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New Year’s message: Secretary for Defence

New Year’s message: Chief of the SANDF

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Well done philosopher!

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Welcome on board: Chaplains’ magazine

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SA SOLDIER wishes its readers a prosperous New Year. We hope you are as excited and eager as we are to grab all opportunities coming your way this year and to explore them! May 2003 be a year of challenges, prosperity and peace.

SA SOLDIER wants to say goodbye to our Editor, George Thiart, and Martin Botha, one of our layout and design artists. These two gentlemen came a long way with Defence Corporate Communication. They have done sterling work, rendered professional assistance and given distinguished service.

George knew SA SOLDIER inside out, having been with the magazine ever since it was still PARATUS. He was there when it was renamed SALUT.

George was deeply involved in the whole realignment process of SALUT, resulting in it being a transformed magazine, SA SOLDIER. He was an integral part of the new magazine's whole development process from its very infant stages.

Today, the magazine he worked so hard to change is well-read by most SANDF members and embraced by all as their own. The magazine receives compliments each time an issue is published and positive comments have come from such high places as Parliament: SA SOLDIER has received praise from many other quarters, the most notable being the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS).

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He always had a way of making SA SOLDIER looks eye-catching and visually attractive. He has contributed immensely to the appearance of the magazine. A popular and well-liked gentleman, Martin’s politeness, humbleness and friendliness will be missed by his colleagues and friends.

The departure of George and Martin, at the same time, will leave a big and gaping empty hole at Defence Corporate Communication and Information System (GCIS).

George o kgathile tema ye boholoko kudu diphekošong makoma tša SALUT, yeo e felediši tše ba pukwana ye e ka gofakalamolisa hpatša ya bona. Pukwana ye e hlamo dimise o batile bohle,Ce go re le hla mafepa go tlopola ma ha boni, kudu go fapafapana tše ba lika. Go ba go dira gore SA SOLDIER e be le kgogedegelo le kgatla, ke le go fapha go go tsekgala le phatlalatšo ya bona.

Martin o fentše dikgošo le go fona go tšoše a go ne, ke le go feta go go fepa le bohle, ke le go fepa le go bale, ke le go fepa le go fepa. O be a phuta e la kholo, ke le go fepa le go fepa le go fepa le go fepa. O be a phuta e la kholo, ke le go fepa le go fepa le go fepa le go fepa. O be a phuta e la kholo, ke le go fepa le go fepa le go fepa le go fepa.

SA SOLDIER e lakaletša babadi ba yona Ngwaga wo Moswa wa katlego. Re holofe gore le tšhabile ebile le fšešegolwa go swana le rena go šomišiši dikeka kumoka tšo le f sicho go kopa le tsšo ngwageng go wome la di hlohlomišiša! 2003 ga e be ngwaga wa ditlhotlo, katlego le khotšo.

Rena mo SA SOLDIER re rata go laela Morulaganyi go rena, George Thiart, gommo go Martin Botha, yo mongwe wa boramekgabo ba rena ba borulaganyi le bohlami. Masogana a mabedi a e tša kgole kudu le Ditaba tša Kgoagano tša ka Seoleng (Defence Corporate Communication). Ba dirile moso mo bo motsele kudu, ba fana ka thuso ya sepogošenale le go fana ka tšire ya maemo a godimo.

George o be a tseba SA SOLDIER ka bolotla, ba go a bile le pukwana ye go tšoga go nako yeo e be go e bohle, se sa bitšwa PARATUS. O be a le gona ge e be e rena lesewa la la SALUT.

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Go tšwa go teseke ya Morulaganyi

Nelda Pienaar
Acting Editor

From the Editor’s desk

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Acting Editor
What does a peace-keeping force imply?

Uncertainty is one the greatest fears one can experience. Being uncertain of one’s destiny and purpose in life and what the future holds could lead to embarrassment, fear of the unknown and to disappointing mankind. Which is the greatest? You decide.

To me it is fear, fear of the unknown that leads to perception. The definition of perception should rather be kept unsaid.

My fear was to be deployed as a member of a peace-keeping force to Burundi. Burundi, where is Burundi, what is expected of a member in Burundi?

And yes, soldiers, what is a soldier? In this case a peace-keeping force soldier? Is it a man in combat or could it as well be a woman in combat? Yes indeed it is both but with a difference, we weren’t in combat. Indeed we supported the numerous VIP protectors that protected the VIPs of Burundi.

If only they could learn from us, but no we had much to learn from them. Even though they had to live in uncertain conditions, with little or no food at all, walking long distances, driving huge stacks of banana bunches to markets on bicycles, they always smiled and waved when they saw a South African soldier. They had so little to give but what they had they shared.

If only a smile and wave could be appreciated. Yes, we encountered hostile behaviour from some of the locals, but not in any way that could be harmful to us. Yes, the VIPs were bombarded but no attack was purposely directed to us. It was more dangerous to cross the roads in Burundi from our living area to our offices. Although we fear for our lives when we leave South African soil and we believe in what we have read and heard from the media we still go.

Why? Do we do it for the danger allowance, the experience, or merely for personal gain? The answer lies within.

To me, the experience, but what an eye opener, it was more than I have bargained for. Not only did I gain experience, learned about poverty, started to appreciate the simpler things in life, but I also regained my trust in fellow South African soldiers and myself. I am proud to be a South African soldier (a lady) at all times, I am proud of the difference we are making in Burundi, and I am proud to say that we have great and wonderful people working for the SANDF.

At first the old battle between the Air Force and the Army was upsetting, the battle was taking place in Burundi between the two local groups and not between the Air Force and the Army. Is it really that important to proof who the best team might be? But then things started to change, one man with a vision to unite South African soldiers, whether Air Force, Army, path finders, Navy, or ‘Medics’ took control, we had to be one.

Our Mobile Air Operations Team (MAOT) Commander, Col P.J. Hills, at the time of my deployment started at his own front door. He united the Air Force MAOT team members and then started to build up friendships with the rest of the contingent. The change in human behaviour was phenomenal.

Getting to know our fellow South African soldiers, learning about new customs and traditions and to partake in the various leisure time activities, made being away from home, living in a tent, having to take ice cold showers, mobile toilets (which was only cleaned twice a week), mobile kitchen mess food (food bought locally) worthwhile.

Being deployed to Burundi was a great experience. Each and every day different people cross our paths and leave something of themselves behind to change our way of being forever. Meeting new and wonderful people was a highlight during my deployment. Thank you to all those that crossed my path and for the change you brought forward. Life is all we have and we live but only once, grasp every moment and enjoy it to its full. It was hard to leave my new friends behind, and there is a life outside deployment that we have to face, the life we have with our loved ones. Even though we make new friends on deployments it can never substitute the appreciation on the faces of our loved ones when we return safely home.

Will I deploy to Burundi again? If I had the opportunity to go, yes, my experience the second time around might not be the same as the first time or that of others, but I will take the risk - Capt Christine Doreen van den Bergh, Hoedspruit. 🇿🇦

Take charge of your life

I am appealing to all members of the SANDF - officers, NCOs and Privates - change your perception (outlook) and your attitude (behaviour). It is time to shape your own destiny. Invest your money in education. Use your bonus money to pay for your tuition. Liquor, drugs, or being a playboy or playgirl is an unwise investment.

Liberate yourself from mental slavery and mental dependency. You need to have mental independency. Take charge of your life. Think about your future. I would like to see eighty percent of all soldiers becoming graduates. Start now. I will die a happy man if I see my dream blossom.

Those who don’t have Standard 6, get Standard 6. Those who don’t have Standard 8, get Standard 8. Those who don’t have Standard 10, get Standard 10. Those who don’t have a tertiary certificate, get a tertiary certificate. Those who don’t have a diploma, get a diploma. Those who don’t have a degree, get a degree. By the year 2010 you will need to be computer literate, otherwise you won’t be employable. You have ample time, especially in the Infantry Corps, to study and shape your future, and to have a meaningful life. Infantry is a dumping zone. Don’t wait to be sent on courses; send yourself to school. Empower yourself, acquire skills and be a better person and graduate under your boss’s nose.

Take the example of Mr M.K. Mohlala. He was a security guard at Eskom. Today he is a CEO of an electric power supply company in Gauteng. Through education Mr Mohlala made it; what about you and me? Think about life after the SANDF - Mr V.P. Mzingaye, Pretoria. 🇿🇦
Are not two sparrows sold for a cent?

After the 1899-1902 War, a women who had survived the concentration camps expressed a wish to Jan Smuts and Rachel Isabel Steyn (wife of the President of the Orange Free State) that the humblest coin in the South African coinage should bear the emblem of the humble sparrow, to remind each one of us of the verses in St Matthew’s gospel which tell us of our worth in the eyes of God.

Matthew 10 v 29-31: “Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”

This wish was fulfilled when a design of two sparrows on a mimosa branch by Kruger Gray, an engraver at the British Royal Mint, was depicted on the farthing in 1923, during Smuts’s first term as Prime Minister.

The farthing depicted the sparrows until 1960 and then the sparrows were depicted on the half-cent coin from 1961 to 1964. A new sparrow design by South African engraver Tommy Sasseen (based on a painting by Dick Findlay) appeared on the one-cent coin from 1965 to 1990 and the half-cent coin between 1970 and 1981. A design by William Lumley, based on the Kruger Gray design, has been depicted on our smallest coin, the one-cent coin, since 1991. (The one-cent is due to be phased out shortly and it should be interesting to see if the two sparrows still remain on the next planned humblest coin.)

Steve’s War Stories, reflected in “A Tourist Guide to the Anglo Boer War 1899-1902” compiled by Tony Westby-Nunn - Tony has combined his interests in history and tourism to produce his tourist guide.

He spent fifteen years helping to market South Africa’s tourism through the Portfolio of Places. He is currently working on a tourist guide to the Anglo-Zulu War.

This reference to the role of those women shows that not every story from the camps was a horror story. Tony Westby-Nunn, who lives in Simon’s Town, is a family friend of one of the test pilots at the Test Flight Development Centre (TFDC) in Bredasdorp. On the commemoration of Women’s Day this research inspired a few thoughts at a ladies tea party of the TFDC ladies. The TFDC ladies are closely related to military members who are dedicated to research into and development of South African aircraft. Their men don’t have regular nine-to-five jobs. The day they joined the SA Air Force they dedicated their lives to their jobs. Their jobs are adventurous and lead to many a wife being isolated (if she permits it).

During the tea the wives were reminded of the many attributes of the wives in Proverbs. It was stressed that, as in the case of the humble sparrows, they have no need to be troubled about the future, because God cares for us and looks after each one of us. They were also reminded that it is expected of them to recognise the needs of the rest of our community (countrywide) and to do something about it.

Should there be a call for your spouse (sparrow!) to leave the nest, make it known to the other TFDC women. We are here to love and cherish one another. Never assume that others are aware of your isolation. Take the first step towards reaching out to your support network. Never underestimate the positive power of a woman! - Letty-Ann Viviers, CMI TFDC.

Dare to go bare

In support of Lt Col S.J.J. van Wyk’s letter, “Dare to go bare”, published in the November 2002 issue of SA SOLDIER, I just want to know why is it that a black woman can bare her breasts in public and it’s called culture, but when a white woman does the same it is called public indecency.

I agree that this kind of photo is degrading to women, and if there are women who want this kind of photo published, should they not rather approach magazines like Hustler and Scope. With all the rapes occurring in this country, photos like this should not be published - Ms E. Fick, Pretoria.

* The debate has started… What do our other readers say? Do take up the pen and air your views on this ‘sensitive’ issue - Ed.

Russian collector in search

I address you to help me in my activity. I am interested in the history of your uniform, badges, rank of insignia, as well as regimental badges. I am also collecting books, magazines and posters of armed forces worldwide.

I have some material about your Army, but I don’t have any information about its latest uniform, insignia and badges.

I ask you to assist me in getting the above-mentioned material. Thank you for your help - Michail Rasigraev, Russian Heraldry Society member.

* Please assists our friend. Michail’s address is Pionerstroja Street, House 6, apt 76, Sankt-Petersburg, 198206, Russia - Ed.

R200-00 prize for the best letter

SA SOLDIER welcomes letters to the Editor. Short letters are more likely to be published, and all letters may be edited for reasons of style, accuracy or space limitations. Letters should preferably be typewritten and double-spaced. All letters must include the writer’s full name, address and home telephone number. The volume of letters we receive makes individual acknowledgement impossible. Please send your letters to: The Editor, SA SOLDIER Letters, Private Bag X158, Pretoria, 0001. Letters may also be faxed to (012) 555-6399 or sent via email to sasoldier@mil.za. We would like to hear your comments or ideas, particularly about matters affecting members of the Department of Defence. Regrettably, anonymous letters cannot be answered officially or published - Ed.
Save our children

Little heroes go down the drain day by day. Future leaders go down the drain day by day. They cry so loud, but the whole world is not listening. Only you mothers of the world can save the children. There are a lot of things that should be legalised, but abortion should not. How can you have a face of an angel, and let the devil inside of you take control. We are tired of hearing these little voices crying out from far away saying: 

"Mama, why do you destroy me? Mama, what have I done to you? I deserve to live like anybody else."

They deserve to live like anybody else. Save the children.

Government officials have made abortion to be legalised, but you mothers can save the children.

Women’s leagues all over the world fight for women’s liberation. We are tired of hearing these little voices saying: "Mama, why do you destroy me? Mama, what have I done to you? I deserve to live like anybody else". Save the children. They deserve to live.

-L Cpl L.B. Mudau.

Feminine gender is not a disability

Gender discrimination with regard to leadership positions in the SA Air Force does not exist. The SA Air Force really supports the idea that if you empower a woman you empower a nation, but when you empower a man you empower an individual. This has been proven by our recently appointed Officer Commanding Air Command Unit, Col P.N. Sibiya.

I wish to update those who still believe that the hand that rocks the cradle cannot rule the world. This is a pure myth and demoralises the spirit of a progressive nation, especially in South Africa. Our female Officer Commanding’s contribution towards our common vision of striving for air power excellence is really visible if viewed with an eye free of hatred or discrimination of any type. Since the appointment of Col Sibiya as the Officer Commanding, subordinates are informed about the managerial aspects that affect us in one way or the other.

