Exercise FLINTLOCK
Combined exercise between SA and USA military units
Letters: Feedback from our readers
Welcome to our new Head of Communications
Visit boosts morale of soldiers
A birthday gift for Madiba on SAMHS Day
Bestowed with the honour of “Grand Knight”
General redeployed to a higher service
Who is a disabled person?
Silence is golden
Making the African Union work
Learning from each other
Correct the "Irish coffee syndrome"
Consolidate the peace process in Burundi
Soldiers form a partnership with the people of Tshwane
Our warriors deserve the best equipment we can afford
Where the lava flows…
Support Proudly South African Week
Military Skills Development programme enhances learning
Make waves through hard work and delivery
Hats off to our shottists

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FRONT COVER: Exercise FLINTLOCK - The principle purpose of Exercise FLINTLOCK was for the South African and United States military units to engage in an open exchange of ideas and to enhance military relationships between our two countries. Read more on pages 18 and 19. (Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana)

For the latest news on defence matters in South Africa, visit our website at: www.mil.za/magazines/sasoldier
From the Editor's desk

8 July was SAMHS Day. Many formations, units and sections have gone to a lot of trouble to celebrate this day with each other and to promote and share it within the community.

SAMHS Day also fell on the 85th birthday of former President Nelson Mandela (and former Commander-in-Chief of the SANDF). To honour and to pay tribute to this great man and leader, the Surgeon General, Lt Gen Rinus van Rensburg, expressed the wish that the SAMHS present him with a special gift.

For weeks on end a committee planned for the occasion and on the morning of SAMHS Day, at 08:00, the Surgeon General, accompanied by the Chief of the SANDF, Gen Sphihiwe Nyanda, presented Mr Mandela with a "March for Madiba", which was composed by Maj Ephraim Katz, Senior Director of the SAMHS Band. Maj Katz and the SAMHS Band had the privilege to perform this special march in honour of Mr Mandela at his home on the morning of his birthday.

Congratulations on your 85th birthday, Mr Mandela. South Africa is privileged to have you among us. We honour you as one of the greatest men and leaders this country has ever seen. May God bless you and your family abundantly.

Please read more about this joyous occasion on page 11.

On a sadder note - It was with great sadness that Maj Gen Dan Mofokeng, Chief of Defence Corporate Communication, announced the death of Brig Gen Wilberforce Willie Mbuyiseni Zweni, the Director Corporate Communication and the Editor of DOD Information Bulletins. Brig Gen Zweni passed away on Friday, 11 July 2003, in Pretoria following a short illness. Brig Gen Zweni will be greatly missed by his family, colleagues and friends. "May his soul rest in peace". Please read more about this remarkable man on page 13.

On the international front the SANDF and the United States European Command conducted a bilateral training exercise, called Exercise FLINTLOCK. The principle purpose of Exercise FLINTLOCK was for the South African and United States military units to engage in an open exchange of ideas and to enhance military relationships between our two countries. Read more about this combined exercise on pages 18 and 19.

With summer knocking on our doors, let us get into shape and what greater way to do it than with dancing. Join ballroom dancing classes to stay healthy and fit! More information is available on page 44.

Nelda Pienaar
Acting Editor
**How to get the best out of life**

You are a unique individual with special God-given talents: life is a journey. Live life to the fullest and develop your potential.

Your attitude determines your altitude. Do not limit your knowledge, there is no substitute for knowledge. Make sure of keeping an eye posted to your career. Know that pride can lead to ignorance. (Do not be so proud that you cannot learn something from another person.) Observe others in action and see how they work. Study their actions so that you can improve yourself. A wise man once said, “Every man I meet is my superior in some way, so, I may learn from him”.

Be motivated - he or she who is motivated is a hard worker and almost totally committed to his or her work. Be an example, and always look for opportunities.

Broaden your own professional and technical knowledge by making friends with those you know to be well qualified and capable in their own particular field.

Life is too short to live with regrets. Live a life of serenity, but not of regrets. If you want to improve - be honest with yourself and ask yourself these questions: How can I improve my state in life? How can I better my present condition?

Analyse yourself and do it objectively and realistically with regard to both your personal and professional qualities. Develop a genuine and deep interest in your personal and professional qualities. Destroy your limiting beliefs, what you think is impossible can be possible.

Be focussed on achieving what you want in life. Make your own decisions and be in control of your own life. Be optimistic about life and do not despair, you are here for a purpose.

Develop your own philosophy of life, be different, unique and special and never give up.

Never be afraid to try something new, remember amateurs built the ark, professionals built the Titanic. Salute! - A.M. Rakoma, Tzaneen.

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**Assistance on pathfinders needed**

I am currently a Master Sergeant in the US Army. I am putting together a reference book on pathfinder insignia from all over the world. I am writing to you to ask for your help regarding information on the 44 Para Bde Pathfinder Coy/Platoon. I am specifically looking for examples of insignia including photos of soldiers wearing the badges, and the history of the insignia, unit, operations (eg BOLEAS), how the badge is worn on the uniform, variations or unapproved insignia, and just about anything else about the pathfinders you might have - MSG Terry McKinney, USA.

* Readers who can assist MSG Terry McKinney please write to him at: Infantry Advisor Team, 630 Rouse Ave, Modesto, California 95351, USA - Ed.

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**What's your contribution today as a soldier?**

Towards your Creator?
Towards the world?
Towards the rainbow nation?
Towards your government?
Towards your President?
Towards your SANDF?
Towards your family?
Towards your relatives?
Towards your friends?
Towards your co-workers?
Towards your seniors?
Towards your juniors?
Towards your church?
Towards the youth?
Towards the aged?
Towards the unemployed?
Towards the poor?
Towards the hospitalised?
Towards the aids victims?
Towards the rape victims?
Towards the criminals?
Towards the sinners?
Towards the prisoners?
Towards the orphans?
Towards the widows and widowers?
Towards the disadvantaged?
Towards the disabled?

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**Take ownership**

Have you heard of the word “ownership”? Many members of the DOD may have heard of the word being spoken, but did you act on it?

Have you made it your own, maybe you did or have dismissed it as just another saying. As an example, our Government gives millions of Rand per year to the DOD to do its job and to protect its people.

Did it occur to you that many of these Rand go to waste because people in the DOD do not take ownership?

We, as the work force of the DOD, have been given the means and equipment to do our work in an effective way and to protect those who may need the protection.

Do you think if I waste the money or misuse the equipment used to do my work effectively that I will be able to protect my fellow citizens? The answer will definitely be no.

There are many people in the DOD who do not take ownership where the property of the DOD is concerned or responsibility for their actions.

If you take ownership for your actions or ownership for the work you do, we as a Defence Force will make our President and Government proud.

Do you, as a member of our Defence Force, think that we are a force to be proud of? I know there are a lot of members who are proud of our SANDF, but there are many others who are only in the SANDF to earn a salary. Make the SANDF your own.

Remember the tax you pay is used to do your work effectively. Look after your equipment. Take ownership - WO1 Stephanus Jacobus Fick, Pietersburg.
Focus on what we believe

Can we or can we not do away with insulting, arrogant and demonising attitudes? For many years men and women of Africa fought for freedom with the hope of establishing a new order in which peace, tolerance, harmony, prosperity, respect and mutual understanding will prevail among nations and people. As part of this new order the new SANDF was born as a symbol of unity among all armed forces irrespective of status or former name. And one would have thought that is the road and path we all dare to travel and the name we all pledge to fight and die for.

Almost ten years later our own black brothers and sisters in all walks of life, every office and corner of this world, not now or ever: it is God-given and not a human invention.

The message of the killer disease is for everyone, Blacks, Whites, Indians and Coloureds to join hands to overcome the number of street kids, orphans and ultimately poverty. Together we can join hands to overcome the factors that contribute towards torturing and tormenting our beautiful rainbow nation - Mysticman Kgabo, Ellisras.

Dynamics of transformation

Transformation refers to fundamental change to make the impossible possible. Fundamental change and development do not start with capital goods and foreign investment. It starts with people (eg employees of the SANDF). They are the major source and ultimate purpose for this development. Transformation can be promoted by greater employee participation, co-operation and communication - Cpl M.S. Oyisi, Kenwyn.

Fight this monster

I am deeply concerned about the number of orphans, which escalates each second of every minute every day of the month. Our beautiful rainbow nation is losing beloved citizens to the AIDS pandemic.

The message of the killer disease was and still is conveyed to our beloved citizens - How do we deal with the virus? I solemnly advise, appeal and emphasise the fact that prevention is better than cure.

Two religious tips with regard to prevention: Let us go back to the fundamental principle of sex after marriage and to be faithful to our partners after marriage.

Do introspection

Without a shadow of doubt racism in the RSA and in the DOD in particular still persists. And it manifests itself in a subtle form.

This is evident in policies that are formulated and applied to a certain race group only. The DOD is part of the social system of the RSA and thus not immune to all the social problems of the RSA, including racism.

The way to overcome this illness is for everyone, Blacks, Whites, Indians and Coloureds to do introspection and seek professional help if needed - Maj D.H. Dlamini, currently deployed in Burundi.

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) 355-6399 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 - Editor.
Keeping your subordinates informed

As a leader/commander, if you want to be able to motivate your men and women (subordinates) to perform at their best, you must always keep them well informed about their progress.

Everyone wants to know exactly how well he or she has done. He or she also wants to know definitely what you as a leader expect from him or her, from the lowest rank in your unit or section up to the leader himself or herself. Every single person appreciates a word of appreciation, a handshake for a job well done and mission well executed.

If you keep your subordinates informed about their individual progress, and you let them know exactly where they stand with you, you will encourage them, enhance their morale and promote esprit de corps. The soldier who knows the overall situation, who knows exactly what his or her job is, and who knows what you honestly think of his or her work is far more effective than the one who does not.

A well-informed soldier will always have a much better understanding and attitude towards his or her superiors and the organisation as a whole. He or she can better understand what is expected of him or her when he or she has been shown the objectives of the entire organisation. A complete understanding of these objectives will help him or her to establish his or her own goals.

Communication - the ability to transmit your orders, commands, wishes and desires down to the lowest rank is one of the most important tools to promote mutual understanding, response and performance.

Keeping your subordinates informed will gain you their respect, full support, loyalty, co-operation and discipline. The individual and the group as a whole will appreciate your recognition and thanks for a job well done for a mission properly accomplished.

Teamwork is the key to the successful operation of any organisation. Each person must know where he or she fits in in the team if you want him or her to give his or her best. Effective teamwork requires a high degree of morale, esprit de corps, discipline and individual proficiency.

As a leader/commander never neglect an individual’s accomplishments in your emphasis on the efforts of the group as a whole. You must always weigh and balance these two. The recognition of the individual and the final accomplishment of the group are both important to you as a leader in your motivation and encouragement of your subordinates.

A.M. Rakoma, Tzaneen.

Poetry competition

Following the highly successful annual poetry contests of the “Poetry Institute of Africa” over the last seven years, the 28th and latest poetry competition will be staged, and over R10 000-00 will again be awarded in prizes to poets in Africa.

Here is an opportunity to win a prize. Many of the poems will be published in an attractive hard-cover called Anthology of Verse.

Any poet, whether previously published or not, may enter this contest and could be a winner. The contest is open to all poets of any age, any subject or style is acceptable and there is no entry fee.

The contest deadline is on 31 October 2003. The poem should be original and consist of 24 lines of verse or less.

To enter, contestants should send one original poem only, in English, to the Poetry Institute of Africa, PO Box 466 Scottburgh, 4180.

Your name and address should be included at the top of the page on which the poem appears.

Typed entries are preferred, but are not essential. Email entries are welcome and should be sent to pia@poetry.co.za.

Entries should be postmarked by no later than 31 October 2003.

Communication builds bridges

I have concluded that communication does indeed build bridges. We as leaders on different levels in the DOD are mostly culprits of crises that arise in the workplace as a result of poor communication or the complete lack thereof. We stand guilty of slaving labouriously over books during functional courses on leadership and other subjects. Subsequently we obtain good grades and thereafter flash glossy certificates around, but tend to fail dismally when it comes to applying the theoretical skills learnt.

I am a member of 4 SAI Bn and am particularly impressed by the manner in which the Unit’s OC, Col Mndebele, chooses to communicate with his subordinates from time to time. The frequency of communication sessions satisfies most if not everybody. He gives a totally new meaning to the often mis-quoted idea of an open-door policy. I would confer upon him the coveted prize of “Best Communicator in the SA Army”, which he richly deserves, if such an award existed at all. However, two-way communication means different things to different people. The OC has also been able to draw even the stereotypes, gossip mongers and sceptics among ourselves into constructive dialogue with a view to solving operational, work-related problems.

I see him as a complete opposite to the type of leader, who is pretentious, self-centred and never cares a fig about the principles and strategic goals of our Defence Force - S Sgt Ronnie Msomi, Middelburg, Mpumalanga.
Welcome to our new Head of Communications

By Nomonde Vuthela
Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana

The DOD has created the post of Head of Communications (HOC): Chief Director Communications, in the Ministry of Defence to fulfil what is in essence a Government requirement to have, at a very senior level, a single focal point representative defence communications.

Charged three months ago with the responsibility of being the new HOC, Mr Vuyo Zambodla must ensure that the DOD and the Ministry operate at an optimum level of communication.

The decision to create the post also emanates from the broader national perspective that every Government department should have a head of communications situated in the Minister’s Office, the purpose of which is to align Government communication with the communication of the different departments and ministries across the Government sector.

Mr Zambodla is also faced with the challenge of reflecting and bringing to the fore the Department’s involvement in the broader Africa region, whether through the AU or the NEPAD, the understanding of policies at that level and the communication thereof. He is also to express what communications is doing internally to reflect the country’s constitution when it creates a balance between service delivery by putting people first and at the same time he is to keep the interests of the organisation at heart.

