



the sandf

Department:  
Defence  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **MEDIA INVITATION**

**DATE:** 12 February 2017

**EMBARGO:** None

**THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE CORDIALLY INVITES THE MEDIA TO THE 2017 ARMED FORCES DAY CELEBRATIONS' MEDIA LAUNCH AT DURBAN LIGHT INFANTRY SERGEANTS' MESS (5 DLI AVENUE) ON TUESDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 2017, 10:00AM**

Following the successful Armed Forces Day celebration last year in the Eastern Cape coastal city of Port Elizabeth, the South African National Defence Force will descend to Ethekwini to honour the bravery of the sons and daughters of our country who lost their lives in the fateful 1917 sinking of the SS Mendi. The people's defence force will also showcase its military might and state-of-the-art hardware and technology in its quest to defend the territorial integrity and borders of our republic. The SANDF ensures that South Africans feel safe and secure from foreign and domestic threats.

The South African National Defence Force in collaboration with the Ethekwini Municipality will be staging a Media Launch where editors and reporters will be briefed on various activities that make up the 2017 Armed Forces Day which coincides with the centenary commemoration of the sinking of SS Mendi on 21 February 1917 in the English Channel. Ethekwini Municipality takes over the responsibilities as host city from Port Elizabeth which hosted last year's event.

During the Media Launch on Tuesday, 14 February 2017 at the Durban Light Infantry battalion, 5 DLI Avenue, eThekweni, the Chief of the Army, Lieutenant General Lindile Yam will announce various activities scheduled as part of the Armed Forces Day 2017 celebrations.

Lieutenant General Yam will address the media to give an overview of the Armed Forces Day 2017 celebrations where a Question and Answer (Q&A) session between a panel of various senior SANDF/DOD cadre and members of the media will be facilitated.

The President of the Republic of South Africa and Commander-in-Chief of the South African National Defence Force, President J.G. Zuma, proclaimed that 21 February every year be observed and commemorated as Armed Forces Day (AFD).

**News editors, reporters, media commentators, photographers and analysts are encouraged to attend.**

For more information contact the officials mentioned under enquiries.

**Ends**

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