The subordinates are encouraged to actively participate in nation-building aspects like reaching out to under-developed areas like Erasmus in the North West Province during the world environment week. She not only encourages, but she leads by example, she is a child of the soil “born and bred under the African sky”. She is a down-to-earth type of a person. Her democratic leadership style suits most people. She is encouraging the spirit of competition by reinforcing the selection of the Best Worker of the Month and of the Year, placing their photos at a visible place next to the entrance.

-L Cpl M.N. Simka, Bloemfontein.

Our power lies in our people

Good things are happening in the SANDF through our effort of peace-making in Burundi. I read in the May 2002 edition of SA SOLDIER that the Burundi local community played against an SANDF team. I think this will create a favourable climate and will have a positive influence on every soldier deployed in Burundi. It shows that the goal is to build bonds of cohesion and to care for one another. We live in a complex world, which changes everyday. We are part of a society that hopes for peace. This also shows us that the SANDF is a progressive, modern defence force, efficient, professional and ready to perform its mission. Its power lies in its people.

-L Cpl M.I. Coko, Lohatla.

Peace is in our hands

As we go into print, soldiers of the SANDF are deployed in Burundi and the DRC for a non-violence and conflict resolution. The one thing they have in common is the direct experience of situations of violence, as they are all working in African countries which are torn apart by wars and the conflict is of different kinds, such as in the Congo and Burundi. The deployment is part of the “break the silence” campaign which focuses on promoting peace in Africa especially to awaken public attention to the “forgotten war” of our continent.

In sharing the irresponsible situations the participants derived at a striking number of common points that emerged. “I denounce” reading one of the common statements: “the silence of the different local and international news agencies” who turn a blind eye to the situations of violence and their causes in Africa.

Important is their common purpose to promote issues of peace, justice, integrity of creation and reconciliation. Based on the spiritually and method of active non-violence, an integral part of their commitment is the care and attention for the person, especially those involved in violent conflict situations and a keen interest in the potential value of women and their work for peace and reconciliation.

Peace will not just happen, we have to prepare the way for it. Each time we stand against injustice, peace is being born. Every time we empower and develop our people, peace is growing.

Each time we resist evil by non-violent action, peace is made stronger. Every time we return love for hate, peace is triumphing.

It is up to all of us. Peace is in our hands.

-Sgt Z.P. Noveve, Pretoria.

Proud as a lion

I owe you a great debt of gratitude - WO1 Khewu, Infantry Formation. I would like to express a sincere word of gratitude to WO1 Khewu for making my permanent transfer from 14 SAI Bn to 1 SAI Bn a success. I’m currently working in a vacant post which is suitable for me as an administration clerk under CMI (Restricted Registration). I won’t disclose what I’m doing ‘cause things are done in a very restricted disciplinary format. But I must tell you that I managed to obtain 6.4 on merits. I organised a tablecloth, plastic and flowers out of my pocket to decorate my office. Lastly, I would also thank my commanders of the SANDF for widening the doors for paraplegic soldiers like me. I feel as proud as a lion to be part of the SANDF. I wish you WO1 Khewu all the blessings of this universe.

-Cpl M.N. Simka, Bloemfontein.
The choice is yours
What lies before us and behind us are small matters compared to what lies within us. When we bring what is within out into the world, miracles happen. Success depends upon knowledge, choices and opportunities. Everyone of us is the master of his or her fate. We are all born with potential to develop and achieve. We all travel different journeys in our lives. The different roads we take determine where we go, who we interact with, what we learn and how we grow from the experiences that we encounter. No two persons will ever travel the same road, because you are unique, individual, sometimes you might not know where you are going or what you can do. The choice is yours, for this is your life and your future. Do not be afraid of trying anything out, you never know what you might be good at until you have tried it. Even if you are HIV positive, remember success is possible - PO M.H. Moraile, Simon’s Town.

Environmental conservation
My letter is in response of the article “Protecting our Environment for a quarter-century” (October 2002 edition). It is very reassuring that more recognition and emphasis is provided towards environmental concerns and issues in the DOD and that more recognition is given towards the Environmental Implementation Plan.

However, what concerns me is that the majority of the environmental articles only addresses the way forward for the DOD and does not address the rehabilitation of the Military Training Areas and the damage done to these training areas. The majority of all training areas in the DOD have been in use since the early 1960s, but environmental conservation and management have only been in the limelight from the early 1990s. Hence the damages projected on the military training areas by various stakeholders inside the DOD can still be seen and experienced on the training areas.

My second comment is with reference to the “challenges” mentioned in the same article. Currently the DOD is equipped with qualified members who can provide assistance and guidance wrt environmental issues and matters. I’m currently in the process of completing the last year of my honours degree in Military Geography at the Military Academy. Despite myself five other students are also in the process of completing their studies, which indicates that the DOD has the expertise in their midst that could be helpful to provide professional assistance and guidance. It is high time that the DOD uses the expertise of members that is bred by themselves to assist with environmental matters and issues.

- Capt Heinrich Terblanche, School of Armour in Bloemfontein.

* Your letter was referred to Col Seakle Godschalk, SSO Environmental Services, Joint Support Division. Here follows his reply - Ed:

I am grateful for Capt Terblanche’s positive and constructive comments. We welcome such inputs from our members. Kindly allow me some response.

Firstly, I want to assure Capt Terblanche that Integrated Training Area Management is an integral part of sustainable environmental management in the DOD. And although we still have to learn a lot of lessons in this regard, rehabilitation of training areas is an integral part of the management plans on the ground. To enhance the capacity of DOD personnel, a Mobile Training Team of the USA DOD presented a training course on sustainable range management in September 2001. Altogether 115 DOD environmental and training area managers, as well as related personnel attended the course. We are planning to present another similar course to broaden the exposure of DOD personnel during 2003.

The comment regarding the utilisation of knowledge and expertise developed during studies at the Military Academy is very relevant. Discussions have recently been initiated between this office of Joint Training and the Military Academy to discuss inputs from this office before, during and on completion of research projects with an environmental implication. The utilisation of such newly acquired knowledge will also be investigated.

The Codes of Conduct certificates are on the walls, some of us have pledged our commitment to these Codes and some have signed certificates to this effect. But does this mean that we are now all morally inclined and ethically converted members of the Department of Defence intent on doing the right thing right? Maybe it is time we take a good look at ourselves and ask a few questions. Some of these questions may be: What does ethical conduct constitute? What does adherence to the Codes in fact imply? Are our leaders setting a proper example to their subordinates? Do subordinates understand their roles and responsibilities within the organisation? How are military members treating their civilian counterparts? Do mutual understanding and tolerance of one another exist in our organisation? How can we weed out corruption in our organisation?

These are but a few of the many burning issues which affect our daily lives. In order to stimulate critical thinking in this regard, readers are invited to share their ideas and thoughts on this subject. The best contributions will be published in SA SOLDIER. A monthly prize of R100-00 will be awarded to the best letter received.

Short letters are encouraged. All letters must include the writer’s full name, address and telephone number. The volume of letters we receive makes individual acknowledgement impossible. Please send your letters to: The Editor, SA SOLDIER Letters, Private Bag X158, Pretoria, 0001. Letters may also be faxed to: (012) 355 6399 or sent via e-mail to sasoldier@mil.za.
The year 2002 was a very successful but challenging year for the Department of Defence. Thanks to the able and committed men and women in the Department of Defence, we were able to meet and deal successfully with all the challenges we faced.

During the period in review, the SANDF contributed military capacity for regional and continental peace support operations. Guided by the Constitution, the White Paper on Defence, and in keeping with the spirit of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the principles of the African Union (AU), the country has set itself goals to actively participate in peace initiatives on the African continent. To this end, during the past financial year, the SANDF fulfilled its obligations whenever it was called upon to do so.

The recent progress in the peace process in Burundi is most welcomed, not only for the country in general, but also for the SANDF in particular, because when we deployed our men and women in Burundi, a cease-fire had not been signed. That said, I would like to caution that with the progress being made in peace initiatives in the Great Lakes Region, we will be called upon to play even a greater role to support peace operations.

I would also like to appeal to all South Africans to support all members of the SANDF deployed abroad in support of peace initiatives. Our contribution to these peace processes has a dividend for our own country. Peace, prosperity and development in Africa mean peace, prosperity and development in South Africa.

The Department of Defence also continued to allocate resources to a number of other secondary functions particularly the support to the police in its fight against crime.

Turning to negative activities within the Department of Defence, allegations of criminal activities within the Department continue to tarnish the image of the Department, particularly that of the SANDF. We view these allegations in a very serious light and as such, drastic measures have been taken to combat all criminal activities within the Department.

Finally, I would like to commend all members of staff in the Department for a job well done during the past year.

My heart goes out to the families of members of the SANDF who paid an ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

Mr Mosiuoa Lekota
Minister of Defence
Challenges and accomplishments

During this past year our government has become increasingly involved in regional and continental affairs in the quest for peace and security in Africa.

President Mbeki has been a key role player in plans for a strategy that could lead to an African revival. The need to solve, manage and prevent conflict, as well as to deal with socioeconomic issues on the continent in order to ensure sustainable development has become urgent in the light of globalisation. The DOD fully supports these African peace initiatives, which are a very high priority for our government.

South Africa and the DOD realise that many challenges are facing the newly inaugurated African Union (AU) with President Mbeki as the first chairperson. These challenges are clearly spelt out in the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) framework document and the constitutive Act of the AU. Because NEPAD provides an achievable plan for Africa’s social and economic revival, the SANDF has to be one of the main partners in the scheme to enable NEPAD to function successfully.

Although the DOD has undergone a profound transformation over the past decade, more changes will have to come in order to meet the needs of NEPAD. The Department will have to continue to work hard with the aim of achieving our President’s vision of constructive involvement in Africa. The SANDF forms an integral part of our government’s efforts to promote stability and peace in our region.

As a respected member of the Southern African Development Community, South Africa will in future promote closer co-operation by conducting joint operations and exercises. The DOD pursues the alignment of regional structures, because this will contribute towards a more integrated approach to regional defence. Greater military co-operation in our region will foster trust and confidence between South Africa and its neighbours.

The year 2002 has been a very successful year. I want to thank all our members who have served and are serving in peace missions in order to further the vision and ideas of peace and NEPAD.

Your efforts are highly appreciated. Without your unselfish contribution and outstanding performance, especially in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi, the DOD would have failed to support our government’s vision of peace. Thank you very much for the great sacrifice you are making by spending months away from your families.

Unfortunately, some of our members lose their lives in the execution of their duties during the year 2002. These members will be remembered for their courage to serve. Our thoughts are also with their families who now feel the loss of a loved one. May you find the strength you need to continue with your everyday lives.

During 2002 many DOD members were actually involved in world-class events which took place on South African soil. The inauguration of the African Union, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the International Congress on Military Medicine and many others evoked the highest praise. The DOD received many compliments and congratulations on your professional conduct and the efficient manner in which all duties were performed.

I also want to convey a special message of support and sympathy to those families that have been affected directly or indirectly by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Those members, who have not celebrated the festive season because they had to care for sick family members and friends, be assured of our thoughts and prayers.

Thank you to each and every member of the DOD for your professional, committed and dedicated service during the past year. We are facing a new year again and I trust that our members are well rested after a joyous festive season. Let us take hands and face whatever challenges 2003 might hold. The DOD has a demanding schedule in fulfilling all its obligations, but with personnel of your calibre I foresee a bright 2003 for the defence of our country and our continent.

Mr January Masilela
Secretary for Defence

Mr J.B. Masilela, the Secretary for Defence.
Looking back at the challenges of 2002 and the successes we achieved despite any of the setbacks, made me realise how much we have matured and become a National Defence Force that each and everyone of us can be proud of. I believe we have worked so hard in this hectic but fruitful year that I am sure that we will continue to be entrusted with the defence, protection and safety of our country and people.

As we have closed a year and enter a new one, I wish to congratulate and thank you very much for your hard work, dedication, commitment and loyalty, without which the major gains we had in the course of 2002 could not have materialised.

At this time, I also wish to pay tribute to our fellow soldiers currently deployed internally and outside our borders on various missions. Our spirits are with you as you do duty at this very moment. I wish you and your families well in the year that lies ahead.

I also want to thank you for contributing towards peace and security in our region. Because of your efforts, the SANDF has become a respected military partner in the Southern African region. Internally, South Africans desperately want the SANDF to keep on supporting the South African Police Service in the quest for a crime free society. The SANDF has become the backbone of defence in the country and the region.

Almost thirty operations were conducted over the past year. The SANDF was over the same period also involved in six different types of peace support operations in various parts of the continent, most notably in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The services provided included operations to combat crime in cooperation with the SAPS, patrolling the country’s borders and rural areas, providing support to other State departments and fulfilling international obligations in peace-support operations.

I therefore expect impeccable behaviour from every SANDF member at all times. We must live our Code of Conduct, we must be known as men and women of honour. We have earned the trust and respect of our nation, let us not become involved in any action that might disappoint our people.

We have recently enjoyed the festive season and celebrated peace on earth. Let the whole of 2003 be an opportunity to bring peace to our own families and communities. Let us support those who are living with HIV/AIDS. I look forward to the year 2003 and trust that it will be marked by unity among our members and an even greater commitment to serve.

Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, the Chief of the SANDF.

Last year saw our state of readiness being subjected to all sorts of coverage in the national media, one of which even went so far as to suggest that the SANDF had only four operational tanks to keep South Africa’s enemies at bay.

That suggestion has since been put to rest through evidence of sound force preparation by the respective services and divisions and the integration of different capabilities that led to the successful conducting over the year of the many operations and exercises. Most notably are Exercise IRON EAGLE and Exercise PEACE DOVE, during which the media had the opportunity to witness first-hand the extremely high state of readiness of the SANDF.

That small demonstration of our state of readiness was preceded by a little known but highly significant development for our Defence Force when, for the first time in history, the DOD in May 2002 tabled its Strategic Plan in Parliament, covering the state of readiness of the SANDF.

The Strategic Plan, which went a long way towards assisting the Portfolio Committee in fulfilling its oversight role, gives details on the outputs the DOD plans to deliver over this period. It also clearly indicates the extent to which the SANDF, for its part, is achieving those outputs, with specific reference, not only to its state of readiness, but also to that of mission readiness.

Transformation

Our fundamental approach to transformation, the process we started in 1994 and have since continued right up to the year under review, has been to position the Department in such a manner that it fits within its limited budgetary allocation, but still remains capable of executing the Defence Force’s mandate.