With a post-graduate degree studies in communication and international relations Mr Zambodla brings with him the added value of someone who has experienced employment in the private sector and in the Government. He came to the DOD from the BP Head Office where he served in the communications and marketing field for five years. Prior to that his worked involved public relations and rural development for the University of Transkei before he became the Head of International Relations in Parliament.

Speaking to SA SOLDIER the HOC said, “It’s work in progress because you can put a lot of things together theoretically; to give a practicality is difficult and there are a lot of challenges along the way.” He added that a lot of things may have to be reviewed, not the broader principle, but the specifics here and there.

Mr Zambodla continued, “We are going to have a task team which will assist me to review what we have to, and see if it fits in with the way of going forward.”

The HOC hopes that the challenges the defence arena offers will bring him much personal satisfaction in terms of adding value to processes that influence development for the better. When this does not happen, Mr Zambodla will take long leisurely walks or watch a movie to rekindle his creative senses.

Mr Vuyo Zambodla, the Head of Communications.
Visit boosts morale of soldiers

By Maj Fundile Siyongwana
Photo: Sgt N. Geduld

The Chief of the SANDF, Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, paid an official visit on 3 July 2003 to two military units situated in the Western Cape, namely ASB Youngsfield and the DOD School of Logistical Training.

These staff visits to units serve to emphasise that the top leadership of the SANDF and the DOD care for its employees and soldiers alike.

When we landed at Ysterplaat AFB Gen Nyanda and his delegation were welcomed by Col E. Muller, the Officer Commanding ASB Youngsfield.

Col Muller revealed that ASB Youngsfield was established in August 1999, and that the Unit serves 78 clients in the Western Cape. The clients are found in the areas stretching from Bredasdorp in the south to Vanrhynsdorp in the north.

During the visit Gen Nyanda raised questions to gain greater understanding concerning matters related to the day-to-day duties of the Unit. A tour in and around the Unit provided a golden opportunity for members to greet and salute the Chief of the SANDF.

Lunch was served at the DOD School of Logistical Training. Immediately after lunch, Gen Nyanda commenced with his visit to the DOD School of Logistical Training.

The Chief of the SANDF expressed words of appreciation for the manner in which Col Muller and his staff received the delegation. “The visit was an eye-opener, you are doing well,” declared Gen Nyanda. Col Muller, for his part thanked Gen Nyanda and his delegation for their visit. Next the Second-in-Command, Lt Col L.A. Botha, presented a short briefing on activities carried out by the Unit, whereafter sixteen centres were visited.

The DOD School of Logistical Training is responsible for the training of all the logisticians in the DOD. More than one hundred courses are annually presented to more than one thousand students.

The Chief of the SANDF and his delegation left the Unit en route to Ysterplaat AFB. The delegation boarded the Falcon 50 aircraft back to Pretoria, where they landed safely. Gen Nyanda thanked his delegation for the positive spirit with which they had undertaken the visit.

South Africa and Vietnam strengthen ties

By Nomonde Vuthela
Photo: Cpl Elias Mahuma

The Vice-Minister of Defence of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Lt Gen Nguyen Huy Hieu, met with his South African counterpart, the Deputy Minister of Defence, Ms Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge, at Defence Headquarters in Pretoria on 18 July 2003.

Lt Gen Nguyen Huy Hieu and his entourage were in South Africa mainly to strengthen ties between the two nations. The week-long visit included touring defence related industries.
July was SAMHS Day. Many formations, units and sections have gone to a lot of trouble to celebrate this day with each other and to promote and share it within the community.

SAMHS Day fell on the 85th birthday of former President Nelson Mandela (and former Commander-in-Chief of the SANDF). To honour and to pay tribute to this great man and leader, the Surgeon General, Lt Gen Rinus Jansen van Rensburg, expressed the wish that the SAMHS present him with a special gift. For weeks on end a committee planned for the occasion and on the morning of SAMHS Day, at 08:00, the Surgeon General, accompanied by the Chief of the SANDF, Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, presented Mr Mandela with a "March for Madiba", which was composed by Maj Ephraim Katz, Senior Director of the SAMHS Band. Maj Katz and the SAMHS Band had the privilege to perform this special march in honour of Mr Mandela at his home on his birthday.

The march consisted of two main parts. In the first section the bagpipes played the main role accompanied by the Military Band. In the second section, in a faster tempo, the Military Band took over, with the bagpipes still playing the melody in the background.

In the first section a quotation from "Nkosi sikelel'i-Afrika" followed by a fragment from "Morena", which can clearly be heard. These two themes, following each other, were included in the march to acknowledge and pay tribute to Mr Mandela’s role as a national symbol and as the person who has united South Africa and amalgamated South Africans into one nation. The second section has no specific significance, except to express the nation’s joy on Madiba’s birthday. The handwritten composition was handed to Madiba.

A beautiful framed birthday wish on a copper plate signed by the Surgeon General, on behalf all members in the SAMHS, accompanied this scroll. Apart from these gifts and music the SAMHS Officers Mess and 1 Military Hospital Mess under the guidance of Capt Willie van Zyl and Lt Lizette Viljoen designed, baked and decorated 85 cakes and built them into a single piece of art. The cake was sponsored and handed out to some of the many charities supported by the Mandela Foundation. These were also presented to Mr Mandela on the same occasion.

Congratulations on your 85th birthday, Mr Mandela. South Africa is privileged to have you among us. We honour you as one of the greatest men and leaders this country has ever seen. May God bless you and your family abundantly.
Bestowed with the honour of "Grand Knight"

Lt Gen Rinus Jansen van Rensburg, Surgeon General of the SAMHS, having the honour of "Grand Knight" conferred on him.

By Nomonde Vuthela
Photo: F Sgt Tania Kettles

The SA Navy Band has sailed into the international music arena and is now almost flooded with invitations from around the world. However, they are keeping their sails trimmed, and are maintaining a steady course and selecting suitable ports of call in which to proudly fly the South African flag. The demand commenced when they performed in Germany at the 38th Musikschau der Nationen in January 2002. From among twelve countries, which included China, Russia, Trinidad and the USA the SA Navy Band was awarded the highest compliment. This included being invited to return as the Band of the Year for the 40th Anniversary of the Musikschau in 2004. Altogether twenty German television and press representatives will visit Cape Town in October to film the SA Navy Band for this European television and video feature. In August 2004 the SA Navy Band will be given a solo spot at the world-famous Edinburgh International Tattoo. Linked to their globe-trotting is a plan to get donations of instruments for their weekly music-teaching project in the former townships. They have already received several from Norway, Germany and France. The SA Navy musicians also performed at the 100th Anniversary Festival in Emden, Germany, in August this year. After two additional concerts they will sail (this time down the autobahn) into the Netherlands for two gala concerts, followed by ten days participating in the Netherlands National Tattoo.

Generally the recipients may also include those individuals of eminent stature in the field of physical education and sport. The "Grand Knight" Award is the fifth of six grades in the CISM Order of Merit. It is presented to the recipient by the President of the CISM, Grand Master of the Order or by his designated representative.

Egyptians meet at our Defence Headquarters

By Nomonde Vuthela
Photo: F Sgt Tania Kettles

South Africa and Egypt held a 2nd Joint Defence Committee Meeting at Defence Headquarters in Pretoria over the period 16 to 19 July 2003. A nine-member delegation from the Egyptian Defence Force, which included the Egyptian Military Attaché to South Africa, Staff Brig Gen M.M.A.M. Ali, took part in the talks.

Mr Tsepe Motumi, Chief of Policy and Planning (right), with Operation Authority Staff Brig Gen Adel Mohamed Amara, Head of the Egyptian delegation.

Navy Band goes international

By Cdr Mike Oldham,
Director SA Navy Music

The SA Navy Band has sailed into the international music arena and is now almost flooded with invitations from around the world. However, they are keeping their sails trimmed, and are maintaining a steady course and selecting suitable ports of call in which to proudly fly the South African flag. The demand commenced when they performed in Germany at the 38th Musikschau der Nationen in January 2002. From among twelve countries, which included China, Russia, Trinidad and the USA the SA Navy Band was awarded the highest compliment. This included being invited to return as the Band of the Year for the 40th Anniversary of the Musikschau in 2004. Altogether twenty German television and press representatives will visit Cape Town in October to film the SA Navy Band for this European television and video feature. In August 2004 the SA Navy Band will be given a solo spot at the world-famous Edinburgh International Tattoo. Linked to their globe-trotting is a plan to get donations of instruments for their weekly music-teaching project in the former townships. They have already received several from Norway, Germany and France. The SA Navy musicians also performed at the 100th Anniversary Festival in Emden, Germany, in August this year. After two additional concerts they will sail (this time down the autobahn) into the Netherlands for two gala concerts, followed by ten days participating in the Netherlands National Tattoo.

The popularity of the SA Navy Band is due to their unique repertoire of European band music, jazz, songs in six languages, Djembe drumming, kudu horns, penny whistle and banjo. The group has been commended by the highest levels of official and civilian society, both here and overseas, for its representation of the new South Africa in both personnel and repertoire.
General redeployed to a higher service

By Nomonde Vuthela
Photo: F Sgt Tania Kettles

It was with great sadness that Maj Gen Dan Mofokeng, Chief of Defence Corporate Communication, announced the death of Brig Gen Wilberforce Willie Mbuyiseni Zweni, the Director Corporate Communication and the Editor of DOD Information Bulletins.

Brig Gen Zweni passed away on Friday, 11 July 2003, in Pretoria following a short illness.

I am fortunate in that through this article I get to insist on one last, very final conversation with you, General “Zambi”. General “Zambi”, you would have really liked your farewell bash, a well-organised full-military funeral held on a beautiful Saturday morning on 19 July 2003 in Mofolo-North, Soweto, the home you so loved. Family, friends and colleagues came from all corners of the country to celebrate your passing on in style.

The DOD held a memorial service on the eve of your funeral to honour one of the best communicators in the industry, in and outside of the defence environment. Many maintained that you were a genius. A portrait of you in military uniform was placed on a table at the centre of lit candles with the hope that the flames would help you find good direction in your “New World”.

The speakers at your memorial service celebrated the kind of person you were, so humorous and easygoing. A very old friend of yours, whom you know so well, Brig Gen Barney Hlatshwayo, testified to how popular you were with everybody, especially members of the prettier sex. He credited you with his own fame and popularity, saying that mixing with your round character for thirty years had rubbed off.

Maj Gen Mofokeng, who had known you for 27 years lamented losing you and said you were one of the best people he has had the honour of meeting in his career and that the contributions you had made in the DOD will remain valuable.

I trust that the car you now drive in your new home has both wheels and wings. I hope your new neighbours can keep up with you.

Obituary

Brig Gen Zweni, nicknamed “Mazambane”, was born on 17 January 1958 in Mofolo Village, Soweto, Johannesburg. His late father was Simon and his surviving mother Jumaita Zweni. He was the third-born child in a family of seven, four brothers and three sisters.

He commenced his schooling at Msebeni Lower Primary, then proceeded to Vuku’bambe Higher Primary School. He obtained his Secondary and High School education at Mncube Secondary School in Soweto. He became active in student politics in the early seventies, which led him to quit the country in 1976. He joined the PAC and APLA the same year and received his initial Continued on page 14
Who is a disabled person?

By PO Dennis Ndaba
Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana

If music is the food of the soul, so play on. The corridors of Defence Headquarters reverberated with a joyous celebration of song on 2 July 2003, when the Disability Thanksgiving Service was held.

A display of religious diversity was also witnessed. The Teruah Choir of the Prinshof School for the Blind entertained the guests with their inspirational and mellow songs.

The aim of the service was to demonstrate that the DOD is committed to promoting equal opportunities for people with disabilities, and raising awareness about their needs, potential and contribution. The guest of honour, Chief Director Equal Opportunities (EOCD), Maj Gen Jackie Sedibe, said that the ceremony was a clear indication that the DOD had accepted people with disabilities. She appealed to all members to accept that it is our responsibility to make the working environment accessible to the disabled members.

One of the disabled guest speakers, Maj Gys van der Niet from the Chief Defence Legal Services, dropped a bombshell when he asked who the disabled people were. Maj Van der Niet asked who was a disabled person, the one without legs or the one with legs, but who is lazy to walk? Is the person who is deaf a disabled person or the one who can hear, but does not listen? Is the man who does not use his brain to empower himself not mentally challenged?

Another guest speaker who is a disabled person, AB Solly Mathabe from Navy Office, described realities faced by the disabled people. Maj Gys van der Niet from the Chief Defence Legal Services, dropped a bombshell when he asked who the disabled people were.

Caring for the community

By Lt Armstrong Mpofu, AMHU
Gauteng Communication Officer

In June 2003 members of the Area Military Health Unit Gauteng visited the Carletonville Home Based Care Centre as part of their social responsibility to the community. The project was initiated to benefit youth and children in Gauteng.

Members handed out clothing and money to the value of R544-00. These children suffer from different problems, and although money and clothing will not solve everything, it will make a difference to their lives.
A group of "Deaf" sign language instructors from the Witwatersrand University visited the Equal Opportunities Chief Directorate at Defence Headquarters (DHQ) in Pretoria on 3 July. They whisked through the passages as a luxury vehicle would around a bend. You would have had to see to believe because all that was left behind from their movement was a cool breeze. There is most definitely a link between the sign language and graceful movement.

Members of the Equal Opportunities Chief Directorate are learning how to sign as part of an initiative to sensitize DOD members on the plight of the disabled persons. The DOD is trying by all means to increase awareness on the issues of disability.

A team that includes notably Mr Kobus Swart, Acting Deputy Director Disability Equity, started learning the sign language as far back as 2001. Soon there was a buzzing excitement about the course and more members wanted to attend. With examinations around the corner the instructors of the Witwatersrand University set off to DHQ to help their DOD students revise and be certain of achieving good grades. The guests were treated to a tour of the "Blue Carpet" area where most of the top echelon of the SANDF sits, together with Maj Gen Dan Mofokeng, Chief of Defence Corporate Communication, who also attended the course.

