen (Ret) Maomela Moreti Motau, Chairperson of the Armscor Board of Directors.

we were the host."

Lt Gen (Ret) Motau said: "The AAD Expo is among the eight biggest exhibitions in the world and is diarised in the circuit calendar. As we are having this interview, countries already want to know the next date."

He spoke proudly of one of the highlights of the AAD Expo 2012: *SABC2 - Morning Live* - broadcasting live from Air Force Base Waterkloof and the Air Force aircrafts' precision flying during the opening ceremony. Lt Gen (Ret) Motau said: "This has been

a great achievement and I hope we have started a new tradition for the AAD expo 2014."

Lt Gen (Ret) Motau also explained the importance of building and maintaining relations with international defence forces through the AAD Expo. He added: "The AAD Expo should be seen as a platform for our National Defence Force and Defence Industries to showcase their capabilities. It should also serve as a platform for concrete business deals to be agreed upon. We have over the years lost focus of the real point of this exhibition. It is not only about the dinners hosted, but should be more about the business behind the dinners."

He affirmed that Armscor was the only organisation that gave directives

on how the AAD Expo should be facilitated in conjunction with the Department of Defence. He also explained how the AAD Expo would like to give exposure to small business entities through the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of Transport and the Department of Science and Technology.

Lt Gen (Ret) Motau concluded: "We should also attract other African countries to come on board, as this is called the **Africa** Aerospace and Defence and not **South Africa** Aerospace and Defence." 

Strengthening military relations at the AAD Expo

By Mr Kgabo Mashamaite
Photos: Mr Frans Setlau

The Africa Aerospace and Defence (AAD) Expo 2012 is the largest defence expo in Africa and was hosted between 19 and 23 September 2012 at AFB Waterkloof in Pretoria. The AAD Expo returned to AFB Waterkloof in Pretoria after seven years of absence.

The AAD Expo was aimed at showcasing the defence industry's capability to provide the Department of Defence and, in particular, the SANDF with top of the range military hardware. It has attracted over 13 000 visitors since its inception on 19 September 2012.

It has helped the SANDF to

further strengthen its military relations with international defence forces across the globe.

This was especially evident during the second day of the AAD Expo 2012, when the Secretary for Defence of South Africa, Dr Sam Gulube, the Chief of the SANDF, Gen Solly Shoke, and the Chief of the SA Army, Lt Gen Vusi Masondo, received senior international military and civilian counterparts from various countries to grace the five-day event.



The South African Secretary for Defence, Dr Sam Gulube (left), exchanges gifts with his Zimbabwean counterpart, Mr Martin Rushwaya, in the DOD VIP Lounge at the AAD Expo at AFB Waterkloof.

Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, visits each one of the thirteen national pavilions at the AAD Expo, including that of India, which is one of the newcomers to the AAD Expo.

Among the defence forces that attended the AAD Expo was the Secretary for Defence of Zimbabwe, Mr Martin Rushwaya, who was hosted by the Secretary for Defence of South Africa.

Since the beginning of this year's AAD Expo, the Chief of the SANDF



All types of aircraft were on display during the five-day Africa Aerospace and Defence Expo 2012.


The AAD Expo has helped the DOD to further strengthen its military relations with international defence forces across the globe.

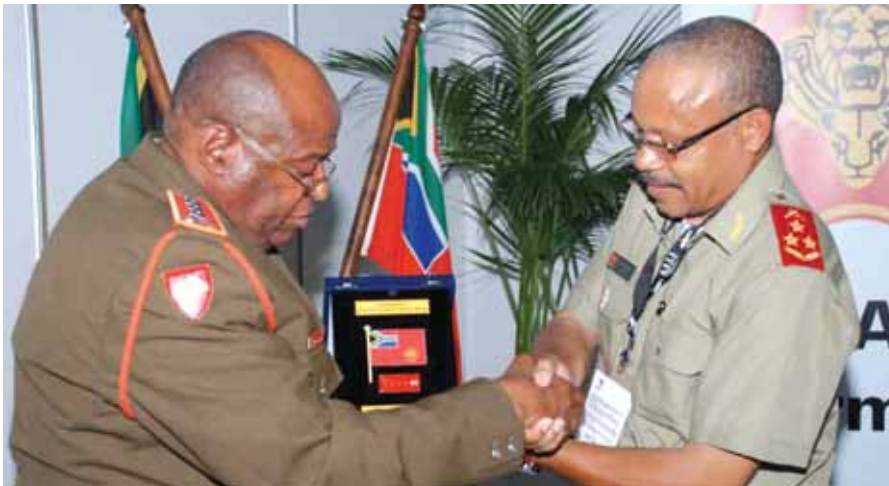
has been receiving many senior military personnel from across the globe who came to attend the AAD Expo.

The Chief of the SA Army hosted his counterpart from the Tanzanian Defence Force, Maj Gen Salim Kijuu, the Chief of Staff of the Swaziland Defence Force, Brig Gen Themba Dlamini, the Chief of the Angolan Army, Gen Lucio Do Amaral, and the Indonesian National Armed Forces whose Chief of the Army was represented by Col Victor Simatupang, the Military Attaché to South Africa.

Since the dawn of the democratic order in the Republic of South Africa and the formation of the SANDF in 1994, South Africa has been a leading figure in rendering peace support operations in the war-torn countries of Africa through United Nations and African Union missions to create a safe and stable continent.

The SANDF is also a member of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Standby Force which was formed in 2007 by the 14 SADC countries during the SADC heads of states meeting in Lusaka to be ready for rapid deployment in peacekeeping, humanitarian and natural disaster-relief efforts throughout Africa.

Among the Armed Forces within the 14 SADC countries currently enjoying good exchange programmes with the SANDF are the Tanzanian Defence Force, which has members studying at the SA National Defence College. The same applies to the Zimbabwean Defence Force and the SANDF, as at the moment, the SANDF has members studying in Zimbabwe for the Senior Staff Course. 



The Chief of the SA Army, Lt Gen Vusi Masondo (left), with the Chief of the Angolan Army, Gen Lucio Do Amaral, during a courtesy call at the AAD Expo.



The Chief of the SA Army, Lt Gen Vusi Masondo (left), with the Indonesian National Armed Forces Military Attaché to SA, Col Victor Simatupang, during a courtesy call at the AAD Expo.

Increasing exposure to the military aviation world

By Cpl Ally Rakoma

Science and technology are critical to the future of our country and the SANDF. Modern armed forces recognise the role played by science and technology in providing an environment conducive to innovation, research and building human capital required for the future.

Learners from various high schools in Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, North West, the Free State and other parts of our country attended Africa's largest event of its kind, the premier exhibition of air, land and sea capability, the 2012 Africa Aerospace and Defence (AAD) Expo at Air Force Base Waterkloof in Pretoria on 21 September 2012.

In view of the significance of the air show, career guidance has been the sole mandate of the youth development programme. The different Services and Divisions within the SANDF participated in presenting career exhibitions and



LEFT: An impressive performance by the paratroopers. (Photo: Sgt Elias Mahuma)

in the Military Skills Development System (MSDS) and specialist musterings.

In addition to this, the Siyandiza Team of the SA Air Force explained the concepts of Siyandiza and Young Falcons aviation awareness to the youth to expose them to military aviation and the airborne might of the SA Air Force. The SA Army introduced the youth to Project Young Lions, the innovative and preparatory programme to introduce the youngsters to the SA Army.

offered information to young people to learn more about the highly specialised avionics, maritime, electronics, engineering, combat, technical and military health occupations. They were exposed to various career opportunities

With special emphasis on the military high-tech science and aerospace defence technology, learners were enlightened about science, engineering and technology based military careers and they realised the necessity of mathematics and science in these careers.

Seeing the defence and aviation capabilities first-hand was the highlight of the informative learners' visit to the AAD Expo, and included equipment for medical applications, technology designed specifically to protect military personnel, protective clothing, cartridges designed for ejector seats, armoured personnel carriers, air droppable surgical post display, free-fall and tandem parachute drop, search-and-rescue equipment, display of maritime capabilities, computer simulation programmes meant to increase interest, and building an aircraft using cardboard. These stood out the most for learners who wanted to make their dreams a living reality.



ABOVE: Elated young learners are exposed to the SA Air Force Siyandiza Programme. (Photo: Mr Frans Setlau)

Encouraging young aviation enthusiasts to reach their maximum

potential, Brig Gen Mark Dillon, a Director of the United States Air Force, during his courtesy visit to the Youth Development Programme pavilion said that young people should see aeronautics, engineering and science as a reservoir of innovation, high technology and an exciting career path to follow. He mentioned that military innovation needed adequately trained scientists, engineers, technicians and technologists.



LEFT: Learners are impressed by the advanced technological world of defence computer war gaming and virtual aviation. (Photo: Sgt Elias Mahuma)



ABOVE: The capabilities of the SA Navy weapons catch the youngsters' imaginations, and possible careers as weapon operators in the SA Navy. (Photo: Cpl Ally Rakoma)

Brig Gen Mark Dillon said: "Today well-lived makes yesterday a dream of happiness and every tomorrow a vision of hope. Your decisions and not your conditions shape your destiny."

