SANDEF marks 20 years in Peace missions
4 From the Editor’s desk
5 20 Years of participation in peace missions
6 SANDF marks 20 Years of participation in peace missions
10 Minister Mapisa-Nqakula cautions against stifling defence budget reduction
12 Tightening the belt 2019/20 Defence Budget
15 Trustees and Directors Educational Session
16 Military Command paints AFB Ysterplaat crèche with Mandela Magic
18 Chief Defence Intelligence decorate soldiers with long and good service medals
20 The significant contribution of the SA National Defence Force to the National Development Plan
24 The SANDF Education Trust marks 7 years in support to our youth – 2013 to 2019
26 Premier Soccer League pledges an annual R1 million donation to SANDF Education Trust
28 7 SA Infantry Battalion welcomed back from DRC
30 Human Resource Division hosts a benchmarking team from the Armed Forces of the DRC
31 Ebola update after new outbreaks
32 First woman artillery to lead an Artillery unit
34 SA Air Force Officers’ Formative Class of 2019 inspires confidence
36 SANDF Spouses Forum continue with Madiba’s legacy
38 SANDF giving back to the community of Thaba Tshwane
39 Area Military Health Unit KwaZulu-Natal Mandela Day
40 A Samaritan from the SA Army Intelligence Corps
41 SA Army Support Formation recognises good service and devotion to duty

CONTRIBUTIONS:
Although all possible care is taken with articles, the editorial staff cannot accept any responsibility for lost articles and photographs.

EDITORIAL STAFF
Editor: Ms Nelda Pienaar
News Editor: Mr Lufuno Netshirembe
Photo Editor: S Sgt Lebogang Thaole
Editorial Staff: S Sgt Itumeleng Makhubela, Sgt Ally Rakoma, Cpl Jonathan Mogano, AB Samuel Ramonyai, L Cpl Paul Mpangala
Interns: Ms Maeshela Kekana, Mr Timothy Makhubele, Ms Esethu Sodo
Text Editor: Mr Deon Smit
Distribution: Mr Jim Tshabalala Tel: (012) 355 6341
Layout & Design: Mr Werner van der Westhuizen

STREET ADDRESS
Defence Headquarters
cor Nossob & Boeing St
Erasmuskloof
PRETORIA

POSTAL ADDRESS
SA Soldier
Private Bag X158
PRETORIA, 0001

TELEPHONE
Tel: (012) 355 6341
Fax: (012) 355 6399
e-mail: sasoldiermag@gmail.com
website: www.dod.mil.za
The Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa Nqakula, has pleaded with the house in Parliament to support the budget allocation during the Department of Defence budget vote presentation. (Photo by S Sgt Itumeleng Makhubela)

42 Chief Director Human Resource Management staff put their hands to work at Ikhaya Lethu Lethemba for Mandela Day

45 The Battle of Delville Wood Commemorated

46 The importance of leaving a legacy

SA SOLDIER is published monthly - 12 issues per year. The views and opinions expressed by the authors of articles are their own and do not necessarily represent those of the Department of Defence (DOD). Acceptance and publication of advertorial and advertising matter in SA SOLDIER do not constitute DOD endorsement or warranty in respect of goods or services therein described. The DOD does not assume any liability in respect of any claims made in advertisements.

COPYRIGHT: No article or picture in this magazine may be reproduced without the written consent of the Editor.

For the latest news on defence matters in South Africa, visit our website at: www.dod.mil.za
From the editor’s desk

This edition of SA Soldier is packed with inspiring articles about SA National Defence Force (SANDF) members taking action to inspire change when they participated in International Mandela Day.

In 2008, on Mr Nelson Mandela’s 90th birthday celebrations held in London’s Hyde Park, the vision of Mandela Day was ignited by the global icon himself, when he said: “It is time for new hands to lift the burdens. It is in your hands now”.

Mr Nelson Mandela’s birthday is on 18 July, and every single year the call is out for everyone globally to celebrate his birthday by realising his vision that every individual has the ability to transform the world.

In November 2009, the United Nations officially declared 18 July as International Mandela Day. This day is in recognition of Mandela’s “values and his dedication to the service of humanity” and acknowledges his contribution “to the struggle for democracy internationally and the promotion of a culture of peace throughout the world”.

Be inspired when you read the various articles on how SANDF members devoted 67 minutes of their time to honour Madiba’s vision to serve, to give, to bring people together, to fight poverty, to promote peace and to complete the work of freedom.

The Military Command (MC) paid a visit to Air Force Base Ysterplaat in Cape Town to honour the 67 Minutes Mandela Day initiative at the Fledglings Creche by painting the outside walls of the crèche (read pages 18 and 19).

In celebrating the 10th anniversary of International Mandela Day, Chief Directorate Human Resource Management staff and external partners brought hope to the children at Ikhaya Lami Lethemba in Soshanguve for a consecutive year by donating blankets and clothes (read page 31).

Do yourself a favour by also reading the many other inspiring and moving articles on International Mandela Day on pages 34, 35, 36, 37, 40 and 43.

In the devotion - The importance of leaving a legacy - by Chaplain (Rev) Abraham van Rensburg from Naval Base Simon’s Town on page 46, he ends with the following few sentences: “We have celebrated the legacy of Nelson Mandela in the month of July. He will be remembered for the sacrifices he made and the ideals he was willing to die for. Future generations will remember him for his selfless life to create a better future for our country, South Africa”.

“There can be no greater gift than that of giving one’s time and energy to help others without expecting anything in return.”

– Mr Nelson Mandela

Let us keep the legacy of Madiba alive so that it can continue on for generations to come.

Nelda Pienaar
Editor SA Soldier


Ma Nelda Pienaar
Mulanamisi SA Soldier

TheLegacy

Ka zuka exandleni xa mululamizi

Matshwala la wa SA Soldier ya tale hi maungu yo nyanyula ku zuka eka vatirhi wa SANDF lava tekek xiwe ka Mandela International Day.

Hi 2008, hi ntlangu wo velekiwa ka Mandela lawa awa khomeweni a London’s Hyde Park, xivono xa Mandela Day xixe xivoriningiwa no nyanyurisiwa hi loko nhenha ya misava hi xiviri yi yima yi kahinca “Inkari wa mawoko mantswa ku hula ndzawo, 1 nkari was’wina sweswi”.

Nkulukumba mandela u tswarirelile hiti 18 Mawuwani, lembe na lembe ka biwa mhukamhala misava hinkwayo xo lesawako munhu un’wana na un’wana a vana xiwe ka tlangela sike ra ku velekiwa ka Nhenha leyi no yisa emahlweni xivono xa lesawako “munhu un’wana na un’wana una vuswikoti byo nyanga misava.

Hi Hukuri 2009, Nhlanga wa Tinzixa wa veke xinxfumo sike ra 18 Mawuwani International Mandela Day.

Lebyi i vumbhoni byo xisima mintirho le yi rehatsi no pfumela leswako u ho xhola siku la lwela xidimokirasi misva hinkwayo no dlangamakusiza ndzawalo wa ku rhu lesi misaveni.Vana na ka nyanyulakele loku a huya matshwala yo huma eka vatirhi va SANDF lava ti nyanjekete ku tiriheri 67 minete eka nkari na vana wa vana ku zuka xivono xivono xa Madiba.

Vukorhoki, ku nyika, ku hlanganisa ku lwisa vusweti, kutisa kharhula no xisetsha mintirho yo tisa ntshukwe.

Valawuri va Mabuthu (Military Command) vakongome e vusweti, xesha, xesha ku n’wana u velekiwa ka Mandela Day, xatembe na vutumba bya Human Resource no vungana valwuri va Mabuthu (Military Command) vakongome e vusweti, kutiyukela eku tiriheri 67 minete Mandela Day, aka xikolo xatindzumulo xa Fledgelings Creche, kona aku peniwa makhumbi hi le handle (hlaya papila 18).

Hiku tlangela (vukhume) khume ra malembe ya international Mandela Day, vatirhi xa vatumbe bya Human Resource no vungana valwuri va Mabuthu (Military Command) vakongome e vusweti, kutiyukela eku tiriheri 67 minete Mandela Day, aka xikolo xatindzumulo xa Fledgelings Creche, kona aku peniwa makhumbi hi le handle (hlaya papila 18).

Tipfuni hi ku hlaya matshwala na mahungu yo nyanyula ya Nelson Mandela International Day eka mapapila lama, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40 na 43.


Tinzixa leta ta haka tita n’wi tsundzuka hi kuva angari ni vukwele na ku lwela vitomi byo antswa eka tiko ra hina Africa Dzhangwa.Ku hava nyika yo ti tula ku nyijkela hi nkari ni matimba ya wena.

Kupfuna wina handle ka mbuyelo Mr Nelson Mandela.

*Nelda Pienaar
Editor SA Soldier

Translated into isiTSonga by Capt Danisa Chauke, SO2 Code Management at Directorate Human Resource Service Systems.
SANDF marks 20 years of participation in peace missions

By S Sgt Lebogang Tlhaole
Photos previously published in SA Soldier

South Africa was readmitted to the United Nations in 1994 following its transition into democracy. Since the advent of democracy, the democratically elected Government has pursued a foreign policy, which is intended to create a better South Africa and contribute to a better Africa in a better world while championing Africa’s development and strengthening the Africa Agenda.

As a result of this commitment to building peace on the continent and beyond, the South African Cabinet approved the White Paper on South African Participation in International Peace Missions in October 1998. This White Paper on Peace Missions specifically contemplates that civilian assistance, armed forces and police officers are essential tools for peace, and their work in promoting the respect of human rights, good governance and institution building is critical to reconstructing sustainable peace as opposed to the use of force, which was previously characteristic of military institutions. In terms of this White Paper, peace missions also include participation in preventative diplomacy, peace-making, peacekeeping operations, peace enforcement, peace building, humanitarian assistance and humanitarian intervention.

Therefore, this document compelled South Africa to participate in peace missions to alleviate the plight of people who are struggling to resolve similar conflicts. This White Paper on Peace missions set the tone for the SA National Defence Force’s (SANDF’s) greater involvement and participation in peacekeeping activities. Since then the SANDF has been an active participant in United Nations (UN) and African Union (AU) peace support operations.

An armored vehicle operated by members of the South African battalion, transporting Alan Doss, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) and his delegation, North Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Lt Mohale Kalengera playing with a child during a routine patrol, Ntamugenga, Democratic Republic of the Congo.
This year the SANDF marks 20 years of highly successful participation in peace support operations. Members of the SANDF have come a long way to make a difference in various war-torn parts of the continent and beyond since the first deployment of a military observer in Kampala, Uganda in the initial stages of the Democratic Republic of Congo’s (DRC) peace process. Theirs has been a life of duty to preserve life, property and help build relations in various turmoil-stricken parts of the continent in support of the Government’s foreign policy.

The SANDF has placed South Africa among the world’s largest contributors to UN peacekeeping operations. This can be attributed to the dedication and professionalism demonstrated by members of the SANDF in the pursuit of peace. Our soldiers have been excellent ambassadors of our country. In the difficult circumstances they have earned themselves a place in the hearts of many and their selfless efforts have provided hope to the disillusioned.

In conducting their duties, our SANDF peacekeepers have been true professionals bound by a common vocation, which is more than a job, a career or a profession. They chose to serve as agents of peace and guardians of freedom. They came from different backgrounds, but are bound by common values such as courage, sacrifice and service. Their service and sacrifice, frequently under harsh and dangerous conditions, have made the Blue Helmet a symbol of hope to millions of people.

The SANDF peacekeepers in their blue helmets work in hazardous conditions and put their lives at risk for the greater good of humanity. Admittedly, some of the soldiers could not return home as they fell in the line of duty while contributing to international conflict resolution. Since the first deployment to date, SANDF has lost 55 members who paid the ultimate price. Such is the nature of the SANDF’s UN and AU peacekeeping operations.

Accordingly, the SANDF got involved in peacekeeping operations on the understanding that for South Africa to enjoy economic prosperity and all that democracy brings, there needs to be stability on the continent. Indeed, our country cannot survive as an island of prosperity and stability in a sea of poverty and instability, as South Africa is inextricably linked to the continent’s stability.

Moreover, not only is South Africa’s increasing involvement on the African continent over the 25 years indicative of the remarkable transformation of the country’s growing international footprint, but so is the impression, scale and scope of its involvement. The rapid increase in South Africa’s contributions to peacekeeping speaks volumes of how South Africa has prioritised itself on the continent. It also shows how South Africa has progressively deployed its military as a diplomatic instrument in the post-apartheid era.