SA SOLDIER conversed with one of the visitors, Ms Simphiwe Mkhize, a 22-year old sign language tutor, who communicated that she would like to see more deaf people advance in the hearing work places.

Ms Mkhize also indicated that the day’s experience was huge in that it placed the non-hearing in the spotlight. Born deaf in a family with a history of hearing disability, Ms Mkhize expressed that she chose to become a tutor to help bridge the long existing communication problems with the hearing.

Ms Mkhize communicated that growing up in Soweto was frustrating because she had no voice and that this initiative presented an opportunity for her to promote sign language in the DOD. Assuring her, the Chief Director Equal Opportunities, Maj Gen Jackie Sedibe, said that the plight of deaf people is close to her heart. In the General’s own words, "We want our Defence Force to be sensitive to issues of the disabled."

Maj Gen Sedibe went on to say that the DOD is prepared to change the work environment to make it suitable even for the deaf. "This is also your future so be part of it," encouraged Maj Gen Sedibe. Disability can occur within a moment. It is indicated in an article by Ms Delle Jacobson, Navy News, that employees of the DOD are 2 - 4 percent more probable to become disabled than the balance of the population, owing to the very nature of the business of security services. It follows that the responsibility to look after employees who become disabled while in its service becomes even more marked. The DOD has to reach a target of 2% of all its employees being disabled by 2005. The figure currently stands at 0.69%. The majority to be recruited will be civilians.

As the Equal Opportunity Director of Policy and Plans, Maj Gen Amos Soyiso Somdaka, so wisely said to our visitors, "It is time we get data of disabled persons in the DOD." A statement quiet encouraging, especially when taking into account the level of involvement the SA SOLDIER team witnessed during the coverage of the visit.
Making the African Union work

During a meeting of SADC Defence Ministers held at Farm Inn in Pretoria on 3 July 2003 Mr Mosiuoa Lekota, the Minister of Defence, delivered the following opening speech:

"Central to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) is that Africa is assuming responsibility for itself and its future.

"In doing so, Africa must redefine its relationship with the advanced and development countries of the world in terms of partnership and equity. Integral to this process is that Africa assumes responsibility for its own defence. Our continent is caught between a rock and a hard place. We are only too aware that the involvement of foreign powers, especially military involvement, has been the cause of many of our problems. But we are forced to call for help from the developed world, especially the previous colonial powers, to resolve these same problems.

"In assuming this responsibility for its own defence, we Africans must begin with a partnership among ourselves. Our regional building block is in place and we must now work to make it fully operational. A meeting such as this is crucial since peace and security are at the top of the agenda as a prerequisite for growth and development in our region and on our continent. We are gathered here today, as defence ministers, to look at our regional position in relation to the capabilities and modalities in our region in establishing an African standby force. We therefore must look, as a region, at a collective approach to defence.

"We are now in the last stages of the drawing up of the SADC Mutual Defence Pact. This has been a lengthy process, but an extremely worthwhile one. On completion and after signing by our heads of state we will, as SADC, be immeasurably stronger.

"A 'common defence policy', a necessity agreed to in the African Union, is not a single policy for all Africa, but a policy on how to collectively respond to threats. The core value of this common policy is summarised by the indivisibility of continental security. The security of each African country is inseparably linked to that of other African countries, as well as that of other regions and, by the same token, that of the African continent as a whole.

"The current global security environment has thrown up serious challenges to Africa, which has now become one of the theatres of international terrorist activity. We are now obliged to respond singly, regionally and continentally to these threats, for the countries in our region and continent face the same challenges. We therefore need to pool our resources. It is in this context that we are looking at a collective approach to defend
the continent under the auspices of the African Union.

"The war on terror and the recent invasion of Iraq is pushing Africa to increase its defence spending. In doing so, we run the risk of turning our attention and resources from other areas of security which are vital components of our development plans. This needs to be addressed by us all. The protection of our maritime resources, for example, and the security of our ports to encourage and facilitate trade, installations at sea, such as oil and gas platforms, must be seen as part of our overall security.

A common security and defence policy means that all existing regional, continental and international instruments should be identified and coherently integrated into the policy. This could include instruments on terrorism, landmines, small arms, child combatants, mercenaries, health and refugees.

"The other core value that has been re-emphasised is that conflict resolution should principally be effected by peaceful means. Intra-state conflicts often impact and spill over into neighbouring states. Non-aggression therefore remains a central tenant of the common policy.

"The strategic issue then becomes how we organise ourselves regionally (through SADC) and continentally (through the AU).

"The whole continent is working at meeting these challenges. On the defence side, our approach is to create regional blocks which when pulled together form a continental body. Each country has to look at whether its logistic lines are adequate, whether its communication equipment is compatible with that of its neighbours so that we can talk to each other. We have to look at how we transport our troops; we have to look at a military doctrine that differentiates between peacekeeping and peace enforcement; we have to look at how our military institutions assist and support civil authorities. This, in turn, entails an awareness on the part of every member of a military force to understand civil military relations.

The predictable difficulties faced by US and UK military forces in Iraq today merely serve to underline these points.

"The African standby force (ASF) is currently at an advanced stage of discussion. A report-back on the African Chiefs of Defence Staff meeting in Addis Ababa last month reflects agreement and consensus on a range of matters. These include issues of doctrine and posture, shifts in the nature of peacekeeping operations, interoperability of forces, common standards of training, equipment and logistics, standard procurement regimes for commonly identified appropriate equipment needs, the establishment of command structures, and so on.

"Having said all this, we need to look at what role ministers of defence play not only as defence advisors to our heads of state, but also as political leaders who have been given the defence portfolio responsibility.

"There are defence good governance principles that we can all agree upon. The necessary pooling of resources must lead to interoperability as we have pointed out. But in addition to ensuring that these issues are carried through within our defence forces, perhaps there should be a more visible role of defence ministers in the forums of the African Union? Currently, ministers of defence are outside African Union processes. Ministers of defence inside African Union processes. Ministers of defence of member states should seek ways of addressing this issue through their representatives at the AU Chair. The structural relationship between NEPAD and the African Union processes also need to be explored with a view to streamlining.

"The following are examples of issues that arose in the African Chiefs of Defence Staff meeting in Addis Ababa that need political input. They are firstly, relating to the African Standby Force, whether there should be regional standby brigades or regional standby arrangements. Secondly, the issue of logistics bases or military logistic depots. This has been referred to as a working group.

Lastly, around finance, the issue of re-imbursement, which has also been referred to as a working group. The working groups have been asked to report back in August, but I am flagging these issues as ones that need political consideration.

"With this in mind, we will be highlighting in today’s discussions areas needing political input and leadership. As you can see from the agenda, we will be concentrating on the Common Africa Defence and Security Policy.

"My colleague, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, has asked me to convene the AU defence ministers. I felt that it would be important for SADC defence ministers to discuss first. While I am not suggesting we participate as a block, SADC will be greatly strengthened if our countries are in agreement and can reach consensus on most issues.

"During February this year, Minister Dai, the honourable Mozambican Minister, and I, initiated a conference on military co-operation in SADC to be held after the July AU Heads of State meeting. Minister Dai, who is unfortunately not able to be with us today, (and we welcome his Deputy Minister) will be chairing the next round of meetings of defence ministers, since Mozambique takes on the AU Chair. It was proposed that relevant senior SADC military officials and officials, members from other regional structures, identified members from society, academics and research institutes attend the conference on military co-operation in SADC. The purpose of the conference is to practically demonstrate the commitment among SADC member states to make the African Union work and to support NEPAD initiatives on safety and security building measures. We are committed to this process and are supporting this conference.

"For now, I want to welcome you to South Africa and to this meeting. I hope today we can cover ground in preparation for future closer and closer working relations. I thank you."
Learning from each other

By PO Dennis Ndaba
Photos: F Sgt Tania Kettles and Sgt David Nomtshongwana

The SANDF and the United States European Command (USEC) conducted a bilateral training exercise, called Exercise FLINTLOCK, in Bloemfontein from 7 to 25 July 2003.

The exercise included a broad spectrum of military activities, such as combat life-saving procedures, live firing of weapons, day and night-time low-level flying and airdrops of personnel and equipment.

The principle purpose of Exercise FLINTLOCK was for the South African and United States military units to engage in an open exchange of ideas and to enhance military relationships between our two countries. The exercise was conducted in the spirit of learning from each other, which was achieved by learning from each other and observing, combined exercise planning and execution of those plans.

The South African training objectives for the exercise were to enhance peace support and humanitarian relief capabilities and the United States objectives were to enhance military relationships with the SANDF and to train in a new and diverse environment. During his address on the media day, Col Mvuzo Mzinjana, the Joint Task Force Commander for Exercise FLINTLOCK and Officer Commanding of 44 Parachute Regiment, said that it made him proud to see the calibre of soldier that forms part of the airborne community. Col Mzinjana also added that the only manner in which a positive image of this community can be projected was through sheer hard work,

professionalism and utmost dedication to duty and military discipline. “Opportunities are usually disguised as hard work, so most people do not recognise them. Good training is an absolute essential in peacetime for the effectiveness of units and formations, and when operations commence, it largely dependent on it,” said Col Mzinjana. He also elaborated that all armies spend more time preparing for war than taking part in operations.

South Africa has embarked on the most fundamental change in military strategy and the emphasis is on a light mobile strategy which will ultimately allow the SANDF to deploy far more military power by air, giving key advantages in Africa. Over the next few years the SANDF will enhance its airborne capability to enable it to deploy rapidly throughout Africa. For South Africa an airborne force is a strategic imperative. This exercise served as an example of how creative and innovative thinking can contribute to the realisation of more goals, despite limited resources and this proved that diverse people of different forces can work together to achieve different goals with success.

The US Joint Operations Task Force Commander for Exercise FLINTLOCK, Col Frederick Jones, said it was a rare opportunity for some of the world’s premier combat forces to train, exercise and learn together. It is a distinct honour to be part of the exercise and interface with soldiers of the SANDF, the 44th Parachute Regiment, the 75th Ranger Regiment and Special Operations Command Europe (SOCEUR). He added that at the operational level the SANDF and SOCEUR staffs trained together in staff and organisational procedures, and in command and control, communication and logistics.

SANDF members demonstrate how to enter a building and to free hostages.

Background picture: Paratroopers demonstrate the use of the 7,65 mm Light Machine Gun and the 106 Recoilless Rifle to the VIP guests during Exercise FLINTLOCK.
procedures so critical to success on the battlefield.

"I am confident that the professionalism, dedication to duty, expertise and commitment to the highest standards of performance will enable the entire Exercise FLINTLOCK Task Force to exceed our training goals. It was a privilege for the US soldiers to work with SANDF officers, NCOs and soldiers. We have also experienced South African hospitality and I can state that it is second to none. Every US soldier had been extremely impressed with the enthusiastic friendship and genuine warmth with which we have been welcomed. We are also excited about the opportunity to experience some of South Africa, a magnificent land. The one essential aspect of this exercise is that the US and South African soldiers may be working together again in a peace enforcement, peacekeeping or humanitarian relief operation some day in the future," concluded Col Jones.

Members of the Portfolio Committee on Defence and the US Ambassador to South Africa, Ambassador Cameron Hume, attended the VIP day on 18 July. Also in attendance was a SANDF delegation led by Maj Gen Derick Mgwebi, while the Warrant Officer of the SANDF, WO1 J.J. Jacobs, led the Services and Division Warrant Officers. After a briefing by Col Mzinjana and Col Jones the VIPs witnessed airborne events such as free fall and static line jumping, helicopter fast roping and cargo extraction and a fly-past by the SA Air Force.

They were also afforded the opportunity to fire South African or American weapons. Col Mzinjana commented that if South Africa was called upon to provide a force anywhere in Africa at short notice, such a force would have to be airborne.

"With the increased commitments to peace support operations in Africa by the SANDF and the fluidity and uncertainty of the situation in Central Africa, the likelihood of this has grown significantly. With a combination of the techniques and the inherent characteristics, it is quite clear to see that paratroopers could be utilised or employed in virtually any role envisioned within a military operations perspective, even peace support operations," concluded Col Mzinjana.
Align human resources with affirmative action

By Maj Fundile Siyongwana

On 18 July 2003 the DOD and Equal Opportunities Chief Directorate held its second Affirmative Action seminar. Various stakeholders gathered at the Ruby Conference Room at the CSIR in Pretoria to attend the seminar.

The invited guests ranged from outstanding academics, consultants and various representatives of other Government departments and members of the DOD Equal Opportunities Monitoring and Advisory Board.

Maj Gen Jackie Sedibe, Chief Director Equal Opportunities, invited the following heavy brains to the seminar: Prof Virginia Gamba (MD Safer Africa), Ms Shanaaz Majiet (Consultant Linda Human & Associates), Adv Thuli Madonsela (DOD EO/AA Advisory Board member), Mr Indran Naidoo (Chief Director HR Public Service Commission), Ms Sisi Monyatsi (HR Co-ordinator Rustenburg Platinum Mines), Ms Gill Fenwick (MD Prime Serve Consulting) and Ms Nerine Kahn (Senior Executive Manager Labour Relations, Department of Labour).

This was a great opportunity for the attending members in their variety of services to learn that they indeed had total backing from leadership to go ahead with the implementation of the affirmative action policies.

Col Dineo Monethi, SSO Affirmative Action in the DOD, opened the first session of the seminar and explained that the aim of the
The seminar was to create synergy between human resources processes and the implementation of affirmative action in the DOD.

She urged the guests to be committed to the implementation of affirmative action. “We need to stress that affirmative action must be understood in the context of promoting the objectives of equity and striving to eliminating all forms of discrimination in the workplace,” emphasised Col Monethi.