Lt Col Robert Molefe, the SA Air Force Siyandiza Operation Aviation Awareness representative, explained to *SA Soldier* that Programme Siyandiza ("We Fly") and the Young Falcons were introducing aviation awareness to the youth of South Africa to expose them to all aviation related aspects within the SA Air Force. Lt Col Molefe said: "Our emphasis is on the need for pilots, navigators, engineers, technicians and airspace control personnel. We provide young people with information on the national youth programme of the SA Air Force and advise them on subject choices they have to make in order to pursue a career in the SA Air Force."

He added that in the future the Siyandiza Programme would expand by developing the Air Cadet System at schools to orientate young enthusiasts and hard-working learners with

regard to aviation.

SA Soldier spoke to a few learners to hear what they thought about the AAD Expo. Moses Shibambo (16), a Grade 10 learner from *Wilgers Hoërskool*, said: "This was a true testimony that the SANDF is alive with possibilities. The exhibitions and career guidance have been very exciting and educational. It has been one of those opportunities that everybody would have loved to have had. We look forward with hope to the future."

Dane Pretorius (16), a Grade 10 learner from *Hoërskool Ferdinand*, said that the AAD Expo provided young people with first-hand experience, as well as awareness of careers in the defence and aviation industry. She said: "We witnessed the integration of land, air and sea equipment operated by the National Defence Force. Military hardware exhibits, battle re-enactment and static air displays were also impressive to watch."

The Armament Corporation of South Africa (Armcor) has come to the


party through generous sponsorship of the Youth Development Programme (YDP) initiatives. It

has identified certain schools from disadvantaged communities in the Gauteng Province where it actively assists in mathematics and science programmes to improve learners' marks and academic performance in subjects essential for tertiary studies in the engineering and technical fields.

As part of Armcor's corporate social investment flagship programme it is involved in the learner enhancement programme. The programme is designed to support both the Government and Armcor's plans to address scarce skills shortages in the country.

Ms Barileng Dibakoane, the Manager Corporate Communications at Armcor, told *SA Soldier* that the Grade 11 and 12 mathematics and physical science learners from eight schools in Atteridgeville and one in Olivenhoutbosch had been selected to take part in the programme. She added that learners from disadvantaged communities around Gauteng were given an opportunity to be exposed to the defence industry through the air show.

Through interaction with them it was evident that they had gained insight not only into the defence industry, but also career opportunities, eg bursaries offered. They are also to be taken to various universities to learn about careers in engineering, and the technical courses needed for this.

All the AAD partners, ie the Department of Defence (DOD), Armcor, the Aerospace and Maritime Defence Association (AMD) and the Commercial Aviation Association of South Africa (CAASA), were involved in the Youth Development Programme which invited all the adopted schools to the AAD Expo to network and obtain information on the defence industry. 

Paying tribute to fallen soldiers


Article and photo by LS Nkululeko Zulu, Internal Communication Clerk: Navy HQ

The SA National Defence Force Memorial was erected by the Council of Military Veterans' Organisations (CMVO) not only to pay homage but also to ensure that the departed soldiers of our Republic, who contributed their share in safeguarding the RSA and its people, are remembered and honoured.

The CMVO, serving members, Government officials and foreign dignitaries commemorated the suffering and sacrifice of those who died in service of their country at a touching memorial service held at Fort Klapperkop in Pretoria on 9 September 2012.

At least 60 crosses and wreaths were laid during the service, making it the largest commemoration at Fort Klapperkop. The organisations in attendance represented servicemen and women who had fought and died not only during World War I and World War II, but also on both sides during the country's more recent conflicts.

Lt Col Godfrey Giles, Chairperson of the CMVO, said he was pleased to see so many banners of veterans' organisations. This was a time to remember not only those who had died, but also those who bore the scars of their experiences and their families, he said.


Lt Col Giles laid the first wreath on behalf of the CMVO, following which representatives of more than 30 veterans associations, including the Gunner's Association, SA Air Force Association, Naval Officers' Association, the Special Forces League and Selous Scouts Association to name just a few, all paid homage by laying a wreath of remembrance. 



Sentries paid tribute in remembrance of the fallen soldiers.

39th Anniversary of the Egyptian Armed Forces Day

**By Ms Nelda Pienaar
Photo: Sgt Elias Mahuma**

The 39th anniversary of the Egyptian Armed Forces Day was celebrated with a cocktail reception on the evening of 5 October 2012 at the Lombardy Hotel in Pretoria East. The Defence Attaché of the Egyptian Embassy, Col Sherif Shams El Din, welcomed the guests who came to share in this auspicious occasion. Maj Gen Mduduzi Nyembe, Deputy Chief Director Intelligence, on behalf of the Chief of the SANDF, congratulated the Egyptian Armed Forces on its historical day. He said: "Egypt has one of the strongest armed forces in the world, and we (the SANDF) have observed the courage of your armed forces over the past 18 months. Tomorrow, 6 October, Egypt will celebrate with military parades a birthday befitting the occasion. We wish you a great and successful 39th anniversary." 



Fltr: Bassel El Din (11), son of the Defence Attaché of the Egyptian Embassy, Ms Yasmeen Khafagy, wife of the Assistant Defence Attaché of the Egyptian Embassy, Maj Amr Khafagy, Assistant Defence Attaché, Maj Gen Mduduzi Nyembe, Deputy Chief Director Intelligence, Col Sherif Shams El Din, Defence Attaché of the Egyptian Embassy, and his wife, Ms Manal El Din, and their daughter, Basma (10).

Executive National Security Programme visit to Ghana

By Col Eddie Nel, SSO Landward System

Photo: Dr Avhafari Nelufule

A delegation of 37 Executive National Security Programme (ENSP) members and Senior Directing Staff members, under the leadership of the Commandant of the SA National Defence College, R Adm (JG) Laura Jansen van Vuuren, undertook a regional study tour of Ghana from 3 to 9 September 2012.

The purpose of the tour was to create an opportunity for the members to familiarise themselves with the Ghanaian national security policy and strategy and the forces and trends that shape its foreign and domestic policies. The tour also provided them with an opportunity to assess the potential for conflict and the effect (if any) this might have on South Africa's national security.

The delegation was received by the Defence Adviser, Col Eddie Ntlokwana, at the Kotoka International Airport in Accra, the capital of Ghana. The first official day started with a visit to the South African High Commissioner, Ms Jeanette Ndlovu, in Ghana. The ENSP members were informed of the importance of South African and Ghanaian bilateral relations and continental co-operation. The briefing provided the delegation with the context and set the tone for engagement with Ghana's state departments.

The delegation visited the Ministry of Defence (the Square) where they discussed Ghana's Defence policy. Great emphasis was placed on their strategic position, including deterrence, rapid mobilisation, force protection, diplomacy to prevent conflict, promotion


of regional security and force articulation of national interests. These, coupled with good communications and reliable intelligence, allow the Ghanaian Armed Force to maintain a high state of preparedness in terms of national defence, the improvement of civil/military relations through good proactive public relations and decentralised civic action programmes.

On the second day the delegation received presentations on Ghana's National Development Plan Commission and it was interesting to note how integrated their system was in assisting the government with their strategic planning. The economic presentation illustrated to the delegation how similar their budgeting process was to that of South Africa. The Medium Term Finance (MTF) and inflation targeting illustrated consistency and transparency regarding their macro-economic policies. This allows for more investment and trade and attracts international investors.

A highlight of the study tour was the

visit to the Kofi Anan International Peacekeeping Training Centre. The professionalism and realistic training provided for all African and international peacekeepers, with the emphasis on the African continent, were truly an eye-opener. The visit ended with an informal function in which the delegation had time to socialise with members of the Training Centre and the Ghanaian Armed Forces.

On the last day of the study tour the delegation had the opportunity to visit the mausoleum of one of Ghana truly great leaders and the father of modern Ghana, Dr Kwame Nkrumah. After the visit to the mausoleum the delegation had the opportunity to visit an informal market and an opportunity to barter for bargains.

The ENSP 26/12 delegation agreed that the study tour was very informative and all the objectives of the regional study tour were achieved. 



Visit to the Ghanaian Ministry of Defence (the Square) in Accra, Ghana, by Executive National Security Programme (ENSP 26/12) members.

Physical fitness consciousness of the SA Army

**By Maj Merle Meyer,
Communication Officer SA Army
and Cpl Ally Rakoma
Photos: Sgt Eulanda Leshaba**

The SA Army is in the process of reducing its defeats and gaining more victories. Training and physical fitness are a major part of a soldier's life. Once a soldier has acquired fitness consciousness he recognises this and understands the need to exercise and to keep psychologically and physically fit.

During the SA Army Fittest Soldier Competition the fittest soldiers of the SA Army tested their skills and willingness to overcome their physical limits at the SA Army Gymnasium in Heidelberg from 18 to 20 September 2012. Teams from the SA Army formations, units and individuals contended against each other. Participation and fitness were what brought them together. They were also tested by the Extreme Fighting Champions whose well-known competitions are broadcast on *M Net*.

Physical fitness contributes to one's health and overall well-being. The SA Army determines physical training intensity to improve sport performance and evaluates strength, endurance, flexibility, fitness and weaknesses during competitions.

Over 600 entries were received, but only 300 could be accommodated. On 18 September the championship started with the "Training Surprise" and what a surprise it was! The test was compiled by the SA Army Training Formation, which hosted the competition. The soldiers had to run with a dumb-bell, flip a truck tyre, run with an ammunition case and then with a folded bench. This was followed by some leopard crawling in sand, getting over three SAMIL 100 trucks, jumping over two piles of truck tyres, an exercise bench, a mud hole and water slide. All of this had to be



Tyre flip: not as easy as you think.

completed in just over 2 km.