Structural re-engineering of the SANDF has been coupled to the long-term human resources requirements of the Defence Force for operations.
To this end, Human Resources Strategy 2010, which marked a significant milestone in our strategic management in terms of force design and force structure, was developed by the DOD.

Furthermore, the SANDF made great representativity strides in improving representativity in terms of race, gender and ability.

The SANDF continued in the course of last year to demonstrate its deep commitment to transformation, central to which has been nothing but change, when it formally introduced new rank insignia for all its services. This development effectively signified a final, tangible, irrevocable and a highly visible break with the past when it comes to corporate identity.

The SANDF is ready

In addition to expecting to receive new weapon systems through the Strategic Defence Packages (SDPs), the SANDF continued to send its members abroad to train on these new weapon systems so that the members will be able to use and maintain them when they are delivered in South Africa.

In the course of the SANDF’s modernisation programme the desire to ensure the compatibility of our equipment with that of the subregion, especially for purposes of joint operations and combined exercises, has been provided for by ensuring that there is broad compatibility of operational doctrine within the subregion.

Several important pieces of legislation affecting the Defence Force were promulgated. These included the new Defence Bill, the Termination of the Integration Intake Bill and the Demobilisation Amendment Bill.

Furthermore, we played a crucial role in the finalisation of the SADC Protocol of the Organ on Defence, Politics and Security during the period under review. The primary objective of the Protocol is to ensure the alignment and compatibility of regional policies with regard to the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts.

I can assure you, as I always have, that the SANDF is ready. We are ready to assume the mantle of leadership that destiny has bestowed upon us to lead the charge for peace on the African continent.

Gen Siphiwe Nyanda
Chief of the SANDF

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Leading the way

By Maj Fundile Siyongwana
Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana

The new Chief of Defence Corporate Communication (CDCC) has seen it all - from being a senior political commissar and a top intelligence and counter-intelligence officer in exile, to being a senior operational commander back home here in South Africa. And now a top communicator and, in fact, the Communication Chief himself.

Maj Gen Daniel Mohato Mofokeng, often called by his former guerilla name of “Romero Daniels”, was born in Lindley in the then Orange Free State on 20 February 1956. He was raised in Soweto after his parents, Phakiso and Masechaba Mofokeng, now both deceased, migrated to Johannesburg in the 60s.

Young Mohato started attending school at Atamelang Community School in 1965 before proceeding to a school then known as Kekagile and, incidentally, later renamed Mohato Higher Primary. He did his higher education at Naledi High in Soweto in the mid-1970 along with many schoolmates who were to go with him for guerilla training in exile.

It was at Naledi High that he became involved in political activism before leaving the country for Tanzania, where he received his basic military training in 1976, before proceeding to Nanking Military Academy in the People’s Republic of China for further military and other training courses in 1977.

He underwent numerous other military training and intelligence and counter-intelligence courses in Kwame Nkrumah Military Centre in Conakry, Guinea, in 1980, before proceeding for more specialised training, including bloc intelligence (East vs West), in the then Panchevo near Belgrade in Yugoslavia.

His training from 1977 to 1994 was frequently punctuated by engagements in guerilla operations. Despite this being a hectic period, “Romero Daniels” still found time to enroll with various educational institutions while in exile and succeeded in furthering several facets of his education.

In the course of the same period, he was still able to represent his liberation movement in a number of high-profile SA liberation struggle-related regional gatherings, including OAU Liberation Committee meetings, Frontline States sessions and the then SADC’s Inter-state Defence and Security Committee (ISDSC) meetings.

Maj Gen Mofokeng was the Commander of the Azanian People’s Liberation Army (APLA) when, in 1994, he not only integrated into the SANDF, but made a significant contribution towards the very creation of the new Defence Force, as a member of the then Joint Military Commander’s Committee (JMCC).

He was still a Brigadier then, in late 1994, when he was appointed Director Integration (Non-statutory Forces) at SA Army HQ, a post that enabled him to oversee the integration process of thousands of former MK and APLA members, mainly in the largest of the SANDF services, the SA Army.

He was one of the first Non-statutory Force members to complete his prescribed bridging and other training programmes of the new force, from the Introductory Course for Senior Officers at the SA Army Gymnasium in Heidelberg to the Senior Command and Staff Duties Course and Joint Staff Course at the relevant military colleges in Pretoria in 1997 and 1998 respectively.
In 1995 he was appointed Chief of Staff Natal Command, a post that saw him overseeing numerous internal operations in the then volatile KwaZulu-Natal.

In 1998 he was promoted to the rank of Major General and appointed as the General Officer Commanding (GOC) Eastern Province Command before becoming GOC of the then newly established Regional Joint Task Force South, a post he held until his new appointment as CDCC on 1 October 2002.

Maj Gen Mofokeng takes over as CDCC at a time when the SANDF faces numerous challenges in terms of the conduct of internal and peace support operations, but he is confident that the communication aspects of those challenges will be met.

He strongly believes in a proactive approach to communication.

“I want to see the SANDF being projected more and more towards the people, so that even people in the remotest areas of South Africa can have a clear understanding and positive attitude towards our existence,” said Maj Gen Mofokeng in an interview with SA SOLDIER.

A family man, Maj Gen Mofokeng is married to Pearl and has a seven year old daughter, Letsie, and a five year old son, Kwame-Mao.

The newly appointed CDCC is a keen soccer player and is known to be still able to dribble past his way just as good, if not better, than someone far younger than him.

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3 South African Brigade HQ is currently completing its second deployment within a year to Burundi as the South African Protection Support Detachment (SAPSD) Mission HQ. A wide spectrum of DOD components complement the Mission HQ. All the services and divisions are well represented.

The SAPSD has undergone some trying moments of late, however, despite this there have been many light-hearted moments and events to remember. As with any deployment, one inevitably meets a wide variety of characters who, and encounters occasions which inevitably spark memorable names and memories.

Just to name but a few: From the naval component, the big sea dog is Commander Jaco Theunissen, the SO1 Operational Communications. His designation has been rumoured to be incorrect and should be amended to SO1 NGOs. There is also the SO1 HRSS Maj Morgan Jacobs, often referred to by all as “Groot Stasie”. The Mission Support Unit is designated the "Parliament". South Africa is also eloquently known as “SOUZA”. The current Officer Commanding, Colonel De

Continued on page 16
The Chief of the SANDF, Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, received a sample of parcels containing an assortment of food and basic items contributed by SAFI and Rentmeester Assurance Limited which were sent to SANDF soldiers deployed in Burundi and the DRC.

Gen Nyanda thanked SAFI’s deputy general manager, Capt (SAN) Louis van der Berg, as well as Rentmeester’s marketing manager, Mr Johan du Plooy, and the promotions manager, Mr Nico van Heerden, all of whom helped to raise the parcels, saying these would come in handy to the deployed soldiers, especially during the festive season.

In Burundi you must always be prepared to barter and negotiate for better prices especially in negotiating an exchange rate on the black market. The bank and official rate for $1 dollar is less than BFr 1 000 (Burundian Franc). On the street one can get BFr 1 300 (Burundian Franc). The more dollars you exchange the better the rate. The area of Mutanga North is eloquently known by the static guards or “garden security” as the Shooting Range. On 19 October 2002 a Sports Day was organised. The variety of sports included a 10-km run and walk, men and women soccer, volleyball, rugby, boxing and the first bicycle race with over 300 entrants.

The entrance was free and all winners received medals. The bicycle race was the highlight of the day, considering that many people use the bicycles as a means of taxi/goods transport. There were lots of people who had to find other forms of transport on this day as most of the bicycles in Bujumbura were at the Football Stadium.

The weather is very unpredictable, varying from sunshine to sudden thunderstorms within minutes. On a clear day one can see the Democratic Republic of Congo that also makes for beautiful sunsets. This country has a great potential as a tourist destination if only there could be lasting peace.

The friendly nature of the people only adds to the unsung beauty of the country.

**Gifts for our soldiers**

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Seen in the picture is Gen Nyanda with former Chief of Logistics, R Adm B.W. Visser (Ret), shortly after receiving a sample parcel at a special ceremony held during a Defence Staff Council session at Defence Headquarters in Pretoria at the end of November 2002. (Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana)
No violence against women and children

Last year marked the 12th anniversary of the worldwide campaign on “No Violence against Women and Children”. The period of activism was from 25 November to 10 December 2002.

This “16 Days of No Violence against Women and Children” campaign is an event that is internationally recognised and South Africa has observed the event since 1999. The national theme for last year’s campaign was “Together, we can all make a difference” with the logo “Spread the message, South Africa has had enough”.

Throughout the country, various activities took place to highlight awareness on the seriousness of violence against women and children. The aim of the awareness campaign was to educate the public on the prevention and eradication of violence against women and children.

On 24 November 2002 there was a long human chain on no violence against women and children. The walk started at Church Square and proceeded to the Union Buildings in Pretoria and was attended by ministers, premiers, MECs, church leaders, ambassadors/high commissioners, NGOs, political organisations, as well as officials from all government departments who reaffirmed their commitment to violence against women and children.

During this occasion whistles were blown at 13:00, symbolising that all cases of violence against women and children must be exposed, reported and dealt with by the law.

There was also a National Pledge from 25 November 2002 to 10 December 2002, whereby all Government officials, community, civil society organisations, private sector institutions, church leaders, as well as church congregations signed a pledge to show commitment and support to the eradication and prevention of violence against women and children.

1 December 2002 was also World AIDS Day. AIDS is the world’s most deadly disease and can be linked to violence against women and children. White Ribbon Day is observed every year on 4 December. This campaign is aimed at opposing violence against women.

On 5 December 2002 senior female officials in the DOD, members of the Gender Forum and PSAP employees showed their support to this campaign by visiting Takalani Children’s Home and a school for the disabled in Soweto.

Fighting HIV/AIDS together

With HIV/AIDS as a burning issue in South Africa and, therefore, also in the DOD, the Service Corps Regional Office Port Elizabeth has decided to get involved and do their part in the fight against this killer disease by starting an HIV/AIDS Awareness Campaign.

The Service Corps Regional Office Port Elizabeth decided to launch the pilot project of their HIV/AIDS Awareness Campaign to their current intake of clients who are currently undergoing their vocational training at the South Cape Skills Training Centre in the Tembalethu township in George.

These clients are PSAP members from Umtata and Maluti who decided to go through the Service Corps process to acquire skills training. This group of clients is doing courses in various fields, such as food preparation, hair care, welding, electricity, motor mechanics, as well as entrepreneurial skills.

On 23 October 2002 the Officer Commanding, Lt Col Marné Kuyler, and the Corporate Communication Officer, Maj Marieke van Staden, together with a registered nurse from the Area Military Health Unit Eastern Cape, Maj Pearl Mofokeng, went to the South Cape Skills Training Centre to launch the pilot project. All the clients assembled in the hall were addressed by both Lt Col Kuyler and Maj van Staden. Thereafter Maj Mofokeng gave a presentation on HIV/AIDS, explaining what it is and what to do to prevent and manage the disease. After the presentations every client received an HIV/AIDS goody bag.

The pilot project was so successful, that it was decided that the HIV/AIDS Awareness Campaign will be applied to all the future intakes of the Service Corps Regional Office Port Elizabeth. Article by Maj Marieke van Staden, Corporate Communication Officer Service Corps Regional Office Port Elizabeth.
he Chaplain General, Maj Gen (Rev) F.F.S. Gqiba, launched the SANDF's programme "Fighting HIV/AIDS through value-based spiritual and ethical conduct" at the Pretoria Country Club, Waterkloof on 27 November 2002. The Deputy Minister of Defence, Ms Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge, also attended the launch.

With the financial assistance from the United States Defence Force HIV/AIDS Prevention Programme, the Chaplain General Division conducted intensive workshops with a wide variety of representative role-players to develop a comprehensive programme. The programme is linked with the Masibambisane Campaign, a DOD initiative to encourage people to join hands, not only in fighting the epidemic, but also in support of each other, whether one is infected or not.

The programme teaches individuals to implement six key values and essential skills which are crucial to combat HIV/AIDS in their relationships:

- **Love** - real love is much more than making love.
- **Respect** - know your own boundaries and those of others.
- **Responsibility** - take ownership of your own actions or deeds.
- **Integrity** - be faithful and trustworthy in all relationships.
- **Fairness** - do unto others what you want them to do unto you.
- **Professionalism** - lead by example.

The four essential skills needed to prevent HIV/AIDS are to make positive life style choices, assertiveness, self-control and conflict handling.

The Chaplain General said that the project is highly ambitious because ethical values are deep-rooted in people's lives and do not change easily. However, the product which has been developed will enable participants to understand what ethical decision making and ethical behaviour are all about and how to develop a healthy, positive, non-risk value-based lifestyle.

"For this programme to be a success we will need all the support we can get. SANDF commanders are requested to give their full support to this programme. We also would continue to rely on the United States Defence Force HIV/AIDS Prevention Programme to continue their sponsorship. Without it this programme would not have been possible. We believe that through this programme, the SANDF embarked on a path that will make us leaders in the world with regard to a value-based approach to combat HIV/AIDS," added Maj Gen Gqiba.

"Let us then arm ourselves with knowledge, protect ourselves with a positive and health-conscience, rid ourselves of our prejudice and let our hearts reach out to those who need our support. Let us take hands, and together fight this disease called HIV/AIDS. In unity we have victory - Masibambisane," concluded Lt Gen Jansen van Rensburg.
Working together as partners

The first RSA-Italy Joint Defence Committee Meeting was held at the Defence Headquarters in Pretoria on 29 November 2002.

The Italian delegation of eight was led by its Secretary General for Defence, His Excellency Adm G. Di Paola. Meanwhile Mr J.B. Masilela, the South African Secretary for Defence, led the South African delegation of twelve.

The two delegations warmly and wholeheartedly expressed their relationship as cordial and excellent. The Co-chairpersons, Mr Masilela and Adm Di Paola, began business by signing the terms of reference.

The RSA and Italian Joint Defence Committee participants briefed one another on their defence systems. Among issues discussed were the Italian Principle Programmes on Research and Development and the South African Conventional Arms Control Process.

The SA DOD and the Italian Defence Force have finally found a way of working together as partners, and exchange training programmes in future are very much a possibility.

Article by Maj Fundile Siyongwana

Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana

Strengthening growing ties

The Netherlands government donated a generous contribution of approximately R3 million to the SANDF at Defence Headquarters in Pretoria on 3 December 2002.