The participation of the SANDF in peace support operations spans a period of two decades covering some 14 peacekeeping missions. The SANDF’s long association with UN and AU peace support operations

A wounded child is prepared for evacuation by a member of the SA Military Health Service, deployed in support of the United Nations Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo, following an attack on Walikale in the North Kivu Province.
began with a modest deployment of one Military Observer, Col Hans Swart, as Capital Liaison Officer for the United Nations Organisation Mission in the DRC (MONUC) in September 1999.

Since then our soldiers have served in UN and AU missions in Burundi, Ivory Coast, Eritrea and Ethiopia, Liberia, the Kingdom of Lesotho, DRC, the Central African Republic (CAR), Sudan, South Sudan, Comoros, Nepal among others. Considerable strides have been made since the first deployment of the SANDF to bring peace and stability to the continent.

Success in peacekeeping is rarely quantifiable, but the SANDF’s successes need to be placed in proper context if they are to be understood and appreciated. South Africa is regarded by the international community as an honest and reliable peace broker. In 2009, the SANDF lowered the South African flag in Burundi to mark the end of one of the most successful peace deployments in Africa. Today, the Burundian people are governed by a democratically elected government and are experiencing a booming economy with investments flooding in after decades of instability.

The SANDF has over the years been able to bring hope to the people of the DRC by contributing to the end of one of Africa’s longest civil wars. During the DRC peacekeeping mission, the SANDF spearheaded different projects, for example, stabilising the internal politics, reconstructing and developing infrastructure and the training of the DRC troops. The SANDF’s commitment to assist fellow African countries became more visible when the first trained Rapid Reaction Battalion was officially handed over to the DRC. That country’s airport in Kinshasa is now one of the busiest in Africa, all because of the selfless efforts of our men and women in uniform.

In March 2007 South Africa also responded to a request from the CAR to render assistance with training and the refurbishment of some of the training facilities. This South African contingent consisted of primary training and engineering personnel. These achievements are due in part to the sterling contribution of the SANDF to the peace process in those countries.

The successful deployment of the Rooivalk in active service in the DRC in support of peacekeeping operations has focused global attention on the SANDF. Several days after their arrival in the DRC, the Rooivalks flew the craft’s first ever combat mission in November 2013 against M23 rebels and fired multiple 70 mm rocket salvos and 20 mm canons against M23 bunkers near the mountainous Chanzu region, close to the Rwandan border. The helicopter was employed in support of an
The SANDF has also contributed to senior appointments on different peace missions such as the appointment of Lt Gen Derick Mgwedi as Force Commander of the United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Congo (MONUSCO).

After the operation, the M23 group called an end to its 20-month rebellion, saying it would disarm and pursue peace talks. At the time, the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, said that she believed M23 had to retreat because of the Rooivalk. This allowed the FARDC to operate more freely than before and effectively target multiple armed groups simultaneously, coordinating actions across multiple fronts. Disarmament, Demobilisation and Rehabilitation (DDR) operations are also further being pursued.

Maj Pearl Block raised the South African Flag high when she was awarded the 2017 United Nations (UN) Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award. The Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award recognises the effort of an individual peacekeeper who promotes the principles of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 within a military context, as nominated by Force Commanders and Heads of peacekeeping missions. The award also raises the profile and understanding of what mainstreaming a gender perspective within a military context in peacekeeping mission means.

The SANDF has also been commended by the international community as it has the largest women's contingent deployed as part of the FIB. South Africa is one of only a handful of countries that incorporates women in combat operations and peacekeeping missions in Africa.

The first time that the South African battalion deployed as part of the FIB in the DRC, it was commanded by a woman, Lt Col Tiisetso Sekgobela. She recently return from a one-year deployment. The country is proud of Lt Col Sekgobela and those placed under her command for flying the South African Flag high. These are some of the achievements recorded over the years during the SANDF's participation in peace missions.

Since the involvement of the SANDF in peace missions, the SANDF has pledged Infantry battalions to the different missions and has deployed military observers and staff officers. The SANDF has also contributed to senior appointments on different peace missions such as the appointment of Lt Gen Derick Mgweti as Force Commander of MONUSCO and Brig Gen Patrick Dube as Commander of the Force Intervention Brigade (FIB) among others.

The SANDF has also contributed significantly through the provision of niche capabilities such as engineers, fire fighters, and air cargo handlers, military police, medical teams and Special Forces. Their devotion to duty and excellent performance have been widely acclaimed. The SANDF is still increasingly involved in peace support operations in the DRC and has contributed a Battalion to the Force Intervention Brigade and forces to the Framework Forces. At present the SANDF has about 1300 soldiers deployed in conflict areas in the DRC.

Our country is blessed with a special calibre of soldier, who has elected to put their lives on the line, so that the African continent and the world can live in peaceful conditions. Each one of them is an everyday hero. The country should be proud of these patriots, and collectively, as a nation, we must show pride in their heroism, even during times of challenges and despondency. The country has travelled a long way since the days when the sight of the Defence Forces used to inspire fear among the peoples of our neighbouring states.

Since 1994, the country has transformed the SANDF into a symbol of hope and a defender of defenceless people. The SANDF is celebrated today for their critical role they play and their noble deeds in the quest for peace and security on the continent and beyond.

In celebrating 20 years of the SANDF’s participation in peace missions, the upcoming editions of SA Soldier will look back in detail and reflect on all fourteen peace missions in which the SANDF has participated since 1999, such as Operation (Ops) MISTRAL, Ops BOLEAS, Ops ESPRESSO, Ops FIBRE, Ops TRITON, Ops AMPHIBIAN, Ops SUNRAY, Ops MONTEGO, Ops CORDITE, Ops TEUTONIC, Ops PRISTINE, Ops INDULI, Ops VIMBEZELA, Ops CURRICULUM and Ops BONGANE.
Minister Mapisa-Nqakula cautions against stifling defence budget reduction

The Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, has pleaded for the support of her Department’s budget in Parliament during a budget vote presentation. She said the much needed R50.510 billion budget allocated will be used to address the challenges and additional responsibilities the Department has to deal with.

She continued to emphasise the importance of the appropriate funding levels as articulated in the Defence Review that would require a steady increase to at least 2% of the GDP over time. She said: “We are appearing before this house in the confines of a severely constrained national fiscus, which has had a devastating impact on the conduct of our business and the fulfilment of our obligations.”

Minister Mapisa-Nqakula left a thought for the House to ponder on when she said, “I must now ask the question whether or not the House is satisfied that the current resourcing of the Defence Force is consistent with the obligations placed on it by the Constitution.”

She explained that over the last few years the Department of Defence has been forced to continuously adjust its plans downwards in response to the declining budget. Furthermore, The Defence Force is becoming progressively unsustainable in terms of declining defence allocations and has now reached the point where the Republic must decide on the kind of Defence Force it wants and what it can afford.

Minister Mapisa-Nqakula highlighted some of the commendable deeds from the SA National Defence Force (SANDF), which in themselves dig further into the Department’s purse. In recent times, the SANDF has been called upon to intervene

The Deputy Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Mr Thabang Makwetla, said the lack of policies governing the different benefits in the Department of Military Veterans poses challenges.
The Chief of the SA National Defence Force, Gen Solly Shoke, said the type of defence force that the leadership visualises requires the necessary funding.

to stabilise the crisis at the Provincial Hospital in Mahikeng in the North West Province and rendered essential services through the deployment of health professionals.

The SANDF has also intervened to contain the raw sewerage spills into the Vaal River System through repairs of sewage infrastructure in the Vaal River Project. Engineers were also deployed to assist the Ditsobotla Municipality in the North West with regards to the sewage system failure.

When reflecting on a positive outlook of the SANDF, Minister Mapisa-Nqakula indicated that South Africa remains a significant contributor to peacekeeping operations on the Continent and has continued to have a significant presence in the DRC through MONUSCO and the Force Intervention Brigade (FIB).

She said the South African Battalion within the FIB was commanded by a female, Lt Col Tiisetso Sekgobela, who led our soldiers successfully through a number of battles. Additionally, Lt Dimakatso Raisibe Maiba served as the only female Platoon Commander in the FIB.

She said: “The other soldier who merits honourable mention in Parliament is Lt Col Stefan King for his remarkable display of courage under enemy fire, which earned him the United Nations Captain Mbaye Diagne Medal for Exceptional Courage. His actions, and those of his crew in this high threat situation, is the hallmark of the valour and battle skills that we strive for in our armed forces.”

Minister Mapisa-Nqakula urged the House to note another courageous act of humanitarian assistance in response to the disaster stricken Mozambique and Malawi after cyclone IDAI. Air assets and medical staff of the SANDF were deployed in Disaster Relief Operations under Operation Chariot. This, she said, had been done without any reimbursement.

“The Chaplain-General, as the spiritual leader of the SANDF, facilitated a team of religious leaders to Mozambique to assess the damage, offer spiritual and moral support and determine the mobilisation of support through the South African Council of Churches,” explained the Minister.

Minister Mapisa-Nqakula said in addition to the SANDF’s obligation, the Commander-in-Chief has ordered the SANDF to deploy in cooperation with the SAPS in the Western Cape Province to combat crime and stabilise the security situation through intelligence-led operations. The ongoing intelligence assessment will determine the right time for the withdrawal of the SANDF.

A long-term strategic view focused on specific threats to the sovereignty of South Africa and the authority of the state has been developed. These amongst others include the porousness of our borders, the growing threat of terrorism and fundamentalism by extremist groups that is looming large and is a clear danger on the Continent. Minister Mapisa-Nqakula said South Africa is not immune to this threat.

She also indicated that the Reserve Force made an enormous contribution to the operational performance of the Defence Force during the last financial year by providing over 14 000 members for various tasks. She said the SANDF has developed a new Reserve Force Service System that is now ready for implementation and a decision has been taken to hold a Reserve Force Indaba in September 2019.

“After a lengthy consultation process, I have signed into effect the name-changes of the Reserve Force Units in the South African Army. These names now reflect a healthy balance of the South African military heritage,” commented Minister Mapisa-Nqakula.
Tightening the belt - 2019/20 Defence Budget

By Ms Lindi Hermaans,
Deputy Director DOD Budgeting

On 17 July 2019 the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula tabled the 2019/20 Defence budget in Parliament. The Defence budget for 2019/20 amounts to R50.513 billion. This is equal to 0.93% of South Africa’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 2.77% of Government’s Expenditure (GE). The Defence budget is divided into eight main programmes. Over the medium term these programmes are receiving the amounts as indicated in Table 2.

The Landward Defence programme is the largest programme within the Defence Vote receiving 33% of the total allocation. The next largest programme is Air Defence receiving 14% of the allocation followed by the General Support programme with 13% and the Administration programme with 12% of the allocation.

The reason for the General Support and Administration programmes receiving such relatively large allocations is that the total budget for maintenance and repair of Defence facilities, capital works, office accommodation, municipal services, buildings leases, mainframe systems, technology development and the transfers to the Department of Military Veterans and Armscor are included in these two programmes.

The Defence budget is also divided per economic classification. The division per economic classification is indicated in Table 3.

Compensation of Employees is by far the largest item on the Defence budget in that 58% of the total budget is being spent on salaries, wages and allowances as well as pension and medical contributions. Goods and Services amounts to 26% of the allocation while Transfers and Subsidies amounts to 15%.

Transfers and Subsidies include the transfers to the Special Defence Account for the acquisition, development and maintenance of main weapon systems as well as the transfers to institutions such as the Department of Military Veterans, the Armaments Corporation of South Africa (Armscor), the SA Safety and Security Education and Research Council (SSERC), the National Institute for Military Affairs (NIMA), the South African Reserve Bank (SARB), the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) and the South African National Government Employees Pension Fund (SANEPF).