Affirmative action, she continued, is sharing privileges and opportunities with those people who were disadvantaged by the repressive regimes that had ruled the country in the past.

Therefore, human resources must strategically align itself with affirmative action by establishing mechanisms that enhance the urgent need of excellent performance management systems and objective managers, who would target people's development rather than the implementation of window dressing strategies.

“We need to put in place the organisations that are responsive to the broader social structure and demographics of the country’s populace,” declared Col Monethi.

Before introducing the Secretary for Defence who was to deliver the opening address, Maj Gen Sedibe said, “It is a few years since the new Constitution and White Paper on Affirmative Action were instituted. The DOD was obliged to promulgate its own policies in line with these Government imperatives. We have policies on affirmative action, fast tracking, mentorship and equal opportunities and affirmative action, which facilitate equity management within the DOD.

“Although the Department might have a very good affirmative action policy and programme, it is meaningless if the whole process is not linked with our human resource policies and practices, which should accommodate the needs of a diverse workforce.

“Programmes of understanding differences and programmes of affirmative action are not sufficient as the only interventions by themselves. They must be part and parcel of a broader human resource plan for development and empowerment in the workplace. This is the starting point in the journey of managing diversity in organisations.

“We should align our organisational structures and systems to promote the development of a fully inclusive environment, where the process of managing diversity is accountable at all levels in the organisation and where the reward system is linked to such accountability.

“We need to articulate corporate values, which include the recognition and appreciation of the strength which diverse employees bring to the organisation. This also includes the valued inputs of the non-designated group, white males.”

The first session of the seminar was marked by the opening address delivered by Mr January Masilela, the Secretary for Defence. “A broadly representative Public Service is a constitutionally stated objective, while affirmative action is the means for achieving that objective,” Mr Masilela declared.

The search for the successful implementation of affirmative action in the DOD lies at the heart of all Service and Divisional Chiefs together with all human resources specialists, said Mr Masilela.

The Secretary for Defence stated that the implementation of affirmative action is not only about achieving race representivity, but also to improve gender and disability representivity, thus maximising the potential and capacity of women and gender in the DOD.

“It calls on all Services and Divisions to be sensitive about disability issues and to create an environment conducive to all disabled personnel to contribute effectively to utilise their potentials,” Mr Masilela said.

Quoting Professor Linda Human (Linda Human & Associates), he gave four reasons why affirmative action can benefit an organisation:

- Affirmative action strives for the achievement of realistic targets over the medium to long term to enhance representivity and legitimacy.
- It broadens the pool of candidates who can compete equally and fairly for existing positions.
- It takes full advantage of all available skills, potential expertise and abilities.
- Improves the loyalty, productivity, motivation and commitment among the designated groups and further creates a sense of belonging.

Mr Masilela highlighted the fact that the DOD too cannot operate in isolation from the country’s transformational imperatives, particularly now with the rebirth of Africa, the NEPAD and the African Union.

“The DOD is compelled to have a representative and legitimate force for deployments, especially now that South Africa is requested to play a significant role with conflict resolution in Africa,” noted Mr Masilela.

However, the Secretary for Defence acknowledged the fact that representivity in the DOD is still very problematic in the areas of the senior management system and the middle management system of Public Service Act Personnel, Defence Act Personnel and Warrant Officers.

Mr Masilela reiterated a call made by the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Defence, Ms Thandi Modise, in her 2003 Budget Speech, to correct the “Irish Coffee Syndrome”.

He further urged the participants in the seminar to rid themselves of various negative perceptions pertaining to affirmative action, such as: affirmative action lowers standards because designated groups are placed in positions which they do not qualify for. The affirmative action process must be coupled with coaching, mentoring and on-the-job training with effective performance management so that it is not set up for failure.

“We need to instil a culture of acceptance, tolerance, work ethics and use the best operational practices and to improve the quality of work life of all employees,” concluded the Secretary for Defence.

SA SOLDIER intends to publish the whole spectrum of affirmative action deliberations raised during the seminar by other guest speakers in future editions.
Events

Consolidate the peace process in Burundi

By PO Dennis Ndaba
Photos: Sgt David Nomtshongwana

Following the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement in August 2000, deployment of the South African Protection and Support Detachment (SAPSD), and further regional initiatives resulting in the two ceasefire agreements signed on 7 October and 2 December 2002, the African Mission is to be established in Burundi.

The African Mission in Burundi (AMIB) SANDF Contingent 1 is deployed in Burundi from August 2003 to February 2004. This mission is to oversee the implementation and verification of the ceasefire agreements and to assist in disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) programmes. It consists of contributing members from the RSA (lead nation), Ethiopia and Mozambique.

As part of the African Union (AU) Observer Mission in Burundi (MIOB) the AU has deployed 43 military observers (MILOBS) since 17 February 2003. These MILOBS will become part of the African Mission once the Stringent security measures were adhered to by personnel and vehicles during Exercise CYCAD.

Members of 4 SAI Bn going through their paces in their quest for mission readiness during Exercise CYCAD.
mission has been established. Countries providing AU military observers are Togo, Burkina-Faso, Mali, Gabon and Tunisia. The mission will be led by a civilian Head of Mission and comprises a military component of approximately brigade strength commanded by a Force Commander (a major general), and a civilian component as part of the Office of the Head of Mission.

This has necessitated identified forces that will constitute the first rotation of the AMIB to undergo certain mission specific training in order to ensure that the forces are mission ready. An exercise known as Exercise CYCAD was held at 4 SA Infantry Battalion in Middelburg from 6 to 11 July 2003. The scenario and approach of Exercise CYCAD was closely based on the real situation within Burundi with the aim of realistically preparing the force for its task at hand. The participating forces received theoretical lectures, conducted a command post exercise (CPX) and took part in a Forces exercise (FTX). All participants were required to operate and act according to existing SANDF doctrines and AMIB Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs) during the CPX and FTX. This ensured that the system and ability of forces participating could be verified prior to deployment in the mission area. A group of external exercise controllers evaluated the forces' performance and provided feedback throughout.

Mission training in action.
National security is the concern of everyone

By PO Dennis Ndaba
Photo: F Sgt Tania Kettles

The opening ceremony of the 8th Executive National Security Programme (ENSP) was held at the SA National Defence College in Thaba Tshwane on 7 July 2003. Lt Gen Temba Matanzima, Chief of Joint Support, opened the course on behalf of Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, Chief of the SANDF. Lt Gen Matanzima stated categorically that he believes that this programme is the most important programme presented in the SANDF and deserves to be opened by the Chief of the organisation.

This is the case so that others will understand the importance he personally places on the successful presentation of every ENSP. He also said that national security is the concern of everyone and not only the military as was the perception in the past. It is also vital that other Government departments and private organisations take note of the importance we accord to the ENSP and realise their obligation to become involved and support these programmes by ensuring that members from their departments and organisations attend as programme members.

He added that senior officers and officials must be able to understand, evaluate and communicate the judgments and opinions of politicians and countless other experts, specialists, authorities and representatives of Government departments, so that they would be able to participate in the planning, formulation and execution of policy and strategy at the national strategy level. Their participation will be required in a variety of arenas extending from foreign policy across the full spectrum of matters, from those affecting national security to national and departmental budgeting.

"Senior officers and officials within the DOD are often called upon to work closely with representatives of other Government departments, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), managers in the private sector, scientists, educators and leaders of other..."
Equipped with new specialised electrical equipment

By Lt Seani Neluheni,
SO3 Communication
SA Engineer Formation

Engineers are known for their ability to render service during peace support operations, both inside and outside the country. The engineers have now obtained new specialised electrical equipment, which will assist them during deployments in the DRC and Burundi.

The workshops (containers) consist of a first-line consumable container, an electric generator and compressor container, as well as a plumbing and electrical container.

The first-line consumable container consists of first-line hardware, such as screws, bolts, nails, plumbing pipes, steel rivets, tubes, bars, welding rods and cleaning chemicals.

The electric generator and compressor container consists of a cutting machine, woodworking equipment, eg a bench, hand tools, metal cutting equipment, a drilling machine, a steam cleaner, an accessory drawer containing tapes, spanners, bits, gas intake for drilling, impact sockets and a torch. The plumbing and electrical container consists of a high frequency generator set and a concrete/rock breaker.

All this equipment is specially designed to equip the engineers for their working environment. The workshops are designed in such a way that they are flexible, eg the equipment inside the containers can be exchanged between one workshop and another. They are mobile and can be used in any type of terrain. Brig Gen Masters described his experience in Africa, working under difficult conditions with the engineers, who will now be equipped with the new specialised electrical equipment to make life easier for them. He is worried that tools easily get lost in operational conditions, but he hopes that by using these containers the engineers will be helped to have better control over their equipment.

Bosch Specialised Equipment (BSE) will compile a manual to illustrate where all the equipment fits into the containers. The company is willing to conduct a training session on how the equipment should be placed. Mr Tom Stander, the Marketing and Sales Manager of BSE, assured the GOC that all parts passed the SABS standard of safety and that all electric wires were insulated and not harmful to users.

Since the area in which the engineers are going to deploy is a forested area, and is marshy and wet following rain, the containers are designed in such a way that they can cater for these types of terrain. The containers (workshops) have ladders that can lift a workshop to a maximum height of two metres to avoid contact with water and mud.
Soldiers form a partnership with the people of Tshwane

By Lt Col Hettie Cronjé,
SO1 Corporate Communication
CMIS Division
Photos: Sgt David Nomtshongwana

A great honour was bestowed upon the Command Management Information Systems (CMIS) Division when the City Council of Tshwane decided at a Special Council Meeting on 3 June 2003 to grant the Freedom of Entry to the City of Tshwane to the CMIS Division.

The freedom of entry to a city or town grants a regiment the privilege to march through the city concerned with drums beating, colours flying and bayonets fixed. The awarding of freedom of entry to a city or town to a regiment or military unit is a tradition that dates back as far as the 14th century. In present times it symbolises the confidence of the civilian population in the regiment or unit, so that it confers on it the right and privilege of bearing arms while marching through the city or town.

In South Africa this custom was first instituted in 1879 when the city of Durban granted this privilege to the Durban Mounted Rifles in recognition of the role it played during the Zulu War. The current South African tradition of conferring the freedom of entry to a city on a South African Defence Force unit originated in 1915 when this honour was bestowed upon the Rand Light Infantry by the city of Johannesburg after the successful conclusion of the German South-West African Campaign during World War I.

In 1989 the Freedom of Entry to the City of Pretoria was granted to 2 Signal Regiment, 3 Electronic Workshop and 5 Signal Regiment, which at that time were all units of the Corps of Signals and SA Army.
Signal Formation. Owing to structural changes in both the SANDF and the City Council of Tshwane, this right has not been exercised in the recent past.

On 1 April 1999 the CMIS Division was established, and in 2003 it was decided that the time was right for the newly established Division to renew its bond with the City Council of Tshwane.

On 28 June 2003 this dream came true when the Freedom of Entry to the City of Tshwane was granted to the CMIS Division. The Joint Support Base Wonderboom also received this privilege, together with the CMIS Division, as it has shared a long history with the Division.

A new scroll was designed for the occasion, which was signed at a special Council Meeting at the Transvaal Museum on 28 June 2003. Both the Executive Mayor of Tshwane, Father Smangaliso Mkhathshwa, and the Acting Municipal Manager, Mr Renier du Toit, signed the scroll. On completion of the special Council Meeting, all invited guests moved over to the City Hall where the proceedings continued.

The Executive Mayor said in his message that while realising that both the City of Tshwane and the CMIS Division have undergone many changes in the past few years, they do in fact share a history which spans more than two decades. He stated that “they are united in the knowledge that it is in fact the ever increasing pace of change that inspires them to achieve even greater heights in the future”.

He concluded by saying: “May the granting of the much-deserved Right of Freedom of Entry into the City of Tshwane be treasured as a token of our pride and trust in the CMIS Division and the people who ensure that it relentlessly pursues its vision.”

In reply Maj Gen Hurribunce said that the CMIS Division was greatly honoured to receive the Right of Freedom of Entry into the City of Tshwane and that it accepted it with the responsibility to collectively defend and protect the people of Tshwane. He also stated that the Division clearly anticipates that as the City of Tshwane is their home their constant presence will assist in the creation of peace and harmony. This is something that everyone desires and cherishes - to augment the ever constant quest for freedom from fear and want that will contribute to creating the conditions for a better life for all.

“We will take the inspiration that we derive from this honour with us into the SANDF and will share its glory and vitality with all its members. We pledge that we will bear this mantle with the fullest responsibility that it demands. We will remain humble in all our endeavours and ensure that our partnership with the people of the City of Tshwane grows with prosperity,” Maj Gen Hurribunce said.

When Father Mkhathshwa announced that the CMIS Division may henceforth march armed on foot and mechanised through the City of Tshwane with colours flying and band playing, the message was received with pride and honour by all members of the CMIS Division on parade.

The Executive Mayor, the Acting Municipal Manager and the Chief CMIS Division, Maj Gen Ashwin Hurribunce, inspected the Guard of Honour under the command of Maj Carla Strydom.

After the inspection and general salute the Guard of Honour withdrew together with the SA Air Force Band to join up with the rest of the parade. The parade included marching columns of five hundred members from the following units: School of Signals, 1 Signal Regiment, 2 Signal Regiment, 3 Electronic Workshop, 4 CMIS Support Unit, 5 Signal Regiment, Joint Support Base Wonderboom, SA Air Force Band and a mechanised column consisting of fifty vehicles.