In a signing ceremony the Ambassador of the Netherlands, Ms Laetitia van den Assum, and the Secretary for Defence, Mr January Masilela, agreed to an arrangement pertaining to Dutch financial support for the contribution the DOD is making to the UN peacekeeping mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

The funds will go towards solving problems that the soldiers face on the ground.

As the Secretary for Defence said, “Specifically for the procurement of troop transporters, communication and computer equipment, forklifts and to defray the costs for the transportation of this equipment to the DRC.”

“We also recall the financial contributions from the Netherlands’ government for Operations JUMBO and MICRON for humanitarian assistance in Mozambique, as well as for Operation FIBRE in Burundi during 2001,” said Mr Masilela. He continued by saying that in the near future South Africa will participate in MONUC III once the planning has been finalised.

“This contribution is a true manifestation of the rapidly growing partnership between our two countries to bring peace and stability to our region,” said Mr Masilela.

“We are also finalising the broader military-to-military agreement that will formalise co-operation between the armed forces of our countries. This agreement will also focus on bilateral training co-operation, an aspect that is of particular importance for our future participation in peace missions.”

Her Excellency expressed that the contributions give indication in general of her government's encouragement towards South Africa's involvement in bringing about regional peace.

Article by Nomonde Vuthela

Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana
Men and women who have proven themselves

On 15 November 2002 a military parade was held to honour Public Service Act personnel (PSAP) of the Joint Support Base Wonderboom for their loyal service.

This has been the first time in the history of Military Base Wonderboom that a Certificate Ceremony was held for PSAP.

Chief Director of Joint Support Management, Maj Gen S.Z. Binda, awarded these invaluable personnel gold, silver and bronze certificates as a gesture of solidarity with all the non-uniformed members who have excelled in their work.

Maj Gen Binda encouraged the recipients when he emphasised that the worth of our Defence Force lies not only in its weapons, but also in the caliber of our personnel.

Maj Gen Binda said these employees had distinguished themselves one way or the other.

According to Col W.J.F. Sandmann, OC Joint Support Base Wonderboom, this ceremony will be held annually for PSAP in future. Director PSAP, Dr J.P.H. Kasselman, also attended the ceremony and congratulated Col Sandmann for the success of the ceremony. Article by Mrs M. Malan, HRSS Wonderboom, Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana.

Rewarded for their efforts

The sixth Executive National Security Programme (ENSP06/02), presented at the SA National Defence College, started on 15 July 2002 with 36 programme members and lasted for eighteen weeks until 15 November 2002. Four foreign members from Nigeria, Pakistan, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, and several civilian members from within the defence community also completed the programme. The final function was held at Waterkloof Air Force Officers’ Mess and combined a certificate ceremony, where each programme member received a certificate in acknowledgement of completion of the programme, with the announcement of the six best Commandant’s Research Papers (CRPs) submitted by programme members. The overall winner, Col Ansuyah Fakir, was presented with the SANLAM Trophy for the best CRP by Mr Fairbanks from SANLAM.

Mr S.T. Sekukuba receives his award from Maj Gen S.Z. Binda, Chief Director of Joint Support Management.

Lt Gen T.T. Matanzima, Chief of Joint Support, congratulates Col Ansuyah Fakir. (Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana)

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Chief Director of Joint Support Management, Maj Gen S.Z. Binda, awarded these invaluable personnel gold, silver and bronze certificates as a gesture of solidarity with all the non-uniformed members who have excelled in their work.

Maj Gen Binda encouraged the recipients when he emphasised that the worth of our Defence Force lies not only in its weapons, but also in the caliber of our personnel.

Maj Gen Binda said these employees had distinguished themselves one way or the other.

According to Col W.J.F. Sandmann, OC Joint Support Base Wonderboom, this ceremony will be held annually for PSAP in future. Director PSAP, Dr J.P.H. Kasselman, also attended the ceremony and congratulated Col Sandmann for the success of the ceremony. Article by Mrs M. Malan, HRSS Wonderboom, Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana.

Rewarded for their efforts

The sixth Executive National Security Programme (ENSP06/02), presented at the SA National Defence College, started on 15 July 2002 with 36 programme members and lasted for eighteen weeks until 15 November 2002. Four foreign members from Nigeria, Pakistan, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, and several civilian members from within the defence community also completed the programme. The final function was held at Waterkloof Air Force Officers’ Mess and combined a certificate ceremony, where each programme member received a certificate in acknowledgement of completion of the programme, with the announcement of the six best Commandant’s Research Papers (CRPs) submitted by programme members. The overall winner, Col Ansuyah Fakir, was presented with the SANLAM Trophy for the best CRP by Mr Fairbanks from SANLAM.

Mr S.T. Sekukuba receives his award from Maj Gen S.Z. Binda, Chief Director of Joint Support Management.

Men and women who have proven themselves

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Foreign Military Attachés in Bloemfontein

"Sight-seeing" within Tempe, Bloemfontein took place as a group of foreign military attachés (FMAs) visited military units in this area over the period 14 to 17 October 2002. They represented countries from Africa, Europe and even as far as China and are mostly based in Pretoria.

The Israeli Defence Attaché is non-resident and came to South Africa especially to participate in this visit to Tempe.

The group also included the Dean of the Foreign Military Attaché Association, Lt Gen M.J.J.A. da Silva from Angola.

Defence Foreign Relations is tasked with the responsibility to introduce the FMAs to the different SANDF institutions and environment annually.

The Chief of Defence Foreign Relations, Brig Gen Damian de Lange, is responsible for the management of the FMAs annual programme on behalf of the SANDF. On their tour to Bloemfontein the FMAs were escorted by SSO Planning and Co-ordination, Col Dries van Jaarsveld.

In the era of globalisation in which we live, the need for international co-operation has increased dramatically. Visits like these enable the different countries to identify opportunities for co-operation with the SANDF, which are of mutual benefit to the parties involved.

During the visit the FMAs were given the opportunity to learn more of the SANDF, as well as about the local environment and history.

During the tour to Bloemfontein military units like the School of Armour, 1 Special Service Battalion, 44 Parachute Regiment, 1 SA Infantry Battalion and 16 Squadron at Bloemspuit Air Force Base were visited.

On the cultural side a visit was paid to the National Museum and the Military Museum in the city.


Finnish Navy buys Denel's missile

In October 2002 the Finnish Navy signed a multi-million contract with Denel’s Kentron division for the supply of Umkhonto-IR surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) and associated fire control systems.

The missiles are meant to equip six vessels of the Finnish Navy’s Squadron 2000 project.

The SA Navy is the launch customer of the Umkhonto-IR missile system for its new Meko A-200 Patrol Corvettes, currently under construction in Germany.

Typically the Umkhonto-IR surface-to-air missile system acts as a ship’s primary defensive weapon against incoming sea-skimming missiles and other air threats such as attack aircraft.

The 3-metre long missile, weighing 125 kg at launch, provides for all around protection of the ship. It takes less than 16 seconds to engage a target as far as eight kilometres away.

It has a set of tail-mounted, aerodynamic control fins, as well as thrust vectoring vanes in the motor nozzle, making it highly agile.

With its low smoke propellant, the attacking enemy is less likely to notice the missile during flight.

Article by Sam J. Basch, Denel Corporate Affairs, Photo: Kentron Dynamics.
A change of command parade for the Command and Management Information (CMI) Division took place at Wonderboom Military Base in Pretoria on 13 November 2002. Maj Gen Pieter Verbeek handed over command of CMI to Maj Gen Ashwin Hurribunce. SA SOLDIER bid Maj Gen Verbeek farewell. Mr January Masilela, the Secretary for Defence, Gen George Meiring, former Chief of the SANDF, Lt Gen T.T. Matanzima, Chief of Joint Support, and Mr Jack Gründling, Chief Financial Officer of the DOD, graced the occasion.

Maj Gen Verbeek said during the parade: "It is with pride that one realises that the DOD in general and the SANDF in particular is responding forceful to the requirements of the time, thus ensuring its relevance in the future. I am referring to the realisation by modern organisations that information and the management thereof have become of strategic importance even to the extent of influencing the way in which warfare and defence are conducted.

"We are all part of the team working to achieve information dominance in the DOD and SANDF. As time passes the journey continues, individuals leave the team as new ones join. Today Maj Gen Hurribunce will join the CMI team. To the team I would like to say: Support General Hurribunce and he will be the leader you deserve. To my colleague I say join the team and lead them towards the vision of information dominance in the DOD and SANDF," concluded Maj Gen Verbeek.

Maj Gen Ashwin Hurribunce

Maj Gen Hurribunce attended secondary school at the Ghandi-Desai Secondary School, after which he completed his MB ChB at the University of Natal’s Faculty of Medicine, now called the N.R. Mandela School of Medicine.

After pursuing the speciality of Radiology in both the King Edward VIII and Chris Hani-Baragwanath Hospitals, he was appointed Senior Specialist and Senior Lecturer (1988 to 1993) during tours of duty at both of these institutions.

Maj Gen Hurribunce reached the pinnacle of his medical career as the Head of the Department of Neuro and Interventional Radiology at the University of the Witwatersrand. During this period of academic pursuit he also served on the Faculty Board and Committees of both Universities.

He joined Umkhonto we Sizwe in 1979 and served in the country and outside the country in various command positions until its decommissioning in December 1993. As a result of the integration into the SANDF in 1994 Maj Gen Hurribunce was appointed Director Training in the South African Medical Service, now the South African Military Health Service.

In June 1997 he was appointed to serve on numerous project teams that piloted and pioneered the design and implementation of transformation in the DOD.

Maj Gen Hurribunce was the former Chief of Joint Training.

Maj Gen Pieter Verbeek

Maj Gen Verbeek joined the SA Army in 1966. In 1968 he obtained the
**5 Signal Regiment gets an Honorary Colonel**

By PO Dennis Ndaba

Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana

"Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country"

Mr Zoli Kunene echoed President John F. Kennedy’s words when he was inaugurated as an Honorary Colonel of 5 Signal Regiment in Wonderboom on 31 October 2002. Col Kunene said that by accepting the appointment as Honorary Colonel, he hopes to help create an environment where the military and the civilian populations co-operate, not only in respect of defence issues, but also in socio-economic issues like disaster relief.

'I also hope to facilitate a better understanding of the role of the military by the civilian population because in the words of the Chief of Defence, Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, the SANDF is a national asset, an important asset at that and it is therefore very important that this nation appreciates the role that it is playing. To my colleagues in the business community I want to say I made the decision to support the SANDF, CMI and 5 Signal Regiment because I passionately believe in the SANDF. Its various services have a critical role to play in the stability and development of our country and the continent as a whole," said Col Kunene.

Col Kunene is married and has two children, Maswazi (23 years) and Siyanda (20 years). He is the Chairperson of Grintek Limited (a listed electronics and telecommunications company) and of Kunene Technology Limited (a listed investments holding company.)

Col A.D. Coetzee, Officer Commanding of 5 Signal Regiment, thanked all the members that were involved in the process to appoint Col Kunene. "I would like to thank you for the eagerness and effort that were put into the process to ensure a speedy outcome for accepting this appointment despite your very busy programme in the private sector. We are indeed honoured by the fact that you have accepted this appointment," said Col Coetzee.

B Mil (BSc) at the Military Academy and an Honours (BSc) in Geography at UNISA in 1972. He attended various management, leadership, facilitation and development courses at the Universities of Stellenbosch, the Witwatersrand and Pretoria.

Maj Gen Verbeek completed all the relevant military courses for qualifying as Signals Unit Commander, as well as the courses leading up to the Joint Staff Course, which he completed in 1991. One of these courses was a two-year Spanish Army Staff Course completed in Madrid over the period February 1979 to June 1981.

From July 1981 to December 1982 Maj Gen Verbeek served as the Personal Staff Officer of Chief SA Army Staff Logistics.

During this period he contributed to compile the SA Army Logistics Philosophy for which he received the Southern Cross Medal.
Capetonians visited

The Chief of the SANDF, Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, visited the SA Naval Dockyard and SAS OUTENIQUA in Simon’s Town on 14 November 2002. On arrival in Ysterplaat, Gen Nyanda was met by the Chief of the SA Navy, V Adm Johan Retief, and Flag Officer Fleet, R Adm Eric Green.

The delegation left by an Oryx helicopter to Simon’s Town where they met the local Liaison Officer, Lt Cdr Victor Jack, and the General Manager SA Naval Dockyard, Mr Richard Hutton.

The Chief was briefed on the SA Naval Dockyard which execute planned preventative maintenance, repair and construction of ships, their technical systems and equipment. After an orientation on the layout of the Dockyard, the delegation visited the Electronic Complex Roof, Integration Test Bed, Automatic Test Equipment and Electronic Warfare Workshop.

The last stop of the visit was the combat support vessel, the SAS OUTENIQUA. The Officer Commanding, Capt (SAN) Glen Knox, briefed the Chief about the capabilities of the ship.

The SAS OUTENIQUA has on a number of occasions assisted the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism by transporting personnel and material for the rebuilding of the SANAE IV base in Antarctica. The ship is also used as a support platform for landward operations and exercises. An example of such an exercise was HEAVY SEA LIFT that entailed the loading of various vehicles from the SA Army and two Oryx helicopters from the SA Air Force for transportation at sea.

The purpose of this exercise is to prepare for a possible deployment of those forces, as part of a multinational peace support operation in Africa. Gen Nyanda toured the SAS OUTENIQUA and also witnessed a practical demonstration of vehicles and boats being loaded on board the ship.

*Article by PO Dennis Ndaba, Photo: CPO John Sverdloff*

Testing combat readiness

RED LION, a major SA Navy force preparation exercise, took place over the period 12 to 25 October 2002.

The exercise tested the combat capabilities and preparedness, which included missile and torpedo firings of the SA Navy fleet.

Eight warships and a Daphne class submarine, the SAS ASSEGAAI, operated as a task group under the command of a task group commander. The warships deployed from 14 to 24 October between Simon’s Town and Port Elizabeth. Taking part in the exercise were the SAS DRAKENSBERG, SAS OUTENIQUA, SAS UMZIMKULU, SAS UMHLILOTI, SAS KAPA, SAS FLEUR, SAS ASSEGAAI, SAS MAKHANDA and SAS GALESHWE. Two Oryx helicopters from the SA Air Force were on board the SAS DRAKENSBERG and the SAS OUTENIQUA, and two Cheetah fighter aircraft participated during various phases of the exercise.