Table 1: GDP and GE Table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Year</th>
<th>Defence Budget (R’000 000)</th>
<th>GDP (R’000 000)</th>
<th>% of GDP</th>
<th>Government Expenditure (R’000 000)</th>
<th>% of GE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>47 170</td>
<td>4 412 700</td>
<td>1.07</td>
<td>1 443 000</td>
<td>3.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>48 619</td>
<td>4 721 000</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>1 543 800</td>
<td>3.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>47 950</td>
<td>5 059 100</td>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>1 665 400</td>
<td>2.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019/20</td>
<td>50 513</td>
<td>5 413 800</td>
<td>0.93</td>
<td>1 826 600</td>
<td>2.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020/21</td>
<td>53 825</td>
<td>5 812 400</td>
<td>0.93</td>
<td>1 948 900</td>
<td>2.76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Defence Budget Allocation per Main Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Audited Outcome</th>
<th>Adjusted Budget</th>
<th>Medium Term Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>4 981 493</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>5 740 559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Force Employment</td>
<td>3 602 801</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>3 431 011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landward Defence</td>
<td>15 118 951</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>15 557 822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Defence</td>
<td>7 085 719</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>6 782 585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maritime Defence</td>
<td>3 732 748</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>4 298 385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Health Support</td>
<td>4 243 150</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>4 448 745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence Intelligence</td>
<td>830 060</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>881 289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Support</td>
<td>5 476 612</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6 056 693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>45 071 534</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>47 197 094</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Training Authority (SASSETA) and the Reserve Force Council.

With this budget allocation the Department of Defence (DOD) and the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) maintains and prepares its capabilities, conducts its ordered commitments and operations, maintains its facilities and systems, remunerates and trains its personnel, and provides a medical service to its uniformed members and their dependants.

Although the allocation is not sufficient to finance all the commitments and expected outputs, tasks and activities of the DOD and SANDF, all efforts are made continuously to optimise the allocation in such a fashion that maximum outputs can be provided with the limited means being provided. Austerity measures have been implemented to ensure that money is spent on the items and services for which it was made available, and the best possible service is being rendered within the constraints of affordability so that the citizens of South Africa can be given the assurance that within Defence their tax money is being spent in the most economic, efficient and effective manner to the benefit of all in South Africa”

To assist Chiefs of Services and Divisions in tightening the belt and managing funds prudently the following two financial sub-systems are available on the Financial Management System.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Classification</th>
<th>Medium Term Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2019/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Payments</td>
<td>42 127 863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensation of Employees</td>
<td>29 193 710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods and Services</td>
<td>12 934 153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers and Subsidies</td>
<td>7 622 351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments for Capital Assets</td>
<td>762 778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>50 512 992</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EZEZIMALI

Directorate Budgeting is responsible to assist the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans in obtaining an approved budget by providing sound guidance, thorough evaluation, professional support, excellent training and appropriate and user friendly policies and subsystems in the preparation of Defence's Estimate of Expenditure and Revenue.

Ezezimali was developed as a budgeting subsystem to support this!!

Ezezimali provides the DOD with a “Budgeting Toolbox” filled to the brim with all that is required to prepare a medium term budget estimate.

Each Service and Division’s interests are secured through their representatives that serve as the budgeting guideline representative (Advance User). This Advance User is the nodal point for all items on which that Service or Division provides budgeting guidelines to the DOD.

This allows every environment to ensure that planning, budgeting and expenditure is aligned and executed in accordance with policy and guidelines provided by each functional authority.

BUDGETING TOOLBOX

Ezezimali translated as “Monetary issues” is a live decentralised information sharing tool which provides in its Budgeting Toolbox, the following information critical in the budget processes of the DOD:

- Quick links to Public Finance Management Act
- Policy on Budget Preparation
- Functional Planning and Budgeting document
- Catalogue for Office Furniture – Provides all types of office furniture (standard and non-standard)
- Item Code search – Should you wonder which item code to use, then you search by typing in the item name or description.
- NATO Code - It indicates the item description (Include/Exclude)
- NSN Codes - Also known as “ICN numbers”
- Pricelist – All tangible item prices (20, 25 & 60) can be sourced from this function
- SCoA Code and description
- Budgeting Guidelines per Item (Search) – This function works like a google search, you just type any word e.g. “computer”, therefore all the guidelines containing that word “computer” will appear on the screen.

- Policy – Related to Item Codes
- Tariffs - For both Revenue and Expenditure Items
- Item – Data manager’s details
- DOD Contract Register – All current contracts for In-land (CPSC), Coastal (STPC) and National Treasury

- All these functions are interlinked meaning that
once you have accessed Ezezimali you can browse descriptive through all these functions. However, you must start with any information you have (e.g. Item code, Item description, Price list, NSN or NATO codes etc.) to be able to browse through the other functions.

**EZEZIMALI ENHANCED FEATURES**

**a. Price list**
There are four (4) options on Ezezimali web-site that can be utilized to source the tangible item prices:

i. **NSN Prices**
   Historical item prices against NSN item codes (These prices must be used with caution as correctness cannot be verified).

ii. **Stats SA Prices**
   Average prices on everyday items/products on a monthly basis.

iii. **Internet Prices**
   General list of prices on selected items/products as sourced from suppliers on the internet.

iv. **Sourced Prices**
   DIY option to source own prices on items/products.

**ACCESS AND REGISTRATION**

Ezezimali is accessible by anyone in the DOD with access to the Intranet. There are several ways of accessing Ezezimali on the intranet. The easiest ways are to:

- Follow the **Quick Link** from the DOD web-site.
- Follow the “**Ezezimali**” link from the Financial Management Division web page. Remember to first register yourself on Ezezimali to have access to information, by completing the following personal details:
  - Force Number (without suffix)
  - Title
  - Name
  - Surname
  - Select your Budget Holder e.g. SA Army

Ezezimali can now be taken with you when you are away from the office. Download “**Ezezimali on the go**” (Ezi-go) from the Ezezimali homepage.

- For any queries regarding the budgeting guidelines please forward them by means of the “Forum Page” available on the Ezezimali web-site.
- OR Contact us directly:
  - Ms Mavis Matshika (012) 355-5844
  - Mr Arno Jordaan (012) 355-5848

**ULWAZI**

Ulwazi Financial Reporting system
“Ulwazi” the Zulu word for knowledge was the concept behind the development of the new Ulwazi Financial Reporting system. The Ulwazi system was developed to enable the members of the department to access financial information to enable them to manage their units or sections.

This system can be accessed from the Finance Management Division Intranet web-site. To access the system you need to register yourself by completing the Ulwazi registration form first. Thereafter you will be able to draw the following reports from your own desktop PC:

- **PERSOL revenue deduction report** – list of PERSOL deduction per unit for House rent, Boarding and Lodging, Court fines, Duty Bus, Parking and Municipal services.
- **Cash Receipts Voucher report** – list of all Cash Receipts Voucher (CRV) issues by the FASC office to a specific unit.
- **Budget report** – a report to indicate the MTEF cycle for a unit.
- **Expenditure report** – an in-year expenditure report indicating a unit expenditure status on serial number level.
- **Summary Expenditure report** – an in-year expenditure report indicating a unit expenditure status on Item first level.
- **PERSOL revenue reconciliation statement** – this reports assists a unit Officer Commander to reconcile their units monthly revenue.

Several more additional reports are going to be added to the Ulwazi reporting system in the near future. For any additional information or suggested improvements please contact **Robert Wapenaar** at 012 355-5569 or robert.wapenaar@yahoo.com.
Trustees and Directors Educational Session

By AB Samuel Ramonyai
Photos by Cpl Jonathan Mogano

The SA National Defence Force (SANDF) noted an enormous and rapid increase in the number of officers in the position of Trustees and Directors of funds or corporate entities within the Department of Defence. Therefore, the need to equip these officers manage the affairs of the trust and they must do so in the best interest of the trust fund or the trust estate and all its beneficiaries.

The problem arises when trustees act outside their powers and in disregard of their responsibilities. One of the first responsibilities that any trustee has to comply with is to read and understand the trust deed or the trust instrument, he recommended.

Prof King added that as with the board of directors in a for-profit organisation, the board of trustees’ role is to oversee the overall management of the non-profit organisation.

He explained that while the responsibility for the day-to-day operations is handled by the upper management and staff, a board of trustees has legal obligations to its non-profit organisation just as a board of directors has a responsibility to the corporation it serves.

These duties are fiduciary, which basically means the board of trustees must always act in the non-profit organisation’s best interest, he said.

He mentioned that the trustees had the overall responsibility to

with the necessary skills to execute their tasks expeditiously has been of essence to the SANDF.

Hence, the SANDF swiftly addressed the need by recently marking it’s first-ever Trustees and Directors Educational session at the SA Military Health Service Training Formation Auditorium.

The session became an eye-opener to the officers as grey areas and questions arising from the roles of trustees and directors were dealt with. It also clarified the overall core roles and functions of the trustees and directors within any organisation.

The guest speaker, Professor Mervin King, commenced his presentation by explaining the difference between a board of trustees and a board of directors even though they are used interchangeably in the non-profit industry. He said: “From a legal standpoint, a trustee is very different from a director. Trustees are held to a strict fiduciary standard with regard to the assets held in their care, while directors are tasked with the management of the company and the duties related to such management.”

Prof King added that as with the board of directors in a for-profit organisation, the board of trustees’ role is to oversee the overall management of the non-profit organisation.

He explained that while the responsibility for the day-to-day operations is handled by the upper management and staff, a board of trustees has legal obligations to its non-profit organisation just as a board of directors has a responsibility to the corporation it serves.

These duties are fiduciary, which basically means the board of trustees must always act in the non-profit organisation’s best interest, he said.

He mentioned that the trustees had the overall responsibility to

Some of the SA National Defence Force members who attended the Trustees and Directors Educational session.

The problem arises when trustees act outside their powers and in disregard of their responsibilities. One of the first responsibilities that any trustee has to comply with is to read and understand the trust deed or the trust instrument, he recommended.

Concluding his presentation, he mentioned that the task of a trustee was more onerous than that of director. He then advised that the board of trustees must prepare themselves psychologically for the burdensome nature of their duties. 🔵
Military Command paints AFB Ysterplaat crèche with Mandela Magic

The Military Command (MC) paid a visit to AFB Ysterplaat in Cape Town to honour the 67 Minutes Mandela Day initiative at the Fledglings Crèche.

The Fledglings AFB Ysterplaat crèche principal, Ms Shakirah Williams, felt honoured to have the Military Command visit during the international campaign theme: 67 Minutes for Mandela.

Lt Gen Masondo said:

"Initially, we used to support charity organisations outside the SANDF, however, it was the Chief of the SANDF’s wish that since the SANDF has been doing a lot for initiatives outside, it should start looking to itself and its people, hence charity starts at home.

The Chief of the SA Air force, Lt Gen Zimpande Msimang, painting the walls of the Fledglings AFB Ysterplaat crèche in Cape Town.

He said many people are aware of all the sacrifices Madiba had made for the country, something which has earned him international recognition. He said that it was the people’s responsibility to honour his memory and do their bit and give time to this initiative and change lives for the better.

Lt Gen Masondo said:

"We as the MC usually dedicate the 67 Minutes Mandela Day to institutions around the Pretoria area. Since it was the Minister of Defence budget speech presentation, we thought that we expand our outreach to visit units outside Gauteng and thus we came here on this special day of Madiba’s birthday to spend our time with the children of our soldiers.”

Lt Gen Masondo said this was an opportunity for the MC to go around to all the units of the SANDF and show the members that they do care. He said that they should take special note that the first Commander-in-Chief, Dr Nelson Mandela, would have turned 104 years old if he was alive.
paid from the monthly school fees. They occasionally do fund-raising if they need any extra materials. Ms Williams said the base is very helpful and support them with building cupboards, fixing geysers and managing the electricity.

She said: “The crèche opened on 13 January 2014 to assist members of the unit who work at AFB Ysterplaat with their kids. I started working at the crèche as a teacher and later the same year was appointed as the principal.

We started the crèche with the front area with 13 children and three staff members. We grew over time and started to

This also assist us in that some of our facilities are in a bad state and as such, we improve those conditions for our members to work and live in appealing and conducive environments.

We appreciate what you are doing as teachers to inculcate a culture of patriotism by teaching these young ones items like the National Anthem.”

The Fledglings Creche principal, Ms Shakirah Williams, said they felt honoured that the MC came in to paint the classrooms. She said that the 67 Minutes Mandela Day is a good initiative where people give a helping hand to others. Ms Williams believes that it is also the responsibility of

teachers to teach children about Dr Nelson Mandela and what he has done for the country.

