



the sandf

Department:
Defence
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

CHIEF OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN ARMY CHANGE OF COMMAND PARADE

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On Friday, 11 March 2016, the South African Army (SA Army) will bid farewell to its former head, Lieutenant General Vusimuzi Masondo and welcome Lieutenant General Lindile Yam as the new Chief of the SA Army during the Change of Command Parade held at South African Army College in Thaba Tshwane at 09:00.

Lt Gen Masondo has been at the helm of the SA Army for more than four years after being appointed in October 1, 2011 and charged with the responsibility to command the largest military component of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF). A decorated commander and militarist, Lt Gen Masondo has now been appointed as Chief of Corporate Staff at Defence Headquarters in Erasmuskloof with effect from February 1, 2016.

He hands over the SA Army Command baton to Lt Gen Yam who was the General Officer Commanding SA Army Infantry Formation since November 1, 2011. Lt Gen Yam ascended the highest echelon of command in the SA Army on February 1, 2016, when he was appointed and promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General, charged with leading the country's land forces. This Change of Command Parade ceremonially marks the end of Lt Gen Masondo's era as Chief of the SA Army and chronicles the beginning of Lt Gen Yam's tenure.

The media will be afforded an opportunity to engage with the two Generals; Lt Gen Yam on developments within the SA Army and its posture as it aims to continue fulfilling the mandate set for it by the people of South Africa through the country's constitution, and Lt Gen Masondo on his role as Chief of Corporate Staff.

This Change of Command parade is an important development for South Africans as it represents the transfer of power in the largest force component the SANDF.

Senior Government officials, heads of institutions supporting democracy, members of the Military Attaché and Advisory Corp and other representatives of foreign militaries based in South Africa and Captains of Industry are expected to attend the event.

Journalists who are assigned to cover the event are requested to confirm their attendance as depicted below and should report at SA Army College at 09:00.

Ends.

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