Getting ready for action.

Elements from the SAMHS also participated in the exercise. The objectives of the exercise were to test the fleet combat capability and the sealift capability of the SA Navy, as well as to ensure the capability of the fleet command to support a task group, and to exercise task group co-ordination in a multi-ship scenario.

*Article by Lt Cdr Prince Tshabalala, PRO Exercise RED LION, Photo: Gustav Oosthuizen*
The future lies in NEPAD

A seminar organised by the South African Institute for International Affairs (SAIIA) on 14 November 2002 was held at the University of the Witwatersrand in Braamfontein to address the question whether the SANDF is a problem or partner for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

Responding to the question, Maj Gen Carlo Gagiano, Chief Director Operations and Development from the Joint Operations Division, mentioned that the environment changes quickly and quality decisions need to be made in the present. He cited the September 11 attack and the recent coup at the Ivory Coast. For NEPAD to succeed, we need stability in the region and the involvement of the SANDF.

The SANDF is challenged with new opportunities regarding the establishment of a safe and secure Southern Africa. A phased approach will have to be followed by starting to refocus the SANDF to its sub-regional role of peacekeeping and to disengage from routine crime prevention support to the SAPS over a period of six years. Concurrent two additional phases will commence namely a joint and phase of co-operation.

The aim of the joint phase will be for the DOD to be structured as a system that prepares and employs its forces in a true joint fashion. The aim will be to have an integrated and balanced approach in terms of equipment, command and control and information.

The co-operation phase will have its aim to achieve connectivity between systems of the SADC defence forces. The last phase is the one of collaboration where interoperability is to be achieved between defence forces of the sub-region with mutual trust as its main focus.

“The future of the SANDF lies in NEPAD as it is a Government initiative. The SANDF will always be available to assist government departments with emergency situations. It has the capability and flexibility to adapt to vastly different conditions with soldiers deployed in the DRC and Burundi, support to the SAPS in crime prevention and borderline protection to name a few. The SANDF is integral in Government’s quest for peace and security on the African Continent,” said Maj Gen Gagiano.

Article by PO Dennis Ndaba, Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana.

Babies behind bars

Air Force Gymnasium Corporate Communication donated toys to the babies whose mothers are jailed in Pretoria Central Prison. The unit members raised money and bought toys and baby clothes to be given to the babies who find themselves behind bars together with their mothers.

Col A. Piketh, Officer Commanding Air Force Gymnasium, handed over the toys and clothes. He explained that the Air Force members wanted to make a difference so that the young ones could spend their time playing with toys.

The Correctional Officer Grade 1, Mr Gary Makwea, asked one of the female inmates to make a vote of thanks. A female inmate said that they had been waiting for this help and expressed thanks for the kind gesture expressed to them by the Air Force Gymnasium. “You are God-sent angels, thank you,” she bowed.

Article by Maj Fundile Silyongwana, Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana.
Creating a defence force with a high morale

By Maj Gen Ashwin C. Hurribunce, Chief of Joint Training

The 8th Annual African Defence Summit was held at the Volkswagen Conference Centre, Midrand over the period 29 to 30 July last year. In this rapidly changing world fraught with unpredictable challenges, it was fitting that within the theme of this conference, the spotlight fell on professionalism in the military.

According to Maj Gen Ashwin Hurribunce, Chief of Joint Training, who delivered a paper at the summit focusing on the SA National Defence Force’s approach to professionalism, there is many a reputed author that has described military professionalism, however there is no single solution against which to measure it.

The Major General continued that as the professionalism of any military force matures and strengthens, so does it obtain higher levels of morale and inner pride manifests.

What follows are the key elements taken from Maj Gen Hurribunce’s paper.

Professionalism as a core value

"Like any other organisation, the Department of Defence (DOD) has formulated core values for itself. The Defence Secretariat and the National Defence Force together make up the DOD. Both entities have adopted the same set of core values.

The DOD fondly refers to its core values as ‘the Big 7’-Patriotism; Military Professionalism; Human Dignity; Integrity; Loyalty; Leadership; and Accountability.

These new core values have been in existence since 1998. They came about as a result of transformation. Prior to this the Department had another set of values, but they were deemed to be inappropriate at that time to the climate of transformation and future orientation. You might observe that some of the values are in themselves aspects of professionalism. Other values, for example, leadership and patriotism act as drivers or enablers. I therefore confirm that professionalism, specifically military professionalism, is promoted as a core value in the SANDF.”

Institutionalisation

"An integrated approach is adopted when dealing with the core values, Codes of Conduct and civic education. This method of institutionalisation provides a sound basis for making appropriate linkages and extrapolations. As with any value, it is constant communication and resultant behavioural change that serves to entrench them.

No measure of education and training can supplant this. Therefore any and every opportunity must be exploited to ensure that a uniform organisational culture matures out of these actions.”

Providing a military basis for morale, unity and discipline

"It might be universally accepted that everything that we do in armed forces has a military basis. These deductions are largely correct save to admit that even in the military there are certain aspects that do not have a military basis and that these we share universally with others, eg management of public finances. However, when it comes to unity, morale and discipline I have no hesitation in confirming even to a point of challenging, that these aspects bear a strong and very unique military basis and ethos.

Military formations are characterised by discipline. Let me hasten to add that in spite of this characteristic, breaches of discipline do occur in the SANDF but is systematically managed - the cornerstone of which is fairness and humaneness.

We have come a long way in realising that previous forms of irregular punitive actions are contrary to our constitutional principles.

A revised Military Disciplinary Code forms the structure lattice on which hangs legal propriety of all conceivable acceptable actions of a soldier or force and/or breaches thereof.

Morale and unity (especially of command) are entities that are both captured in the principles of warfare in fundamental SANDF operational doctrine.

However, you might have realised by now that these three aspects are elevated in Section 200 of our Constitution; the object of the SANDF reflecting the pride of the nation."
being the key unifying factor providing a single unambiguous rallying point for soldiers to honour their responsibility to the South African nation.”

**Preamble to the new Defence Bill**

“The possible unique characteristic of this new piece of legislation that will regulate the SANDF henceforth is the inclusion of the Military Code of Conduct as part of the preamble, providing an ethical basis or framework for the application of this law.”

**New military symbols**

“The first and most significant change was the introduction of the national flag on all standards and colours of the newly born SANDF on 27 April 1994.

“The introduction of the new rank insignia, the first of which was changing the symbolic castle of the erstwhile SADF to the 9-pointed star representing the nine provinces of our country.

With the advent of our Republic’s new national Coat of Arms comes another and possible the last change of rank insignia now incorporating symbolic aspects of the new Coat of Arms. These will officially be unveiled soon.

With transformation also came the naming of new military units with their new crests and logos befitting our new democracy. In many instances existing units retained their names but opted to change their crests and logos symbolically breaking away from the past with renewal.

These new symbols now serve as rallying points for new identity, uplifting morale and strengthening unity.”

**LCAMPS Programme**

“"This acronym when expanded represents: Leadership, Command, Administration (public administration), Management and Philosophy, principles and practices. The aim of this programme is through an integrated approach to implementation, the four aspects of leadership, command, public administration and management are worked into and manifest in all facets of the defence function.

The DOD has adopted the full range leadership style, a mission command style of command, public administration as prescribed in published government regulations, and general management science.

The following overarching principles apply to all four concepts:

- Primacy of output: Implies that the end aim, mission or result takes precedence over everything else in the process.
- Initiative and empowerment: Entails the limiting of control mechanisms and levels of authority to enable more creative and effective delivery on stated goals.
- Jointness and networking: Involves the ability of people to work across departmental or functional boundaries in order to achieve results in a most economical manner.
- Value-based conduct: Implies that the organisation functions according to agreed values applied consistently rather that detailed regulations that prescribe the smallest form of conduct.
- Continuous improvement: Implies that the organisation readily adapts to changing circumstances and is involved in self-criticism and an ongoing examination or processes - it requires that a learning culture be established.

Together with the vision, mission, values and Codes of Conduct it is anticipated that consistent results will be achieved through this intervention, which unfolds over a period of seven years.”

**Identifying and overcoming racial tension**

“While unity and cohesion are constantly being strived for in any armed force, individual pursuit and achievement for greater collective good are largely what we in the SANDF pursue. Within the framework of cognitive dissonance, constructive tension is viewed as the energy for creativity. This much said, I shall be seriously misleading you if I was to deny that racial tension among other types of divisive behaviours or utterances is present in the SANDF. The SANDF represents a microcosm of South African society and therefore mirrors it closely. However, being a captive population in many ways, direct interventions tend to produce visible effect and results when compared to the more diffuse external community. The three significant events in the recent history of the Continued on page 28
Continued from page 27

SANDF were matched by very similar events in the external community. In stating this, I am not condoning these events suffice to illustrate that the malady that we suffer in the SANDF is a greater societal malady, and we as with the greater South African society have equal responsibility to contain and eradicate this blight.

In our endeavours to rise to these challenges we have adopted both proactive and reactive mechanisms."

Respect for cultural diversity and equal opportunity programmes

"This is a proactive intervention forming an integral part of the civic education programme, but run as an interactive 5-day programme using highly trained facilitators assisting participants to deal with the challenges and effects of our past history, prevailing stereotypes, diffusion of tension (racial and other), and finally drawing to a close with exposure to each other's cultures, embracing them as part of the complete South African condition."

Redress and grievance procedures

"As part of the many mechanisms that support our Military Disciplinary Code, separate procedures to address redressing potential wrong done to a member, and a grievance procedure for members to engage if they believe that they might be aggrieved, are available. Both these procedures strictly follow the chain of command finally culminating in the office of the Commander-in-Chief, ie our President, if successive levels of command fail to respond or deal successfully with the issue of redress or grievance. As you can deduce these procedures are post facto. Take note that members also have recourse to the Public Protector or alternatively utilise their military trade union if they are members."

Military professionalism

"The SANDF concept of professionalism comprises three dimensions: Political/civil, Ethical and Behavioural/normative.

'Professionalism' is primarily defined as the qualities, stamp or spirit of a professional. A 'professional' is considered to be a person who shows great skill and competence in an activity and is characterised by, or conforms to, the technical or ethical standards of a profession.

Further, a 'profession' is a calling, a vocation, especially an occupation involving high educational or technical qualifications.

Although there is no notable acknowledgement of the 'profession of arms' as a profession, you will agree that when assessed against the above analysis, this profession complies with the definitions, including if it is evaluated for impact on society as a whole.

It is, however, ironical that this 'profession' has many of it contributions celebrated despite lacking formal recognition - exploring this position might form the subject of a summit of equal dimensions as this one, or even the subject of a doctoral thesis.

I have not gone into depth in describing the ethical dimension of professionalism; suffice to state that we follow what is universally accepted as good ethical behaviour and practice. This entails subscribing fully to the science of morals and a generally accepted system of principles and rules of conduct.

In evaluating what is it that constitutes competence, in the RSA, we have applied the description that competence is a combination of attributes, skills and knowledge.

It therefore becomes evidently clear that the dimensions of professionalism largely lie in the domain of attributes.

It has been our quest to finally fix a comprehensive description of these attributes for our soldiers and this is the first public platform at which this is made visible.

These normative dimensions are equally relevant to shaping the behaviour of a soldier and if at all, might take precedence - it is not subject to discretionary application.

Focusing on expanding on the normative dimensions, the SANDF is in the process of institutionalising the following attributes into the professional development of its soldiers and civilians:

- **Pride** - a feeling of pleasure that one gets from doing well.
- **Thoroughness** - things done properly and completely and with great attention to detail.
- **Objectiveness** - not being influenced by personal feelings or opinions.
- **Refinement** - involves small changes that constantly improve something.
- **Humaneness** - showing kindness and understanding.
- **Poise** - graceful and balanced position - deportment/ demeanour.
- **Mastery** - complete knowledge of something coupled with skill.
- **Finesse** - skill in dealing with things in a clever and subtle way.
- **Meticulousness** - accurate, exacting and with great care.
- **Reverence** - showing great respect.
- **Even-handedness** - fair and without prejudice.
- **Altruism** - concern for needs and feelings of others above one's own.
- **Diligence** - steady effort and careful hard work.
- **Respectfulness** - feeling and drawing respect.
- **Humility** - low opinion of one's own importance - modesty.

Having chosen this somewhat interconnected set of qualities; it is not serendipitous that juggling them about reveals the hidden intent!

I must hasten to admit that not all qualities need to be mustered simultaneously, but a combination of small groups of these qualities can be readily discerned in the observed behaviour of consummate professionals - largely being drawn upon by the exigencies of the occasion."
Celebrations crowned with success

The SA Army medal parade and festival for the year 2002, held at the Service Corps Center for Advanced Training near Attridgeville, Pretoria on 27 November was an absolutely fantastic experience.

The event marked one of the significant days on the SA Army’s calendar. Serving and distinguished guests assembled in a pleasant atmosphere of jubilation in anticipation of the “majestic lion’s” end of the year address - Lt Gen Gilbert Ramano, the Chief of the SA Army.

Initially, the celebration of this occasion was planned to be in the form of a gala evening, but was later changed to an all-inclusive SA Army festival with the view of accommodating all ranks across the spectrum of personnel in the service.

The theme read “The SA Army in support of the African Union and New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD)”. The theme demonstrated the SA Army’s commitment and steadfast support to the broader national aspirations and events unfolding on African soil.

The event was first preceded by a medal parade where members of the SA Army were presented with medals and decorations for long service and outstanding performance. Lt Gen Ramano emphasised: “Each medal symbolises the commitment, loyalty and dedication shown by the members on parade. You have served the SA Army with dignity, professionalism and pride.”

After making expressions of gratitude to the successes achieved by the peace contingent in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Chief also highlighted the importance of supporting actions taken to protect women and children. “As soldiers I urge you to respect women and children. Don’t misuse your power to abuse women and children,” Lt Gen Ramano appealed to the soldiers.

As the medal parade came to an end, the festival begun with an overwhelming excitement and applause as the award of highest order were handed to sportsmen and women of different sports codes, followed by mind blowing entertainment by the Army Gymnasium Choir and the National Ceremonial Guard band and entertainment group.