She said the crèche is self-sustaining and the teachers are

add numbers and more classrooms for that. We educate children from the age of four months to five years. We currently have nine staff members.”
Chief Defence Intelligence decorate soldiers with long and good service medals

More than fifty members of the SA National Defence Force (SANDF), who have spent most of their lives in the service of their country, were honoured with 30- and 40-year good service medals at a parade that was recently held at the Kopanelo Sports Field in Potchefstroom.

Presiding over the medal parade, the Chief of the Defence Intelligence (CDI), Lt Gen Jeremiah Nyembe, said the number of soldiers who received the awards demonstrated their loyalty to the SANDF. He further indicated that these honoured members did indeed deserve the accolades as they have proved themselves to be a rare set of individuals, soldiers and comrades-in-arms, who had dedicated their lives to serving our nation.

However, he believes that these accolades could be bestowed on every soldier who had remained dedicated to the SANDF and its people. Lt Gen Nyembe perceive this ceremony as a distinct opportunity to recognize and acknowledge members of the SANDF who have rendered long service and displayed good conduct, and more so, to boost morale.

Historically, the military medal is awarded to an individual as a mark of honour signifying the individual’s meritorious service, heroism and outstanding achievement during their career as a military practitioner, he said.

The bestowing of medals preceded these encouraging words by Lt Gen Nyembe. A gallant soldier, Cpl Alberto Antonio, the only member who received a 40-year good service medal recipient, Cpl Alberto Antonio.

The Chief of Defence Intelligence (CDI), Lt Gen Jeremiah Nyembe, awarding WO2 Jemima Connoway with a 30-year good service medal.

The Chief of Defence Intelligence (CDI), Lt Gen Jeremiah Nyembe, handing over a token of appreciation to a 40-year good service medal recipient, Cpl Alberto Antonio.
Since then, Cpl Antonio had developed even more vigor to serve his country and its people. "I had developed the love to serve people under the auspices of the military since I was young. I held on to that dream to the point of manifestation. I had to fight against all odds towards becoming part of the military community. It was not easy but I believed that that was what God called me for on earth," said the enthusiastic Cpl Antonio.

In 1975 he moved from Angola to South West Africa. From there he moved to various countries before ultimately joining the SANDF. The SANDF became a home where he spend most of his career serving the country. Cpl Antonio said he loved being a soldier and was dedicated to this country and the long-year good service medal meant a lot to him.

WO2 Jemima Connoway received a 30-year good service medal. She currently works at the Western Military Police (MP) Regional Headquarters as a Chief Clerk in the Human Resource section. She joined the military in 1986 and did her basic training at the SA Army Women’s College in George. In 1987 she joined the permanent force and was appointed to 10 Artillery Brigade as a human resource clerk.

1997 saw her transfer to the MP in Potchefstroom for two years in succession. In 2000 she was transferred to the Human Resource satellite in Potchefstroom. In 2004 she was transferred back to the Military Police and that is where she currently works.

She said that she had always enjoyed working in the HR division since she joined the SANDF. She emphasized that she always puts enormous effort into her duties towards ensuring a good SANDF HR department. Upon being bestowed with the medal, WO2 Connoway felt that she dearly deserved the accolades judging from the course her career has taken in the military. She mentioned that she had worked very hard and stayed positive over the years, even when it was not easy.

WO2 Connoway further cautioned that every soldier could be honored with a long-year good service medal long as discipline was upheld. Discipline should become a breastplate worn by every soldier in the SANDF, she said.

WO2 Connoway’s duties include the management, provision and maintenance of HR administration services in the Western MP Regions (Lohatla, Upington, Kimberly, De Aar, Jan Kempdorp, Potchefstroom, Marievale, Zeerust, Mmabatho, Johannesburg and Heidelberg) to support members of the region and the MP division so that the MP members can execute their tasks as expected.

What keeps her fueled up to perform her duties is the motto "always do the right thing right at all time". She further indicated that her hard work honored her with the Best Warrant Officers’ Certificate in the Western Military Police Region.
The significant contribution of the SA National Defence Force to the National Development Plan

By S Sgt Lebogang Tlhaole
Photos previously published in SA Soldier

Whereas the core responsibility of the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) is to protect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and people of the Republic of South Africa, its role goes beyond that. It has the inherent capability and potential to support the development and upliftment of the communities around the country through its peacetime activities. It has also the ability to stimulate local economic growth through various interventions and assist communities in distress.

Although great strides have been made over the years since the advent of democracy, too many people in the country are still trapped in poverty, and we remain a highly unequal society. Too few South Africans have work, the quality of school education for the majority is poor and the state lacks capacity in critical areas. Despite significant progress, the country remains divided with opportunities still shaped by the legacy of apartheid.

In an effort to address the triple challenge of economic growth, unemployment and inequality faced by the country, Government approved the National Development Plan (NDP) vision 2030 on 11 November 2011. This Plan is aimed at eliminating poverty and reducing inequality by 2030 through uniting South Africans, unleashing the energies of its citizens, growing an inclusive economy, building capabilities and to enhance the capabilities of the State and its leaders by working together to solve complex problems.

According to the NDP, safety and security are clinically related to socioeconomic development and equality. A safe and secure country encourages economic growth and transformation by providing an environment conducive to creating employment, improved education and health outcomes and strengthened social cohesion. In this regard the SANDF is creating and enabling the security conditions that could foster growth and development.

To advance the outputs of this vision, Cabinet approved the Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) on 23 July 2014, which proposes 14 outcomes. The SANDF contributes actively to at least six of these outcomes by virtue of its legislative mandate and inherent capabilities. These outcomes are, among others, Outcome 2: A long and healthy life for all South Africans; Outcome 3: All people in South Africa are and feel safe; Outcome 5: A skilled and capable workforce to support inclusive growth path; Outcome 7:
Vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities contributing to food security; Outcome 11: Creating a better South Africa and contributing to a better and safer Africa in a better world.

The vision also informs Government policy that includes the Industrial Policy Action Plan (IPAP) and the New Growth Path (NGP). The NGP framework is aimed at enhancing growth, job creation and equity. The principal target of the policy is to create 5 million jobs by the year 2020. The NGP identifies strategies that will enable South Africa to grow in a more equitable and inclusive manner while attaining South Africa's developmental agenda.

All these policies envisage the reduction of youth unemployment, provision of disaster aid and relief, building of safer communities, maritime security, resolve to maintain stability and has relentlessly supported the transformation and development of the country. Apart from traditionally fighting the nation's wars, the SANDF has often played a crucial developmental role. From national security to building roads and bridges, schools, public health facilities, vocational facilities, sporting facilities and provision of essential supplies, the SANDF has been at the forefront. The sincerity, dutifulness and significant contribution of SANDF members towards national development are commendable.

Every year numerous high visibility crime prevention, stabilisation and other operations as per the National or Provincial Joint Operational and Intelligence Structure are conducted by the SANDF in support of the SA Police Service (SAPS) across the country. In terms of the 1996 and 2014 Defence Reviews, it is also clear that in its core and support roles, the mandate of the SANDF is anchored in the promotion of South Africa's national interest, including supporting development objectives.

In its endeavours the SANDF has stood firm in its border safeguarding and building a capable and developmental state. As a modern institution, the SANDF performs a wider spectrum of operations in support of Government imperatives and contributes significantly to the development of the country. In its endeavours the SANDF has stood firm in its border safeguarding and building a capable and developmental state. As a modern institution, the SANDF performs a wider spectrum of operations in support of Government imperatives and contributes significantly to the development of the country.
The maritime and medical elements of the SANDF are either deployed or placed on standby. Recently, the SANDF deployed certain elements to the crime-ridden townships of Cape Town in support of the SAPS. The aim of the operation is to bolster the city’s police force, help them to combat crime and preserve law and order.

Across the world, members of the SANDF are operating in hostile and stark environments, enduring real hardship and danger on a daily basis. We hear about the battles and the fighting in which many of them are engaged. But sometimes I think it is all too easy to forget that our Defence Force’s role is so much wider. Military force is only one aspect of their work.

For instance, both here in the country and abroad there are countless examples of civil projects in which the military has been involved. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, the members of the SANDF have built bridges and roads, refurbished buildings and infrastructure and provided humanitarian assistance. Here at home technical members from the SANDF are currently deployed to the Vaal River to restore infrastructure and the polluted Vaal River system caused by raw sewage flowing into the river from pump stations.

In times of need, the SANDF provides medical care, fresh water and sanitation for local populations that have been without these basic services we often take for granted. In recent times they have been deployed to the North West to reinforce medical care capacity and ensure that affected citizens at the Provincial Hospital are provided with the critical health care services they needed. The SANDF also deployed some elements to resolve the sewage blockage that has flooded residences, particularly in the Lichtenburg area.

On other occasions, they are called upon to provide life-saving emergency help. A few months ago following heavy rains and flooding that affected a large number of residents in the Eastern Cape, the SANDF was called in to help to rescue and evacuate thousands of people who were affected by this natural disaster. Just recently, members of the SANDF were also deployed to support humanitarian efforts in Malawi and Mozambique after both countries faced serious floods. These missions serve to remind us that the SANDF has the skills of engineers, logisticians and medics that are almost unparalleled.

The fact that the SANDF is such an important partner in these peacekeeping and humanitarian programmes is as a result of their adaptability and expertise. These attributes are as important at home as they are abroad. Day in and day out, the SA Navy and the
SA Air force battle rough seas and bad weather to provide life-saving air-sea rescue, and I remember too well the recent flood disasters in, for example, Mozambique.

The SANDF has also been at the forefront of helping build the country. A new visible manifestation of the SANDF’s developmental role is the National Youth Service. It is engaged in grooming the youth, instilling in them the qualities of discipline, selfless service and the spirit of nationalism. All the ideals that shape our forces are inculcated in the young minds to develop their character through qualities like comradeship, discipline, leadership, and secular outlook, spirit of adventure and ideals of selfless service.

Initiatives such as the annual intake of the youth through the Military Skills Development Programme (MSDS), the University Reserve Training Programme and National Youth Service such as National Rural Youth Service in support of the Department of Land Reform, Youth Leadership Camps in conjunction with the Department of Social Development and internship programmes employing interns for experiential training have been established. The main aim of these skills development programmes is to recruit and develop the youth as paraprofessionals who will, after training, provide a service to their own communities.

In terms of rural development, the SANDF initiated Project KOBA-TLALA. The project was approved by the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, through which the SANDF will use its footprint in rural and semi-rural areas, namely units, land and utilisation of resources, to augment rural development initiatives in conjunction with local communities, rural areas, town, provincial government and other stakeholders. This will provide nodal points or hubs for community engagement, stakeholder coordination and structural requirements towards creating viable, sustainable local economies.

Project KOBA-TLALA is aligned with the country’s developmental agenda, particularly in the agricultural sector. The project is focused on boosting small-scale and emerging farmers, and the Small, Medium and Micro Enterprise Sector (SMMEs) as part of the value chain. This initiative will have a footprint in all rural provinces.

On 27 August 2015, Ms Mapisa-Nqakula signed the Memorandum of Understanding with the North West Provincial Government at Mahikeng to forge a partnership to advance the national strategic imperative of rural development. Through the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, the SANDF officially committed to work with the North West government and other stakeholders in the province to embark on a multi-faceted programme to develop rural areas where the lives of the majority of people are blighted by grinding poverty and underdevelopment.

Reflecting on these many and varied roles should remind us that none of this would be possible without the consistent and unfailing dedication of the members of the SANDF. Our soldiers are often called upon to do the most remarkable things on the country’s behalf. They operate in all sorts of environment and extremes across the world, against every conceivable threat, and at great risk to themselves in a risk-averse age, sometimes making the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf. Their success is testimony to their hard work, dedication and tenacity and they are an immense credit to the development of the country.
The SANDF Education Trust marks 7 years of support to our youth – 2013 to 2019

By Col Elsa van Wyk, Secretary of the SANDF Education Trust

On 31 March 2013, 10:18, Helmoed-Römer Heitman, South African author, journalist, historian, military analyst and citizen soldier, wrote the following about the Battle of BANGUI: “From March 22 until about 9pm on March 24, 200 South African soldiers fought a series of running battles outside Bangui in the Central African Republic (CAR) against 3 000 or more well-armed opponents. And they did so while the CAR Army (Faca) evaporated and the peacekeeping forces of the Central African Standby Brigade disappeared from the scene.

That series of running battles claimed 13 soldiers and 27 others were wounded, but the force retained its cohesion and was able to fall back from two separate engagement areas to its base and to hold it until their attackers gave up trying to overrun them and proposed a ceasefire and disengagement.”