The young men of Extreme Fighting Champions who trained for more than seven hours a day, participated in the "Training Surprise". The soldiers surprised them with their strength and endurance.

Over the next two days, there was gruelling running and pool crossings. The fun run was no fun and the competition ended with an

endurance walk. This was a popular event and several senior soldiers (generals, officers commanding and regimental sergeant majors) participated in the event which consisted of a 20 km walk with 20 kg back packs for the men and a 15 km walk with 15 kg back packs for the women.

These three days separated the men from the boys and worthy champions were selected.



LEFT: A female soldier determined to push the limits.



ABOVE: Soldiers carrying fold-up benches.



LEFT: Soldiers quicken pace to cover the allotted time.




LEFT: Soldiers pace themselves during the route march.

The champions were as follows:

- Males up to 34 years – L Bdr James Mashapu (Light Artillery Regiment)
- Females up to 29 years – Pte Boikhutso Kelebhone (1 Special Service Battalion)
- Males 35 to 44 years – Cpl Onkabetse Thole (3 SA Infantry Battalion)
- Females 30 to 39 years – S Sgt Nerine Geldenhuys (School of Armour)
- Males 45 to 49 years – Sgt Kgosietsile Molatlhwa (35 Engineer Support Regiment)
- Females 40 to 49 years – Cpl Tendani Nenguda (15 SA Infantry Battalion)
- Males 50 plus years - Sgt Zekeleni Luvulweni (35 Engineer Support Regiment)
- Females 50 plus years – Col Celèste Scheepers (Defence Inspectorate Division)
- Senior Soldier – Col Arthur Nziweni (3 SA Infantry Battalion)
- Fittest Headquarters –

- SA Army Armour Formation
- Fittest SA Army Unit – 1 Special Service Battalion
- Fittest SA Army Formation – SA Army Infantry Formation

Maj Gen Spinx Nobanda, Chief Army Force Preparation, presented the awards and urged the units' officers commanding to lead from the front. He indicated that fitness would become part of the combat-readiness evaluation. He thanked all the participants for their perseverance and commitment and for preparing and participating in the competition. Maj Gen Nobanda said: "Let all SA Army members learn a lesson from these soldiers. As they say: Let us all 'klap 'n tekkie' and get fit."

The sports warriors took part in the following sporting codes: shuttle runs, push-ups, sit-ups, 2.4 km run, endurance walk, route march, obstacle course, surprise activity, bleep test, multi-run, swimming, tyre flip, roll-over of a SAMIL 100, crawl underneath a stack of tyres and carry an ammunition case and a fold-up bench. 

Combined Joint African Exercise 2012 focuses on a fictitious peace support mission

By Cpl Ally Rakoma
Photo: Sgt Elias Mahuma

The SA National War College in Pretoria conducted the Combined Joint African Exercise (CJAX) 2012, Exercise UHURU, from 3 to 7 September 2012. The exercise formed part of the most important aspect of the Military Operations Other Than War module.

Forging common understanding and mutual processes is the key to the exercise with the added benefit of sharing best practice. The aim of the exercise was to develop a greater understanding of the joint, multinational and interagency environment among the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in order to promote a better understanding of the challenges involved in planning and co-ordinating complex, multinational peace support operations.

The exercise also served as a means to exchange ideas and concepts between SADC future Operational Commanders and Operational Staff Officers and other attending role-players from the SA Police Service, the Department of Correctional Services and the Department of International Relations and Co-operation.

The 2012 group was comprised of approximately 80 participants in the rank groups Major to Lieutenant Colonel, including the SA National War College: Joint Senior Command and Staff Programme and delegations of learners from SADC military forces, such as Botswana and Zambia, with Malawi and Zimbabwe sending observers.

In his opening address Maj Gen Manfred Mabuza, the General Officer



Front, fltr: R Adm (JG) Patrick Duze, Commandant SA National War College, Maj Gen Manfred Mabuza, General Officer Commanding Training Command, and R Adm Samuel Hlongwane, Deputy Chief of the SA Navy, with participating members from the SADC Defence Staff Colleges with Lt Col Andy Muddiman, the British Peace Support Team: South Africa (middle row, fourth from left) and Col Etienne Step, the Senior Directing Staff, Military Operations Other Than War (middle row, fifth from left).

Commanding of Training Command, said that in the light of the current African threat scenario, CJAX was an important tool for training senior officers to think beyond the immediate situation and operate in a joint, multinational and interagency peace support operation environment and broaden their understanding of a single service in the management of the wider aspects of conflict.

Maj Gen Mabuza said: "By having a combined exercise where Directing Staff and learners are exchanged with partner countries, all will develop common working practices and a better understanding of the challenges involved in planning and co-ordinating a complex, multinational peace support operation."

The primary role of peacekeeping is

to provide a secure environment. The current conflict contexts require a broader holistic strategy to bridge peacekeeping and peace-building efforts with a view to building sustainable peace in complex and fragile situations and tackling the interlinked issues of security and development as a whole.

The CJAX 2012 was focused on solving a fictitious peace support mission scenario. The expansion of peacekeeping has evolved from purely military operations to more robust and multidimensional operations that are focussed more on complex scenarios in a notional country troubled by civil war and humanitarian strife where wider responses are required.

The transformation from military-to-civilian-focused peace missions has come about as mandates have shifted from monitoring ceasefires to


supporting the implementation of comprehensive peace agreements. As missions becomes more orientated to peace-building, the role of civilian components has become more central as their role shifts from peripheral support to the core of contemporary peacekeeping and peace-building missions.

This also ensure that issues of civil affairs, gross human rights violations, the rule of law, gender issues, supporting national authorities to provide basic security, security sector reform, disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration, reform of state security forces (military, police, correctional services, judiciary system) and crisis planning during humanitarian disasters are addressed.

R Adm (JG) Patrick Duze, the Commandant of the SA National War College, said in his closing address

that within the context of exercise CJAX a plethora of issues had come to the fore as far as lines of command and operations were concerned. He said: "I think that you had to pause for a while to understand why it could not be done militarily."

He urged participants to see the exercise as a learning curve and a niche for those who were to continue with peace support operations. He mentioned that the humanitarian elements they dealt with were not only part and parcel of the exercise, but were also linked to other sectors of society at large.

He thanked the British Peace Support Team (South Africa), in particular Lt Col Andy Muddiman, and said that during the past three years the British Peace Support Team had been instrumental in establishing and organising CJAX among the African Staff Colleges. 

Spreading goodwill to our deployed soldiers

Article and photos by Mr Kgabo Mashamaite

The Goodwill Parcel Project is growing in leaps and bounds, the sponsorship value being in excess of R2,5 million. This was announced by the Chairperson of the Project, Mr Angel Ramphele, during the Goodwill Parcel Project Gala Evening in Pretoria on 7 September 2012.


The aim of the event was to enable the corporate sponsors to

make pledges towards the Project.

Mr Ramphele said: "It is indeed a great honour to experience the commitment and passion from all of you. It is only through your dedication and compassion that our soldiers on peace support operations can benefit from the Goodwill mission, which is in its twelfth year of existence, having grown from a sponsorship value of R25 000 in 2001 to a whopping R2,5 million in 2012."

He added that members of the

public and business community took time to travel to remote locations to join our operational forces over the Christmas period as has been the case over the past few years. The sponsors brought joy and thanked our soldiers who have to leave their loved ones back home.

Among the guests who graced the event were Gen Solly Shoke, the Chief of the SANDF, and Dr Sam Gulube, the Secretary for Defence. The event was also used to welcome new sponsors. 



Representatives of the business community on the Goodwill Parcel Project Sponsorship Committee, the SANDF Spouses Forum and some SANDF members at the Goodwill Parcel Project Gala Evening.

The National Credit Act, the National Credit Regulator and debt counselling

By Maj Mariaan Small, Social Work Research and Development, Military Psychological Institute
Photo: Lt Geoffrey Poley

Many South Africans are caught in the deadly grip of debt. According to statistics made available in 2009, 18 million South Africans had active credit. Nine million of these people had bad debt.

The National Credit Act, Act No 34 of 2005, came into effect on 1 June 2007 to regulate the way in which credit providers grant credit and protect the interests of clients. The National Credit Act provides clients with the knowledge and power to manage their debt effectively and pay it back comfortably.

The purpose of the National Credit Act is to "Promote and advance the social and economic welfare of South Africans, promote a fair, transparent, competitive, sustainable, responsible, efficient, effective and accessible credit market and industry, and to protect consumers" (Act 34/2005).

The National Credit Act ensures that all credit agreements and transactions are transparent, fair and easy to understand.

The following transactions fall under the Act:

- Loans and other credit from banks, including mortgages, overdrafts, credit cards, vehicle finance and any other personal finance;
- Furniture finance, clothing accounts and any other type of credit from retailers;
- Micro-loans and pawn transactions; and
- Any other type of credit or loan provided for a consumer.

Consumers can approach the National Credit Regulator for advice or assistance on any transaction falling under the new National Credit Act, or under the old Usury Act, Credit Agreements Act or Usury Act Exemption Notice.



Maj Mariaan Small.