The Parade Commander was Brig Gen Mario Brazzoli with WO1 Eric Kahn as the Parade Sergeant Major. Col Mzolisi Menze commanded the marching columns with WO1 “Spanners” van Heerden as the Sergeant Major. The mechanised columns were under the command of Col Simphiwe Sipika and WO1 Joep de Wet Malan was the Sergeant Major.
Our warriors deserve the best equipment we can afford

By Col H. Schobesberger, SSO SA Army Communication

On 19 June 2003 the SA Army Industry Day took place at the Gerotek facilities outside Pretoria. Major role players from the SA Army, Armscor and the defence industry provided a combination of high level human resource, expertise and technical know-how to address the issue of the provision of affordable solutions to the SA Army’s unique operational requirements on equipment and services.

Lt Gen G.L. Ramano, representing the SA Army, Mr C. de Beer, representative of the Defence Industry, and Mr G.J. Smith, representative of Armscor, opened the day with their keynote addresses.

Presentations on the SA Army’s strategy, capability management within the SANDF and the SA Army’s technology strategy followed. Other presentations dealt with a review on the SA Army’s armament acquisition and technology, a paradigm shift regarding the product system management, Armscor’s affirmative procurement approach and a briefing by the South African Aerospace Maritime and Defence Industries Association (AMD).

Col A. Kotze, SSO Armament Planning at Directorate Force Structure (SA Army), facilitated the proceedings. The Chief of the SA Army highlighted the importance of the Industry Day as an opportunity for interactive and intensive networking.

These are extracts from his address: “The SA Army is mindful
and appreciative of the work done on its behalf by the Chief of Acquisition and Armscor. It is through design and a system’s approach that acquisition and procurement for the SA Army was entrusted to the said parties as part of the transformation of the DOD. It is, however, my contention that this should not exclude or inhibit end-user - supplier contact and interaction. I myself, members of the SA Army Council and members from SA Army formations are regularly in contact with industry in various stages of the acquisition process and also during marketing ventures and at social events. I appreciate this interaction when it occurs to enhance communication and to ensure a proverbial win-win situation. Let me be clear - a healthy local defence industry is vital for the combat readiness of our Army. We would thus always strive towards the most cordial of relationships with you.

To augment this standing relationship, this Industry Day affords us the opportunity of information sharing, debating of issues and building of mutual trust and respect so that we can engage in sound business transactions in a spirit of partnership, and also ensuring efficiency and effectiveness either way. In a turbulent and changing micro and macro environment it is imperative that we as an Army family sometimes pause to consolidate and to revise the firm basis required to be responsible about the future of our Army.

First and foremost I request your patience as I repeat and emphasise key issues that I have often referred to during my term of office over the past four years.

You will not hear me and the SA Army leadership talk about acquisition matters, without always stressing the primacy and importance of our soldiers. Our warriors deserve the best equipment we can afford. What is more - they deserve to be the center of all planning and pursuit of technologies. A sound man-machine interface and customisation can only be ensured if we "equip the man and not man the equipment". I trust that this approach is institutionalised by now.

Furthermore, we are the generation of leaders chosen to lead the Army in challenging times and with the smallest budget for renewal since the early nineties. This puts us in a certain league where you must help us to be exceptionally creative and cost-effective. Our limited budget must always be a major consideration so that we do not end up with unaffordable systems and an inability to ensure sound life-cycle management and sustainability. The budget, however, must not inhibit us to the point where we no longer ensure value for money and unique systems and solutions that have become the trademark of our industry and SA Army.

Meaningful upgrades and optimisation of systems must always be considered. This of course emphasises the need for sound local support.

We must remind each other once again that we serve our country and our region. Our strategy and concept of operations, which is aligned with Government intent and policy, is clear - we will deploy and serve in Africa. The much spoken about "African battle space" must now be analysed and defined so that it can guide our doctrine and definitely the development of our weapons systems. We need African solutions and we must work towards interoperability of armies in our region. Since last year we have become involved in central Africa on a significant scale. I am sure this fact creates unique opportunities for our local industry.

Requests for marketing support have become more frequent and every request is processed through a nodal point to the SA Army Council as a matter of urgency. You will be supported professionally, but this can only happen if you submit your requirements timeously and through the right channels and if you allow us to nominate the best participants. Please help us to help you.

Now on to the business of today. We hope to share information with you that will give adequate guidance in terms of technologies to be pursued and systems to be developed and maintained. Likewise we will listen carefully to your inputs. Provision has been made for formal and informal interaction. Let us avail ourselves of this opportunity before we go our different ways."

Mr Deon Smith, representing Armscor, stated that "The concept of forming integrated project acquisition teams has proved in the past that all the aforesaid players can combine their resources, to create a win-win situation for all. To satisfy our prime clients' requirements, namely the DOD's, as cost-effectively as possible, has always been and will continue to remain a prime objective of Armscor. However, to be able to do so, it is necessary for us as a team to provide the SA Army with equipment and services that are affordable and which will meet their expectations.

Armscor is the official acquisition agency for the DOD. However, to be competitive and to ensure that all resources are utilised to the best advantage of the SANDF, it is imperative that the defence-related industry be informed and drawn into the fold of the overall planning cycle. The external environment in which our captains of industry have to operate, survive and ensure growth for their companies is constantly changing.

Lessons that the DOD and Armscor learned from the Government to Government Strategic Packages are that all procedures followed must be transparent. There can be no shortcuts in acquisition or procurement processes."

In his address Mr G.J. Smith, representing the Defence Industry, highlighted the following issues influencing the industry, namely globalisation and international partnering, retaining SANDF as base marketing, black economic empowerment, balance between Government support and control, exploiting industrial participation, as well as profitability of the industry."

The statement by Lt Gen Ramano that a healthy local defence industry is vital for the combat readiness of the SA Army and we should therefore always strive towards the most cordial of relationships between the defence industry. Armscor and the SA Army was the guiding principle of the SA Army Industry Day 2003 and contributed to its success.
Students visit Rwanda

By Capt (SAN) Frank van Rooyen, SANDF officer on course in Nairobi, Kenya

The National Defence College (NDC) of Kenya is situated in the leafy suburb of Karen, Nairobi. The Kenya NDC runs one course per annum. Course 6-2003 has 32 participants, comprising senior military officers from all three services of the Kenya Armed Forces, as well as senior officials from the Departments of Finance, Police, Foreign Affairs, Defence, Office of the President and the Kenya Wildlife Service. Five international participants, two from Rwanda Defence Forces and one each from the Zambian Army, the Tanzanian Peoples Defence Force, the Uganda Peoples Defence Force and the SANDF make up the remainder.

In parallel with the standard NDC Programme on National Security, the NDC offers participants a Certificate, Diploma or Master of Arts degree in International Studies through affiliation with the University of Nairobi. This year six participants, including the SANDF officer, are enrolled for the MA, while all others have elected to complete the Diploma.

Annually, the Kenyan NDC embarks on local and regional study visits. The local visits included agricultural, security, research and development, as well as industrial establishments in Kenya. The regional visits for this year saw the course divided into half, with one group going to Ethiopia and the other to Rwanda. Capt (SAN) Frank van Rooyen, the SANDF officer on the course, had the unique opportunity to visit Rwanda. This is his report:

Saturday afternoon, 31 May 2003, the end of a one-hour flight from Jomo Kenyatta International Airport saw the group land in Kigali, the capital of Rwanda. Rwanda lies in the heart of Africa. This small country, aptly named "the land of a thousand hills", is a republic in east-central Africa lying just south of the equator. Rwanda is bordered on the north by Uganda, on the east by Tanzania, on the south by Burundi, and on the west by Lake Kivu and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The area of Rwanda is 26 338 sq km, with the population being over ninety percent rural. Most of the people live in family groups dispersed throughout the mountainous regions. The main exception to this is the Virunga volcanic region, where the lava flows have not formed agriculturally fertile soils. The population of Rwanda is about 7,4 million with a population density of 281 per sq km.

Soon after booking into the hotel the study group commenced a series of visits starting with a function the same evening hosted by the Kenyan Ambassador to Rwanda. The rest of week was a hectic programme of briefings by key representatives from Rwanda’s executive, judiciary and the legislature, as well as other important institutions. An exhaustive brief by the Chief of General Staff of the Rwanda Defence Forces was followed by personal presentations by the Ministers of Finance, Defence, Tourism, Agriculture, Infrastructure, the President of the Supreme Court, the Speaker of the Transitional National Assembly, the President of the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission.
and the Chief Investigating Officer at the UN International Criminal Tribunal on Rwanda. At a reception hosted by the Minister of Defence, the visiting group was entertained by the cultural dance group, the Indahemuka. This group raised funds for the Rwandan Patriotic Front outside the country during the democratic struggle, their name meaning “Those who cannot betray”.

Several visits were included. The group was flown to Gikongoro genocide site by courtesy of two Mi-17 Rwandan Air Force helicopters. Gikongoro, in the southwest of the country, is one of several such sites, grim memorials to the 1994 genocide in which up to one million people were massacred throughout Rwanda in the short period of one hundred days. At both this site and at the Heroes’ Acre in Kigali representatives from Kenya, the Zambian Army and the SANDF had the honour of laying wreaths to commemorate those who had fallen. A visit was also undertaken to the Rwandan Military Academy at Nyakinamana, a centre in the northwest of Rwanda, which sets out to develop the professionalism of the Rwandan military. The OC, Col Frank Rusagara, a graduate of Course 5-2002 Kenyan NDC, is completing his MA through the University of Nairobi. Another visit was to the rehabilitation centre at Mutobo for ex-FAR (Forces Armées de Rwandaises), and Interahambe, the former government soldiers and militia, respectively. At Mutobo, these ex-soldiers, most of whom were either captured or returned after the war, are educated with respect to democracy, civic responsibilities, respect for cultural values and many other issues before being returned to their home areas.

The Kenyan NDC group, led by the NDC Commandant, Lt Gen H.W. Njoroge, was privileged to be briefed by His Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Rwanda Defence Forces, Paul Kagame, on the eve prior to departure. This was considered one of the highlights of the visit.

Throughout the visit, the members were impressed with the frank and open character of the briefings and bilateral exchanges. This facilitated a keen understanding of the issues, which gave rise to Rwanda’s history, as well as to the forces, which are welding the country together. Even before the week was over it had become clear that the leaders of Rwanda are taking her on a journey which lead to democracy and reconciliation, which can and should be taken by other African countries. This dynamic country appears to be set for great achievements, inversely proportional to her size.

Uphold the good name of the engineers

By Lt Col Gerrit Janse van Vuuren, SA Army Engineer Formation HQ

Engineers were deployed to support the Task Force deploying to the DRC from 17 March 2003 onwards to establish a peaceful environment in the DRC. Engineering is required in the form of limited construction of structures, disposal of explosive ordnance, destruction of confiscated weapons and ammunition, provision of river crossings through the use of a ferry unit and performing of minor field engineering tasks, including small gap crossings.

Each engineer unit must have the capability to deploy up to two platoon-size elements simultaneously. These elements must be completely self-sustaining and be capable of conducting independent operations for a period of up to thirty days in support of disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) operations. The engineer elements always deploy together with the Infantry Battalion and/or the home base infrastructure that provides support in terms of sustainment.

The engineer contingency is expected to be ready to deploy with the following capabilities: It must be capable of deploying by air (C-130 transport aircraft) up to two independent self-sustained platoons, for a period of up to thirty days, provide integral level 1 medical support, conduct self-sustainment tasks, including support of deployed subunits, assess proposed and identified DDR sites, undertake limited vertical construction in support of the Task Force, including ablation facilities and electrical installations, undertake limited airfield and road repair, construct temporary sewage and drainage systems, construct limited river ramp, port and river wharf repair and construction facilities for use by the UN ferry unit, construct protective fortifications as required, provide bulk potable water for deployed elements by making use of UN provided facilities, assist with the destruction of confiscated small arms, medium weapons and ammunition, sink boreholes for water extraction using own drill rig capability, provide a limited surveying and engineering service to the UN for engineering works, command the Ferry Unit attached, and be capable of ferrying up to two 5-ton trucks or equivalent loads across the Congo River at one time (800 m gap) with a current of up to 4 knots (6.5 km/h).

A medical unit will be deployed as an integral part of the Engineer Unit to provide integral medical support to the Engineer and Ferry units. Its expected capability is to be able to deploy up to two Forward Medical Teams (FMTs) for up to thirty days in support of engineer detachments. However, this capability may be coordinated to receive assistance from the Infantry Battalion Level 1 Medical Capability, which must have a malaria detection capability, be able to provide Level 1 medical treatment in tropical equatorial environments, and be prepared to support all UN personnel in their area when necessary.

The SA Army Engineer Formation wishes the Engineer contingent the best for the deployment, and it knows that they will uphold the good name of the engineers.
Support Proudly South African Week

By Thabo Moloi, Meropoa Communications

This year’s Proudly South African Week will be celebrated from 21 to 28 September. This week will focus on educating consumers about the campaign and encouraging everyone to buy South African goods and services through a series of marketing activities, which will include several events taking place nationally.

Proudly South African is a national campaign aimed at creating mass awareness around the importance of engaging in and supporting our local economy. Everyone can make a difference by choosing South African goods and services.

Proudly South African was borne from the 1998 Presidential Jobs Summit where Government, Business, Labour and Community agreed to a “Buy South African” campaign. The Section 21 company was launched in October 2001 with a mandate to promote job creation by stimulating demand for and promoting the reputation and sales of approved South African products and services locally and internationally.

The Chairperson of Proudly South African, Mr Tim Modise, and his team have been instrumental in the development and success of the campaign.

Since its inception, Proudly South African has grown in stature, with a membership list which includes sectors ranging from the mining industry to the retail sector to the film, television, radio and music markets.

Just to highlight a few of the achievements of Proudly South African: the 1,000th member was recently enlisted; in a recent survey 54% of South Africans had seen the Proudly South African brand; 85% of South Africans supported the campaign; more than 80% believe that the Proudly South African logo is a mark of a quality product and several members now display the Proudly South African logo on their products.