When one reads about these types of engagement one’s thoughts are always bound up with the “Battle” and the surrounding tactics. Only later the thought crosses one’s mind: “what about the relatives – the wives, the children?”

In the aftermath of this Battle the thought was raised that these soldiers who died were actually the breadwinners of households somewhere in South Africa. These soldiers laid down their lives for our country, South Africa, but who is going to look after their children? The Chief of the SA National Defence Force (SANDF), Gen Solly Shoke, sparked the idea to set up a Trust to provide financial assistance to the educational needs of these and other affected children.

The SANDF Education Trust was registered with the Master of the High Court in October 2013 and also with the Department of Social Development as a non-profit organisation. The Beneficiaries of the Trust are selected from a sector of the general public comprising dependents of the following persons:

- SANDF members killed or severely injured subsequent to 27 April 1994 while on official duties
- Civilian members of the Department of Defence (DOD) killed or severely injured subsequent to 27 April 1994 while deployed in operations with the SANDF
- Citizens of the Republic of South Africa (RSA) killed or injured subsequent to 27 April 1994 during the course of an operation of the SANDF, provided that such citizens were not engaged in an activity in opposition to the aims of the SANDF operation.

And who are or will be attending primary, secondary or tertiary educational institutions. In order to...
monitor the progress, the beneficiaries have to apply for funding annually.

Since its inception the Trust has supported 29 children in its first year and from inception to date has supported 125 beneficiaries. The Trust has paid the education fees of 92 beneficiaries for the 2019 academic year. There are 47 beneficiaries in Primary Schools, 25 in Secondary Schools and 20 in tertiary institutions. The total amount paid was R1 582 508.

Seven new beneficiaries have applied for financial support for 2019 – five at Primary, one at Secondary and one at tertiary level. The Trust has been successful as is clearly shown through the achievements of the beneficiaries of the Trust. Thirteen beneficiaries have completed their studies since 2014 and obtained either a degree or a diploma in their field of study. Among these qualifications are HR management, B Comm, Journalism, a Commercial Pilot and a Hairdressing diploma. Two medical students at Wits University have progressed to the fourth year of study. One Primary School learner has been appointed as the School Head Girl for 2019.

This initiative only took off as a result of the valuable support from the soccer fraternity when the Orlando Pirates Football Club, followed by the Kaizer Chiefs Football Club, donated the first R2 million to this cause. Since then the Premier Soccer League has also contributed generously. The SA Army Foundation has also been a strong supporter.

The total donations received during the past financial year amounted to R2 033 301.

The Trust also appreciates the contributions to this noble cause from many other Companies and Institutions to this noble cause.

Funding of the Trust relies on donations from the private sector and mainly on fund-raising events since no State funding is being utilised. Monies are not paid to beneficiaries, but directly to the schools or institutions. The pay-out of bursaries is managed by an appointed financial service provider (Nedgroup Trust) and audited annually by an appointed auditing firm.

In order to be sustainable, the SANDF Education Trust needs to continue with fund-raising events. Upcoming events where funds will be raised are at the Chief of the SANDF Women’s Golf Day and the Chief of the SANDF annual Golf Day and a planned concert with Military Bands together with a South African celebrity.
The Premier Soccer League (PSL) made a pledge to donate R1 million to the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) Education Trust annually. The Chairperson of the PSL, Dr Irvin Khoza, made the announcement to the Chief of the SANDF, Gen Solly Shoke, at a Luncheon held at the Westcliff Hotel in Johannesburg recently. Members of the Military Command Council, SANDF Education Trust Board of Trustees and PSL Executive Committee members were in attendance.

Dr Khoza reaffirmed the PSL’s unwavering commitment and support to the SANDF Education Trust going forward. He said that they were proud to partner with the SANDF and contribute to this meaningful initiative. He further said this was a way of giving thanks and recognition, and to salute those soldiers who had made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the country and its people. In conclusion he said their sacrifices and bravery were the reasons we continue to live in a country of freedom and opportunity.

The Defence Chief welcomed this much-needed financial boost from the PSL and said that the donation would contribute to educating more of the dependents of deceased SANDF members. He expressed his sincere gratitude for the courtesy extended by fellow countrymen to advance the SANDF’s efforts to actively contribute to a socially responsible cause.

General Shoke said the establishment of this initiative was prompted by the deaths of soldiers in the Battle of Bangui in the Central African Republic. He said: “We had to dig deep to find a long-lasting solution to cater for the educational needs of the deceased members’ children. It is our hope that this pledge will alleviate some of the financial burdens and uplift our communities through the commendable work done by this noble cause.”

He furthermore said the focus of the SANDF Education Trust was to have a positive impact on education, youth development and well-being. He stressed the value of education and how important it was to ensure that all those that lost their parents were empowered to realise their full potential. He said: “We have a strong conviction that the SANDF Education Trust is the most viable option we have to ensure that the dependents of our fallen soldiers can attain education so that they may fend for themselves and make life happen for them and their families. In recognition of this support, the Defence Chief handed over a memento, a cartridge case from an Olifant tank, as a token of appreciation.”
The SANDF Education Trust


The main objective of the SANDF Education Trust is to support the education needs of the dependants of the following persons:

- SANDF members killed or severely injured subsequent to April 1994, while on official duty.
- Civilian members of the Department of Defence (DOD) killed or severely injured subsequent to 27 April 1994, while deployed during official SANDF operation.
- Citizens of the Republic of South Africa killed or injured subsequent to 27 April 1994, during official SANDF operations provided that such citizens are not engaged in activities opposing the SANDF.

The SANDF Education trust is funded through donations and contributions received from the private sector and international business enterprises. Ongoing fund raising initiatives are in place, and the SANDF welcomes all contributions.

For more information on the SANDF Education Trust, visit www.dod.mil.za

The banking details are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>SANDF Education Trust</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank</td>
<td>Nedbank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branch Code</td>
<td>198765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Business Account</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Account No.</td>
<td>1134917252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference</td>
<td>SANDFEDTRUST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor Name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For further enquiries and to obtain application forms please contact:

Tel: +27 (12) 355 5107  Fax: +27 (12) 355 5882  Email: sandfedtrust@gmail.com

We believe in heroes, we hope you do too.

Together we move South Africa Forward.
7 SA Infantry Battalion welcomed back from DRC

By CD Ally Rakoma
Photos by Mr Timothy Makhubele

Deployment and separations are facts of military life. Saying goodbye is difficult, no matter how long the separation lasts or how many times loved ones are apart. The moment when a soldier comes back home from deployment is unlike any other and how loved ones feel or whoever it be wives, husbands, kids, parents who have been waiting for their loved ones to come back home. Celebrating the military homecoming of our peace warriors, the General Officer Commanding of Joint Operations Headquarters, Maj Gen Thabiso Mokhosi, recently welcomed back the members of 7 SA Infantry Battalion (7 SAI Bn) at the Department of Defence Mobilisation Centre in Bloemfontein, after they had been deployed as part of the United Nations Force Intervention Brigade (FIB) in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) for a year. During the welcoming ceremony, Maj Gen Mokhosi said that it was important to contribute to peacekeeping in Africa as peace in Africa meant that there was
peace and prosperity in South Africa. He praised the soldiers that the year-long deployment by 7 SAI Bn was notable in that in spite of soldiers seeing combat, there were no casualties and for the first time the South African battalion was commanded by a woman, Lt Col Tiisetso Sekgobela. He said that the country was proud of Lt Col Sekgobela and those placed under her command for flying the South African Flag high.

The welcoming back ceremony also culminated with the handing over of goodwill parcel gifts from the sponsors as a gesture of goodwill and appreciation. Many of the soldiers returning home were handed goodwill parcels. These are traditionally handed out to deployed soldiers during the festive season, but due to the elections in the DRC late last year, there was limited movement around the country and not all parcels were delivered.

During an interview, Lt Col Tiisetso Sekgobela underlined the fact that 7 SAI Bn had made our country proud by seeking collaborative solutions to the problems plaguing the DRC, supporting the DRC government troops, helping to shape and drive social well-being and positive change in the strife-torn country.

She said: “South African troops are making efforts to win the hearts and minds of the local population, and regularly provide humanitarian assistance, which has included donating solar panels. Working with the local population means the soldiers often receive advance warning of attacks.”

Pte Mpho Tlhatlha and Pte Kgosietsile Moatlhodi highlighted that their deployment in the DRC allowed them to grow tremendously as soldiers.

WELCOME HOME: Soldiers of 7 SAI Bn queuing to receive their gifts.

She acknowledged the changing nature of warfare and its negative impact in which civilians are vulnerable and targeted. She further stated that South African soldiers in the DRC carried out a wide range of duties, including base protection, offensive patrols, high visibility deterrence patrols, escorting humanitarian missions, combat search, rescue and escort. She said visitors often ask to be escorted by South African soldiers.

On being asked how she was received by other troop contributing countries as the first female commander, Lt Col Sekgobela replied that she had encountered some resistance from soldiers from other countries due to their cultural beliefs.

Sharing his deployment experience with SA Soldier, Pte Kgosietsile Moatlhodi (31) mentioned that conflict and instability not only caused significant insecurity to civilians and communities at large, but they had far-reaching consequences of tearing away at the social fabric.

When asked what kept him motivated during the year-long deployment, he said: “It is in the interest of our country to see the realisation of stability in the DRC. SANDF is a force for the good and helping people in the most desperate situations and because of that, it allowed me to grow tremendously as an individual and a soldier providing a ray of hope.”

Pte Mpho Tlhatlha (33) said that in view of the fact that South Africa was not a country in isolation, its development and economic prosperity were also linked to the region and continent’s stability. Highlighting the importance of her deployment, she said that she was proud to be South Africa’s peace messenger. External deployment is a perfect illustration of how much our country, through the SANDF, is willing to drive positive change in Africa in the quest for peace, instead of sitting back arms folded and watching from afar.

When asked what lessons she had learnt during her deployment, she said: “Peacekeeping involves aspects of nation building, positive social change, human rights, development, governance and security.”

WELCOME HOME: Soldiers of 7 SAI Bn queuing to receive their gifts.
Human Resource Division hosts a benchmarking team from the Armed Forces of the DRC

By S Sgt Lebogang Tlhaole
Photos by Mr Timothy Makhubele

In line with the decision taken during the Binational Commission between South Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) that was held in Kinshasa in

RIGHT: Brig Gen Tangamo Yamnona Ozi Jan Adolphe, Director Human Resource, Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC), with the Chief of Human Resource, Lt Gen Norman Yengeni, during their visit.

The DRC Defence Force delegation, led by Brig Gen Tangamo Yamnona Ozi Jan Adolphe, Director Human Resource, Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC), with the Chief of Human Resource, Lt Gen Norman Yengeni, with the South African delegation.

The DRC Defence Force delegation, led by Brig Gen Tangamo Yamnona Ozi Jan Adolphe, Director Human Resource, Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC), with the Chief of Human Resource, Lt Gen Norman Yengeni, with the South African delegation.

The delegation interacted with various SANDF members with the aim of drawing lessons for DRC and reviewing the current DRC human resource policies. They sought to reevaluate their programmes by using SANDF best practices as an example for their reorganisation, as well as learn from the SANDF’s programme in order to develop a more dynamic human resource institution.

They sought also to see how the management of a South African military career is being done from recruitment up to the end of the career. They also want to be enlightened on the ways and types of recruitment, organisation of training, cessation of military service and on the methodology of reconversion and reinsertion, among others.
Ebola update after new outbreaks

Compiled by S Sgt Itumeleng Makhubela

The SA National Defence Force (SANDF) remains vigilant about the developments of the Ebola outbreak, particularly where they are deployed in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The Department of Health, however, recently assured the South African public that all precautions are being taken to prevent its spread in the country.

The Department said that the presence of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in West Africa is closely monitored and they have taken the necessary steps to detect and treat cases if they arrive in the country. The OR Tambo International Airport and Lanseria Airport have thermal scanners that detect travellers with raised temperatures. These travellers, when identified, will be assessed at the medical facilities at these airports.

The National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS) and the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) have also intensified their surveillance at the laboratories. They have emphasised that all Port Health officials should be aware of the EVD outbreak and have a high index of suspicion for travellers with EVD signs and symptoms.