The National Credit Regulator has to receive and investigate complaints and ensure that consumers' rights are protected. Furthermore, the National Credit Regulator can enforce the Act and take action against institutions that contravene the Act. The National Credit Regulator can also assist consumers with regard to issues related to credit bureaux or credit information.

Process of debt counselling

When overburdened by debt one of the possible routes to take, is to make use of debt counselling. The function of a debt counsellor is to restructure the debt with creditors and put an affordable payment plan in place.

The credit provider is required to provide the consumer with a notice in terms of section 129 of the National Credit Act advising the consumer to refer the financial matters to a debt counsellor, alternate dispute resolution agent or the consumer court to resolve disputes or agree to a plan to bring the payments up to date.

The debtor is required to respond to this notice within 10 days. If the debtor fails to do this, the creditor can proceed with legal action.

In terms of section 130, the courts require the credit provider to provide proof that he or she has delivered the section 129 notice to the debtor before the matter is heard.

The debt counsellor needs to do an assessment of the debtor's financial commitments, after which a form 17.1, that is a proposed revised credit agreement, is sent to the creditor(s). It is important to keep in mind that interest on the outstanding amount continues to grow. The court hearing needs to take place within 60 days of a section 129 notice having been issued to the debtor. If this does not happen the creditor may refuse to accept the proposed revised credit agreement of the debt counsellor.

Debtors are advised not to sign an Article 127, which is a voluntary surrender.

Costs involved in debt counselling are incorporated in the process of restructuring the debtor's financial commitments and the revised credit agreement.

How to contact the National Credit Regulator

Toll share: 0860 627 627 or 0860 NCR NCR
email: info@ncr.org.za or complains@ncr.org.za
Website: www.ncr.org.za

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DOD awards environmental care givers

By Cpl Itumeleng Makhubela
Photo: Sgt Elias Mahuma

The Chief of Logistics hosted the annual DOD Environmental Award ceremony at the DOD Logistic Division Combined Club in Centurion for the year 2010/11 and 2011/12 on 5 September 2012.

As an incentive in recognition of the contributions of units and individuals to various aspects of Military Integrated Environment Management, externally sponsored floating trophies, awards and certificates in eight categories are awarded annually at the national level.

The DOD annual Environmental Awards programme originated in 1983 to inspire bases, units and members of the SANDF to honour their responsibility towards the natural and built-up environment under their control, as well as to give recognition to the units and individuals for their contribution to environmental management in the military.

On behalf of the Chief of the SANDF, the Chief of the SA Navy, V Adm Johannes Mudimu, commended the programme as a well-established tradition with a number of important objectives that are the highlights of the Departmental calendar.

In his opening remarks, V Adm Mudimu said: "Primarily, it represents a most important affirmation of the strategic recognition within our department of our critical responsibility towards the integrated and sustainable management of our environmental assets."

V Adm Mudimu said these awards should remind members of the SANDF that the sustainable use of the environment was critical to the execution of its mandate in areas regarded as national assets. He congratulated the members who received awards. Trophies and awards that were handed to the winners included the Endangered Wildlife Trust floating trophy for Ecological Management. The winner for 2010/11 was AFB Waterkloof followed by AFB Overberg and AFB Makhado as



Mr Andries Botha from Endangered Wildlife Trust hands over a certificate to Col Paul Madimabe, Chief Supply Officer at AFB Makhado, for AFB Makhado having being a runner-up for 2010/11 in ecological management.

runners-up. The winner for 2011/12 was Infantry School followed by ASB Potchefstroom and SAS Saldanha.

First position for the Caltex floating trophy for Base Environmental Management for 2010/11 went to AFB Ysterplaat and the runners-up were AFB Durban and AFB Waterkloof. The winner for 2011/12 was AFB Waterkloof, with AFB Makhado as runner-up.

The winner of the Prof Kristo Pienaar floating trophy for Environmental Education and Training for 2010/11 was AFB Overberg, with AFB Makhado as runner-up.


The winner of the Rand Water Award for Water Efficiency for 2010/11 was the Bluff Military Base with AFB Makhado and AFB Ysterplaat as runners-up. ASB Potchestroom and AFB Makhado were included as participants for 2011/12.

The SA National Energy Development Institute Award for Energy Efficiency for 2010/11 winner was AFB Ysterplaat and AFB Makhado as runner-up. AFB Waterkloof was the

winner for 2011/12, with AFB Makhado as runner-up.

The winner of the Association for Clean Communities Award for Integrated Waste Management for 2010/11 went to AFB Overberg, with AFB Waterkloof as runner-up. ASB KwaZulu-Natal was the winner for 2011/12, with AFB Waterkloof and AFB Makhado as runners-up.

The SA National Parks floating trophy for Military Integrated Environmental Management for 2010/11 had no winner. However, AFB Makhado and AFB Waterkloof were the runners-up. AFB Overberg was the winner for 2011/12, while both AFB Makhado and AFB Waterkloof were runners-up.

The winner of the Conservamus floating trophy for Individual and Team Contributions to Environmental Services for 2010/11 was the AFB Ysterplaat Environmental Team and the AFB Hoedspruit Environmental Team was the runner-up. The Infantry School Environmental Team was the winner for 2011/12. 

Evaluating basic skills of soldiering in the SA Army

Article and photo by S Sgt Lebogang Tlhaole

The SA Army annual Skills Evaluation took place at the SA Army Gymnasium in Heidelberg from 8 to 13 September 2012. The event was not only used to evaluate the basic skills of Warrant Officers (WOs) and Non-commissioned Officers (NCOs), but was a means to improve standards in the SA Army.

The emphasis in evaluating these military skills is based on discipline, which is the cornerstone of military culture, the essence of a soldier. Warrant Officers are seen as the custodians of discipline in the military. They are masters of their own trade. They are the people to whom officers look up when things have to be done, while subordinates look up to them for inspiration, motivation and guidance.

To ensure that discipline is maintained at all levels it is essential to ensure that the NCOs' understanding of discipline is developed and nurtured at an

early stage of their careers. Constant evaluation is critical.

The WO/NCO Competition is a true test of these basic soldiering skills. The participants competed in various categories of competence such as theory, map-reading, individual drill, drill commands, fitness, shooting, individual neatness and pace stick drill. Seven Southern African Development Communities (SADC) countries participated in the pace stick drill competition for the Africa Trophy.

Noteworthy was the injection of some young blood into the competition as more young NCOs were taking part than before. Women were also strongly represented in the competition. It is the dream of every young NCO to become a Warrant Officer of note, and hopefully by taking part in events such as these they can learn at an early stage the important role they play in the SANDF.

Results

PACE STICK DRILL COMPETITION - Africa Trophy

Best Pace Stick Team:

SA Army Training Formation A Team

Best Sticker: Cpl A.M. Mojaki (Lesotho)

Best Driver: WO1 T.E. Zwakala (Lesotho)

SA ARMY COMPETITION

Best Pace Stick Team:

Training Formation A Team

Best Sticker: S Sgt M.D. Hugo (Training Formation)

Best Driver: Sgt T.V. Dipoko (Air Defence Artillery Formation)

INDIVIDUAL SKILLS

EVALUATION - Africa Trophy

Fittest Member: Sgt L.M. Lekhoaba (Lesotho)

Best Shottist: Sgt L.C. Netshivhambe (Training Formation)

Best Lance Corporal: L Bdr R.J. Mashapahu (Artillery Formation)

Best Corporal: Bdr M.S. Modiba (Air Defence Artillery Formation)

Best Sergeant: Sgt L.C. Netshavhambe (Training Formation)

Best Staff Sergeant: S Sgt S. Sothoane (Lesotho)

Best Warrant Officer:

WO2 H.M. Maraidza (Zimbabwe)

SA ARMY COMPETITION

Fittest Member: L Bdr R.J. Mashapahu (Artillery Formation)

Best Shottist: S Sgt L.A. van Coller (Armour Formation)

Best Lance Corporal: L Cpl J. Williams (Armour Formation)

Best Corporal: Cpl D.J.P. de Bus (Armour Formation)

Best Sergeant:

Sgt P.M. Mvandaba (Infantry Formation)

Best Staff Sergeant: S Sgt L.A. van Coller (Armour Formation)


Best Warrant Officer: WO2 R. Schmidt (Armour Formation)

GRAND PRIZE TROPHIES

The Winner of the Grand Prize Trophy, Africa 2012:

SA Army Training Formation

The SA Army Grand Prix Trophy 2012:

SA Army Armour Formation 



Warrant Officer of the SA Army, SCWO Charles Laubscher (front, middle), with Warrant Officers of the SA Army and visiting countries.

Honouring Defence Legal Services Division personnel

By Mr Kgabo Mashamaite
Photo: Sgt Elias Mahuma

The Defence Legal Services Division (DLSD) recognised at least 14 soldiers and one Public Service Act Personnel (PSAP) member for their distinguished service during a colourful medal parade at the SA Army College in Thaba Tshwane on 30 August 2012.

The objective of the parade was to honour soldiers and their civilian colleagues for outstanding service rendered to both the Division and the SANDF with medals, for example the Southern Africa Medal, the Good Service Medal (Bronze) for 10 Years, the Tshumelo Ikatelaho and the 10 Years Long Service Certificate in recognition of long service of PSAP.

