



the sandf

Department:  
Defence  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## MEDIA RELEASE

**DATE:** 15 September 2017

**EMBARGO:** None

**SUBJECT: THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE BUSY WITH THEIR BI-ANNUAL OPERATION CORONA ROTATION**

The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) is in its final stages of the bi-annual rotation of the Border Safe Guarding soldiers. The rotation of the fifteen (15) companies earmarks for internal deployment also known as Operation CORONA, commenced at the end of August 2017 and will be completed towards the middle October 2017.

This deployment is over a period six (6) months along the international borders and focus mainly on border safe guarding which includes cross-border crime, illegal crossings and smuggling of various items to and from South Africa.

Good successes were registered over the past six months with the most significant being that of narcotics confiscations to a total street value of R 56 000 000,00. Other successes registered are as follows:

- Eighty eight (88) stolen vehicles recovered with a total value of R 24 000 000,00.
- 10 000 Undocumented persons apprehended.
- R 17 100 000,00 worth of contraband confiscated.
- 1 300 head of cattle, sheep and goats recovered or impounded.
- Total of 40 weapons , ranging from rifles, automatic weapons and hand guns confiscated and handed over to the SAPS
- A total of 350 criminals were also arrested and handed over to the SAPS.

Movement of soldiers, from seven of the nine provinces, back to their respective mother units have commenced by road and will be completed by middle October 2017. The Chief of Joint Operations, Lieutenant General B.M.N. Hlatshwayo, wishes to extend his gratitude and congratulations to the outgoing soldiers on their unrelenting service to South Africa and its people at large and trust that the next deployment will only build on the successes of their predecessors.

**ENDS.**

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