The guest of honour, Gen G.L. Meiring (Ret), the former Chief of the SANDF, was one of the officials who presented the annual Arthur Child award to the well-deserving winner for 2002. General Meiring mentioned that the Arthur Child Trust seeks to enhance and to afford recognition to the advancement of outstanding accomplishments, initiative or innovation on the part of officers of the SA Army, up to the rank of Colonel, by presenting an annual award from the income of the Trust Fund. Col A. Bornman, the Officer Commanding Army Gymnasium, was chosen as the winner. Article by Maj P.I. Moeketsi, SO1 Research & Writing SA Army Communication, Photo: Cpl Elias Mahuma

Sweden calls again

Mr Tsepe Motumi, Chief of Policy and Planning (left), exchanged gifts with Maj Gen Staffan Näsström, Sweden Chief of Joint Material Command, during the annual RSA-Sweden Defence Committee meeting. The meeting took place at Defence Headquarters in Pretoria over the period 26 to 27 November 2002. (Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana)
Mamelodi rich in history

By Mr S.J. Ribisi, Senior ETDP
Photos: Mr Bethwell Thulare

The Commandant of the SANDF College for Educational Technology (COLET), Brig Gen Claire Bless, and her staff visited Mamelodi on 19 November 2002 as part of the College’s training day activities.

Visited first was the Mamelodi Frail Care Centre. The Centre is an example of a community project started by ordinary people in the early eighties under very difficult conditions. It was interesting to learn that the Centre managed to survive till this day notwithstanding the fact that it did not receive any subsidy from the then apartheid government like its counterparts did. Today the Centre relies mainly on the government subsidy and donations for its funding. It also has developed a small kindergarten on its premises for the children of Mamelodi, which allows to raise some funds for the Centre.

The SOS Children’s Village was the next place to be visited by the members and employees. According to Mr Mandla Mshweni, the Head of the SOS Village, the Village is a home for mainly the abandoned, neglected and orphan children who have nobody to take care of them. These children are sent to the Village by the Magistrates’ Court. Although these children live in the SOS Children’s Village in small houses as a family with a “mother” and an “aunt”, they are integrated in the larger Mamelodi community as they attend government schools, go to the municipal swimming pool, and participate in community sports events. It is not surprising then that the community of Mamelodi appreciates the good work that the Village is offering. The Village relies on sponsors and government subsidy for its funding.

Mamelodi High School was chosen as one of the places to be visited because of its educational. According to Mr Lesley Mabunda, one of the educators at the School, the School was not only the first high school in Mamelodi, but is also the number one in terms of results in this town, with a pass rate of 84% in 2001. Interestingly, the School lacks educational facilities such as a proper laboratory and library. To quench their hunger and thirst, the members were guided to Sol’s Palace, also known as a tavern.

One of the lessons learned there was that people have the ability to better their lives by embarking on legal ventures, such as small businesses.

The members proceeded to the Mamelodi Police Station where they were met by the Sector Policing Head, Inspector Johannes Maheso. According to the Crime Prevention Head, Superintendent Ramakamakamaka Kekana, Mamelodi tops the list in terms of priority crime statistics in the province and rates second in the country. That being the case, it was encouraging to realise that the police officers are very optimistic that the situation will improve. According to the police officers, a second police station is to be built at the east of the town to alleviate the pressure that the only police station is experiencing. The final place to be visited by the members for the afternoon was the A.F.M Old Age Home in Villeria.

One of the lessons learned there was that this home has facilities of a very high standard compared to its counterpart in Mamelodi. Nonetheless, Brig Gen Bless expressed her appreciation for the commitment of this Centre to extend its services for the benefit of the people of Mamelodi as well, the main activity of this Centre being to take care for the frail persons and their families in their Mamelodi homes. The members handed over gifts to the Centre in order to be distributed to the needy in Mamelodi.

Gifts for the needy.

Brig Gen Claire Bless, the Commandant of SANDF COLET, and Maj Kriek Oelofse, Chief ETD Practitioner (right), have a chat with the youth at the SOS Children’s Village.

Lt Col Llewelyn Xabanisa, ETD Researcher, enjoys a chat with the little ones at the SOS Children’s Village.
Promoting culture among ourselves

On 22 November 2002 it was 101 Air Supply Unit’s (101 ASU) turn to promote cultural diversity among its employees. Although all the former military forces are represented in the unit, the cultural day was not just about race, but about sharing the different worlds and experience people bring with them to work.

The first black Officer Commanding 101 ASU, Lt Col K.K. Mancotywa, maintained that integration largely omitted cultural inclusion and that such occasions as this cultural day provide an informal opportunity to bond.

He also stated that the event is about people who come from different walks of life and yet must find ways of working together.

Lt Col Mancotywa related how one employee was absent from work for three weeks for the purpose of a cultural ritual he had to undergo.

Lt Col Mancotywa continued to say that people need to understand one another’s cultures to communicate more effectively.

It is Lt Col Mancotywa’s view that the appreciation of cultural diversity is good for transformation.

He said, “when I first came here I could see there was fear, others wanted to leave, but in the long run they stayed.”

The Commanding Officer 101 ASU is able to boast of employees who are provided with the opportunity to enjoy work benefits purely on the grounds of good soldiering.

Officer Commanding 101 ASU, Lt Col K.K. Mancotywa, advocates cultural diversity.

Training was put on a pedestal

The DOD Technical Service Training Centre held an open day in Pretoria on 22 November 2002 to show the capability of the Centre with emphasis on training.

The very informative day began with a presentation of certificates for those members who had excelled in respect to training. Family and friends who attended the events, enjoyed the live demonstrations and static displays which included recovery demonstrations, gun-shop demonstration, and A-vehicle and B-vehicle demonstrations.

Speaking to SA SOLDIER WO1 M.S. Munro, the announcer of the day, said an open day of this caliber had been a first for the unit with the intention of making it an annual event.

Actors in demand

Defence Corporate Communication is currently busy planning for the next Industrial Theatre Production for 2003. The nationwide tour will take place during the period middle March to the end of October 2003. It is important that the group comprises members representative of the different population groups. Members must meet the following criteria:

- Age group: between 25 and 40.
- Must be able to travel and be placed on detached duty with Defence Corporate Communication for the period mentioned.
- Be articulate.
- Previous acting experience is not needed, but there is a need for self-confidence and an outgoing personality.

Members interested may contact Rina van Schalkwyk at:
- tel no: (012) 355 3477 or
- cell no: 083 629 0622.

Members marvel at the 23 mm anti-aircraft gun, being dismantled and assembled in 30 minutes by the armourment fitters.

Article by Nomonde Vuthela, Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana.
School for Security and Africa Studies

Compiled by Maj Arina Hanekom, Communication Officer Military Academy

The age-old saying "knowledge is power" is today, more than ever, applicable to our profession. The professional officer should not only be skilled in the usage of modern weapon systems, but, even more importantly, develop insight and the ability to deal with complex situations.

The professional officer should study the past, in order to understand the present and influence the future; study the milieu in order to plan strategy; and study the tasks in order to plan a victory. Hence, the programme for Security and Africa Studies presented at the Military Academy focuses on knowledge and skills to orientate the student in and prepare him or her for the milieu (historical, political, strategic, socio-economic and physical/geographical) in which the military operates. It lays the foundation for lifelong study with a view to sustained professional and personal development.

In order to achieve these goals, the School presenting this programme is divided into three distinct subject groups: Military History, Political Science and Military Strategy. The programme aims to develop students intellectually through the fostering of logical and analytical thought.

The teaching of Military History entails the provision of a frame of reference regarding the causes, courses and consequences of past wars. The student is introduced to the development of the profession of arms, development of defence and weapon systems, as well as the strategy and tactics employed during certain periods. The development of the logistic, communication and intelligence systems of armies, navies and air forces during key historical eras are also studied. Attention is paid to the development of military thought, as well as the relationship between armed forces and societies through the ages, including contemporary views of military professionalism and the role of the military in a democratic society.

Lastly, the basic principles of Military History are impressed upon students while they are also exercised in critical thinking, research techniques and the writing of military history. The syllabus is compiled in such a way that most of the subject matter deals with twentieth-century warfare, with a heavy emphasis on Africa. Since the great conflicts of this century were in essence conventional wars, a considerable amount of attention is devoted to the study thereof. However, the second semester of the final year deals with the study of internal conflict (since 1945) and is aimed at familiarising the student with contemporary unconventional warfare (revolutionary warfare). The main emphasis in this regard is placed on the struggle for political power in Southern Africa.

The Political Science modules encourage students to think critically, to work systematically and to rigorously scrutinise political phenomena. The Political Science subject group aims at engendering a civic consciousness where citizenship rights and obligations are paramount. The diversity in the nature of the courses aims to equip the student with the knowledge and skills needed by the officer in a modern defence force to cope with the demands of a rapidly changing political environment.

The first year focus is on the introduction of political science, international relations and civil-military relations - a thorough study of African politics, while the political risk analysis of the African environment is dealt with in the second year. Third year students are exposed to modern political thought and the international political economy of Africa.

The core business of the subject group Military Strategy is to empower officers to play their rightful role with regard to strategic matters in the SANDF.

The subject spans two domains in that it focuses on the softer security field, as well as that of the more robust field of military strategy. This is a functional division in order to expose the officer to the present complex strategic environment within which the state deliberately uses its power resources towards achieving national goals, as well as the domain of the preparation and use of military force in support of political objectives.

At undergraduate level, students are introduced to the wider strategic domain, as well as to the military domain of strategy. At postgraduate level, the study of strategy is broadened by the research and reporting on specific domains of military strategy.

The study of Military Strategy is also taken to the African realm as a future strategic environment of the SANDF and in particular the national security of the Southern African region. At this level, strategic theory and strategic futures are attended to by allowing independent research.

The programme majors are...
supplemented by a variety of supporting modules. These comprise Defence Economy; Principles of Economics; Military Psychology; the Management of Cultural Diversity; SA Language, Literature and Culture in Context; Academic Writing and Communication in English; Principles of International Law; International Humanitarian Law and Operational Law; and an Introduction to Computers. The net effect is a well-tuned programme designed to equip modern officers with essential life skills, develop insight on wars and warfare, on Africa and African affairs, and to provide a cornerstone to their development in the profession of arms. The School for Security and Africa Studies also offers several postgraduate options: students may apply for advanced studies in Military History and Military Strategy, or within the generic field of security and Africa studies. The latter study direction comprises modules in all three subject fields of the School. These postgraduate options are available on B Mil Hons and M Mil levels.

In the generic Honours course, the student’s research skills are honed through the study of the theory and practise of research methodology. Focus falls furthermore on the study of international political theory, international political economy, conflict in Africa, defence economics, the national security of Southern African states and national defence management. The programme spans one year in the case of full-time and two years in the case of part-time students.

The generic M Mil-course comprises of a number of prescribed modules (Military Strategy, Conflict in Africa in the Twentieth Century and the International/Global Economy of Africa), as well as a thesis based on an approved research proposal.

Through the study of Military History, Political Science and Military Strategy, career officers are provided with knowledge of warfare in all its facets. It acquaints them with the milieu, systems, strategies, as well as challenges of the military profession. In this way, young officers develop a broad professional frame of reference from which they can approach contemporary problems with greater insight.

All in all, the study of these subjects is a key foundation to the career of the military professional. Maj Gen J.F.C. Fuller, an early proponent of mechanised warfare, warned some eighty years ago that “an Army neglects its intellectual preparation at its peril!”

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Enquiries: Faculty Officer *Military Academy * (022) 7023022
Well done philosopher!

Lt Col Bafana A. Mahlabe of Defence Corporate Communication from September to November 2002 attended Managing Defence in a Democracy, which is a post graduate diploma certificate presented at the Cranfield University (UK) under the Defence Diplomacy Scholarship.

Lt Col Mahlabe was the only South African and the youngest member among members from African countries, Asia and Europe (namely Nigeria, Senegal, Croatia, Bulgaria, Latvia, Hungary, Angola, Namibia, Uganda, Botswana, Uzbekistan, Chhile, Slovakia, Georgia, Sierra Leone and Romania).

He, however, managed to keep the South African flag hovering high as he was presented a book prize: Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone by J.K. Rowling. This book was signed by Prof Trevor Taylor, Dr Laura Cleary, Lt Col Tom Maley and all students, and presented to him for being the best student and for outstanding performance in philosophical matters.

Lt Col Mahlabe also holds a Political Science Diploma from the Sofia Academy of Social Sciences (Bulgaria) 1988-1989 for which he got a distinction. He did the SANDF and the DOD in general proud, by demonstrating a high level of intellectual capability when concepts such as the practical and theoretical origins of the State; the framework of defence and security; the governance of defence; and the management of defence were researched, presented, discussed and analysed.

Lt Col Mahlabe became a pillar of reference to all with his extensive knowledge of theories of historical materialism, dialectical materialism and the concept of globalisation.

This Defence Diplomacy Scholarship was attended by both civilian officials and senior ranking officers from different Ministries of Defence and Lt Col Mahlabe showed them what kind of material South Africa has to offer.

Once again congratulations are in order for Lt Col Mahlabe. Keep up the good work!

Photo: Cpl Elias Mahuma.

Leave gratuity

The Defence Staff Council has approved the Non-Statutory Forces (NSF) Leave Dispensation for all serving members, as well as those who have already left the service.

Ex-members who qualify for this dispensation are those who were discharged as medically unfit, those who have retired, those who passed away while still in service, those who left when their contracts expired; left with VSP or EIP.

Ex-members who do not qualify are those who resigned or were discharged for whatever reason.

Serving members are requested to convey the message to potential candidates or the beneficiaries of those who passed away.

For enquiries regarding this project contact Col J. Barnard at tel no: (012) 339 5282.

Farewell Admiral

After forty years the SANDF bid farewell to R Adm B.W. Visser during a parade held at Air Force Gymnasium in Pretoria on 29 November 2002.

His successor as Chief Logistics is Maj Gen T.A. Mtsibande.

(Photo: Courtesy 5 ASU Photo Section)
Remembering our potent advocates of peace

By Col Thys Eagar (Ret),
Chairperson of the Pretoria
Memorial Services Council

The annual memorial service to commemorate all soldiers who died and were disabled in service of their country, was held at the Union Buildings in Pretoria on Sunday, 10 November 2002, as in various cities in our country and in the capital cities of other countries all over the world.

At this memorial service many communities, military veterans’ associations and also representatives of foreign countries remember the families of those who never returned and, of course, those men and women who were disabled during active service.

