



the sandf

Department:
Defence
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

DATE: Thursday, 14 April 2016

EMBARGO: None

MISLEADNG MEDIA REPORT ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE CONTINGENT FROM SUDAN

The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) is deeply concerned by a misleading and irresponsible media report published by a Gauteng newspaper on Thursday, 14 April 2016. There is no ounce of factual truth in the article. The article is viewed as a poor ploy to incite panic and alarm for families, friends and loved ones of the deployed men and women of the SANDF by the sources quoted in it and should be treated with the utmost contempt it deserves.

The SANDF is not surprised that Mr Pikkie Greeff, the General Secretary of the South African Defence Union (SANDU), as quoted in the article, had made another irresponsible and misleading comment about the SANDF.

The article is laden with distorted facts on general matters regarding the SANDF's deployment in Sudan. It is of critical concern to the SANDF that after issuing facts on the matter of the SANDF troops and assets withdrawal from Sudan to the scribe of the article, that such blatant, ill-conceived and irresponsible reporting sees the light of day. The intention of the scribe and the innuendo of his sources is in this regard highly questionable. The SANDF reiterates that all planning for the withdrawal of SANDF troops and assets from Sudan is underway as determined by the relevant entities or authorities.

The SANDF would like to assure South Africans that members of the SANDF who are in Darfur are sound and well under the auspices of the United Nations (UN).

ENDS.

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