For further information, please visit the Proudly South African website: www.proudlysa.co.za

Curbing criminal activities

By Capt J.J.M. Koekemoer, SO3 Ops Comm J Ops Tac HQ Limpopo

A joint operation, Operation SWEEP CLEAN, took place from 25 to 28 June 2003 in the Polokwane area. Members from Group 14 (Operations and Intelligence), one platoon of 4 Artillery Regiment Pietersburg Military Police, one platoon of Pietersburg Commando, the SAPS (Dog Unit, Crime Prevention Unit, Vehicle Branch, LCRC, Air Wing, Municipal Police and police reservists), the Department of Home Affairs and the Traffic Department were involved in the operation which consisted of roadblocks and cordon and search operations. AFB Louis Trichardt 17 Squadron C-Flight delivered air support by means of an Oryx and an Alouette helicopter. A Cessna 210 of 102 Squadron (Reserve Force Squadron) was also utilised during the operation. The aim of the operation was crime prevention.

Good co-operation existed between the different forces involved and led to the achievement of many successes. During roadblocks held on all the main routes leading into Polokwane and cordon and search operations held at taxi ranks and bus stations, in the CBD, Westernburg and a squatter camp the following successes were achieved:

- 207 illegal foreigners arrested, viz:
  - 194 Zimbabweans;
  - 4 Mozambicans;
  - 2 Kenyans; and
  - 7 Congolese.
- 496 vehicles were searched and fines to the value of R55,000-00 were issued.
- 24 other arrests were made for various criminal offences.
- 11 stolen vehicles were confiscated.
- 223,28 litres of alcohol were confiscated.
- 4,675 kg of dagga were confiscated.
- 1 x 9 mm Norinco pistol and 5 x 9 mm rounds were confiscated.
- Several stolen electrical appliances and equipment were confiscated.

The community responded well to the joint operation and a positive image of the SANDF was portrayed during the operation. Discipline was of an excellent standard and the conduct of the SANDF personnel was positive and professional. On completion of the operation on 28 June we were greeted by tired, but delighted participants because of the successes achieved, as well as the good and solid co-operation between all the security forces involved.

Toys for boys

By Nomonde Vuthela

The members of the Corporate Communication Department of 1 Military Hospital held a fun day at the lapa of the hospital in Thaba Tshwane on 20 June 2003. According Lt Karin Stoltz, one of the organisers, the initial idea was to have a fun day for all the men in the SANDF. In no time at all this small thought turned into an Outdoor Expo with many stalls displaying camping gear, sports wear and much more.
Focus on HIV/AIDS in the workplace

By Maj Ethel Moledi,
HIV Nodal Point Area Military Health Unit Gauteng
Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana

Public Service Day was celebrated at the SA Police Service College in Pretoria West on 21 June 2003. Minister in the Presidency, Dr Essop Pahad, officially opened the event. Then followed a flag bypass and parachute jumps by the SAPS Task Team.

Walk and run events were held on the athletics field with prizes to be won. The well-known OROS man, jumping-castles and face painting kept the children busy.

The sporting events continued for most of the day. On the other side of the field a theatre group from KwaZulu-Natal and a jazz band from Mamelodi were entertaining the spectators.

The main attraction of the day was exhibitions on HIV/AIDS held at the Community Hall. Different Government departments took part and the DOD had the Masibambisane Project on display.

The main theme for the day was "Focusing on HIV/AIDS in the Workplace". The private sector also participated, especially those that are in partnership with the Government on HIV/AIDS issues.

The Minister of Public Service and Administration, Ms Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, attended and visited the stall of the DOD. She was impressed by the unique HIV/AIDS pamphlets and posters on display. Project Masibambisane was explained to her, including the DOD workplace programme.

The day was informative in that we were able to share ideas with other Government departments in as far as the workplace programme is concerned.

Memorable trip to Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital

By WO1 M.K. Mosia

The Occupational Health and Safety Officer of 4 Survey and Mapping Regiment from SA Army Engineer Formation based at Tek Base, WO1 M.K. Mosia, organised an educational study tour to Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital on 19 March 2003.

The purpose of the tour was to acquaint the members of the Unit with the administration and treatment offered to HIV/AIDS patients and the research undertaken by the Hospital into this disease.

The personnel of the hospital: the CEO, Dr R. Broekman, Dr E. Karstedt and the PRO, Mrs Hester van der Heever, welcomed us to the hospital. Mrs Van der Heever was of great help in facilitating and arranging everything for the visit, hence the trip turned out to be one of the most memorable ever.

The CEO of the hospital also informed the team about the administration, mission statement, challenges and the way forward for the hospital. The hospital has undergone various changes in recent years, but the most gratifying development now being undertaken is the upgrading and replacing of the present buildings for casualties and outpatients, which are to become a world-class complex.

The hospital also has working and research links with Wits University regarding HIV/AIDS, and training projects with other renowned hospitals outside the country.

The tour was an eye-opener and an encouragement to all, especially when the hospital mentioned that it was dedicated and willing to continue to do research until a cure for HIV/AIDS and other baffling diseases is found.

S E P T E M B E R  2 0 0 3  •  S A  S O L D I E R
Attention all Warrant Officers of the Army

By Maj Gen J. Jooste, Chief Director Army Force Structure

This letter is a well-meant input from a fellow soldier who happens to be an officer and a general. The message is clear and simple and applies to every different force in the world: "The warrant officers hold in their hands the soul of our Army". This then begs the question - are you aware of this unwritten, almost unqualified and staggering responsibility? You will have to decide what attitude you will adopt when reading this letter and, ultimately, whether there will be any action forthcoming from it. The letter is also only the product of one soldier with a specific mindset, but it should appeal to all warrant officers to a greater or lesser extent. It is sincerely hoped that action will be taken rather than that the matter should be strategised or debated.

Reality check
Assessing the situation in the SA Army, one must concede that discipline and pride are not up to standard. What is the Warrant Officers' reaction to and opinion of the following:
- The occurrence of crime and negative incidents.
- The state of basic soldiering skills and, specifically, fitness, musketry and drill.
- The way ammunition is handled.
- The state of control of all types of vehicles.
- The general standard of guards and sentries.
- Movement control, especially of groups and individuals inside and outside bases.
- Cleanliness and neatness of military facilities.
- The standard in messes and canteens.
- Participation in sport and healthy, sound social activities.

Without being negative many more examples can be cited. This list merely illustrates what is expected. This is not rocket science - it lies at the heart of bases and headquarters where military routine is the order of the day and where normal policies and procedures are observed and adhered to. This, more than any strategy or philosophy, will determine the future of the Army. "The Quest for the future of the SA Army will be determined on the parade ground and not in the lecture and conference room. The Warrant Officers are needed there - on and beside the parade ground, on shooting ranges, in the kitchens, at roll-call, at the ammunition point, in the guard room, amongst the filing cabinets and at all the places where common things need to be done uncommonly well".

Is this the outcome of an Army where Warrant Officers are really competent and involved? It would be a scary day if the Warrant Officers of the Army do not take responsibility for this sad state of affairs and it would furthermore be disastrous if the causes for the situation were only sought elsewhere. Realities must be accepted and managed; challenges must be engaged and ownership must be established. There are extensive factors and many parties involved, but that is why Warrant Officers are a specifically unique group of people expected to heed the call for the salvation of the soul of the Army and to instigate action rather than words.

Forward with basics
"Back to basics" has been the outcry for years now. Why "back" and why not "to" why not "towards with basics". "Success is to do a common thing uncommonly well." It is imperative that basics are practised at all levels and that the Warrant Officer ensures the standard of these actions at all times.

Without getting mundane, it will be prudent to address the following aspects as a matter of urgency:
- The institutionalisation of transformation leadership among Warrant Officers means much more than doing the Full Range Leadership course. It means a change of heart - a new paradigm in handling people. Modern day soldiers will follow spontaneously only if they are led predominantly by transformation leaders who are really people focussed.
- Normal deployment drills - all the steps to ensure that the right soldier is at the right place, at the right time, with the right equipment and ready for the task.
- The inculcation of pride through all the small measures that soldiers and leaders have known over the years. Relevant in this regard are customs and traditions, drill and ceremonies, competitions, sports, war games, hard training, due reward and corrective measures.
- A sound and healthy military social life to accommodate the diversity of people in the Army.
• Communication, communication, communication. As has been said - the Warrant Officer can never be too sincere, repetitive or simple enough.

"Cleanliness is next to godliness". Good old-fashioned neatness and order must be enforced with well-proven methods of inspection and sustained efforts to institutionalise high standards in this regard.

**Quo vadis**

To contribute towards a sound military culture and high standards in every respect, the Warrant Officers of the Army must be honest about the current reality. It appears as if too many instances of mediocrity have been accepted for too long. This has inevitably led to the prevailing lower standards and fewer experienced people who are able to maintain standards and who are prepared to stand up for their convictions and with passion.

Formal courses, Warrant Officers' Academy, symposiums and foreign visits will not feed the soul of the Army. The existing corps of Warrant Officers will have to be rejuvenated in body and spirit to generate the energy to re-establish the rightful place of the Warrant Officer and to ensure commitment and dedication towards pure old-fashioned discipline and pride.

To think that current realities will change by themselves or that "somebody" (maybe officers) must set the scene or effect the changes, will be fatal. Warrant Officers must be transformation minded and, as such, must change without sacrificing military values and standards. The achievement of high standards of discipline, however, requires a totally different approach to that of a decade ago. In laymen's terms - a Warrant Officer "says what he means and means what he says", but he is sensitive to a new breed of soldiers who are the product of a new social order. Their greatest gift to soldiering is proper preparation for war, which means hard relentless training. The wise Warrant Officer will, however, not only take the body of soldiers on this trip to becoming soldiers. He or she will take their hearts and minds along in a very unique way - a way that only Warrant Officers can because of their creed and professionalism. "The Army is not made up of people - it is people." Let's not forget - people win wars - not technology or armaments.

The challenge is real, clear and compelling. The crux of the whole matter is what the Warrant Officers will do about it now.

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**Handing over the reins**

Brig Gen A.L.A. Norie (left) and Brig Gen S.J.W. van Schalkwyk.

**By Nomonde Vuthela**


Brig Gen Norie was the Officer Commanding Joint Support Base Garrison for the past four years. His final posting on 1 June 2003 was to the Joint Support Division as the project officer for Project PILLAR with a view to finalising the implementation of the joint support bases of the Division.

Brig Gen Van Schalkwyk was born in 1950 in Bloemfontein, where he went to school and matriculated in 1969. He started his military career at 1 Parachute Battalion in 1970 as a National Serviceman.

Brig Gen Van Schalkwyk joined the Permanent Force in May 1972 and started in June 1972 with the Candidate Officers' Course. He was appointed as Quartermaster at 1 Parachute Battalion in 1974, in a post he retained up to 1983, whereafter he was transferred to 44 Parachute Brigade as Support Wing Commander.

He then became the SO1 Log at 44 Parachute Brigade. During his appointment at 1 Parachute Battalion he did the Lapes Air Supply Course in Israel and assisted with the implementation of systems at 1 Parachute Battalion.

In 1989 Brig Gen Van Schalkwyk did the Senior Staff and Command Course at the SA Army College, whereafter he was appointed as an Officer Instructor at the SA Army College for Senior Staff and Command Courses. During his appointment at SA Army College he gave instruction to senior officers on Staff and Command Courses in Malawi and Swaziland.

Brig Gen Van Schalkwyk was promoted to the rank of Colonel and transferred to SA Army Battle School in 1990 as Support Wing Commander. He was then transferred to Northern Cape Command in 1993 as SO1 Log. During his tenure of office he attended a resources management course in America.

Brig Gen Van Schalkwyk was decorated with the SM, MMM, 10, 20 and 30 Years Service Medals, as well as various other medals.

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Military Skills Development programme enhances learning

By CPO John Sverdloff, Navy News
Photos: Sgt Eddie Smith

The Naval training base, SAS SALDANHA, opened its “doors” to the national media from 24 to 25 April 2003. The idea was to introduce various aspects of the Government’s new Military Skills Development (MSD) training programme for the SANDF to journalists and to have them experience life at sea, as well as to visit various training centres and facilities in Simon’s Town.

During his address to the media, R Adm Johannes Mudimu, Chief of Naval Staff, said, "The role of the SA Navy is the protection of the territorial integrity and sovereignty and the people of the RSA. This includes participation in multinational exercises in preparation for peace support operations, fishery patrols and anti-poaching operations."

"The first MEKO patrol corvette, SAS AMATOLA, will arrive in our waters later this year. The remaining three patrol corvettes, SAS ISANDLWANA, newly christened SAS SPIOENKOP and F148 will follow during 2004. The three Type 209 submarines are due for delivery in July 2005, 2006 and 2007. Some of the youngsters you see here today will steer these ships into the future.

"Due to the rapid succession in the arrival of these acquisitions, the SA Navy is now faced with a challenge and is hard at work preparing facilities and training personnel to effectively integrate these corvettes and submarines into the future Navy. Relating to this is the requirement to rejuvenate the SA Navy by means of the Military Skills Development system."

Capt Robert Shelley, Officer Commanding of SAS SALDANHA, added, "The approach of SAS SALDANHA to training is to create an environment that is conducive to learning. Instructors are less intimidating and more approachable and encourage learners to participate in classes. The spirit in which the Unit conducts MSD training enables a group of young and fit men and women who have been selected to either follow a career in the SA Navy or who have skills (further to those offered via secondary education) to be more competitive in the private sector."

"Due to the rapid succession in the arrival of these acquisitions, the SA Navy is now faced with a challenge and is hard at work preparing facilities and training personnel to effectively integrate these corvettes and submarines into the future Navy. Relating to this is the requirement to rejuvenate the SA Navy by means of the Military Skills Development system."

The MSD programme is broken up into three phases: Induction (first year) which is divided into Orientation to Military Life (January and February), Naval Military Theory (March and April) and the Practical Phase (May to December).