The NICD describes the Ebola virus disease (EVD) (previously known as Ebola haemorrhagic fever), as a severe, often fatal disease in humans and non-human primates. The disease is caused by infection with the Ebola virus. The disease was first recognized in 1976 when two outbreaks (near the Ebola River, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and South Sudan) occurred almost concurrently.

Since then, sporadic outbreaks have occurred in the DRC, Uganda, South Sudan, Congo and Gabon resulting in less than 2 500 confirmed cases from 1976 to 2013 with a mortality rates of 50 – 90% of Ebola patients who have died. The largest EVD outbreak took place in West Africa from December 2013 to June 2016, predominantly in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea, with over 28,616 suspected cases and 11,310 deaths reported to the World Health Organisation.

The Ugandan Ministry of Health (UMoH) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) have confirmed a case of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in Uganda on 9 June 2019 seeking healthcare at the Kagando hospital, where healthcare workers suspected EVD as a possible cause of illness. The boy’s case was confirmed by the Uganda Virus Institute (UVRI).

Unfortunately, the child has since passed away where he was receiving supportive care at the Ebola Treatment Unit in the western Ugandan town of Bwera. The town is situated at the border with DRC and is the place where the family entered Uganda. The child’s family and others that have come in contact with him are being closely monitored for EVD symptoms.

The SA Department of Health (DOH) updated the rapid risk assessment for EVD importation into South Africa. The risk assessment team, consisting of experts from the National Institute for Communicable Disease (NICD), the DOH and a representative from the WHO, concluded that the risk for importation of an EVD case in the context of the ongoing outbreak in the DRC and now Uganda, remains low. Nevertheless, preparedness planning to support timely detection and response to the importation of a case continues.

**Transmission of the Ebola Virus**

Ebola is not as contagious as more common viruses such as colds, influenza or measles. It spreads to people through contact with the skin or bodily fluids of an infected animal, like a monkey, chimp or fruit bat. Then it moves from person to person in the same way. Those who care for a sick person or bury someone who has died from the disease often get it.

Another way in which Ebola is contracted includes touching contaminated needles or surfaces. One cannot get Ebola from air, water or food. A person who has Ebola, but has no symptoms cannot spread the disease either.

**How is Ebola diagnosed?**

Sometimes it is hard to tell if a person has Ebola from the symptoms alone. Doctors may test to rule out other diseases such as cholera or malaria. Tests of blood and tissue can also be used to diagnose Ebola. A patient suspected of having contracted Ebola is immediately isolated from the public to prevent the spread of the disease.

**How is Ebola treated?**

There is no cure for Ebola, though researchers are working on it. Treatment includes an experimental serum that destroys infected cells. Ebola symptoms are managed with fluids and electrolytes, oxygen, blood pressure medication, blood transfusions and treatment of other infections. (Sources: Department of Health, National Institute for Communicable Diseases, World Health Organisation.)
First woman artillerist to lead an Artillery unit

Looking at the resume of the Officer Commanding 4 Artillery Regiment and having had the pleasure of interviewing her as the first female Artillerist to lead an Artillery unit, one quickly gets a sense that Lt Col Mimy Matimbe is filled with determination to lead the unit to the best of her ability.

Mimy Eunice Matimbe was born at the Mamelodi Nursing Home in Pretoria East on 19 April 1977. She matriculated from Tsako Thabo High School at Khalambazo, Mamelodi East in 1995. In 1999 she obtained a Bachelor of Commerce (Economics and Business Management) degree from Vista University – Mamelodi Campus. She started Initial Military Service on 21 January 2002 and completed her Basic Military Training at 3 SA Infantry Battalion, Kimberley. She joined the SA Army Artillery Corps as a gunner in August 2002. She started working as a BSM clerk in 43 Battery, 4 Artillery Regiment in January 2003.

In 2004, she completed the Junior Leader Training and Officers' Formative Course at the SA Army Gymnasium, Heidelberg. She was commissioned as a lieutenant in January 2005, and appointed as Junior Officer Instructor at the Gunnery Wing, School of Artillery until 2007. She obtained a National Certificate in Human Resources Hiring Practices from the University of South Africa in 2008.

Lt Matimbe served as the Observer 43 Battery from January to December 2008. On 1 December 2008, she was promoted to the rank of Captain. Capt Matimbe served as Enhanced Artillery Observation System OPO at the Target Acquisition Battery (45 Battery) from January 2009 to November 2010. She was then appointed as the Battery Commander of 45 Battery from December 2010 till December 2013. She was promoted to the rank of Major on 1 January 2012.

Lt Col Mimy Eunice Matimbe, Officer Commanding 4 Artillery Regiment.

Maj Matimbe completed the SA Army Junior Command Staff Duties Course between 2014 and 2015. She was transferred to the Artillery Mobilisation Regiment as the Second in Command, where she served from 1 January 2014 till 30 March 2017. She was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel on 30 March 2017, and on 7 April the same year, she was appointed as the Officer Commanding 4 Artillery Regiment. Lt Col Matimbe has been awarded the Medal for Loyal Service 10 Years.

Lt Col Matimbe is thankful for the full support of 4 Artillery Regiment members, which also enables her to lead the unit to the best of her ability. To unwind after a long day's work, Lt Col Matimbe does gardening and goes to the gym. Lt Col Matimbe shows sheer determination to excel in everything she does and her life motto is “Be the Best, and Nothing Else”. In her time as OC up to date, being part of the Freedom of the City Parade in September 2017 stood out for her. She had only three months to organise the parade, which was a success. A highlight of 2019 so far, has been when she established the 4 Artillery Regiment Spouses Forum, something which is close to her heart. She was also appointed as a presenter of the OC and RSMs’ Course.

Lt Col Matimbe has been awarded the Medal for Loyal Service 10 Years.

Maj Matimbe completed the SA Army Junior Command Staff Duties Course between 2014 and 2015. She was transferred to the Artillery Mobilisation Regiment as the Second in Command, where she served from 1 January 2014 till 30 March 2017. She was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel on 30 March 2017, and on 7 April the same year, she was appointed as the Officer Commanding 4 Artillery Regiment. Lt Col Matimbe has been awarded the Medal for Loyal Service 10 Years.

Asked what would be the greatest inspiration for other Artillery Corps females to advance in their careers to where she is today, Lt Col Matimbe replied “If you dream, the possibility that your dream will come true is there and if she was able to be appointed as the first Artillery female OC, any female can do it. It’s not true when they say it is ‘a man’s world’, I have proved that”. In her time as OC up to date, being part of the Freedom of the City Parade in September 2017 stood out for her. She had only three months to organise the parade, which was a success. A highlight of 2019 so far, has been when she established the 4 Artillery Regiment Spouses Forum, something which is close to her heart. She was also appointed as a presenter of the OC and RSMs’ Course.

Lt Col Matimbe is thankful for the full support of 4 Artillery Regiment members, which also enables her to lead the unit to the best of her ability. To unwind after a long day’s work, Lt Col Matimbe does gardening and goes to the gym. Lt Col Matimbe shows sheer determination to excel in everything she does and her life motto is “Be the Best, and Nothing Else”. In her time as OC up to date, being part of the Freedom of the City Parade in September 2017 stood out for her. She had only three months to organise the parade, which was a success. A highlight of 2019 so far, has been when she established the 4 Artillery Regiment Spouses Forum, something which is close to her heart. She was also appointed as a presenter of the OC and RSMs’ Course.
The theme for the 2019 SA Army Writing Competition is ‘The Landward Component as Part of a Joint, Interdepartmental, Interagency and Multinational (JI2M) Force’.

Members entering the competition are encouraged to generate their own topic within the confines of the theme. They are free to discuss their choice of topic with the organisers in order to confirm its relevance.

All papers should have a title page with the following information of the entrant:
- Title of paper
- Force number
- Unit
- Rank and name
- Appointment
- Work telephone number
- Mobile number
- Work fax number
- Postal address

See the SA Army Intranet for further details or contact Lt Col L. Thatcher at 012 355 1213.

Closing date: 30 September 2019

Each identified category will have a first, second and third place winner

All entries must be addressed by e-mail to:
2019saarmywritingcompetition@dod.mil.za
or by Lotus Notes to:
2019saarmywritingcompetition
SA Air Force Officers’ Formative Class of 2019 inspires confidence

By Ms Maeshela Kekana
Photos by Mr Timothy Makhubele

After a whole six months of Academic, mental and physical endurance, a group of 56 men and women of the SA Air Force started with the Officers' Formative Course to improve their leadership skills and become better commanders.

22-weeks later the pack is sharp and ready to take on their dedicated duties with confidence. Through it all, focus has been the name of the game in order to kill time without being too home sick.

A journalist of SA Soldier, CO Ally Rakoma, was part of the group. He had this to say about the six month long Officers' Formative Course: “I missed the office so much, and however I enjoyed the daily physical training.”

CO Rakoma shared an emotional, yet inspirational view of the course, he says: “The amount of selflessness put into team work and leadership cannot be measured. One for all and all for one, that’s how we managed to cope the whole duration”.

As we know that all good deeds deserve rewards at the end, best performing members got awards for best academic, fittest female and male, best leader, officers course overall winner and the Air Squadron Sword of honour was awarded to the overall achiever in everything.

In his words CO Nyembe of the Defence Intelligence HQ said: “I was overwhelmed, shocked and overly happy when I heard my name called. As this was unexpected, but it was in the first week of training when most team members predicted that I am going to be at the top. “That moment took me to my days of Basic Military Training back in 2017, I won the fittest award and became the second runner up for overall achiever. As

Maj Gen Motshabi Sehloho, Chief Air Staff Governance, awards CO Siphokuhle Nyembe with the Air Squadron Sword of honour as the best overall achiever on the course.

Born a twin, naturally competitive and focused, CO Siphokuhle Nyembe, a 24-year-old led from Newcastle took the spotlight. Shining all the way from the fittest man; officership and overall achiever of the course.

SA Air Force Officers’ Formative Class of 2019 inspires confidence
he continued with confidence and highlighted that, I am a man of academics.”

CO Nyembe wrapped up by saying: “The best thing to do is love your books and make time to rest. I think ‘nginayo nje’ (it is in me), and the place I work at makes me an even more focused person.”

CO Nyembe was not alone, CO Semakaleng Molapo took the Award for being the fittest woman. “Well, I have always been an active fitness fanatic from a young age. It makes me happy and keeps me motivated when I do what I love,” CO Molapo said smiling to her sister, Ms Molebogeng Moreki.

The Best Academic Award went to CO Petronella Temba, humbled by the award she said her aim was not to best, but to be among the top five achievers. CO Temba added: “Take your books very serious and see it as nothing major, do better to be the best.”

CO Jan Venter, a man who does not preach leadership but practices it and shows it. The Leadership Award he scooped represented not only him, but also those who preceded him and those who will succeed him.

Presiding over the Officers’ Formative Course passing-out parade, Maj Gen Motshabi Sehloho gave final compliments. The highlight of the ceremony was that the group must take it upon themselves to promote the Air Force that Inspires Confidence and do it with pride.

LEFT: Proud family moments, Aunt Thembeka Nyikiza, golden boy Siphokuhle Nyembe with Proud Mom Ntombekhaya Nyembe.
The SA National Defence Force (SANDF) Spouses Forum joined in the 9th year celebration of Nelson Mandela Day since its launch in 2009 with a campaign which benefited the Zodwa Special School as we celebrated our icon, the late Tata Madiba.

The women of the Spouses Forum heeded Madiba’s call by being of service to learners at Zodwa Special School in Attridgeville, Pretoria. The project included the handing over of grocery hampers and winter hoodies to the learners by the members of the Spouses Forum and the SANDF Chefs preparing meals on the day. Upon their arrival, the Spouses Forum members were taken to the learners’ classes to learn about how each learner is treated differently from the other. Each of these learners requires special attention as they are not the same, said the Deputy Principal, Mr Mmekwa Seshabela.

Though their intelligence quotient (IQ) level is challenged, Mr Seshabela said these learners are intelligent in their own way. Mr Seshabela substantiated his point by saying some of these learners were taken in by private cleaning companies while some of them even made it to University level.

He further highlighted that society should learn to accept these kinds of people as they exist in our communities. These are people as we are, however, the difference is obvious due to the levels of our IQ, he said.

Mr Seshabela said this condition is the result of social problems and alcohol consumption during pregnancy. However, these are not the only causes of these conditions. He added that most of the time these conditions emanate from biological causes.