In his speech, the Acting Chief Defence Legal Services Division, Maj Gen Bailey Mmono, said that the purpose of the occasion was to recognise all those who had provided extraordinary and professional service for the SANDF.

Maj Gen Mmono said, as he congratulated the recipients: "A medal parade is a reflection of our diligent and professional behaviour in line with the military Code of Conduct that states: 'I will strive to improve the capabilities of the SANDF by maintaining discipline, safeguarding property, developing skills and knowledge and performing my duties diligently and professionally'. These soldiers and civilians have indeed excelled in the execution of their daily duties and remain committed to the core business of the SANDF. The SANDF command cadre acknowledges the contribution that you have made to the growth of the SANDF over the years. It is common knowledge that a soldier does not boast about his or her service or contribution. The medals

reflect the bearer's history, bravery, merit and loyalty to the National Defence Force. The medals that have been awarded are an indication of the calibre of members we have in the SANDF and it is always a highlight in a soldier's career to be honoured with a medal."

Recipients


Brig Gen Nicholaas Jacobus du Preez and Col Leon Gernandt were awarded with the Southern Africa Medals. They distinguished themselves in cross-border operations during the period 1 April 1976 to 21 March 1990 while serving under the South African Defence Force.

The Good Service Medal (Bronze, 10 Years) was awarded to Col Thembisile Dwenga, Lt Col Lidette Kriek and Lt Col Mattjys Johannes Kleyn for distinguishing themselves by long and efficient service of 10 years while serving in the SANDF.

The Tshumelo Ikatelaho Medal was awarded to Brig Gen Nicholaas Jacobus du Preez, Brig Gen Glen Detarn Spammer, Lt Col Pheagane Elijah Matlou, Lt Col Oupa Williams Mocumi,

Maj Levy Mabasa, Sgt Matshidiso Aaron Phetlhu, Cpl Porcha Jo-Ann van der Merwe, Pte Musa Connet Chuma and AB Kelebogile Ramokgopa. These members distinguished themselves by rendering military service directly or in support of a military operation. Ms Jill Nita Stark also received a 10 Years Long Service Certificate for rendering uninterrupted service to the Division as a PSAP member.

After receiving the Tshumelo Ikatelaho Medal, AB Ramokgopa (23), an Ops Support Clerk at the DLSD, said: "I am happy to have received the medal for my contribution towards the success of Operation Mistral. This is the second time I have received the United Nations Medal for rendering service at peace missions on foreign soil. Receiving such medals from the SANDF is always a moment every soldier likes to cherish for the rest of his or her career within the SANDF and, as such, I feel honoured."

The guard of honour on parade was from 4 SA Infantry Battalion and supported by the SA Military Health Service Band Thaba Tshwane which performed at the parade. 



Recipients of Defence Legal Services Division proudly display their medals earned for distinguished service.

Goodwill visit to the city of Mahikeng

Article and photos by LS Nkululeko Zulu, Internal Communication Clerk: Navy HQ

In 2004 the SA Navy celebrated a Decade of Democracy by visiting all nine provinces of South Africa. During the SA Navy's tour to parts of the country they had the opportunity to visit the Mahikeng Local Municipality where a strategic and invaluable relationship was forged. Based on this relationship established in 2004, the Executive Mayor of Mahikeng, Councillor Nomtsama Miga, extended an invitation to the SA Navy to be part of the city's renaming ceremony. To enhance the stature of the ceremony the SA Navy, in conjunction with the municipality, co-hosted a gala concert on the evening of 14 September 2012, which culminated in a Freedom of Entry Parade on 15 September 2012.

The visit to Mahikeng incorporated a twofold approach. The first encompassed an awareness campaign of the SA Navy's role and



SA Navy Band marching in Mahikeng.



MAHIKENG PO Thabo Selepe briefing Kebonang students on career opportunities available in the SANDF.

responsibility towards safeguarding the waters of the country. The second included a career exhibition at various schools in the area. These initiatives were spearheaded by SLt Paulos Kuhlase, SO3 Human Resources Plan, assisted by PO Thabo Selepe, Admin Clerk Naval Career Management.

On 11 and 12 September SLt Kuhlase and PO Selepe visited the Lapologang High School and Letsatsing Science High School where they briefed over 200 learners on all facets related to the SA Navy. On 13 September an SA Navy career exhibition was held at the Mmabatho Civic Centre where 1 000 Grade 11 and 12 learners from local schools were informed of the requirements if they wished to join the SA Navy.

On 14 September there was a renaming ceremony when Mafikeng was officially renamed Mahikeng. In the evening there was a gala concert in which the SA Navy Band dazzled the town with an array of musical performances.

The Goodwill Visit to Mahikeng by the SA Navy was officially concluded

The Chief of the Navy's Spring Mess Dinner

Article and photo by Seaman Mongezi Zieka, PR Clerk: Navy HQ


Customs and traditions are the most important foundations of our naval culture. It is customary for members of the SA Navy to adhere to its traditions as the latter contribute significantly to building esprit de corps, building up morale and maintaining discipline.

In keeping with naval tradition the Chief of the SA Navy, V Adm

Johannes Mudimu, hosted his Spring Mess Dinner at the Naval Mess in Pretoria for the leadership and officers of Navy HQ on 8 September 2012.

In his address to the delegates Chief Director Maritime Strategy, R Adm Bernie Teuteberg, said: "This is a most important foundation stone in building our naval culture and in creating a vehicle for our coming together as colleagues, and as the leadership of the SA Navy. This is essentially also a wonderful opportunity to cement our

legacy as a professional Navy into the future. I wish particularly to thank the Chief of the SA Navy for providing me with this opportunity to share some of my thoughts on leadership in a military organisation such as ours. I have elected this evening to take as the theme of my address the concept of: "Patriotic Naval Leadership".

The mood throughout the evening was jovial and the officers enjoyed the appetising food, but also the spirited conversation around the table. 




V Adm Johannes Mudimu, the Chief of the SA Navy (3rd from left) with senior officers of the SA Navy during the Spring Mess Dinner at the Naval Mess in Pretoria.



on 15 September 2012 with a Freedom of Entry Parade into the town. The main functionary on this occasion was the Executive Mayor of Mahikeng.

The Mayor had these words in honour of the occasion: "Now that we will be granting you, our Navy, the Freedom of Entry into our town, we will be inviting you to all our ceremonial events. All this we are doing in the best interests of Mahikeng and its inhabitants".

On behalf of the Chief of the SA Navy, R Adm Samuel Hlongwane, Deputy Chief of the SA Navy, thanked, in his closing remarks, the residents of Mahikeng for all their hospitality and indicated that the occasion marked the beginning of a long and fruitful relationship.

The proceedings were concluded with a march past by those on parade and a crowd pleasing performance by the Precision Drill Squad from Durban. 

LEFT: SA Navy sailors on parade in Mahikeng.

The SANDF recruitment drive turns to Kempton Park

By Mr Kgabo Mashamaite
Photo: Sgt Elias Mahuma

Over 3 500 graduates and learners from the Ekurhuleni West College, Kempton Campus, are now empowered and are in a better position to understand the role and functions of the SANDF.

This comes after the SANDF accepted an invitation to present various career opportunities to the youth of the College on 26 and 27 September 2012 in Kempton Park during a Job Fair, the institution's career opportunity period, where job seekers and graduates are introduced to the world of employment opportunities and to enable potential employers to recruit the best talent from the College.

At the moment the SA Army is busy with a recruitment drive among the youth who successfully completed Grade 12 with good marks in mathematics and science as well as graduates with an N6 National Certificate with Engineering and vocational training in its sights to be trained in the technical mustering corps.

During her presentation at the campus, Lt Pinky Mthembu of SA Army Human Resources explained the recruitment process of the SA Army and the technical mustering marketing drive.

Lt Mthembu said: "Aspirant members should have obtained a good pass in mathematics and science in Grade 12, should have no criminal record and be between 18 and 22 years old, while the graduates should have obtained the N6 National Certificate with Engineering and be between 18 and 30 years. They should also be mentally and physically fit because should they be successful in their applications, they will be required to undergo Basic



Sgt Nhlanhla Mashinini from SA Army Human Resources and other SANDF members attend to aspirant SANDF members' queries at the Job Fair at the Ekurhuleni West College.

Military Training, after which they will be offered a two-year contract."

In thanking the institution for affording the SANDF a recruitment opportunity, Brig Gen Betty Leslie, Director Human Resources Separation, said that the purpose of the gesture was also to respond to the Government's call to create job opportunities for youth in the country.

Brig Gen Leslie said: "As a government institution, the SANDF is responding to the clarion call of President Jacob Zuma concerning job creation. The large turnout of youth to the Job Fair is indicative of the high rate of unemployment among our youth, many of whom are in possession of tertiary qualifications. Unemployment and poverty among the youth is a powder keg waiting to explode. It is the core business of the SANDF to maintain

peace, safety and security in the country. And it is for these reasons that we are in partnership with other government departments, parastatals and some private sector companies in the fight against unemployment and poverty."

According to Mr David Muleele, the Senior Marketing Officer of the Ekurhuleni West College, Kempton Campus, the youth should be empowered to become entrepreneurs in an attempt to alleviate poverty and joblessness among the youth. He added that the institution was thinking of making the event a permanent feature on its career calendar after measuring the success of the first-ever Job Fair over the past two days. He also thanked all presenters and potential employers for opening employment avenues to their graduates and learners. 