During the second year the MSD programme is divided into mustering courses (January to April) after which the practical phase is completed (May to December).

Those members who are selected by the SA Navy will be given another contract. Remaining members will be allocated to the Naval Reserve on a five-year contract.

Training at SAS SALDANHA has been restructured to encompass the MSD programme, which in essence will allow learners, if they are not required in the SANDF at the end of their two-year contract, to have nine recognised civilian accreditations and six military certificates upon entering the private sector.

The qualifications obtained at the end of the learners’ Military Skills Development training are Maritime First Aid (civilian and military), Marine Fire-fighting (civilian and military), Sea Survival (civilian and military), OHASA Workplace Safety Legislation (civilian and military), Deck-hand Certificate for Non-motorised Craft, Plato 2000 Certificate with English and Mathematics, Basic Computer Literacy, Environmental Warden Certificate (civilian and military), a valid military driver’s license (the conversion to civilian licences is under investigation) and Military Training for Ratings Part 1 Qualified.

The MSD programme offers a comprehensive programme of supplementary skills. These include discipline, neatness, a life skills programme consisting of CV writing, interviewing skills, personal finance (eg budgeting and debt management) and the ability to work with diverse people in achieving a common goal. General skills such as facility upkeep tasks are also taught informally and can be applied outside the Navy.

SAS SALDANHA tries to improve on the skills learners may already have. A prime example is that of learners who have come out of communities having choirs, bands and...
music groups. When learners who possess these skills were approached and asked to volunteer in forming the SAS SALDANHA marching band, 35 volunteers snapped up this opportunity. Most could not read music, but could play by ear to some degree.

Mr Du Preez, a retired school principal, now teaches these aspiring musicians how to develop their playing skills and read music.

This all occurs outside of the MSD programme in the evenings and is a voluntary enrichment course. This year saw a total of 437 MSD members and 52 Candidate Officers being called up, of which 403 MSD members and 52 Candidate Officers arrived, making a total of 455.

The current figures for the MSD intake group is: 76% males - 184 African, 7 Asian, 43 Coloured, 80 White, for a total of 314. 24% females - 66 African, 0 Asian, 15 Coloured, 18 White, for a total of 99. In addition to these figures there are also sixteen learners from Namibia, of whom thirteen are male, as well as five African males from ex-NSF and one African male legal officer. A further three African males were recruited as members of the SA Navy Band. These figures are representative of the SA Navy’s projected demographic figures for 2010.

SAS SALDANHA is not only responsible for MSD training, but also conducts training for all non-commissioned officers in the SA Navy. This is carried out by running the military training for ratings courses (MTR) Parts 2 and 3. MTR 2 is the course that Leading Seamen must complete to be promoted to Petty Officers. The course is a lower management level course with the emphasis on providing the member with the knowledge and skills to act as a Divisional Petty Officer.

The MTR 3 course is a requirement for the appointment of Chief Petty Officers to Warrant Officers. The course involves aspects of middle management with emphasis on leadership and management.

Learners are also afforded the opportunity to undergo officers’ training at the SA Naval College in Gordon’s Bay. Fifty-two students were pre-selected at the beginning of the year, based on their academic achievements. A total of 251 MSD members took part in the selection week from 10 to 14 March 2003.

Eighty-one MSD members and junior ratings from the Fleet took part in a second selection week from 31 March to 4 April and of these 51 MSD members were selected for officers’ training.

On completion of the briefings by R Adm Mudimu, Capt (SAN) Shelley and some learners neatly turned out and, standing proud in their uniforms, shared their sentiments on the MSD Training Programme.

The Namibian learners’ experience

“During the first three months of this programme we were busy with the theoretical part of training prior to the more crucial, the practical phase. It is here that the basic foundation is laid. Simulated situations are used in order to get the learners acquainted and then to experience real operations. SAS SALDANHA and other naval training institutions are proved to be the best. Evidence of this is the interest shown by African countries in having their maritime wing personnel trained at SAS SALDANHA. This is not the first intake that the Namibian learners have taken part in. Previous intakes have gained the necessary constructive and valuable skills and have completed advanced courses and are Continued on page 38
Continued from page 37
now proudly serving the Namibian Maritime Wing. We pledge to follow suit,” said Sea N. Jeremiah, one of the students.

The arrival
“I still remember the first day we arrived here at SAS SALDANHA and looked into the eager faces that awaited us. At least we were rewarded for our long ride here with a biscuit and a cup of tea. Directly after stand-easy we were loaded into buses and driven away to a place known as “Slops”. We were all excited to receive our uniforms, but to our dismay were handed overalls instead,” said Sea Williams, one of the students.

Domestics
“After ‘Slops’ we were taken to our first lunch. After our long day of exciting experiences this was yet another one because we were hungry and we still had to stand in line for our food. Coming from ‘civvy’ street, this was something we had to adjust to. Thereafter we were taken for haircuts, where all the guys were robbed of their hairstyles. There was even a ‘Rasta’ guy that was crying after losing his dreadlocks.

“We were given cleaning stations and time in which they should be completed - the first lesson in time management. This was a very good experience for us learners because we had to work with people of different race groups and backgrounds. This taught us team spirit. At the end of it all we accomplished our tasks and were a bit more relaxed in our new surroundings with new friends,” said Sea Naicker, a student.

Physical training and fitness test
“The SA Navy needs young and fit people. On 16 January 2003 our fitness test was conducted and we were doing a couple of exercises. This test was conducted with the aim of finding out our level of fitness, so that they could place learners with the same fitness levels in the same group. After the test, we were divided into seven groups for physical training (PT), which is still being conducted every day from Monday to Friday. Our swimming test was conducted on 5 February. The aim of this test was to find out who of the learners were non-swimmers. We were given a couple of lessons and about 95% of us had lost our fear of water. I hope all of us will be able to swim and be ready to operate at sea before we leave SAS SALDANHA”.

The Code of Conduct
“On 10 April we signed the Code of Conduct which signified our commitment to serve as proud members of the SANDF. The Code of Conduct is a set of rules that apply to all uniformed members of the SANDF. These rules relate to war, as well as our personal boundaries within the SANDF. We were all proud to take part in this important event,” said Sea Ashipala. The media were then given the opportunity to observe MSD learners doing practical training. Some of the events covered were physical training, drill work, swimming, pulling, sailing and light Jackstay transfer. In the afternoon the entire MSD intake concluded the day’s events with a march past, music played by the SA Navy Band and the SAS SALDANHA Marching Band, precision drill display, gun run, manning the mast and a retreat ceremony.

At 16:00 representatives of the media were treated to an overnight sea-trip on board of strike craft to experience what life is like at sea and to view various exercises.

After a sumptuous breakfast at the Naval Base Wardroom, everybody visited the Maritime Warfare Training Centre (MWTC), Integrated Test Bed (ITB) in which the patrol corvette combat suite is being tested, as well as the Diving Centre.

“The window of opportunity given to the national media was met with great enthusiasm and impressions were that the SA Navy was contributing not only to the learners’ potential, but also to the new South Africa as a whole.
Make waves through hard work and delivery

By Nomonde Vuthela
Photo: Sgt David Nomtshongwana

The word is out, loud and clear, delivery is the name of the game, at least that is what members of the DOD Industrial Theatre had to say at the Defence Headquarters in Pretoria on 14 June 2003.

We have seen the actors of the DOD Industrial Theatre many times before, always at the right place at the right time. They have a way of popping in when a point needs to be made to all DOD members and the message is always "Batho Pele" - "People First" - for a more effective people-centred administration.

This time around the members of the DOD Industrial Theatre used the format of SA SOLDIER magazine, yes, our very own official monthly magazine. Through play-acting, the group attempted to portray a magazine filled only with success stories. Page after page of tales of victory and achievements of DOD members were displayed. The short comedy results in members who are driven by a competitive spirit rushing to read the SA SOLDIER out of a desire to read more about themselves and other employees who have excelled and have earned a place in our magazine.

Singing "Iyakhala Idilivari" - the group used the word delivery in the first person, implying that this particular person weeps for the loss of efficiency. Humorously the members of the DOD Industrial Theatre expressed the dire need for employees of the DOD to keep on improving their standards of delivery and to be productive.

The DOD Industrial Theatre Production Manager, Mr Alpheus Nndoweni Dzivhani, said during an interview with SA SOLDIER that the 1994 integration period had come and gone, and that the SANDF had made a good name for itself internationally. Now is the time to work and bring that good reputation home.

"We need to read in SA SOLDIER what the various units are doing to improve our standards of delivery," said Mr Dzivhani. He emphasised that the comedy play was in line with the Justice Administration Act. (This Act simply means that the public is now empowered to act against administrators for not offering good service, nkare Batho Pele…) "We are heading for 2010," added Mr Dzivhani, inviting all DOD members to leave their personalities at home and put the organisation first. He urged the responsible use of getaway technology, such as computers, the Internet, emails and cell-phones as communication vehicles to improve service delivery.

The DOD Industrial Theatre began staging the act in early July 2003 and will continue to do so until 5 December 2003. Its future plans are to perform for the Defence Portfolio Committee in Parliament and possibly for our members deployed in the DRC and Burundi.
The third CISM ESA LO Service Pistol Shooting Championship took place in Windhoek, Namibia, from 23 to 26 June 2003. The participants were from the SANDF, Namibian, Lesotho and Botswana defence forces. The SANDF entered two men’s teams (five members each) and one women’s team (three members).

The SANDF teams did exceptionally well. In the men’s competition, the SANDF A-team won the gold medal in all three items, namely service pistol shooting, police pistol A-shooting and service pistol A-shooting. They also were awarded the shield for the best team overall.

Competition rules prescribed that the scores of only one team per country may count toward any medals, thereby excluding the B-team, whose scores was good enough to earn them a third place in the competition albeit without receiving the bronze medal.

The women’s team did not stay behind and also won the gold medal in all three items, namely service pistol shooting, police pistol A-shooting and service pistol A-shooting. They too won the shield for the best team overall.

In the individual competition the following members received medals. In the men’s competition S Sgt I.A. Mostert (AMHU FS) received two gold medals and one silver medal, F Sgt D.F. van Tonder (1 ASU) one silver medal and S Sgt J.P. du Plessis (TMSC GSB BFN) one silver medal. In the women’s competition Maj M.J. Swanepoel (IAM) received two gold medals and one silver medal, Capt S. van Emmens (1 Mil Hosp) one bronze medal, WO2 F.S. van Tonder (DOD Main Ord Depot) one gold medal and one silver medal.

S Sgt Mostert obtained the exceptional achievement of receiving the medal for the best male shottist for the third consecutive year. F Sgt Van Tonder was the runner-up. Maj Swanepoel received the medal for the best woman shottist and WO2 Van Tonder came third.

Namibian National Pistol Shooting Championship

The SANDF members also had the opportunity to participate in the Namibian National Pistol Shooting Championship in Windhoek from 19 to 21 June 2003, the weekend before the CISM ESA LO Service Pistol Shooting Championship started.

Once again they were very successful and bagged nine gold, six silver and nine bronze medals for individual participation. In the team competitions the men’s A-team won four gold medals and one silver medal, the B-team won one gold, one silver and one bronze medal and the women’s team two gold medals.

F Sgt Van Tonder set a new Namibian Open-Air Pistol Shooting record with a score of 584/600. He also won the trophy in the Air Pistol Shooting competition. S Sgt F.W. van Tonder (Serv Corp Bfn RO) won the Tara Trophy for the best combined score in center fire and free pistol shooting, as well as the center fire trophy. Maj Swanepoel received the medal for the open woman champion. She was the only woman to participate in the President’s Cup competition and end-up winning the trophy.

Fltr: S Sgt I.A. Mostert (men’s individual champion), Lt Col J. Hoabeb (Chairperson of the Organisation Committee Namibia), Col M. Mupopiwa (Chief of Delegation CISM Namibia), F Sgt D.F. van Tonder (the second best male shottist) and P.M. Matlali from the Lesotho Defence Force (the third best male shottist).
Gauteng North triumphs as the football champions

By WO2 J.L. Modiselle, PMSC
Football League Secretary

The 2003 SANDF Football Championships that were held at the Tempe sports grounds in Bloemfontein from 7 to 12 July 2003 proved to many critics that there is no greater football talent in Pretoria than the champions of Gauteng North.

Maj M.I. Poro, the Football Chairperson, opened the Annual General Meeting for the election of office-bearers on 9 July. The following members were elected: CPO P.J. Williams (Chairperson of Referees of SANDFFA), WO1 M.C. Mkhulise (Deputy Chairperson of SANDFFA), Cpl Sinuka (Dir Development of SANDFFA), S Sgt Makgetha (Treasurer of SANDFFA), Sgt L. Maswanganyi (Secretary of SANDFFA), WO1 J. Seekooi (Dir Support of SANDFFA) and Capt B.V. Mali (Personnel Staff Officer of SANDFFA).

Sixteen men’s and seven women’s teams competed in the Championships. All the provinces participated in this colourful event, which even attracted the SABC. The operation named “Thata zonke” by Gauteng North spectators bore fruit when both their women’s and men’s teams reached the finals and were ultimately crowned the champions. Both teams brought back to Pretoria the much sought after trophies. Each player received a gold medallion with the new SANDF emblem.

The women’s teams of Gauteng North and West Coast played in the finals. The men’s team of Gauteng North played against the team of Gauteng South in the finals.

The selected SANDF National Football men’s and women’s teams were composed mostly of players from Gauteng North.

The Best Player of the Tournament (women) was awarded to S. Shabalala (West Coast). The Best Player of the Tournament (men) was awarded to Lt L.I. Montsho, the Captain of the Gauteng North Team.

The Best Middle Fielder (women) was awarded to Cpl J. Makebe (Gauteng North). The Best Middle Fielder (men) was Seaman S.S.A. Buthelezi (West Coast).