He finally said we cannot blame these learners for their condition. What we have to do is to give them support and make them feel like part of society, he advised.

Interviewing a few of the Spouses Forum members about their experiences with these learners, they explained:

Ms Mvuyo, a Spouses Forum member, said she was floored by what she witnessed at the school. "I was surprised at how much these learners can do despite their challenges," she said. "They are strong and resilient."

Ms Mthembu, another Spouses Forum member, echoed Ms Mvuyo’s sentiments. "I was moved to tears by their stories," she said. "They are so grateful for any little support we give them."

Ms Mxakwe, a third Spouses Forum member, pointed out that these learners are not different from the rest of us. "They are just like us, they just need more support," she said. "We should not judge them by their condition, but by their potential."

Ms Mbheka, a forth Spouses Forum member, said she was enlightened by the experience. "I now appreciate how much we take for granted," she said. "These learners are so grateful for any little support we give them."

Ms Mxakwe, a fifth Spouses Forum member, pointed out that these learners are not different from the rest of us. "They are just like us, they just need more support," she said. "We should not judge them by their condition, but by their potential."

Ms Mbheka, a sixth Spouses Forum member, said she was moved to tears by their stories. "I was surprised at how much these learners can do despite their challenges," she said. "They are strong and resilient."

The SANDF Spouses Forum continue with Madiba’s legacy - By AB Samuel Ramonyai - Photos by Mr Timothy Makhubela
their experience with these learners, their shared sentiments were much more emotional than anything else. As mothers, putting themselves in the shoes of these learners’ parents, they could not deal well with this experience. However, most of them said this was an eye-opening experience.

PROFILE OF THE ZODWA SPECIAL SCHOOL

Zodwa Special School is a public institution catering specialised tuition for more than 200 learners with severe intellectual impairment. Their disabilities include autism, Down’s syndrome, physical, cerebral palsy, behavioral disorders and epilepsy. It accommodates learners from Attridgeville, Lotus Gardens, Olivenhoutbosch, Pretoria Central, Pretoria West, Thaba Tshwane, Surrounding RDP houses and Informal Settlements.

Many of the learners come from poor backgrounds and sometimes single parents and child-headed families, most of whom are unemployed. Speaking at the event, the Chairperson of the Spouses Forum, Ms Charlotte Shoke, said they appreciated the opportunity granted to them to learn about disabled people. She added that the visit to the school was an eye-opener.

She further advised that we should not wait for prosperity to be generous or even Mandela Day. Mrs Shoke said we should learn to take action, inspire change and make every day a Mandela Day. She spoke these words as encouragement to people to show generosity in their day to day lives.

Ms Shoke mentioned that every day is an opportunity to identify people we can help even if it means helping with our own time and not with money. Time is the most valuable asset we need today, she said. She added that this month should be used as a month in which we reach and transform lives. We must strive to reach our communities, particularly those who are in need. Let us lend a helping hand to somebody out there, she said.

Concluding her speech, Ms Shoke said South Africa has a responsibility to preserve Madiba’s legacy as a fundamental part of this country’s history and also encourage and mobilise the public to continue doing good.
The popularity of giving 67 minutes of our time to improve lives on Nelson Mandela International Day, also known as Mandela Day, continues to grow. More and more organizations and the public are willing to do something good for the communities.

This was evident when members of the Defence Headquarters and the surrounding units took the responsibility to preserve Madiba’s legacy as a fundamental part of this country’s history and also

Members of the Military Police Division cleaning the streets of Thaba Tshwane as part of giving back to the community.

Members of the Catering School executing environmental spring cleaning near the Thaba Tshwane Sports Field.

encourage and mobilise the public to continue doing good at Thaba Tshwane in Pretoria on Mandela Day.

Members from the Military Police Division, Defence Headquarters, Logistic Support Formation and surrounding units rolled up their sleeves in a combined effort to clean the Thaba Tshwane area.

The Regimental Sergeant Major of the Military Police School, MWO Jan Pretorius, said cleaning Thaba Tshwane was a brilliant idea as this was the first time to give back to the community of Thaba Tshwane since the inception of Mandela Day.

MWO Pretorius added that this was a positive effort and they were looking forward to be part of this campaign of changing lives every year. However, he said Thaba Tshwane could be even cleaner if the whole community rolls up their sleeves to be part of this campaign.

Agreeing with MWO Pretorius, the Officer Commanding of the Catering School, Lt Col Thabo Halom, said he felt honoured and privilege to be part of this campaign. He remarked that he felt good that the catering school participated in adding value to the Thaba Tshwane community and that was what Madiba would have liked to see.

“Nelson Mandela’s life has been an inspiration to the world. He has been making an imprint on the world for 67 years, beginning in 1942 when he first started to campaign for the human rights of every South African.

Today, we are here in Thaba Tshwane to give our 67 minutes, with every minute given for every year of Mandela’s public service. We are taking action, inspire change and we wish to make every day a Mandela Day,” he said.

Lt Col Halom added that this campaign should be a continuous effort by the residence of Thaba Tshwane and unit members who work and reside around the area.
The Area Military Health Unit KwaZulu-Natal (AMHU KZN) acted as a Bridge between the SA National Defence Force and the community.

Tata Nelson Mandela, who called upon people to honor his birthday by spending 67 Minutes of their time in making the lives of the less fortunate communities better.

The AMHU KZN Acting Officer Commanding, Lt Col Virginia Vardhan, and the Staff celebrated this day with the pupils of The Ningizimu Special School in Durban with many fun activities that took place on the day. In the opening moments the school Scouts and Girl guides showcased their drilling and formations skills under the command of Mrs Lindiwe Mvubu and Mrs Khanyi Gumbi, who are educators at the school.

The entertainment was provided by the SA Army Band and the School marimba band, which consists of Educators Mr Lwazi Ncube and Mr Sizwe Ngcobo and the learners Mr Fresh Goge, Mr Thabo Hadebe and Ms Sphelele Mngadi. Ms Zethu Mkhwanazi, the school principal, gave the unit a warm welcome and thanked the unit commanders for choosing the school as the beneficiary of their 67 Minutes this year. The faces of the educators and learners were filled with joy and happiness, and spending time with members of the SA National Defence Force meant a lot to them.

Speaking on behalf of the Unit, Lt Col Vardhan, extended words of appreciation to the school principal and staff for allowing the AMHU KZN to celebrate Tata Madiba’s birthday with the School. This event was made possible by the AMHU KZN staff who had raised funds over the past few months in order for the Unit to be able to contribute to bettering other people’s lives.

The following items were handed over to the School: Badminton kits, and Lt Col Deidre Horn, who is a national badminton player, gave lessons to educators and the learners. Sewing machines were donated to the school that will be useful, as they mostly teach pupils handwork, as well as equipment for carpentry and art.

The day was well spent with a lot of activities such as face painting, artistic drawing and the rehabilitation of the greenhouse where the school community plant vegetables. The main fun event of the day was the soccer game between the teams of AMHU KZN and the Ningizimu Special School.

The Tata Mandela birthday celebration was not going to be complete without the cutting of the birthday cake with Tata Mandela’s face on. The school staff, led by the principal, Ms Mkhwanazi, and the AMHU KZN members, under the command of Lt Col Vardhan, gathered together for the cutting of the cake, which was later served and enjoyed by everyone. The excitement of the pupils of the Ningizimu Special School and the way they appreciated everything during the event gave the AMHU KZN members a great deal of satisfaction.

The acting Officer Commanding AMHU KZN thanked all unit members for their efforts in making this day a success and for always being willing to contribute when they are requested to do so, and also encouraged members to make themselves available for events of a similar nature in the future.
A Samaritan from the SA Army Intelligence Corps

Let me give you the background on how this small team of 5 SA Army Infantry Battalion (5 SAI Bn) started to develop a vegetable garden within their unit lines. It all started with the initiative of Chief of the SA Army when he, with the assistance of his wife as the Chairperson, introduced the SA Army Spouses Forum (SAASFO) to the concept.

Chief of the SA Army encouraged SA Army members to organise outreach projects and social activities, facilitate community development; develop stronger interaction and partnerships between SAASFO and other relevant stakeholders, and to alleviate poverty amongst the military families and surrounding communities where the SA Army has a footprint. Part of the initiative was that SA Army Formations must identify vacant DOD land for small-scale farming within their areas and for establishing Military Agricultural Parks. This project should provide goods in the short term, thus SA Army Formations must purchase produce from the SA Army Spouses Forum for their commercialised messes.

SSgt Nkosinathi Emmanuel Mkhulise, an Intelligence NCO of 5 SAI Bn, took the initiative to start a vegetable garden. He realised that members who are not deploying can actually make a difference within their unit lines. He presented his project to the Officer Commanding, Lt Col Michael Zama, who gave him permission to continue. He was assisted by a few committed soldiers of the SA Army Infantry Corps in the Unit. The area was fenced off and he requested the assistance of the Alfred Duma Municipality to provide a tractor for the cultivation of the piece of land that he had earmarked for the vegetable garden. He was also supported by the Department of Agriculture that sponsored seeds for his project. Without the assistance of Lt Col Zama, Maj Thembinkosi Ngcobo and Sgt Derrick Nondaba, this project would not have been a success. A question was posed to SSgt Mkhulise about his future plans with this project. He indicated very positively that the next step was to obtain ten head of cattle and six head of sheep to start with a breeding process, because the Unit had sufficient grazing areas. Who is this soldier and highly respected community member of Ladysmith?

There are about 27 entities that currently take part, with teams consisting of 12 members pushing a 23 mm gun down Murchison Street in Ladysmith. This is where the Freedom of Entry and the welcoming parade of 5 SAI Bn takes place. This true Samaritan also assisted in a few community projects. One such project was when 2500 trees were planted at schools of the uThukela District together with the Department of Education. What a true ambassador for the Department of Defence.

SSgt Mkhulise is also a member of the working committee of Dr Joseph Shabalala of the Ladysmith Black Mambazo. He also played a crucial role in the Social Development Youth Camps in Kimberley and Ladysmith, both were hosted by the South African National Defence Force. He is really an inspiration to his community and a great asset to the organisation.
SA Army Support Formation recognises good service and devotion to duty

In recognition of their good service, exemplary conduct and exceptional devotion to duty, medals were bestowed on members of the SA Army Support Formation by the outgoing General Officer Commanding of the SA Army Support Formation, Maj Gen Luvuyo Nobanda during a medal parade held at the Pretoria Military Sports Club in Thaba Tshwane recently.

Medals are the highest form of recognition that the SA National Defence Force bestows on deserving members. This is done to acknowledge members for their tireless contribution and dedication in serving the country. Others are awarded for individual acts of valor or courage that have special significance for the SANDF. It is also to honour meritorious service or achievement.

Equally important, the medal parade gives us all an opportunity to celebrate as we reflect on the contribution made by our fellow soldiers to the security of our country. It was a reflection of the diligent and professional behaviour. The parade was in line with military culture which recognises all those who have provided extraordinary and professional service to the SANDF.

Speaking to the recipients, Maj Gen Nobanda said the parade was organised to thank and award them for the commendable contribution to the SANDF. He added that the medals, decorations and citations received reflected the excellent service provided by members of the SA Army Support Formation to the public at large.

He urged and challenged all members to redouble their efforts to ensure that they promoted good discipline in the SANDF. In this way they would be a good example to those who are placed under their command. They should strive to realise the SANDF vision, namely “An SANDF that is ready and capable of effectively and professionally executing successful missions and operations, as directed by Government.”

Article and photos by S Sgt Lebogang Tlhaole
Chief Director Human Resource Management staff put their hands to work at Ikhaya Lethu Lethemba for Mandela Day

Article and photos by Mr Tsholanang Zwane, Assistant Director HR Corporate Communication

Chief Director Human Resource Management (CD HRM) staff members rolled up their sleeves and opened their wallets to make sure that the children at Ikhaya Lami Lethemba in Soshanguve North of Pretoria would again have an extra special day on their second visit to the orphanage during the 2019 Mandela Day.

This year was extraordinary as the Executive Mayor of the City of Tshwane, Councillor Stevens Mokgalapa, and his staff members also became part of the people who dirtied their hands, partnering with the likes of the SANDF, ASSUPOL, SAPS (Maupanaga Section of Safety and Protection) and Men of Change Movement to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Mandela Day to give back to the Centre.