The memorial service was organised by a voluntary organisation of military veterans, known as the Pretoria Memorial Services Council (PMSC). They have for many years now taken on themselves the task of organising and funding this and other memorial services in the capital city, with the support of the local Military Garrison. They do this in the interest of the community of Pretoria and its environs. Their only source of income being donations from mainly military veterans’ organisations and from some of our Reserve Force regiments.

An SANDF Chaplain, Col Johan Dill, from the SA Military Health Service officiated the service with the SA Air Force Band in attendance. The service was preceded by music provided by the band and the posting of sentries from Pretoria Regiment, as has been the custom for many years.

The customary last post, reveille and two-minute silence were observed, whereafter the various representatives laid wreaths, plant a cross or the Star of David at the memorial wall. For the duration of the wreath-laying, Piper Dave Berry from the Pretoria Highlanders played the customary Lament on his bagpipe.

The tradition of observing this silence was initiated by the well-known South African, Sir Percy Fitzpatrick. It was first observed in our country on 14 December 1918 in Cape Town, and has since then been observed worldwide at all memorial services.

This remembrance service is held annually on the Sunday nearest to 11 November (Armistice Day) and this is then known as Remembrance Sunday. This year Armistice Day happened to fall on a Monday!

Armistice Day

In brief, the history of this day of remembrance is that the armistice to end what was known as the Great War (1914/1918), which was also referred to by some as “The War to End all Wars”, was signed in the early hours of 11 November 1918. All firing then ceased on the 11th hour (11:00) of that day. All the countries of the British Commonwealth then decided to commemorate the end of this war by holding memorial services at 11:00 on the 11th month of every year. This day then became known as Armistice Day and it was observed worldwide.

After the end of World War II (1943/1945), it was decided to now commemorate the end of all wars. In order to determine a single date that was convenient for all countries, a decision was made to hold memorial services annually on the Sunday nearest to 11 November. This Sunday then became known as Remembrance Sunday. Those who later fell and suffered during the war in Korea and in later conflicts are now also remembered at these memorial services.

Red poppy

Armistice Day has always been associated with the wearing of the red poppy, when members of military veterans’ organisations distribute red poppies to the public on that day. Armistice Day is at times also referred to as Poppy Day. The red poppy is a reminder of those fragile little flowers that grew in the fields of Flanders in Belgium where, in the “Great War”, thousands of soldiers were killed, maimed and the ground drenched with their blood. Funds raised in this way through donations are used by these organisations to assist veterans and their families who are in need.

The red poppy is often referred to in the memoirs of veterans who fought there in the 1914/1918 War and also often appears in well-loved poems about the war in that part of Europe.

Annual remembrance

In all large centres in our country, this annual memorial service is initiated, organised and funded by their local governing councils, assisted by their military veterans’ organisations and is, where possible, supported by their local armed forces. Communities are represented at these services by the heads of their elected...
Continued from page 35

governing councils and foreign countries by a senior member of their missions in that country. In most cases it will be their senior military attaché. Other participants are the local senior representatives of the various security services, ie their Defence Force, Police Service and other security agencies. The national chairpersons/presidents of the various military veterans’ organisations are as can be expected, always in attendance. National Remembrance Sunday is always held in the capital cities of most other countries and their heads of state personally attend these memorial services, as can be seen in the media.

Why memorial services?

People often ask about and question the observance of these memorial services - the uninformed then often voice their opinion - that it is again but a glorification of war with all the violence and associated atrocities that accompany it.

To them and all of us, I would like us to take heed of the words that were said by King George V when he visited Flanders in 1922 to view the work done in Europe by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. It is the duty of this Commission, of which we also maintain an agency in South Africa, to mark and maintain the graves of the members of their Armed Forces who were killed in war and to build memorials to those who have no known grave. In stunned silence King George viewed the rows of uniform headstones and monuments; then he uttered these memorable words:

“We can truly say that the whole circuit of the earth is girdled with the graves of our dead… Never before in the history have a people thus dedicated and maintained individual memorials to their fallen, and in the course of my pilgrimage, I have many times asked myself whether there can be more potent advocates of peace upon earth through the years to come, than this massed multitude of silent witnesses to the desolation of war.”

By Capt (SAN) E. van der Walt (Ret), Communication Officer Military Legal Services Division

Brig Gen Bailey Segomotso Mmono was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General on 1 January 2003 when he commenced duty as the Director SANDF Legal Support on the staff of the Adjutant General.

He succeeds Brig Gen H.C. Coetzee who has been appointed as the Director Antifraud on the staff of the Inspector General DOD.

As Director SANDF Legal Support, Brig Gen Mmono will play a key role in ensuring the provision of legal advice and related legal support to the SANDF.

Brig Gen Mmono holds the degrees B.Juris and LLB conferred by the University of the North West. He is currently reading for the LLM degree at the University of South Africa.

When the Military Legal Services Division came into being during 1999, Brig Gen Mmono was assigned as a Military Judge by the Minister of Defence. During 2000 he was likewise assigned to the function of Senior Military Judge.

Prior to those assignments Brig Gen Mmono had done tours of duty with the SANDF as a military law practitioner at the former North West Command Headquarters and, later, the former Eastern Province Command Headquarters.

Before qualifying in law Brig Gen Mmono garnered military experience in the fields of logistics and personnel as an officer in the former Bophuthatswana Defence Force.

During 1997 Brig Gen Mmono was admitted as an Advocate of the High Court.

This year, too, he was appointed as a member of the Court of Military Appeals by the Minister of Defence. This is both a great responsibility and a great achievement.

Achievement in the field of law is not limited to Brig Gen Mmono. His spouse, Elizabeth Baaitse, is a Judge of the High Court.

As Director SANDF Legal Support Brig Gen Mmono’s task will be to ensure professional and legitimate military legal advice and support.
A representative group of academics visited the Regional Joint Task Force (RJTF) North as guests of the Chief of the SANDF over the period 28 to 29 November 2002.

The Chief of Corporate Staff, V Adm Martyn Trainor, welcomed the delegation on behalf of the Chief of the SANDF at Waterkloof AFB. He oriented the guests about the primary role of the SANDF and the challenges to be a small force, as cheap as possible, able to expand rapidly and to provide a continuous deterrence.

Col John Gibbs from the Chief of Defence Reserve's Office spoke to the group about the military strategy and the Reserve Force. He emphasised that voluntary national service and not conscription will be utilised to attract the cream of the youngsters to feed to the Defence Reserves. The Officer Commanding of Hoedspruit AFB, Brig Gen Pierre du Plessis, told the group that his unit is responsible to lay the cornerstone for future fighter capabilities within the SA Air Force. The guests visited Hoedspruit AFB which is surrounded by a nature reserve containing seventeen different species of antelope, as well as rhinos and giraffes. The Base also has two cheetahs and ten caracals to control game on the runways.

The guests also visited the Lowveld Airspace Sector Control Centre, 7 Air Service Unit and had a guided tour through the Military Health Centre Hoedspruit. The next stop was 5 Special Forces Regiment, which executes special operations for the Chief of the SANDF. After a briefing by the Phalaborwa Commando, the group was given a well-deserved rest.

The following morning the group witnessed a roadblock manned jointly by the Phalaborwa Commando, South African Police Service and traffic officials. The main focus of the roadblock was to check for valid driver's licences, vehicles that were not roadworthy, as well as routine police check-ups.

The entourage left for a practical demonstration of the rigorous training that members of 5 Special Forces Regiment receive, and also visited the Special Forces Museum and survival centre. At the shooting range, there was a display of all the weapons used by the Regiment and the guests were afforded the opportunity to shoot with some of the weapons.

The last stop of the visit was at 7 SA Infantry Battalion (7 SAI Bn). 7 SAI Bn changed from a training unit to a rear area protection unit when 113 SAI Bn became part of the unit. It became part of the Rapid Deployment Force during November 1994, and it was placed under the command of the SA Army Infantry Formation as a motorised infantry unit in 2002.

The visitors thanked the organisers for creating an opportunity for interacting with members of the RJTF North, the high standard of training displayed and the level of professionalism in the SANDF.

Article by PO Dennis Ndaba.

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Empowering the community

The Thaba Tshwane Community Development Project is involved in empowering the youth and adults in skills development so that they can be marketable. The project also endeavours to improve the performance of people that are employed. This partnership involves the Personnel Service School, 1 Military Town Management, SAFI and GSB Thaba Tshwane. The project is needs driven and focuses on illiteracy in the areas surrounding Thaba Tshwane. According to the facilitator of the project, Mr Partson Dube, courses provided include computer courses and sewing. The youth are kept out the streets and from bad influence by being involved in modelling and drama.

Plans are at an advanced stage to include metal work and mechanical training. About the involvement of the Personnel Service School, the Officer Commanding, Col N.L. Bottoman, said that the School provided Mr Dube with the facilities and qualified instructors for a specific direction of empowering people which is part of the work of the School to be proactive in rendering service. “The adult basic education and training (ABET) that was conducted this year for the spouses of soldiers, was a resounding success. Quite a number of people have shown interest in the course and we need to strengthen this so that we can place our contribution,” said Col Bottoman. Article by PO Dennis Ndaba, Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana.
To duel or not to duel

By Col Joe H. Palmer,
SSO Business Plan Integration, Directorate Product System Support, Logistic Support Formation

I still recall the day when my friend mentioned how nicely his girlfriend’s Beetle was “burning”. She reacted by producing a fire extinguisher to put the “burning” out, only to find out that he was referring to the greyish-white deposit inside the exhaust pipe tail ends. Indeed, a greyish-white colour tone to a Beetle’s exhaust was rare, as this was indicative of finely tuned carburettors. With the availability of leaded, unleaded and, for now, let’s refer to alternative fuels, came confusion and options we did not have before. Likewise, SASOL entered the market with its Duel Fuel. But, “to duel or not to duel?” - that is the question.

Unleaded fuel is also a colour thing

Gone are the days of greyish-white exhausts, as most owners of unleaded-fuel-powered cars will confirm. But what is the cause of the colouring and why is it disappearing? Let’s try not to be too technical. When a car is run on leaded fuel, a greyish-white deposit, caused by lead compounds in the fuel, will be indicative of a lean air/fuel mixture. A rich leaded mixture will cause a black carbon deposit. If the same engine is run on unleaded fuel, only a slight black deposit will be observed owing to the lack of lead. No longer will the exhaust colour be indicative of a finely tuned carburettor or even an electronically managed fuel-injection engine.

The absence of lead in fuel will not reduce the performance of a carburettor engine, or any other engine, for that matter. The octane rating is the factor that will influence engine performance. However, a slightly reduced octane rating is insignificant and therefore negates performance changes in terms of the standard engine.

Advantages of unleaded fuel

It is my personal opinion that unleaded fuel did not start off on a good footing in South Africa. Recently, however, unleaded fuel improved significantly and consumption on the retail side is on the increase, not only because of the increasing number of cars requiring unleaded fuel, but also because other vehicles now use unleaded fuel. There are many debates on the effects or disadvantages that unleaded fuel can have on particularly older cars. But let’s discuss this problem later.

If I drive a car that is not fitted with a catalytic converter and the manufacturer does not specify unleaded fuel, should I opt for an unleaded alternative? Lead in fuel ends up as the greyish-white deposits in the engine and exhaust, and it also ends up in the atmosphere. These lead-related oxides are vastly reduced when using unleaded fuel. Therefore, even if a car is not fitted with a catalytic converter, the owner will benefit in terms of the following:

- Reduced oil degradation.
- Greatly increased spark-plug life.
- Increase in exhaust system life.
- Reduce pollution released into the atmosphere.
- Reduced gum sediment or residue in the engine.
- Reduced deposits on the inlet valve and combustion chamber.

At this stage I will not dare to speculate on the disadvantages of unleaded fuel for cars not specified for using unleaded fuel. The reason for this is that problems that the driver might experience and blame on unleaded fuel, could actually have diverse causes that could be related or unrelated to the fuel type. It is suggested that you make the decision and judgement for yourself.

Disadvantages of not using unleaded fuel

The disadvantages of not using unleaded fuel in unleaded engines are in various cases obvious and also distressingly expensive. Failure of the catalytic converter due to clogging will not only harm the engine management system, but the engine as well.

With technology advancing by the day, engine repairs can constitute up to 50% of the vehicle’s total value. Using leaded fuel in an unleaded vehicle will negate the manufacturer’s warranty.

The disadvantages of not using unleaded fuel in older or leaded engines are in most cases the opposite of the advantages mentioned above. It therefore boils down to the owner forfeiting reduced maintenance costs and prolonging engine life, not to mention the damages to the environment.

Alternative fuels

The most well-known alternative fuel is Sasol’s "duel fuel". This fuel has the benefits of unleaded fuel without forfeiting the benefits of leaded fuel for older cars. In other words, SASOL replaced the lubrication and other effects of lead with another compound that provides the same effects as lead, thus benefiting leaded
Another alternative fuel is BP’s cleaner “Super”, which replaces leaded petrol only. It is, however, not a duel-purpose fuel, as it is not suitable for unleaded engines. It is suitable for older vehicles as it contains a harmless potassium compound to replace lead. The third alternative fuel is Engen’s “Dynamic”, which is an unleaded 97 octane unleaded petrol. This fuel is aimed at older cars in coastal areas that are prone to “knock” (ping) - due to the fact that they are not equipped with knock sensors. In other words, the 97 octane Dynamic is more knock-resistant than the 95 octane fuels.

What about the SANDF’s vehicles?

The SANDF also is in a transitional phase with regard to the phasing in of unleaded powered vehicles. This implies that, in systems, leaded fuel has to be phased out while phasing in unleaded fuel. The Petro and Industrial Chemical Products Work Group (PICPWG) deals with the technical aspects of unleaded and related fuels. Under the chairpersonship of Col Wim Odendaal, SSO Technical Maintenance of the Directorate Product System Support, Logistics Support Formation, the Work Group investigates and tests alternatives and the phasing in of unleaded fuel. The PICPWG’s present recommendations concerning unleaded vehicles are as follows:

- Where economically viable in terms of unleaded fuel consumed, the contractor must flush and refit existing tanks in order to supply unleaded fuel.
- Where the supply of unleaded fuel is not economically viable, unleaded fuel is to be acquired by means of the petty cash procedure.

It is obvious that Sasol have thoroughly tested their duel fuel product. The State contract also provides for this option, should the SANDF opt to acquire it. However, replacement with this fuel on a large scale is not envisaged at the moment, as the PICPWG jet has to test the implications of alternative fuels.