Seaman S.P. Maguma (West Coast) was appointed as the Best Back (women) and Cpl N.S. Tloubatla (Limpompo) as the best in the men’s category.

The Referee of the Tournament was Pte S.M. Maphakane (Limpopo). Seaman S.N. Mbatha (West Coast) was chosen as the Best Goalkeeper (women) and Cpl T.S. Mavuna as the Best Goalkeeper (men).

The title of Best Coach (women) was awarded to Capt T.S. Keketsi (West Coast) and Cpl J. Mphuthi (Gauteng North) as the Best Coach (men).

The Leading Goalscorer (women) was Capt R. Monageng (Gauteng North) with nine goals. Sgt Itumo Matsike (Free State A) was chosen as the Leading Goalscorer (men) with five goals.
Recreation gets a boost

By Col Bobby Keller, Chairperson for Recreation: Scale Modelling and War Gaming in the SANDF

The SANDF, like other military forces in the world, pursues physical training, sport and recreation (PTSR) as an integral part of its activities in the same way that it pursues other functions. The reason for this is that it is of the utmost importance that members of the SANDF have healthy and fit bodies and minds to perform their duties.

Recreation forms an integral part of military training and is meant to contribute to the development of personality, the attainment of good health, and the improvement of physical attributes, greater personal fulfilment and a better and more wholesome utilisation of leisure time.

During the week of 7 to 11 April 2003 scale modelling and war gaming was launched, in particular during the PTSR Indaba on 9 April and was received with enthusiasm by all the PTSR officers. Col Bobby Keller, Chairperson for Recreation: Scale Modelling and War Gaming in the SANDF, gave a presentation on the recreational role and value of scale modelling and war gaming. After the presentation scale models were displayed and war-gaming demonstrations given. Brig Gen Lindile Yam, Director PTSR, was very enthusiastic about the initiative and was of the opinion that this recreational activity will be a solution to leisure time utilisation of deployed soldiers.

Plastic scale modelling

The building of plastic scale models is a hobby, which presents its followers with great self-fulfilment and fun. It is interesting to complete a model that depicts all the right details, colour scheme and history of the prototype. Models are provided in kit form and consist of all the parts to be assembled. In addition a basic tool kit is needed with glue and paint to complete the model. The benefits of scale modelling are:

- Constructing an end product gives a sense of achievement and social interaction with fellow modellers during group building sessions.
- Hand/eye coordination is enhanced during building.
- Patience and creativity are fostered.
- Project management is experienced when working with the kit instructions.
- Engineering awareness is created with the different models and their sub-assemblies’ roles and functions.
- Research and development established by studying the specifications and history of the aircraft, ship or military vehicle.
- Knowledge of military history is enhanced.

War gaming

Modern war gaming is a tangible way to utilise recreation. The games include a range of Napoleonic War, World War II, Warhammer and MechWarrior figures, vehicles and other accessories. The assembling and painting of the figures is plastic modelling in its own right. Benefits of war gaming are the following:

- Use of cognitive skills while in a relaxed environment.
- Social interaction with fellow players.
- Strategic thinking skills are developed.
- Planning of manoeuvring, firepower, usage of terrain and battle handling.
- Basic mathematical skills.
- Creative skills in terms of the building and painting of armies and terrain.
- Stimulating right and left-brain functioning.

Recreation in the SANDF

The use of modelling and war gaming is an excellent method of leisure time utilisation for deployed members and Officers Commanding are encouraged to use this as a recreational activity for this purpose. Through sponsorships it is envisaged to supply the deployed soldiers in peace support operations with model kits to build themselves and war gaming sets to use for recreation. Fifty scale model kits and two war gaming sets have already been donated to the soldiers deployed in the DRC. Although this is a small beginning we hope to supply more leisure time utilisation equipment as sponsors come on board the project. The following sponsors are thanked who made the donation of leisure time equipment possible: Corporations: Armscor, Gestetner and Dischem. Model shops: The Aviation Shop, Model Marine and Model Train & Plastic World.

To facilitate professional interaction with fellow modellers during group building sessions.

Hand/eye coordination is enhanced during building.

Patience and creativity are fostered.

Project management is experienced when working with the kit instructions.

Engineering awareness is created with the different models and their sub-assemblies’ roles and functions.

Research and development established by studying the specifications and history of the aircraft, ship or military vehicle.

Knowledge of military history is enhanced.

Use of cognitive skills while in a relaxed environment.

Social interaction with fellow players.

Strategic thinking skills are developed.

Planning of manoeuvring, firepower, usage of terrain and battle handling.

Basic mathematical skills.

Creative skills in terms of the building and painting of armies and terrain.

Stimulating right and left-brain functioning.
participation in this activity all SANDF modellers need to register with the SANDF Modelling and War-gaming Club operated by the International Plastic Model Society of South Africa.

This will enable us to create a database of members to plan events, support leisure time utilisation initiatives and competitions. Communication with the modellers will take place by email through a monthly newsletter.

**SANDF Championships**

The first SANDF Scale Modelling and War-gaming Championships are planned for 7 to 8 November 2003 at the SA Air Force Museum, Swartkop. It will be a pilot project in Pretoria as an event of this nature has never been presented before. The competition will be open to all Regular and Reserve Force members. All SANDF modellers have to register to update the database and to qualify for these championships. The following competitions will be included:

- Scale modelling - Plastic models of all scales and categories can be entered for the competition.
- Model train layout module competition.
- War-gaming - Warhammer, Warhammer 40k and a MechWarrior tournament will be played.
- LAN Computer Gaming. This will be presented in the form of "bring your own computer" competition with the LAN infrastructure provided.
- Battlefield re-enactment. Members are invited to participate in a battlefield re-enactment of all conflicts in which South Africa participated. This also includes the former Non-statutory Forces.
- Restored historical military vehicles. Military vehicles in private ownership can be entered for a competition.

Recreational activities such as modelling and war gaming are ideal mechanisms to be used by deployed soldiers in their leisure time. This can range from playing the simple war game called Marabaraba to complex strategic games like MechWarrior.

Any Regular or Reserve Force member who would like to get involved in this type of recreational activity can contact their PTSR Officers in their regions. To register for membership and to enter for the championships contact the Chairperson, Col Bobby Keller, at tel no: (012) 671 5493 or fax no: (012) 663 8552 or email commshop@mweb.co.za

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**Support the Siyandiza Young Falcons Project**

*By Col Bobby Keller, Chairperson for Recreation: Scale Modelling and War Gaming in the SANDF*

Siyandiza is an SA Air Force initiative and it means “we are flying”. Its goal is the identification of future men and women for aviation careers. Altogether 120 selected Grade 11 and 12 learners attended the SA Air Force Young Falcons Camp at the SAAF Gymnasium from 22 to 28 June 2003.

The SANDF, like other military forces in the world, believes that its members should have healthy and fit bodies and minds in order to perform their duties. It is with this objective in mind that the SAMHS supports the Siyandiza project. Various activities were presented during the programme, but the SAMHS contributed with its Masibambisane HIV/AIDS Awareness programme and the building of scale model aircraft.

**Masibambisane**

These identified potential aviators will eventually end up in careers at the SAAF. It is therefore imperative that they adopt a healthy lifestyle at an early stage to ensure a good health status by the time they report for service. An interactive and dynamic workshop was presented to impress on these potential aviators the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

The cadets were divided into groups of fifteen to achieve more impact. Interactive group discussions were held and the cadets found it easy to participate and share their views of topics, such as relationships with the opposite sex and channelling sexual desires. Each learner was also presented with information and promotion material regarding the Masibambisane project.

The team from the SAMHS which facilitated the programme consisted of: Maj C.E. Kilian from the Mobile Military Health Formation and Lt M. Fleming, Lt G. Molema, Lt Nyoni and Lt P. Makgabaplane from the Area Military Health Unit Gauteng.

**Scale model aircraft building**

Part of the programme was to teach these young learners about the principles of aviation and basic project management. A “make and take” building of 1/72 scale model aircraft models was introduced to the learners. Models were provided in kit form, consisting of the assembly plan and all the parts to be assembled with a basic tool kit and glue. After completing the models they were painted in the SAAF colours and the students could take them home to show their parents. The eight best model builders were rewarded with 1/48 scale model kits during the closing function.

The model building was facilitated by members of the International Plastic Model Society of South Africa (IPMS SA) and SANDF modellers, who are very active in supporting the youth aviation awareness project of the SAAF. This was a groundbreaking event for aviation awareness in South Africa. Since 2002 altogether 730 high school learners have built scale model aircraft as part of the Siyandiza project.

For more information about scale modelling in the SANDF please contact Col Bobby Keller at tel no: (012) 671 5493 or fax no: (012) 663 8552 or email to: commshop@mweb.co.za. For more information about the Siyandiza Project please contact Lt Col Chris Oosthuizen at tel no: (012) 351 2218 or (082) 459 1890.
Dreams are powerful.

By Capt Lizette Lombard,
Secretary Gauteng Defence Sport,
Ballroom Dancing

WO1 Dave Fourie, a senior instructor at the Telecommunication Training Wing at the Air Force Command and Control School at Waterkloof AFB, believes that "dreams and dedication" are a powerful combination.

He and his wife, Theresa, is a highly-rated couple in Dance Sport South Africa. Together they have represented South Africa at the World Senior Latin American Dance Championships on several occasions.

Achievements

Some of the Fourie couple’s accomplishments are:

- 1999 Gauteng Senior Latin Champions
- 1999 National Senior Latin Champions
- 1999 Dutch Senior Ballroom Champions
- 1999 Dutch Semi Finalists Senior Latin Championships
- 2000 Gauteng Senior Latin Champions
- 2000 National Senior Latin Champions
- 2000 Placed 26th in World Senior Latin Championships
- 2000 Placed 17th in Belgium Senior Open Latin Championships
- 2001 Gauteng Senior Latin Champions
- 2001 National Senior Latin Champions
- 2001 Placed 36th in British Senior Open Latin Championships
- 2001 Placed 24th in World Senior Latin Championships
- 2002 Placed 32nd in British Senior Open Latin Championships
- 2002 Gauteng Senior Latin Champions
- 2002 National Senior Latin Champions
- 2003 Gauteng Champions
- 2003 SA National Champions

They received national colours and were selected to compete in the World Latin American Dance Championships held in Liege, Belgium, in 2000. They were also selected to represent South Africa at the World Championships, which was held in Italy in October 2002. WO1 Fourie and his wife joined Fred Astair Dance Studios in 1998. During their two years of social dancing, they won all the competitions they had entered. During one of these competitions they were noticed by a professional Latin trainer, Ryno van den Bergh, who approached them. He informed the Fourie couple that they had the talent to compete internationally. From that point forward their dancing just went from strength to strength. Dancing is a great way to stay healthy and fit! If interested please contact Lt Willie Damon, the Chairperson, at tel no: (012) 355 3943 or cell no: 083 498 4847 or fax no: (012) 323 7729 or contact Capt Lizette Lombard, the Secretary, at tel no: (012) 355 1488 or cell no: 082 442 6286 or fax no: (012) 355 1707.

A dance show and social night will be held at the hall of the PMSC in Thaba Tshwane on 26 September 2003. For more information phone Lt Damon at the above-mentioned telephone numbers.
Do not die without dignity

By Maj Elize Lizamore

There are three vital SA Army Foundation products that SA Army members need to know about, namely group life, funeral policy and a last will. These products indicate the level of care that the Foundation endeavours to maintain in the spirit of Batho Pele. The group life policy is underwritten by SANLAM with whose backing and assistance claim payments are made possible as quickly as 48 hours after receipt of documentation. The life cover ceases at the age of seventy years and the disability cover at the age of sixty years. The SA Army Foundation Group Scheme is not a funeral policy and does not cover children. The group policy only covers the life assured and the spouse. Its main objective is to help and care for those members who are in urgent need through unforeseen, unfortunate financial expenditures caused by death or disability. The SA Army Foundation offers members a comprehensive funeral policy that is tailored to fit each and every individual. A member can enjoy funeral cover for himself and his immediate family (included his spouse and five children) for a premium of R51-00 per month. Members can choose their own packages that will suit their own unique need. The combination of a group life cover, a funeral policy and a testament (last will) must never be underestimated. Due to the nature of the work of soldiers, namely soldiering, it is the duty and personal responsibility of each soldier to make provision for his or her loved ones in case of death by means of a proper last will. If not, the State has the last say and one’s belongings are distributed and inherited by people chosen by the State according to a set formula. Another negative implication of dying without a proper will is that minor children will not be necessarily provided for and disputes may arise concerning children of different mothers. Dying without a last will is like “dying without dignity” and leaving one’s sole responsibility to the Officer Commanding and remaining family members to sort out a will and the administration of an estate. The joint venture company ACCELERA charges a once off amount of R307-80 (VAT included) for the drafting of a last will. Monthly payments are also available and varies from R153-90 for two months to R51-30 for six months. To obtain more information on the products, services and benefits of the SA Army Foundation visit the SA Army Foundation web site at www.army-foundation.co.za or email us at marketing@army-foundation.co.za or at pmrmanager@army-foundation.co.za or phone the SA Army Foundation at tel no: (012) 673 9440/1 or contact the local SA Army Foundation office or representative.

As we all know too well, when disaster strikes it changes our lives forever and this is what happened to Pte Goodman Ndlovu, a motor mechanic artisan from Durban (in wheelchair). Next to him is his wife, Sharon, with their daughter, Sanki. Pte Ndlovu was unable to perform his daily tasks at work after he was involved in an accident. However, for Pte Ndlovu there was light at the end of the tunnel, because he was a member of the SA Army Foundation and a policyholder of the SA Army Foundation’s Group Life Scheme. Under the caring umbrella of SANLAM he received a disability pay-out of R10 000.
South African Army