



sa air force

Department:
Defence
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA INVITATION

Date: 13 May 2016

Embargo: None

Subject: ANNUAL JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE (SAAF) AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION (SAAFA)

The South African Air Force (SAAF) and SAAF Association will host the 53rd Joint Memorial Service at SAAF Memorial site, Bay's Hill in Valhalla. The Annual Joint Memorial Service is scheduled to occur on 15 May 2016 with proceedings set to commence at 09h45 for 10h00.

The aim of the memorial service is to honour service men and women who laid down their lives whilst serving the Republic of South Africa between the period from April 2015 to May 2016.

Chief of the South African Air Force (CAF), Lieutenant General Zimpande Msimang and the SAAF Command Cadre as well as family members of the deceased will lay wreaths to honour the fallen soldiers and loved ones. On the day, there will be a salute flight by an Oryx Helicopter, fly past by Harvard aircraft whilst the Agusta A109 Helicopter will despatch rose petals over the memorial site.

SAAF will formally recognise and honour the gallant commitment and tireless efforts of the fallen compatriots, who voluntarily pledged to serve and defend their country, its territorial integrity and its people in accordance with the Constitution. These members faced death with unwavering dedication to their calling. They met their untimely death in pursuit of a democratic and free society in which all persons, regardless of their location, live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. SAAF seeks to assure the public and families of the deceased that their sons and daughters, wives and husbands did not die in vain.

You are cordially invited to send a journalist and or a photographer to cover the event. Journalists assigned to cover this event should RSVP as depicted below.

ENDS.

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