SA Maritime Industry Careers Expo and Job Summit

Article and photo by AB Lizzy Hange, Public Relations Clerk: Navy HQ

The SA Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA), the Department of Labour and the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development and Tourism hosted a SA Maritime Industry Careers Expo and Job Summit at the Moses Mabhida Stadium in Durban. The SA Navy was one of the exhibitors at this event of maritime careers that took place from 25 to 28 September 2012.

The four-day expo kicked off with an official opening ceremony. Learners from different invited schools put together a diversified cultural dance performance to entertain guests at the opening on 25 September. Young Loyisile Skolo, a Grade 8 learner from Sithengile Senior Secondary School, recited a beautiful poem called "Inkunzi Isematholweni" - a tribute to the late Nkosi Johnson who died of AIDS at a young age. This beautiful piece confirmed the theme of the expo: "Children are our future, so they need to be nurtured and inspired to fulfil their great potential".

There were speeches by prominent role-players in the maritime domain and supporting departments to show their full support for the Maritime Careers Expo and Job Summit.

Industry experts offered words of encouragement and advice to young people. The message was clear: the youth must grab opportunities available to them with both hands.

When Mr Thomas Mketelwa, eThekweni Municipality Acting Head of Skills Development Unit, officially opened the Expo on behalf of the Mayor of eThekweni Municipality, Councillor James Nxumalo, he said: "This Career Expo and Job Summit will be of great help to our youth in exploring careers and skills relevant to the maritime sector".



Loyisile Skolo, a Grade 8 learner from Sithengile Senior Secondary School, wows the crowd with a poem at the SA Maritime Industry Careers Expo and Job Summit.


The maritime week's aim was to create awareness among learners, school leavers, unemployed graduates and educators about career opportunities, internships and learnerships available in the Maritime and related Maritime Industries. Cdr (Ret) Tsietsi Mokhele, CEO SAMSA, said: "Awareness of career opportunities in the maritime industry must start in the classroom."

The career expo offered a full educator workshop programme and a toolkit for teachers. Information on careers for technicians, artisans, crew members, engineers, IT specialists, managers,

maritime law and maritime economics and much more, was made available to learners, unemployed graduates and school leavers. The exciting and interactive career expo and exhibition provided young people with hardcore evidence of job opportunities by utilising people who have and who are putting their names on the maritime industry map. Ambassadors from SAMSA, Cape Town University of Technology, Durban University of Technology and other companies in the maritime sector had different sessions with the students at the Speaker's Corners.

Cdr Mokhele said: "Up to 98% of trade between South Africa and its partner countries is seaborne, yet maritime career opportunities remain largely untapped owing to a lack of awareness among South Africans."

Young people, parents and educators grabbed the chance and used it to their advantage as they flocked to exhibitors' stands for information while applying and registering where possible. Youth from tertiary institutions, school leavers and the unemployed were registered on the Department of Labour's database as an initiative to assist these young people to find potential employers and to help employers find the right candidates.

A Job Summit closed off the careers expo after a week of learning and acquiring new knowledge about maritime career opportunities. The objective of the summit was to provide a platform for decision-makers from both the public and private sectors to discuss job and placement opportunities and address challenges related to jobs in the maritime sector. 

SA Army Headquarters honours civilian employees

By Maj Merle Meyer,
Communication Officer SA Army
Photos: S Sgt Chené Kruger

Friday, 21 September 2012, was a special day for Public Service Act Personnel (PSAP) who received their 10, 20 and 30 Years Long Service Certificates at the SA Army Headquarters in Pretoria.

The Chief Army Corporate Services, Maj Gen Sazi Veldtman, awarded 20 certificates to PSAP employed at SA Army Headquarters.

Maj Gen Veldtman congratulated the recipients and said that civilians played an important role in the SANDF that should never be underestimated, as the SANDF would be lost without them. He encouraged all the recipients to display their certificates with pride as these showed their dedication and commitment to the SANDF. He also reminded the recipients that they were just as important to the *Pride of Lions* as was any other SA Army member and that they should be proud of the work they do.

The recipients included the well-known and dignified Mr Armando Cambinda, the SO2 Editing at the SA Army Force Preparation Directorate. Mr Cambinda was a principal of a high school in Menongue, now known as Cuando Kubango, in Angola. He joined the South African Defence Force's former 32 Battalion in Pomfret in 1978. Later he was appointed to the Directorate Language Services and today he is responsible for editing all the bulletins, articles, instructions and doctrines at the SA Army Headquarters. Mr Cambinda completed a BA degree in languages at Unisa in 2006 and is fluent in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish. He said that one should not be in the SANDF if one could not speak Afrikaans.




ABOVE: Ms Sarah Zwane, a cleaner in the Chief Directorate Army Force Preparation environment, receives the 20 Years Long Service Certificate from Maj Gen Sazi Veldtman, Chief of Army Corporate Services.



LEFT: Mr Armando Cambinda, SO2 Editing at the SA Army Force Preparation Directorate, displaying his 30 Years Long Service Certificate.

Ms Sarah Zwane, a cleaner in the Chief Directorate Army Force Preparation environment, received the 10, 20 and 30 Years Long Service Certificates. She said that she was proud to receive her certificates at long last. Ms Ida Tlhabadira who has been working in the Generals Building for over 30 years is also a well-known figure. Over the years, she has seen many a Major rising

from the ranks to return as a Brigadier General.

The SA Army Headquarters Unit presented a very special ceremony for these hard-working members and paid an apt tribute to them. Maj Gen Veldtman reminded all present to ensure that members received their certificates on time. 



(seated): Lazy Mphasane – Group CEO MFS Holdings, (standing from left): Ben Moletsane - MD MFS Health, Maggie Makenete – Provincial Manager, Mzi Damoyi - GM MFS Retirement Advisory Services

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DOD gets on board for persons with disabilities

By Amn Bibi Sibanyoni


Casual Day is a day celebrated nationally on the SA Calendar to raise awareness of issues pertaining to disabilities. On Friday, 7 September 2012, members of the Disability Equity Section, which falls under Chief Directorate Transformation Management under the leadership of Maj Gen Ansuyah Fakir, together with representatives of the DOD Disability Committee organised a day for 130 people from Employment Solution to visit Swartkop Air Force Museum.

This year's theme was "Get on Board". The Disability Equity

Section strives for an integrated effort to raise awareness in the working environments within the Department of Defence. Ms Adele Snyman, SO1 Disability Equity, who has been working in this post for the past eight years, said: "We should be accommodating of people with disabilities and treat them as normal human beings because they are also people with feelings."

She emphasised the importance of this initiative of the National Council for Persons with Physical Disabilities in South Africa. When a person buys a Casual Day sticker it makes a great difference in another person's life. She said: "With each R10 sticker sold

R4 goes to Curamus, a non-profit organisation that benefits people with disabilities within the SANDF."

In closing the event, Brig Gen Thandi Mohale, Director Equity Strategic Direction, said: "People with disabilities, just like persons without disabilities, can and have a lot to contribute to society. They expect and deserve full and active participation in all activities of their lives and of society. People with disabilities deserve neither to be thrown in the dustbins of society nor to be put on pedestals. They only want to be treated as 'ordinary people', which they actually are, if seen without prejudice." 

Logistic Division celebrates Heritage Day

By Maj B.S. Nobanda,
SO1 Corp Com Logistic Division
Photo: Cpl B. Sithole

The Deputy Chief of Logistics, Maj Gen Morris Moadira, said September had been dubbed Heritage Month by the Government, as heritage is something about the past, present and the future. Logistic Division celebrated Heritage Day at DOD Logistic Support Formation on 21 September 2012.

South Africa is blessed with diverse cultures and this diversity of cultures should be our strength. Our heritage is challenged by modernity and technology hence our traditions are being compromised. Technology and modernisation are good for growth in this day and age, but acknowledgement of one's culture, tradition, heritage and history is essential.

By understanding and embracing our heritage we get to understand our historical roots and we objectively assess the strengths and weaknesses of the current traditional forms as influenced by modern trends and lifestyles.

We must be joyous in celebrating our heritage and wear our traditional attire and embrace not only our own culture, but also learn about other people's cultures and in so doing internalise the spirit of our rainbow nation, namely Ubuntu.


In conclusion, Maj Gen Moadira praised the participants in our different sporting codes for representing us with aplomb in

international sporting events, such as the Olympics and Paralympics and the thumping of England by the Proteas (SA Cricket Team). We know the importance of sport for nation building. He gave examples, such as the impact that the triumph of the Springboks in the 1995 Rugby World Cup and the 1996 African National Soccer victory by *Bafana Bafana* had on nation building.

Maj Gen Moadira urged us to continue supporting our national teams and so make South Africa a winning nation. He heaped special praise on Chad le Clos, Oscar Pretorius, Natalie

du Toit and Caster Semenya for making us proud as South Africans.

The Zulu nation took the honours in the inter-cultural competition, followed by the Xhosas, while the Venda came third. All the cultural groups deserve praise for a job well done.

The camaraderie did not end there. The Chief of Logistics arrived with guests from the USA Armed Forces delegation, after which the Logistic Division members gave a performance that left our guests in awe and they joined in the celebrations. 



Members of Logistic Division and members of the USA Armed Forces celebrate Heritage Day.