The Orphanage was opened in 2004 by Ms Francinah Baloyi, and it has a pre-school unit with nine caregivers for about 100 orphans aged between 5 months and 19 years. Between 20 and 30 children, all from troubled family backgrounds, sleep in, relying on the orphanage’s hospitality. Babies are kept in one of the tin huts. The floors are bare cement with thin, loose carpets strewn around. They don’t have any cots for the children, and only a few beds and mattresses.

Ikhaya Lami Lethemba manager, Ms Nombulelo Lelosa said, with tears streaming from her eyes, she was once again very grateful that all these organisations chose to come back as promised to do more work at the centre. “I just want to say I am very emotional today because this means a lot to the children and the staff here at the centre. We just want to say you are welcome to come at any given time to visit the centre because your presence here today has given hope back to the children,” said Lelosa.

Representatives from all organisations present who took to the stage spoke in one voice saying Mandela Day is an everyday event and it should be seen as the day of service and not talking. They reiterated that more action was needed to make sure the legacy of Mandela lived on to the next generations.

The HRM officials said that they saw a need again this year to continue their relationship with the centre. They donated blankets and clothes to the children with the money they have contributed as part of celebrating the 10th Anniversary of Madiba to give back to the community and bring hope to the children.

Fltr: WO Ndlela, SA Police Service (SAPS), R Adm (JG) Gladys Mbulaheni, Director HR Maintenance, Lt Col Shai from SAPS, Mr Jay Malatji, Senior Sales Manager ASSUPOL and R Adm (JG) Samuel Makhaya, Director HR Separation holding the items to be donated.

Lt Col Adam Loff, SO1 Employment Services with kids from the Ikhaya Lami Lethemba Orphanage.
Regiment Westelike Provincie partners with Goal Supermarket for Mandela Day

Regiment Westelike Provincie has a partnership with Goal Supermarket, one of the enterprises that looks after its people within the communities of Khayelitsha, Mfuleni and Philippi. With the blessing of the General Officer, we embarked on the journey initiated by the late Tata Mandela using the values of Ubuntu and a “call” by our current President (Thuma Mina).

By renovating houses as part of the Mandela Day project, the Unit and the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) as a whole were doing their part for changing the lives of the less privileged communities. In planning for the Mandela Day celebration for this year, the Goal Supermarket Group budgeted R98000. This enabled us to renovate 5 houses in the communities mentioned above.

Members of Regiment Westelike Provincie also visited members from Cape Town Rifles and Cape Town Highlanders during the renovations.

The Regiment invited its neighbouring Units, namely 9 South African Infantry Battalion, Cape Town Rifles and Cape Town Highlanders to assist as the project for Mandela Day Celebration got bigger. The SANDF and Goal Supermarket, revamped the houses of five families in different areas, and as the winter season had started, they really appreciated what was done by the soldiers and Goal Supermarket. Groceries were also handed over to the families.

All five houses identified were successfully completed within a short space of time and the house owners were very pleased with the work done by our uniformed members.

Members of Regiment Westelike Provincie, renovating a house in celebration of Mandela Day.

Lt Col Ndimphiwe Harrison Fikizolo, Regiment Westelike Provincie, Lt Tsholofelo Moyo and the owners of the house.

Article and photos by Cpl Linda Solaha, Regiment Westelike Provincie Communication NCO
Military acumen and Organisational logic shared the centre stage at the Defence Works Formation Warrant Officers’ Discipline Work Session held in Durban at the Regional Works Unit KwaZulu-Natal. All Regimental Sergeant Majors around the country forming part of the Defence Works Formation, and representing Regional Works Units, were present at the conference.

Discipline is the backbone of the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) and no change in method of warfare or scientific developments will affect this truth. As prescribed within the South African Constitution, section 200 (1) and the Defence Act of 2000 (1), and with reference to the Chief of the SANDF (C SANDF) instruction to all SANDF Warrant Officers, the South African Defence Force (SANDF) must be structured and managed as a disciplined military force. C SANDF held a discipline workshop to discuss the causes of ill-discipline and remedial measures, however, it is the responsibility of every SANDF member to maintain self-discipline, military discipline and operational discipline.

Military discipline is a way of life for all soldiers. It is not a matter of choice or determined by where you find yourself or the type of work, position or even rank that you hold within the SANDF. Military discipline permeates all aspects of military life: It is the force that guides the ethical and moral behaviour of soldiers during combat and in peacetime. Defence Works Formation Warrant Officers exhibit the leadership, discipline and enthusiasm that inspire soldiers in all units under command with military professionalism.

Due to its unique functional posture, the Defence Works Formation operates with artisans, who are soldiers that are qualified and capacitated to perform such duties. It is therefore still under the jurisprudence of the military code of conduct, norms and cultures, which is anchored in the discipline of its members, and the RSMs are the custodians of that principle within the SANDF. Holistic and robust exchange of ideas with the intention of achieving common ground in the best interest of the Defence Works Formation family within the prescripts of the SANDF was the order of each day at the work session.

RSMs from all units under the command of Defence Works Formation, including the Sergeant Majors of the directorates, presented their plans to CWO Dlangisa. Without any doubt, a work session of this kind is very critical within the military to reflect on the current status of discipline in the organisation, which then will assist in making adjustments, if necessary.

Some aspects of disciplines discussed by CWO Dlagisa at the five-day work session included: Discipline plan, Care plan, the role of Warrant Officers as disciplinarians and father figures, Accident Prevention Plan for unauthorised and misuse of military vehicles for personal use to mention a few. He further emphasised the critical spirit of camaraderie and uplifting of esprit de corps amongst leaders and subordinates.

The emotions at the Malvern Youth Care Centre situated in the outskirts of Durban were palpable when Defence Works Formation Warrant Officers under the command of CWO Dlangisa’s entourage arrived. Malvern Youth Care Centre is a home to 96 children, with the eldest being 18 years of age and the youngest 26 months. The Centre is multicultural with a house occupancy of 10 to 12 children and relies entirely on donations from good Samaritans. Mrs Roxanne Branders mentioned that the school has been running for 85 years.

CWO Officer Dlangisa remarked: “It is the prime intention of the SANDF to donate to the needy and make changes within the best interest of the communities wherever it goes and to ensure that our subordinates contribute voluntarily and meaningfully to make a difference in those communities.”
The Battle of Delville Wood commemorated

South African soldiers who died during World War I were recently remembered during a wreath laying ceremony at the 103rd commemoration of the Battle of Delville Wood held at Burgers Park in Pretoria to mark the vital role played by South Africans during the Great War, as well as the battle in which thousands of its troops from the infantry brigade died.

South African soldiers, who are embraced and affectionately remembered as sons of France. He spoke passionately about the need to honour our military veterans who sacrificed their lives for freedom not only during the Great War and other wars, but also in Southern Africa to bring about freedom and dignity for all.

He said that Delville Wood occupies a particular place in the South African history and represents a national symbol of courage and sacrifice. He said this display of courage and sacrifice is still characteristic of the SANDF. Military men and women of our country still heed the call for help on our very own African continent. He said: “Let all South Africans stand proud of what men of Delville Wood of all races sacrificed for their country. Let their ideal be our legacy and their sacrifice our inspiration.”

The Battle of Delville Wood occurred when the South African Brigade was deployed to the Somme, an area along the French-Belgian border, in 1916. They were ultimately commanded to dislodge the German forces from their strategic strongpoint at Longueval, which borders Delville Wood. More than a million men, mainly from the South African Brigade, were killed in action.

The Battle of Delville Wood went down in the history of World War I as an example of supreme sacrifice and heroism and remained the most costly battle in which the South African Brigade fought on the Western Front. It was an opportunity to remember our countrymen who volunteered their services and the great sacrifice made by South Africans, especially those who formed part of the SA Native Labour Corps.

Remembering those that died during the Battle, Chaplain Ben van der Walt spoke with gratitude about the sacrifice made on behalf of the French people by South African soldiers, who are embraced and affectionately remembered as sons of France. He spoke passionately about the need to honour our military veterans who sacrificed their lives for freedom not only during the Great War and other wars, but also in Southern Africa to bring about freedom and dignity for all.

He said that Delville Wood occupies a particular place in the South African history and represents a national symbol of courage and sacrifice. He said this display of courage and sacrifice is still characteristic of the SANDF. Military men and women of our country still heed the call for help on our very own African continent. He said: “Let all South Africans stand proud of what men of Delville Wood of all races sacrificed for their country. Let their ideal be our legacy and their sacrifice our inspiration.”

Memories of the SA National Defence Force and military veterans attending the 103rd commemoration of the Battle of Delville Wood at Burgers Park.

The General Officer Commanding, General Support Base Garrison, Brig Gen Nkhanedzeni Ndou, laying a wreath to remember those who died during the Battle of Delville Wood.

A piper from the SA Military Health Service Band sounding the last post and Reveille at the 103rd commemoration of the Battle of Delville Wood at Burgers Park, Pretoria.

Article and photos by
S Sgt Lebogang Tlhaoele

SA Soldiers

VOL 26 NO 6 2019

45
The importance of leaving a legacy

By Cpln Abraham van Rensburg, Naval Base Simon’s Town

WHAT IS A LEGACY

Legacy is personal, relational and eternal. It’s a commitment to invest your resources whether it is personal or relational and leave an inheritance for generations to come which will equate to an eternal reward. It can also be a desire birthed in inspiration through God’s Spirit to impart something beyond our lifetime.

LEGACY REQUIRES A MINDSHIFT

Sometimes we overlook the present, and focus too much on the future. Without the present we don’t have a future. For example, trees won’t grow tomorrow if we don’t plant a seed today.

Having a dream does not mean a lot if we don’t work today towards it.

TODAY MATTERS. Our lives matter, what we do today will have a ripple effect on all our tomorrows. According to researchers, in 1993, under the direction of the United States Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM), white blood cells scraped from the mouth of a volunteer, were centrifuged and placed in a test tube. A probe from the polygraph – a lie or motion detector – was then inserted in the tube.

The donor of the cheek cells was seated in a room separated from his donated cells and shown a television program with many violent scenes. When the volunteer watched scenes of fighting and killing, the probe from the polygraph detected extreme excitement in the mouth cells – even though they were in a room down the hall! It appears that DNA carries our emotions and reactions, even when separated from our bodies.

Repeated experiments produced the same response, even up to fifty miles in distance and two days after the cells were removed. This experiment gives us a clear indication that we can create a legacy through our children for future generations. This means that our lives have an impact on our children through our DNA passed on to them.

A quote from Albert Einstein: "Our death is not an end if we can live on in our children and younger generation. For they are us; our bodies are only wilted leaves of the tree of life"

Heb.12: 1-2 Speaks of a great cloud of witnesses that we will join on the other side of this life. It will testify of the personal witness that we will leave behind for future generations. If we focus on Jesus Christ, the author and finisher of our faith, we can accomplish much.

We have celebrated the legacy of Nelson Mandela in the month of July. He will be remembered for the sacrifices he made and the ideals he was willing to die for. Future generations will remember him for his selfless life to create a better future for our country, South Africa.
SANDF SAYS

NOTO

RHINO - POACHING
The SANDF:

25 PATRIOTIC YEARS
of selflessly rendering SUPPORT
to fellow South Africans and other state departments.

From Port St. John's to Matabele, Mahikeng to the Vaal and beyond our borders, the SANDF is the bearer of hope through the various humanitarian interventions it is engaged in to alleviate the plight of distressed South Africans and other fellow Africans.

Our soldiers reached out with a helping hand during:


The SANDF ensured that the CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT to have the provision of essential services to communities in distress continue unhindered, and that the preservation of life and health is realised.

We remain on standby to assist in disaster areas like the ones during the Port St. John's and Ethekwini floods.

WE CONNECT COMMUNITIES
We build bridges in Port St. John's, Matabele and other areas and ensure that children are able to access their places of learning and cut-off communities gain passage to their livelihoods.

WE DEFEND OUR HARD-EARNED DEMOCRACY
We ensure that fellow South Africans exercise their hard-earned right to elect the government of their choice without fear or prejudice.

WE BRING HOPE TO OUR PEOPLE
In emergency or humanitarian relief operations:

We lead search and rescue efforts and Coordinate the provision of relief to fellow Africans in distress like during the Tropical Cyclone Idai devastation in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe.

THE SANDF SECONDARY MANDATE:
Our soldiers serve in support of other state departments. We support the people of South Africa to achieve socio-economic upliftment and a better life for all.