



the sandf

Department:
Defence
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

DATE: Sunday, 17 April 2016

EMBARGO: None

SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE MEMBERS MISSING AT SEA

The South African National Defence (SANDF) confirms that on Saturday, 16 April 2016 two of its members went missing at sea, at Second Beach in Port St Johns whilst off- duty.

It is understood that the members were swimming, then the sea conditions drastically changed and it was then that one member was swept away by the current. Upon realising what was happening two other members jumped in to try to rescue the member in distress at sea. However, the sea conditions escalated and the members were unsuccessful in their efforts to rescue the member in distress. As a result of the escalating bad sea conditions, the second was unable to reach shore.

The third member managed to swim back to shore and immediately reported the two members missing at sea.

A sea rescue was immediately launched by National Sea Rescue Institute (NSRI) and Police and unfortunately the two missing members at sea could not be traced. The search and rescue missions are still continuing. The particulars of the members will be released once their families and relatives have been fully informed.

Ends.

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