The Department hosts the Public Sector Foreign Language Forum Workshop

**By Ms Irene Goussard-Kunz,
Chief Language Practitioner
Photo: S Sgt Lebogang Tlhaole**

Directorate Language Services, operating under the Chief Directorate Human Resources Development, hosted the Fifth Consultative Workshop of the Public Sector Foreign Language Forum at the Paratus Officers' Mess at the SA Army College in Thaba Tshwane on 6 September 2012.

The Public Sector Foreign Language Forum is a foreign-language initiative under the auspices of the Department

of International Relations and Co-operation (DIRCO), in collaboration with the French Embassy, to empower the South African public service with a coherent and sustained foreign language training, which is a prerequisite if South Africa is to fulfil its role and position at national, regional, continental and international level.


Brig Gen Petra Mari, Director Systems Integrity, welcomed the 56 representatives from various tiers of government, cultural and educational institutions, as well as diplomatic missions, on behalf of the Chief of the SANDF, Gen Solly Shoke, and the Chief Human Resources, Lt Gen

Themba Nkabinde, to the luxuriant ambience of the Paratus Officers' Mess and entertained them with language-specific difficulties she had experienced on her travels abroad. She stressed the importance of foreign languages not just in a communicative and functional sense, but also from a socio-cultural point of view. However, foreign languages were not always given the status they deserved.

This sentiment was echoed by the Head of the Diplomatic Academy at DIRCO, Ambassador Xoliswa Ngwevela, who welcomed the representatives and said that there was still a shortage of foreign language skills in the public sector. In an ever expanding world communication was "key" and the Forum had a pioneering role to play in ensuring that officials going abroad were trained in foreign languages in order to perform efficiently.

Under the watchful eye of the programme director, Ms Ruth Tutu, Director Language Services, Mr Frank Heyworth, external consultant to the Forum from the Council of Europe, and Ms Rachel Morake from DIRCO, the day's proceedings got under way with a full agenda, ranging from a common foreign-language framework for the public sector, the adoption of the language portfolio and the development of e-learning to a needs analysis for translation and interpreting services in the public sector.

International cultural agencies were also given an opportunity to present their services, mainly with regard to foreign language training and assessments.

Based on the response from the delegates, the workshop was a great success. It showcased DOD hospitality and professionalism at its best! 



Front row, fltr: Ambassador Xoliswa Ngwevela, Head of the Diplomatic Academy at DIRCO, Mr Frank Heyworth, consultant from the Council of Europe, Brig Gen Petra Mari, Director Systems Integrity. Back row, fltr: Ms Ruth Tutu, Director Language Services, Ms Irene Goussard-Kunz, Chief Language Practitioner, Ms Flora Aubin, French Technical Adviser at DIRCO, Ms Marali Burger, French facilitator at DIRCO, Ms Nomaledi Nomatse, Deputy Director at the Office of the Premier Gauteng, Ms Rachel Morake, Director of the Language Unit at DIRCO, Dr Bunny Subedar, Director at the Public Administration Leadership and Management Academy.

Women's visit to military installations in Port Elizabeth

Article and photo by Mr Lufuno Netshirembe

Defence Corporate Communication (DCC) hosted 45 women from nine provinces on a visit to military installations in and around Port Elizabeth (PE) from 5 to 7 September 2012. The objective of the visit was to show these women how the SANDF operates and to provide them with a comprehensive overview of the capabilities of the SANDF.

The women were introduced to the military culture and the commitment of the SANDF to the empowerment of women, the role women in the SANDF play in humanitarian and peace support operations and the progress of transformation and affirmative action relating to gender equity in the SANDF. The aim of the visit was to strengthen new and existing relationships between the SANDF and women in general.

The invited women were from organisations such as the Foundation for African Business and Consumer Services, the Aerospace Maritime and Defence Industries Association, the

National African Federated Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the SA Civic Organisation, the National African Federated Security and Cleaning Sector, the New Albany First Church of the Nazarene, the National African Farmers Union of South Africa, the SA Leisure and Hospitality Organisation.

The chief functionaries at the event were senior women officers of the four Services of the SANDF. The SA Army was represented by Col Daisy Tshiloane, SSO Closure, and Brig Gen Portia More, Director Military Aviation Regulation and Policy, represented the SA Air Force, while R Adm (JG) Nomonde Gumede, Director Projects, represented the SA Navy and Brig Gen Edna Joseph, HIV/AIDS Programme Manager, the SA Military Health Service.


The women's delegation visited 6 SA Infantry Battalion (6 SAI Bn) in Grahamstown, the SA Air Force Museum PE, Naval Station PE and the Area Military Health Unit PE. At 6 SAI Bn the Acting Officer Commanding, Maj Dikgabane Tladi, gave a presentation on the infantry. Also at 6 SAI Bn, Col Tshiloane gave a presentation on gender mainstreaming in the SA Army and applauded the SA

Army for the strides it had made in promoting women to the ranks of the Generals and for acknowledging the role women play in the military. She mentioned that since the advent of democracy 18 years ago the SANDF had 51 women Generals, thus making South Africa one of the leading countries in women's empowerment.

At the SA Air Force Museum PE, Capt Mark Kelbrick, the Corporate Communications Officer, gave an overview of the functions of the SA Air Force and highlighted the opportunities available for women in the SA Air Force, while WO1 Dennis Luck, AC Mechanic 15 Squadron, explained the role of the BK 117 helicopter.

The highlight of the visit to Naval Station PE was a boat trip after the presentation by the Officer Commanding, Lt Cdr Zamokwakhe Khumalo. In his presentation he gave a concise history of the SA Navy and highlighted the role played by women in the SA Navy.

Brig Gen Joseph, on behalf of SAMHS, highlighted various career opportunities available in the SAMHS that women could pursue as soldiers and medical practitioners.

The visit was concluded by a dinner where the women were given an opportunity to comment on what they had seen and heard. The main concern was that not enough was being done to promote and change the perception of careers available in the SANDF and that an individual could follow a successful career in the SANDF. 



The women's delegation with Lt Cdr Zamokwakhe Khumalo, Officer Commanding Naval Station Port Elizabeth (front, left).

Demonstrating close unarmed self-defence skills

By Cpl Ally Rakoma
Photos: Sgt Elias Mahuma

The Chief of the SA Army, Lt Gen Vusi Masondo, hosted the SA Army Recreational Day at the SA Army College Sports Ground in Thaba Tshwane on 28 September 2012. The spirit of friendship through sport which symbolises the unity of the SA Army was experienced by all members.

The main functionary on behalf of the Chief of the SA Army was Maj Gen Bongani Mbata, Chief Army Force Structure. In his opening remarks he said that members of the SA Army must recognise the need to exercise and participate in sporting activities and it should become an integral part of their daily routine. He said that sport played a crucial role in getting people to interact socially.

After the formalities, members of the SA Army were treated to a demonstration of close unarmed self-defence skills, as well as hand-to-hand combat fighting techniques presented by a group of learners and instructors on the SA Army Hand-to-Hand Combat Instructors Course.

Hand-to-hand combat is for men and women. It enhances a person's fighting ability and equips one with the necessary knowledge and skills in various techniques. Demonstrations included the following: jabs, hooks, uppercut, cross, elbows, balloon kick, inner thigh kicks, Mui Thai kicks, snap kicks and knee strikes.

During the demonstration of unarmed combat various techniques were used to escape when caught up in a multiple attack situation, such as the disarming of a knife wielder, and a person with a pistol and an R4 rifle.

According to Bdr Gereagen Geduld ("Master G"), a qualified Master Trainer in hand-to-hand combat, psychological attributes such as self-discipline, confidence and courage play an important role. He said:



ABOVE: The highlight of the 2012 SA Army Recreational Day was a demonstration of close unarmed self-defence skills.


"Hand-to-hand combat is more about self-defence in battle and in *civvy* street. "Hand-to-hand combat is for men and women, regardless of the body type. Ninety per cent of fights or attacks begin in a standing position and progress to the ground. Physical strength is essential in the art of kicking and punching."

Bdr Djorn Jacobs from 4 Artillery Regiment explained the aim of take-

ABOVE: Demonstrating the disarming of a person with an R4 rifle during an attack or robbery.

downs. He said that it was important to take the opponent to the ground while maintaining a fighting advantage, to change to a better fighting position and to finish the fight.

Lt Col Gilroy Baumann, SO1 Education, Training and Development (Qualification) at SA Army HQ, mentioned that the hand-to-hand combat course was designed and developed by the SA Army and was first piloted in 2011 at 3 SA Infantry Battalion (3 SAI Bn). He said: "The course consists of basic, intermediate and advanced modules. Members who complete this course will be able to train the Military Skills Development System (MSDS) recruits during their basic military training."

In conclusion, Lt Col Baumann made special mention of the three instructors, Lt Shanville Cook, Sgt David Kok and Bdr Gereagen Geduld, who went the extra mile in presenting the basic modules to recruits at 3 SAI Bn. 

Gauteng Defence Women's Soccer Team victorious in Intergovernmental Wellness Games

By Mr Phillemon Mogale, DOD Batho Pele Programme Co-ordinator and Cpl Itumeleng Makhubela

Photo: Sgt Elias Mahuma

The Public Service Week is an annual event aimed at promoting equal, equitable and quality services at the service delivery coalface. The Cabinet inaugurated the programme in 2004. During Public Service Week, Senior Management Services and Service inspectorates must interact with recipients of services at the

point of delivery to ensure that the Government is in touch with the citizens.