This does not imply that the research and development of the industry are questioned. On the contrary, the SANDF have to consider many aspects, of which the technical aspects and specifications are only a part. Questions such as how the fuel will react under operational conditions, transportability, quality and maintenance requirements during deployments and many other aspects have to be investigated and researched.

The future

Industry envisages that unleaded fuel will be the norm by 2006, with leaded or other alternative fuels as the exception. The SANDF is preparing for this change, and the vehicle owner should as well. Fortunately the rising costs of both fuel and vehicles are accompanied by improved technology, thus providing the owner with alternatives and options which ease the transition to new fuels.

References:
- Petro and Industrial Chemical Products Meeting. 02 July 2002. SANDF, Pretoria.
Congratulations to our sport ambassadors

By Nomonde Vuthela
Photos: Sgt David Nomtshongwana

The SANDF Sports Awards 2002 ceremony was held in the Thaba Tshwane city hall on 15 November 2002 to celebrate and encourage SANDF members who have done much to keep sport alive. As the Director SANDF Sport, Brig Gen Lindile Yam, said when opening the function, "To honour, give appreciation and recognition to those sportsmen and women".

Brig Gen Yam eluded to how the sporting calendar for 2002 boasted of historic firsts that included such events as the First Africa Military Games held in April on Nairobi soil. According to the Brigadier General, this became the highlight of the SANDF sporting year.

Altogether 27 countries participated and the SANDF walked away with 56 medals - 28 gold, 26 silver and two bronze. Also significant in the 2002 sporting calendar was the three-member delegation from the German Defence School who brought a new dimension of sporting professionalism, noted Brig Gen Yam.

Before presenting the awards, the Chief Functionary, Lt Gen T.T. Matanzima, congratulated the service chiefs for rising to the occasion in recognising the gravity of the event. All four services were unequivocally represented.

Lt Gen Matanzima indicated that despite the lack of funds, "your presence here gives an indication of your clear support." Lt Gen Matanzima continued to say that the SANDF encourages all members to participate in all sports codes.

Special Merit Awards in Team Sports Codes
- Capt K.J. Tleane (netball)
- Sgt Q.C. Fredericks (soccer)
- Rfn M. Mgidlana (rugby)
- Tpr M.B. Hlongwane (volleyball)
- Tpr R.D. Abrahams (volleyball)
- L Cpl V.W. Soaphangisa (rugby)
- Sgt G.A. Julies (rugby)
- L Cpl M.F. Williams (tug-of-war)
- Cpl R.P.M. Mzolo (soccer)
- Cpl T.S. Mavuna (soccer)
- Sgt A.M. Monyela (soccer)
- Sgt A.G. Ndihovu (soccer)
- Sgt W.L. Maswanganyi (soccer)
- Sgt M.I. Peu (soccer)
- Lt Col C.T. Khulu (soccer)
- Cpl H. Dikobe (soccer)
- Capt P. Cox (volleyball)
- Pte O.D. Dloabelo (soccer)
- Cpl Willie (soccer)
- Tpr M.L. Taso (volleyball)
- L Cpl M.L. Zibi (rugby)
- Maj I. Henrico (hockey)
- Cpl J.E. Marthinus (soccer)

Special Merit Awards in Individual Sports Codes
- PO B. Basson (golf)
- WO2 A. Prins (golf)
- Cpl J.C. Cloete (boxing)
- Sgt C.T. Makoena (cross-country)
- Cpl S.M. Koagile (road running)
- Sgt M.O. Tefu (road running)
- L Cpl R.W. Josop (military pentathlon)
- L Bdr J. van Rooyen (military pentathlon)
- Lt E.L. Swartbooi (military pentathlon)
- Brig Gen A. Sedibe (golf)
- S Sgt N.G. Thathaisa (road running)
- Cpl P.E. van Zyl (military pentathlon)
- S Sgt W. Tsingane (athletics)
- WO1 J.A. Bloem (boxing)
- Capt S. Heyns (military pentathlon)
- Tpr L. de Vries (military pentathlon)

Winners
The Veteran Sportsman in Team Sports Codes was awarded to WO2 G.J. Jacobs for indoor cricket and S Sgt F.W. van Tonder for pistol shooting. The Veteran Sportswoman in Individual Sports Codes award went to Maj D. Heymans.

The Disabled Sportsperson award was awarded to S Sgt J.S.S. de Beer for table tennis. S Sgt de Beer is currently ranked as the number one for the disabled players in the SANDF and number three among able-bodied...
players. He is rated 10th in the world. The Sports Administrator of the Year was Lt Col J. Zietsman for military pentathlon. The Sports Official in Team Sports Codes was awarded to WO1 E.C. Daniels for rugby. Capt A.J. Kok was the Sports Official in Individual Sports Codes (karate).

Tpr A.B. Mashele was the Sportsman in Team Sports Codes for volleyball. The Sportswoman in Team Sports Codes was Maj E. Diffenthal for softball.

Currently she is the number one pitcher in the world. The Sportsman in Individual Sports Codes was Lt B. Madolo for boxing, while the Sportswoman in Individual Sports Codes was awarded to Lt Cdr H. Möller for judo/kurash.

The Sports Code of the Year was rugby and was received by Col (Rev) M. Cornelissen, the Chairperson of SANDF Rugby. The Regional Military Sport Council of the Year award went to Gauteng and was received by Brig Gen P. Killian.

World vision cycle ride against AIDS

Article by WO1 J.J. Grobler, Member of Pretoria Military Cycle Club

“Children, our hope, our future. Hear about it, openly discuss, learn and live.” This is the message that World Vision conveyed through the AIDS Cycle Relay.

The AIDS Cycle Relay involved cyclists from around the world travelling over 7 000 km over major transnational roads between nine countries, which have some of the highest infection rates in the world. An estimated 15 to 25% of all 15 to 19-year olds in Malawi, Swaziland, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe are living with HIV/AIDS.

Yet, through raising awareness about the danger of HIV/AIDS Uganda’s President Museveni has led his country in reducing the estimated HIV prevalence rate from 14% in 1990 to only 8% in 1999. The President’s active steps in fighting the spread of the disease through the government and religious and community organisations have proven effective.

The AIDS Cycle Relay was aimed at mobilising a political and public movement to fight the disease and to demystify assumptions about HIV/AIDS in the six countries. Through combining fun, adventure and information, the cycle relay organisers hope to give people a chance to discuss a serious issue.

It was extremely unusual to see a gathering of cyclists escorted by 7-ton trucks moving at 30 km per hour along major highways in Southern Africa.

South Africa received an invitation to participate in this prestigious event. The opportunity to be part of this elite group was snatched up by Pretoria Military Cycling Club (PMCC), affiliated to Pretoria Police Cycling Club which acted as the regional host and nodal point for the adventure. The South African delegates consisted of eight riders, seven being members of the Pretoria Police Cycling Club and one of the PMCC.

WO2 Gerrie Gründling, a licensed rider from the SANDF, represented the PMCC. Several members tried their utmost to participate, but unfortunately could not be granted leave. Congratulations to WO2 Gründling for participating and representing the PMCC and the SANDF in this important cause.

Front, fltr: Brig Gen Lindile Yam, Lt Gen T.T. Matanzima and our sport ambassadors.
Cricket makes good friends

The Chief Royal Core of Signals of Great Britain visited South Africa last year. Their mission - to play cricket - only they were taught a thing or two by the SANDF CMI Cricket Team in a friendly match played on 15 November 2002 in Wonderboom. The visiting team was hosted for a week by the School of Signals at Military Base Wonderboom.

The Captain of the SANDF Team, Sgt J.C Pelzer, felt that being able to share in sport and communicate at this level was indeed the highlight of his career so far. “Play good, make good friends,” reiterated L Cpl Keith Ford, Captain of the English Team.

Article by Nomonde Vuthela,
Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana

Women ready to defend

On 11 October 2002 a self-defence day for women was presented by the DOD School of Catering as one of the planned communication projects for the year 2002. A total of 25 women from the DOD School of Catering, Group 15, Main Ordinance Depot, SA Army College, 1 Military Hospital and Medical Health Training Formation HQ attended the day presented by Maj Riaan Engelbrecht. Maj Engelbrecht is a qualified weapons instructor and a black belt Karateka, and has been actively presenting self-defence classes in the military, as well as in the private sector.

After assembling at the DOD School of Catering, the women were transported to the Eeufees Shooting Range, where the day started off with a short introductory lecture on the types of handguns, calibres, what the law states, as well as numerous other aspects concerning handguns. Thereafter the women got the opportunity to practically apply what they were taught, and each of them shot a few shots under strict supervision of an instructor.

After lunch all the women were taken to SAMHS Training Formation. Maj Engelbrecht had a brief discussion on what self-defence actually entails, touched on the recent crime statistics of South Africa, what the law states, the rights of citizens, dangerous situations, how to recognise and avoid dangerous situations, and then finally the practical application of a handful of techniques. The women had the opportunity to practise and apply these on an “assailant”, and could determine the effectiveness of the various techniques.

The whole group at the end confirmed that they had enjoyed the day very much and that they all learned a lot.

Article by Maj Otto Lambrechts, DOD Logistic Support Formation.
The Tswelopele Reskilling Pilot Project was initiated with the support of the Deputy Minister of Defence, Ms Nonzizwe Madlala-Routledge, after numerous workshops between delegates from South Africa and the United States of America on providing services to Military Veterans.

The programme has been made possible by funds which were generously provided by the United States Department of Labour. Lt Col Dalton Nicholson (USAF) and Mr Trevor Mdlalose of the US Office of Defence Co-operation in Pretoria have contributed to getting the programme started, in conjunction with Dr Jim Statman of Aurora Associates International, the DOD’s Service Corps and the Military Veterans Advisory Board.

The Tswelopele Pilot Project aims to develop and strengthen the capacity of military veterans to advocate for and contribute towards the process of reconstruction and community development in South Africa. Mr Clinton van der Walt, an independent researcher involved with the development of the pilot project, says that the project consists of three phases, which combines the modalities of indigenous healing models with psycho-social support and mental health assessment.

A portfolio development course, skills auditing and vocational planning strategies are followed by the opportunity to participate in a series of short formal courses. A life-skills development course and, finally, job creation and job search support initiatives conclude the project. The need for the Tswelopele Project gravitates around three identified concerns.

Firstly, the need for psychological debriefing and support to facilitate re-integration into civilian life.

Secondly, to re-skill participants in industry-appropriate courses to be able to compete in the new world of work which requires skills transferability and an understanding of applied competence.

The programme is presented under the Leadership of Technikon South Africa with the support of the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation (CSVR). Further programmes are planned for replication at the various regional centres, while a Military Veterans Leadership Programme for senior office bearers within veterans administration is due to commence in December 2002.

Ex-combatant and poet Don Matera also wrote a tribute to the Tswelopele Pilot Project. In the poem Dr Matera recognises and validates the important historical contribution of ex-combatants by placing this in its ideological context.

He achieves this by examining scenes from the past, the present and the future, thus providing a poetic continuity of dynamic identity. He also provided the platform for the ethos of the project Tswelopele: Moving forward.

Tswelopele participants showing off their singing skills.
Welcome on board

The Chaplains’ magazine, “The Military Chaplain”, was launched on 6 December 2002 at the Chaplains Service Headquarters. Some members of the Editorial Board and other invited guests were present at the official launch.

The Editor of the magazine, Cpln M.T. Masuku, made a short speech on what the magazine is about before he officially presented the Chaplain General of the SANDF, Maj Gen (Rev) F.F.S. Gqiba, with a copy.

The driving force behind the editorial committee in producing this magazine was to create one of the best publications the DOD ever had. The content of the magazine is designed in such a way that it tries to accommodate the tastes of all people. The magazine aims at encouraging people to think creatively, critically and to express their views freely.

The guidelines in our effort have been our vision, mission and the Defence Review of 1997 (on transformation principles). In order to have a better understanding of what I mean, it is important for me to remind you of our vision and mission.

The vision: “The DOD comprises spiritually, socially and ethically enriched people supported by a group of professional chaplains.”

The mission: “Within the principle of religious freedom the Chaplains Service is to ensure that all members of the DOD and their dependants are cared for by providing a service that promotes spiritual growth, social support and ethical conduct.”

If one reads through this magazine, one can easily see that all thoughts run within the parameters of our vision and mission and that we also considered the requirements of the Defence Review of 1997 on the question of representativity.

For instance, the subject of HIV/AIDS occupies quite a lot of space - a reflection on the annual Chaplain General’s Conference, which touched on ethics and morality. The book review, which focuses on contextual ministry, the meditation and other topics, all reflect the most important areas of our responsibility.

The Defence Review of 1997 is considered as our design principle on race representativity which are to be achieved before 2003, and in which regard the Chaplains Service achieved a great deal.

If one pages through this magazine, it is easy to notice a clear reflection of the demographics of the country. An element of representativity across race, gender and persons with disabilities runs throughout this magazine.

“The Military Chaplain” is going to be issued quarterly - four times per year. We have no doubt that it represents a success story in terms of having reached the desired objective.

Members of the DOD and other readers and thinkers, are encouraged to include “The Military Chaplain” on their reading list. Please send us thought provoking articles and letters. We are looking forward to receiving your comments.

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Article by
Chaplain Mnyalaza Masuku,
Editor The Military Chaplain
Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana

Focus on information warfare

An Information Warfare Seminar was held over the period 19 to 20 November 2002 at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Conference Centre in Pretoria. The goal of the seminar was to familiarise, educate, and stimulate decision-makers at all levels of war as to the risks and benefits of information warfare.

It served to answer existing questions and to formulate new requirements in this dynamic field. It also provided a platform to demonstrate the significant progress that has been made and to motivate the participants for the information challenge ahead. The seminar was attended by 118 delegates from both the DOD and the defence industry.

Papers presented at the seminar included topics such as the threats facing information and communication networks, applicable security policies, the role of corporate communications in psychological operations, a naval perspective on developments in electronic warfare, the military value of information, potential cyber risks to national infrastructure, the role of modern information and communication technologies in command and control and the improvement of combat effectiveness through joint operations.

The seminar was sponsored by the Chief of Command and Management Information and hosted by Defencetek. Defencetek is a division of the CSIR, responsible for the research and development of defence-related products, services and technologies.
is your heart in the right place

and... live...

Live and let live