To increase the spirit of cohesion among public servants the Government has institutionalised the Batho Pele Intergovernmental Wellness Games during the Public Service Week to promote a healthy lifestyle in government departments. This is co-ordinated by the Minister of Public Service and Administration.

Since 2004 the Department of Defence (DOD) has participated in these

sporting activities as an organ of state and in partnership with others to ensure better service delivery. The activities are co-ordinated by Mr Phillemon Mogale from Training Command as the DOD Batho Pele Programme Co-ordinator.

Since its participation in 2004 the DOD has not won any of these sporting items. However, this year the Gauteng Defence Women's Soccer Team triumphed and won gold medals and the floating trophy, while the DOD Netball Team won bronze medals in coming third.



The Gauteng Defence Women's Soccer Team enjoying their victory with their winning trophy and medals. Celebrating with them are Mr Phillemon Mogale, DOD Batho Pele Programme Co-ordinator (left), and their assistant coach, S Sgt Jerry Roche.

This event has increased the sporting spirit among the members of the DOD team. The celebrations and mood were at a high level when the Department of Public Service and Administration presented the medals and floating trophy to the DOD teams.


The Regional Women's Football Chairperson and a soccer player herself, Lt Col Dudu Mkhize, said the DOD women's team (Gauteng Defence Women's Soccer Team) was the same team in the Absa League. Their first tournament was in 2009 when they won a silver medal, and then in 2012 they won gold.

Lt Col Mkhize, who scored four goals during the final match, said: "We

were playing against the Department of Home Affairs in the final match and beat them 11 – 0. We are very happy with the achievement. I think the players' talents are very impressive and all they need is support from the DOD. We stand tall among those 42 participating government departments. It was not easy but we made it." The Team's Captain, Cpl Tsholofelo Mothobela from Signal Formation, mentioned that she was one of the longest serving players, having joined the team in 2004. She said it was a proud moment for the Gauteng Defence Women's Soccer Team as all other government departments had initially underestimated them.

Asked what their next step was, Cpl

Mothobela replied: "We are registering to continue in the Absa League in which we have been playing for the past four seasons, and hopefully we will get to the Absa Sasol play-offs".

Appreciation is due to the General Officer Commanding Training Command, Maj Gen Manfred Mabuza, Director Physical Training, Sport and Recreation, Brig Gen Gordon Yekelo, and the Pretoria Military Sports Club: Gauteng Soccer Chairperson, Col Khulile Zangqa, other Chairpersons involved, players and supporters who supported the DOD teams throughout the elimination stages from 21 to 29 September 2012, and especially during the games that were played in the evenings. 

Joint Support Base Garrison celebrates Heritage Day

**By WO1 Dudu Mkhwanazi,
Log Admin Warrant Officer
Photo: Capt Angelina Malema**

SB Garrison celebrated Heritage Day on the cricket field of the SA Army College on 21 September


2012. The aim of this day was to familiarise Joint Support Base Garrison members with the different cultures in South Africa. September marks Heritage Month in our country and Joint Support Base Garrison saw fit to teach members of

the Unit about our different cultures.

The different sections of the Unit were each given a task to do research on the culture that was allocated to it; the aim was to unite the different people by making them understand other cultures, as South Africa is the most culturally diverse nation on earth.

The different cultures were portrayed through their attire, dancing, singing and by explaining the origin of each culture. Various dishes of different tribes were prepared and the stalls decorated to represent their specific cultures.

The command group went around the different stalls to taste the food and interviewed the cooks on their dishes. What made the day even more interesting was the fact that there was an *Imbongi*, Capt Arthur Nontume, who undertook the praise singing.

Everyone agreed that the organisers did a good job and that the day was a success. 



Women of JSB Garrison celebrate Heritage Day with their traditional attires.

God's powerful promise for a successful life!

By Col (Rev) T.J. Molaba,
Chaplain Chief Joint
Operations Division
Photo: Capt M. de Jager

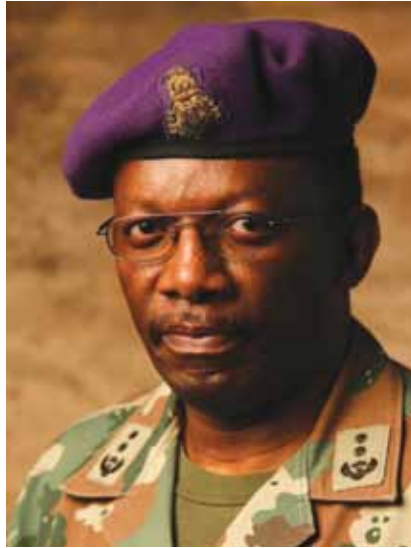
We all know that it is not always easy to be successful in whatever it is we want to achieve in our lives. To be a successful person, be it as parent, business leader, boss or employee, husband or wife, requires a lot of effort and one can only earn success through hard work and going the extra mile. In life no one wants to be labelled as a failure; however when we look around, there are many so-called "failures" for various reasons.

According to Biblical teachings God made a promise to those who put their trust in Him, as their Almighty God, that whatever they ask through prayer they will receive. Do you also wish to be successful in life? Then you should look at the time and energy you're currently investing in a particular area of your life and you should read the Bible as often as you can to receive answers from the Almighty God.

Discovering the Promise

Joshua is a man we can all learn a great deal from in the Bible. If we remember, Joshua was the second leader of the Israelites. He was announced as the successor of Moses just before the latter died and so became leader. It stands to reason that Joshua had every right to be nervous, seeing that he had big shoes to fill as Moses was the greatest leader of all time and it seemed like an impossible task to do. Moses had successfully led the Israelites out of Egypt and then guided them through the desert to the borders of a new land, the Promised Land. What advice could God give to Joshua, this young leader, to encourage him to be a good leader just like his predecessor? What was God's formula for success for Joshua and for us today?

- Joshua 1:8 reads as follows: "This book of the law shall not depart



Col (Rev) T.J. Molaba.

from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it, for then you will make your way prosperous and have success." (NIV)

Understanding the Promise

As you look at Joshua's promise, one may ask: Does God's formula for success differ from yours? If you are just like ordinary people, you would measure your success in achieving your goals and prosperity to the extent that you gain power and influence. The strategy for gaining success, like God gave to Joshua, goes against everything the world would regard as a success formula. Joshua followed God's strategy and it worked for him, for example:

- He was successful in the conquest of the land and its people. Even today military strategists still study Joshua's approach to battles.
- He was successful in leading all 12 tribes of Israel. This was not a small task, but a mammoth one. Can you imagine how immensely stressful it is trying to please all the different people in our land?
- He was successful and prosperous in his personal life

and was the key person in many events, for example his conquest of various cities.

We noted at the beginning that the success formula given us by God comes with various terms and conditions, but we do not just get what we want out of life, it has to be in accordance with the will of God.


Below are the conditions that were set forth as Joshua's formula for success and prosperity:

Study God's Word Constantly.

Success in any area, whether in the corporate environment, in military leadership or in our homes does not come easily. Success for most people in any field of endeavour comes only after much hard work. To be successful in God's eyes do as Joshua was told by God: "study this book of law continuously". Success in everything starts with a strong desire for knowledge.

Ponder God's Word Continually. God asked Joshua to study His Word and meditate on it day and night. This was a powerful piece of advice and is still very much applicable to all of us today.

Apply God's Word Completely. You will notice that application is the final ingredient in God's formula for success, "so that you may be careful to do everything in accordance with what is written in the Word". Successful people in their areas of expertise will tell you that they have accomplished success by doing things correctly and not by taking short cuts. They follow rules in every sphere of their lives and pay attention to what God's Word is saying. They apply the Word completely, accurately, diligently and faithfully for success and, as has been seen, Joshua became successful on the basis of obeying God's rules. He did that by following God's formula as revealed in His Word.

Prosperity in our lives is entirely in our hands; we are shown through Joshua that we can definitely achieve it by choosing to abide by God's plan for us, being faithful to His laws and being diligent in all that we do. 

DOD HQ Unit embraces military traditions

By Cpl Itumeleng Makhubela
Photo: Capt Chimoné Lambrechts

The Officer Commanding of the Department of Defence Headquarters Unit (DOD HQ Unit), Col Chris Ngcama, hosted a formal lunch for the Non-commissioned Officers (NCOs) at the SA Army College Mess in Thaba Tshwane on 20 September 2012.


The aim of the formal lunch was to promote esprit de corps within the DOD HQ Unit and to provide in-

post training in social and military etiquette for the NCOs of the unit.

Military customs and traditions are some of the oldest in history. Through the ages a wide variety of customs, practices and traditions have developed, which today form an integral part of a soldier's way of life. These practices and traditions not only serve as a link with the past, but also lend some colour to the military profession and promote unit pride and esprit de corps.

The ceremonial military parade in

its simplest form stems from man's inherent love of display. The need to display the military power of the group in ancient civilisations found expression in the form of impressive military processions.

These processions, which may be regarded as the oldest form of ceremonial parades, were aimed at striking fear into the enemy and, at the same time, enhancing the pride, morale and esprit de corps of the group. Such processions or parades also played an important role at national festivals. 



The Non-commissioned Officers of the Department of Defence Headquarters Unit in front of the SA Army College, prior to their formal lunch.



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